

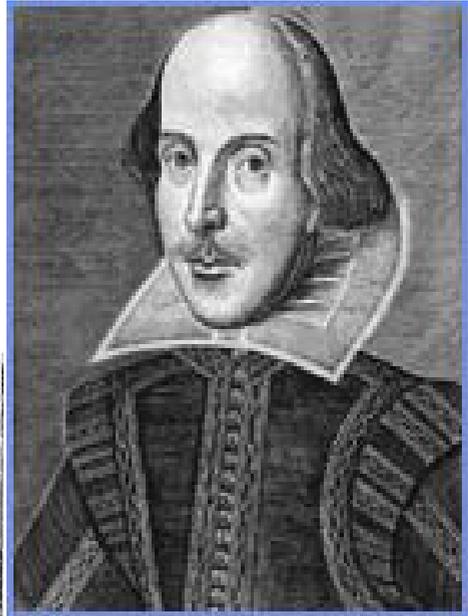


BRAISHFIELD

Village Association NEWS

Issue 204 April 2014

CELEBRATE



St George's Day

Also the day William Shakespeare was born and reputedly died

So, with the Bard's permission:

"Cry God for William, England and St George"

And celebrate this very English Day (Page 13)!

Distributed free of charge by the Braishfield Village Association
to the residents of Braishfield and the surrounding hamlets, and
available in colour on the BVA website:

www.braishfield.org

Braishfield Village Association

Committee - 2014

Chairman	David Robinson	368774
Vice Chairman	Graham Bennett	368109
Secretary	Rosie Groves	368178
Treasurer	Sheila Still	368384
Editor	Mike Mullane	368099
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Editor's Notes

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Written items for the 'News' should be sent to:-

The BVA Editor
Hazel Cottage
Braishfield Road
Braishfield
Romsey SO51 0PR by the date shown below.

Copy may be written, typed or on PC media but, ideally, by email to:

mike@braishfield.org

All items for publication must show the name, address and telephone number of the originator. Letters to the Editor should be on topics relevant to the villagers of Braishfield. The BVA attempts to deliver a copy of the Braishfield Residents Guide and the Village Design Statement to all new residents. If you have not received these publications, please contact the News Distributor on 368099.

BVA Website: www.braishfield.org

Latest copy date for the next issue is Tuesday 20th May 2014

From the Chairman

Well, not quite. As I write, he will undoubtedly be enjoying the warmth and delights of the land 'down under'. He has asked me to contribute in his absence. The last time David visited far flung shores he was inspired to start playing the ukulele which on his return resulted in the formation of the BUMS (Braishfield Ukulele Musical Society). What will he return with this time?

Spring has sprung as they say and it's truly a delight to leave home early each morning, as I do, to daylight and the prospects of a fine dry day. Unfortunately for some in the village, springs of a different kind have sprung and our thoughts are with those who have had to endure flooding.

The Southern Area planning committee met on Tuesday 11 March to hear the AH application made by Hyde Housing. About two dozen villagers attended the meeting in Crosfield Hall, including members of the Parish Council. After many questions to the Case Officer, presentations were made by Mike Prince (Parish Council Chairman), Chris Balchin (BVA) and Richard Brazier (VH Chairman); then by Christopher Buchan-Hepburn (Hyde Housing). In addition Councillors were made aware of a letter received in support of the application.

Many Councillors expressed concerns over the suitability of the site. They also accepted that objections raised

over the design of the proposed housing were justified. They initially decided by a majority of 13 to 5 to reject the application. However, after further discussion Councillors then supported a new proposal to defer any final decision on the application pending revision to the design. Hyde Housing will now go back to the drawing board. When plans are resubmitted there will be another opportunity to object or support the application from a design and/or site perspective. Is this a case of losing a battle but not necessarily the war? As they say, 'Watch this space'.

I'd like to update you on our bulk oil purchasing scheme. Although the village consortium has now been running for just over a year, some residents may not be aware of its existence and if that is the case I invite you to come on board. We have certainly reaped the benefits of lower prices, regularly beating an on-line supplier and recently needed a full tanker to fulfil the orders for the village. However you may think we can do better, or have ideas as to how the scheme could be improved. Please let us have your feedback, good or bad. Whilst on the subject of oil I have been approached by a resident who has an oil tank for sale. If anyone is interested please contact me or the editor for further details.

Graham Bennett
Vice Chairman

From the Editor

A bit of a hotchpotch this time, but my aim is to tidy up and stitch together any loose ends!

It won't surprise you that Affordable Housing refuses to lie down. On the previous page our Vice Chairman covers the recent and perhaps confusing TVBC Southern Area Planning Meeting which addressed the subject; for one moment it looked clearly as if the application as it stands was going to be rejected; and then, in a curious moment worthy of Alice in Wonderland, a new motion to defer a decision appeared magically, and was carried! Anyway there is now time to regroup whilst Hyde Housing revisits the design.

I suppose most of us have watched with a mixture of horror and helpless mirth as the 'Magic Roundabout' just to the south of Braishfield writhed from one improbable design to another. It seems clear that the construction launched off on a wrong design pulled haphazardly out of the bran-tub! There is still concern about the safety of the design and its ability to cope satisfactorily with large lorries.

Of course work on Braishfield Road in general is far from complete. Pavements (a good thing) have to be constructed, the planned closure of School Road effected and (Cupernham Lane nightmare?!) the lights at the Winchester Hill junction installed. Thus many more traffic restrictions in the offing for some time. Not mentioned elsewhere but, for those who attended, the Valentine's

Day village lunch was a great hoot and the food prepared by the Lads was highly commended! I willingly confess, though, that my small contribution to the fare did not rely entirely on my own natural and creative skill!

In the last edition I mentioned George Elliott's concept of setting up a simple Village Emergency Cell, and certainly the extreme weather experienced recently would seem to support that idea. The plan is to seek the guidance of town and borough experts before proceeding, so once they've had time to recover from, and analyse, the past few months, I will approach them.

Finally 2014 marks the Centenary of the outbreak of WW1 and, of course, the 70th anniversary of D-day. Some of you will already be aware that, to mark this, we have produced a 28 page partial colour memorial booklet which includes all the names on our War Memorial and those marked in the porch of St Johns Church, Farley Chamberlayne, with some contributory detail and village histories in the two wars. The printing cost has been covered by the Parish Council from residual Millennium funds. The aim is to 'sell' the booklets in our village churches, the proceeds being split between the respective church funds and a military charity. Shortly a decision will be made on a suggested minimum price and an appropriate charity, and then the booklets will appear in the churches.

Donations to Braishfield Village Association News

We would like to thank all those who donated toward the cost of the Braishfield News last year. We hope that the content of the News makes good village reading and keeps you up to date with events. We do not run it on a subscription basis but we obviously incur costs to publish. We would welcome any support you can give to keep the News viable during 2014 and we would like to thank those who helped us last year. If you wish to make a donation please complete this slip and forward it to the address below and please make cheques payable to Braishfield Village Association.

BVA Treasurer
Mrs Sheila Still
Orchard View
Braishfield
SO51 0QB

Tel: 01794 368384
email: bva@f2s.com

Thank you.
David Robinson - Chairman



I enclose a donation of £ towards the running cost of the BVA.

Name (please print) -----

Address -----

Postcode -----

Tel: -----

email: -----

As an alternative, a Standing Order form to make annual donations to the work of the Braishfield Village Association is available. Please contact the Treasurer, Sheila Still, and she will send you one.

Notices

Braishfield Parish Council

Due to the retirement of John Rhodes, we have a vacancy for a PARISH CLERK and RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER.

This is a part time position involving approximately 5 hours per week with one evening meeting on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

The clerk is expected to work from home and have their own computer and transport.

This a paid position.

For further information, please apply to:

The Chairman Braishfield Parish Council

Mike Prince, Yew Tree Cottage, Church Lane

Braishfield, SO51 0QH

Phone 01794 368339

E-mail yewtree.cottage@btinternet.com

TVBC (Southern Area) Planning Meeting

On the 11th March, the Southern Area Planning Committee of Test Valley Borough Council met at the Crosfield Hall to discuss the planning application to build 9 Affordable Houses on the site on Braishfield Road.

The recommendation from the Planning Officer was for permission to be granted. However there were strong objections from Test Valley Borough Council's own Design and Conservation team and Landscape team. This is very unusual and prompted the Committee Members to raise questions. The Parish Council had also objected on the design of the houses which was also a cause of concern with many residents of Braishfield.

The outcome of the meeting resulted in the Committee deciding to reject the application by 13 votes to 3. This was then further debated and the decision was changed to a deferral to allow the applicant to redesign the scheme.

We await further information from the applicant as to the revised design, which then will be debated again by the Southern Area Planning Committee. At this time, all parties will be able to comment.

Mike Prince

Chairman

Braishfield Parish Council

Notices cont.

Braishfield Village Hall

All are invited to the Village Hall Annual General Meeting
Monday 14th April 7.30pm VH Committee Room

Richard Brazier
Chairman Village Hall Committee
368414
rdbrazier@hotmail.com

Braishfield Village Hall

TREASURER AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are entering an exciting new phase in respect of the activities and planned improvements to the Hall.

We are looking for a new Treasurer to take over from Jerry Metherell and invite anyone who feels they can take on this roll to contact me in the first instance for a chat. It is not a particularly onerous job but any applicant would need some bookkeeping or accountancy skills.

We would also like to co-opt new Committee members We normally hold just 4 meetings a year.

I look forward to a flood of applications !!!

Richard D Brazier
Home: 01794 368414
Mobile: 07768 020917
rdbrazier@hotmail.com

Thanks

I want to thank all the kind people who sent cards, flowers and get well messages to me on my recent illness. They were very much appreciated and a great comfort. I am thankfully recovering and hope to be in the garden again soon.

Thank you all again.

Jean Irish
Hill View Road
Braishfield

Notices cont.

All Saints Church, Braishfield

Events 2014



- Sat 10th May* 7 for 7.30pm Supper with Auction of Promises
- Sun 22nd June* All day Outing to Freshwater, IOW with lunch at The Red Lion
- Sun 10th August* 12.30pm BBQ at Mike and Betty Horton's, Springbank, Newport Lane
- Sat 4th October* 7.00pm Harvest Supper with entertainment from BUMS
- Sun 2nd November* 10.30am All Saints Service of Celebration and Thanks for all who help the church, followed by a reception

Events in Church Room unless stated otherwise

Further details/tickets etc from
Jane Bennett 368109 graham.d.bennett@btinternet.com

Spring Sale for The Braishfield United Reformed Church

Saturday 12th April 2014
Church Rooms
10.00 AM - 12.00 PM
Tombola, Bring and Buy, Easter Stall, Cakes and Raffle
Coffee
Please come along and Support Our Church

Braishfield Golf Society

We are looking forward to our third season and always welcome new members. The Society's aim is to enjoy Golf with friends and although we will have winners and losers, it is Social Golf for all standards.

Our first meeting this year is on FRIDAY 16th MAY at the HAMPSHIRE CLUB, with a tee off time of 1.30 pm preceded by sandwiches and followed by a beer! Cost for the 18 holes and sandwiches is a very reasonable £26 per person.

If you are interested in joining the Society please contact me:

Richard Brazier 368414 rdbrazier@hotmail.com or
Lawrance Randall 367214 lawrance.randall@btinternet.com

Notices cont.

Braishfield United Reformed Church launches its 2014 charity

Back in 2001 the congregation of Braishfield United Reformed Church raised some funds for the local Braishfield School towards its building of a new room for drama and music. Since then the church has adopted a charity project each year, raising several thousand pounds for a whole variety of groups. The congregation has helped a school in Africa and another in India and raised money for groups such as Tools for Self Reliance, Water Aid, the Society of St James, Naomi House and Romsey Young Carers.

This year the church has decided to support Planets, the Southampton General Hospital Charity. The charity is dedicated to defeating Pancreas(P) Liver(L) And(A) NeuroEndocrine Tumours (NETs) and raises money to help the hospital provide world-class care for patients by supporting the hospital's pioneering work in treatment, research and education. The Planets Team Leader is Mr Neil Pearce DM FRCS who lives locally and has been working as a consultant surgeon at Southampton Hospital since May 2003. He spoke to the congregation about the charity in March, inspiring people with his enthusiasm and dedication.

The congregation will be arranging a variety of events over the year. At present people can help by collecting coins in jars or buying a raffle ticket for the Easter basket.

There will also be a coffee morning at the home of Christine and David Kinch, 3 Hogarth Close, Great Woodley on Monday 19th May (10 am - 12 noon) to which all are welcome. The church appreciates the support people have given over the years and hopes you will be able to give generously to another excellent cause this year.

Terry Hinks (Minister)

A Safety Notice for any Riders who ride on Footpaths

Please do not ride or lead your horse on footpaths in the village. The footpaths are for walkers only. There is only one Bridle Way in the village, which is marked as FP11 on the footpath map. This starts as a track on the right going north up Eldon Lane past Hall Place. It comes down into the village at The Manor Crossroads. Riders may use the Bridle Way.

Dorothy Ross
Parish Councillor

Notices cont.

BMADS 2014 production

This year, in November, BMADS will be entertaining you with 'Dandy Dick' by Arthur Pinero. Written in 1887 it is a farce involving a Dean, his daughters, their beaux, his horse-race-loving sister, an old flame of hers as well as a policeman and servants. It will be great fun to rehearse which is one of the prime considerations and great fun to watch.

We have yet to cast the play and will be holding informal sessions to try to suit the right people to the right parts in May. Please, if you (even remotely) think you would like to take part, do get in touch, we try to have new participants each year and rehearsing is a super way to spend the dreary evenings in the autumn.

Rehearsals are Tuesday and Thursday evenings from September and the production dates are November 20th, 21st and 22nd, with a few Sunday afternoon rehearsals in the Village Hall in the weeks leading up to that time.

Contact John Edwards 368465, Richard Groves 368178 or Wendy Quarendon 368015.

Childrens' Play Area

The Parish Council has now completed the upgrade of the Children's Play Area, with the replacement of the bark surface with a soft surface which is both cleaner and safer. The replacement surface, which cost £20,000, was made possible with grants from Viridor and Test Valley Borough Council, who were both involved in the original funding when the new play equipment was installed.

Mike Prince
Chairman, Braishfield Parish Council

All Saints Mowers

The new season has started and 35 of us will ensure the Churchyard is kept in good order. We would welcome anyone who would like to join the team.

The commitment over the summer is no more than 2 sessions and it takes less than 2 hours on a Friday or Saturday. If you are interested to join the merry band of mowers please contact me:

Richard Brazier 368414 rdbrazier@hotmail.com

Notices cont.

Christian Aid week runs from 11 - 17 May

The annual village collection will take place during the national week. As in recent years a volunteer will put a collection envelope through your door. If you would like to support the fund raising effort you may do so in a variety of ways:

- directly via phone: make a payment by debit or credit card by calling 020 7523 2248
- online: access via internet address <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/fundraise>.
- by collection: you may wish to put a cheque or cash into the envelope provided and drop it off at one of the collection points in the village.
details will be delivered with the appeal.

All Saints' Church and The United Reformed Church take it in turns to organise the collection. This year it is the turn of All Saints'.

A dedicated united service for the Christian Aid Week will take place at All Saints' on Sunday 11th May at 9.30am.

If anybody could help with the delivering of the envelopes for the village collection this year please get in touch with me Hazel Davies on 368369 or by calling at Orchard Lodge on Braishfield Road.

Roundabout

After many years waiting, the new roundabout at Sandy Lane/Braishfield Road is happening, but this seems more dangerous than the crossroads it is replacing. From the north they have created an unnatural bend, which people are cutting, with long lorries bridging the bend, so narrowing the lane from the roundabout going north. The kink in the curb also causes vehicles going north to veer into the south going lane. In three weeks we have had three near miss incidents.

Geoff Holyoake

The Cottage, Crook Hill

You might have noticed that the centre of the roundabout was constructed and then removed. Apparently the contractors made a mistake in setting out the black/white bricks and indeed the centre of the roundabout in general. They are now in the process of rectifying this to the original drawings. The brickwork will not be as high and is necessary in order to highlight the roundabout due to the lack of lighting at night. On the question of the narrowness of the road, apparently they carried out a vehicle tracking exercise in conjunction with Ace who were confident two of their vehicles could pass simultaneously. The work is expected to have finished by Friday 28th March.

John Rhodes

Notices cont.

Tiebridge Farm Open Day

Looking for a free fun afternoon out for all the family?

Tiebridge Farm in Houghton is holding a family friendly Open Day on Saturday 10th May from 12 noon - 3 pm. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

Tiebridge Farm is home to Barn Store Stockbridge, an independent, family run high security self-storage business, to Freeheelin', an independent children's shoe shop and to Studio Yoga, who offer a range of beginners to advanced yoga and Pilates classes.

Barn Store, Freeheelin' and Studio Yoga will all be open with tours and demonstrations taking place and other local businesses have been invited to come along and showcase their produce and crafts.

Food and refreshments will be available and visitors can also take advantage of the rare opportunity to picnic in the water meadows of the River Test. Free parking is available in the paddock. There will be plenty to see and do.

Barn Store Stockbridge owner and franchisee Tara Scougall said "We wanted to open our doors to showcase not only the diverse businesses located at Tiebridge, but also to help promote other local businesses, all against the backdrop of the beautiful River Test. In addition, we hope to be able to raise some much needed funds for the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance."

For more information please contact Tara Scougall on 01264 316166 or stockbridge@barn-store.co.uk.

Romsey Talking Newspaper

Do you know anyone who can no longer see to read? Would they like a weekly recorded tape of each week's Romsey Advertiser, delivered free of charge by the post office? Please contact Chris Pashby -Taylor if someone would like this free service. Telephone 01730 890406.

Romsey Hospital League of Friends

A new lung clinic is now open at Romsey Hospital. The cost of the £16,000 equipment was paid by the League of Friends and the Hospital Appeal. Patients no longer have to go to Southampton or Lymington for this treatment. The League has donated £34,000 in the past nine months for other equipment in the Hospital, all paid for by generous donations from the public. Anyone wishing to donate, or to join the League, should ring Jean Denham 01794 5133

Forthcoming BVA Event

St. George's Day Celebration



**Happy
St. George's
Day**

23rd April 7.30pm

in the Village Hall

£5 per head

Bring your own 3 course meal and drink

tables of 6 - 8 or join with others on the night

Entertainment by BMADS between courses on the themes of St George, England and the English, and Shakespeare and a short Quiz.

Tickets on sale NOW from our Treasurer, Sheila Still

TEL: 368384 email: bva@f2s.com

Senior Citizens' Lunch - Social Club

On Sunday 26th January a large and venerable team gathered with great enthusiasm at the Social Club for the annual Senior Citizens' Lunch. After a quick sharpener in the bar, everyone settled down at the long tables for a fantastic 3 course feast, accompanied by a seemingly endless conveyor belt of wine bottles – which continued as the afternoon slipped into an early evening of fun and entertainment; the School opened with delightful and gentle singing, the BUMS strummed their increasingly confident ukuleles, the uniquely rumbustious Romsey Old Cadets boomed and marched all over the place and the Social Club Committee, suitably attired, led us all in voluntary country folk dancing; and community singing took us through all the old favourites, many very appropriate in this centennial year of the start

of WW1. The whole event is always marked out by the sheer efficiency and cheerfulness of all those who help and contribute.

On their retirement from the committee, Sharon presented her parents, Pat and Dave Old, and Ricky and Pat Dorley with a gift in thanks and recognition of their great and unstinting commitment to this event over many years. (see photo below).

Sharon would like to pass on her heartfelt thanks “for the wonderful amount of donations from villagers; as we have to rely on our own fundraising (which gets harder each year) this will certainly allow us to continue. Also many thanks to my committee and huge band of helpers”.

And finally, of course, our thanks from the village ‘Oldies’ to Sharon for her vision and energy in bringing this all about yet again.



Wine Tasting - Village Hall, February 21st

Over 30 villagers attended an excellent, informative and amusing evening in the hands of Roger Marchbank, vineyard owner and winemaker from Wellow and his colleague, Stan Christie, a wine merchant from Woodfalls who also owns a vineyard.

Roger orchestrated the event with a light and humorous touch. After a very informative, and encouraging gallop through his experiences around the chequered and climate driven history of English wine-making, we explored 3 English white wines (all very good), followed by 3 red wines respectively from Italy, South Africa and Argentina – not surprisingly, highly drinkable! Then, revealing the discovery in the 1900's that the soil which blesses the French champagne country also runs

north under the Channel thence emerging in the fields of Sussex, Roger offered us an equivalent excellent English sparkling wine.

Stan then gave us a short resumé of his similar experience, after which we ended with a personal treat from Roger; a delicious slice of home made cake accompanied by a generous glass of his own limited and private pudding wine; extremely good and which he made from grapes which he allowed to shrivel on the vine during a particularly poor season; the 'noblest' of them all!

Mike Mullane



Sheep Matter at Elm Grove

Thank goodness it has stopped raining – the fields are of course still 'squishy', the pit near the house is still full of water and the cellar is still two foot under, but we are very fortunate and all will recover.

Kate had the ewes scanned a few weeks ago and she is thrilled that the result was 188%, including 3 triplets and 8 singles, the rest being twins. She checks them every day, pushing Lucy in her pushchair through the quagmire of fields. Amazingly the ewes just accept whatever weather gets thrown at them, I suppose they have no choice! Wet weather does bring problems with feet though,

so a lot of work goes on with sheep chiropody.

The rams are happily living together, with a field to themselves and no women to worry them! When the lambs are born they may have to go elsewhere as all the grazing will be needed for the ewes who will need plenty of grass to eat while feeding the lambs.

Lambing is due to start in the middle of April, so by the time of the next News it will have finished and the whole cycle will start again!

All is quiet – long may it continue to be so.

Wendy Quarendon

Braishfield Brownies 2014

Brown Owl marries



Braishfield Brownies enjoyed giving a pre-wedding party for their Brown Owl (Charlotte Butterfield), who was married on March 15th to Jim Marsh.

We hope Charlotte enjoyed the pampering session when the girls had great fun giving hand and foot massages, nail painting and hairdressing. Finally Brown Owl was adorned with a wedding veil (worn originally by Wise Owl 40 years ago!).

The girls decorated the tables for the wedding breakfast which consisted of sandwiches, cakes and fruit cocktails, A tiered wedding cake was made of cupcakes, each decorated with a brownie 'wedding' badge, topped with a representation of an owl bride and groom.

A card, made by the girls, was presented to the bride.

The leaders, girls and their parents wish Charlotte and Jim every happiness for the future.

The Original Village Hall

Before you read the following page concerning our Village Hall, here is a fond farewell to the original. My thanks to Angela Bevan for the discovery of this amongst her mother's papers.

And so dear Friends,

the time has come,

When we must say farewell to this dear old W.I. Hall of ours,

Where the Braishfield Seven have spent with you, so many happy hours.

DEAR OLD HALL,

In War and Peace you have played your part

And your passing will sadden many an old villager's heart.

Within your walls a warm and friendly atmosphere prevails

For our Meetings, Weddings, Parties,

And even good old Jumble Sales.

Your rafters have rung with laughter and song,

And your floor has trembled 'neath the dancing throng.

For many years you have shared our joys, and sometimes our sorrows,

But alas for you, there are no more tomorrows,

For progress decrees that you must fall

To make way for a more palatial Hall.

And so dear friends, if on some dim and distant day

You should perchance to pass this way,

Just pause a while before onward winging,

And you may hear the Braishfield Seven softly singing.

by Joan Parsons

September 1981

YOUR Village Hall **the next 30 years at the heart of the Village Community**

Many of you may have seen that the Village Hall Committee has started to plan for the future and we have submitted a Planning Application that can be viewed online at Test Valley Borough Council.

Application reference 13/02646/
FULLS. **Do have a look.**

It is an ambitious plan costing in excess of £200,000 that is likely to take a while to achieve, but we believe it will secure the future of the Hall for the next 30+ years.

We have started fundraising and are building up a fund. But to achieve our goal we will need the support of the Village in all sorts of different ways. Our first project will be to improve the heating system to make the accommodation more inviting and user friendly.

We hope to have completed this work by the autumn with the help of our funds in Bank and some grants.

As this initial work progresses we plan to commence the much bigger task of raising money in the Village by various means for the major scheme as shown on the plans.

WE WILL NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET FROM YOU AND ARE OPEN TO ANY IDEAS YOU CAN PUT FORWARD TO HELP US ACHIEVE OUR GOAL.

We would welcome new members to the Committee to work with us. Anyone who thinks they can contribute please contact either myself or one of the Committee members listed below.

We plan to hold an open evening – probably in June – to enable Villagers to view the plans and talk to the Committee. Details of the meeting date will be advertised in the next News.

On the page opposite, Marian Randall updates you on our plans for a Community Shop that is nearing a reality. This is very exciting and hopefully the Shop will be supported by all, both as customers and volunteers. All profits from the shop will help towards our funding goal as well as being an asset for the Village.

Richard Brazier
Chairman Village Hall Committee
Tel: 368414 rd Brazier@hotmail.com

Committee members:

Jerry Metherell
Malcolm Ayres
Chris Balchin
Marian Randall
Kate Knight
Ian Knights
Terry O'Keeffe
Mark Jeffrey
Iain Coleman
Mike Edwards

Community Shop Meeting Report

There have been two meetings about a proposed community shop in the village hall. Both were well attended and very enthusiastic.

Anne Edwards, Sue Coleman and Marian Randall went on an 'away day' in Somerset about starting up a village shop and returned full of ideas. The day was arranged by the Plunkett Foundation and included presentations by three people who had each set up a shop in their village and a visit to an excellent community shop. We learnt so much about the detailed planning that will be needed.

The village meetings were both very positive and lively. Marianne Piggitt from the Test Valley Council, who holds the strings to the Community Asset Fund, kindly attended both meetings and has been very helpful. Councillor Martin Hatley was also present at the second meeting and was very positive about some funding to help with the initial set up. This should be a great help.

A committee of six has been formed from those volunteers who wish to help in the shop every week and there is a list of more than twenty volunteers who are happy to help once or twice a month. Both groups are happy to welcome more participants.

We are going to deliver a survey to all the houses in the village and surrounding area to assess demand and to find more volunteers. We need

this to make a business plan and apply for further grants from Test Valley and Hampshire Council. Please help us by answering the few questions and offering to help if you can.

The plan is to stock reasonably priced basics, good bread and some good quality local food. Also homemade preserves, baking, and garden produce from the village will be very welcome. We are negotiating to have newspapers without causing the newsagent at Woodley any loss of income.

We also want to keep the coffee and tea facilities open so we have somewhere convivial to meet. The idea is to create a rustic homespun 'shabby chic' atmosphere. We have got the shabby, now we are working on the chic. The challenge will be to fit the shop in without disturbing other hall users too much. We hope to achieve this.

At present a Summer opening is planned but this is ambitious and September may beckon if we cannot get all the legal niceties resolved in time.

The next meeting will be after the survey has been done. Please give us your contact details on the survey form so we can let you know the date.

Marian Randall

Braishfield Horticultural Society

On 11th February Christine and Keith Hayward gave a talk on 'Behind the Scenes at Hampton Court'. They have been growing Cannas for many years and entertained us with their experiences of showing them at this famous flower show. They hold the National Collection, with 4500 in their garden and in a field nearby in Farnborough.

They started showing at Hampton Court in 2003 but were disqualified for not being artistic enough, and having black plastic pots on display; nevertheless, Penelope Keith chose their colourful display to be photographed in! Learning from this they moved on to win a Silver Gilt award in 2004. In 2006, after the death of Christopher Lloyd of Great Dixter Gardens who loved Cannas, their display was dedicated to his memory. Thereafter, packing the van each year, they made their way through all the red tape to set up another eye-catching stand. The Duchess of Cornwall visited them in 2008 and Christine mistakenly used the private toilet set up for her behind their display!

Another year they adopted an Argentinian theme since Cannas thrive in the wild there, and dressed in appropriate national costume; but it probably didn't go down that well since 'costumes' were banned from all future stands! Eventually in 2010 they won the coveted Gold award in a display entitled 'Joys and Problems of Holding the Canna National Collection'.

The Haywards are the only people in England to specialise in Cannas. The flowers are bright and vibrant in colour, disease resistant, long flowering, drought hardy, don't blow over, and

thus are often used for municipal planting. This was a fascinating talk, in particular giving us a close insight into the detailed work involved in entering the Hampton Court Flower Show.

Our speaker, on 11th March, was Barry Newman, an RHS judge and chairman of the National Vegetable Society. The message was 'raised beds are the way to grow vegetables'; very reassuring for those of us who have limited space and yet want the satisfaction of growing our own food. Barry gave us detailed instruction on the various options for building raised beds, from old railway sleepers to customised lightweight concrete posts and 'planks', and showed us how to create favourable soil composition and rotate the crops. The disadvantage to raised beds seemed to apply only to globe artichoke fanatics! Of particular interest was the advice to use wood chips or bark for the intervening paths as this deters slugs!

He showed some pictures of impressive results; a wide variety of crops were shown in detail and especially surprising was the technique for growing potatoes in perforated bags, which didn't involve 'earthing up', another space saver. Barry advised on leeks, onions, carrots, parsnips, strawberries, beans and brassicas, emphasising that almost any vegetable can be grown successfully in a raised bed. His final piece of advice was to grow courgettes up stakes!

The speaker for our next meeting on 8 April is Jim Love, who will introduce us to the plants of South Africa.

Steve Renvoize and Viv Robinson

BRAISHFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Advance notice for anyone wanting to enter the Handicraft /Girlye Old sections of the 2014 Flower Show.

- Class 8 Needlework.
A hand , machine or combination sewn item; a piece of embroidery; or any item of patchwork, quilting or applique.
- Class 81 A hand- knitted or crocheted item
- Class 82 A handmade item of any material – for example- wood, metal, glass or pottery.
- Class 83 An item of tapestry.
- Class 84 A painting or drawing – any medium
- Class 85 Make a pincushion – any medium

- Class 86 THE GIRLIE OLD CUP – PHOTOGRAPHY
“ WATER”
A photograph, maximum size 7x5 inches, titled and mounted on A4 paper or card.

Margaret O’Keeffe
BHS Show Secretary. 01794 368037

NEWPORT INN CRICKET CLUB QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 16th May 2014

Braishfield Village Hall – Doors open 19:30
£5 per head (Including food) – Max team of 5



Braishfield’s NICC invite you to their Annual Quiz Night to raise funds for the upkeep of the ground at Dummers Road and the maintenance of equipment. A licensed bar will sell a range of wines, beers and ales. There will be a raffle and mini games. The evening will consist of rounds of themed general knowledge questions, picture rounds and a music round.

The £5 entry fee will be payable at the door so if you plan to come, please contact any of the people below, so that we can cater for numbers.

Ben Brown –Treasurer & Vice-Captain - 07801 676328

ben.brown@officeteam.co.uk

James Light – Club Captain – 07751 683621

James.Light@firstwessex.org

Eric Philpott – Club President – 01794 341333

eric.philpott@live.co.uk

Dick Travers – Social Secretary – 07788 582299

dick@rgtfm.co.uk

Obituary - Mrs Doreen Fielder 1926 - 2013

It is good to be here in this church to give thanks for Doreen for it was here that she worshipped God and met her church friends; it was here she prayed for her family and here she helped serve countless cups of tea and coffee. It's good to be here to give thanks for this unique and lovely lady who has touched and enriched all our lives.

Doreen was born on 22nd June 1926 in Weyhill and then, as a baby of just six weeks, her parents brought her down to live here in Braishfield. She was brought up in the village alongside her brothers Ern and Cyril. She attended Braishfield School with her brothers and many others who would become lifelong friends. Her brother Cyril was to marry Millie, nee Parsons. Doreen and Millie walked round the playground hand in hand, as they were both shy.

After school she worked as a daily help at Braishfield Manor. During the war she worked for Vickers at Hursley Park. One of her stories was of serving Winston Churchill tea, though she didn't find him very friendly that day. Another memory was of talking to a test pilot, who suddenly saw a mouse and ran out of the room scared stiff. A country girl, Doreen found it strange that a man who faced such danger in testing planes could be afraid of a little mouse! She certainly laughed over that experience.

Following the war Doreen and

Norman's paths came together. Norman was four years older and had served in the army during the war. Now back in the village in 1948 he was down in Woolworths in Romsey and spotted a young lady in a white hat – and was immediately smitten. He told a friend on another occasion, "One day I'm going to marry that girl!" Well, the WI dance was an opportunity for Norman to take that forward and through the dances he and Doreen became close and soon were 'an item'. (Weekly dances were held in the old WI Hall, which was in the field opposite April Cottage, The Square, where Dellwood now stands.) On 20th August 1949 Norman and Doreen were married at All Saints Parish Church here in the village, the beginning of a long and devoted married life. They went on honeymoon to Southend.

Norman worked as the blacksmith and Doreen's hands were soon filled. They delighted in the birth of John and Michael and Rosemary – three children between 1950 and 1953; quite a handful. And then Doreen in 1958 and finally Hilary in 1967. Doreen remembered the day she had met a fortune teller who looked into her crystal ball and told her she would have four children and then corrected herself – spotting another one in the mist. Another of those family stories that got told and retold!

For her children she was always there when they came home from school. She could be strict and Michael

remembers times being chased around the garden when he had got up to mischief. But she was always there – always on their side. Money was tight and there was no flashy holidays – but trips to Southsea, Salisbury Market and Swanage were special. Sunday nights were times to play ludo and board games as a family. Doreen helped out at the local Brownies as their Snowy Owl when the Braishfield pack was restarted in 1964. (Doreen herself had been a member of the Brownies when a unit was first set up in Braishfield in the 1930s).

She loved to cook for the family; Sunday roast – her roast potatoes were the best - apple pie or crumble; mince pies and cakes; coconut pyramids and trifle. Doreen was always there for her family, and that continued for the rest of her life. She was there as they became adults and were married and had families of their own. She was a very special grandmother to her fourteen grandchildren. Each has their own memories of her; her cooking; the biscuit tin; the sweets and the chocolate buttons.

In time she became a great grandmother to nine special great grandchildren and she loved them all, finding the loss of young Alex very hard indeed. She remembered everyone's birthdays. She was in effect the matriarch of the whole family – someone to turn to in the joys and the heartaches of life. This year she was so glad to be able to attend the weddings of Dave and Liz, Andy

and Emm and to share in Rosemary's 60th birthday celebrations.

The family were all important, but so too was her church family. The children were sent to Sunday school here at this church and later Doreen herself became very much part of this church family. She stayed in the background in some ways, but was always dependable and kind – a wise listener and caring supporter. She was there so often making the cups of tea and coffee, sorting out the crockery – making sure the cups and saucers matched!

It was a gracious loving, kind and thoughtful nature that shone out of Doreen. She looked out for people and over the years cared for older ladies across the village – some of whom were younger than she was. So today we give thanks for Doreen's life, a good life well lived – full of love and kindness, honesty and grace. We give thanks for all Doreen gave; in her care for others, her friendships, her part in the life of this church and her love for Norman and for all her family. Doreen would not want us to be sad – but to remember her and to smile.

An edited version of the address given by Terry Hinks (Minister) at the funeral service at the United Reformed Church, Braishfield, on 4th December 2013

3rd Scouts and Cubs

3rd Romsey Scouts have recently undertaken their Photography badge; the final part took place in early February when the Scouts submitted 10 photos to the Viewfinders for review.

Chris, Chris & Terry said "all three of us really enjoyed working with the Scouts, and were very impressed with the overall quality and creativeness of the final submissions", and went on to comment on the exceptionally high standard of artistic content, variety, composition and interesting subjects.

There was good use of light, shadow and pattern and, in some cases, fine story-telling techniques.

Nine members of the Viewfinders' Award Group were involved in judging and all were most impressed, sending their unreserved congratulations to

the winners:

- 1st - Kathleen
- 2nd - James
- 3rd - Susanne
- 4th - Ben S

Viewfinders will feature these images as a panel of prints in the summer exhibition which is planned for 23rd June to 3rd July.

Thank you to Chris, Chris, Terry and the Viewfinders judges for their enthusiasm and time, and Well Done to our Scouts!

Sarah Beaman

3rd Romsey Scout Leader
Ashanti Troop



1st Prize Kathleen



2nd James



3rd Susanne



4th Ben S

3rd Romsey Photo Competition Winners

CUBS

We have a strong, motivated, young Leadership team who run a fun packed programme for the Cubs. They do activities with the Scout Troop, take part in District activities and take them away on camp.

Recently a number of Cubs moved up to the Scout section so there are currently spaces within the pack for new members – want to know more? Read on, then visit our website at www.3rdromseyscouts.org.uk for articles and photos of our small, but very enthusiastic, Scout Group.



visit to Dominoes, Romsey

When the Pack re-opened our Executive Committee made the decision to limit the size of the Pack to ensure we build strong foundations for the section and the Leaders enjoy the chance of spending quality time with all the youth members.

We meet on a Thursday evening at the Jubilee Hall, Timsbury. Interested in joining 3rd Romsey Cub Pack? For further information, please e-mail Akela at Cubs@3rdromseyscouts.org.uk.

BEAVER SCOUTS

3RD Romsey Scout Group are looking at the possibility of opening a Beaver Colony. Beaver Scouts are aged between 6- 8 years old, they meet weekly and activities include games, crafts, singing, visits and good turns, along with plenty of outdoor activities.

They will also have the opportunity to take part in the fun and excitement of camps and sleepovers. It may be the first time they spend a night away from home - so it's a real adventure for them.

If you would like to know more about Scouting and the Beaver section, visit our website www.3rdromseyscouts.org.uk .

If you would like to register your interest for your child to join please e-mail us at Scouts@3rdromseyscouts.org.uk

VILLAGE LUNCH DATES 2014

Please keep up the excellent support for the Lunches; it's a great opportunity to catch up with local news, and enjoy each other's company.

Help: Volunteers are always wanted and welcome throughout the year: to make soups and puddings and/or to help on the day. Please get in touch with me if you can offer help in any way and you will be royally welcomed! The lunches have thrived because of our willing team of helpers including those putting up the tables and greeting everyone.

MONDAY 07 APRIL - NB This is the first Monday (to avoid school hols)
MONDAY 12 MAY
MONDAY 09 JUNE
MONDAY 14 JULY (AUGUST – no lunch)
MONDAY 08 SEPTEMBER
MONDAY 13 OCTOBER
MONDAY 10 NOVEMBER
MONDAY 08 DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Meryl Balchin, 368427 or meryl@balchin99.fsnet.co.uk

BRAISHFIELD FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETY PROGRAMME 2014



- April 24th: 'Thank Heaven for Little Girls' Carole Stable.
Competition; 'Think Pink'.
- May 22nd: 'On Second Thought' Margaret Simpson.
NB Venue Church Rooms.
- June 26th: Summer Party, Church Room.
- July 24th: 'Room to Room' Denise Bright.
Competition; Arrangement for the Dining Room.
- Sept 25th: 'The Power of White' Diane Norman.
- Oct 23rd: 'Flora Maestro Please' Irene Hickson.
Competition; Halloween
- Nov 27th: OPEN EVENING 'I'll be Home for Christmas'
Emily Broomhead.

All meetings held in Braishfield Village Hall at 7.30pm unless stated otherwise.
Further information from Chairman Denise Bright 02380 741299
or Secretary Eileen Norman 02380 731162.

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BRAISHFIELD SOCIAL CLUB

Weekly Events

Monday Nights-	Free Pool
Wednesday Nights -	Zumba 6.30pm
Saturday Nights	Meat Draw
Sunday Nights -	Bingo

We also have Pigeon Club, Dart and Crib teams always looking for new members.

Snooker Room, Table Football, Skittle Alley all available to Non Members.

Forthcoming Events

Music Festival

Friday	9th May	Bar Open	2pm - 1130pm
Sat.	10th May	Bar Open	12pm - 1230am
Sun.	11th May	Bar Open	12pm - 5.00pm

Various Bands/Groups playing throughout the Afternoon and Evening
Refreshments available: Burgers, Sausages, Teas, Coffee etc.

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Also

Quiz Nights held fortnightly on Friday Nights (see board outside club for next date)

Tickets for Events: From the Bar or see Village Noticeboards for further info.

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braishfieldsocialclub@hotmail.co.uk

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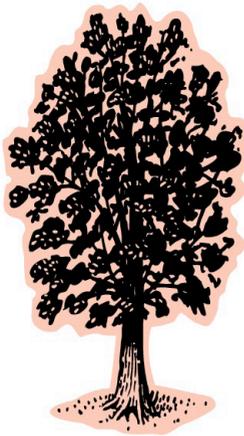
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Rubbish News

Recyclable materials in cardboard boxes left beside the brown bin on recycling weeks will be collected throughout the year.

Recycle weeks beginning: 7th & 21st April; 5th & 19th May.
Household waste weeks beginning: 14th & 28th April, 12th & 26th May.



For Bank Holiday weeks, (14th & 21st April; 5th & 26th May), collection is a day later than normal.

NB. COLLECTION DAY IS NO LONGER WEDNESDAY. THE DAY IS NOW FRIDAY.

Garden waste green bags are collected the same week as household waste, every other Friday morning

Braishfield Village Diary

Regular Meetings	Where	Time	When	Next	Meetings
Parish Council	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.00	1st Tues	1 Apr	6 May 3 June
Village Lunch	Church Room	12.00	2nd Mon	7 Apr	12 May 9 June
Horticultural Society 	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.30	2nd Tues	8 Apr	13 May
Flower Arrangement Society 	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.30	4th Thurs	24 Apr	22 May 26 June
Art Group	Comm. Room Village Hall	10 - 12	Every Thurs	3 Apr	then each week
Coffee & Cakes	Comm. Room Village Hall	9 & 3	9 Tues 3 Thurs	1 Apr 3 Apr	then each week
Toddler Group	Comm. Room Village Hall	10 - 12	Wed	Tel	367710 for details

Events 	Where	When	More Details
Village Shop AGM	Village Hall	Mon 14 Apr 7.30	
St George's Day Celebration	Village Hall	Wed 23 Apr 7.30	

 Please see BVA News or Notice Boards for further details.

Dear Readers

Please let the Editor know what your views are on the layout of the diary.

Please refer to www.braishfield.org or your Residents Guide for contact telephone numbers

Details to the BVA News Editor or Web Editor if you would like dates of forthcoming events to be published