



BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 265
April 2024



Sheep movements on Paynes Hay Road

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

COMMITTEE 2024

CHAIR Vice Chair	JULIE KEMP Wendy Dolby-Stevens	368894 368119
Treasurer	Kate Marshall	07775 886152
Secretary	Jill Briggs	367874
BVN Editor	Wendy Dolby-Stevens	368119
Distributor	Julie Kemp	368894
Website	Carolyn Ward	368852
Welfare	Margaret O'Keeffe	368037
Committee members	Ian Jeffery Chris Wyers	367282 07901 677160

COMMUNICATIONS and BOOKINGS

Website	www.braishfield.org 368852	Carolyn Ward
Parish Council	www.braishfield.org 07902 297004	Jane Ray
Church Room	BraishfieldChurchRoom@ googlemail.com 368015	Wendy Quarendon
Email Network	braishfieldnetwork@gmail.com	Lorna Dolby-Stevens
Residents Forum	Facebook	Ben Holdaway
Village Hall	katel.knight@googlemail.com	Kate Knight

This magazine is produced by Braishfield Village Association and the Editor reserves the right to elaborate, withhold or abridge material as space permits. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor or the committee. Any form of reproducing or copying of this publication requires the prior written permission of the Editor.

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 24 May 2024**

Front cover: *Jill Briggs*

From the Chair

With this edition of the BVN you should have received an updated version of the Residents Guide. For those of you that are new to the Village, it will give you an idea of just what goes on in this thriving Community. Hopefully you will find a group or club that appeals and will give it a go!

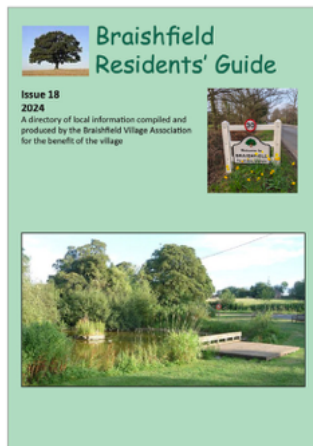
My thanks go to the BVA Committee members for helping with the research, but I must make a special mention of our Editor, Wendy, who spent many hours compiling version after version of this Guide until the Committee were satisfied that it was correct, before being sent to print. It was a long and arduous task for Wendy, so I do hope that newcomers and longstanding residents alike find it useful.

I hope you have seen the colourful back page of this edition advertising our Murder Mystery evening. I know that rehearsals are in full swing, but BMADS are keeping details very close to their chest so as to avoid any spoilers. A leak would be very disappointing indeed!

Catering is being organised and supplied by Braishfield's very own Mary Berry aka Sharon Fielding, so that in itself should be enough to persuade you to get a group together and come along.

Hope to see you there!

Bye for now , Julie.



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.

PLEA FROM BRAISHFIELD SCHOOL

We would love some volunteers from the village to help with listening to children read in school. If anyone from the village is interested, please could they contact

adminoffice@braishfield.hants.sch.uk

ALL SAINTS CHURCHYARD

We are always looking for more volunteers to join our merry gang of Mowers to cut the grass during the summer months. Not too onerous - just 2 sessions in pairs during the season to cut either the South or the North areas.

Mowing machines provided.

Any one interested do contact me directly.

You will be most welcome. Full instructions given.

Richard Brazier

368414. rdbrazier@hotmail.com.

The BVA was delighted to receive a Councillor Community Grant from Test Valley Borough Council to help fund the printing costs for the newly updated

Braishfield Residents Guide. We would like to thank Councillor Sally Yalden for steering us towards the grant and supporting the application, and Louisa Rice, Community Engagement Officer at Test Valley Borough Council, for her help with the application process. You should receive the Guide with this issue of the Village News. We hope you find it useful!



Notices



Keep up to date

Facebook and twitter are a great way to keep in touch and up to date with your local neighbourhood team. Follow us on:

Facebook: Test Valley Cops

Twitter: @TestVlyRuralPol

Hampshire Alerts is a free messaging service keeping you up to date with events and incidents via www.hampshirealert.co.uk

**DEADLINE DATES
FOR
BRAISHFIELD
VILLAGE NEWS
2024**

May 24 for JUN
July 19 for AUG
Sep 20 for OCT
Nov 22 for DEC

Braishfield Village Voices.....



Gardening, walking, singing, being outside, meeting up with friends - all these activities need to be on the NHS to help us keep fit, healthy and happy!

Village Voices can answer for two of these, so please come and join us on any or all of the following dates - usually the **4th Monday** in the month in the **Church Room 2 -4pm.**

APRIL 22 / MAY tbc / JUNE 24 / JULY 22 / AUG 19

There's plenty of songs of many varieties, lots of good humour and with absolutely no musical/singing training needed.

We sing together for fun, with an all-important break for refreshments and chat, partway through the afternoon.

Please contact Meri 368516 / Wendy 368015 for further details



“DYING FOR A LEEK”

A Murder Mystery evening
presented by the BVA and BMADS

Saturday 18th May.

7pm for 7.30pm.

Braishfield Village Hall.



BMADS are already hard at work practicing to deceive, mislead and murder!
The scullduggery takes place at a committee meeting of the Snogley And
District Gardners In The Shire (SADGITS) gardening club, located in a small
village which bears a startling resemblance to Braishfield. Can you solve the
murder before sharp-as-a-tack Detective Inspector Chris Anthemum?

Tickets are priced at £15 (in aid of BVA funds) and are available from 2nd
April from Margaret O’Keeffe on 01794 368037 or mt.okeeffe@icloud.com.
There is also a sheet in The Pantry for you to reserve your tickets.

The ticket price includes a two course supper, and a welcome drink on
arrival. We are delighted that Sharon Fielding has agreed to cater the
event, and will be serving her famous quiche (leek of course!), followed by
strawberries and cream.

We would encourage teams of 6, but please do not be put off if you do not
have a full team – just let Margaret know and we can help find you one!

A bar selling a selection of beer, wine and soft drinks will be available, and
there will also be a raffle. For the comfort of the actors and other audience
members, we would politely request that you do not bring your own drink on
this occasion.

Do come along and support your local drama society and village association!

ROMSEY 5 MILE BEER RACE

2nd June 2024 (now sold out)



ROMSEY ROAD RUNNERS will be holding their annual 5 mile road race on Sunday 2 June 2024. The race will start at 10.00am at Braishfield cricket ground and finish at the recreation ground.

The route passes through Braishfield (Dummers Road, Braishfield Road, Paynes Hay Road, Lower Street, Kiln Lane and Newport Lane) and the race organisers hope that you will not be too inconvenienced; the route will be signposted and marshalled. Up to 400 runners will be involved, taking about an hour to complete the course.

It would be much appreciated by Romsey Road Runners and the participants if you could keep the roads clear whilst the race is in progress.

There will also be a free 1km fun run for children aged 4-14 years which will take place at the recreation ground at approx. 11.45am. Registrations on the day from 10.15am at the recreation ground.

We are delighted that The Braishfield Village Pantry will also be open during the morning of the race.

We would once again like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the residents of Braishfield for helping this event to continue to be a popular and enjoyable occasion for all concerned.

If you have any questions, please email our race director:
beerrace@romseyroadrunners.co.uk

Health Walks in the Test Valley,

Do you fancy walking for an hour around the beautiful Test Valley? The Health Walks run by Test Valley are open to all and with a bonus they are all free to take part in. You just have to register once with Test Valley and then you are able to take part in any walk in the area.

healthwalks@testvalley.gov.uk or phone 01264 368000.

The Health Walks cater for all abilities, whether you are a fast/medium or a slow walker, perhaps getting over surgery and wanting to exercise regularly. They are an excellent social occasion for getting to know new people and groups and you will be made welcome. Each walk is led by a qualified leader and all walks are risk assessed.

You have the choice of meeting on a Monday with the Romsey walks, Tuesday on the Braishfield, Wednesday on the Wellow, Thursday on the North Baddesley, Friday on the Stockbridge and Saturday on the Valley park. Further details on the above email or Telephone.

You will find paths and areas that will be a new discovery and experience.



All Saints Church Car Park

When I was growing up the land immediately behind the Church Room was a well-tended vegetable garden. About 60 years ago, when car ownership was increasing, the then PCC decided to make a wider entrance off Church Lane, adjacent to the churchyard hedge, and use the area instead as a car park. In the fullness of time this offered insufficient space for the number of cars wishing to park for Church services and events in the Church Room, so extra land was purchased, some to be an extension to the graveyard and some to be an extension to the carpark. It was not the intention that this car park extension be used regularly. When cars were smaller and fewer people drove, the main area at the back of the Church Room was completely sufficient for most needs. The lower section was occasionally opened up as an overflow area. Now the lower car park is used on a more frequent basis.

Since it was renovated 15 years ago the Church Room has been in regular use during the week, and the car park is a great asset for hirers. It is also used frequently by people coming to visit the church, attend services and tend graves. These are the purposes for which the car park is provided and maintained by the church.

Finding somewhere safe to park is difficult in an area with narrow lanes. We understand that some like to leave their car while they go for a walk, and we are happy that they do this, provided the parking isn't needed for another event, but we would like to remind everyone that this is a privately owned car park. If for a particular reason you would like to leave a car or more than one perhaps overnight because you have several visitors and insufficient parking at home, please ask first! We will agree if at all possible and let you know the best place to leave your vehicle. Contact Sarah Boothman 01794 368143 or Jane Bennett 01794 368109.

Frequent users will be aware that areas of the car park are currently in need of substantial repair. This will have to be paid for by the church and we will be addressing the funding of this work over the coming months.

Sarah Boothman, Churchwarden All Saints



BRAISHFIELD GARDEN CLUB

Will hold the

THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

Saturday 20th July 2024

At Braishfield Village Hall at 2pm

Please come along and support your local event

All Garden Club and Flower Club members along with village residents
are eligible to take part

Photographic competition – ‘Chilling Out’
and
Plant or flower photo



The Braishfield 200 Club

Every month we make a donation to a charity or 'good cause', and usually we get a nice letter of thanks in return. December's cheque went to ServeDirect, the charity established by Elspeth and Jerry Dugdale to provide education in Uganda. Their 'thank you' went a little further than most, and I'm reproducing an excerpt here, to give a warm glow to all those of who contribute each month to the draw.

"Thank you so much for the lovely donation for ServeDirect from the Braishfield 200 Club. We remain so grateful that you have included us again in your giving. We have been sop touched by the kindness and generosity of so many in recent months, which enables us to do so much more in developing our literacy projects over the next year.

*Firstly we will be able to supply and stock the Mobile Libraries in Gulu in northern Uganda (plus provide specific training to use them well, so that the work is even more effective and longlasting). Secondly we will be adding many more books into the school library at Wobulenzi Town Academy (the secondary school, where we work) to help boost students' interest, research skills and develop everyone's reading culture/love of reading. We are just so grateful to everyone who took part – thank you so much again to all of you.
Elspeth and Jerry."*

Maybe this will inspire you to join the monthly draw. We raise just over £300 a month and give 60% of it to good causes and charities, especially if they have some village connection. And the other 40% goes out as a cash prize. Our winners in February and March are Graham Bennett and Margaret O'Keeffe, and we've made donations to the 1st Braishfield Guides, and the village's Social Contact Group.

David Robinson. (You can find me at Windmill Cottage, or phone 368774 if you would like to join us.)

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

BADDESLEY DIVISION COUNTY COUNCILLORS 2024/25 report

Hampshire County Council Tax will rise this year by almost 5%. Band “ D “ Council Tax rising to £1,533.24p, an increase of £72.99.

The Council tax overall raising £826m.354k. The Adult Social Care Revenue budget will gain 2% additional funding from this Council Tax increase, although with ever increasing demands, it remains insufficient.

Hampshire’s financial position is now very bleak indeed and the Council are now embarking on a comprehensive review to attempt to find further potential service reductions, as current savings proposals will fall short of the level needed. I did forecast this outcome in my last two County Councillor’s annual reports.

The County Council are holding consultations to find further service reductions to address a gap of another £132 million.

Our Highways have suffered neglect over many years and potholes have caused serious damage to vehicles. Along with flash flooding of our highways through inadequate drainage systems. At the Annual General Meeting of the Full Council, I asked the question of “ How, much compensation has the County Council paid out in the last twelve months to motorists using Hampshire’s roads causing damage to their vehicle from pothole damage.” The response was £180K. I also asked, what percentage of those who claimed gained any compensation at all. It turns out that only 218 motorists have gained compensation out of 1597 claims and 1081 have been denied compensation and a further 298 are yet still to be decided.

I serve on the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee and was a member of a panel required to review seven Care Homes, that do not currently meet the Care Quality Commission standard. Some will be upgraded, and some closed to provide £173m of Capital Investment to build new homes to meet those with complex needs.

I was happy to once again to support the Braishfield Bees football club with a grant from my community, grant allocation. The Braishfield Bees are a well-run club carried out by volunteers, offering activities for young people it is a valuable and appreciated service to the community. I also had a pleasant day last year visiting Braishfield School and was shown around the school by the headteacher. I was pleased to see this well-designed building. My first goal as a County Councillor was to gain the Capital Investment that all the schools in my division needed. I am so

pleased that I was able to achieve that aim.

HCC Cllr Alan Dowden

Report from Cllr Sally Yalden, Borough Councillor

Spring is probably my favourite season with the welcome sight of daffodils, primroses, and lesser celandine on our verges. Since the Second World War, Britain has lost 97% of its wildflower meadows. That's why our verges with spring flowers are so important.

You may recall that in my last update I had written to the Minister for Roads and Local Transport about the state of the roads. I eventually received a somewhat trite reply to say that 'capital funding had been made available for local highway maintenance'...clearly not enough judging the ongoing state of our lanes and the surrounding road networks! Please do continue to report potholes. Highways is a matter for the County Council, but you can report them online at www.hants.gov.uk.

In the last edition of the BVN, there was a helpful letter from Chris Balchin to remind us about the proposed closure of the Bunny Lane recycling centre. I also wrote a report in objection to the closure and to set out my reasons in detail for saving it. It also got coverage in the Romsey Advertiser. The parish council has also sent in their objections.

At the full Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) council meeting on the 29th of March, I was allowed to ask a question and supplementary question to the Portfolio Holder on Recycling and Environmental Services. I asked if TVBC might support any improvements needed to keep Bunny Lane centre open if Hampshire County Council decided to close it. He reported that the consultation is still live and under review, but noted my question.

Talking of fly-tipping, TVBC have been successful in catching and fining some more local offenders. The council officers who investigate these matters are proactive and continue to carry out some great investigative work.

The draft Local Plan 2040 public consultation closes on the 2nd of April at noon. Braishfield Parish Council has provided their comments and raised some concerns. Residents may have also noticed the recent application for 309 dwellings for the land south of Ganger Farm at Kings Chase. There were 102 comments and objections when I last looked at the planning portal. I am keeping a close eye on it as it will obviously have an impact on us.

Finally, a quick fact about the ward of Ampfield & Braishfield...did you know that the largest sector employing people in our area is health and social work, followed by wholesale and retail trade?

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Easter!

Cllr Sally Yalden

CllrSYalden@testvalley.gov.uk

Braishfield Parish Council

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

Trees in the Village

What is a Tree Preservation Order?

An order that prohibits the:

- Cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage and destruction of trees without the written consent of the Local Planning Authority.
- If consent is given, it can be subject to conditions which have to be followed.
- The cutting of roots is also a prohibited activity and requires the authority's consent.

A Tree Preservation Order is made when a tree or trees are:

- Under threat
- Sound, stable and healthy
- Of public amenity value

If you live in the Conservation Area:

- Notice to the LPA is required for works to trees that have a diameter of more than 75mm when measured at 1.5m above ground level
- Notice must be given regardless of species Conifer, Cypress, Broadleaved, native or introduced. All trees, irrespective of age, origin, or species
- People are not required to submit a section 211 notice to the local planning authority for:
- The cutting down, topping or lopping or uprooting of a tree whose diameter does not exceed 75 millimetres. Note that 75mm is about the same diameter as an average mug; or
- The cutting down or uprooting of a tree, whose diameter does not exceed 100 millimetres, for the sole purpose of improving the growth of other trees (e.g. thinning as part of forestry operations).

Lots of useful information can be found here:

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/treesandlandscape/trees> including the Tree Preservation Order register.

Social Contact Group

We started the New Year with a fish & chip lunch in the Church Rooms followed by a fascinating talk from Ricky Dorlay. Several of our Members knew Ricky but had no idea how interesting his life has been. Ricky's talk illustrated the start of his career as a herdsman which finally concluded as a Master Plantsman for Hilliers. Ricky's incredible plantsman's skills helped in the success of Hilliers achieving 51 Gold Medals at Chelsea. We all enjoyed looking at his photos of behind the scenes at both Chelsea and 3 Royal Weddings at Windsor and we were delighted that both Ricky and his wife were able to join us.

As a group we have been extremely fortunate to receive two very generous donations to our funds. The first was a contribution from



Romsey & Chandlers Ford Round Table's Santa Dash. During the presentation in Crosfield Hall, the Chairman introduced our Social Contact Group as particularly unique and Round Table have great pleasure in supporting us. With so many other worthwhile local charities at the event we greatly appreciate their continued interest and generosity.

Our second donation was from the 200 Club where once again, their donations to us make a huge difference and we all send our thanks for their continued support.

A trip to Longstock Park & Cafe was our most recent outing which enabled the 19 of us to see and appreciate the daffodils in bloom along the drive. It was a busy morning in the cafe but we were so well looked after by a lovely young lady and with 19 different menu choices the staff were kept busy. Yet again, it was an occasion when no-one wanted to leave. I've since heard from one of the Cafe Managers that we were 'an absolute joy to serve and please come back next year' . A lovely comment to end with and a promise that we will return.

We've other trips already planned for this year so if you would like to join us , please give me a ring on **368339**, you would be most welcome.

Hazel Prince



Braishfield Pantry

This month is the last in our trading year and even though we have a few days to go I think it's fair to say that thanks to the tremendous help of all the volunteers who give up their precious time and the villagers who continue to support us through thick and thin we can all take some pride in what continues to be a lovely meeting point, shop, and community hub for Braishfield and the surrounding villages.



We have had great success over the last couple of months with our toasted teacake or toast with hot drink of your choice at a super price and we have the two pieces of cake for £4 offer which is still available until 31st March.

So from the 1st April back by popular demand will be :-

- Toasted Teacakes/Butter/Jam with your favorite hot beverage.
- Price "April" Only will be £4.25 (All Coffee/Choc), £3.25 (All Tea)

New Stock

We are delighted to announce some new "Gluten Free" offerings

- Pattersons Original Cakes
- Ginger Cake
- Lemon Cake
- Prewitts white chocolate and cranberry cookies
- Teonis Cookies – Cranberry

Other Offers

We have a super selection of Easter treats priced from £1.50

- Bread (Frozen with 1 day shelf life) -----50P Only -----

If you want fresh bread or rolls , we have arranged for deliveries to arrive on a Monday and a Thursday.

And finally, with some sadness we need to inform you that Sharon, our Shop Supervisor over the last nine years, has decided to leave us to pursue other opportunities. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for the massive contribution she has made to the community through her efforts in the Pantry and we wish her every success in her future endeavors. Watch this space for an announcement on her successor.

Best Wishes

The Pantry Team.



Brownies and Guides



Some of our Guides recently spent the weekend at a PGL centre in Osmington Bay, Dorset, with other Guides from West Wellow. The weather was not always kind to us but the girls had

great fun and took part in Aeroball, Abseiling, Vertical Challenge, Fencing and lots of other activities. The girls were up for all the challenges and we were so proud of their achievements.



Many thanks to the Braishfield 200 Club for their generous donation towards our girlguiding activities in Braishfield.

Our Annual Membership invoice from Girlguiding is for £800 this year which has severely depleted our bank account! I have set up an Easyfundraising account in the hope that we can raise some funds; if you do shop on-line and wish to help us in the process, please download the Easyfundraising app and search for 1st Braishfield Guides. It really is very simple and there are lots of high street names like John Lewis, Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Asda, Amazon, Etsy, [booking.com](https://www.booking.com), to name but a few, just go through the app and then shop as normal. We really do appreciate your support. Thank you.

Jill Briggs
guides.braishfield@gmail.com

A new series of extracts from the old Log Books of Braishfield Primary School are going to be included. Many thanks to Jim Cascarini for providing them - all extremely interesting!



THE LOG BOOKS OF BRAISHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Log Books of Braishfield Primary School were written by the school Governors, or 'Managers' as they were called then, and various Headmasters and Headmistresses. We have records from 1877 up to 1974. Events such as illnesses, the weather, accidents, behaviour, attendance, academic achievements, staffing and village life all feature.

Please have a read- I hope you enjoy them. If you have links to the school yourselves, or know folk who attended the school, please do put them in touch with me.

Jim Cascarini, Headteacher

- 8th January, 1920* From 1st April 1919- December 1919, the school has been closed 13 weeks, so that there is some allowance to be made for the backwardness of the children.
- 4th January, 1963* It was not possible to open school today, as the toilets are frozen. School closed for the rest of the week.
- 12th January, 1917* Mrs Whitchell came down to the school this morning in a great rage and accused Miss Kemish of sending her 2 girls home from school- as a matter of fact the children had not been near the school. Upon Miss Kemish saying that she had not seen the children, the woman was very abusive calling the teacher a liar etc. Upon enquiries, the children came down as far as the post office and turned back again, and must have gone home and told the mother untruths. I had to intervene and ask the woman to go home and use better language.
- 16th January, 1891* A pleasing circumstance took place one day this week, shewing "British determination" to overcome difficulty. Three children (the Olds) started to come to school. As it was more than usually slippery down their road, they tried to protect their feet from slipping by tying haybands round their boots. When these wore off, they found they had the worst part to come over, and, as they found themselves unable to walk over the sheet of ice composing the surface for many yards; they crawled over it, rather than go back home.
- 27th January, 1908* There are 22 children absent this morning. Weather fine. Many excuses very paltry indeed- mostly "mother wants him" or "minding baby".
- 4th February, 1891* Several children absent this morning to see the 'Meet of the Foxhounds' in the lower part of the village.
- 5th February, 1905* Sunday. Stanley Philpott, Fred Philpott and Victor Grace, after leaving Sunday School (Chapel) amused themselves by throwing stones and using catapults at the tower of the school. Had to go out into the street and drive them away.
- 6th February, 1945* At playtime this morning a boy brought a bomb to show me. As I was not sure whether it was harmless or not, I placed it in my garden and notified the police. PC Crabbe called in the afternoon and as he thought it still to be dangerous, he left it and said he would notify the bomb disposal squad.

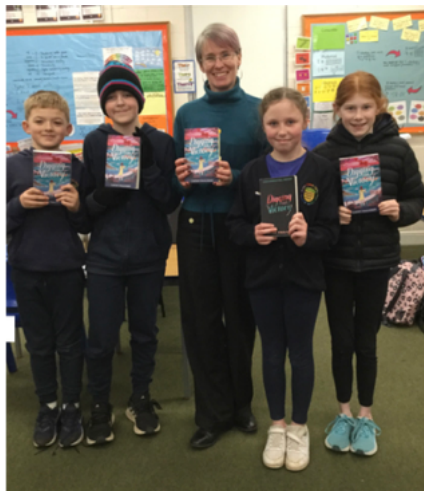
Braishfield Primary School

Greetings from Braishfield Primary School!



January & February

This month, Oaks Class had a visit from author Cathy Faulkner,



whose book *Digging for Victory* is set in World War

2. The children were able to ask her questions, as well as listen to extracts from the book - which is cleverly written in different poetry forms.

Our EARA group (Equalities and Rights Ambassadors) learned about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and passed on their enthusiasm to the rest of the school. Rights and diversity is one of the areas on our School Improvement Plan, as we believe that it is important for our learners at Braishfield to develop an

understanding of the lived experience of different people.

Our Junior Road Safety Officers also launched a competition to come up with a slogan (to be made into a banner to go on the fence of the school) to highlight the importance of not parking on the yellow zig-zags outside the school. Here they are, in hi-viz jackets, drawing attention to these important lines - I obviously risk-assessed this activity before they lay down in the road! We hope to draw up a travel plan, in conjunction with Hampshire County Council, which should see other improvements to the road infrastructure around the school, keeping our children safe.



Jim Cascarini, Headteacher

Braishfield United Reformed Church

News From Braishfield URC



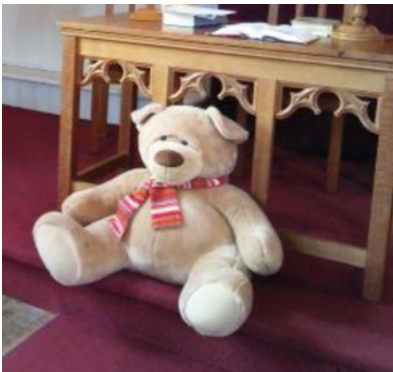
I hope you have all had a lovely Easter.

The Lord Is Risen

He Is Risen Indeed.

We are holding a Name That Bear fundraising event for our church and all are welcome to take part. Our thanks go to Alan and Dawn Smith for providing the bear. There is a list of potential names for the bear. All you do is put your name against one of 124 names on the list.

You can have as many goes as you like at £1.00 per name. You can ring Shirley if you would like to have a go. She would be delighted to hear from you. When the names on the list have been sold, the name Alan and Dawn have given him or her (which is in a sealed envelope) will be revealed and someone will be the proud new owner of a lovely bear. See picture!



Allison Symes will be undertaking training in April to take Communion services should the need arise.

We held our first Annual General Meeting on a Sunday following a short service on 17th March. All went well. It did enable more people to come to the meeting.

We look forward to joining our friends at All Saints Parish Church for the United Christian Aid Service on 12th May. We take it in turns to host this annual service. All are welcome to come.

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

For times of services and other regular activities
see www.asbchurch.org

Messy Church Friday 12th April 3.30 -5.30pm
Braishfield Church Room

Jesus' Baptism

All are welcome.

Sunday 12th May 9.30am Christian Aid service
with United Reformed Church

All are welcome.



12th -18th May Christian Aid envelopes to be delivered in Braishfield
and Farley.

Please contact Jane Bennett 01794 368109 if you can help with
deliveries.

We do hope you can join us!

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

* * * * *

From Rev Tom.....

Hello everyone,

At last it seems like Spring has sprung, the hedgerows are bursting into life, the birds are all busy and the nights are drawing out. And we get the chance to 'April fool' each other. I wonder how many of us will be caught out this year? I regularly fall foul and have been known to quote these stories as fact until some kind soul puts me out of my misery – usually after a few days!

At this time of year then we seem to be always surprised by the unexpected, whether it is by a prank or simply the fact that the evenings seem to get lighter at such a rate. In April this year, we have our most profound encounter with our ever-surprising Creator. I am, of course talking about Easter. The time when we remember with joy the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his triumph over death and sin as well as the promise of a new relationship between God and humankind.

Perhaps the biggest surprise is when we realise that we are ALL loved – loved beyond reason...beyond logic.. beyond anything else...we are all loved by God. No matter what, we are never beyond the love of God. And we should never forget that we are Easter People—set free, living a full life in the light once again. Jesus did not go to the cross for us to continue to live in darkness—he did it for our new life— a life that is lived out in the light once again.

So, I hope that this Easter season finds you well and I look forward to seeing you around over the next few months at the various events that make our community such a great place to live.

God Bless, Tom

GARDENING - JOBS FOR THIS MONTH

SPRING IS HERE AT LAST!

My goodness are we fed up with rain?

At least the temperatures are rising and our gardens are leafing up. When it's not raining it certainly makes me want to go out there and put some of the changes I had in mind into action. There are a couple of trees I would like to plant, some shrubs I want to move and I'd like to split some of my herbaceous perennials. As the soil warms up we can also start to think about splitting grasses too.

This time last year I was talking about lawn care – if you have been lucky enough to find a dry day to mow your lawn then hurrah! Mine is long and wet and rather unsightly though I do have some naturalised daffs coming through the wilded parts and this is a real delight.

The window for planting trees bare root is a relative short period between late



October to late March. We can still plant after this time, but the critical factor will be water. There are 'how to' tables describing how many gallons a newly planted tree will require and you can plant it with its own dedicated irrigation system to make things easy. Plant it with food, back fill with nutritious compost, stake it carefully and tie it in. After about a month I am inclined to spray with a foliar feed – this gets into the system quickly with some real benefits. You will need to do this regularly say once a fortnight or monthly. If you prefer long and slow then a slow-release fertilizer will also work.

There is always space in a garden for a tree- if you haven't got one, please do consider planting one. There are lots of trees suitable for small gardens like crab apples or small ornamental cherries. If you want something unusual, try an Amelanchier and if you have a sheltered west facing garden what about a small variety magnolia.

Years ago I planted a few Euonymus Alatus shrubs on my woodland edge – they have strange bark which resembles cork and fantastic autumn colour. One has outgrown its space and looks cramped next to some coloured dogwoods. I will be moving this today to a new location. I shall dig around it being careful to provide it with a decent rootball and will go all around until I can get my sharp spade underneath to lift it out. When I come to replanting, I will trim any straggly roots and pepper the rootball with a planting compound. The planting hole will need to be bigger than the rootball so that I can backfill it with compost. The base of the hole should be loose and not firm. I shall fill the hole up with water before I plunge the shrub down into it. Back fill and firm the ground gently– don't stamp but lightly tread. It's a mucky business but where I feel happiest, I have to say! Remember that the plant has a front face and a back – check which way its facing or it can take a long time for it to look right in its new home.

Most of the dried winter stems from the perennials are cut down by now and I can see strong growth on most including salvias and penstemons. So exciting! You can gauge which plants look congested and so it's a good idea to split them up. This keeps them healthy and keeps it flowering well. The way I do it is to dig the whole plant up. Be brave and either divide it using your clean, sharp spade aiming to go through it from the top. If it is just is too big use a saw. Cut it into three or four pieces and replant them in groups of odd numbers. Feed with something like bonemeal and backfill with compost.
Have fun!

Braishfield Garden Club

Thank you to all members and visitors who attended our February meeting. The Chair opened the meeting with a presentation to Geoff Daniels who recently stood down as Secretary after 10 years. Geoff worked tirelessly in his role and helped with the technology side enabling the club to fully use the website for its annual flower show, when members were able to complete their entry form on line.



We were joined that evening by Pauline Weeks who is passionate about sustainability and gardening for wildlife. Pauline gained an RHS Diploma at Sparsholt College following a career with Hampshire Constabulary. Her talk was on hardy geraniums, a plant with 300 species of annuals, biennials and herbaceous, semi-evergreen and evergreen tuberous perennials, these are often confused with Pelargonium. The plant will grow in most soils but don't like it very wet. They enjoy full sun or partial shade, moist or dry. These small plants need very little attention, are very robust and easy to look after. They can be used as a good ground cover or in a rock garden or even in a woodland area or maybe in a container. The flowers are pink, blue, white and purple. Propagate by division, or buy as bare roots. Plant in groups of 3 or 5 do not fuss over them or over water.



One tip from Pauline, do not swop plants unless it is a bare root and washed, this helps to prevent passing contamination from one garden to another. If passing on plants use a well-known commercial soil.

There was a change to our March meeting when our speaker was Simon Goldsack who spoke of the making of a Public Pleasure Garden. His vision was to turn a 15 acre fruit and dairy farm into a Victorian style public park with access to the public. The garden is a mixture of formal and informal areas influenced by Hidcote and The Laskett and is made up of many garden areas divided by hedges and trees. The kitchen garden is in-planted with

perennials and bulbs. Holmes Henge, conifers and heathers with the stones coming from the local quarry. There is a lavender avenue and pear tunnel planted with over 30 different varieties of pear. A three acre 'flower field' containing common British flowers and there is now an amphitheatre where performances take place during the summer.

The borders are themed blending in with shrubs and grasses divided by meandering grass paths. The wedding border, mostly white with a hint of blue whilst others are red and orange. Shrubs include Magnolia, Prunus and Malus.

The garden can be found at Holme, Wareham which lies within the 'area of outstanding beauty'. The garden also has a garden centre, farm shop and a large restaurant area with seating both inside and out.

The garden is now a member of the RHS so free entry to RHS members on certain days of the week. Check first.

Tuesday 9th April 2024

'For the Love of Roses' with Gillian Taylor

All about the different types of Roses, where to buy, how to grow and their care.

Also 'Spring Show'

Vase of assorted Daffodils, not more than 12.

A vase of assorted flowers (excluding Daffodils) this may include shrubs but not more than 12 stems.

Tuesday 14th May 2024

'Flowers of Reserves and Roadsides' with Gerald Ponting

Wild flowers from verges, beautifully photographed over 2 years.



Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society



Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society held their first meeting of the year with a demonstration by Melanie Smith entitled 'Pretty as a Picture'.

Placing the arrangements within a picture frame produced an interesting and attractive vision. Melanie created some stunning arrangements without the use of floral foam. In an effort to help save the environment flower arrangers are being encouraged not to use 'floral foam' which isn't biodegradable.

Members enjoyed her amusing presentation with a few twists and turns on the way.

Information about the forthcoming programme can be found on the Braishfield Village Community Website - www.braishfield.org.

Visitors always welcome.

Sheep Matter at Elm Grove

To a mere observer all seems to be calm on the lambing front. The pregnant ewes are happy in the hay barn at the moment, being fed rations to suit their needs. Kate was pleased with the results of the scanning done a few weeks ago and keeping them in the open hay barn makes it easier for feeding.



Last year Kate took some lambs to the Romsey Show for judging; she was complimented on the quality, but was advised to have some earlier this year so that they would be more mature and on a par with the other contestants. So, 5 Lleyn ewes were put to the ram earlier than the others and 9 very lovely girl lambs are the result, which she will choose from for the show.

Main lambing starts at about Easter; we must be due for some dry weather. Looking back at last year, I wrote something like 'Let's hope that the long-awaited rain does not come during lambing!'

Wouldn't it be nice if it was sunny and warm for the new life!

Wendy Quarendon



RATES PER EDITION:
 £40 back cover (colour) | £12 half page inside | £24 full page inside



You can't get more local than Romsey Country Market.
 A community market where everything is
GENUINELY HOME PRODUCED

2024 Market Dates

Braishfield Village Hall, Braishfield, SO51 0PN

Last Saturday of a Month 10.30- 12.30

24th February	27th July
30th March	31st August
27th April	28th September
25th May	26th October
29th June	30th November
Romsey Town Hall Market & Community Cafe	Romsey Market at The Corn Exchange
2nd & 4th Friday of a Month 10.30- 12.30	1st Saturday of a Month 8.30 - 3.00
16th & 23rd February	2nd March
8th & 22nd March	6th April
12th & 26th April	4th May
10th & 24th May	1st June
14th & 28th June	6th July (*)
12th & 26th July	3rd August
13th & 27th September	7th September (*)
11th & 25th October	5th October
8th & 22nd November	2nd November
6th, 13th & 20th December	7th December (*)

(*) On These dates we will be by the statue and not in our usual spot behind Barclays



CALLING ALL LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES

Do you make & sell or grow your own products?
 Do you hate the high price of craft fairs?
 Would you like to have a break at a market?

Well, join us at our co-operative market held in Romsey Town Hall, Romsey Town Centre and Braishfield Village Hall say good bye to all the negatives.

5p buys you lifetime membership - No financial risk beyond the 5p lifetime membership fee - Commission is % of sales - capped at the rent market has to pay - No Pitch Fees - Tables/Cloths/Gazebo Supplied - Payment System Supplied - Pick & Choose markets you attend - Build on your local customer base.

Email: romseycountrymarkets@gmail.com



<https://www.country-markets.co.uk/>



Stay safe. Stay productive.

Whether it's Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Janitorial supplies, cleaning and sanitising products or simply office supplies, technology supplies and equipment – we're here to help to keep your business safe and productive.

Call today for a free quote.



**ALL YOUR
OFFICE
NEEDS!**

OUR PRICES ARE GUARANTEED NOT TO BE BEATEN!

0800 376 9618

Unit 21, City Industrial Park, Southern Road, Southampton SO15 1HG
www.aa-business.co.uk www.aa-furniture.co.uk



Whatever you want to store...

...for whatever reason – house sale and purchase not coinciding, travelling, house building work, paperwork overload or just 'de-cluttering' to sell your house more quickly – we offer a friendly and flexible local self-storage service near Stockbridge.



With competitive rates, secure storage all on one level and hassle-free 24/7 access, contact us now!



01264 316166 www.barn-store.co.uk

DJ Jeffery & COMPANY

CARPENTERS & JOINERS
Since 1976

David, your local Carpenter & Joiner for all jobs, large or small.



Institute of
Carpenters

01794 367422

dj@djeffery.co.uk

www.djeffery.co.uk





Tree and Hedge Care

Professional Tree Surgeons Serving Romsey
and the surrounding areas.

- Tree Surgery
- Hedge Trimming
- Stump Grinding

Fully Qualified and Insured

07746448750

info@gthc.co.uk

www.gthc.co.uk

Proud members of

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

Graham Parrick Carpet Fitting

All types of carpet supplied
and fitted. Free Quotations



Tel:- 02380 270608
07831 858615



TS Plumbing & Heating Services

- Plumbing & Heating
- Building Services
- Gas Safe Registered
- OFTEC Registered
- Oil Boiler & Tank Specialists

01794 368091 | 07801 661497

www.tsplumbingandheating.com

tsplumbingandheating@live.co.uk

Los Pinares, Sandy Lane, Romsey, SO51 0PD



36 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8BX
Telephone: 01794 514455 Facsimile: 01794 518108
Email: sales@michaelrhodes.co.uk
www.michaelrhodes.co.uk

Estate Agents

Selling Property in Braishfield and
other Test Valley Villages

Tel:- 01794 514455 Fax:- 01794 518108

Website:- www.michaelrhodes.co.uk

E-mail:- sales@michaelrhodes.co.uk

View our Property List on line



Landscape Contractor

All aspects of landscaping from design to completion

Family run business since 1991

Email Kevin@stickley-landscapes.co.uk

01794 368694

07770 452631

Surveying | Landscape Design | Planting Plans

Hard & Soft Landscape Construction

Ongoing Garden Advice and Aftercare

Eldon Nurseries

Eldon Lane, Braishfield, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 0PT

Website: www.jnland.co.uk Telephone: 01794 368106 Email: jn@jnland.co.uk

JN Landscapes Ltd.

Est 1979

GARDEN MACHINERY
NEW SALES • USED SALES • HIRE
SERVICE • SPARES • CONSUMABLES
TRAILER REPAIRS, SERVICE and HIRE

IMPARTIAL HELP AND ADVICE - *when you need it!*

BOOK YOUR WINTER SERVICE NOW

call: 01794 367047

FREE
collection &
delivery
within 25 miles



over 40 years local experience

Down to Earth
Garden Machinery



Eldon
Services

JN Eldon Lane, Braishfield, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 0PT
Telephone: 01794 367047 Email: les@dtegm.co.uk

Learn Watercolours Try Calligraphy Master Gouache Understand Acrylics

Create **ART** like a Master!

Framed Masterpiece Guaranteed! **Beginners Welcome!**

With **Jennie Maizels**
 Southampton University Art Lecturer
 & Award-winning Illustrator

To Book, Scan in this QR Code
 (using Your camera phone)

Or contact...
 07824 442993
 www.jenniemaizels.com
 Jennie@jenniemaizels.com

Every second Thursday of the month 7-9pm
 Edgehill, Braishfield Rd SO51 0PR
 All materials (& Fizz and nibbles!) provided
 £40 per session (includes frame & mount)

GARRETT CONSTRUCTION

**Braishfield's
 Builder**

All manner of building work undertaken
 In need of a quote? Please ring Mark or Steve
on 01794 368280
 E-mail: markstevegarrett@hotmail.co.uk
 See work we've done in the Village



Gas

LPG

Oil

Monthly payment options available

Established in 2009 and based in Romsey, we carry out the installation, service and maintenance of all gas, LPG and oil fired heating systems in and around Hampshire.

We are Worcester Bosch Accredited Installers allowing us to offer you up to 12 years guarantee on gas and LPG boilers and up to a 7 year guarantee on oil boilers.

Call: 01794 651123 email: info@heatwaveonline.co.uk

Web: www.heatwaveonline.co.uk



K8's K9s



Kate Piddington

- Dog Walks
- One to One Walks/Visits
- Puppy Visits
- Cat Care
- Small Animal Care



Tel: 07837034867

Email:


k8sk9sittingservice@gmail.com

Est 2009.

Fully Insured, Friendly and Reliable.



crafted
architects

RIBA 

Chartered Practice

craftedarchitects.co.uk

01794 300410

Seasoned Hardwood Logs



Locally grown Timber
cut and split to your requirements

Tel:- 01794 368513

For your convenience

As well as Tipped Loads we now also supply Firewood in Net Sacks and
Vented Bulk Bags

W.W.H. Ewens Insurances Adviser

36 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8BX

Tel: 01794 515113

Web: wwhe.co.uk

David Ewens *FPFS CeMap*



FINANCIAL PLANNING

INVESTMENTS LIFE COVER MORTGAGES PENSIONS

Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

SUSANNE
BOSWELL
GARDENS



Garden Design

Garden Design & Consultancy; New Gardens, Border Redesigns, Refurbishments, Implementation, Garden Maintenance, Plants.

07900 312120

www.susanneboswellgardens.com
sueboswell@hotmail.com



MARTYN DENNIS

Painter and Decorator

Fully qualified

Over 20 years experience

Interior and exterior

Superior finish

Quality branded materials

Competitive quotes



Tel:- 01794 279126 or 01794 501587

Mob:- 07734 938792

RUBBISH NEWS

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



Recycle weeks beginning MONDAY:

8th, 22nd April and 6th, 20th May

Household waste weeks beginning MONDAY:

1st, 15th, 29th April and 13th, 27th May

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

The BVA and BMADS proudly present
A Murder Mystery evening



Tickets priced at £15 to include a two-course supper (“Sharon's Leek Quiche”, and strawberries and cream) plus a welcome drink. Available 2nd April from Margaret O’Keeffe on 01794 368037 or mt.okeeffe@icloud.com

There is also a sign-up sheet in the Pantry.

We would encourage teams of 6 – please let Margaret know if you would like help making up a team.

A bar selling a selection of soft drinks, wine and beer will be available.

(For the comfort of the actors and other audience members we would politely request that you do not bring your own drinks)

The evening will also include a raffle.