



BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 239 December 2019



**BRAISHFIELD BANGERS BEST IN COUNTRY!!
SEE P.31**

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

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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.

Latest copy date for the next issue is: **Friday 24 January 2020**

Cover photo: Gemma Quarendon

From the Chairman

On Monday 11th November, it was my privilege and honour to lay the wreath at the war memorial on behalf of Braishfield residents as we remembered those who fought so bravely so that we may enjoy the freedom we do today. My thanks to everyone involved and to all who were able to join us in making it a special service. It was particularly pleasing that motorists stopped while the service continued.

The quiz night held at the Village Hall on Friday 15th November was great fun and, I'm pleased to say, was really well attended. 19 teams took part with some showing a great deal more skill than others. I learnt a valuable lesson - that Dingbats aren't my thing! That said; the groan that went round the hall when certain answers were read out indicated I wasn't alone. Thanks to all for such a great evening.

Late night shopping at the Pantry provided a great opportunity to sample food and drink, and, of course, to place Christmas orders. The Braishfield Banger was superb and congratulations on achieving the best sausage in the UK and Ireland.

Behind the scenes, the BVA is again busy organising the Christmas Sing-a-long which is to be held outside the Pantry on Tuesday 10th December – see Page 7 for full details. Come along and bring your friends and families to join us and BUMS for some carols, festive songs, food and drink. I've also heard that the jolly man dressed in red is also attending and there will be a raffle, so please bring some spare cash!

If you do happen to eat too much over the festive period, make a fresh start to 2020 by joining us on our New Year's Day walk. The route is being planned by Michael Stubbs - see Page 7 for details.

Please remember to keep an eye out for any neighbours who may need a little extra help or even company over the winter period, especially during cold spells.

Whatever you do during the festive period, I'd like to wish you a safe and peaceful Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Ian

From the Editor

Thank you **so** much for all your wonderful contributions this month - as you can see we have another bumper edition! Just one plea from me, please don't copy me in on draft articles as I end up with several versions of the same piece. Final copy only for me please! I get easily confused.....

Wendy

Donations to Braishfield Village News

We would like to thank all those who donate toward the cost of Braishfield Village News. 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 obviously incur costs to publish. We would welcome any support you can give us to keep the News viable in 2019. If you wish to make a donation please complete the slip below and send with your donation to:-

BVA Treasurer
Mrs Sheila Still
Orchard View
Braishfield
SO51 0QB
Tel: 01794 368384
email: bva@f2s.com.

Thank you
Ian Jeffery - Chairman

I enclose donation of £..... towards the running cost of the BVN

Name (please print)

Address.

.....

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Postcode.

Tel:

Email:

Please make cheques payable to Braishfield Village Association or **bank transfer to:**
Sort code: 30-97-14: Account no 31483060: Account name: Braishfield Village Association

A standing order form to make annual donations to the BVN is available. Please contact the Treasurer, Sheila Still, and she will send you one.

Letters

Contributions for “Letters to the Editor” must state the writers name and address, and whether or not they wish to have these details published.

Braishfield Library

At the top of our village is a magic Red Box. Open the door and enter another world. Prepare to be surprised and have a literary adventure. Among the dark learned tomes, twinkle little jewels that can even lift the dark veil of insomnia that lurks in the middle of the night. The unexpected delight of discovering a new book or Author whose work you would never had bought, but whose book you never want to end.

So, what do I do when I have finished them? Some I cannot bear to part with but others I give them to friends or return them.

I have 5 lurking by my bedside waiting to be read. These include 1001 Cool Freaky Facts, The Edge of the World by Michael Pye and Murphy’s Law Wrong

I just love the sheer variety; children’s books, picture books, Jokes travel and cookery, Books to dip into or read from cover to cover.

Gratitude to Carol the Keeper and all those who donate books. Another example of the kindness of Braishfield. There is no pressure of expiry date and I love passing them onto friends.

So, if you are bored I suggest that you wander into this special place. You may even meet Dr Who there!

A lowly villager

NOTICES

Braishfield Pantry.....Elections 12th December

Whether you are blue, red or lib d

Come in for a **free cup of tea.**

(throughout the day 9 - 7)

Village Hall Quiz 2019

Thank you very much to those of you who made up the 19 teams taking part in the recent quiz. We hope you enjoyed it!!

The evening raised £301 for the Village Hall and a further £80 was donated to Children in Need.

The Quiz will be back next year in the same place - provisional dates 13th/20th November depending on other village events.

We look forward to welcoming even more of you to next year's event.

Village Hall Committee and friends

REMINDER!!!

SLOE GIN COMPETITION
is being held on 15th
December at Braishfield
Social Club 12.00- 2.00



Seasons Greetings
To the residents of Braishfield

*A Very Happy Christmas
And
A Peaceful New Year
From
County Councillor Alan Dowden*



Christmas Singalong and Father Christmas



Tuesday 10th December 2019

Braishfield Village Hall 5.30pm – 7.00pm

Mulled wine/cider : Hot Dogs:

Carols with the B.U.M.S.

Village Pantry Open

Raffle



BVA New Year's Day Walk

Judging by the enquiries, it seems people want to get out and walk again on New Year's Day - which is good!

So, the BVA will be running the Braishfield Village New Year's Day Walk again with the aim of blowing any remaining cobwebs away while catching up with your fellow villagers.

Timings are : meet at the Wheatsheaf from 10:15 and set off at 10:30. There will be a refreshment stop en route and the aim is to be back at the Wheatsheaf for around 12:30 for a sociable lunchtime session.

If you would like to attend, please email me at michaelstubbs@braishfield.org so we can cater on the walk and also that the Wheatsheaf knows roughly how many to expect at lunchtime.

Look forward to seeing you on the 1st January

Michael Stubbs, Braishfield Village Association

Braishfield Parish Council - Parish Clerk Vacancy

Applications are invited for the role of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, the sole employee.

Working from home, hours average 8 hours per week, which requires attendance at some evening meetings. The Clerk's role is essentially one of facilitating the business of the Parish Council and is wide ranging in its activities.

Applicants will be able to demonstrate excellent administrative, financial and communication skills, have good IT knowledge, be well versed in Word and Excel.

Ideally, candidates should be willing to undertake the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification if they do not already hold it.

The salary range is from the national salary point SCP 7 (£4,226 p.a. for 8 hours) with more available depending upon experience and qualifications.

The start date is asap as the current Clerk has already left the post. in order to provide a period of overlap with the current temporary postholder, but this is flexible.

Closing date details: *Saturday 7th December 2019*

Contact person:

For more details (job description & person specification) and to apply in writing email the Chairman of the Council, Jane Bennett, clerk@braishfield-pc.org or tel: 01794 368109

BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

is holding its AGM

21 January 2020 at 7 p.m.

Community Room, Village Hall

ALL MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND

Braishfield Ukulele Music Society



BUMS



Join us for a Christmas Party.
Enjoy a fun evening of Christmas
Songs accompanied by Ukuleles.

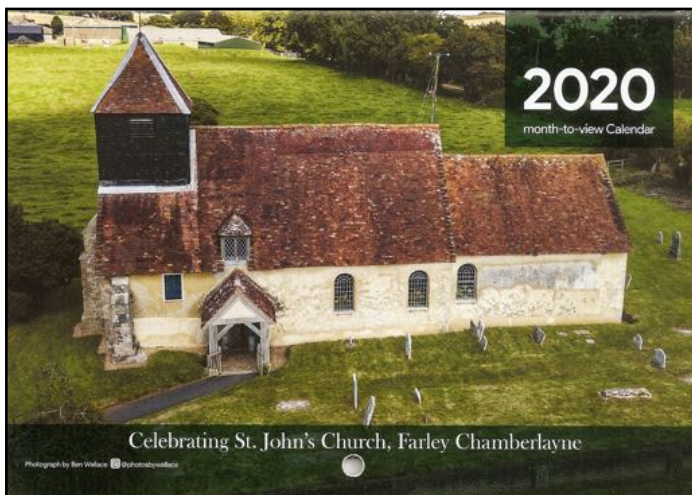


Bring your own drinks. Nibbles and glasses will
be provided. Everyone welcome.

Monday 16th December 7.30pm in
the Church Room,
All Saints, Braishfield. SO51 0QH

St John's Farley Chamberlayne

CALENDAR for 2020



These calendars, which are A5 in size and come with an envelope, make a luxury alternative to a Christmas Card to send to friends who know St John's Church. They are available – price £6 each – direct from the creator, Sue McLachlan sue.mclachlan@uwclub.net or they may be obtained from Hursley Community Shop, in Farley Church following services, or from Hannah Boothman 01794 368143 hj.boothman@btinternet.com

Braishfield's Monthly Village Lunch

Fun, Friends and Food

If you enjoy eating and meeting people, then the Village lunch is ideal for you. It is held on the second Monday of the month in the Church Rooms at 12.30pm, costs £3 and is open to all ages.

Julie and her jolly band of helpers make everyone feel very welcome and you get a chance to chat with other villagers.

Enjoy a delicious homemade soup with crusty bread, followed by a selection of homemade puddings, (Not good for dieters). Finally, coffee and tea are served. The 200 Club have their monthly draw there and local Groups publicise their activities.

There is no lunch in August and the Christmas one is a buffet.

Do not miss the February Valentine lunch if you would like romantic experiences. Our magnificent Braishfield men take over, under the stern command of maître d'hotel Tim Howkins who welcomes us with a glass of prosecco and gives the ladies a red rose. Tim's team decorate the Hall and even do some of the cooking, as well acting as waiters looking very smart in their black and white uniforms. After the meal, replete, we happily toddle home clutching our chocolate and perhaps looking forward to a little nap.

A very grateful Lowly Villager

* * * * *

Have you heard the sparrows chirping in the hedge alongside the village hall car park? There are lots of them making quite a racket and considering their numbers are going down nationally, it is a sound that is good to hear.

However, and I quote from the Romsey Advertiser in November 1910, 'a 'Sparrow Club' for the village was formed at a meeting in the Wheatsheaf. A Committee was formed and it was agreed to purchase nets etc., and the price was to be 3d for sparrows per dozen and eggs 3d per dozen. It was to start next week'

Sparrows caused damage to most crops and so were considered serious pests; presumably the farmers got together to pay the reward. In 1910 the village men were mainly employed as agricultural labourers with very small wages, so the extra income from catching sparrows and eggs would have been very welcome.

Wendy Quarendon

The Church Room - Celebrating Ten Years!

Sitting in the Church Room enjoying coffee at the Celebration Exhibition on Saturday 2nd November ten years after the completion of the refurbishment it was hard to take in that 10 years had passed – it all looks as fresh as the day it was dedicated on All Saints' Day 2009. The Exhibition covered two aspects: first, the history of the building, beginning with a 16th century map showing a building on the site, then



Before the entrance foyer was built, mower shed to right

through the twists and turns of ownership and alteration, fire, re-building, a variety of uses including a school room and a rifle range, and coming up to the year 2000, by when the main door had been moved from the Church Lane side of the building to the car park. Wendy Quarendon has done a huge amount of research and it makes fascinating reading. If

you missed the Exhibition a few weeks ago it will be on display again during our All Saints Gift Day on Saturday 25th January. It is well worth a visit.



Gutted interior looking towards the fireplace, before the new window was put in

huge amount of effort by many people, in an easy access entrance to the church and re-ordering within to make better use of the space in the building, and a completely refurbished Church Room – good bye to damp, cold, holes in the floor and ceiling and a basic kitchen area and toilet, and welcome to the warm, attractive and well equipped place which is valued as a meeting place by the church and the community today. The displays recording the 'before' and 'during' stages of the Church Room refurbishment will also be on display on Saturday 25th January. If you haven't yet seen them, do come and take a look.

For those who never knew the old building, here are a few photos to capture your interest!

Sarah Boothman, Churchwarden

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE ON SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER

An Act of Remembrance took place at 10.50am at the War Memorial for the United Service of Remembrance led by Revd Jane Thompson and Mrs Angela Bevan who were accompanied by the Churchwardens and the choir from All Saints' together with Brownies, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers from the uniformed organisations as well as pupils from Braishfield School. There was a large gathering of those from the village and beyond.

A hymn, the Act of Remembrance and the Roll of Honour, read by Parish Council chairman Jane Bennett, was followed by the Laying of Wreaths and the Kohima Epitaph read by Tom Greenwood. The choir sang an extract from 'We will remember them' and the Act of Commitment completed the ceremony.

Gemma Virtanen played the Last Post and Reveille.

Following the service by the War Memorial, the Revd Jane Thompson dedicated the bench given in memory of Arthur and Robert Rose. Both were brought up in Braishfield: Robert lost his life in September 1944 near Arnhem during Operation 'Market Garden'. For many years Arthur laid a special wreath each Remembrance Sunday to remember his brother and this campaign. Arthur's widow Sylvia has given the memorial bench to the village remembering two 'Braishfield Boys'.

The Service continued after processing to All Saints' where the Colours were received.

Refreshments were served in the Church Room giving people the opportunity to see the displays from Braishfield School as well as the history of the Church Room.

The collection of £400.01 (50% Gift Aided) has been sent to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE ON REMEMBRANCE DAY – MONDAY 11th NOVEMBER

An Act of Remembrance took place at 10.50am at the War Memorial led by Parish Council Chairman, Jane Bennett.

Mrs Sheila Still read the Roll of Honour followed by the Exhortation read by Cllr.Ian Knights and the Kohima Epitaph by Jimmy Chestnutt. Ian Jeffery, Chairman of the Braishfield Village Association laid a wreath on behalf of the village.



Dedication of the new Rose bench

Village Hall Updates.....STOP PRESS!!

The article in this month's BVN shares the exciting news re our refurbishment grant bid of £95,000 from TVBC.

This is absolutely brilliant news and I want to acknowledge the great efforts made by Malcolm Ayres and Chris Balchin, in overseeing the work to date and the tremendous work done by Iain Coleman in preparing this latest successful bid.

We are very lucky to have such talented and committed people who are prepared to give so much time to this valuable village resource.

PLEASE always consider booking the hall when you are organising an event – remember - you will get a residents' rate!!

Our very best wishes for Christmas and 2020

Ian Knights pp Village Hall Committee

* * * * *

The Village Hall has been successful in its bid to obtain a grant from Test Valley Borough Council. The grant for £95,000 is to undertake Phase 5 of our Refurbishment Programme, which includes the construction of a new store room, refurbishing the current kitchen and bar areas and replacing the canopy over the main entrance. It will also be used to finish off the work on the Community Room by purchasing new tables and chairs along with a wall-mounted projector and screen.

This is an exciting step forward for the hall and we are aiming to start work early in the new year. We are grateful to all those who helped in the bid process and to Test Valley for their continued support for the hall.

Iain Coleman

Parish Council agendas will only be placed on the Parish Council Notice Board at the entrance to the Village Hall car park.

They will also be published on the email network and the Parish Council website when it is available.

Village Voices
All welcome to our Christmas Sing
Monday 23rd December 2-4pm in the Church Room

As we come to the end of 2019, our singing group has enjoyed new songs from the shows (Gershwin to Lloyd Webber), tackled part singing and rounds (reading music as well as singing from ear), and sung music sad, serious, humorous and sentimental – something as far as possible for everyone.

Singing is known to be ‘good for you’ and the chance to meet and make new friends, to share fun, laughter and music has to be an opportunity for 2020!

All are welcome to come along to Village Voices – usually held on the 4th Monday in the month, 2-4pm in the Church Room.

Sessions for 2020 are... 27th January, 24th February, 23rd March,

27th April. We look forward to seeing many of you in the coming months.

Meri 368516 / Wendy 368015



SHEEP MATTER AT ELM GROVE

Kate's rams went in with the ewes a week or so ago; the ewes having been brought into prime condition to make sure their good health allows for a healthy gestation period and healthy lambs that will appear in April and May.

Meanwhile, the new Lleyn ewes seem to be enjoying living in the field alongside the house and causing Fly, the young sheep dog slight problems. They weren't very biddable to start with; Kate thinks they had not ever been rounded up by a dog before and surprised Fly with their reaction to her. Things have been improving and fly is turning into a very helpful working partner for Kate.

WQ





CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

15TH - 28TH December 2019

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, BRAISHFIELD

Following the success of last year's Children's Christmas Tree Festival we will be holding the event again between 15th - 28th December in All Saints Church Braishfield. Children of any age are invited to enter a tree. The Church will be open between 9.30am and 12.30pm on Saturday 14th December for children to set up their trees. Trees should be no taller than 4ft and if lights are required these must be battery operated. Trees must be self-standing. As the festival is over 2 weeks this year, we suggest trees could be artificial. Trees must be removed on Saturday 28th December between 9.30am - 12.30pm

There will be NO charge for entering a tree and entry to the Festival will be by donations. We are very grateful to the Rev Jane Thompson, the Church Wardens and the PCC for their continued support. Any proceeds raised from the event this year will be donated to the activities of our own Messy Church.

We hope the Children's Christmas Trees will again create a very special and magical contribution to be enjoyed by all during our Christmas celebrations.

We are only able to accommodate 15 trees so get your entry in fast !

If you require any further information please contact:

Stephen Treglown stephen.treglown@gmail.com (01794 502150) or

Carole Renvoize stevecarole.renvoize@btinternet.com (01794 368766)

SOCIAL CONTACT GROUP

On an extremely blustery day we all enjoyed lunch at The Beach Cafe, Lepe. It was quite a battle to walk against the wind so it was decided to enjoy the view through the windows whilst staying in the warm. One of our Members celebrated her birthday and Happy Birthday was sung with other customers joining in and the occasion was marked with a special candle in her ice-cream.

We are delighted to welcome a new committee member, Joanna, who adds vitality, youth, enthusiasm and new ideas. We appreciate how lucky we are that Joanna wanted to join us!

Our most recent trip has been to Rosie Leas at Setley Ridge for coffee and cakes. The young staff gave us such a warm welcome and always look after us so well. This was a return visit, planned so that we could enjoy the beautiful autumn colours in the New Forest and they certainly didn't disappoint.

If you would like to join our friendly group, please give me a ring on 368339

Hazel Prince



BRAISHFIELD FLOWER ARRANGEMENT SOCIETY 2020 PROGRAMME

Fourth Thursday in the month, 7.30 pm
Church Rooms, All Saints Church, Braishfield



Jan 23	AGM
Feb 27	Cartoon Capers - Carolyn Vanstone
March 26	Spring is coming – Katie Baxter
April 23	Anything Goes – Martina Coleman
May 28	A Moment of time – Jennifer Thompson
June 25	Club Party - venue to be decided
July 23	Workshop – Denise Bright
Sept 24	A Passion for Dance - Bronda Dossett
Oct 22	Chalk'n Cheese – Pauline Hurran
Nov 26	The Night Before Christmas – Emily Broomfield (Braishfield Village Hall)

* * * * *

BRAISHFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

At the October meeting, Aron Clay, Senior Horticulturist at Sir Harold Hillier Garden, gave a very interesting talk based on his visit to Gibraltar Botanic Gardens. Gibraltar is only 6.8sq km and people living there do not have their own gardens. In 1815, George Don created the Botanic Gardens for all uses and above all to give shade. The word 'Alameda' was used describing the Poplar groves that were originally grown and referring to the shade they would give. In this arid garden plants are initially potted in crushed lava. Despite the heat some species thrive like the Gibraltar Campion, with its delicate pink flowers; Dragon trees, whose sap is red; Travellers Palm with its fan of stems and the Silk Floss Tree with bright pink flowers. Very plentiful are Lantana, Bougainvillea, Flame trees and clumps of Geranium Maderense.

Going north into the Spanish mountains, Aron discovered clumps of Cistus and pink Echium, growing well in dry, arid conditions. Back in England, he thought about the future of dry gardening and how some plants work hard and thrive in these conditions. Fran Clifton joined in the discussion and showed us areas in the world that had similar conditions and

where plants also grew well. These were Chili, California, Southern South Africa and S Australia.

From this has come an exciting new garden to be developed in the Hillier gardens. The planting here will be similar to those seen by Aron, aware of global warming and the desire to conserve plants which may get lost in other countries.

This was a challenging and topical talk thanks to Aron and Fran.

* * * * *

BUMS - strumming from strength to strength

Pictured below are the BUMS (the Braishfield Ukulele Music Society to be more polite!) entertaining at the recent All Saints Harvest Supper in the Church Rooms. Having received rave reviews for their performance, they have been booked yet again for next year's supper. The group number 11 at full strength and this year will have carried out approximately 26 engagements at various venues including residential and nursing homes, U3A, Cameo, and other senior social groups. They are self funding, and this year's chosen charity, as last year, is Jumbulance who will benefit from the donations received.

All enquiries for bookings etc to David Robinson on 01794 368774



All Saints, Braishfield

Dates for your diary

Sunday 15th December 6.00pm Carol Service followed by seasonal refreshments

Sunday 15th to 28th December Children's Christmas Tree Festival (see page XX)

Sunday 22nd December 9.30am Holy Communion

Tuesday 24th December 4.00pm Christingle Service

Wednesday 25th December 10.00am Family Service

There will be no Communion on Christmas Eve at All Saints but there will be services of Holy Communion at 9.30pm at Michelmersh and 11.15pm at Awbridge for the whole Benefice.



2020

Saturday 25th January 9.30am Working party with Bacon Butties
10.00am - 4pm All Saints' Gift Day

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' Annual Gift Day Saturday 25th January 10 – 4pm

Last January we had our first annual Gift Day combined with an Open Day. We wanted to tell everyone about the life of our church, and create an opportunity for anyone who would like to make a gift for the work of All Saints.

We know there are plenty of people who value their parish church, but don't necessarily want to come and worship. Many give their time and talents as Flower Arrangers, Cleaners, Mowers, or by enabling the Village Lunch and the Social Contact group to function. To all of you, thank you! Your contribution is much valued by the church members and all who benefit from your gifts.

As those who came to the Open Day last year will know, All Saints is dependent upon local financial giving: there is no support from the national church or the government. We are always very grateful for all the support we receive. If you would like to make a donation to the church, perhaps as a thank offering or just because you value the part it plays in village life, the Gift Day provides an opportunity for you to do so. Should you wish to give but prefer to do so by Bank Transfer rather than in person, the Braishfield PCC account no. is 21204470 and the Sort Code is 60-18-46.

We would love to see you on 25th – there will be a churchyard Working Party running in the morning from 9.30am alongside the Gift Day; also the history exhibition in the Church Room and refreshments throughout the day. Everyone is very welcome!

Andy Brooks and Sarah Boothman Churchwardens

United Reformed Church

EVENTS REPORT

Sunday, 8th December – 10.00 am - Toy Service

New toys only this year, please. These will be brought to church to be received by our Minister, before the toys are then distributed to children by Social Services.

Sunday, 15th December – 10.00 am – Family Worship including Baptism

This service will include the baptism of Max Loveridge.

Tuesday, 17th December – 7.00 pm – Carols by Candlelight

This will be held in the church. The carols will be followed by coffee, tea, and mince pies. Come along and choose your favourite carol. Everyone welcome!

Wednesday, 25th December – 9.30 am – Christmas Day Service

This will be a short service, lasting approximately half an hour, and will be led by our Minister.

2020

Sunday, 19th January – Family Worship – 10.00 am – Charity Cheque Presentation

Our 2019 charity cheque will be presented during the services to representatives from our charity project for this year, Hampshire Search and Rescue.

For more details please contact

The Minister:

The Reverend Mike Perrott, MA - 01794 512163

The Church Secretary:

Shirley Smith - 01794 368447





Braishfield Primary School



The term is certainly in full swing!

Our Reception children have settled in very well to their first term at primary school. They have been working hard-developing their phonics skills to help them read, using conkers from the Rec to help them count and learning how to be kind, respectful and honest members of our community-reflecting our school citizenship values.

Our Year 1/2 children have been developing their story writing skills, reading a range of traditional tales and, as part of their history topic, learning about toys from the past. They have been exploring old toys hired from Hampshire History Resource Centre and comparing these with the toys they play with today. Rehearsals are in full flow for their Christmas production of 'The Inn-spectors' and the children are very excited to be performing for their families at Braishfield Social Club in December.

Year 3/4 have become 'history detectives' this term using their trip to Butser Ancient Farm to help investigate life during the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age. With a general election on the horizon, we felt it was important for the children to understand the role of Parliament and link this to their understanding of British values including democracy and the rule of law. The Year 3/4 children thought of a range of excellent questions and emailed these to Baroness Bull in the House of Lords. The children were very excited when they received a detailed reply answering all their questions.

The children in Year 5/6 thoroughly enjoyed their residential visit to the Eden Project in Cornwall. This provided a great opportunity for the children to learn about different ecosystems and the effects of pollution on the environment as well as developing independence by staying away from home with their friends. As part of their Geography curriculum, the children have been developing their map reading skills ready for their hike around the village when they will also be testing their survivorship skills through shelter building and fire making.

As a school, we were proud to take part in the Braishfield Remembrance Service with two pupils representing the school by laying wreaths at the village war memorial.



All in all, a busy term with lots of great learning!

Lou Rhodes, Headteacher

Braishfield Parish Council

This year has seen many volunteers assisting the Council on the Emergency Plan, Village Design Statement and Traffic Working Group. We are extremely grateful to these volunteers who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to all these forums.

We were delighted to be awarded a grant of £6,650 from SSE for the installation of a generator. Work on this will commence in January 2020.

We are updating the list of people who can help in the event of an emergency. If you can help or need help yourself, please let us know especially if your usual helper is away.

A few useful numbers:

Loss of Electricity

Phone 105 or SSE on 0800 783 8866

If you require special assistance call SSE on
0800 294 3259 to register for Priority Services

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

What next in 2020:

- We hope to celebrate the long-awaited completion of the Crook Hill footpath.
- The VDS group will continue working with TVBC and consult with residents to produce an updated Village Design Statement.
- The Traffic working group will continue working with Hampshire Highways taking forward the proposals for making our village a safer place.
- Our Emergency Plan will be filed with TVBC and Hampshire County Council.
- Work will start on having a generator in place by the Village Hall to be used in case of power outage for The Pantry, Village Hall and to assist residents in the village.
- We aim to improve our website to ensure information is available and up to date.

Any questions or in case of emergency, please contact:
Jane Bennett jane.bennett76@btinternet.com 01794 368109 or 07823 320910
or clerk@braishfield-pc.org
or any member of the council <https://braishfield-pc.org/the-council/>

With Season's greetings from the Braishfield Parish Council,

Cllr.Jane Bennett
Chairman of Braishfield Parish Council

Romsey Health Walks

arranged a Ramble in association with the BBC Countryfile for Children in Need. Over forty arrived to take part in three walks around the village of Braishfield. A great time was had by all, some wearing their Pudsey hats and ears. We finished up at The Village Pantry for Coffee and Cakes afterwards. A total of £350 raised for Children in Need.



Contd/.....

Health Walks are held every week throughout the Test Valley. They are free to join and free to take part. The Romsey health walk meets at The Comrades Club in the town at 11.00 on a Monday, except for 2nd Monday of the month when we have an away walk. All are welcome to join us. The Braishfield Health Walk is on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10.00am meeting at The Village Hall.

Alan Lord

Exquisite Chamber Music Wows Audience At All Saints' Church

A full audience assembled on the evening of Friday 11th October for a superb concert of chamber music at All Saints' Church.

The musicians were performing for the first time under the name of their new ensemble, the Archi del Mare Quintet, but they are all seasoned professionals. Ruth Rogers, first violin, has performed around the world and has been described by Musical Opinion as 'the finest of the younger generation of violinists'. Ruth is currently Leader of the London Mozart Players.

Kate Comberti, second violin, has performed with numerous orchestras from the Toronto Symphony to the London Sinfonietta and in London's West End, and also specialises in improvisation and contemporary music. Her husband Sebastian Comberti, cello, also has a diverse and distinguished career, appearing as principal cello and soloist with many of London's period ensemble groups such as the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the Hanover Band. He is principal cello with the London Mozart Players.

Sophie Renshaw, viola, is our local link, based in Winchester, and has performed for us on a number of occasions previously. This is all the more remarkable given her busy professional life playing with renowned orchestras and chamber ensembles, not to mention her academic career – Sophie is Professor of Viola and Chamber Music at RCS, Glasgow.

We were also privileged to have as second viola Sally Beamish, well-known as a contemporary composer whose music draws on a wide range of influences from jazz to Scottish traditional folk. She is currently composer-in-residence with the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields. Sally is a professional viola player and at our concert was both composer and performer. Her composition 'Epilogue', as Sally explained in her

introduction, draws on the tradition of the evening meeting 'epilogue' which ends many Quaker events. Based on a canon by the 16th century composer Thomas Tallis, the music conjured remarkable and atmospheric sonorities – to magical effect in the ambience of the church.

The concert had begun with Mozart's String Quintet in G minor, one of the composer's greatest chamber works. From the opening phrases it was clear that the audience was in for a treat: the mellifluous and warm playing had an immediate impact on all who were present and demonstrated how well these musicians know and understand each other musically. In the best tradition of chamber music, the effect was of a generous and intimate conversation between friends.



After a short interval the concert concluded with the String Quintet No 2, Op 111, by Brahms, continuing the exploration of the key of G (Sally Beamish's

'Epilogue' was also in G). It definitely sounds like late Brahms, with his characteristic bitter-sweet themes, although it ends with an energetic gypsy-style finale. This was a high note on which to finish the music-making, but the evening continued with convivial chat, the audience and players mingling over a glass of something and delicious nibbles, provided by Dorothy Ross.

As with all these 'occasional' concerts, we are very fortunate in Braishfield to have access to fine professional musicians who are prepared to bring their skills and love of music to our doorstep. These concerts are presented by BMADS, and we are grateful to Wendy Quarendon who once again took on the demanding role of impresario, organising the event with great dedication and aplomb.

Richard Groves



Christmas at the Pantry



A little tittle at Christmas?

The Pantry is stocking: Corner Fifty-Three gins; Berry Bros wines; local beers; and Chalkdown Cider. As well as plenty of flavoursome soft alternatives.



Free Range Turkeys and Gammon Joints

You can pre-order Free Range Turkeys from Noah's Ark Farm (New Milton) and (uncooked) gammon joints, as well as award winning sausages from Greenfield Pork.



Extra Pantry Opening – Saturdays 12-2pm from 7th December till Xmas

Late Night Shopping at the Pantry

Do join us at the Pantry on **Tuesday 19th November** for an evening of tempting goodies – including a pop-up tasting from our gin supplier – Corner Fifty-Three, wine tasting with Iain, beers, souffles, sausages and meat, jams, trout pate, mince pies & other nibbles. Plus, our Christmas stock and Christmas order forms.

So, pop along - **Open 5-8pm.**



Other goodies include:

- Seasonal Jams, Sauces & Chutneys
- Stocking fillers
- Chocolates, jellies and biscuits
- Festive Cheeses

Christmas Hampers

Choose the items you'd like to buy, see how they fit within a hamper and let Sharon create a beautiful gift for a loved one.





Christmas Opening at the Pantry



Saturday 21st	0900-1400	Closed
Sunday 22nd	Closed	Closed
Monday 23rd	0900-1200*	Closed
Christmas Eve	Closed	Closed
Christmas Day	Closed	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed	Closed
Friday 27th	0900-1200	Closed
Saturday 28th	0900-1200	Closed
Sunday 29th	Closed	Closed
Monday 30th	0900-1200	Closed
New Year's Eve	Closed	Closed
New Year's Day	Closed	Closed
Thursday 2nd January	0900-1200	Closed
Friday 3rd January	0900-1200	Closed
Saturday 4th January	0900-1200	Closed
Sunday 5th January	Closed	Closed
Monday 6th January	0900-1200	1400-1700

*Don't forget to collect up your pre-ordered Turkeys & Hams between 9am and 12 noon on Monday 23rd.

VILLAGE PANTRY UPDATE.....Christmas at the Pantry

It's been an exciting few weeks recently at the Pantry, with new suppliers and stock arriving –



- the amazing success of our very own Braishfield Bangers, made by Greenfield Pork, following a recipe designed by Sharon, means that stocks disappear almost as fast as they arrive!
- New House Game, with their range of venison, partridge and pheasant, is proving a hit with many of you
- a range of sweet and savoury items is newly available from Cotswold Fayre
- many zero waste products from Lemon and Jinja (established by Braishfield resident Jesse Dugdale)...reusable and refillable items, are on sale.... Many more goods will be appearing in 2020!
- an extensive selection of Christmas goodies is now in stock.....the Pantry is definitely the place to visit!!

Our recent Tasting Evening was a real success, with nearly £1,000 taken on the night!



– thank you to everyone who came and sampled souffles, stollen, gin, trout pate, meats and wines...and then shopped!

It was great to see so many people, with familiar and new faces always very welcome.

Congratulations to Hazel and Mike Prince who won the Hamper Raffle, which raised £87.

Christmas order forms for food and drink are in the Pantry, also opening times over the Christmas period.

Full details of stock are on the website – better still, pop in and see the full range for yourself!

Finally, during 2019, loose change from Pantry shopping contributed £114.18 for Hants/IOW Air Ambulance. Our charity for 2020 is 'Jumbulance', organised locally by Chris Chisholm. Let's hope we can be equally supportive for this wonderful organisation.



*All good wishes for
Christmas and 2020 from the Pantry Team*

BRAISHFIELD BANGERS - BEST IN COUNTRY!

On Monday 4th November, at an awards ceremony held at London's Hilton Hotel, Greenfield Pork Butchers were awarded the Champion of Champions Sausage for their Braishfield Banger!!

This is a prestigious award that butchers only dream of – not only were the Bangers the best in Hampshire but they are now the best in the UK and Ireland!

Greenfield Pork is a family run butchers in Andover and has been supplying Braishfield Pantry for 5 years: 3 years ago, the father and son team, Martin and Tom Martindale, asked the Pantry if it could come up with a local ingredient (other than pork) that could be added to a sausage. Honey is what was suggested - Braishfield Pantry's honey comes from Roselea Apiaries, Wellow but some of the bees are kept in Braishfield itself, so this made it very local. Whole grain mustard was added and the Braishfield Banger was born!

The Braishfield Banger is exclusive to the Pantry and cannot be purchased elsewhere.

In February, Greenfield Pork entered the Banger in the National Sausage and Pie competition, winning Best in Hampshire with 100/100 points. This accolade put the sausage forward to the Champion of Champions competition – Braishfield Pantry and Greenfield Pork are very proud to receive this title.

Even better to have now won the overall award! – many congratulations to all involved.....stocks selling fast from the Pantry!!

Sharon Fielding – Braishfield Pantry



'MURDER IN PLAY' A TRIUMPH FOR BMADS

Following a year's break, BMADS returned in cracking form for this autumn's production, a presentation of Simon Brett's clever and witty comedy whodunnit, *Murder in Play*, under the masterful direction of John Edwards and Wendy Quarendon.

The play follows the eventful course of a less-than-perfect professional acting company's attempt to put on a crime thriller, with the twist that halfway through the action a real murder is committed. Steve Day, returning from his BMADS debut two years ago, excelled as the louche, supposedly Russian director Boris – with accent to match – who attempts to keep the show on the road whilst trying his luck with the female actors.

The mounting jealousies and rivalries amongst the company were brilliantly delineated by the 'actors'. Kate Marshall as Boris's long-suffering wife Renee and Penny Brindle as former TV soap star Christa both did venomous rivalry with waspish

relish.

Meanwhile, Richard Clifton was characterful as Major Rodney Pirbright, a war veteran with a remarkable case of post-traumatic stress disorder, and, as actor Tim Fermor, rejected suitor of ingénue Ginette, now in the sights of lothario Boris. Ginette was played by Camilla Horton, in her acting debut, with great assurance and poise, alternating brilliantly, as did the rest of the cast, between her 'actor' role and her 'character' – in her case the brittle Lady Virginia. In the case of Mike Allen, the parts included name-dropping alcoholic actor Harrison Bracewell, Detective Inspector Delver (magnificently unable to remember who the murderer was), and sinister Greek Mr Papadopoulos – all played with great élan!

Following the despatch of Renee/Lady Cholmondley (Kate Marshall) at the dramatic end of Act 1, parts were recast and our actors had to take on new characters, whilst the search for the 'real' murderer proceeded. Crucial to this was the character of 'actor' Sophie Lawton, played by another BMADS newcomer Emma Merrills, whose adoption of her character(s) was remarkably convincing, with just the right balance of intelligence and steel in getting to the real culprit.

And who was that? None other than Pat, the much put-upon stage manager played by Elizabeth Templeman with a perfect mixture of self-effacement and bolshiness. The final reveal was a great coup, and all the better for stealing up on the audience unexpectedly.

As well as the excellent cast, BMADS was as ever served by outstanding backstage operations, which for this production included an effective exploding decanter and doors that wouldn't stop opening (until they didn't). Peter Quarendon, with Chip Mead, provided the handsome – and admirably malfunctioning – set, and Tom Greenwood masterminded the all-important special effects. Nicky Ayres, with Elizabeth Templeman, dressed the cast in murder-mystery-appropriate costumes, with a twist at the start of Act 2 when the characters turned to the audience: the costumes were the same but the actors had changed! The Templeman family, Malcolm Ayres, Meryl and Chris Balchin, Joan and Ron Hodges, Julie Kemp, Jill Briggs, Sally Yalden, Margaret O'Keeffe, Melanie Legge all provided further essential support without which no production can get off the ground. And this one not only did that – it soared, and audiences on both nights were warm in their approval. Just what was wanted on a grey November evening.

Richard Groves

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(Poonam, 10)



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Jumbulance

In early October we had a very meaningful pilgrimage to Lourdes with a group of VIPs (sick or disabled people) helpers, a doctor, nurse and a priest.

What a happy 9 days in the delightful, friendly Polish Convent in the hills on the edge of Lourdes, with several new faces and the food better than ever - incredibly generous with 3 course hot lunches and dinners. We had several travellers new to Lourdes and for once our own priest, Fr Giles, who was a wonderful spiritual leader, good company and a great raconteur and speaker of 6 languages. A few more VIPs would have been good but it wasn't to be – it gave more time to give to others, including the helpers as we all carry burdens.

We had glorious sunshine every day, 29* bar one and went out each day in the jumbulance to the main places connected to St Bernadette's life. Sunday morning early to the underground Basilica for the International mass, with the Torchlight procession in the evening. Monday we went to mass at Gedre in the mountains and Gavarnie where we had a picnic lunch. Tuesday saw us having mass at San Savan and later a walking tour in Lourdes which included the Parish church where Bernadette was baptised, the Cachot (prison) where the family lived at the time of the apparitions and the Boly Mill. On Wednesday we went to mass at Bartres and several then went in the Baths and afterwards the procession of the Blessed Sacrament (my favourite) Thursday we had mass at Betherram and a picnic lunch at the Lac du Lourdes with some last shopping and visits to the Grotto, lighting candles, watching the enormous National French pilgrims in procession, many in regional costumes. Friday we did the stations of the cross on site and had lunch before our last mass. The journey home always seems shorter as everyone is much more relaxed and slept well.

We are now planning next year – Oberammagau and Blackpool and always looking for younger nurses and helpers.

For more information please contact

Chris Chisholm 01794 368120 0788 774 8224 cookchrisr@aol.com
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Weekly Events

Monday Nights	- Free Pool
Wednesday Nights	- Fit Bit 7pm
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 available

Regular Events

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

Future Events

Sloe Gin Competition 12.00- 2.00 15th December (Sunday)

Christmas Draw and Karaoke Night with DJ Macca

21st December 2019

Xmas Eve Children's Celebrations 24th December 2019

Boxing Day open 12.00-6.00 26th December 2019

New Years Eve Disco Tickets available now

31st December 2019

Please see Club Notices for more details

MORE EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2020

Visit the club to find out more

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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:
9th, 23rd December

** Note: Christmas week is bank holiday collection*

Household waste weeks beginning:
2nd, 16th, 30th December

** Note: Christmas week is bank holiday collection*

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



Recycling Is Easy!

In Test Valley, we collect 5 types of recyclable materials from Rubbish News brown bin, and we have a network of more than 100 Local Recycling Centres to collect even more items! At home, you can put the following items in your brown recycling bin:

« Paper. « Cardboard « Plastic bottles « Tins and cans. « Aerosol cans

and you can take the following items to your Local Recycling Centre:

« Glass bottles and jars. « Textiles. « Aluminium foil. « Cartons
« Books and media

To find your nearest or most convenient Local Recycling Centre and to see what you can recycle there, use Recycle Now's Recycling Locator:

www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling

Brown Bin Recycling Tips

- « 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 the recycling guide:

www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingguide

Braishfield Village Diary

Regular Meetings	Where	Time	When	Next meetings		
Parish Council	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.00	1 st Tues	3 Dec	7 Jan	4 Feb
Village Lunch	Church Room	12.00	2 nd Mon excl. August	9 Dec	13 Jan	10 Feb
Horticultural Society	Comm. Room Village Hall	7.30	2 nd Tues excl. June/July/Aug	10 Dec	14 Jan	11 Feb
Flower Society	Church Room	7.30	4 th Thurs excl. Aug/Dec	-	AGM 23 Jan	27 Feb
Village Voices	Church Room	2 - 4	4 th Mon	23 Dec	27 Jan	24 Feb
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
BVA Christmas Singalong	Village Hall	10 December	5.30-7.00pm
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Please refer to www.braishfield.org or your Residents Guide for contact telephone no.s
Details to the BVN Editor or Web Editor if you would like dates of forthcoming events to be published

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