



# ***BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS***

Issue 212 August 2015



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](http://www.braishfield.org)

# Braishfield Village Association

## Committee - 2015

|                   |                 |        |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Chairman          | Jimmy Chestnutt | 367953 |
| Vice Chairman     | Graham Bennett  | 368109 |
| Secretary/Website | Chris Balchin   | 368427 |
| Treasurer         | Sheila Still    | 368384 |
| Editor            | Mike Mullane    | 368099 |
| Distributor       | Sue Mullane     | 368099 |
| Planning          | Michael Stubbs  | 367704 |
| Committee         | Julie Kemp      | 368894 |

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.braishfield.org)

**Latest copy date for the next issue is: September 25th 2015**

## From the Chairman

Is your glass half full or half empty? Are we at the height of summer with the long warm evenings of August and early September still to come or is winter on the way? Alison reminds me every 21 June that the nights are starting to draw in but for me, the schools are out and I look forward to that hot summer of our memories and local events to come.

One event not in the calendar will be the start on the construction of our new shop. Thanks to Marion and her team the Village Pantry has been a real success. Despite operating in somewhat cramped spaces it has outperformed expectations and although it is unlikely to bring Waitrose to its knees, it has become a real convenience store, and for some it has reduced the need to travel to and from Romsey. Perhaps more importantly it has helped to bring villagers together and for some of the younger villagers it is the local tuck shop.

The work involved in managing a small shop and finding the products to tempt the village palate is extremely high. Our thanks must go to Marion and her committee for doing that so well and again to Marion and Sharon for providing us with an endless supply of delicious low-fat quiches, sausage rolls and cakes, and of course to the team of volunteers who man the tills and without whose efforts the whole venture would not work.

The new shop will allow the team to offer even more. It will be bigger

with a wider range of goods, and all credit to Clive John and others for sniffing out the funding. That work is however not complete and we will have to raise a little bit more to ensure that we get the shop that this village deserves. We need help and ideas on to how to raise the final few thousand. For instance you will see on p. 15 that we have a light-hearted and amusing Wine-tasting evening in the Village Hall on 9th October, conducted entirely by a team of village 'experts', along the lines of 'Call My Bluff'. That too aims to boost the funds for the Pantry, so please do come along and lend your support. In addition, donations will help and we already have cash committed. You will find an update from Clive on progress to date in this magazine.

For our part we are now striving to create the Braishfield Village Network. The BVA exists for only one purpose - to serve you and make life better for the village, and as I have said before to do that effectively we need your help. You will find a flyer enclosed in your copy of this magazine with details of the proposed consultative network, how it will work and how to join.

Please do join - don't put it aside for later, do it today and then please persuade your next door neighbours to join as well. The larger the membership the louder our voice and the more likely we are to provide you with the service you require.

## From the Editor

Once again a very full News with lots of dates for your diary, and thank you as ever for all your support and input.

There is always the danger of repetition but, nonetheless I would like to draw your attention to the 2 initiatives which the Chairman mentions on the previous page, and which are backed up by reports and encouragement in the magazine itself.

The first, quite clearly, is the unarguable success of our Village Pantry thus far and, importantly, the ongoing activity to carry that forward to complete its expansion, as witnessed by the many tireless fund-raising activities; for instance, the planned Wine-tasting evening in October, aiming to raise more money for the cause. If you have any other

good ideas which may boost the funds, please don't hesitate to bring them forward and we can action them.

On a totally different subject, the other initiative is, once and for all, to establish the Village Network (see the inserted flyer), as a very efficient tool to speed up and simplify how we communicate our proposals, concerns and care across the village, and indeed beyond. While some will not be connected to the internet, or may choose not to join, news will nonetheless spread more quickly even if it has to be delivered by word of mouth at the final stage.

Over to you!

And, finally, Planning concerns on page 12; if, as many are, you are worried please convey this to the PC.

### BRAISHFIELD 200 CLUB

Two more winners! The June draw was won by Gill Allison and the July by Penny Vallings. She is the sister of Andrew Lalonde, who set up the 200 Club in the first place, and she has been a stalwart supporter ever since. We made a donation in May to ServeDirect, which readers will know provides funding to the project in Wobulenzi, Uganda, and was in recognition of our intrepid villager Elspeth Dugdale's heroism in completing the Paris marathon! June's donation goes to All Saints' Church for the maintenance of the Church Room. We're hanging on to July's donation so as to give a double helping to the Village Shop extension fund, with August's donation too.

New members always welcome! Join in and help support really local initiatives. Our administration costs are minimal: £20 per year to register us with TVBC. All the rest of the money collected goes out in monthly prizes (40% of the sum raised that month), and donations (the other 60%). Call David Robinson on 368774 or e mail to [dbr33@john-lewis.com](mailto:dbr33@john-lewis.com).

## Donations to Braishfield Village News

We would like to thank all those who donated toward the cost of the Braishfield News this 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 2015 and we would like to thank those who helped us this 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](mailto:bva@f2s.com)

Thank you.  
Jimmy Chestnutt - 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

### CHRISTIAN AID

May we thank the people of Braishfield and Farley for their generous support of Christian Aid. Through house to house and church collections the grand total was £954.80. Also many thanks to all the helpers, without their support we would not be able to achieve this.

Hazel Davies

### HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT AIR AMBULANCE

I would like to say a huge thank you to all who attended, helped with and donated towards the Cream Tea in aid of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance on Saturday 18th July. It was another resounding success - even the weather was kind to us. We raised an amazing £1,177.75 which included two very generous donations from people within the village; a very personal thank you to them. We hoped that the Air Ambulance might fly by on its way back to base, but it was diverted elsewhere to cover an emergency; proof, if needed, of the helicopter's invaluable help in a crisis. But BUMS entertained us all throughout the afternoon - as always lovely to listen to.

May I also thank the Horticultural Society for letting me tag this event along with the Flower Show and hope that their day was as successful as ours and that we didn't cause too much chaos when needing to use the kitchen!

Wendy Jeffery

### FIRST RESPONDERS

As some of you may know my dad, David Old, has recently been unwell and had 3 stays in hospital. On one occasion when we needed the paramedics at his home we were greeted within very few minutes by our own village First Responder who was able to assure us that help was on its way and that he could assist us with his knowledge of first aid until they arrived. We were so grateful and would like to thank Roy, who lives in Paynes Hay Road, for being there for us; and he could be there for you too. How lucky we are in this village.

Many thanks.

Sharon Fielding, David and Pat Old

## Notices cont.



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

*The MBE for volunteer groups*



# Thank you

Braishfield Ukulele Musical Society  
For raising £368 from your  
Concert at Hockley Golf Club



*Registered Charity Number 1134093*

Notices cont.

**Commemorate VJ Day – 70 years on**

with us at  
*Braishfield Village Pantry*  
**in the Village Hall**

**from 3 – 5pm on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015.**



*Enjoy a chat, 1940s' music, tea and  
Sharon's scones and cakes.*

**Ration cards priced at £5.00  
available from The Village Pantry Shop.**

## Notices cont.

### ALL SAINT'S CHURCH

#### **Sunday 30 August**

Richard and Fran Clifton are kindly hosting Cream Teas in their garden from 2.00 - 4.30pm. Do join us at Larkwood Farm, Sandy Lane (first house on the right down Sandy Lane)

Tickets £5, Children £1 available from Jane Bennett on 01794 368109

#### **Saturday 3 October**

Harvest Supper in the Church Room from 7pm. Entertainment by BUMS. Tickets £7.50 from Mike Horton on 01794 368259. Bring your own drink.

Jane Bennett

### VILLAGE VOICES

We are shortly approaching our first anniversary and the year has turned out to be a great success. The sing along is for all who enjoy singing a wide selection of songs, many of which are nostalgic and bring back memories of bygone years, and on average, 20 or so meet at the Church Room, All Saints' on the 4th Monday in the month at 2pm for a couple of hours. One does not need a trained voice, just a willingness and enjoyment to sing is all that is required, and some humour! Many thanks again to Wendy Quarendon and Meri Knights who believe we are not far away from our first Eisteddfod!! The next get togethers are 24th August, 28th September, 26th October and 23rd November and hopefully a Christmas theme in December. Anyone is welcome and further details can be obtained from Wendy Quarendon on 368015 or Stephen Treglown on 502150

### DATES FOR VILLAGE LUNCHESES IN THE CHURCH ROOM

|        |                                 |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| MONDAY | 14th September                  |
| MONDAY | 12th October                    |
| MONDAY | 9th November                    |
| MONDAY | 14th December (Christmas lunch) |

*Come along for a choice of delicious soups and puddings*

*Please phone if you can spare time to help on the day or cook or bake.*

Julie Kemp - Organiser Tel; 368894

## Notices cont.



**Romsey and District Young Carers**  
Academy Studios, Unit 10, Romsey Industrial Estate, Greatbridge Road  
Romsey SO51 0HR  
Telephone: 01794 515908  
Email: [tim@romseyyoungcarers.org.uk](mailto:tim@romseyyoungcarers.org.uk)  
[www.romseyyoungcarers.org.uk](http://www.romseyyoungcarers.org.uk)



### Collection pot Braishfield Village Shop

On behalf of the Romsey Young Carers project I would like to thank everyone that has put their spare change into the collection pot at the Village Shop.

So far the pot has raised £26.73p which will help towards funding food at a weekly club.

*Thank you very much for your interest in the Romsey Young Carers - as a small charity we could not run without the generosity of others.*

*All donations are used to provide craft materials and games for clubs as well as giving the children a sit down lunch or tea.*

#### **Fundraising & Sponsoring**

Donations allow us to take the children on activities and outings.

Due to their family circumstances, many of the children and young people have limited experiences - but their response to the opportunities we offer is always very positive.

Your donations help in supporting the young carers as we make a point of providing smaller more regular activities instead of large, expensive ones – spreading the fun!

#### **Case Study of a Young Carer with the Project**

Mark\* is fourteen. Two years ago his mother died and his father became clinically depressed. Since then Mark has been the main carer for his younger brother who has Downs Syndrome. Mark admits how hard he sometimes finds this – difficulty in seeing friends, being woken up in the night by his brother and the constant pressure of physical tasks and emotional care that needs to be done.

Here's a text message we got from him (just after an outing to a Summer Ball attended by young carers from other projects in Hampshire):

*"Thank you for taking us to that Summer Ball tonight. I really enjoyed myself and it felt so good to just let myself have fun away from home situations. Thank you very much."*

Mark is a really positive member of the group and it's always great to have him at clubs and outings. We will continue to offer him respite and support, as long as he feels he needs us.

Many thanks  
Tim

T J Ballantyne

Manager Romsey Young Carers

*Registered Charity Number: 1134093*

## Notices cont.

### RAISING MONEY FOR THE FABRIC OF OUR VILLAGE'S CHURCHES



Chris & I are off on our bikes again for a Ride & Stride day on 12 September. This year we will be cycling round the Petersfield area. Our County's active churches raised nearly £60,000 last year. We are hoping that over 400 churches will take part again this year and would be delighted if you would sponsor us – some of you have been great supporters already.

Meryl is cycling for All Saints Church and a sponsorship form will be left there if you would like to add your name or contact Maggie Brooks, 523928. Chris will be cycling for the United Reformed Church. Please contact Shirley Smith on 368447 if you would like to sponsor him.

If other villagers are interested in participating, getting their own sponsorship and nominating a church, that would be brilliant. Please go to the website [www.hihct.org.uk](http://www.hihct.org.uk) for details on Ride & Stride. Half the sponsorship money raised will come back to the nominated church. An easy and most enjoyable way to raise money – no effort needed except by the participants!!

These remarkable buildings, some dating back to the 8th/9th century and containing our history, need continual help to maintain their fabric. Many are the oldest buildings in their community and around 95% of the population visit them irrespective of their religious inclinations. Please help us to maintain the fabric of our region's wonderful heritage buildings.

Meryl Balchin 368427

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

We are putting together our Scout Calendar for the Autumn 2015. This will include our party for Senior Citizens on 24th September at Timsbury Jubilee Hall.

The invitations to our "regulars" will be sent out at the end of August after summer holidays - however if there is anyone in Braishfield, Michelmersh or Timsbury who would like to receive an invite please could someone let us know at [scouts@3rdromseyscouts.org.uk](mailto:scouts@3rdromseyscouts.org.uk)

We can help out with transport as usual if this is needed.

Any queries please do not hesitate to e-mail the above or phone:  
Sarah Beaman (Scout Leader) and Julia Gilbert  
3rd Romsey Scout Group (01794516834/07952403069)

## Notices cont.

### BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At its last Committee meeting on 13 July the Committee unanimously agreed to the appointment of Ian Knights to the position of Chairman.

I wish Ian and the Committee every success for the future. Exciting times for the Hall and the shop.

Richard Brazier

### PLANNING REGULATIONS

Readers of this magazine may be interested in my recent experiences with the local planning authority. You may, or may not be aware that the government publish a Planning Portal which is available online at [www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk). This lays out, amongst others, the required regulations regarding planning permission for development of an extension, shed or garage in the grounds of a property.

In the case of a shed, providing it is constructed 2 metres from a boundary fence, it can be 2.5 metres to eaves height, and 4 metres overall with a pitched roof. Otherwise the maximum overall height allowed is 2.5 metres. Planning permission is required, with an application sent to Test Valley Council, and no work can commence until these plans are passed. The application is also sent to the Local Parish Council, and letters are sent to those who may be affected by the building, at which point objections can be made.

However, in a “parallel world” it now seems that, without prior consultation or planning permission, a “shed” can be built within 2 metres of a boundary fence (which also bounds a conservation area), this edifice weighing in at 4.4 metres high, with a 2.1 metres eaves height and 8.6 metres wide, 6.6 metres deep. If the builder is lucky, the affected neighbours won’t notice what is going on until the roof timbers are put in place; in this instance the neighbours, once alerted to the scale of this “shed”, initially contacted the Parish Council to find out if they knew what was planned, and then checked the Test Valley Website to see if planning had been applied for. There were obviously no details on the website.

Despite many phone calls and e-mails to the Planning Enforcement Officer (PEO) nothing was done to halt the development in any way, on the grounds that providing it fulfils Building Regulations approval and (apparently!) provided plans are submitted at some stage, the work can continue to be finished. The PEO made numerous visits and phone calls to the builder and only after some months were the plans finally submitted. These then went

## Notices cont.

(guess what?!) for retrospective planning permission. The Parish Council objected to the plans and their notes were forwarded, together with local comments and objections to Test Valley Planning.

Having reviewed these objections, the decision was duly made anyway to grant retrospective planning permission! Neighbours now overlook an oversize building which was constructed without planning permission, and without discussion with nearby property owners. This opens the door, once again, for anyone in Braishfield who so chooses to build almost anything they wish. We are a small village and one would have hoped that consideration would have been given to those affected and the rest of our community. The enjoyment of our village will be put at risk if this sort of development is allowed to go ahead and, as with other issues, we need to work and live together.

The Parish Council will be interested in any of your views on this or any related subject, so that they can be submitted to Test Valley Planning. If nothing else it will keep in focus the growing worry amongst villagers that ill-publicised, 'imposed' development both within the village and immediately around it will without doubt blight our future. The shocking increase in local traffic over the past year has, sadly, already started that process.

A concerned Braishfield Resident.

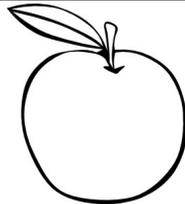
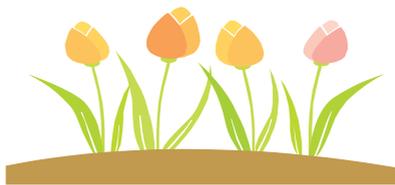
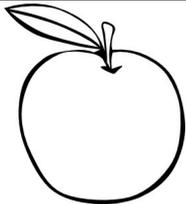
### VILLAGE PANTRY VOLUNTEER GET TOGETHER 12TH JUNE

As a way of saying thank you to the volunteer staff, the Village Pantry management decided to host a working supper evening for the volunteers and their partners. The chosen venue was of course the village hall committee room.

The original plan was to use the evening to discuss teething issues by the staff and as a group discuss ways in which we could improve the service, perhaps streamline the paperwork and overall be more efficient.

In the event some 48 volunteers and their partners attended and were treated to an excellent lasagne supper prepared by Sharon and Marion with wine selected by Ian. It would be fair to say that the wine proved to be very popular and although we did get an update from Clive on the plans for the new shop and a brief from Ian, as the evening progressed it became clear that the opportunity for sensible debate had disappeared. It was a most enjoyable evening and all volunteers felt well and truly thanked.

Jimmy Chestnutt



**BRAISHFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER  
IS**

**APPLE DAY**

**IN  
VILLAGE HALL 11AM – 4PM**

**APPLE-BASED REFRESHMENTS**

**BRING YOUR OWN APPLES FOR EXPERT IDENTIFICATION  
FRESH APPLE JUICE OFF THE PRESS  
BRING YOUR APPLES TO PRESS.**

**WIN THE TROPHY WITH YOUR PRIZE APPLE**

BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE QUIZ

- Q1. When is it ?  
A. **Friday 13th November 7:30pm**
- Q2. Where is it ?  
A. **Village Hall**
- Q3. How much is it ?  
A. **£3pp (teams of four)**
- Q4. Will the format be the same as last year ?  
A. **Yes - but even better**



If you got 4/4 then your prize is a fun night out at the same time as supporting the Village Hall Refurbishment Programme. If you didn't get the questions right you are doomed to another Friday night in watching reruns of "Have I Got News for You".

# Braishfield Village Association “Call My Bluff” Wine-Tasting

Village Hall 7.30pm, Friday 9th October 2015

Don't miss this enjoyable evening!  
Featuring 8 wines, each of which you will 'taste'.

A panel of 3 local Experts (who will have undergone recent rigorous training in the deep mystery of wine production!) will pass judgement on each wine.

But here's the trick! 3 opinions on the particular Wine under scrutiny will be given eloquently by the Experts. We, the participating audience, will respond by a simple 'show of hands' to each one in turn – if you believe their story! Of course only one will be correct – but no names, no embarrassment, just a good laugh!

And our Experts:

Chair: David Robinson  
Panel: Carole Renvoize

Tony Lowe  
Mike Ransom



The evening will include a good selection of tasty nibbles to keep the wine at bay. But do bring any extra 'provisions' if you wish!



Tickets @ £15pp are available 17th August onwards from  
Sheila Still  
01794 368384 bva@f2s.com

A cheerful evening for family and friends!

**Profits from the evening will go to the Braishfield Village Pantry Project**



## Baddesley Div. County Councillors' 2015 Annual Report

Hampshire County Council will need to find another £100 million of savings during 2015-2017. This is as a result of reduced government funding because of the continuing severity of the nation's finances. This will equate to a further 14% reduction in departments budgets over the next two years.

The previous savings achieved were somewhat easier by reducing the cost of back office services and functions, a strategy that worked to prevent cuts to front line services. However, over the next two years we will see Hampshire County Council front line services cut to meet the transformation targets set by the administration. There is no denying that this next phase of cuts is going to be much tougher than before and people will notice the difference. There will be a noticeable reduction in services that Hampshire County Council provides.

Crucial to the success of Transformation to 2017, will be the ongoing success of the financial platform developed through the Integrated Business Centre. This will enable the County Council to be a national leader in the provision of shared services, something that I have always supported. As a result of the reduced funding we have witnessed cuts to bus services, some services either withdrawn or reduced throughout Hampshire. The loss of the Hampshire County

Council Accredited Community Safety Officers, will undoubtedly be noticed by the public. Previously anti-social behaviour problems were a major problem within many areas of the Baddesley division. The ACSO's were successful in dramatically reducing such behaviour after I requested their presence to patrol our areas.

Hampshire County Council with unanimous support of all political parties sent a strong message to the then coalition Government seeking that it wants more powers and funding devolved to democratically elected local government at County, district and parish level in England. The shire areas of England were very important to the nation- contributing around £203 billion per annum in terms of Gross Value Added. The County are seeking more powers back from unelected agencies.

Since the 2013/14 winter period Hampshire's contractors Amey have been working hard to repair the damage to our roads inflicted by the weather. Hampshire did gain the accolade of being the top performing authority in the country for highways maintenance in 2014 National Highways and Transport public satisfaction survey.

There are still many areas that need attention. I and my opposition colleagues believe the County Council will need to concentrate more to improve the pavement areas

within the County before the public will be entirely satisfied; that is why we allocated more in our alternative budget to rectify the situation. The County Council have invested extensively in support of Superfast Broadband and now 96% of premises in the County have access to this facility.

The County have been awarded £3.1 million to invest in a digital strategy to help transform, modernise and secure sustainable public services across Hampshire for the future. This investment will help the County Council to implement new ways of working digitally, to support the redesign and transformation of services so they match people's expectations for the 21st Century.

The County Council's capital programme which represents 876 million over the next four years 2014/18 will build and improve long-term assets that position Hampshire as a great place to live and to work now and in the future. The budget includes £281 million to build 11,300 new school places to ensure a place for every child.

This is an expenditure that is urgently required with many parents unable to gain access to their local schools. The opposition at the County Council have been highlighting this problem for a number of years. Hampshire school children are achieving well above the national average in exam results and the pupils, teachers and staff should be congratulated.

I would like to thank the Social Services Director and her team for finding different and innovative ways of providing social care in order to manage an ever increasing workload with a further 14% cut in funding availability.

Over the last twelve months I have been able to support many of the community organisations within my division from my Community Grant funding allowance. These are organisations who work for the community as volunteers.

Once again the Coalition Government have built in the Council Tax freeze Grant in order to encourage councils not to raise Council Tax. I am pleased to announce that Hampshire County Council have agreed unanimously to seek no more additional tax from the residents of Hampshire. Therefore the Council Tax for Hampshire County Council will remain at £1037.88p for a Band 'D' property.

HCC Cllr Alan Dowden  
Baddesley division

## Community Emergency Plan For Braishfield

Cast your mind back to the winter of 2014. Many residents of Braishfield suffered long power cuts at Christmas, and a few suffered flooding. That winter alerted all of us to the fact that anyone can find themselves completely in the hands of the authorities (be it emergency services or utilities providers) when emergencies occur.

Emergencies may take the form of natural disaster, perhaps brought on by bad weather, leading to flooding or power failure. In a rural area, there is a the risk of being blocked in by snow in the winter. Or man-made disaster, perhaps a road accident, chemical spillage or gas explosion. Effective planning of foreseeable events can reduce the stress and harm that individuals suffer – especially in the time before emergency services can reach us.

The Parish Council has been considering what can be done to help protect residents in the event of future emergencies, and we have sought the advice of the Emergency Planning Department of Hampshire County Council. Mike Prince, Chairman of Braishfield Parish Council, is leading a group of residents in drawing up a “Community Emergency Plan”.

The project is in its early stages and the working party is looking for individuals who are interested in helping. If you wish to know more, there is a website run by Hampshire County Council, <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/emergencyplanning/community-resilience.htm>. Mike Prince will be happy to discuss this with you if you give him a call on 368339.

Kate Orange, Parish Clerk  
on behalf of Braishfield Parish Council  
clerk@braishfield-pc.org

# **OPEN GARDEN and TEA PARTY**

**with the Braishfield Bums Ukulele Band**

**To raise funds for the JUMBULANCE TRUST**

**Saturday 5th September 2015 at 3pm**

at Oakfield, Farley Chamberlayne, Romsey, Hants, SO51 0QR

Homemade Cakes and Cream Teas, Raffle, Bring and Buy, Tombola, Cakes & Jams, & Plants and a Bookstall

Children and well behaved dogs on leads welcome ... Gypsy caravan, woodland play house, a potager and lots of space with garden toys to explore.

Teas and Stalls in the Barn if it is wet

The Jumbulance Trust takes sick and disabled people on holidays and days out in the jumbulances (specially equipped, part ambulance, part coaches) We are one of many local affiliated groups. The care and support is provided free by local volunteer nurses, doctors and helpers.

The money raised at this event is for the Jumbulance Trust to help subsidise the cost of the hiring of the jumbulances and to provide much needed respite breaks. Many vulnerable people are struggling as personal care costs increase and funding is reduced. In this difficult climate our organisation is still growing and we are more than ever aware of the need for individuals and families to have a respite break.

I am happy to collect books or plants etc if donated

Chris Chisholm [cookchrisr@aol.com](mailto:cookchrisr@aol.com)

JUMBULANCE TRUST ( Charity No 1090731)

RSVP for catering purposes 01794 368120



# **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 4/5/6 DECEMBER 2015**

## **ALL SAINTS CHURCH – BRAISHFIELD**

Following the success of our Christmas Tree Festival last year – we've decided to do it again! As before, the proceeds will be shared between All Saints Church and a local charity.

This year we have chosen Jane Scarth House. There were 24 trees last year all displaying amazing imagination so now is the time to start thinking about a theme for your tree. This year we are adding a special attraction with a 'Pre Viewing' evening on Thursday 3rd December followed by a candle light supper in The Church Rooms with festive music.

More information and entry forms in the next issue of the Braishfield Village News.

**PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY NOW !**

Carole Renvoize & Jane Bennett

## Sheep and other Matters at Elm Grove

Lambing came and went, with very good results, the rams are resting and by the time you read this the lambs will have been separated from their mothers so the ewes can recover from the rigours of feeding their offspring for weeks, in preparation for becoming pregnant again. Meanwhile the lambs will settle down to growing. Kate had reduced the number of ewes, which made lambing a better experience this year, the last being born in the early hours of the day before Kate and family went on holiday – good timing. She now has only 2 rams, the third had worn itself out!

The problem now is lack of grass; the weather has been so dry that it hasn't been growing. The dry weather was very good for hay making though, so some you win, some you lose.

We had to have an oak tree felled along the road near the cricket pitch as the trunk was split from top to bottom and was creaking alarmingly. Rather worrying at the time, but it was dealt with quickly. Ross Woodley, who took it down, counted the rings and reckoned it was about 215 years old, so planted in the early 1800s.

In 1800 the farm was owned by Corpus Christi College, Oxford which had owned it since the 1500s. The house building was described as 'ruinous' in 1517 and may well have been put in order soon after.

'Kitegate Farm' as it was known then, alternated between lessee and sub-tenant. At the time the oak tree was planted a Charles White was the tenant, who held the tenancy until 1823, when James Marks became tenant. James Marks was described as a bricklayer and when the lease was renewed in 1831 the farmhouse was described as 'newly erected'. This is the basis of the present house. The college sold the property in 1870/1 and by this time it was known as Elm Grove. Out of interest, James Marks also modified the Newport Lane Terrace, adding number 1 onto the end.

We are very lucky that a Stan Waight wrote a paper about Corpus Christi Estates and chose to concentrate on Elm Grove, so we have a copy with lots of information up to when it was sold and I have been researching life here since then.

Fascinating, but time consuming; Hampshire Records Office is wonderful.

Wendy Quarendon



## BHS Garden Visits

In June we visited three gardens – all of them were spectacular with beautiful weather.

The first visit was to Dean House at Kilmeston. Each with a garden plan, we could wander through the magnificent grounds, under the wisteria archway, past the colourful perennial border, and look at the most comprehensive vegetable area.

The second visit was to Redenham Park, near Andover. The huge estate gardens are divided into four 'rooms' which were flamboyant with roses and herbaceous planting. The vegetable garden and orchard were

mixed with flowering plants giving a sumptuous feel to the whole.

Our third garden was Bramdean House, a beautiful Regency house surrounded by a meticulous garden. A huge 'mirror image' herbaceous border in blues and pinks stretched from the house to the very productive vegetable and cut flower garden and Arboretum. The garden specialised in Nerines, growing many varieties in the garden and greenhouse. Three large and very different gardens enjoyed by everyone. After each visit members had a meal at a nearby pub.

Viv Robinson

## Braishfield Horticultural Society

### *The best in blooming Braishfield*

A beautiful day brought Braishfield people armed with their prize exhibits to the annual flower show. In the morning, the hall buzzed with folk busy arranging perfect fruit and vegetables, vases of flowers and culinary goodies. A large part of the hall was taken by the many children's entries of miniature gardens and animals made from vegetables. The judges arrived to select the prizewinners. Outside on the playing field, stalls were set up selling plants, produce, books and bric-a-brac. A marquee was erected to sell cream teas in aid of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Teas

were accompanied by the BUMS (Braishfield Ukulele Music Society). Margaret O'Keefe was once again the chief organizer of this event which she has successfully done for several years.

In the afternoon, the hall thronged with people looking at all the record number of exhibits. Derek Sapsford and Sylvia Watts had highest points in the flower section, which had a record number of entries. Ron and Sylvia Watts once again swept the board with their excellent vegetables. But it was Dorothy Ross's plate of huge juicy redcurrants that won 'Best entry in the Horticultural Sections'. Denise Bright, a regular

winner, achieved most points in the Flower Arranging classes.

The men's challenge was to make a lemon iced tray bake. A popular event, this time it was won by Graham Bennett.

The children's entries were very inventive with gardens on a plate proving very popular. The prize for the best animal made from vegetables was a delightful creature made of a potato body with carrot legs by Oscar Clifton. (see below) Kate Orange and Melanie Legge achieved highest points for their entries in the Children's Handicraft section. All the cups and certificates were presented by Frances Hardy, the Head of Braishfield



School who also won the best culinary entry with four savoury muffins.

Steve Renvoize, Chairman of the Horticultural Society, closed the day saying that it had been, once again, a most successful show, proving that Braishfield people loved the event and it would hopefully continue to run for many more years.

Viv Robinson



## Braishfield Village Shop Project Update



**G**ood News.  
The shop project has been successful in the applications for the following grants:

Braishfield Parish Council has awarded a grant of £700 in addition to the grant of £400 made last year towards the start-up costs.

Hampshire County Council has awarded a grant of £20,000

Test Valley Borough Council has awarded a grant of £25,000

The Village Hall Committee has allocated £15,000 derived from fund raising over the last few years.

The combined sum of £60700 is sufficient to achieve a weather tight building with some of the fitting out. As a result, the decision has been taken to proceed with the project immediately and it is expected that work on the foundations will start in the next few weeks. The timber frame building has been ordered

and is being manufactured off-site for delivery and erection in late September.

Several other sources of funds to complete the fitting-out and equipment are currently being sought, with the aim of opening the shop for business as soon as possible.

How can you help this project?

One fund source is personal donations and, if from UK taxpayers, are particularly attractive as we are able to claim from HMRC an additional 25% of any donation made by way of the Gift Aid scheme. We would be extremely grateful if you are able to consider this option.

If you are able to assist in any way with the fitting-out tasks and have the necessary skills and experience, we would also be delighted to hear from you.

Finally we hope you will continue to use the shop as frequently as you can and, once up and running in its new home, the shop will offer more choice and a bigger range of locally produced goods and also extend the opening times.

Clive John  
July 2015

# **SAVE THE DATE !!**

**Friday 11th and Saturday 12th MARCH 2016**

the return of

## **The Village Variety Show**

After the outstanding success of previous shows, the Village Hall Committee are planning to have another and as before all user groups and Villagers are invited to participate to prove once again

## **BRAISHFIELD HAS TALENT!!**

Thanks to those who have already booked their slot. We still need more acts – whether it be sketch – musical or not, a dance performance, a poem – whatever!!

We also need helpers behind the scenes - leading up to the show and on the night.

Please start thinking how you could be part of this event and register your interest by calling or emailing one of the team:

Graham and Jane Bennett 368109 or [graham.d.bennett@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.d.bennett@btinternet.com)

Iain and Sue Coleman 367064 or [iainsue5853@gmail.com](mailto:iainsue5853@gmail.com)

Ian and Wendy Jeffery 367282 or [ianandwendyj@btinternet.com](mailto:ianandwendyj@btinternet.com)

Tim Howkins 368330 or [timhowkins@me.com](mailto:timhowkins@me.com)

Ian and Meri Knights 368516 or [meri.knights@btinternet.com](mailto:meri.knights@btinternet.com)

## What Really Matters?

Whilst there is much talk these days about 'austerity', in our part of the country most of us if we are honest can say that we are relatively comfortably off. The danger of course is that we can all be seduced into thinking that what really matters in life are possessions, power and success.

So I'm challenged by the words of Jesus to his followers that give a very different perspective on what matters and what my priorities should be. He said: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Some day it will all come to an end. There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours or days. All the things we collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else. Our wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to insignificance. It will not matter what we owned or what we were owed. Our resentments, frustrations and jealousies will finally disappear. So too, our hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire. It won't matter where we came from or what our family pedigree was. It won't

matter whether we were beautiful or brilliant; our gender and skin colour will be irrelevant.

So what will matter? How will the value of our days be measured?

What will matter is not what we got but what we gave. What will matter is not our success but our significance. What will matter is not what we learned but what we taught. What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage, or sacrifice that enriched, empowered or encouraged others. What will matter is not our competence but our character.

What will matter is not how many people we knew, but how many will feel a lasting loss when we've gone. What will matter are not our memories but the memories that live in those who loved us. What will matter is how long we will be remembered, by whom and for what. Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident. It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice. It's a choice to trust our lives to Jesus Christ and to live a life of self-giving service to him and to other people. If that's where our treasure is, then that will constitute a life that matters.

Revd Canon Steve Pittis  
*(This article is based on 'Character Counts' by Michael Josephson of the Josephson Institute of Ethics)*

## What's Going On in the Churchyard?

Over the last few months the 'Green Team' has been hard at work to restore the old yew trees to the north of the church. The columnar yew trees (*Taxus baccata* 'Fastigiata') have been allowed to grow to quite a substantial size; actually so large that visitors and regular worshippers to the church had to form a single file to get through. If it had rained the night before you were in for a free shower! Additionally, three out of the twelve trees have started to look thin in the middle and began to flop apart.

Instead of removal, the PCC has opted for restoration work. This will take a few years to be complete and be green again, but we are retaining the original old planting from the churchyard. Just out of interest, Church Yew trees are in decline across the country as the International Conifer Conservation Society has observed, and they have now actively started to propagate and replant important 'Oldies'. So we can do our bit in Braishfield to retain some of our historic landscape.

The Green Team has so far had two sessions at it and has made quite a dent. We are pruning the path side of the trees hard to encourage juvenile growth from the old wood; *Taxus* responds quite well to hard treatment. The top has been reduced as well and we are already seeing a big improvement as more light gets

to the inner branches of the trees. Keeping the base clear of weeds and ivy makes a difference too. A hand full of fertilizer in addition to the rain over the last two weeks in July have been of enormous help to keep the trees from getting too stressed.

The entire prunings have been recycled on site to build a 'dead hedge'. Some of the strong upright branches have been turned into fence posts and the rest of the prunings have either been used to weave the 'front panel' or to fill in behind. The westerly boundary of the churchyard has been pruned and used as some of the filling material. It really should go on the hedgehog-housing-market as either villa or crescent! Come and have a look.

If you would like to be part of the Green Team, please feel free to join in on Saturday 31st October 2015, 10.00 – 13.00 (or longer if you like).

Fran Clifton



## Scouts

### MAKING THE GRADE

What a lovely evening on 9 June! The Mayor of Test Valley, Mrs Dorothy Baverstock, welcomed Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and families and friends, from Romsey District to a very special ceremony in the Town Hall. Every youth member who has gained their Chief Scout Award for their section was presented with their certificate by Mrs Baverstock. It was lovely to see 3rd represented by Jack, Rory, Toby, Lewie and Austin receiving the Beaver Chief Scout's Award Bronze and Scouts Jack, Kathleen & James for their Chief Scout's Award Gold. It was also fantastic to see Kieran, an Explorer Scout who used to be a Scout at 3rd, gain his Chief Scout's Award

Platinum and his Duke of Edinburgh Silver. Well done to you all!



### CARNIVAL GO-KART RACE

Three Scout teams from 3rd Romsey Scout Group entered this year's Carnival Go-Kart Race in Romsey. Themes were decided and the preparation of go-karts undertaken. With costumes on we suddenly had Sunnyside - Toy Story 3, Festival Fever and



Up, Up & Away from the film Up! Make up for the old man was good - or we have VERY old Scouts these days! The evening was slightly damp when we arrived at Alma Road

car park ready to be judged on the best decorated go-kart prior to the off. However, this did not dampen our spirits! The route was memorised, parents sent out to check they went

the right way - the route was then changed..... then they were off! Down the car park and then round the town and back to Alma Road car park. They all went flying round - not all in the right direction, and not all under total control - but great fun was had by all, and they all made it back in one piece! Congratulations to Sunnyside for coming first with Festival Fever close on their heels. Up, Up & Away won best decorated kart - well done everyone!

Thank you to the carnival committee for putting on the go-kart race – it was great fun and all teams enjoyed taking part! It was great to have an event for the under-16's to take part in during the Bed Race evening - we can't wait to take part again next year!

Sarah Beaman  
3rd Romsey Scout Leader - Ashanti Troop

### HIMALAYAN BALSAM ODYSSEY

3rd Romsey Beavers, Cubs and

where it out-competes our native wild flowers. It thrives along river banks and, when ripe, its seed



Scouts joined forces with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust at Ower on Thursday 9 July to stop the spread of Himalayan balsam along the Cadnam River.

Himalayan balsam was introduced to the UK by the Victorians who planted it in their gardens but it has escaped into the countryside

Pods 'explode' releasing hundreds of seeds into the water where they are carried downstream to form new colonies capable of reaching an amazing four metres in height. Fortunately Himalayan balsam has short roots and is easy to pull up, (cont. on next page)

making it an ideal activity for the 35 youngsters who spent the evening removing hundreds of balsam plants with Catherine Chatters, the Wildlife Trust's New Forest Non-Native Plants Officer. "I was delighted to have their help" said Catherine "everyone was so enthusiastic and worked hard so we really made a difference".

Katie Brown leader of the 3rd Romsey Cubs said "Himalayan balsam is easy to recognise so the Cubs love pulling it up and were really excited to be able to help". Beaver leader, Mat Lee, commented "The Beavers like making big piles of the pulled-up plants". Imogen, a

member of the 3rd Romsey Scouts, tackled the dense growth of balsam growing on the river bank and said "I think balsam-pulling is good because if you help the environment you help everyone".

The New Forest Non-Native Plants Project is helping landowners to control the invasion of Himalayan balsam along a number of rivers in the New Forest area.

If you would like to find out about volunteering with the Project, please contact Catherine at: Catherine.Chatters@hiwwt.org.uk or telephone 07770 923315.

## MEMORIES



Do any of our 'older' villagers remember this occasion at the Newport Inn or know anything about it??

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**CARIBBEAN EVENING: Saturday 15th August 2015.**  
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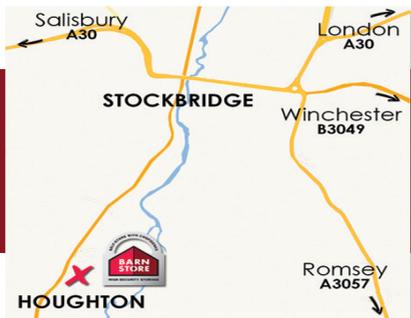
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| Thursday 22nd Oct  | Inspired by William Morris | Sue O'Brien         |
| Thursday 26th Nov* | Christmas is Coming        | Dennis Van Wonderen |

Meetings held in The Church Room from 7.30pm. For further information contact Chairman Maggie Batchelor on 01794 368125 or Eileen Norman on 02380 731162

\*Open Evening Meeting will be held in Braishfield Village Hall

### **Rubbish News**

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



Recycle weeks beginning: 10th & 24th August:  
7th & 21st September  
Household waste weeks beginning: 3rd, 17th & 31st August:  
14th & 28th September

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

*Bank Holiday week (31st August) black bin will be collected one day later than usual.*

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# Braishfield Village Diary

| Regular Meetings             | Where                      | Time            | When   | Next meetings |        |        |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--|---------------|--------|--------|
| Parish Council               | Comm. Room<br>Village Hall | 7.00            | 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues excl.<br>August   | 1 Sep         | 6 Oct  | 3 Nov  |
| Village Lunch                | Church Room                | 12.00           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon excl.<br>August  | 14 Sep        | 12 Oct | 9 Nov  |
| Horticultural Society 📖      | Comm. Room<br>Village Hall | 7.30            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues excl.<br>June/July/Aug  | 8 Sep         | 13 Oct | 10 Nov |
| Flower Arrangement Society 📖 | Church Room                | 7.30            | 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs excl.<br>Aug/Dec   | 24 Sep        | 22 Oct | 26 Nov |
| Art Group                    | Football Pavilion          | 10 - 12         | Every Thursday except August   |               |        |        |
| Toddler Group                | Comm. Room<br>Village Hall | 10 - 12         | Wednesday – tel: 07817 739903  |               |        |        |
| The Pantry Shop & Cafe       | Comm. Room<br>Village Hall | 9 – 12<br>3 – 6 | 9.00 – 12.00 & 3.00 – 6.00<br>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday (9-1), Friday<br>Saturday 9.00 – 12.00 |               |        |        |

| Events 📖                             | Where                        | When                           | More Details    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Village Voices                       | Church Room                  | 24 Aug, 23rd Sept. 2 - 4pm     | See BVN page 9  |
| Cream Tea                            | Cliftons                     | Sunday 30 August               | See BVN page 9  |
| Village Shop VJ Day                  | Village Hall                 | Friday 14th August 3-5pm       | See BVN page 8  |
| Jumbulance Cream Tea/Bring & Buy     | Oakfield Farley Chamberlayne | Saturday 5th September 3pm     | see BVN page 19 |
| Apple Day                            | Village Hall                 | Saturday 19th September 11-4pm | see BVN page 14 |
| Call my Bluff – wine tasting evening | Village Hall                 | Friday 9 October, from 7.30pm  | See BVN page 15 |
| Village Quiz                         | Village Hall                 | Friday 13 November, 7:30pm     | See BVN page 14 |

📖 Please see BVA News or Notice Boards for further details

Please refer to [www.braishfield.org](http://www.braishfield.org) or your Residents Guide for contact telephone nbrs

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