



BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 229 April 2018



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 2018

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Written items for the "News" should be sent to:

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Braishfield
SO51 0QB

On or before the date shown below.

Please send all items for the News by email to: bvn@braishfield.org

All items for publication must show the name, address and telephone of the originator. Topics should be 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 Julie, the News Distributor on 368894

BVA Website: www.braishfield.org

If you would like to join the village network, email: network@braishfield.org

Latest copy date for the next issue is: May 20th 2018

Cover photograph courtesy of Alan Lord

From the Chairman

What a very sad start to the year as the village lost two of its personalities. On the 30 January John Bevan died. Angela lost her husband of 49 years, the village, its chairman of the Parish Council and many of us, me included, a friend. What made it so shocking was that it was unexpected and sudden.

John and I shared a similar vision for this village; we were on the same wavelength and wanted the same outputs, and thanks to John's persistence and commitment we were moving in what we both thought was the right direction. I hope that the Parish Council feel able to continue on the same path.

John will be very hard to replace.

A day later, our treasurer Sheila Still's husband Ted died. Ted was one of the village's longest residing and best-known residents and a strong supporter of the BVA. He had a wicked sense of humour which he maintained through all his setbacks. He also made a mean wine!

Our thoughts are with Sheila and Angela and we will miss both men.

We did however have some good news when Wendy Dolby-Stevens volunteered to take over the role of editor of the BVN. This month's edition will be her first and I think it is quite clear that the magazine is in safe hands.

Chris Balchin has stepped down as the BVA secretary and Jill Briggs has taken over the role. My thanks to Chris for all his hard work and to Jill for taking on the task.

At the final Senior Citizen's tea party, Councillor Carole Renvoize on behalf of the PC and BVA thanked the team and on behalf of the BVA presented Sharon with a large bouquet of flowers and Ricky and Dick a bottle of scotch.

Looking ahead we will be holding an event on the 1st Sept to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Royal Air Force and the first world war armistice. Hold the date.

We have decided to create a village event calendar which will be maintained on the Braishfield Village website.

This will allow any village organisation to "reserve a date" and hopefully prevent event conflict.

Finally, broadband. Some of the houses at the Kings Somborne end of the village are considering a proposal prepared by Openreach to take advantage of the Hampshire County Council matched funding community scheme and connect those of us that did not benefit from the recent upgrade to village broadband. We hope to be able to offer the same for other village broadband black holes.

JC

OBITUARIES

BILL FIELDER [17.1.33 - 16.1.18]

William Walter Fielder, known to everyone as Bill, was born on 17 January 1933. The youngest child of Frederick and Rose Fielder, who ran the village post office, he had two brothers, Norman and Ted, and a sister Cynthia.

Dad attended Braishfield School and sang in the church choir. The war years saw his brothers called up and his father was a member of the Home Guard. Dad recalled how a bomb was dropped on land that is now the allotments as a plane returned from a raid, and on another occasion looking out of the window at home with his mother witnessing the glow of Southampton burning during the blitz.

Bill Randall, a school friend of Dad, told us a couple of stories recently. Together they were known as Big Bill and Little Bill. Dad was Little Bill. The first was that they'd leave home for school in the mornings with their gas masks, but hide them behind the war memorial on the way, and so arrived at school without them. They then told their teacher they had left their gas masks at home. As it was too risky to be at school without gas masks they were allowed to go and get them, therefore creating a good opportunity to skive off during the school day! On another occasion Big and Little Bill heard that a German aircraft had ditched in the field behind the Social Club. Investigating this was much more exciting than school, and thus for them it took priority! Eileen Parsons, another friend from Dad's school days, recalls that Big Bill and Little Bill started school on the same day at the age of 5 and left on the same day when they were 14; and on the day they left were seen skipping down the road celebrating the fact that they didn't have to go back again!

Dad's first job was with horses at the hunt stables. Through connections there a scholarship to ride National Hunt became available in Kent, but since National Service wasn't far away it was uncertain whether this would be an opportunity he could return to after leaving the army; so his parents advised him it wasn't a secure job, and Dad stayed in Braishfield. He served his National Service with the Hampshire Regiment and when this was complete Dad went to work for Tadburn Nurseries, later to become Wills Nurseries, and this is where he stayed until it closed down in the 1980s.

There he met Betty Crane whilst working on the chrysanthemum section. They were married at Awbridge Church on 24 October 1959. Mum and Dad enjoyed outings on their motor bike. We were told on more than one occasion of the time when Mum fell asleep on the bike behind Dad and fell off! Dad was blissfully unaware so it was lucky their good friends Arthur and Hazel were following, and Mum wasn't left in the road!

Three daughters followed; Linda, Ruth and Elizabeth. We grew up with a Dad who was always honest with us about what he thought. We should have learnt not to ask his opinion on something we had done or made if we weren't prepared for his honest opinion. If we didn't like his comments he would say, "Well, you asked me!" On reflection we came to realise this was because Dad wanted us to improve and not settle for something which wasn't our best.

Summer holidays for us were a week of day trips to the beach, Isle of Wight and usually a day in London. These were by coach or train and a taxi home from Romsey afterwards; but no taxi home for Dad. He would cycle since there wasn't enough room for us all in a taxi and, on his

way home, pick up fish and chips for us all for tea. There were occasions when we all cycled; Dad in front, then 3 daughters one behind the other, and Mum at the back.

While we grew up we were very aware of Dad and Mum's love of all things horticultural. This entailed more day trips during the summer months, this time to various flower shows; not something we girls at the time entirely appreciated! For Dad gardening was not just a job and an interest, it was an integral part of who he was. Very often if we asked Mum where Dad was; the answer was either in the garden, up the allotment or doing a job of some sort in the churchyard. When he was at the allotment he was a familiar sight, riding his push-bike across the rec. one handed, as he was usually carrying in the other hand a gardening fork or something else necessary to do that day's job. He helped at churchyard tidy-up days and took his turn on the mowing rota; helped at church fetes and attended many other village occasions. In more recent years Dad belonged to the Horticultural Society and would be involved in the setting up and clearing away for Flower Show Day. Throughout his life he was always prepared. No matter whether he was in work clothes or Sunday best he always had a pen knife in his pocket, just in case, but I don't think a day went by when he didn't find a use for it!

Dad's wealth of gardening knowledge wasn't something he kept to himself. It wasn't unusual for him to be stopped and asked some gardening advice; and the walking, talking gardening encyclopaedia would always have the answer. As Dad's memory began to fail in more recent years, his razor sharp gardening knowledge was still there, (along with his sense of humour!). After a time working for Duval's of Romsey, Dad joined the team at Test Valley Borough council responsible for parks and gardens. When we went back to Romsey Memorial Park last summer he recalled his time working there with a smile.

By this time six grandchildren had arrived and Grandad and Grandma enjoyed their time spent with us, particularly during retirement. They would both be there for special times; birthday parties, school plays and sports days. Invitations came from Amy, Katie and Jonathan in the Midlands; and William, Oscar and Hayley more locally, and all the grandchildren were proudly supported. There would be at least one day during the summer and another over Christmas when the whole family would descend on Grandad and Grandma's house for tea. Chaotic, but they did enjoy having the family all together.

Nearly 2 years ago Grandad's world fell apart when we were given the devastating news that Grandma had incurable cancer. During her final summer he barely left her side, he was always there when she needed him. Then, after losing Grandma, Grandad's routine continued - going to church, walking to the pantry daily to get his paper, weekly shopping in Romsey and occasional visits to the Social Club at weekends; all places where Grandad could catch up with news and had friends who looked out for him, but he missed Grandma so much. Grandad's last Christmas was spent with Linda, Ian and family in the Midlands where he first met the newest member of our family, his great-granddaughter Aliyah.

Just a few weeks later Grandad was in hospital after falling at home, and it was while he was there that he had a stroke from which he couldn't recover. Grandad died a day before his 85th birthday, but as one of his grandchildren said; he's where he should be for his birthday - with Grandma.

TED STILL [1921 - 2018]

Ted was born in Southampton on 9th March 1921. By all accounts he was a very active young lad. One of his uncles was the manager of a circus and he taught Ted one or two tricks - some of which Ted performed throughout his life.

He left school at 15, was apprenticed as a car mechanic at Criterion Garage in Southampton. He and his pals frequented the ice rink and Ted was picked to play ice hockey for the Southampton Ice Hockey Club. When war broke out in 1939 Ted joined the RAF. After postings to various training stations he was sent to RAF Brize Norton. While the station was bombed twice during his posting, Ted managed to come out unscathed and after two years was posted to South Africa to the new RAF flying training school at Standerton. There he remained for 3½ years before coming home and finally being demobbed in 1946.

Whilst in South Africa his parents moved from Southampton to Orchard View as his father had always wanted a home in the country. At the time his father's brother-in-law Alfred Effeny owned the Homestead which was next door to Orchard View, so he knew it was for sale. Ted bought his parent's house in Southampton and lived there until 1953 when he moved to Orchard View as well. His father told him about a job vacancy with Southampton Corporation Waterworks. Ted applied and got the job. He spent the next 35 years working his way up the ladder finally retiring in 1985 as the Transport Controller.

In addition to qualifying as a football referee much of his leisure time was taken up with ballroom dancing which he enjoyed. As part of Harold Webb's formation team he represented the South of England on the "Come Dancing" TV programme presented by Peter West. He and his dancing partner Diana Dennett would attend many "Society" dances held at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton. These included Irish, Scottish and Cymmrodorion societies. They would join forces with John Charles, Allan Cooper, Jane Terrell and other friends to attend many Saturday night public dances held at the Polygon or the Guildhall.

In 1969 with John Charles he spent a golfing holiday in Llandudno, North Wales where he met his wife Sheila who was on secondment to the Marine Hotel from the White Horse Hotel in Romsey. On Sheila's return to Romsey they married in 1970. By this time both Ted's parents had passed away so they set to and brought the house up to the standards of the day. It took many hours of hard work to re-organise and decorate the house before starting to tame the garden. Ted was a DIY man and after retiring in 1985 worked many hours keeping everything ship shape. They spent many happy holidays with friends in Canada and took pleasure in showing them England in reciprocating visits. After Ted developed heart trouble the cost of travel insurance became prohibitive so visits to Canada came to an end to be replaced with many happy holidays in Norfolk.

In 1974 Ted, following in his father's footsteps, became a Freemason. He immersed himself in the history, fellowship and camaraderie of Freemasonry, making a host of new friends to add to his already many. When becoming too frail to attend Lodge meetings he was proud to be made an Honorary Member of his Lodge.

It was fitting that his last outing was to the Braishfield Senior Citizens party on January 28th, where he cracked a few jokes in his inimitable style and spent a most enjoyable afternoon in the company of dear friends.

A personal thank you to all neighbours and other villagers who have expressed their sympathy and support with cards and flowers on the loss of my dear Ted. He will rest in peace knowing that so many of you cared.

JOHN HEDLEY BEVAN [1944 - 2018]

John Bevan, brother, husband, father, grandfather and dear friend of many, was born in South Wales on 26 January 1944.

At the age of 11, the family moved to the Midlands where John attended quite a strict Catholic school. By his own admission, with the exception of art and music, both of which he excelled at and clearly inherited from his mother, he never particularly bought into school.

Following art college, he joined a company as a commercial artist. Not enjoying this he joined the RAF as a 17 year old Plotter Air Photography, to see the world. You could say that he succeeded and more, with multiple tours of the Far East, Germany, Central America, the Falklands, the Middle East and Cyprus spanning a 34 year career, consistently earning the respect and admiration of all that worked with him, not just professionally but due to his friendly and enjoyable company. John's obvious leadership qualities were recognised by the RAF in 1979 when he was awarded a commission.

In 1968 he met Angela at Brampton, herself in the WRAF, and they were married that year in Braishfield Church. Both their sons, David and Gareth, were christened there too.

In the late seventies, John was an instructor at the Joint School of Photographic Interpretation. He had a marvellous grasp of 'Power' and 'Railways' and ran a number of popular visits to marshalling yards and local energy generating stations for his students. Amazingly, all visits seem to include a trip to well-established local watering holes, where John would continue to impart his own humorous insights into what would have normally have been pretty dry subjects.

In 1990, after tours in Germany at Gutersloh and Laarbruch, John was deployed to the British HQ in Riyadh as the UK Liaison Officer (Air) during the first Gulf War. His tour came to an end just as the war was kicking off and he was not happy but he certainly made an impression. One of his former colleagues wrote in John's obituary for the Medmenham Magazine of a time during their handover, "*We sat in on a CENTCOM morning brief attended by all the senior US HQ staff. At one point General Norman Schwarzkopf, Stormin' Norman himself, said "Where's the Brit - John, what do you think?" John answered positively and smoothly as always and it was obvious that he had built up a great rapport with the US staff.*"

As a proud Welshman, John had a fervent love of rugby, revelling in the camaraderie as well as the activity itself. His leadership qualities were reflected in the numerous teams he captained, plus other roles including coaching the RAF Colts and as the Joint Service rep for the Hong Kong 10s whilst there. His love of the game was so strong that he very nearly missed Gareth's birth as a result of playing in the RAF Germany Cup Final!

John's philosophy was "work hard, play hard", essentially "let's get the job done properly then savour the rewards over a beer or two". He simply couldn't be idle and always had to have something to do, hence his many past times and interests. An extremely approachable man, he was always ready to offer advice if wanted. Certainly, his sons, David and Gareth had benefitted hugely from his wisdom and experiences over the years, as will many others besides.

Upon retiring from the RAF in 1994 John took on a consultancy role, contributing to and supporting many aspects of wider UK defence and security requirements. He also began to develop and enjoy an impressive portfolio of hobbies and pastimes.

As a keen golfer since taking up the game in Germany in the early 1980s, John joined Winchester golf club for a brief spell in the mid '90s before our then neighbour, Pam, a

long term member of Hockley, persuaded him to join Hockley - no doubt following countless gin and tonics as seemed the custom on a Friday evening at Compton Lodge. John remained a member of Hockley for close on 20 years, only cancelling his membership a couple of years ago when more time was spent in France.

John always enjoyed the shooting scene, having been introduced to it by Angela's father. Having gone beating at Hursley many years ago, and afforded the spare time of retired life, John could be out beating 3-4 days a week during the season - in all weather. John would often speak fondly of the banter and camaraderie he enjoyed with the fellow beaters on the beaters wagons; and of course his childlike excitement during the month of January as the end of season beaters shoots drew ever nearer. In the late '90s, John was invited to join the Freemasons - which he duly did, and in true John Bevan style, threw himself into it and enjoying a year in the Chair of Norman Lodge.

John and Angela moved to Braishfield in January 2010. Though we never heard him say it, John craved the close-knit community that Braishfield offered, which he had enjoyed in the RAF, and it wasn't long before John started Neighbourhood Watch in the Crook Hill area. Then, following a trip to the theatre and a meal at the Dog and Crook along with Ted and Sheila Still and a couple of other likeminded neighbours this developed into the Crook Hill Diners which is now in its 6th year and still very well supported.

With his love of music and his ability to hold a note, John treated himself to a Ukulele. Before long, John and a handful of other local enthusiasts had formed 'the BUMS', the Braishfield Ukulele Music Society, and were soon playing at Nursing Homes in the area, and also at village events, when asked. Unfortunately he was unable to play at the Pantry's Christmas Carols in December as he had the flu.

Three years ago John accepted an invitation to join the Parish Council, and the following year was voted in as Chairman - a position he was very proud to hold and did his very best to honour. Unfortunately he was unable to complete his tenure, or realise the completion of the footpath from Crook Hill to the Dog and Crook - despite all efforts.

John was also a family man who was always on hand to offer his DIY services to assist David and Gareth, or willing to help out with child minding: be it playing football in the garden or at the village rec, or taking the kids out on their bikes to pick sloes, followed by a well-deserved trip to the pub for lunch; or family trips to Paulton's Park where he would be on all the rides - with his favourite being the Edge. John was always a welcoming host: always in charge of the BBQ and the drinks, and mixed a mean Pimms - at which he had plenty of experience!

Although we seldom told him, John was much loved, admired and respected by his family for all that he was, all that he achieved, and the memories and happiness he afforded us. The family will remember him for late night conversations at the kitchen tables over a glass of whiskey, the rugby...even disagreeing on the merits of Alun-Wynn Jones over Maro Itoji ahead of the 2017 Lions selection; the smiles on the faces of his grandchildren as he played "has anybody seen my Gal" on his Ukulele. Though we grieve today, we will remember him as the great man that he was. Rest in peace.

Angela, David, Julia, Heidi and Luke, Gareth, Nicola, Oliver and Emily, along with the extended family wish to thank all who have sent cards, flowers, plants, kind wishes, thoughts and prayers along with donations.

NOTICES

A very warm welcome to any new residents who have moved into the village. You will find that we are a friendly bunch and that there are many ways to get involved in village life if you wish to.

BMADS

BMADS is pleased to say there is to be another classical concert in the church room. This time for String Trio, playing Bach's Goldberg Variations for String Trio. Sophie Renshaw who has played for us several times is the Viola player and her husband will be narrating. It is going to be a nice evening.

The date is **Friday May 4th, starting at 7pm.**

The earlier start allows for a glass of wine and a talk about the piece that will be played and there will be poetic interludes during the evening.

More details next time – meanwhile put the date in your diaries!

SOCIAL CLUB

We are holding the clubs AGM on Tuesday 17th April 2018 commencing at 8pm

All members are invited to attend.

Please note that any points you want raised must be given in writing, to the secretary, prior to 17th April. A cut off date for them to be submitted will be published later.

Braishfield Village Hall

Flexible space available for social and sporting activities, clubs and groups at reasonable rates:

katel.knight@googlemail.com

Tel: 01794 368173

Special Rates for Children's Parties

VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Following the due period of notification to the public, we can confirm that a by-election has not been called for the vacant seat on the Parish Council. The Council is required by law to fill the vacancy by co-option as soon as possible after 20th March 2018. Due to the timing of this publication, this may have already taken place by the time you read this. For current information, please see our website, www.braishfield-pc.org/vacancies.

Kate Orange, Clerk to Braishfield Parish Council"

BRAISHFIELD 200 CLUB

The winner of the February draw was Sarah Boothman, and she received a cheque for 40% of the funds for that month. The remaining 60% was donated to All Saints Church. The monthly draw for March hasn't happened yet – I was away getting some sun – so it will be done at the April monthly lunch in the Church Room.

Don't forget that if you are planning to raise funds for a charity in the coming months we may be able to make a donation to help you. You don't have to be a member of the Club. Give me a call on 01794 368774 or e mail me on dbr33@john-lewis.com
David Robinson.

Calling all knitters and crocheters!

Would you like to come along to a "Knit and Natter or Crochet and Chatter" Session to create some fabulous squares? If so, read on.

As part of my fundraising efforts this year in aid of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, I thought it would be fun to have village participation in the creation of a blanket which will be auctioned/raffled off at a village event being planned for later in the year.

Sessions will be held at Oak Tree Cottage, Common Hill Road from 2pm to 5pm on 3 June 2018, 22 July 2018 and 19 August 2018. Refreshments will be provided at a small charge with all monies going to the charity.

All levels of experience welcome. For those of you who would like to learn a relaxing, but addictive, new hobby I have spare needles and wool for you to have a go.

If you would like to take part, or have any questions, please contact Wendy Jeffery on 01794 367282 or by email at ianandwendyj@btinternet.com

BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE VOICES

A new year of singing together!

If you've ever wanted to play an instrument - use your voice! Why not come and join our friendly singing group?

It's a chance to get out and sing, chat over a cup of tea/coffee and perhaps meet some new faces - everyone has a voice and can sing!

Every session has a mix of favourites and new tunes, with hopefully, something for everyone.

Come and join us on any/all of the following Mondays:

from 2 - 4pm in the Church Room

21 May (3rd Monday), 25 June

We look forward to seeing many of you during 2018 - please contact us if you'd like to find out more:

Story Time

Village Pantry
Braishfield Village Hall
Thursday 10am - 11.30am term time




Drop in for coffee and a delicious cake,
while your
children enjoy a story.

**Children's books are available to enjoy at
any time while you shop.**

Donations of story books always welcome.
Wendy Lord 367015

Craft and Gift Fair

At Braishfield Social Club on Sunday 1st July 2018 from 11am to 3pm there is a Craft and Gift Fair raising money for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

Please come along to browse and buy or if interested in having a stall, call Wendy or Ian Jeffery on 01794 367282 or ianandwendyj@btinternet.com for further details. We would love to have the opportunity to show off your skills.

More details to follow in the next issue of the BVN.

GDPR reminder

On 25th May 2018 a new regulation comes into force that requires all organisations/societies that collect personal data from residents to promote accountability. Personal data is any information relating to an individual, whether it relates to his or her private, professional or public life. It can be anything from a name, a home address, a photo, an email address, bank details, posts on social networking websites, medical information, or a computer's IP address. The organisation/society needs to ask:

Why are you holding it? How did you obtain it? Why was it originally gathered? How long will you retain it? How secure is it, both in terms of encryption and accessibility? Do you ever share it with third parties, and on what basis might you do so?

Do come and support the monthly lunch!
Held in the Church Room, only £3.00 on second Monday of the month.
A great way to meet and chat over a bowl of delicious choices of home made soups and puddings.

Helpers and donations of soups and puddings are always welcome.

Monday	April 9th	
Monday	May 14th	
Monday	June 11th	
Monday	July 9th	NO LUNCH IN AUGUST
Monday	September 10th	
Monday	October 8th	
Monday	November 12th	
Monday	December 10th	Christmas Lunch

Julie Kemp
Tel: 368894





Building on the success of previous Talent Shows, Braishfield Village Hall and BMADS are looking at the potential of putting on a play in early December. The play will be a magical story for all the family; complete with goodies, baddies, a Genie, some dancing and a flying carpet!

Before we commit, we need to gauge if there is enough interest. We have 2-3 parts for 11-16 year olds, 3-4 parts for 18 - 25 year olds and several parts for any age. We will be holding a play reading in the next few weeks. In the meantime, if you are interested, or would like further details, please contact Iain Coleman on 01794 367064 or iainandsue@gmail.com



BRAISHFIELD GOLF SOCIETY

Your Committee has put together 4 fixtures for the 2018 season.

Friday 27 April	Dummer GC
Tuesday 12 June	Tidworth GC
Friday 24 August	Knighton Heath GC
Wednesday 3 October	Newbury and Crookham GC

All with a start of 10.30am and at a cost of £40 - £45 pp to include coffee and bacon rolls on arrival, 18 holes and a 1 course meal to finish. New members are welcome. All standards acceptable. Do contact me if you are interested to join.

Richard Brazier rdbrazier@hotmail.com **368414**

Thanks
Richard
Richard D Brazier
Home: 01794 368414
Mobile: 07768 020917

To celebrate the 200th Anniversary of
The United Reformed Church

BRAISHFIELD

We Present

**A Deep South Gospel
Sing-along** 😊

(Come & join in a very swinging 'Songs Of Praise')

At 2.30pm on 24th June 2018

In the Village Hall

**Admission by programme
donation of £8.00**

with

The Chris Walker Quartet

Contact
Shirley
and
Rusty on
368447

Tea and
Biscuits

Raffle

**POVERTY
LET'S END IT**



Christian Aid, worship
and have breakfast

Cafe Style Worship for All
– families welcome!

9.30am Sunday 13th May
Braishfield Church Room
(will last about an hour)

Organised by All Saints
on behalf of both village churches

STRING TRIO CONCERT IN THE CHURCH ROOM

BMADS is presenting what promises to be a really lovely evening of music and talk on Friday the 4th May starting at 7pm.

Sophie Renshaw, who has played viola at several of our concerts in the past, has arranged for two of her friends to join her in a performance of JS Bach's Goldberg Variations in a version for string trio. The evening will start with a glass of wine and pre-concert talk along with some poetry readings. Next day they are off to Scotland for two performances of the same concert. Such is the life of professional musicians.

The trio are Lucy Russell, violin, Sophie Renshaw, viola, and Ruth Phillips, cello. Lucy is a player much in demand; she teaches and performs worldwide and has been a member of the Fitzwilliam Quartet since 1988 which she has led since 1995. Sophie is known to us having given wonderful performances in several of our concerts over the last few years. She lives and teaches in Winchester and is a member of several London based and International Ensembles. Ruth not only enjoys an international career as a vibrant performer on cello, but is sought after as an innovative and exciting teacher and chamber music coach

We really are in for a treat; it is quite amazing that we have performers of such calibre entertaining us here. They love performing, especially in a small group of friends who go back a long way. Do come!

Bach's Goldberg Variations is one of the great masterpieces of Baroque music. Tradition has it that it was commissioned in 1741 to be performed to the insomniac Russian ambassador to the Court of Saxony to occupy him during his hours of sleeplessness. Supposedly, the player was to be Bach's pupil Johann Gottlieb Goldberg. On the other hand, Goldberg was only 14 years old at the time and when the Variations were published they carried no trace of a dedication to the Russian Count, as would have been expected.

So who knows? In any event the music is one of the great artistic treasures of the world. The gentle, melancholic 'aria' or theme passes through 30 variations before returning. As Michael Ignatieff put it, 'To hear the aria again after its transformations is like being restored again to childhood, to hear the song with which one's own life began'. It has to be heard!

Tickets are £15 and can be obtained from:

Wendy Quarendon 01794 368015 or BMADS @braishfield.org

Horses on Footways

It has come to the attention of the Parish Council that there have been some instances of horses fouling pavements (footways). We would like to remind riders that footways are for pedestrians. If your horse leaves anything behind, it will inconvenience walkers - and is especially difficult for them if they are using rollators, wheelchairs or pushing buggies.

Kate Orange

Clerk to Braishfield Parish Council

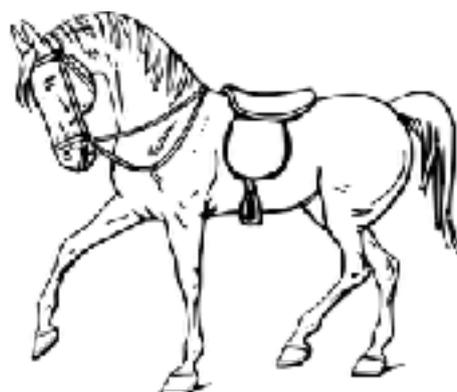
Kind regards

Kate Orange

Clerk/RFO to Braishfield Parish Council

www.braishfield-pc.org

07968 671604



DAY OUT IN SALISBURY

With

Michael Bowyer

*(Organised by Braishfield Flower
Arrangement Society)*

Thursday 7th June
9.45am - 4.30pm



*Come and enjoy this special day with Michael who is not only an
International Flower Demonstrator but also a Blue Badge Guide.*

Fully inclusive trip organised specifically for the Village

-

*Coach travel from Braishfield, Coffee & Biscuits on arrival,
Coach and Walking tour of Salisbury,
2 course lunch,
Flower demonstration, Tea & biscuits,*

Return coach back to Braishfield.

Limited Places.

Further information and Tickets @ £50 available from

Hazel Prince 01794 368339



Village Hall Update

During the past twelve months, changes to the management structure of the Village Hall and Pantry have been implemented.

Furthermore, due in particular to the hard work of Malcolm Ayres and Chris Balchin, refurbishment of the toilets has taken place. I hope you will agree that this is a significant upgrade of the previous facilities.

Funding to renovate the roof, foyer and Community Room is now being sought in order to continue our ambitious plans to develop our village facility.

Steve Renvoize has overseen the building of the retaining wall, the tree works carried out on behalf of residents in Blackthorn Close and the first phase of the planting, which will make the environs of the Pantry and entrance to the Village Hall more attractive.

Iain Coleman, Anne and Mike Edwards all contribute significantly to other aspects of our work, whilst Kate Knight and Graham Bennett do sterling work overseeing our bookings and finances respectively.

We are very appreciative of the support we receive from both the Parish Council and the BVA, and look to continue working in partnership with all village organisations in the coming year.

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Monday 4th June @ 8pm in the Community Room at the Village Hall, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Ian Knights - March 2018

ANNE BIRD

As many of you may remember, Anne Bird lived in the village with her husband Bert, for many many years so we thought it appropriate to let you see how Anne celebrated her 100th Birthday last month. Although now living in Cedar Lawn, Anne always wants to know what is happening in the Village and loves to recall happy memories spent here and her closing words as we left were, give my love to Braishfield.

Mike and Hazel Prince



BRAISHFIELD SOCIAL CLUB

Weekly Events

Monday Nights	- Free Pool
Wednesday Nights	- Keep Fit 6.30pm
Thursday Nights	- Table Tennis
Friday Nights	- Quiz every fortnight
Saturday Nights	- Meat Draw
Sunday Nights	- Bingo

We also have Pigeon Club, Dart and Crib teams, Pool team always looking for new members. Snooker Room and Skittle Alley all available to Non Members.

Regular Events

Quiz Nights	-held fortnightly on Friday Nights
Newport Players	-first Saturday of each month

Future Events non-members welcome- we can sign you in

Please see Club Notices for more details

LARGE FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE for Christenings, Wakes, Events and Celebrations.

WE NOW HOLD THE VILLAGE WHEELCHAIR - PLEASE CONTACT OUR STEWARD FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Telephone 01794 368458

email:

Can you spare two hours a week to help our young people grown, learn and achieve? Do you enjoy the outdoors and having fun? Want to put something back into your community?

3rd Romsey Scout Troop are looking for adults to help at the Troop on a Thursday evening in Timsbury. You will be supporting trained and experienced Leaders run a fun programme for young people aged between 10 and 14.

You get to make a difference, be part of an enthusiastic team and you receive all your training for free. If the answer is yes, please contact Sarah a for further information and to arrange a chat to take your interest further.

All applicants will be DBS checked and attend a short interview as they will be working with young people.

Sarah Beaman
3rd Romsey Scout Leader - Ashanti Troop

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Dates for your diary

Sunday 13th May 9.30am Café church Christian Aid service with the URC in the Church Room. All are welcome.

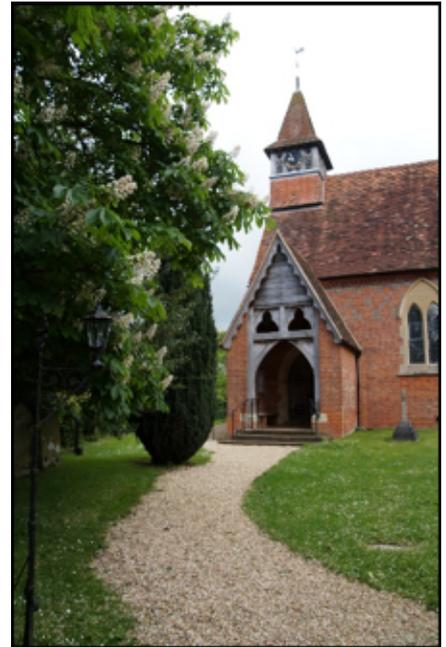
Sunday 10th June Annual outing to the Isle of Wight

Saturday 6th October 7pm Harvest Supper

Saturday 3rd November 9.30am Churchyard Working Party

We do hope you can join us for all or some of these events.

More information? Please contact Jane Bennett on 01794 368109



All Saints, Parochial Church Council (PCC) need a Minutes Secretary.

Have you the skills and would you like to join us?

We have 6 meetings a year at 7.30pm usually in the Church Room.

Want to know more?

Please phone Sarah Boothman on 368143 or Jane Bennett on 368109

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Please phone Sarah Boothman on 368143 or Jane Bennett on 368109

Parish Council COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

Braishfield Parish Council will be producing a Community Emergency Plan for the benefit of our village and community.

We are building on the work already done and are now working with TVBC, the Braishfield Village Association, the Village Hall Committee and others to produce a plan which will meet our needs.

We will be meeting again on Monday 9th April but in the meantime, we would like you to know who to contact if you find you are without any of your mains services or you are unable to leave your property due to severe weather conditions.

Emergency contact telephone numbers

Loss of Electricity

Phone 105 or SSE on 0800 783 8866

If you require special assistance (see aside), call SSE on **0800 294 3259** to register for Priority Services

For water supply or wastewater emergencies, blocked drains or possible pollution

Phone 0330 303 0368

Police

Phone 101 or 999 if people are injured or there is a threat to life.

**Jane Bennett
Braishfield Parish Council
01794 368109**



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

Get extra support during power cuts. Register for free Priority Services.

We know that for some, a power cut can be particularly distressing and difficult. That's why we offer extra help and support to people who need it most.

If you require special assistance, call us on **0800 294 3259** to register for Priority Services or visit **[ssen.co.uk/priorityservices](https://www.ssen.co.uk/priorityservices)** to find out more.



SOCIAL CONTACT GROUP

Our first event in February this year was 'Desert Island Discs comes to Braishfield'. Our Members were invited to submit their favourite song and maybe mention the reasons behind their choice.

We are indebted to both Wendy Quarendon and Meri Knights who sourced the words and music and led us through the variety of songs and without their amazing lead and encouragement we would have been totally lost!

We held our sing-a-long in the Church Rooms where the fire was lit and tea and toasted buns were served during the interval, all of which contributed to an atmosphere that was as warm as a desert island.

Our diary is already planned for this year with a variety of outings and if there is anyone who is feeling lonely and would like to join us then please just give me a ring on 368339.

Hazel Prince

NEWPORT INN CRICKET CLUB

Cricket has been played in the village for over a hundred years. Originally played on 'The Common', adjacent to the recreation ground, play moved to the recreation ground itself in the 1930's. The pavilion stood where today's children's play area is now situated, but was destroyed by fire in 1939. With declining support and war looming, the club was dissolved in 1939.



Cricket returned to the village in the early 80's as The Newport Inn Cricket Club. The team formed after one pub customer, Carl Evans (aka Bross, whose parents lived in Newport Lane), returned there on a Sunday evening after playing a game in the New Forest for a pub side, The Cuckoo Cricket Club from Hamptworth. There he met another regular, an American called Steve Shaw, known as 'Mad Yank' or 'The Yank', who said he had played soccer and rugby, but had the ambition to add cricket to his list of sports. From that conversation a team of players from the public bar with little experience was cobbled together, travelled to The Cuckoo, and despite scoring a meagre 67 runs, bowled out their opponents for 62.

That first team was captained by Bross, and included Eric Philpott, still playing today and now the club's president, Rob Parish and Dave Vine, who both went on to become centurions and captains of the side, Scott Evans, often the leading bowler in the early years, and Alan Stitt, Bruce Wilmot, Mike Harris and Mike Knowles - all familiar figures around the village. 'The Yank' kept wicket, doing a tidy job, and, when sent in to bat, hit the first ball he faced into the deep, threw his bat in the air and set off in true baseball fashion! From then on there was no stopping them. They began playing at a council ground where Romsey Rapids now stands, but were soon given permission by Mike Hoddinott of Elm Grove Farm to play in the field off Dummers Lane, where the ground remains today - thanks in large part to the generosity of the current owners, the Quarendon family. Ian Ross and Steve White put a huge amount of work into transforming the pasture into a cricket ground. The original 'pavilion' was destroyed by the great storm of 1987 and replaced with a cattle shed donated by Mike Harris of Malthouse Farm.

Other team members from the early days included Jan Budzynski - a pipe-smoking bank manager who became the club's second captain; Mike Samways who kept wicket into his 70s; Mike Ransom - a solid opening bat, captain, and still compiling fixtures; and some enigmatic characters known as "Eric the Viking", "The Fat Controller" and "Brian the Handbag". Curiously, three of the team only had one eye each! Games were played home and away against villages and pub teams, and that format continues to this day. In 2011 the club suffered its biggest challenge when the cattle shed 'pavilion' was destroyed in an arson attack, including all the equipment needed to maintain a ground: the tractor, gang mowers, wicket mowers - and memorabilia. The Sun newspaper ran an article on the event as David Gower was the first on the scene, but to no avail as the fire was by then a raging inferno. Since the club runs on modest match fees paid by players, and with no additional funding and a small bank balance, it seemed that this was to be the end of the club. However, determined to resurrect the club once again a sponsored walk set off from the ashes of the pavilion to Lords cricket ground, led by the current captain James Light and club members Geoff Briggs, Ben Brown, Jason Forty, Gary Vincent and Warren Bowden. David Gower kindly set them off on the long trek and the money raised allowed the club to beg borrow and buy enough equipment to get the club back on its feet. A yearly fund raising general knowledge quiz is held at the village hall which allows the club to continue, and thanks go to those who have attended the event over the years. Eric Philpott, one of the original founders, and still playing, joined David Gower and Lawrie McMenemy as a speaker at the Sporting Memories event on 24th March at the village hall.

The club is always looking for new players of all ages, and lack of ability is no bar to playing - more important is a commitment to assist in maintaining the ground and running of the club.



The team with David Gower launch the new pavilion

Post home games, we retire to the Wheatsheaf pub, who have looked after us well for a number of years. There we partake in beer and banter. Whilst we play to win, generally it's a very relaxed and forgiving club, more interested in having a bit of fun than to win at all costs.

If you are interested in joining the club, or just playing a few games, or attending the quiz please contact John Fahy 02381 224483. email john.fahy@tesco.net

ARMED FORCES DAY

June 30th 2018
Symbols of a nation

There are few more dignified and moving events in the national calendar than the annual Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph. On a chill November day 2017 in Whitehall, last year's formalities were notable for the Queen's decision not to play a direct part. She watched, with Duke of Edinburgh, from a balcony as the Prince of Wales laid the sovereign's wreath on behalf of the nation.

The ceremonial has developed over the decades since the Lutyens designed Cenotaph was inaugurated as the nation's central monument for remembering its war dead in 1920. The massed bands of the Armed Forces play Elgar, Purcell and Handel; the two-minute silence is followed by *Last Post*; the choir boys of the Chapel Royal, resplendent in their red and white livery, sing the hymns; members of the Royal family, politicians and senior officers in the

Services lay wreaths; and thousands of veterans march past the Cenotaph to tunes including *It's a long way to Tipperary*.

It is a fitting ritual that honours those who have sacrificed their lives for their country. But it is also redolent with the symbolism of nationhood. The Crown, Parliament, the Armed Forces, the Church, the Commonwealth - all are institutions that define the United Kingdom.

It was also heartening that one of those national symbols at the Palace of Westminster, currently silenced for over many months while the tower is restored for the first time since it was completed in 1859, was able to play its part once again for the nation - Big Ben struck the hour for the nation. Its bong measures 118 decibels and became linked to nationhood, developing through adversity. "It was the sound and sight of it during the two world wars; the noise of the bongs were broadcast around the entire British Empire and it became synonymous with Britain".

GE

SHEEP MATTER AT ELM GROVE

As I write, the temperature is well down, water troughs are freezing over, Ian is topping up the feeders with hay very frequently and the pregnant ewes are being fed supplements to keep them in good health to cope with the lambs that are due in not many weeks.

The ewes were scanned a week or so ago and Kate is very pleased with the results. Of 62 ewes there are 3 carrying a single lamb, 42 carrying twins, 16 with triplets and 1 is carrying quadruplets! A busy time is ahead particularly with so many triplets and the quads, as often the ewe doesn't like to have to deal with more than two lambs, so ideally ewes with a single can become a foster mother. This year there aren't many singles and of course the timing may not be right. There will probably have to be a lot of bottle feeding which is time consuming and wearing. It is all made worthwhile however if the resultant lambs sell well, as some of last year's did at Salisbury market a couple of months ago. Kate received the highest price on that particular day which shows they were of a very good quality.

Fern, the new dog, is ready to start training now and Kate has found a trainer to help her. Homework has to be done, so Kate is making a pen in the field and, using the 5 sheep she has kept back from sale, she will train Fern to round them up and respond to commands. The dog does show great promise, with an obvious in-built desire to round up sheep. It is quite difficult, as even if she does something naughty, like going into a field when she shouldn't, if it involves rounding up sheep praise has to be given, not admonishment!



Soon be spring!

Wendy Quarendon

3RD ROMSEY SCOUTS

What was happening in Abbey United Reformed Church, Romsey on Friday, 9 March? 3rd Romsey Scouts were inspired by churches opening their doors to homeless people over the Christmas period, they asked if they could sleep at the United Reformed Church and raise money for It's Your Choice, Totton.

It's Your Choice offers a safe, free, and confidential support service for all young people, typically aged 12-25. They provide information, advice, guidance, counselling and casework support, delivered through drop-in sessions, outreach work, workshops, and projects or, where necessary, by signposting to other services. They aim to provide young people with the knowledge, skills and information they need to make safe, positive choices on issues which affect their lives. At the heart of all their work with young people is a commitment to be non-judgmental, to show young people respect and to empower them.

The Scouts explored what it means to be homeless and the problems they would face - apart from the obvious ones of staying safe, the health issues, obtaining food, staying warm and dry - they also discussed the reduced life chances homeless people have, the judgemental attitude towards homelessness, problems of applying for jobs with no address, cleaning clothes for interviews and overcoming the stigma of homelessness. They decided a positive way to help homeless people would be to give them a sandwich, soup or even a bottle of water. The Scouts decided a night in the cold church was more welcoming than a night facing the elements, they raised over £90 for It's Your Choice to help towards their work with young people.

Sarah Beaman 3rd Romsey Scout Leader - Ashanti Troop

1ST BRAISHFIELD BROWNIES

We were delighted to hear from Charlotte (our previous Brown Owl) about the safe arrival of Ena Grace Marsh on 29th January. Congratulations to Charlotte, Jim and Oliver.

Since Christmas, under the leadership of our new Brown Owl, Nicky Pilato, we have followed a varied programme. To prepare for spotting birds for the Big Garden Birdwatch weekend we made fat bird feeders, mixing seeds and oatmeal with lard. We had the added benefit of beautifully soft skin on our hands by the time we went home! Apples dotted with sunflower seeds, then pierced with a wooden skewer and hung up, also proved very popular with the birds. We have researched Amazing Women and talked about those who inspire us. Each Brownie made a Mothering Sunday gift of a felt flower brooch.

The Winter Olympics gave an opportunity to play games connected with winter sports and to find out about Brownies in South Korea. On World Thinking Day (22nd February) we lit candles to remember members of the Girl Guide movement all around the world. The Brownies have enjoyed cooking fairy cakes and chocolate brownies in preparation for entertaining some senior citizens to a coffee morning held in the Church Room. Each six had great fun writing a short puppet play and the three plays were performed for the visitors; one with a winter Olympics theme. The Brownies were complimented for being such good hostesses and entertainers.

Hannah Boothman

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETY

Following the success of our Open Evening in November, we were very pleased to present a cheque for £225 to our chosen Charity for 2017 - Romsey Young Carers. At our meeting in February, retiring Chairman Maggie Batchelor presented the cheque to Romsey Young Carers representative Ruth.



If you are looking for inspiration with your flowers, then do come to our meeting on 26th April when we will be welcoming Martina Coleman and her demonstration entitled 'Inspirations'.

We are a friendly and lively group and meet every fourth Thursday

in the month in The Church Rooms starting at 7.30 pm. New members are always very welcome. For further information contact Chairman Beth Thomas on 01794 368618 or Secretary Eileen Norman on 02380 731162

2018

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Demonstrator</u>
26/4/2018	Inspirations	Martina Cole
24/5/2018	Enigma Variations	Pam Welch
7/6/2018	Salisbury Outing	Michael Bowyer
28/6/2018	Coral Celebration Party	
26/7/2018	Workshop	Denise Bright
27/9/2018	Modern Ikebana	Diane Norman
25/10/2018**	A Floral Workout	Jennifer Allen Thompson
22/11/2018	Christmas Chaos	Katie Baxter & Marion Catt (OPEN EVENING)



**

Meeting in Braishfield Social Club

All meetings held in the Church Room at 7.30pm

Chairman - Beth Thomas 01794 368618
 Secretary - Eileen Norman 02380 731162
 Treasurer - Hazel Prince 01794 368339.

BRAISHFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Andy Barker is a trustee for the Conservation of Butterflies and therefore very enthusiastic about growing plants that will encourage them in our gardens. In his talk to the Society, he took us through the months of the year, looking at when butterflies appeared and which plants they loved to feed off. General instructions for encouragement were to increase garden structure, leave rough edges, don't be too tidy, and don't use pesticides.

In Hampshire, 46 varieties of butterflies have been seen, 24 of those locally in Chandlers Ford. He showed pictures of the Red Admiral, seen in January (or any month because they don't hibernate). It loves Daphne and Lonicera. The Brimstone, a yellow creature, loves Crocus; the Peacock butterfly loves young nettles. Then arrives the Comma, (a small tortoiseshell

type), the Speckled Wood, Orange Tip and Holly Blue. They love the plants Lady Smock, Honesty, Garlic Mustard, Bugle and Buddleia. The Common Blue will be seen on meadows full of Birds Foot Trefoil and Self Heal. Other varieties shown were the Large Skipper, the Ringlet, White Admiral, Marbled White, Silverwashed Fritillary, the Painted Lady and the large and small white known to us as the cabbage white. We have many types of plants in our gardens that they like such as Heather, Helenium, Thyme, Wallflowers, Echinacea, Teasel, and Verbena. They even like fallen fruit in the Autumn.

I had not realised how many varieties can be seen locally and that it is easy to encourage them. It was a very colourful talk!

Viv Robinson

BRAISHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is very exciting for me as Early Years Leader at Braishfield Primary School to share some of the learning opportunities the children have enjoyed as we move into the Spring Term. It was a short but extremely busy half term full of

exciting experiences for all children, both inside and outside the classroom.

Our Reception children in Little Acorns have been brave and mature learners, carefully thinking about the



next steps in their learning. They have been helping Mrs Pike, myself and our puppet, Polly Parrot, come up with next steps in our own learning too! In particular, the children have enjoyed their P.E. lessons and love using our new P.E. equipment to learn important skills such as throwing, catching and aiming. Lots of fun and giggling is always involved!

As part of their Design and Technology curriculum and new 'Space and Fantasy Worlds' topic, Big Acorns class (Year 1/2) planned, prepared and made 'Pizza Planets.' They learned about the importance of hygiene and using equipment safely when chopping vegetables and grating cheese. They smelt and tasted delicious!

Saplings class (Year 3/4) were very lucky to have a visit from Cardiologist, Dr Wiles. This enabled the children to ask questions about how their bodies work, explore pictures and equipment and helped to really bring their Science topic 'Doctor, Doctor' to life. The classroom was buzzing and lots of the children were excited to share their learning.

Our older children in Oaks class (Year 5/6) were lucky enough to visit Mountbatten School for a vocal workshop led by Choir Master, Dominic Peckham. The children worked in collaboration with other local schools to form a choir, rehearsing all day and finally performing for their parents. The children had a fantastic day learning from a professional and being part of such a special event.

With children's mental health being a matter for rising concern, working together with the charity Romsey Mind, the school is currently running a series of parent workshops

exploring a number of topics such as coping with anxiety and building confidence. Having attended myself, I have learnt a lot about mental health and the ways in which we can support both children and adults with their emotional well-being. There has been very positive feedback from parents too.

As we know, learning outdoors has a hugely positive impact on children and, as Outdoor Curriculum Leader, I have been working to develop the outdoor space, improve resources and enrich our outdoor curriculum across the school. Each class now has a boot rack outside and every child has a pair of wellies in school making outdoor learning more accessible, whatever the weather. Each half term the children now take part in an outdoor learning day, carefully planned by their class teacher and staff are looking forward to trying out some exciting ideas from their recent outdoor learning training. All classes have a planter and will soon be growing flowers and vegetables. In addition, we will be launching our new school garden at The Wheatsheaf Pub very soon. The Big Acorns (Year 1 / 2) now have an outdoor classroom full of fantastic resources to enable them to learn outside. They have enjoyed exploring this area and I have been watching some fantastic outdoor learning taking place. It is great to see the whole school starting to make the most of our wonderful local environment and the children enjoying learning outdoors.

It is not long before our Key Stage 2 children will take part in Junior Rock Challenge at Southampton Guildhall. For those of you who may not be familiar with Rock Challenge, each school puts together an 8-minute dance and drama production on a theme of their choice set to music. Our entry this year is called

'Cycle of Crisis' and is themed on the humanitarian response to a natural disaster- in our case, a hurricane. Schools create their production and finally bring it to an event day held at a professional venue where they spend the day rehearsing and preparing for an evening show before an audience. During the evening, judges give verbal feedback on each

performance and also score each piece against a range of criteria. The children, staff and school community have been working hard to put 'Cycle of Crisis' together and I know they will produce a fantastic performance as well as making us all very proud! I can't wait to watch it.

Hannah Pauley, Early Years Leader

.....AND FROM THE HEAD....

At Braishfield Primary School, we strongly believe in the importance of a broad and rich curriculum which provides our children with the necessary skills to flourish. Over this term, the children have enjoyed a wide range of different workshops, trips and activities. Here are just a few of those experiences, described in the words of the children themselves.

Test Valley Cross-Country Champs

On Tuesday 6th March 2018 at Down Grange Sports Complex, Basingstoke, Toby, Violet and Isabelle represented Test Valley area in the cross-country championships. As well as Test Valley, 13 other areas in Hampshire attended this 2000m run.

'Before we began, we walked the course which was very, very, very muddy! Under 12s girls ran first and there were 117 in the race. Two girls from the Test Valley area came first and third. Next came the under 12s boys' race. There were 124 boys in the race. We all completed the race in under 10 minutes which was a great achievement. We felt tired at the end but were really proud of ourselves'

By Toby, Violet and Isabelle

Year 4 Arts Masterclass at Test Valley School

'It was exciting to be in a Secondary School. We did Drama, Music and Art. I liked the Drama because the games we played really helped increase your confidence in working with different people. We got to pretend that we were on a roller coaster and show it through mime. In Art we all got to make clay fish, decorate them and we will get to keep them too. I enjoyed the morning. It was a great experience.'

By Kestrel

Key Stage 2 Rock Challenge

'Throughout the past few months we've been rehearsing for Rock Challenge. Our dance is called 'Cycle of Crisis' and is about the humanitarian response when there is a natural disaster (in our case, a hurricane). We're all looking forward to the big performance at

Southampton Guildhall. To prepare for this exciting day, we have been working hard to develop our dance technique, which was choreographed by Lauren from Contrast Dance Academy. She has been amazing! It has been such a great opportunity as some of us would never have dreamed of doing something like this before. Being part of Rock Challenge has helped us overcome stage fright and come together as a school community.'

By Tallulah and Violet

Big Acorns- trip to Winchester Science Museum and Planetarium

'We all had so much fun. We even saw the stars in the planetarium. The activities were great. You could pull levers and turn wheels. We did races and watched how fast the bubbles went.'

By Yelena

Little Acorns- Polly Parrot Birthday Party

'Polly needs more party hats for the party. We added numbers to work out how many hats we needed. We counted the hats to check what number we had. There was one birthday card. We worked out the numbers on our fingers .I think it was eight plus four equals twelve. The answer is twelve.'

By Georgia

Lou Rhodes

Headteacher

SENIOR CITIZENS TEA PARTY

The End of an Institution

On the 28th January the social Club was packed for the annual Senior Citizens' Party. Sherry on arrival, wine available to go with the pots of tea and an array of sandwiches and cakes enough for a small army.

And a very poignant occasion it was, because, after thirty years (thirty years!) the organisers have decided to call it a day.



It all began with Janet at the Newport (as things often did in those days) who, invited to play the piano at the Over 60s Club, found that she hardly knew any of the people there, and that gave her the idea of getting the retired people in the village together for a party – at the Newport, naturally. A committee was formed, with Sharon, Dave Old and Ricky Dorlay joining Janet, and for the first couple of years the Newport hosted the event, until the other pubs in the village joined in and for a time the three of them took turns to be the hosts.



‘Entertainment’ was introduced around that time (Janet’s idea most probably again) which involved more people and

year on year, more people in the village were invited, or asked to be included. The party morphed from a tea party to a high tea, to a lunch (including some themed lunches, like a cockney party with boiled beef and carrots), to a Christmas lunch, to roast lunches various, and from last year, back to a sumptuous tea.

And the entertainment included the children from the village school, the Romsey Cadets Band, and always, the final act was the organising gang putting on a song and dance act.



This year was no exception. They had decided not to ask the Cadets to come, but they insisted! The schoolchildren sang very sweetly, we all had a singalong with Bob, Barry and Wayne, and to round it off the gang sang a medley of some of their favourites from the past thirty years, ending with them as the ‘Braishfield Plonkers’. We had a raffle (of course!) with everyone having received a

free raffle ticket, a moving speech from Ricky, and a vote of thanks from Carol Renvoize.

And that was it! So, huge thanks from so many of us in the village for thirty years of bringing pleasure and good cheer to us all. Maybe a younger generation will step forward to do something similar?

DR

BRAISHFIELD PANTRY



Well the 'Beast from the East' couldn't stop the Pantry. Sharon, her helpers, our suppliers and you our customers all braved the snow and the place was buzzing. At one point it felt like the whole village was having hot drink, piece of cake and a natter. Thank you so much for making your local shop/café an extra fun place to be on those days.

By the time you receive your copy of this newsletter the Pantry's wine and gin tasting event will have taken place. We hope those of you who managed to make it along enjoyed yourselves and liked the offerings – do let us know what you think. The author of this piece for one is looking forward to sampling the new range! Ian Barrow (who's in charge of wine orders) is always happy to buy in extra wine if people want a case or half case of anything we stock – so if you do like a specific wine then just speak to Ian.

Our next event is the Afternoon Tea party which we are holding in the Village Hall on the 20th May. The event is in celebration of the Royal wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle which takes place the day before. At the time of writing plans are coming together and by publication you should be able to buy tickets for this ticketed event in the Pantry.

A date for your diary - the Pantry will be open for the annual Beer Race which this year takes place on Sunday 3rd June.

And finally, a reminder that the shop is now open every Wednesday afternoon (2-5pm).

Keep up to date through our website – www.braishfieldpantry.com

Uganda Update

B is for Bikes, Books and a Bag of Braishfield Brilliance!

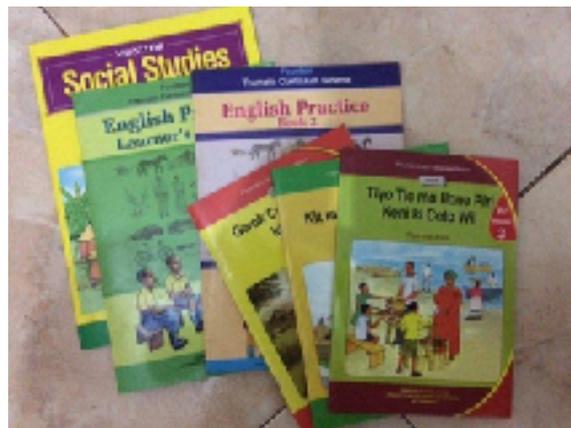
Apparently every good sermon or talk should just have three clear points – so here are just three clear 'thank yous' to Braishfield friends who have really excelled themselves over the last few weeks and months!

As many of you will remember, ServeDirect recently set up a second primary resource project: 'Connect Education Centre' in Gulu, (the first one being 'The Bridge' in Lukomera, our main base).** Each centre provides booster lessons in English and Maths, to help local children access secondary education, and also has a children's library to encourage and develop a reading culture, from an early age.

Firstly, thank you again to the Braishfield 200 Club who recently donated money to add books to the library – and here's a sample photo. We have now been able to add Ugandan curriculum textbooks and sets of class readers both in English and Acholi (the local language). These add onto the existing stock of about 1500 books, previously donated from the UK. Connect Centre,

Gulu opened 'for business' about three weeks ago, and already classes and teachers from 11 different nursery and primary schools are visiting every week. They will soon be starting a Saturday storyreading and holiday programme. Already, the whole place is buzzing with children and chat!

Secondly, huge appreciation to the Braishfield Cycling Crew, who previously raised money for ServeDirect by battling the elements and taking part in the Rat Race from the west to east coast across the UK. We have used part of their money to buy two cycles for the Connect Centre, Gulu, enabling the staff team to get about and visit the partner schools more easily. Everyone was so excited the day that the bikes arrived, as you can see in the photo. We have another plan to create a similar cycle scheme at WTA, but there is far less of a cycling culture than in northern Uganda – no one seems to really know why!

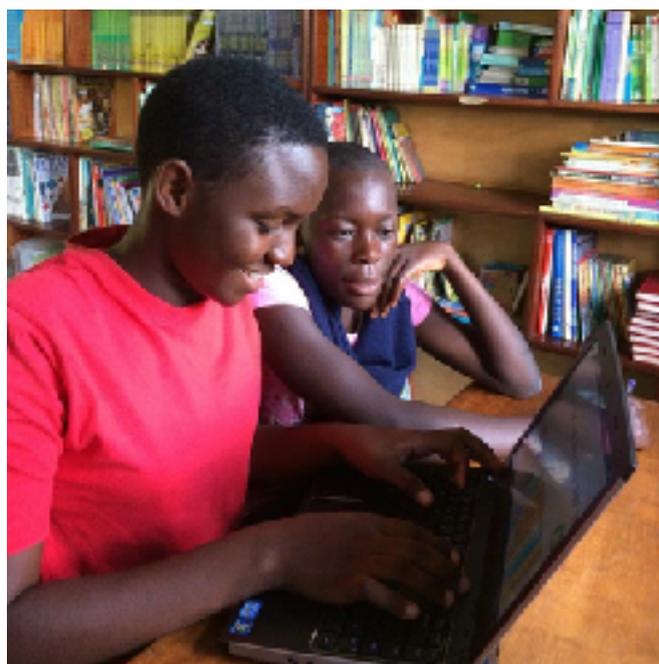


And finally, thank you to Mrs Niles' class at Braishfield Primary School who took the time to write letters to students here in Uganda and sent them out earlier this term – even with beautiful illustrations. The WTA junior writing club are busy putting their minds and pens to writing some replies. Who says the art of written correspondence is finished?!

As ever, we remain deeply grateful for the interest and generous donations, (both practical and financial) from so many in the Braishfield community. As a small UK charity, based in the Braishfield and Romsey area, we appreciate the trust and interest in the work in these two remote communities in Uganda. We have had a very busy few months here, travelling quite a lot in between both projects, so we look forward to being home for Easter. Best wishes, thank you and apwoyo matek (thank you in Acholi!)

Elsbeth and Jerry, and all at ServeDirect.

If you are interested, please look at www.servedirect.org or search for ServeDirect on Facebook.



** Both the Lukomera and Gulu primary centres are now called 'Connect Education and Resource Centre', to ease confusion; their main aim being to 'bridge the gap' between primary and secondary education and to get children reading from an early age.

Alan Dowden Baddesley County Councillors 2018 report

I have now been the Baddesley Division County Councillor for over 26 years. I am a member of the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee & a member of Hampshire's Pension Funds Panel & Board .

I understand the challenge of the budgetary pressures that Hampshire County Council faces with a further £140 million of savings to be found over the next two years. It was disappointing that all of our Hampshire MPs voted for these savings to be made.

In early February, the government did however give a small amount of additional funding to Hampshire in the final budgetary settlement and allowed the authority to raise the Council Tax up to 6%. The County have raised the Band "D" Council Tax by 5.99% to £1,200.96p from April 2018. Hampshire's tax rise is in cash terms context is the steepest rise in three years in Hampshire's history rising by over 15%.

Council Tax is a regressive tax: it hits hardest those on low and fixed incomes. Once again the revenue budget is about managing decline rather than fostering growth.

The County Council have been able to identify extra revenue from areas such as their street lighting contract, and renting out buildings that were surplus to requirement.

Health & Adult Social Care have been tasked to find a further £56 million of savings over the next two years. This follows already having to save £181 million since 2010, at a time when people are living longer and therefore making greater demands on services. There is a dependency more and more on voluntary organisations, family and friends and neighbours to assist with social care requirement needs. This is why I was active in seeking that we maintain Community Transport; subsidised public bus services like the (46) Stagecoach service from North Baddesley to Winchester. I argued with the administration that there was no joined up thinking by cutting these services. How could many of these vulnerable people attend voluntary organisations and hospital appointments without transport provision. I am pleased that there has been a **temporary reprieve until April 2019** for bus subsidies and Community Transport, so services continue..

Social Services have a huge task in finding cost savings. To date savings have been found by the use of better technology & Extra Care provision and Re-enablement teams are areas that have helped to reduce costs. Further large cost savings have been achieved by reducing staff. The Conservative Chairman of the Local Government Associations Well Being Board, said “

Councils have a proud record of getting on with the job of delivering for local residents and doing so in partnership. But it is not an exaggeration to say that circumstances are now steering steadily towards the impossible. The

government have promised a green paper due to be published in the summer of 2018.

The Household Waste Recycling Centres have also temporarily been reprieved.

However, charges for this service are being sought by Hampshire County Council from Central Government.

School crossing controls will also now continue, although a much stricter criteria has been introduced to make sure they are absolutely necessary and those that do not meet the new criteria will be lost.

Shortly as part of the operation resilience programme Paynes Hay Road will be resurfaced at Braishfield.

I have been able to provide financial support to many groups and organisations from my HCC Community grant annual allowance. Some are listed below.

- Braishfield Bees Football Club & the Braishfield Village Hall
- St Francis Church, & Knightwood Youth Club, Valley Park
- Relate South West Hampshire
- Eastleigh/Test Valley Mencap
- Scouting organisation at Chandlers Ford & North Baddesley
- North Baddesley over 60's Club
- Romsey Choral Society & Hampshire Search & Rescue Dogs

THE LAST WORD

As the new Editor of the BVA, I am conscious that the magazine is a very important part of the community, well used by many people. No-one likes change. Equally, it is never good to stand still while the world whirls by, and I am considering carefully whether there are any features that could, or indeed should, be added.

If anyone in the village has a suggestion of what they would like to see included in the future, please do drop me an email about it.

Wendy Dolby-Stevens

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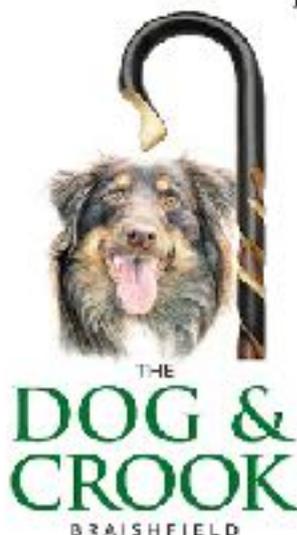
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To find your nearest Local Recycling Centre use Recycle Now's Recycling Locator: www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling.

BrownBinRecyclingTips

Ensure your recyclable items are clean and dry.

Don't bag your items – keep them loose or they won't be recycled!

Don't put other plastics (pots, tubs, trays) in your bin – we can only recycle plastic bottles.

If in doubt, have a look at our recycling guide www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingguide.

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Rubbish News

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

Recycle weeks beginning:
16th April and 30th April
14th and 28th May

Household waste weeks beginning:
9th and 23rd April
7th and 21st May

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

Braishfield Village Diary

Regular Meetings	Where	Time	When	Next meetings		
Parish Council 	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.00	1 st Tues excl. August	3 Apr 	1 May 	5 June 
Village Lunch	Church Room	12.15	2 nd Mon excl. August	9 Apr	14 May	11 June
Horticultural Society 	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.30	2 nd Tues excl. June/July/Aug	10 Apr	8 May	-
Flower Society 	Church Room	7.30	4 th Thurs excl. Aug/Dec	26 Apr	24 May	28 June
Village Voices	Church Room	2 - 4	4 th Mon	23 Apr	21 May	25 June
The Pantry Shop & Cafe	Village Hall	9 – 12 2 - 5	Mon – Fri (Sat 9-12 noon)			
Story Time	Village Pantry	10 - 11.30	Thursday, Wendy Lord 367015			
Events 	Where	When		More Details		
Braishfield Social Club AGM	Social Club	Tuesday 17th April		8pm		
String Trio concert BMADS	Church Room	Friday 4th May		7pm		
Pantry Tea Party	Village Hall	Sunday 20th May				
Flower Arrangers Salisbury outing	Salisbury	Thursday 7th June		9.45 - 4.30		

 Please see BVN or Notice Boards for further details

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

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