

## Braishfield Village Diary

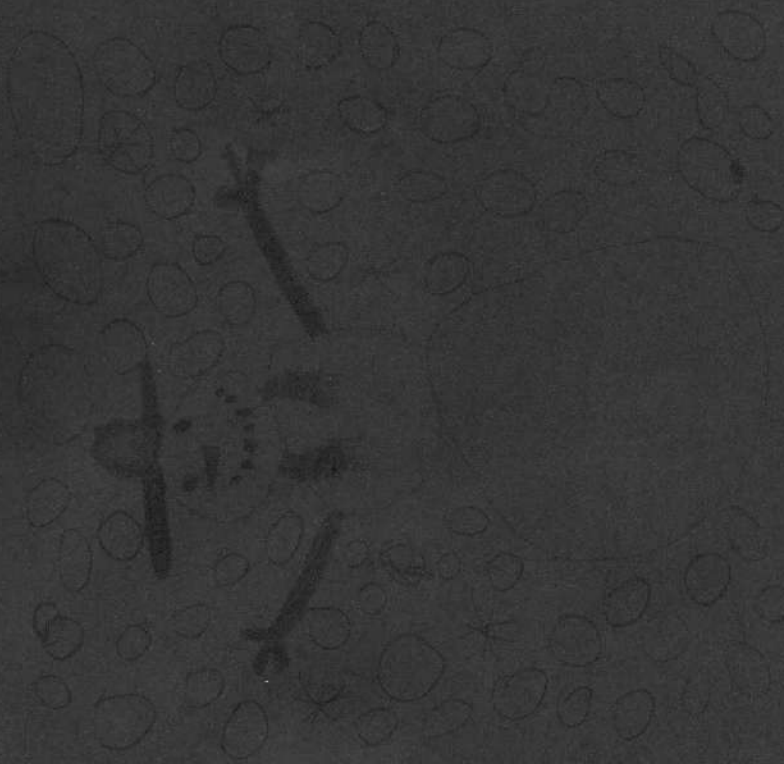
December	
5	Tues 7-00pm Braishfield Parish Council
8	Fri 6-9pm Romsey Late Night Shopping
11	Mon 12.00 Noon Lunch Club in The Church Room
13	Weds 8-00pm Carols at The Newport (see page 24)
13	Weds 11-00 Police presence in the Village
25	Mon All Day Christmas Day Everywhere (have a lovely day)
January	
11	Tues 7-00pm Braishfield Parish Council
7	Sun 12-00 Over 65's New Year's Lunch in the social club
8	Mon 12.00 Noon Lunch Club in The Church Room
9	Tues 7-30pm Braishfield Horticultural Society
130	weds 11-00 Police presence in the Village
23	Tues 8-00pm BVA AGM (see page 21)

All functions take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.  
Please send details to the Editor if you would like dates of forthcoming events published.

# BRAISHFIELD

## Village Association NEWS

Issue 160 December 2006



Picture by William, Aged 7, Braishfield Primary School

Distributed free of charge by the Braishfield Village Association to the residents of Braishfield and the surrounding hamlets

## Braishfield Village Association

### Committee 2004-2005

Chairman	George Elliott	368306
Secretary	Rosie Groves	368178
Treasurer	Sheila Stull	368384
BVA News Editor	Mike Stevens	367801
News Distributor	Ros Chaplin	368483
Committee	David Protheroe	367003
	Graham Bennett	368109
	Margery Randall	367738

### Editor's Notes

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

The BVA Editor

Kendal

Crook Hill

Braishfield

Romsey SO51 0QB by the date shown below.

Copy may be hand written, typed or on floppy disk but, ideally, by e-mail to [news@mikopy.com](mailto:news@mikopy.com)

All items for publication must show the name, address and telephone number of the originator. Letters to the Editor should be on topics relevant to the villagers of Braishfield. The BVA attempts to deliver a copy of the Braishfield Residents Guide and the Village Design Statement to all new residents, if you have not received these publications please contact the News Distributor, Ros Chaplin on 368483

Latest Copy date for the next issue is  
15th January 2007

## From the Chairman

meets on 12 December.

Our Rector, Bruce Kingston, has now served in this Parish and Benefice for over 25 years, a wonderful achievement. Both Bruce and Lucy have shared many happy moments with us and, also sad ones too, when we have appreciated their support. We wish them continued happiness in the future.

Many of us are pleased to see that the building of the new West Door to All Saints Church is well underway. The many donors to the Church Building Fund Appeal will welcome this visual sign of progress and be encouraged. Some of us do not like change and have hesitated to comment openly. The work will soon be completed and we will have time to appreciate the changes over Christmas.

While on the subject of All Saints the future of the upkeep of the churchyard is in safe hands with the amicable handover by Tom Gould to Richard Brazier. The members of the Mowers Club are pleased to see that Tom is able to shed his burden of responsibility at last and for Richard to take the lead. We are grateful to both and also to those cohorts, who drive and push the selection of magnificent machines while dodging the gravestones. Their work is greatly appreciated.

I wish you all a joyful and happy Christmas.

George Elliott

What do we seek - being at home with those you love, seeing something that makes you realise how beautiful our surroundings are. It is to make the point that the little things in life mean a lot. So too, is the surprise delay of autumn and the remarkably mild and sunny weather we have enjoyed. As I write the leaves are spectacular and have only just begun to fall.

On 17 October the Parish Council arranged a public meeting in the Village Hall to encourage an open discussion on the proposal to build a Village Shop. The meeting was well attended, which enabled those supporting the scheme and others with their concerns, to voice an opinion and gauge whether there is general support for the Shop or not. The discussion seemed evenly balanced. We now have the chance to study the Planning Officers' report which is clear and comprehensive. The recommendation was for 'refusal' of the proposed development on the grounds that it is contrary to a number of planning policies and for development in a conservation area. The officers' recommendation was not supported by the Southern Test Valley Planning Committee and they approved the proposal. This decision will now be referred to the Planning Control Committee which

## From The Editor

Firstly may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your input to the magazine over the last year. Please keep the articles coming in, as they make for interesting reading.

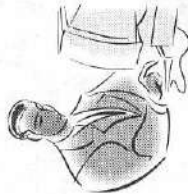
I am currently working on the next Residents Guide due out with the February News.

Do you or your organisation require listing in the Residents Guide. Please let me know as soon as possible.

Can I thank William for his picture on the cover. This was one of 94 pictures drawn by the pupils of Braishfield Primary School for their personalised Christmas Cards, raising funds for the BSA.

Would you like your child's picture on the cover. We can scan in up to A4 size and resize to fit. Maybe a spring type picture for the next issue?

May I wish you all the best for Christmas and the New Year  
Mike Stevens



### Bin Collections for the next two months

#### Recycle

December 13th and 27th

January 10th and 24th

#### Household

December 6th and 20th

January 3rd 17th and 31st

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## Your Letters

### Over 65's New Years Lunch

#### To The Editor

A note to remind the over 65's of the village about the New Years Lunch. This year it will be held on Sunday 7th January in the Social Club. All regulars should find their invitation through their door by the second week in December. If you feel 'young enough' to join us and would like to be added to the list, please ring Sharon on 368164. Looking forward to seeing you all. Sharon Fielding and the committee

### The Village Shop

You may well have read in the Romsey Advertiser that after a sometimes fierce debate, the Test Valley Planning committee agreed to allow Jeremy Musselwhite to take his proposals on to the next stage of the planning process. The relevant committee is due to sit in early December. For a variety of reasons, those for the shop proposal have failed to write in support of the project, despite the fact that 2 or 3 years ago over 90% of us wanted one. This fact was seized on by opponents who claimed that this dearth of letters indicated a lack of desire amongst us. If you haven't already written to Planning (TVBC Duttons Road), the shop committee would be most grateful for your support.

Thanks Tony Chant (Chairman)

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## Walking With Bears

In the summer I was lucky enough to go to Canada with Claire, visit some friends and view wildlife. Being a keen photographer and bear fan (that's a fan of bears, not a naked supporter of the local football team) one of the special moments of the trip was when we hired a boat from the camp site at which we were staying and found a Black Bear and Cub feeding on the shore at low tide. (I would have been dead if we had got up early in the morning and found nothing.) As it happens, I just suffered a few bruises when I asked Claire to take over the boat controls while I did my David Bailey impersonation. How was I to know that she didn't know a few basic boating terms like 'trickle it a bit' and 'turn to port'. "We haven't bought any she cried in frustration", and, "I'd rather have a gin".

The point I meant to get to was that Jim Davis the owner of the campsite, situated two hours from the nearest town down a gravel track, said, "if you think that was special come back in the Autumn when the bears feed on salmon". So I took him on his word and that's just what I did. Don't tell Claire because she thinks I went back to spend a week with my mother. In fact don't tell my mother because she thinks I couldn't get the time off. During Half term I spent three days walking up and down a semi dry river bed on Vancouver Island looking for Bears. This wasn't difficult as they were pretty much every-

where. At one point we came around the corner and there was one too my left leaning casually over a tree and another one entering the water to start fishing. For a moment I didn't know which way to point the camera. They were big, black and bear like and just 50 feet away, they looked a lot closer through the camera lens. Thankfully I was assured that Black Bears aren't aggressive in the same way that Grizzlies are and anyway Jim had some pepper spray if they didn't obey the rule book. Grizzlies you might be relieved to note don't appear on Vancouver Island, the only one that nearly made it was shot on an adjacent island. How unlucky was that, swim across a raging current avoid whales and tourist boats just to be shot and end up as a hearth rug.

On the first day I counted 10 Black Bears, although one could have cheated and appeared a second time. They are incredibly lazy animals and often don't get up until late morning if they are full of Salmon. This is my kind of wildlife study, lie in, and go back early for a few beers as the bears can't see anything when it gets dark. Actually they can't see very much when it is light. However when it come to scent I was safe in the knowledge that if I had a sweet wrapper in my pocket, they would smell it several hundred yards away. Lucky for me they prefer Salmon to a sticky Wethers Original. The hearing is pretty good as well so be tempted to insult

one. Cute and cuddly as they look don't be fooled however and take risks as these 2 - 300lb animals can run at up to 35mph if they can be bothered.

For the next two days I was on the river on my own amazed at how close you could get to these beautiful animals without feeling they were more than slightly interested in what you were doing. Salmon time is definitely the time to watch bears, unless that is, you are a Salmon. I felt that for all the world I could be in the middle of nowhere amongst the mountains and trees thousands of miles from home without the sound of a motorist anywhere. The only inconvenience I suffered was wearing a drysuit to walk across parts of the river to get a better view. The other option had the water been higher would be to use a kayak and drift down. Apparently you can get even closer as they don't know what you are coming towards them. I think that must be true because in all the books I read on Bear encounters before travelling not one of them mentioned that you shouldn't approach them in a kayak.

The Conuma River where I was walking is under the Salmon enhancement scheme run by the British Columbia Administration. They have a fish farm removing and rearing Salmon to be re introduced into the river. They are also currently trying to raise 400,000 Canadian Dollars to create runs for some of the Salmon who's Fry have difficulty getting back down the river.

For those of you not acquainted with the North American Black Bear,

they are mostly found in North America and are generally Black however they have been seen as white and a cinnamon colour. We were keeping our eyes out for a cinnamon bear as one apparently visits the area each year. Jim was keen for me to photograph this bear as they missed it last year. It didn't show but I did get some shots of several others and one actually catching a salmon. Their fishing technique is novel as they move around in water up to their necks waiting for a salmon to shelter behind their legs and then hook them with their claws. You have to question the mentality of the Salmon however, if you were swimming in a river where's the one place you probably wouldn't stop for a rest? The weather wasn't good for pictures, I had missed the heat wave by a few weeks, but the experience and the scenery made it well worth the trip. If you want to see where I went, then look at [www.moutchabay.com](http://www.moutchabay.com) and in a few weeks you may see one or two of the photographs I took. If you are looking for a wildlife adventure in some of the most stunning scenery then look no further. If you are out there next autumn and see someone huddled behind a camera, it will probably be me. I still have some more Bears to photograph as well as some Whales, Elk and Bald Eagles. If you wish to discuss this or any of our Canadian Adventures or see some pictures, please feel free to email me, [richard@olivepressit.co.uk](mailto:richard@olivepressit.co.uk).

Richard Gregory

## Braishfield Cricket Club

### A GOOD YEAR FOR THE VILLAGE CRICKET CLUB: A CAPTAIN'S LOG by JAMES LIGHT

The 2006 cricket season was a successful one for the Village Cricket Club both on and off the pitch. The club welcomed new players Adam Richards, Andrew Whiteside, Tim Woods, Phil Gregg, Oliver Robinson and Nick Murray. They joined an already flourishing band of players, young and not so young, and helped bolster the club's social, sporting and financial status.

From a playing perspective we suffered from inconsistency but always had fun in our 21 games, of which we won 10, drew 3 and lost 9. The highlights of the season included a dashing 120 scored by Kevin Light in the very first game - one we contrived to lose to our good friends The Rioters. New-boy Adam Richards scored his first century for the club in September to add to two fine half centuries while Kevin White, Jos Evans, Bross Evans, Simon Crouch, Tom Knights, Andrew Whiteside and myself chipped in with half centuries throughout the course of the season.

A special mention should go to Braishfield resident Steve Knowles, who scored his first half century for

to the many sponsors who supported us, and will always be indebted to those hardly people who braved the weather and sportingly bet on the races or bought runners at auction. This coming together of man and woman power enabled us to raise more than £1,400 for the club - a fine total given the conditions.

A similar gesture that helped considerably came in late season when former Crook Hill residents Mike and Jill Allison kindly donated a petrol mower - this saved us the considerable expense of maintaining our decrepit Allet machine. Mike and Jill, we really are grateful.

Thanks go to Ian Ross and Mike Ransom for maintaining and preparing the cricket square and also to those players who helped keep the ground tidy and cut the outfield. On a personal note, I would like to thank those players, especially James Hardy, for their support in running the team while I was absent having broken my hand in July. Despite medical opinion I am on course to make a full recovery and even managed to play in the last game of the season!

Having put away our cricket whites for another winter we now look forward to 2007 and will welcome any new players from in and around Braishfield. A fixture list will appear in this magazine next spring.

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## Santa's Bazaar visit to Braishfield

The Braishfield School Association's fund raising efforts were highly rewarded with the visit of Santa and over 300 visitors to its early Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

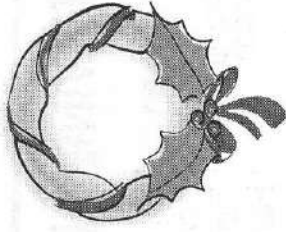
Given just a few early morning hours to transform a village hall into a winter wonderland and accommodate Santa's splendid grotto in time for his arrival was a testing challenge for the industrious committee yet, as usual, this small but neatly formed team rose to the occasion. Aibly assisted by a few elves and hardened supporters they showed that anything's possible with the right spirit, someone to read the time and subtle female guidance!

With sparkling lights, stalls in place and sustenance in the making, the bazaar came alive at 11:30 am offering something for everyone. Visitors went potty over the children's hand painted vessels and further marvelled at their uniquely created range of Christmas cards. Books, jewellery, toys and numerous knick-knacks kept the shoppers shopping whilst Santa spent the entire afternoon meeting, greeting and listening to all the wishes of the 106 children that visited his most comfortable grotto. Some wanted toys, one wanted David Beckham and another - a live tiger! Promising nothing, but aiming to do his very best, he gave all his little friends a small gift to see them

through to Christmas day, thanked them for coming to see him and posed for a picture that he said would be developed by Snapland photographic for delivery to the School next week.

After a splendid day, Santa and Rudolph zoomed off promising to return next year. The BSA wrapped up the event with announcements of the many prize winners of the main draw and the lucky winner of the Turkey draw. Thanks were expressed to all the helpers and visiting parents, many not associated with the school, for kindly coming along to support Braishfield's most treasured asset. And what a Christmas gift the school received - yes, a massive £1800 profit towards 'added value' educational needs.

Martin Weeks

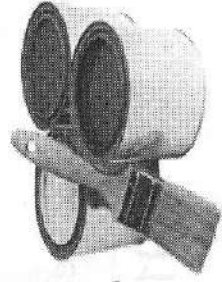


Seasons Greetings  
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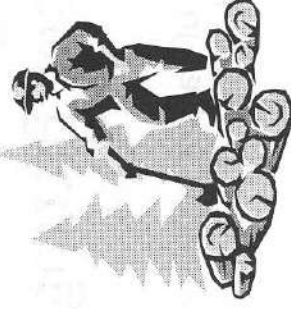
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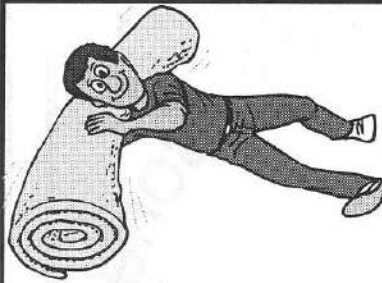
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## Braishfield Horticultural Society

The time has arrived for the last epistle of the year and before you say, thank goodness for that, remember that all you are doing is wishing your time away. All joking apart, why is it that time does move so quickly these days? Maybe it is our modern way of life where everything we do is governed by the clock. I always think back to an old friend of mine, now departed, who never bothered about time and who never wore a watch. That was fine unless you happened to be the one waiting for him to fulfil an appointment. Happy days.

Thinking back to October, our Monthly Meeting was well attended when our Speaker, Jane Balfour, presented her talk on 20<sup>th</sup> Century Gardens. A new visitor to us, Jane held our interest with her subject, which she had certainly researched very well. An interesting talk, a change from the norm and very well presented. Jane later judged the Autumn Show, which on this occasion was won by Sue Buxton. Congratulations Sue.

The Annual General Meeting in November again saw the room filled to capacity with in excess of fifty Members present. The various reports were presented, everyone, on their best behaviour, listened attentively, laughed at the appropriate time and accepted all that was said without question. Even the arrangements for next years Flower Show raised no comments or criticism. What a happy and agreeable bunch of

gardeners we have in this Society. We then came to the time to elect a Committee for the forthcoming year. Once again, as there were no nominations, our lady Chairman, Jill, suggested that as the existing Committee Members were willing to continue if it was so desired, they should be re-elected en bloc. The proposal was carried for all but Eric Irish, who after many years service on the Committee, had decided to retire. Eric has been an invaluable part of the organisation, not only for his knowledge of all things that grow, but, for always being on hand when there was work to be done. His presence at our Committee Meetings will be sorely missed, although we know that he will always be available to offer advice whenever the need arises. Also, we must not forget Jean, his wife, who has always been there in support of Eric and who always came along to assist with setting up at the Flower Show. We owe them both a debt of gratitude.

The evening rounded off with the usual social gathering when the wine flowed, the nibbles were devoured and the buzz of much conversation filled the air. Altogether another very successful meeting.

The Romsey Advertiser did, this year, give good coverage of the Flower Show. In fact, apart from the advertisements, we had a page to ourselves. Not only that, but the Photographer turned up on time and

we were blessed with not one, but three excellent photographs in the paper. As a result I did send a message to the Editor thanking him for his co-operation and informing him that we now have a lot of "happy bunnies" in Braishfield. You never can tell, we may be blessed with four pictures next year.

With the usual break in December, we move on into January 2007 when on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>, we begin the new year with a visit by David Rowling who is a Speaker for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. David's subject will be, British Garden Birds. With the New Year's celebrations now well behind us and the hangers all gone, let us fill the room once again and enjoy what should be an interesting and enjoyable evening.

The following month, on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, Ray Broughton, Head of Horticulture at Sparsholt College will speak to us on the subject of successful pruning. Make a note in your diary and come along to enjoy yet another evening among friends.

Finally, on behalf of your Committee, may I once again take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for the New Year. Continue being good to each other, but if you can't be good, well, you know the answer to that. T.T.F.N.

Bob Thomson,  
BHS Secretary & Scribe

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**John Glasspool made the attached speech in honour of Bruce and Lucy's 25 years here. Members of the five parishes entertained them at Keats**

One of my favourite saying is:- "The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending, then having the two as close together as possible." So, on that basis, as Henry VIII said to several of his wives, "Don't worry, I won't be keeping you long." Well, we have been privileged to have Bruce and Lucy with us for 25 years now. We have seen some amazing changes in that time in our own villages.

For example, In Timsbury we had a Kingdom hall built: by the way, How many Jehovah's Witnesses does it take to change a light bulb? Three. One to screw in the bulb, and two to knock on your door and ask you if you've seen the light! We have gone into the age of the computer and multi-media presentations, as someone said once...."I would rather see a sermon than hear one any day." And Mark twain said,

"No sinner is ever saved after the first twenty minutes of a sermon. It is actually almost 25 years since Jill and I got married- we must have been one of Bruce's first weddings here, but he never showed it:

During the wedding rehearsal, I approached Bruce with an unusual offer.

"Look, I'll give you £100 if you'll change the wedding vows. When you get to me and the part where I'm to promise to 'love, honour and obey' and 'forsaking all others, be faithful to her forever,' I'd appreciate it if you'd just leave that part out." I passed the cash and walked away satisfied.

On the day of the wedding, we had moved to that part of the ceremony where the vows are exchanged. When it came to the time for my vows, Bruce looked me in the eye and said:

"Will you promise to prostrate yourself before her, obey her every command and wish, serve her breakfast in bed every morning of your life and swear eternally before God and your lovely wife that you will not ever even look at another woman, as long as you both shall live?"

so I gulped and looked around, and said in a tiny voice, "Yes." I leaned towards Bruce and hissed, "I thought we had a deal."

He put the £100 into my hand and whispered back, "She made me a much better offer."

Well, Time passes- 25 years, and suddenly we are all growing old together: this can cause problems.

An elderly couple came to me recently for a check-up. The man went in first.

"How're you doing?" I asked "Pretty good," answers the old man. "I'm eating well, and I'm still in control of my bowels and bladder. In fact, when I get up at night to pee, the good Lord turns the light on for me."

Well, I decided not to comment on that last statement, and went into the next

room to check on the man's wife. "How're you feeling?" I asked. "I'm doing well," answers the old woman. "I still have lots of energy and I'm not feeling any pain."

So I said, "That's nice. It sounds like you and your husband are both doing well.

One thing though - your husband said that when he gets up to pee at night, the good Lord turns the light on for him. Do you have any idea what he means?" "Oh No," says the woman, "He's peeing in the refrigerator again."

Of course, growing older isn't always s problematic:-

A pastor explained to his congregation that the church was in need of some extra money, so he asked them to consider being more than generous. He offered that whoever gave the most would be able to pick three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed about the church, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had graciously offered a \$1,000 bill. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate.

A very quiet, elderly, saintly lady in the back of the church shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front, so she slowly she made her way towards him. The pastor told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much, and in thanks he asked her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation. She pointed to the three most handsome men in the church and said, "I'll take him and him and him."

But however a blameless life we live, in the end, we all have to go: An old American preacher was dying. He sent a message for his accountant and his lawyer, both church members, to come to his home. When they arrived, they were ushered up to his bedroom. As they entered the room, the preacher held out his hands and motioned for them to sit on each side of the bed. The preacher grasped their hands, sighed contentedly, smiled and stared at the ceiling. For a time, no one said anything. Both the accountant and the attorney were touched and flattered that the old preacher would ask them to be with him during his final moment. They were also puzzled because the preacher had never given any indication that he particularly liked either one of them. Finally, the lawyer asked, "Preacher, why did you ask the two of us to come?"

The old preacher mustered up some strength, then said weakly, "Jesus died between two thieves, and that's how I want to go, too."

Of course, we hope that Bruce may be with us for a good time to come, but he may yet be promoted, and when you become a bishop that too can have its problems:

A bishop was getting ready at home just prior to giving the local women's institute a speech on the subject of the Christian attitude to sex. Just as he is about to leave his wife asked him what he was going to speak about. Being a little shy he tells her the subject is "off-shore sailing".

He goes on to give his speech which went down very well. A couple of days later the bishop's wife is doing some shopping in the local village and is surprised by how many women congratulated her on her husband's speech.

Eventually she bumps into the chairlady of the women's institute and again she is extremely complimentary on her husband's speech. The vicar's wife tells the chairlady. "I have to confess I'm surprised his speech went down so well because he has only done it three times, the first time he was sick, the second time he got hypothermia and the third time he had to be carried off by helicopter. Anyway, that's enough from me: may I ask you all to now raise your glasses as I propose a toast "To Lucy & Bruce".



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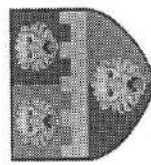
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## Braishfield Village Association Notice of Annual General Meeting

Village Hall, Tuesday 23 January 2007 at  
8.00pm

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting. Join us to hear about the Association's activities during the past year and what we hope to achieve in 2007, and also to let us have your ideas and comments.

Please contact Rosie Groves (368178 or Rosie-Groves1@aol.com) if you are unable to attend but would like an issue raised.



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## Braishfield School Association

### Braishfield School Association and School Governors - Open Evening 17<sup>th</sup> November

Although no longer a mandatory requirement for the School Governors to provide a formal report to the Parents, it was felt that in conjunction with the BSA's AGM it was an ideal opportunity to keep parents abreast of both the work and members of the Governing body.

Mr. Geoff Briggs Chair of the Governors provided an interesting and enlightening presentation on how the body is tasked to support the school, ensure the pupils receive a high quality education and plan for continuous development and improvement. The Governors have legal duties, powers and control in respect of the overall management and financial control of the school.

Whilst actions and decisions can only be taken as a whole, each of the Governors introduced themselves and gave an insight into their individual roles in working closely with the head teacher and staff and taking responsibility for specific subject areas in order to support the raising of educational standards, performance and strategy. Mr. Briggs invited questions and the audience took the opportunity to be informed on a number of interesting matters.

Handing over to the BSA Mr. Martin Weeks Chair of the Association welcomed all present to its A.G.M and commenced with a pledge to make the occasion as informal and infor-

mative as possible. Martin initially explained that despite invites being given to all parents he was disappointed at the overall attendance.

This said he was encouraged at the much improved support during the past year of the Associations key events. He again advised all parents of the schools children that they were automatically enlisted as members of the Association. Although welcoming two new members, the Committee remained small at 13 with a meeting attendance on average of just 8.

Small in number may be, but in recycling on the past years performance Martin highlighted the tremendous fund raising results in not only providing a range of attractive, good quality events but in producing a profit within the academic year (1st September '05 - 31<sup>st</sup> August '06) of £11,603!

Over the past calendar year 3 key events namely the 'Curry Supper & Race Night', 'Summer Fayre' and 'Christmas Bazaar' raised in excess of £9,000 profit.

The Race Night produced the largest evening attendance and profit (£2,285), the Summer Fayre the largest day time attendance and profit (£5,033) and the Christmas Bazaar more than doubled its profit (£1,823).

Mrs. Sarah Weare Treasurer gave a detailed report on the BSA accounts and listed the benefits provided to the School over the year amounting

to over £9,000 including many capital purchases and the funding of numerous school trips and entertainments that would otherwise not have been possible by Government funding.

Looking forward to 2007, Martin expressed a word of caution in respect of the expectation of maintaining or growing the figures enjoyed this year. Whilst the Association will strive to find more ways to attract good returns, as a part time organization with limitations on promotion and local support, not forgetting the influence of good weather, it is unwise to rely on similar returns.

Outlay was an increasing risk with the Summer Fayre requiring expenditure of over £3,000 mostly towards the attractions necessary to make the event special.

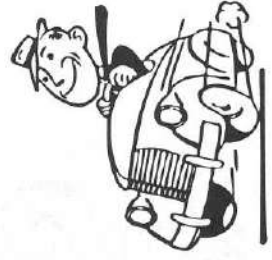
Whilst referring to the Summer Fayre, Martin announced that the Braishfield Horticultural Society Flower Show would join the 2007 programme of attractions.

Remaining as an independently managed and financed event it had been agreed that both attractions would be complimentary to each other, help generate increased attendance and serve the spirit of community cooperation well. It was stressed that the BSA wished to maintain the ambience of a 'Traditional Country Fayre' and do not intend to overly commercialize the event but that it must generate a profitable return.

Miss Carter Head teacher, her staff and the Governors expressed their thanks to the BSA Members and all those who supported the Association events for the benefits they had brought to the School.

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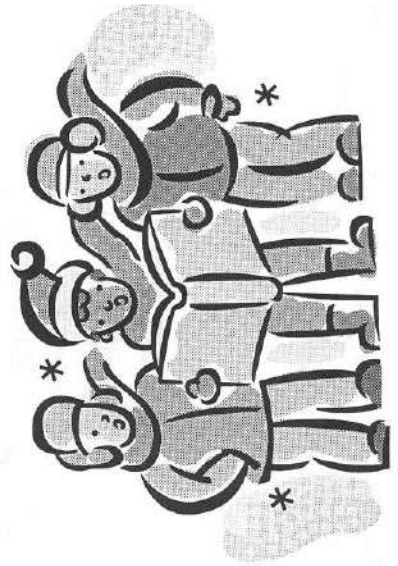
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13<sup>th</sup> December

The Charity was started at the Newport Inn some 8 years ago and is now up and running nationally. Please do come and help us raise money for circulation research



## Braishfield Parish Council Notes

existing lay-by and screening.

In the event, the application was considered by the TVBC Planning Committee on 14th November with a recommendation from the Planning Officer for refusal. However, this did receive approval by a small margin, but as the permission is contrary to the various planning policies, it now has to go to the Planning Scrutiny Committee. So the issue is not yet settled.

Moving on to other planning matters, the Council has received early warning about an application for housing at Fairbournes Farm but has not yet received the formal application. However, it is expected to be for several houses, the move of some of the barns and refurbishment of the listed buildings. Parking is destined to be an issue as the old question of "how do you squeeze three cars into your two allocated spaces?" arises.

Ace Liftaway in Romsey Extra has received approval for storage of items and use of a concrete crusher. Since the approval makes no specific comment on noise from the crusher and the application side-stepped this, the Clerk was asked to write to Hampshire Council demanding an explanation. Braishfield's concern in this is because there have been

**T**his report on the Parish Council covers the Council's main meetings held on 3rd October and 7th November 2006. There was also a public meeting on 17th October to discuss the village shop application followed by a brief Parish Council Meeting to agree the Council's formal response.

About 45 villagers attended the meeting on the village shop. The details of the application were much the same as presented to the previous presentation, but now a response needed to be given to the planning authority by 27th October. Not surprisingly views were expressed both for and against. While numerous people wished to see a shop re-established, others did not want to go against the Borough Local Plan and the Braishfield Village Design Statement. Concerns were expressed about the future of the site and also parking. Overall, however, there was general enthusiasm.

The Parish Council at its meeting which followed the public discussion, agreed to support the application, but asked that a number of conditions be applied to any permission. These related to the future of the site, the hours of use, the lighting, the move of the

## Braishfield Parish Council Notes

reports that noise from the site has been heard in the village.

There is no further news on the BKP application for a gasification plant.

The Council noted that the application for a house in the grounds of Deal Cottage in Newport Lane was refused permission. This was because the site is not permitted for 'infill' in the Borough Local Plan. Some might argue it should be, partly because it would be permissible on the other side of the lane.

On other matters, the Council listened to a presentation given by Jo Moore and Amanda Maxwell of the School on proposals for a school travel plan. This is likely to include attempts to relieve congestion around the school gates, reduce the parking problem, make the road junction safer and enable children to walk or cycle to school more easily.

Clearly not everything can happen at once, but a sum of money will be made available on submission of the application and this may be spent on one or more of the items identified in the plan. The Parish Council is giving the School full support. The 'travel plan' being pursued by the Council for some time now is the construction of a footpath at Crookhill, for which the Council is continuing to press.

Brand new Village Hall signs have appeared (at last!) and the Parish Council has agreed to pay for these as they are on the Recreation Ground and not Village Hall land. The Council has also agreed to make a contribution towards the cost of replacing the chairs in the main hall. The Council was told that the Village Hall has applied for a Lottery grant for these.

The Congo bus service has met its end in Braishfield and has been replaced by the No35 bus service, the times for which are displayed on the parish notice boards.

Finally, Alan Light has resigned from the Parish Council after several years' service and hard work, much of it associated with the Recreation Ground and Play-ground. The Local Government rules do not require an election to be called because the vacancy has arisen within six months of a normal election which will take place next May. In the meantime, the Council has decided to fill the vacancy by co-option. This means the Council itself chooses the next Councillor and notices are currently displayed inviting would-be candidates to contact the Council's Chairman. The Council expects to make an appointment at the next meeting to be held on 5th December 2006.

## The TVBC Planning Authority dealt with a number of applications as follows:

6/2106/F	Wrens, 3A Newport Lane	First floor extension	Permission
06/1952/F	12, Hill View Road	Erection of pair of semi-detached dwellings	Refused
06/2104/F	5 Megana Way	Extension	Permission
6/2474/F	Tregoyd, Crook Hill	Two storey and single extensions	Permission
6/2584/F	Deal Cottage, Newport Lane	Erection of new dwelling	Refused
6/2275/F	26 Hill View	Change of use and erection of garage	Permission
HCC TV188	Ace Liffaway, Yokesford Hill	Temporary storage and concrete crushing	Permission
HCC TV188	Ace Liffaway, Yokesford Hill	Temporary storage of skips, portable loos etc	Permission

**For information on planning applications in Braishfield and for copies of Parish Council Minutes etc, you can find these on**  
[johnbrhodes.supanet.com/braishfield](http://johnbrhodes.supanet.com/braishfield)



**The Council received a number of planning applications and responded to TVBC as follows:**

6/2275/F	26 Hill View	Change of use and erection of garage	Objection to access
6/2584/F	Deal Cottage, Newport Lane	Erection of new dwelling	No objection
6/2880/T	Bryndlewood, Braishfield Road	Fell conifers	No objection
06/3193/T	Cherry Hill, Braishfield Road	Tree work	No objection
06/2484/F	Old Telephone Exchange, Braishfield Road	Village Shop, tearoom and car park	Support
06/3106/T	South View, Braishfield Road	Tree work	No objection
06/2635/T	Newlands, Kiln Lane	Alterations	Objection

**Braishfield in the Beginning**

*The following extracts are from the early Parish Council Minutes researched by John Rhodes, the current Clerk to the Council*

18th October 1976 (cntd)

The Clerk read a letter giving the judges' remarks in respect of the Best Kept Village Competition 1976 "rather too much litter scattered through the Parish".

The village/parish hall, club premises, scout hut - The judges considered that the general effect was only fair there appeared too little co-ordinated effort, the War Memorial was good, the dried up village pond was a candidate for some tidying.

AOB

It was decided that a special meeting should be organised in the village in recognition of the Queen's Silver Jubilee next year. The suggestion was made that possibly some seats could be erected near the play area.

The Chairman reported that the mud problem in Bunny Lane was now very much worse and the Clerk was asked to write to the Hampshire County Council.

The Clerk was also asked to take up with the divisional surveyor of the storm water collecting at the bottom of Dark Lane, Pitt Farm.

15th November 1976

Matters arising

The Clerk reported that he had heard from Mr Morgan regarding

the water in Newport Lane and that some of the problem was caused by overflowing septic tanks.

The Queen's Silver Jubilee Mr Steiner thought that any celebrations which may be arranged should not be met out of the rates at all. The general opinion of the Council was that whether or not rateable money should be used should be decided after the meeting on the 6th December.

It was reported that possibly the Braishfield Children might be joining some celebrations in Romsey and the Clerk was asked to find out. It was thought that if the Parish Council or a separate Committee organises a celebration for the village children that they should join in the village celebration and not go to Romsey.

Mr Watkins proposed and Mr Corry seconded that a mug be given to all school children up to school leaving age. It was hoped that it might be possible for someone local to manufacture these mugs and that they might perhaps be inscribed "Braishfield".

AOB

Mr Corry reported that the clearing of the village pond was now well under way. A digger had been hired from Messrs Selwood and a lorry from a person living at Baileys Down. The pond had been

## Braishfield in the Beginning *Continued*

enlarged and deepened.

The Clerk was instructed to find out the ownership of the Pond Cottage pond.

The Chairman reported on the meeting held recently when it was decided to link the village of Braishfield with the village of Crouay. Mrs Bell had been appointed Chairman together with Mr Hughes and Mr Douglas Stuart on the Committee.

13th December 1976

AOB

The Clerk had received a complaint about topless dancers appearing at the Braishfield Social Club. The Council resolved that there was no action it could take in this matter.

It was decided to erect a notice close to the pond forbidding the dumping of rubbish or litter that anyone seeing people doing this could point to the notice with some authority.

Mr Corry raised the question of the Braishfield flag and after general discussion about the motif it was decided that Mr Corry should do some more research together with the Braishfield Village Association and the matter would be discussed at a later date.

14th February 1977

Matters arising

Mr Morgan felt there was no need for the County Council to do anything to protect the War Memorial

even though it was more vulnerable following the road improvement through the village. The Council thought that this was most unsatisfactory and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Merridale, the County Councillor for the area, to ask him to intervene. It was also reported that the drain which Mr Morgan thought had been re-opened had not been re-opened.

Correspondence

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Test Valley Borough Council informing the Council that the District Council were proposing to sell part of the old refuse tip at Bunny Lane to the Gas Corporation.

Recreation Ground

The Clerk read a letter he had received from the Braishfield 250+ Club regarding the complaint which had been received about people being turned off the Recreation Ground and that a villager had been refused entry to one of the Clubs.

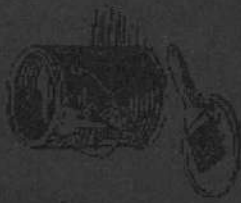
It was proposed by Mr Cobbold that if a village team was created that the football teams not associated with the village should not be permitted to play on the Recreation Ground. This proposal received no seconder.

The Council unanimously agreed to support the 250+ Club's idea of possibly creating a cricket club.

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