



BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 260
June 2023



King Charles III Coronation Day Big Lunch on the Rec

Distributed free of charge by the Braishfield Village Association
to the residents of Braishfield and the surrounding hamlets.
Available in colour on the BVA website: www.braishfield.org

Braishfield Village Association

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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 Distributor, on 368894.

Latest copy date for the next issue is: **Friday 21st July 2023**

Front cover: Alan Lord

Inside coronation photos: Alan Lord and Chris Balchin

From the Chair

As I sit writing this, we have had a week of beautifully sunny and warmer weather. Lets hope that this is the start of Summer! Talking of beautifully sunny weather, how lucky we were with warm blue skies for the Coronation Big Lunch. It was a fabulous turnout and the huge choice of goodies for lunch meant that there was something for everyone. Well done to Rev Tom and his team for a very well organised event.

The posters are now up around the village with full details of the BVA's Local Knowledge Quiz on 30th June. Do put the date in your diary and come along if you can. There are a limited number of tickets, so don't delay as you might just miss out. It promises to be a fun and light hearted event, you may even learn something!

Also coming up is the annual Flower Show. A lot of hard work goes into the organisation of this day, so again, if you are free, come along and support it. Why not submit an entry and see what happens? You never know, you may have a spot of beginners luck. The first time I entered, I won first prize for my roses so it does happen.

That's all for this edition. Time to get out into the garden and perfect those entries.....Not that I am at all competitive!

Bye for now , Julie

The Braishfield 200 Club

The lucky winners of our monthly draws for April and May are Margaret O'Keeffe and Dave Old. And we have made donations to the Jumbulance Trust and Hampshire Search and Rescue. We've had a very nice 'thank you' letter from the Search and Rescue charity saying we will have helped them to 'continue in helping Hampshire families in their desperate times surrounding missing family members'. We're as ever open to new members to join the Club. Do get in contact

*David Robinson, Tel 01794 368774,
email david.robinson1571@gmail.com..*

EDITORS NOTE:

Please send all items for the BVN by email: **BVNeditor@gmail.com**. All items for publication must show the name, address and contact number of the originator. Topics should be relevant to the village of Braishfield.

Letters

Dear Villagers

We would like to say a big thank you to everybody that came and supported Isabelle's lambing day.

The event was a huge success making over £1,000.00 for her trip.

Thank you

Ian, Kate, Isabelle and Lucy Knight

**DEADLINE
DATES FOR
BRAISHFIELD
VILLAGE NEWS
2023**

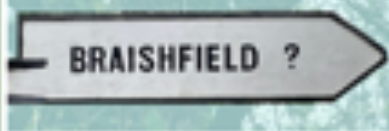
July 21 for AUG
Sept 22 for OCT
Nov 17 for DEC

Notices

Braishfield Ukelele Musical Society

As part of the Dementia Awareness Week in May we hosted a Sing Along in the All Saints' Church Room. This was well attended, it was great to see everyone joining in and singing together. We finished with Tea and Biscuits, giving us the chance to chat and meet with our visitors.

Our next Dementia Sing Along is on the 12th June, from 2.30 to 4.00pm. All are welcome, please tell anyone you know who may benefit, they will be made very welcome. Our bookings are now back to normal after COVID, singing and playing to various groups in the area, up until Christmas. If you would like any further information about booking or future events please get in touch with Jane at **jhldalton@hotmail.co.uk**



Now is your chance to have your say on the future of Braishfield

You will have noticed the survey distributed with this Braishfield News.

Please do read it and complete it, either on paper or online at BraishfieldNP.org/survey.

It is of great importance that we get as many completed replies as possible in order that our voice is heard loudly and clearly regarding development in the village now and in the future.

In Case of Emergency

Loss of Electricity - Phone 105 or SSE on 0800 072 7282
or report/ check a power cut

<https://powertrack.ssen.co.uk/powertrack>

If you require special assistance

call SSE on 0800 072 7282294 3259 to register for Priority Services

Water supply or wastewater emergencies, blocked drains or possible
pollution - Phone Southern Water on 0330 303 0368

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

Community Emergency Co-ordinator

Cllr Jane Bennett 01794 368109 or 07823 320910

Braishfield Village Association's Fundraising

**Who's
that?**

**When
was that?**

**Where's
that?**

**I didn't
know
that!**

Local Knowledge Quiz

Friday 30th June

7.00 for 7.30 In the Village Hall

Think you know your village?

Want to discover more about your village?

Come along and find out!

Teams of a maximum of 4 people

Tickets £15 per head to include a Ploughman's Supper.

Available from 22nd May

***Direct from Margaret O'Keeffe on 01794 368037 or
mt.okeeffe@icloud.com***

Or reserve at The Pantry

Bring your own liquid refreshment!

Local Knowledge Quiz

Friday 30 th June 7.00 for 7.30

The Braishfield Village Association is running a Local Knowledge Quiz with Ploughman's Supper. The quiz questions will all be about Braishfield and the immediate surrounding area. You will be able to work out many of the answers from the information given. Expect history, geography, organisation, photos and lots more. It will be a chance for newcomers to learn more about the village.

Teams will be a maximum of 4 people. If you want to participate and would like to get in touch with others to make up a team, please contact Margaret O'Keefe on 01794 368037.

You are encouraged to come up with a name for your team which reflects the local theme!

Tickets are required as the numbers in the hall are limited, and for the catering. All the information about getting tickets is on the poster opposite.

Carolyn Ward

* * * * *

PUDDING AND WINE EVENING

Wendy and Peter Quarendon are holding an evening of pudding and drinks with entertainments at Elm Grove Farm, on Saturday 24th June at 7pm to raise funds towards the All Saints Clock Tower Appeal. All are welcome. If you would like to come, please could you let us know by Saturday June 17 th so we can organise catering and seating.

We will not be charging, but donations to the Appeal will be gratefully received on the evening.

Wendy Quarendon
01794 368015 or wendy@quarendon.net

SARAH BOOTHMAN APPOINTMENT

You may be interested to know that Sarah Boothman churchwarden at All Saints, has recently been appointed an Honorary Canon to Winchester Cathedral in recognition of her long involvement with Winchester Diocese, particularly in the Romsey area. This is a three-year appointment – and she follows her father and grandfather in being given this honour.

WQ

RUN TO THE (MIDNIGHT) SUN



Rev Tom Benson is riding to the Arctic Circle to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK.



Tom
Benson's
JustGiving
Page



If you would like to make a donation, go to [JustGiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) and search for 'Tom Benson'. To hear more about the trip or alternative ways to donate, please give Tom a ring on 01794 368335.

Donations



We would like to thank all those who donate toward the cost of Braishfield Village News. We welcome any support you can give us to keep the magazine viable in 2023. This can be a ONE OFF PAYMENT or a MONTHLY STANDING ORDER. If you wish to make a donation please complete the slip below and send with your donation to:-

BVA Treasurer
Kate Marshall

I enclose £..... towards the running cost of the Braishfield Village News.

Name (please print)

Address.

.....

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, Kate Marshall, and she will send you one.



BRAISHFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Will hold the

ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

**On Saturday 15th July in Braishfield
Village Hall at 2pm**

All villagers are invited to enter as well as those of Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society and other village organisations, and village school pupils and their parents

**PHOTO COMPETITION - HIDDEN
TREASURE**

Show details will be available on the village website,
Braishfield.org

From June

Braishfield Parish Council

Chairman's Report on Braishfield Parish Council – May 2023

Introduction

It has been a year with quite a few changes.....

Peter Quarendon decided to resign as a Councillor but has joined the Neighbourhood Plan group. We welcomed Cllr Michael Stubbs who was co-opted during the year. After 4 years of serving on the Council, Cllr Sally Yalden did not seek re-election and neither did Carole Renvoize who has served for 17 years. I would like to thank all the Councillors for their work this year especially Carole for her huge contribution to our village over so many years. Sally was successful in the election as Borough Councillor for Ampfield and Braishfield taking over from Cllr Martin Hatley who after 25 years of service did not seek re-election. We thank Martin for his significant contribution to the Council and our village, and we wish Sally every success. Cllr Alan Dowden continues to represent Valley Park and Hampshire County Council and is a great help when we need a contact point.

Special thanks to Jane as Clerk who is a real asset to the Council. She has obtained her CILCA qualification and now works 10 hours a week.

The Council and the Village

We have many volunteers who support and have contributed to the success of working groups and social occasions.

Royal events

For our late Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, I represented the Council at the TVBC Civic Service in Romsey Abbey. Braishfield celebrated by having a service in All Saints' Church, and a party on the Recreation Ground on Sunday 5 June 2022 organised by the BVA, Social Contact Chair and the Parish Council.

On 15 March 2023, pupils from Braishfield School and Councillor Renvoize took part in the nationwide initiative to plant trees as part of the Queen's

Green Canopy in honour of the late Queen, and a field maple donated by Hillier Nurseries was planted in the Recreation Ground.

Sadly, Queen Elizabeth II died on 8 September. A letter of condolence was sent to King Charles III which was acknowledged by him from Buckingham Palace.

As a village we celebrated the King's Coronation on 7 May with a Service in the Village Hall followed by The Coronation Big Lunch.

Remembrance commemorations

In November we joined again with All Saints' Church and the United Reformed Church for the Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial with the event being organised by All Saints and the Council. We were pleased to have the Scouts, Guides, and Brownies represented.

The Remembrance Day commemorations were led by the Parish Council.

Carols on the Rec

In December, we organised Carols on the Rec with All Saints' church and the support of the Village Hall and The Pantry. We were pleased to have over 150 people attending with the Chandlers Ford BB Brass Band playing and the Happy Fryer serving fish and chips.

The sum of £307 was donated to Action for Children.

Flags

We are very grateful to Tim Howkins and Mike Knowles for raising and lowering the flags as agreed by the Council.

Communications

The Council website is the main communication point where all the latest information can be found. This not only includes meeting agendas and minutes but links to news, emergency numbers, policies and the Village Design Statement (VDS).

We work together with the Braishfield Village Association to share information in the Braishfield Village News and the Network, and at times Facebook.

Grants/ Contributions

We were very pleased to receive grants from:

Braishfield Village Association	Noticeboards	£1000.00
HCC	Play area	£500.00
TVBC	Play area	£22500.00
SSE	Resilience	£9687.80
Cllr Martin Hatley	VDS Printing	£200.00

In addition, we received £1500.53 from those who donated to the Play Area through Crowdfunding.

The Parish Council awarded grants/ contributions to:

Romsey Festival	£50
HCC for church directional sign Church)	£250 (shared cost with All Saints’
All Saints’ Church	£1200 - church clock - approved in the year; paid 2023/24 (other church grant for Burial Ground of £619.02 was not approved till April)

Planning

The Council continues to have a planning committee under the chairmanship of Cllr Richard Brazier who also continues to lead on the allocation of s106/ CIL money. We continue with site visits and review applications for both current and retrospective applications in line with the revised VDS which was adopted by TVBC in March 2022. In the last year we reviewed circa 50 applications.

The VDS is online and for the benefit of all villagers we are arranging for copies to be delivered to every household.

We again thank Jimmy Chestnutt and his team for all the work they have done for the benefit of the village.

In November 2021, a Neighbourhood Plan presentation was given by Sarah Hughes, TVBC to the Council and parishioners.

In June, we invited all residents to say whether or not they wished the

Council to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan. The consensus was that we should proceed and we are pleased to have Mark Sennitt as the Chairman of this group together with other volunteers. They are now at a stage where they require the views of parishioners to help inform the next steps in developing this Plan.

Roads, Highways, Footpaths and Notice Boards

We have ongoing concerns regarding the state of the roads and we ask that all residents report these problems to HCC. We are trying to establish what plans are in place for resurfacing, dealing with potholes and footpath finger posts which need to be repaired. We have recently made contact with the right people and will apply for funding for three gates on the Monarch's Way and the Malthouse.

As a result of the data collected during the traffic speed monitoring exercise, it was decided to invest in a movable speed signage system that is located at strategic points in the Village. This has been in place since August/ October 2022 and the results will be used to inform future action.

The Parish Council's large footpath map and flyers have encouraged walkers and in addition there are two groups set up by TVBC who regularly walk in Braishfield.

The refurbished Notice Boards are being regularly inspected and maintained.

Lengthsman Scheme

This scheme provides us with access to a handyman who can undertake minor tasks under our direction. This scheme continues to work well.

Climate Change

The group was set up working alongside the Council with regular meetings being held with other groups in the village and community.

The group continues to take forward litter picks, wildflower planting and the need for more dog bins.

Community Resilience

The emergency planning group includes the Parish Council and other volunteers from the wider community. Its focus is to respond to any emergency in the village whether caused by extreme weather or by failures of infrastructure. We have been attending Resilience meetings organised by TVBC which provide for excellent up to date information from various sources including SSE. We have been awarded another grant which we are ensuring meets the requirements of the village in the event of any incident which requires the plan to be invoked.

Recreation Ground

The Recreation Ground is one of the major responsibilities of the Council as sole trustee. We have continued to ensure that the trees, equipment and the car park are kept to a high standard thus satisfying health and safety regulations.

On 16 July we officially opened the Play Area after having received a grant from the Community Asset Fund and other contributions for the replacement of equipment and matting.

A new safety sign for the play area and three new signs for the Recreation Ground provide a reminder of guidelines for use of the Recreation Ground and also emphasise the Parish Council's role as sole trustee.

The Football Lease has been finalised and the income is now on stream; £827.00 has been paid for earlier years' dues.

The car park repairs are ongoing with the Council's aim of resurfacing the car park and replacing the fencing in the near future.

War Memorial

The Council is also sole trustee for the War Memorial and at the present time we have a surveyor regularly monitoring the movement of the memorial.

To sum up, there has been a lot going on in Braishfield and I would again like to express my thanks to everyone who has given of their time and support.

Cllr Jane Bennett, Chairman, Braishfield Parish Council

Our roads and footpaths in the Parish and beyond.

The Parish Council has been trying to establish what resurfacing / repairs are planned for the Parish and beyond in 2023/24.

You will see from the e mail below from Rob Nicholls, Assistant Highways Manager at HCC, nothing specific is scheduled.

Potholes repairs will continue but for this to be actioned all Parishioners are encouraged to use the link in the email below and report potholes. Alternatively you will find the link on the HCC or PC or Village websites.

Please use this facility as often as you can and suggest to others to do the same as the more reports registered the more likely the potholes will be prioritised.

Also I understand if a pothole damages your car you are more likely to get compensation from HCC for the repair if the pothole is registered with HCC.

We will keep you updated on any news from HCC on roadworks if possible.
Cllr Richard Brazier Braishfield Parish Council

The situation with highway maintenance budgets and programmes remains very fluid and anything I do report is liable to further change and therefore I'm reticent to commit to any specific works which we may not be able to fulfil at this time – hence the rather generic nature of my response below. Hopefully, the text below helps to explain our rationale and methods for defect identification and prioritisation, and selection of repair type if nothing else.

Highway Authorities have a legal duty under the Highways Act to maintain the public highway for all users. In common with most other authorities, the County Council discharges its duty, in part, by categorising any highway defect as either a safety defect or non-safety defect. This is generally based on defect dimensions or the degree of impact/risk. All safety defects will have a repair ordered automatically with the priority determined based on a severity v likelihood risk matrix. This is an established and robust process

and is recommended by the Code of Good Practice 'Well Managed Highway Infrastructure' (CoGP). The approach Hampshire takes has yielded good levels of highway safety.

Non-safety defects may or may not have repairs ordered and this can depend on a number of factors, including the availability of resources as well as other local work priorities. Whereas safety defects are ordered with a defined priority, non-safety defects are dealt with in a way to allow the maximum flexibility in timescales as this allows our works scheduling team to geographically group non-safety work together, thereby maximising efficiency and productivity.

There is no doubt that roads within Hampshire, and in fact across a large part of the UK have deteriorated significantly over the recent winter. You will hopefully appreciate the scale of the issue being faced in Hampshire when I say that during the October to February winter period HCC repaired as many potholes as they typically have in each of the previous 5 years. This increase is due, in part, to the weather experienced over this winter, with heavy rain and a high-water table at the start of the season followed by two extremely cold spells with sub-zero road surface temperatures. The other contributing factor to the increased number of potholes, is the reduced resilience of the network following more than a decade of reduced Local Government funding for the maintenance of local roads.

The County Council sets great importance on the condition of its highways, but it has one of the largest highway networks in England to maintain with over 5,000 miles of roads and over 3,000 miles of footways. Hampshire is not alone in having to make some very difficult choices between competing demands across its overall budget. Whilst there have been well publicised pressures on services like Adult Social Care and Children's Services, highway maintenance has been equally impacted and Hampshire is not unique in this regard. Our elected members have recognised the importance of Hampshire's highways and have invested additional locally sourced funding to try and reduce the decline in our road network. Whilst individual announcements by national Government of one-off funding for pothole repairs are welcomed, these in no way make up for the sustained reduced funding over many years. You may be interested to learn that inflation levels

for the bituminous materials commonly used for highway maintenance is approximately 30% for 2023/24 compared to the previous year.

All roads within Hampshire including those local to Braishfield, are subject to scheduled safety inspections at frequencies ranging from monthly to once every two years in accordance with the CoGP. Alongside this all reports received by members of the public are investigated via a site visit to ascertain the category of defect which has been reported. An engineer may investigate an enquiry and note a defect is present but not order a repair if it does not meet the criteria to be classed as a 'safety defect' due to a lack of budget and/or higher priority works taking precedence. To supplement our scheduled highway safety inspections, we positively encourage the reporting of new defects through our online reporting tool found at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance>. This is the most efficient and effective method of letting us about highway issues and means the report is logged automatically and can be assigned to the correct team with the minimum of delay. Reporting also assists with building a picture of the general condition of our road network and this data will be taken into consideration when annual planned maintenance programmes are formulated.

There is no doubt that the pressures on the highway service within Hampshire have been extremely high in the last several months and will likely have an impact for many months to come – even if no further significant periods of rainfall are experienced. We are utilising a combination of repair techniques and have deployed additional pothole repair resources but ultimately the rate at which potholes have been forming has been a struggle to keep up with and workloads are the highest in memory.

While our preference is to make permanent repairs on a 'right first time' basis, the unprecedented demand at present means that we are having to switch to increase the use of more rapid infill techniques. While we would expect the majority of these repairs to adequately address the short term problems, we are also very much aware that a certain percentage will require further works in future to make good. These infill repairs can include the use of cold material (typically viafix) in certain situations, but the majority should be completed with hot asphalt.

I acknowledge that each individual will have a view of what they consider 'dangerous' but Highways staff have set criteria to consider before a defect is deemed to be a safety defect. Staff undertaking these assessments undergo formal recognised initial and refresher training. Braishfield Parish Council are by no means alone in wishing for the condition of highways in the local area to be improved. Whilst the Highways team would like to be able to do this, demand will always outstrip available funding and therefore highway works need to be prioritised on a Countywide basis. Consequently, not every repair that is requested can be undertaken.

Regards, Rob Nicholls



A new island for the village pond.

The renewed duck house was launched on Coronation Day! It has a new platform similar to the original made by Roy White and should be large enough for ducks or moorhens to nest on and provide shelter for any ducklings.

Gavin Pearce did a good job making the Worzel Inn last year, so we left it the same apart from cosmetically changing the roof. Big thanks go to Ian Knight who carried the island round to the pond with his tractor and then anchored it. We couldn't have done it without him.

All we need now are some ducks!

Peter Quarendon

Braishfield Primary School

Greetings from Braishfield Primary School!



March

We really enjoyed Book Week! All week, we celebrated our love of reading through activities and learning. The highlight



was the dress up day on Friday, where so many inspired costumes were on offer. I especially loved the home-made, home-sourced costumes which had been cobbled together thoughtfully. Highlights for me included an inspired Danny, Champion of the World, complete with pheasants (not real ones, I hasten to add!), Enola Holmes and Frodo Baggins. Chances

to read together (including visits from parents/carers to class) were also special.

Members of the Eco Team took part in the nationwide initiative to plant trees in memoriam to honour Her Majesty. A Field Maple tree was donated by Hilliers Arboretum, to be planted on the Recreation Ground. The children were joined by Cllr Carole Renvoize, who took part in the planting and is retiring from the Parish Council after 17 years as a Councillor. All the Team helped fill the hole with soil and posed for a photo! The tree is a Field Maple, which are native trees that can survive for hundreds of years. They are underrated trees as they produce stunning leaves in autumn and attract lots of aphids, ladybird, moths, bees and birds.



April

On the gate one morning, a parent and I were discussing how blessed we and the

children are to be living in such a wonderful area. This parent had recently worked with children from a secondary school where things like farms, cows and country scenery are unheard of. This month, our Little Acorns walked through our gorgeous village, to Mrs Knight's farm to view, hold and feed the newly-born lambs- what a privilege! We must never take for granted all the wonderful things we enjoy and the experiences that our staff and community are able to give the children at Braishfield.

Jim Cascarini
Headteacher

Braishfield Horticultural Society

Our April meeting was much depleted in numbers due to the very inclement weather. However the speaker Martyn Cox braved the elements to talk to us on clever ways with vegetables. Martyn is a much respected garden journalist having once won Journalist of the Year, and has written 3 books on gardening. His theme was to get away from traditional vegetable growing in rows and dedicated vegetable plots. As such he gave us tips on growing many types of vegetables in pots, but the pots should be nice ones like terracotta, zinc or metal containers such as colanders with readymade holes for drainage. This makes us try different varieties such as ball or stump rooted carrots. Mixed salad leaves arranged in circles and runner bean Hestia which is suitable for a pot. A courgette called Black Forest can be used to climb a trellis and make for easy picking of the fruit. Coloured vegetables make a good show such as Chard Bright Lights, Courgette Soleil, Dwarf Bean Purple Queen and Chilli Pepper Festival. Small wigwams show off the plants and vertigarden trays for walls are useful if space is limited.



In May we welcomed a return visit of John Baker to give us a talk on Gardens of Russia. He visited us earlier with a talk on Hostas with his wife June. John and June had been invited to visit Russia to give talks on Hostas

as they are a much loved plant in Russia. The other Russian favourite was Day Lilies which can be found everywhere. Their hosts took them to many private gardens to view the various designs and planting schemes.

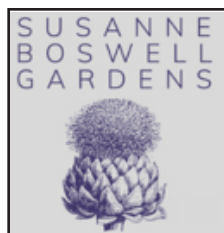
On the outskirts of Moscow are a myriad of Dachas (homes with gardens). The people live in Moscow during the week and come to their Dacha at the weekends. Hence the mass Moscow exit on Friday and entry again on Monday, clogging the roads. John and June's interpreter was called Anastasia and she had a wild garden as she collected wild plants to save from extinction. A beautiful park was made by Alexander I on the area of the Kremlin which was burned down by Napoleon.

John and June had to return to Russia to see St Petersburg as the garden visits had taken their allotted time in Moscow. They showed pictures of the Hermitage and all the fountains fed by the lake and the French Style Peterhof gardens not to mention the favourite Hostas one or two of which John and June had not come across.

GARDENING - JOBS FOR THIS MONTH

I LOVE YOU JUNE

We are pretty certain that no frost will sneak up on us in June so it's time to sit back, relax and enjoy watching everything grow and guess what we can finally start clipping our tender buxus hedges, the Choisya, the photinia the evergreen viburnums too.



With the buxus, make sure your tools are clean and sharp. You can buy special clippers for just this job. I will be using my new shears. You can use a bit of tarpaulin to catch the clippings because the tidying up after is the boring bit. Ideally clip when the weather is not too hot, not too cold and this will minimise the stress (that is for the plant and for you!). Shape the plants so that rain can fall off and not settle on top. Consider a shape that has a pointy top and slanted sides. Flick any settled clippings off the hedge so that they don't get caught up and restrict air flow because box needs a 'Princess' treatment. If you need to water the plants that are in a pot,

water from the bottom and in the morning or evening and avoid wetting the leaves. High humidity within the plant should be avoided.

Afterwards please feed. There are specific plant foods for box which is advised.

I have sprayed my roses – just as they are budding up. We can do this four times a year – and they should have their first feed – this is twice a year. Once just before the first flush and then just before the second flush later in the summer. I'll remind you when.

I am madly planting my herbaceous – it feels a bit late, but the spring has been so slow. Plants from the growers are still small but let's hope that June brings sunshine and warmth for them all to burst forth. I love coreopsis – there are ruby and mango colours to choose from, and Salvia Caradonna – pink and purples. Are we staying clear of penstemons because we lost them all this year? I love them so I'm giving them another chance – let's take cuttings later like we used to back in the day when plants were less available. I'm also going to try Eryngiums this year – these are sea hollies – they love hot and dry, have great structure and are a dazzling blue (or white) colour. No sign of my favourite Erigerons yet (different plant, different spelling)– amazing how they spread like a weed yet when you want them – nothing!

Last and not least is the great Chelsea Chop! Anything that grows too tall and is likely to flop at it's peak is to give them this. I nip sedums by half, asters, heleniums. My Agastache are still small so I'll leave them – you could chop golden rod and leucanthemums, sidalcea's perhaps; last year I cut the taller penstemons too. Don't be afraid. Some people advise to leave some and chop some on the same plant. I'm an all or nothing sort of girl, so I do it all! You choose.

Remember to keep your secateurs and shears sharp and clean and you won't go too far wrong!

Happy June, Happy gardening.

SUSANNE BOSWELL, THYME IN THE GARDEN

KING CHARLES III CORONATION LUNCH





Braishfield Pantry

NEWS FROM THE PANTRY



At last the warmer weather has arrived and our outside furniture has returned. It's great to see our customers enjoying their coffee/tea and cake outside, we will soon be stocking up on ice cream too.

As some of you know we are no longer able to stock our very popular trout pate from New Forest Smokery due to them concentrating on restaurants and market sales. We have however sourced another local supplier from Downtown, Salisbury - they also make salmon pate as well as trout pate, come and try some!.

The pantry looked great for the coronation celebrations and along with some lovely coronation goodies we also offered the 'King Charles vegetarian quiche', along with Sharons own coronation chicken quiche, both proved very popular.

Quiches are now available every day.

We are very proud once again to be awarded a 5 star rating from Test Valley Environmental health, we could not have achieved this without our great pantry team who give up their time to make it what it is.

As we know you are all aware of the huge price increases on food products, we have tried to keep our prices as low as possible but the cost of living crisis is also hitting us hard, please support us as much as you can, we are here for you all.

Any new volunteers always welcome just pop in the shop and have a chat.

The Pantry team

Braishfield United Reformed Church

While Braishfield didn't have its own service on Sunday 7th May, the church was beautifully decorated to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III. Many thanks to all helpers.

It was lovely to catch up with friends from All Saints Parish Church and enjoy a 45 minutes service with them in the Village Hall. Everyone was in good voice. It was lovely to sing I Vow To Thee, My Country, Jerusalem, and Praise My Soul The King of Heaven amongst others. We were still in good voice for the National Anthem too!

After the joint service, there was a toast to His Majesty on the Recreation Ground followed by a bring your own picnic lunch or to share in a communal lunch around tables.



What was nice was the sun came out as the lunch was starting. I hope a few "thank you" prayers were said for that given Coronation Day was damp to put it mildly! The weather wasn't great for the late Queen's Coronation in 1953, so maybe this is another British tradition upheld!

In other news, Allison Symes will be ordained and inducted as an Elder at Braishfield during our service on 21st May which will include Holy Communion. All are welcome at the service which starts at 10.00 am. There will be tea and coffee afterwards.

We also have a Favourite Hymns service coming up on 9th July. Do make a note of that for your diary. We would love to see you there (and hear you of course!).

For more details please contact:-

The Minister: The Reverend Mike Perrott, MA - 01794 512163
Church Secretary/Elder: Shirley Smith - 01794 368447
Elder: Allison Symes – 02380 262803



All Saints' Church

Dates for your diary

Social events

Saturday 24th June A wine, pudding and evening of entertainment at Elm Grove.

Saturday 19th August BBQ in the Church car park

Saturday 30th September Harvest Supper in the Church Room

Friday 22nd December Carols on the Rec

We do hope you can join us!

More information: www.asbchurch.org or contact Jane Bennett on 01794 368109



The Clock Tower Renovation



We are delighted and grateful that so many people have made donations – over 40 individuals or families to date. We have just been awarded a grant of £1,000 from a small charity which sponsors clock repairs, and with the other promised grants and all the kind donations we are now within £4,500 of our total.

It's not too late to be involved with the renovation work: there are pamphlets with details in the church

and links to the information on

www.asbchurch.org A few numbers on the clock face remain available for sponsorship as we make our last drive for funds.

On current estimates the work should be carried out late summer/early

autumn, and we hope to be giving thanks for all that has been achieved through our corporate efforts at our All Saints' Day celebration at the beginning of November when we will dedicate the completed project in thanksgiving for the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth II and to mark the coronation of King Charles III. Everyone will be invited!

From Rev Tom.....

Hello everyone,

Welcome to summer! It certainly looks like being a busy one across our communities with weddings, baptisms and fetes galore. Since moving here, I have found this community a great place to live and count myself very fortunate to have landed here and this was so wonderfully demonstrated in the village celebrations over the coronation weekend. So thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen and everyone who came along to support it.

A huge part of the celebration was the shared lunch and that made me reflect on the importance of 'family', whether it be our biological family, our family of friends and neighbours, or our church family. Because within a family, as in the rest of life, we need to be rooted in love if we are to flourish. To be rooted in love means that we care for each other, we are gentle with each other, we are kind. This does not mean that we will never disagree or even feel irritated by each other—but equally it means that we don't bully each other or allow ourselves to be cruel to each other in our disagreements.

I am reminded again and again that as 1 Corinthians 13 tells us 'If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.'

So often in life I find that when things are tough it is only the grace of God that has seen me through and our common life here in these parishes is no

different. So I pray that whatever the future holds for us we never lose sight of the fact that with our lives fully committed to God, with the love of our fellow human beings at our centre and in the power of the Spirit there is always a way forward.

God Bless and have a happy and joyous summer.

Tom

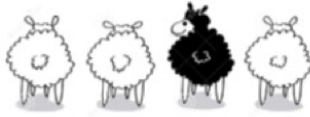


Andover Crisis and Support Centre, which has been helping local survivors of domestic and sexual abuse move forward with their lives since 1975, has today announced it is changing its name to reflect the broader range of services it now offers.

Finding Freedom From Abuse operates across the entire Test Valley region and provides a range of services and programmes that offer emotional and practical support.

For more information about Finding Freedom From Abuse, please visit www.findingfreedom.org.uk or email enquiries@findingfreedom.org.uk or call 03332 422 055

Sheep Matter at Elm Grove



Lambing has come and gone. The first few came before the due date and the last one was weeks later. Kate is very pleased with the result and ended up with only three that had to be bottle-fed, which does make life so much easier for the shepherd! With only two teats it is fairly unusual for a ewe to successfully feed more than two lambs. This year there was a good number of Lleyn females born which will help Kate build up her flock of Lleyns; being home bred makes them special.

The Open morning that Kate and family put on during lambing was great; the day before Kate was concerned that there would be nothing for people to see as it was very quiet on the lambing front. She needn't have worried; quads were born in the night, one of which was rather frail, but after most of the night in a plastic bucket lined with straw and next to the hot tank, life was clung on to and that lamb is one of the bottle-feds, doing very well. Then, during the morning much to the delight of on-lookers, twins arrived with a helping hand from Kate; a loud cheer and clapping gave away the fact that birth had been successfully achieved.

The importance of scanning was highlighted by the arrival of a single lamb, delivered by Lucy. Marked as expecting twins, the ewe had been given extra nutrition to be able to cope with two lambs, but delivery produced one only, an enormous lamb at 8 kilogrammes! Delivered safely by Lucy; there could have been problems; the thought is that she probably lost one lamb during pregnancy. The extra rations had undoubtedly been thoroughly enjoyed! So now Kate is watching over the flock, monitoring progress and dealing with problems as they arise. The lambs are happily playing together, still feeding on milk from their mothers, who spend most of their time eating grass; let's hope there isn't a drought this year so that their supply continues to be plentiful.

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Our Spring Reunion Lunch at Poppies with a morning meeting in the Ice Cream parlour was well attended and enjoyed after the dreary winter months and a welcome catch up with everyone to sort out some of the 2023 holiday details.

We now have a series of free Day trips coming up in June – some from W.Berkshire that we have specific funding for various organisations – All full.

Mon 19th the I can do Club in Theale, W.Berks to the seaside at Lee on Solent starting in Theale

Tues 20th MS Society Newbury and W.Berks to Beaulieu Motor Museum etc in memory of Dick Kennedy .starting in Newbury

Thursday 22nd British Legion Veterans Newbury W. Berks to Blenheim Palace starting in Newbury .

Friday 23rd Fryers House Leonard Cheshire Home Romsey Beaulieu Motor Museum and Palace.

Sadly the day trip for the local Braishfield Social Contact group on Wed 21st June has been cancelled because of lack of interest which was disappointing.

On **June 18th** we have a thank you lunch for all the Volunteer helpers and nurses and a chance to get the DBS checks done and some training for new volunteers.

In **July** we are off to the Manor House Hotel on Dartmoor near Okehampton for an 8 day holiday. A new venue for us with 2 days of individual Crafts and gentle sports ie Bowls, 10 pin bowling and Archery and swimming at our base and 4 days out to various places. This holiday is already full.

On **August 5th** our Reunion Summer Lunch and tea at Oakfield.

In **September** our 7 day holiday to another new venue, the Northgate Hotel at Buckfast Abbey, Buckfastleigh in Devon with a Quiet Retreat day at the Abbey and 4 day trips. Currently we have just one VIP / Disabled persons place left on this holiday.

We are always looking for new volunteers and Disabled or frail people who need a

supported holiday.

For more information please contact Chris Chisholm

Home 01794 368120 Mob 0788 774 8224 cookchris@aol.com

Social Contact Group



There were 20 of us who visited The Montfort Restaurant at Stanbridge Earls for afternoon tea in the beautiful panelled restaurant. As this was just a few days after the Coronation we were all still in a Coronation Celebratory mood. Everyone had watched the entire ceremony and conversation was soon in full flow discussing the music and pageantry and everyone agreed that no other country 'could do it better'. It was therefore appropriate that we all stood and raised our cups of tea to cheer King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Following our own personal tribute we all enjoyed a delicious tea and were really well looked after.

Our next event is a cream tea in June in The Rectory Garden by kind invitation of our Rev. Tom & his lovely wife, Maryanne. Whilst we are hoping for a sunny day we have gazebos on standby – just in case!

Please don't feel lonely at home, if you would like to join our friendly group you would be most welcome, just contact me on 368339.

BRAISHFIELD SOCIAL CLUB

**opening hours: Monday, Wed, Thurs, Fri 7pm-11pm
Sat 7pm-11.30pm, Sun 12.00noon-4pm & 7pm-10pm
Closed Tuesdays**

Weekly Events

Friday Nights - Quiz every fortnight
Saturday Nights - Meat Draw
Sunday Nights - Bingo

We also have Pigeon Club, Dart and Crib Teams,
Snooker Room available. **We no longer have a skittle alley**

Regular Events

Quiz Nights - held fortnightly on Friday Nights
Bingo Every Sunday Evening

Future Events

Karaoke, Race Nights, Music Evenings – we usually try to put on
some entertainment on a Saturday evening although it may not be
listed here.

21st May 2023 Monthly Motorbike Meet
1st July 2023 (New date) Garden Party & Gin Tent 2pm onwards
16th July 2023 Monthly Motorbike Meet

Please see Club Notices for more details

MORE EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2023

Visit the club to find out more

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birthdays, wedding receptions, christenings, wakes etc.**

The village wheelchair has become unsafe for use so is no longer
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24th June
 29th July
 26th August

Romsey Town Hall Market
 & Community Cafe
 2nd & 4th Friday of a Month
 10.30 - 12.30

9th & 23rd June
 14th & 28th July
 8th & 22nd September
 13th & 27th October
 10th November
 1st, 8th, 15th December

30th September
 28th October
 25th November

Romsey Market at
 The Corn Exchange
 1st Saturday of a Month
 8.30 - 3.00

3rd June
 1st July
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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:

5th and 19th June

3rd, 17th and 31st July

Household waste weeks beginning:

12th and 26th June

10th and 24th July

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



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