

# BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 216 April 2016



The Valentine gentlemen of Braishfield! (see page 14)

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 - 2016

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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: May 20th 2016

### From the Chairman

Spring already.

It won't be long before the shops have their summer sales and as I write it is only 283 days to Christmas. Time flies but then it has been a busy first few months.

February Braishfield hosted Hampshire County Council's 5th annual village community shop conference in the village hall. It was an excellent event with 50 delegates in the main hall and some excellent presentations from other shop operators. The event was organised by Hampshire County Councillor Rob Humby who had been persuaded by Clive John to use Braishfield as the venue. I had the pleasure of chairing the event, but the stars of the show were Sharon and the volunteer catering team who provided everything from coffee on arrival to an excellent buffet lunch The shop committee also worked hard to get the new shop open for the event and it was of course the centre of attraction. All our visitors were impressed.

Our shop is now fully open and it has become Braishfield's answer to Starbucks. Parking is free, the coffee is every bit as good, the cakes are better and everything is cheaper. It is the place to meet.

The year is about to get busier.
Planning is well underway to organise

the village event to celebrate Her Majesty's 90th birthday. We know that our pubs and clubs have plans of their own but the main village event will be held on 11th June. It will be a picnic in the park type event - Braishfield's equivalent of a street party. So put the date 11th June in your diary NOW. More details on pages 24 & 25.

One piece of good news: thanks to the efforts of the Parish Council, Hampshire County Council will resurface the road from Common Hill Road to Crook Hill. A much needed win but more is needed. The road from Common Hill up to the Farley Lane/ King's Somborne Road cross roads is also in need of urgent repair, and we need some form of traffic control to reduce through traffic to and from King's Somborne, which is destroying that single track country lane.

At the last council meeting Councillor John Bevan took time to reassure us that resolving all the traffic problems remained a top priority for the council.

Finally and sadly, Kate Orange and her daughters were involved in a nasty road accident. On your behalf we sent flowers and wish her and her family a speedy recovery.

### From the Editor

"ROADS - Where we're going, we don't need no roads" (quoted from the film 'Back to the Future'). A mere 7 years ago Sue and I moved in to a uniquely peaceful but vibrant village, served by a country road, eventually leading northwards to Kings Somborne through a quiet single carriageway lane (it still does, thank goodness, but for how long?).

Within 7 years all has changed with shocking speed. Driven by the blind governmental diktat on housing, it appears that Councils at every local and general level have simply applied the 'rule' - aka rule out local feelings and build mindlessly, whatever the impact on rural communities - and, it seems, none more so than here, where we see Romsey's selfish side-lining of their considerable brownfield sites in the Town in favour of crudely 'beasting' rural areas like

those in and surrounding Braishfield. To emphasise the point, I draw your attention to Councillor John Bevan's piece on page 7. We already face increasing traffic, witnessing many enormous vehicles far too large for a rural road. It seems we will now suffer the indignity of pinch-points, speed-humps etc. Progress? Over to you!

Enough misery! A huge amount of entertainment is advertised in the magazine.

Enjoy your Spring and early Summer, and attend as many of the local events as you can - just make sure that, as you drive into the Village Hall or Social Club car parks, you keep a weather eye lifting for that enormous articulated lorry delivering another 10,000 breeze-blocks to the next building site!

### **BRAISHFIELD 200 CLUB**

We have started the year with three draw winners: Graham Taylor, Terry O'Keeffe and Mike Horton, each of whom have received a cheque large enough to be a nice surprise, but not so large that it entirely changes their lives! We've also made three donations to good causes: January's was to the Countess Mountbatten Hospice, and both February's and March's to the Village Pantry to help towards the cost of the new extension and the fittings. For the benefit of newcomers, every month we do a draw, pay 40% of the money to a winner, and give the remaining 60% to a charity or good cause, most often one with village connections.

Next draw in April, and if you are minded to join in, just contact me, David Robinson on (tel) 368774 or e mail dbr33@john-lewis.com Joining is easy. It just involves filling in a registration form and giving me some money!

### **Donations to Braishfield Village 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 2016. 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.
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.

# Oak Close:- update from the Parish Council

Braishfield PC would like to welcome the first residents of Oak Close, who moved in just in time for Christmas in their new homes.

The homes have been needed for many years and it has been a long time in the planning, so it is great to see the project completed by Hyde Housing Association.

Braishfield PC was consulted by Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) throughout the planning process and has always emphasised the community wish for the houses to be for people with a strong local connection, and for this to be the case into the future. This was successfully protected by the inclusion of a planning restriction on the tenure of the properties: all nine were originally planned to be for rental. You may, therefore, be interested to know why "for sale" signs have been erected. It stems from a change in the funding system for social housing rental properties, which took place whilst the scheme was under construction, and made it unviable for Hyde Housing Association. Hyde requested of TVBC that they could change the tenure of some of the properties to "Shared Ownership", in order to fund the construction of them. TVBC resisted, and have negotiated for just two homes to be offered for Shared Ownership, and this is subject to a planning application for the change of tenure.

You can view the planning application for the change of tenure to shared ownership at the planning website for TVBC: www.testvalley.gov.uk the reference number is 15/02921/OBLS. At the time of writing, the application was under consideration. The Parish Council objected on the grounds that the requirement for the properties to be for local people in perpetuity should be applied to the shared ownership properties. There are ways that this can be achieved, for example through planning restrictions, or leasehold rather than freehold.

The PC has no involvement in the ownership or management of the houses. Enquiries should be directed to Hyde Housing Association 02380 838600, Connells 01794 830833, or TVBC for planning matters 01264 368000.

Kate Orange, Clerk to Braishfield PC clerk@braishfield-pc.org 07968 671604

# ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 2016 TUESDAY MAY 3RD, 8PM, VILLAGE HALL

Although the meeting is run by the Parish Council, it can be used by any community or village group to report to residents on events that have taken place, progress with projects, plans for the future or any other matters of interest to the parish. It can be a good way of reaching more people than just your own members. If your group would like to take part in the APC, please contact the Clerk **before Monday 4th April 2016.** 

### **Notices**

#### **BRAISHFIELD ROADS UPDATE**

Braishfield Villagers will be pleased to learn that, the Highways Department of Hampshire County Council have scheduled a new top dressing of Braishfield Road from the Jermyns Lane roundabout to the junction with Common Hill Road. This work is to be carried out during this summer of 2016. Clearly, the remainder of Braishfield's roads also need a similar overhaul and the Parish Council is on the case and we are not in any way complacent and will continue with our efforts to achieve parity throughout the whole of the Village. The Southern end of the village has been a priority as the older houses close to the roadside, between Kiln Lane and the Dog and Crook Pub, have been experiencing vibrations from heavy vehicles causing worries about structural damage. It was this problem that caused Hampshire Highways Department to act.

The next issue for our attention, using S106 monies allocated as grants from the new housing development in Oak Close, is to make the junction with Common Hill Road and Braishfield Road less of a corner and more of a major junction. On Friday 18th March Mike Prince and John Bevan met with Hampshire and Test Valley officials to discuss this and the problems the village is facing with increasing traffic numbers in Braishfield The Hampshire CC Officials will now take away our concerns and examine the establishment of a paved pedestrian crossing for the school which should encourage drivers to take more care as they approach the junction. The officials will also examine road marking measures to force drivers to treat the junction with more respect. Traffic calming measures were also discussed at length including the possibility of use of chicanes or possibly narrowing parts of Braishfield Road in its straighter sections to force speed restriction.

The planned work to create a footpath from the Dog and Crook Pub to the roundabout, to be funded from S106 monies granted from Abbotswood developments, was discussed with a view to seeking its early start. This will link with Hillier's footpath which they have created around the perimeter of the Arboretum. The Crook Hill footpath is now an urgent requirement as increasing numbers of both adults and schoolchildren are walking up and down Crook Hill to and from the village and it is not entirely safe.

John Bevan PCC

### Notices cont.

#### YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

Braishfield Parish Council have now endorsed the work of the Resilience Working Group which will now enable the group to continue with its work. What is the Resilience Group all about and why do we need it in the Village? Whilst we are not in the league of the problems in the Somerset Levels, Cumbria and other badly hit areas, we have experienced flooding in Braishfield and as we all know, power cuts can at times be a way of life. It is not only these issues that need to be considered, but the unlikely possibility of a major incident at the Gas Plant in Bunny Lane or a plane crash.

This is a central Government led initiative, passed down to County level and then to Borough and on down to Parish and Town. We need to consider the need for an emergency centre and an alternative if the first choice is not available and these centres need communications, therefore the choice of the Village Hall first with the Social Club as the reserve centre (both venues have landline phones). We know mobile cover is not good in the village and if the power is down, then a hard wired landline phone is essential.

We are investigating grants to supply equipment to enable the emergency centre to operate, especially if there is a long term power outage, and the outcome of this will be advised.

Currently the group has 3 members but we are sure that there is further expertise available in the Village to help push this forward. Are you able to help with this important task to ensure that if the worst happens? We in Braishfield will be able to move forward in the knowledge that there is in place a plan to minimise any disruption and hardship that might occur in the event of an incident. Once the plan is in place, apart from reviewing it on a regular basis, there is unlikely to be any further commitment.

If you are able to help with this valuable project, please contact either Mike Prince 368339 or Carole Renvoize 368766 who will happy to discuss this with you.

Mike Prince

### **POWER CUTS**

Thankfully we have not suffered with major power supply disruption this year, and long may it continue. To most of us a power disruption is more of an inconvenience and causes little problems in our lives. However, there are residents who, if there is a power cut, are reliant on electricity for home medical care, disabled, special communication needs eg. Blind or partially sighted, chronically ill or baby under 12 months. (continued on next page)

### Notices cont.

If you fall into any of the above categories, you can apply to be placed on the Priority Services Register which will ensure that if there is a power cut then the supplier will prioritize the restoration of power to you.

It is simple to register yourself, or have someone register for you:

By phone 0800 294 3259 By Mobile 0315 072 1900 By Text Phone 0800 31605457

Online www.ssepd.co.uk/PriorityServicesRegistrationForm

Mike Prince Chairman

Braishfield Parish Council

## **Christmas Tree Festival results**

As a result of the money raised at the second Christmas Tree Festival and Art Exhibition, the

Rector Steve Pittis presented a cheque during the Family Service at All Saints Church Sunday on 7th February to Jane Scarth House. Receiving the cheque for £755 on behalf of Jane Scarth

House, Elaine Grainger, Trustee and Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee expressed her delight at the amount raised which would go towards the continuing support Jane Scarth House is able to give to so many people.

At a recent meeting of the Christmas Tree Festival working group, it was

decided that 2016 would be the last festival for a while. Please make a note of the dates for this year Friday/ S a t u r d a y / Sunday 2/3/4 December.

There will be a preview evening and

Candle lit supper on Thursday 1st. This could be your last chance to enter a tree for a while so we are looking for a bumper crop!

e Candle lit suppe This could be ye t enter a tree for

Carole Renvoize

# **Braishfield Variety Show**

Well that was fun! "Braishfield Entertains You" did just that on the 11th and 12th March. 11 Acts, over 50 performers ranging in age from 4 to (er quite a bit older) and an audience of over 200 was a great achievement.

Not only that the show raised around £1500 to go to the Village Hall Refurbishment Programme.

The Organising Committee of 8 volunteers were brought

together by Graham and Jane Bennett last September and were soon seeking out the talent in and around Braishfield. The Brownies, The Flower Arranging Society, BMADS, Felicity School of Dance and The Dog & Crook were all quick to organise an act for the show. They were joined by Dotty Woods and her "Hula-Hoopers", Colin Kennedy and

his saxophone quarter "Second Wind" as well as a song and dance act put together by Maisie Sykes, Mathilda Sykes, Summer Hughes and Hattie Ewans. Not forgetting individual performances from Archie

Parton, Jeremy North and Iain Coleman.

These acts were all ably supported by a backstage team of over 20 others who were selling tickets providing the light and sound and making the teas. Everyone did

their part and all stars shone equally as bright. The banner on the front of the programme, designed by Hannah Puffett and the backdrop painted by Jean Lowe and John Edwards said it all:

An Evening of Entertainment for the Village by the Village

Iain Coleman

### LUNCH dates - NOON IN THE CHURCH ROOM

MONDAY	April 11th	MONDAY	September 12th
MONDAY	May 9th	MONDAY	October 10th
MONDAY	June 13th	MONDAY	November 14th
MONDAY	July 11th	MONDAY	December 12th

### No lunch in August

A great way to meet and chat over a bowl of delicious home made soups and puddings. Contact Julie Kemp 368894. Helpers and donations of soups and puddings always welcome.

Julie Kemp Tel: 368894

Readers of Braishfield Village News may not be aware that in Romsey and surrounding area we have a number of Health Walks each week. The 'Health Walks' project was set up by Dr William Bird, a GP in the village of Sonning Common in Oxfordshire. The aim of the project was to improve people's fitness, both in body and mind, by encouraging them to use their local countryside for walking. This has now developed into a Nationwide project and is

managed locally by Test Valley Leisure.

### Why Should I Walk?

Walking is good for you. It has many health benefits helps e.q it prevent heart disease. reduces cholesterol and blood pressure, relieves depression and anxiety, reduces stress, helps with

weight management / obesity, and helps with diabetes. You can walk as part of a group, thus reducing fears of walking alone. You meet new people, and make new friends. You get out into the countryside, where you can enjoy the fresh air.

### Will I find It Easy?

Walks are usually one hour in length and are graded to suit the group, this could be a short walk for the less able, a medium walk for those wanting to stretch themselves and a faster walk for the more experienced. To help along the way, all walks are led by trained volunteer leaders, who will look after your individual needs. You are asked to wear suitable clothing as some walks will be in the

countryside.

### How Fast Do I Need To Walk?

Walk at your own pace, but you should stretch yourself enough to feel slightly warmer, to raise your heart rate slightly, and to make yourself breathe faster - but not enough to stop you holding a normal conversation! One of our leaders will walk with you to ensure you never lose your way.

### What Does It Cost?

It's FREE, to join our walks, we usually finish the walk with refreshments where a small contribution is made to cover costs.

# Local Romsey Walks. Weekly

Monday: Romsey Health Walk-11.00am, Romsey Sports Centre 2nd Mon of the month: Taxi Walk from various venues in the area.

Wed: Wellow Health Walk. Venue: Various in Wellow 1.30 pm.

Thursday: North Baddesley Health Walk Venue: Village Hall 10.00 am. Friday: Stockbridge Health Walk Venue: meet at Town Hall, 10.00 am. Saturday: Valley Park Health Walk. Venue: Cleveland Bay 10.30 am. *Monthly* 

2nd Tuesday of the month – Abbotswood Health Walk: Venue: Abbotswood Community Centre 10.30 am

4th Friday of the Month Braishfield Health Walk: Venue: Braishfield Village Hall 10.30 am

If you would like further information, please see www.testvalley.gov.uk or phone 01264 368000

# **Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society**

At a recent meeting of the Flower Arrangement Society the husbands once again donned their

Christmas Aprons, not to serve mince pies this time but to make cheque а presentation Tim to Green, Regional **Fundraising** Manager at Brain

- Prince Transit Prince Prince

November, we were able to make a donation of £350 towards this very worthy cause.

It was also an occasion to thank the husbands of the committee for their hard work in supporting the Open Evening for the past few years.

Carole Renvoize

Tumour Research.

As a result of our Open Evening in

# **Social Contact Group**

The Social Contact Group were delighted to be selected

to receive donation а from Romsey, Chandlers Ford and District Round Table and members of the Committee (pictured) recently attended presentation held evening in the Crosfield Hall.

This additional funding will enable us to hire the Test Valley Community

mini-bus to take our members further afield.

Hazel Prince



### All Saints' Church Yard - Flowers welcome

Thank you to all the people who have read and acted upon the information about items permissible on graves, now displayed in the car park and by the entrance gate to the graveyard. We have been lax in recent years in ensuring that the rules are adhered to: we would like to return to the understanding that in a churchyard flowers are very welcome on graves, but there should be no ornaments etc. Full copies of the Diocesan Chancellor's Regulations for graveyards are available inside the church, and a copy is displayed in the church porch.

Someone unknown has been leaving notices on specific graves asking that items be removed. These notices have not originated from the Church Council: should you be troubled by one, please let the Benefice Office know. We very much hope that those who visit graves to place flowers will remove any non-floral items themselves, and that it will not be necessary to remove them for them.

Keeping the churchyard up together is an important task. The volunteer mowers will be beginning their work again soon, and this year will be mowing the area to the north of the church which was left as a Conservation Area for a few mowing seasons.

Three general Working Parties are planned for this year, and any volunteer helpers will be most welcome! Please bring your own tools, ready to cut back, rake up and carry to the composting area. The dates are:

Wednesday 6th April 9:30 am Saturday May 14th 9:30 am Saturday 5th November 9:30 am Hope to see you – refreshments provided mid-morning!

Sarah Boothman Hon Secretary, All Saints' PCC



### **Romantic Braishfield**

omantic Braishfield? Yes please!

We enjoyed the freedom of the

Thank you to all the romantic debonair gentlemen who made the February Village lunch such a memorable occasion.



company of friends and excellent food without having to worry about cooking and washing up. A rare treat.

We even received chocolates

and a Red Rose presented on a silver platter.

We were warmly welcomed with champagne by the Master of Ceremonies, Tim Howkins resplendent in dinner jacket and bow tie, ably assisted by his team of just as handsome waiters. Rumour has it that some men even missed Sunday's Six Nations Rugby to decorate the Church Rooms with pink hearts.

Thank you all so much for ensuring that the Age of Romance lives on in Braishfield.

Sue Doe Nym

Braishfield has certainly got Talent; these amazing men could not only bake bread, make soup and create exotic puddings but also clear tables and do the washing up.

They are a credit to the training programmes of Braishfield wives.



# **Classical Concert - Duo Bayanello**

Tickets still availabe from Wendy Quarendon Tel: 368015

# Church Room, Thursday 21st April 7.30pm

promoted by BMADS

An unusual combination of Cello and Accordion
The program will include Bach's sonata for Viola da Gamba and
Harpsichord, Stravinsky's Introduction from Pulcinella and music with a
Spanish flavour.

Two further concerts are planned. Keep the dates free:

Saturday July 16th - String Duo Saturday September 17th - String Quartet

Much more on these in the next magazine

### **Ultimate Frisbee**

You may have seen some of the Braishfield men playing a very tame looking game on Braishfield Rec in the summer?! We have community grant funding to play on Romsey School astro turf during the winter. Sunday eves at 6-8pm,

Tuition and discs provided. Some fitness required for running. Numbers are low recently with some off to Uni and age catching up on the 50 +s! Ideally we need to get back to 16 or so regulars to support the core 10 or so, who are mostly old duffers so some young guns would be excellent.

Please can you promote the team and come along or let friends/ sons

etc know.. age group is 16-60.

We are on Facebook, type 'Braishfield ultimate'https://www.facebook.com/Braishfield-Ultimate-Frisbee-312164358840537/?fref=ts so 'like' it and spin it on your own site.! You just need jog bottoms, trainers, white or dark t shirt (for team splits) hey what else is there to do Sunday evenings!

So hope to see some of you this evening @ 6pm, rain, wind or storm as usual!

Malcolm Baker Tel: 368579 Lionwood, Braishfield SO51 0PQ

# **Braishfield Brownies Spring 2016**

The Brownies have had a busy term starting work towards their Friend to Animal Badge. They started by making a poster about their favourite pet and detailed how

they would care for it. The girls will undertake more work on this comprehensive badge in the summer term, and we have an outing to the farm arranged as part of this project.

Last weekend the girls went on a Bear Hunt in the Village Variety Show, and this was well received by the audience. The girls enjoyed acting out their part in the story and participating in the event will count towards their Entertainers Badge.

Braishfield Brownies celebrated Thinking Day twice this year. Thinking Day is an opportunity for members of Girlguiding to think about other members around the world. Firstly, we held a Chinese New Year Promise Celebration and

thought about Brownies in Hong Kong as we welcomed our new members. We also attended a Division Thinking Day Disco and had chance to celebrate with Brownies from all over Romsey.

Mothers Day gave the girls the opportunity to make personalised Cookie Jars to take home, and a practice session baking and eating cookies was great fun!

The Brownies always enjoy baking and have been busy this week, preparing for our annual Coffee Morning for invited Senior Citizens from the Village.

The girls have made refreshments which

we hope will be enjoyed by our guests, as well as preparing table decorations.

We always try to support the Brownies in working towards individual interest badges, as we are

not able to do everything during our meetings.

This term girls have worked towards several badges at home including Booklovers, Swimmers, Science Investigator, and Writers. The Coffee Morning will give the

girls plenty of opportunity to talk to our visitors about what they have enjoyed so far this term, and to once again head off on a Bear Hunt!

Charlotte Marsh



# **Baddesley County Councillor's 2016 Report**

ampshire County Council will need to find savings of £81.5 million by the end of the 2016/17 financial year. Most of these savings have already been achieved through the Transformation programme, by reducing the cost of back office services and functions, a strategy that was introduced to help to prevent cuts to frontline services.

The Local Government Finance Hampshire. Settlement for announced on 17th December 2015. was a further cut of £48 million. This is a decrease of 37.4% and is £29 million more than the Council were anticipating. In February this year the government gave a one off amount of additional funding of £18.69 million to Hampshire, over the next two years, but there will be no more transitional grant funding for 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The significant reduction is because more money has been allocated to the authorities in the North of England at the expense of the Southern Shire Counties & District authorities. Over the next four years funding to Councils from central government will continue to be reduced, resulting in further Council Tax increase, above inflation increases on the cost of local authority services and at the same time frontline services will be cut or reduced.

During the next financial year we will

see increased charges of between 5% & 8% for the County Council's Nursing & Residential homes.

The mobile library services will be phased out, and many of the Hampshire Waste & Recycling Centres will be closed down or opening hours reduced. There is no denying that this next phase of cuts is going to be much tougher and people will now start to notice the difference.

The County Council has sought Government. devolution from seekina more powers and funding devolved to elected local government at county, district and parish level in England. If agreed. it would mean the retention of business rates in order to help fund council's services. The shire areas of England are very important to the nation, contributing around £203 billion per annum in terms of Gross Value Added. The County are also seeking more powers back from unelected agencies.

The Chancellor will decide shortly whether to allow this devolution bid. It will then need to go back to all the Councils in Hampshire in order to scrutinise what the package contains

During December 2015, Hampshire Highways team were busy responding to the heavy and intense rainfall, with emergency crews (continued on next page) responding to 95 calls of flooding and removing 18 large trees blocking highways in the first weekend of 2016 alone.

The County Council have invested extensively in support of Superfast Broadband and now almost 97% 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 to implement new ways of working digitally, to support the redesign and transformation of services so they try to match people's expectations for the 21st Century.

The County's capital programme, £563 million over the next three years, will build and improve long-term assets that will position Hampshire as a great place to live and to work now and in the future. Finance will be allocated to provide for more school places. For several years I have highlighted that this is urgently required. Many parents have been unable to gain access to their local schools. At last this situation may be improved.

In February, I placed a motion before the Full Council which urges the Government to introduce a sugar tax and clearer labelling of the sugar content in drinks and food products. These changes are essential for people to make more informed choices and counteract the impending damage to the public's health and resultant impact upon our health services. The Councillors voted unanimously to support this. The allocation of Grant funding to councillors, has enabled me to help support various community organisations including the new Braishfield village shop. After attending one of Mountbatten School's concerts, I was pleased to offer them support to purchase more musical instruments.

In order to balance its budget for Hampshire 2016/2017. County Council will increase Council Tax by 3.99%. This will result in a Band D property increasing by £41.40p, resulting in a Band D Council Tax of £1079,28p. It will mean more tax for Hampshire residents to pay, and services cut or reduced. The cost in Council Care homes will rise well above inflation I. like many other councillors, were unable to support the budget, as there was a lack of detail about the levels of cuts and where the cuts would come.

It seems every year there is something to vote on! and this year we have a very important decision to make about Britain and Europe.

HCC Cllr Alan Dowden

# First Responder update

collowing the defibrillator training in 2014, I am currently involved in the induction of a second Community

Responder for the village so will soon officially become a 'group' and we can also call upon Martin who lives in Cupernham and who is also deployed to the

village from his home. I have been a Community First Responder for over a year now and am on call from my home address in Paynes Hay Road most days. I have a pager and am deployed to emergency calls within a few minutes of my home address. Over the last year I have attended four of five calls in the village. For some reason most of my calls come

from Michelmersh who do NOT have a scheme at all! Perhaps Braishfield residents are a less sickly bunch!

I am equipped with a defibrillator, oxygen and a full emergency

first aid kit (as per the attached photograph). I also occasionally use the Community First Responder vehicle based at Nursling which also carries additional equipment such as Entonox for pain relief.

The CFR scheme is purely voluntary and unpaid. I use my own car and despite having been an advanced police trained driver for 30 years I have to comply with speed limits etc. I deploy to a range of incidents

including cardiac arrests, breathing difficulties, life threatening bleeding, strokes etc. and am always backed

up by ambulance professionals. My role is to deliver life saving interventions in the critical seven minutes or so after a medical event occurs. I am currently concluding

training a HeartStart trainer for the British Heart Foundation.

This involves a scheme to try to train a generation of school children in CPR alongside initiatives such as the Staying Alive campaign fronted on TV by Vinnie Jones.

This delivers a two hour training session and is available free of charge to any local groups (

charitable donations are welcome). It covers heart attacks, choking and serious bleeding and has been very well received. Hopefully I can deliver a session locally and report back as to its reception

over the next month or so. This training can be done in the home and is best with groups of 10-16. If anyone is interested they can contact me through my Email.

Roy Bayntun Royb7066@aol.com



# <u>JUMBULANCE</u>

# making travel possible

Romsey Local Jumbulance Group Affiliated to the Jumbulance Trust: registered charity No. 1090731 Oakfield, Farley Chamberlayne, Romsey, Hampshire SO51 0QR

We are about to start our 2016 Jumbulance travelling year and have several supported holidays arranged (offering respite to families and a real holiday for the sick and disabled people) to Brittany, Blackpool, Norfolk and Windemere, all in fully accessible hotels. Our priority this year was the 33 people we could not fit onto a holiday last year..... mainly because most people wanted a UK holiday and not a European holiday or pilgrimage. We also had a group leader retire so dropped from offering 5 to 4 holidays.

We are able to accommodate nearly all those people this year who missed out last year but others who travelled last year are unable to go this year.

We are now victims of our own success and in the position that we have many more applications from sick and disabled people than we have volunteers. Last year our fund raising efforts raised less (£9,500 instead of the £20,000 we need

this year) So we really hope people will think about how they might be able to help us, either fund raising or offering to get involved and/or come on a respite holiday....without volunteers and nurses we can't take sick and disabled people on holiday.

We are extremely grateful to Romsey Cameo who gave us £1,500 in January and the URC who are raising money for us this year.

Last autumn a local charity also paid for a day trip to Beaulieu for people who had missed out this year and the other half is paying for a local persons holiday this year.

Chris Chisholm

01794 368120 answerphone or 0788 774 8224 Oakfield Farley Chamberlayne Romsey Hampshire SO51 0QR

# **Braishfield Gardening Club**

At the February meeting, John Negus returned to give an entertaining evening on 'Gardening with Flair'. Dividing the room into team A and B, he fired questions at each team as to 'what special plants are in bloom at the moment in your garden? He then regaled us with lovely photographs of the gardens at Wisley, Chelsea etc. asking us to name certain flowers in the picture. This was followed by questions about pictures on seed packets. The correct answer won the packet of seeds. It was all great fun presented in a light-hearted way and enjoyed by all.

Rosemary Legrand came to talk in March on Italian Gardens. Her beautiful photos were based on a spring visit to Lake Maggiore and Lake Orta and their islands. We saw the magnificent Camellias, Rhododendrons and Magnolias in Villas Taranto, Anelli and Rusconi,

set in lovely surroundings of lake and mountains. These were not the formal green gardens associated with Italy, but a riot of blossom and colour. For local interest, Rosemary showed us the garden of Sir Peter Smithers who was MP for Winchester. He was called 'The Spy who loved Magnolias 'of which he had 150 different varieties in his garden just over the border into Switzerland. He had been in the Intelligence Service and a friend of lan Fleming. It was a very full and colourful presentation.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 12th April THE SHADY GARDEN WITH Alan Edmondson Plus THE SPRING SHOW – see entries on the back of the programme.

NEW MEMBERS ARE VERY WELCOME.

Viv Robinson

# Sheep Matter at Elm Grove

Since last time, Kate has had the ewes scanned to prepare for the lambs coming. The total result was 227% which is little over 2 and a quarter lambs per ewe! Broken down, the scanning showed there will be 25 sets of triplets, 34 sets of twins and the rest singles. Kate is going to be having a very busy time with some of the ewes not wanting to look after 3 lambs (who can blame them?), resulting in fostering lambs to ewes that had singles, or bottle

feeding. Isabelle and Lucy will be helping I am sure.

Meanwhile, the mothers-to-be have been sorted into groups of triplets, twins and singles and being fed accordingly. Fingers are being crossed that there will be enough hay in the barn to last over this cold period until the grass starts growing again. Roll on the warmer weather!

Wendy Quarendon

# **Braishfield Primary School**

As we draw to the end of the Spring term, we have many events to look back on with pride. Our children in Year R have really gained in confidence and are such an integral part of the school as a

an integral part of the school as a whole. One of the benefits of a small school is how quickly all children and adults learn the names of any newcomers, so all very quickly feel

settled and though as they belong to the school. The children in Year R have recently visited Pizza Express part of their learning about other countries across the

world. They each made their own pizzas and decided on the toppings that they would like. The chef leading the visit commented that he was amazed at how much the children knew about Italy and also remarked on their impeccable behaviour.

The children in Big Acorns enjoyed a trip to the Royal Victoria Country Park to learn about the life of Florence Nightingale as part of their History curriculum. We are extremely fortunate that we have so many learning resources in our locality that can put our children's learning into a

real context.

Our children have continued to embrace activities offered by local small schools and schools within the Romsey cluster. Four pupils from Saplings have collaborated with children from six other small schools to create a newspaper, one of our Year 6 pupils has joined a higher learning in Maths group and four pupils from

Saplings and Oaks have enjoyed а Science day at Cupernham Junior School, during which they learned about and handled exotic animals. We have entered a team into the St Swithuns M a t h s

Challenge which will take place during the Summer term.

Two weeks ago all of the children from Key Stage 2 visited Calshot Activities Centre for a day of archery, skiing and climbing. It is very important to me that our children have the chance to experience activities that they might not be able to through home or in the conventional school setting, as these give pupils opportunities to shine in areas that we would not otherwise see. To that end we have also booked for Saplings to go to the Hampshire Mountain Centre



in the Brecon Beacons where they will participate in caving and waterfalling. I believe that these are the experiences that our children will cherish about their school days when they are adults, and know that challenging themselves will develop their team spirit and support of one another, as well as pride in themselves.

Our Key Stage 2 pupils entered the Junior Rock Challenge at Southampton Guildhall on Friday 26th February. This is a dance competition between schools in Southampton and the Isle of Wight and it is the fourth year that we entered. Unlike other schools, who use their older children, we fund for the whole of our Year 3 - 6 pupils to participate. This involves lessons and a club led by a specialist dance coach from October half term onwards. It is a big commitment for the children and for the school, as there are many jobs to do and not many adults or children to take on those roles. Parents helped paint the scenery, which was simple but effective, and the theme of our dance was the refugee crisis - a bold choice, but we wanted to ensure that our dance had a clear and current message. The children were at the Guildhall from 8.30 a.m. and experienced how a large production is put together including music, lighting, the movement of scenery, costume and make-up. We were up against much larger schools that had elaborate and spectacular effects and scenery, and throughout the daytime rehearsals

our pupils supported all of the other schools, applauding their dances enthusiastically.

Our pupils also helped to sell the programmes to the public before the evening performance. We were the last to perform at 8.30 p.m. and the standard was extremely high. Once all of the dances were complete. each school sent representatives to the stage to receive certificates for individual elements, such as scenery and lighting, and for the top four schools to be announced. In all we won nine individual certificates and were absolutely stunned and delighted to be named as the overall winners - it was an indescribably magical moment, particularly as it was so unexpected, and I am utterly thrilled that our pupils have experienced that emotion. The auditorium literally erupted and we have received good wishes from so many people beyond our school. We now have the regional finals at the Portsmouth Guildhall on Wednesday June 22nd and it would be lovely to see you there, supporting us.

We still have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor. If you or anyone that you know would be interested in this position, then please contact the school office on 01794 368359 for more information. All up-to-date information about the school can be found on the school website at: www.braishfield.hants. sch.uk

Mrs F. Hardy Headteacher

# **Design a Royal Banner Competition**

Everyone is warmly invited to the village celebration on Saturday 11th June to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday.

As part of the celebrations, we would like to invite households to design and display a hanging banner on or outside your houses along the theme of "90"

Royal Years".

The banner should 2ft. It can be of any entirely home-made be weatherproof. from 1st June encourage you to see how many you your banner could on 11th June to be awarded to the day the banners will line type display –



be no more than 3 ft x medium, but should be and should perhaps Banners can be displayed onwards and we would travel round the village to can spot! If you wish, be brought to the event be judged – a prize will winning entry. On the be hung up on a washing-you may wish to bear this

in mind when designing and preparing your entry.

We look forward to seeing the village bedecked with patriotic royal decorations!

### 'Clean for the Queen'!



This full plastic bag took one of our Braishfield Litter Pickers just half an hour to fill ,simply by walking down Paynes Hay Road and Lower Street.

Please help to make our village spotless between now and June 11th

# HM Queen's 90th birthday 'Picnic in the Park'

# The BVA and Parish council are sponsoring an event to enable Braishfield

To celebrate Her Majesty's 90th birthday
Free event
Braishfield's own "street" party!
On the recreation ground if dry
In the Social club if wet

1:30pm - 7:30pm

Bring your own food and drink but regret no private BBQs
Licensed Bar
Music from each decade of her reign
Live bands
BBQ run by the BVA



Ice cream
Hanging banner competition
Raffle
Fun for all

### Keep the 11th June free

#### All Saints and Braishfield URC

will be arranging a Celebratory Songs of Praise for the Queen's 90th
Birthday, for the village, on
Sunday 12th June in All Saints at 6pm,
preceded by a Cream Tea in the Church Room.
Further details nearer the time. Everyone will be most welcome.
Many thanks,

Sarah

# **Braishfield Village Pantry**

### A Community Shop and Café.

The Pantry has had its first month in our new extension and a lot has been happening!

As part of the new set up a Volunteers meeting was held with over 30 people coming along and putting forward 91 ideas

We have already implemented

The main refurbishment is now complete but in the coming weeks we will shortly start work on adding a toilet and creating a secure store room. We have also secured funding to buy new tables and chairs so look out for these in the near future as well.

One major change that we would like to make is to change the opening hours to 9-5 Monday to Friday



13 of the ideas such as having a Microwave, upgrading the coffee machine and selling teacakes (which was a very popular idea indeed!!)

We have also started a suggestion book, installed a direct phone line to allow people to place orders over the phone, check what stock we have in place etc. and will shortly be launching a website. We have a further 35 ideas we will try and implement as a priority with others to be considered at a later date

and 9-1 on Saturday, but before we commit to this we need to be sure that we have the additional 14 volunteers we think we will need to be able to maintain this.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Fiona, lan or Sharon, pop in or give us a ring on 07506 148700.

Iain Coleman

### **Scouts**

100 Years of Cub Scouting Celebrated at 3rd Romsey Scout Group Gala Dinner Dance 2016.

Once again guests of 3rd Romsey Scout Group enjoyed a canapé reception and dinner at Romsey Town Hall last Saturday 12th March. made possible. It was not long before the younger brothers of these early Scouts began to ask to join in the fun of Scouting. In 1916 Baden-Powell started a special Section called Wolf Cubs for boys aged between eight and eleven. They learned all sorts of exciting and useful things like First



This was the third year for this highly popular fund raising event. (see photo above)

The Scout Movement is celebrating 100 years of Cub Scouting in 2016 and so there was particular reference to this milestone occasion for the evening.

In 1907 Baden-Powell ran a camp for 20 boys from different backgrounds on Brownsea Island in Dorset. The boys had a great time and enjoyed the games, sports and other outdoor activities which being away at camp Aid, tracking, how to keep fit, how to light fires and cook meals.

Character names from the Jungle Book were used as table names which were decorated with artistic flair by Fiona Smith. Local businesses had generously donated high quality prizes which ensured the raffle was extremely well supported.

Photography on the night was by Malcolm & Diane of Photoflair who ensured everyone had a lasting memory of the evening. (cont. on next page)

After an excellent meal, over 100 guests enjoyed live music provided by Soulcatchers, a ten piece line up, who played a selection of music featuring many popular soul, Motown and funk numbers.

3rd Romsey Scout Group has continued to grow in recent years and now has Sections for Scouts, Cubs and a Beaver Colony.

Sarah Beaman, acting Group Scout Leader, knows how important the opportunities in scouting are to young people

"Scouting offers experiences for our children which go beyond their home and school life. Without the help and support of our adult volunteers it would not be possible. Great fundraising events like our dinner dance can provide the 'tools' for our

Leadership Team to share Scouting for all. Thanks to all our guests for making this happen at 3rd Romsey" Furtherinformationabout3rdRomsey Scout Group is available on their web site at www.3rdromseyscouts. org.uk

Sarah Beaman 3rd Romsey Scout Leader

# Obituary - Janet Russell 1952- 2016

Janet Russell, who died in January, was a choir member at All Saints' church for over 20 years'

Text: 2 Corinthians 4
"The God who said "Let light shine in the darkness.

When I first heard of Janet's death, I could not help thinking of the deep wisdom in the phrase from the Litany in the Book of Common Prayer: "From sudden death, Good Lord, deliver us." Her passing after such a short illness has been a great shock to all of us, and most especially to Katie and Tom, their grandparents and their uncle. Our Bible reading is a reminder that even in darkness, God gives his light. St. Paul writes:

"For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of knowledge of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God, and not from us."

This afternoon, we look back in thanksgiving for Janet's life before looking forward to the hope that is now her experience in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When I met with Katie and Tom, I asked them what they remembered most about their mother. They looked at each other, grinned and said, "She was very competitive!

When we were children, we were never allowed to win. What is the use of playing a competitive game," she would say, "if you don't play to win?" This even extended to holidays when Janet devised league tables for the children! Katie and Tom said they had inherited the trait – but only in silly games.

Janet was not only competitive; she was also extremely well organised, perhaps as a result of her early training as a legal secretary. Her philosophy in life was: "Never do tomorrow what can be done today" which Tom found rather difficult at times. I am ashamed to say that I have it on good authority from Lucy that I drove her mad also when she worked for a time in the Rectory as Benefice Secretary! Sarah B summed up this area of Janet's life in this way: "She was kind, reliable, a great organiser, capable, stood no nonsense but was very loval. hard-working, had a good sense of humour, was always ready to roll up her sleeves and get stuck in..."

When I asked Katie and Tom about their mother's Christian Faith their reply was, I think, a challenge to all of us who endeavour to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. They felt that her faith had been revealed both to them and to others through her kindliness and readiness to help others. They recognised that, by giving up her career and always being there for them, she had sacrificed a lot for her children and for her parents – not because she felt it was a duty, but

because it was a joy. That kindliness and readiness to help lives on in her children, who agreed with the rest of the family to donate her corneas. These have been successfully transplanted into an 81 year old lady and a 33 year old man, restoring their sight.

Her Christian life began as a young London. frequently person in attending events at Hildenborough Hall led by that great evangelist, Tom Rees. As a voung person, she went on a Holy Land tour with Tom Rees and was looking forward to returning to Israel later this year with friends from Romsey Methodist Church. It was also at Hildenborough Hall that she learnt of the great joy of singing in a choir. When the children were small. Janet brought them to the Woodley Playgroup. There, she learnt from Maggie Brooks about the Braishfield Church Choir, and was welcomed to the Altos line with open arms. Katie and Tom told me that she loved her time with the choir, whilst Sarah described her as a "key member". She went on to say, "Sitting in the congregation a couple of weeks before she died. unable to sing because of her cough, she commented afterwards that the anthem had been good, but the balance wasn't quite right - we needed less soprano!"

Of course, that comment would be typical of Janet – she loved to talk, but rarely about her deeper feelings. As most of us will recall. she would (cont. on next page)

tell us about the every day happenings of her life non stop, especially the exploits of her children, of whom she was very proud. Sarah said that at her last choir practice, even though short of breath, she "reported to the choir members of all the different doctors she'd seen and the tests she'd had in detail before we started properly." That, said Sarah, was Janet. And I have no doubt that her many friends in the Five Alive Fellowship would say the same!

Recently, she joined the Mountbatten Community Choir and she became more involved with the PCC. taking minutes when needed. She prepared and led prayers in church. At last year's Women's World Day of Prayer Service she gave a short talk because she had a friend living in the place which prepared the service. Last April she became a Churchwarden, growing guickly into the role. She gained a qualification in Food Hygiene so that the Lunch Club could continue. She was in charge of the kitchen for Messy Church at Braishfield. She ran a happy team and nothing was too much trouble.

How was she able to do all this? I would suggest that it was because beneath all the trials which beset her was the firm foundation she had in her love for the Lord Jesus. This is why Katie and Tom chose our reading – perhaps an unusual one for a funeral. Let me remind you again of St. Paul's words: "For

God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of knowledge of God in the face of Christ

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God, and not from us." Janet knew that light of which St. Paul speaks. She knew it and saw it. even in the darkness which threatened to overwhelm her. She understood that our heavenly Father chooses for his purposes, not the strong and the boastful, but the ordinary and the frail. He chooses to place his treasure in the clay pots that represent his people in this world. Why? In order to show that power comes from him and from nowhere else!

What Janet knew in her life as an experience of faith is now an experience of fact. She has been called away to be with her Lord. She is now able to see for herself "the light of the knowledge of God in the face of Christ". And so today becomes, not just a time of sadness; not just a time for thanksgiving; but also a moment of hope as we share in our Lord's words to his servant Janet: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Amen.

Bruce Kington

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### Forthcoming Events

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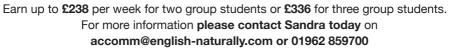
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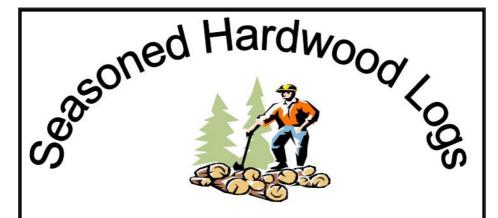
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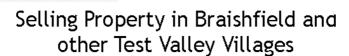






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23 June Party or trip TBA

28th July 'Thanks to Constance Spry' Denise Bright
22nd Sept 'I Love Flowers' Christine Evans
27th Oct 'Tales from the Forest' Lyn Mackenzie
24th Nov 'Its a Wonderful Lie,' Martina Coleman

(\*Open Evening)

Meetings held in The Church Room at 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: 4th & 18th April: 2nd, 16th & 30th May Household waste weeks beginning: 11th & 25th April: 9th & 23rd May

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

NB. Bank holidays weeks 2nd & 30th May, collection will be one day later

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# Braishfield Village Diary

Regular Meetings	Where	Time	When	Next meetings		
Parish Council	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.00	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues excl. August	5 Apr	3 May	7 Jun
Village Lunch	Church Room	12.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon excl. August	11 Apr	9 May	13 Jun
Horticultural Society 🕮	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.30	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues excl. June/July/Aug	12 Apr	10 May	
Flower Arrangement Society 🕮	Church Room	7.30	4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs excl. Aug/Dec	28 Apr	26 May	23 Jun
Village Voices	Church Room	2 - 4pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	25 Apr	23 May	27 Jun
Art Group	Football Pavilion	10 - 12	Every Thursday except August			
The Pantry Shop & Cafe	Village Hall	9 – 12 3 – 6	9.00 – 12.00 & 3.00 – 6.00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday (9-1), Friday Saturday 9.00 – 12.00			
Story Time	Village Pantry	11 – 12	Thursday, Wendy Lord 367015			

Events 🕮	Where	When	More Details
Village Hall AGM	Village Hall	Monday 4 April, 7.30pm	
Concert Duo	Church Room	Thursday 21 April, 7.30pm	see page 15
All Saints' working party	Church yard	Wednesday 6 April Saturday 14 May	see page 13
HM 90 <sup>th</sup> Celebrations	Recreation Ground	Sat 11 June, 1.30pm – 7.30pm	See pages 24 & 25

Please see BVN or Notice Boards for further details