

## Braishfield Village Diary

April			
1st	Tues	6.30	Braishfield Parish council
1st	Tues	8.00	BRAISHFIELD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
7th	Mon	7.30	Braishfield Wives Group in the Church Room
14th	Mon	12.00	Lunch Club in the Village Hall
8th	Tues	7.30	Braishfield Horticultural Society
24th	Thur	7.30	Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society April Showers Demonstration by Mary Holliday-Bishop
May			
5th	Mon	7.30	Braishfield Wives Group in the Church Room
6th	Tues	7.00	Braishfield Parish council
12th	Mon	12.00	Lunch Club in the Village Hall
13th	Tues	7.30	Braishfield Horticultural Society
22nd	Thur	7.30	Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society Suggestions of Summer Demonstration Anne-Marie Dicker
Weekly			
	Weds	10-12	Braishfield Toddler Group
	Thurs	10-12	Braishfield Art Group

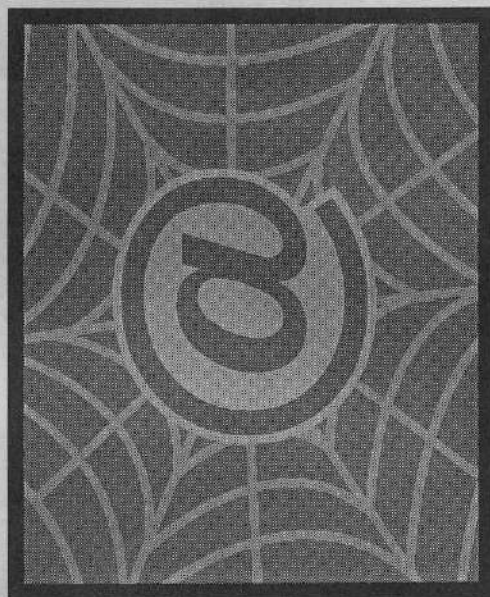
All functions take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.  
Please send details to the Editor if you would like dates of forthcoming events published.

# BRAISHFIELD

## Village Association NEWS

Issue 168 April 2008

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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 Still	368384
BVA News Editor	-	Mike Stevens	367801
News Distributor	-	Ros Chaplin	368483
Website	-	Chris Balchin	368427
Committee	-	David Protheroe	367003
		Graham Bennett	368109
		Rosalie Gurr	368315

### Editors Notes

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

The BVA Editor

Goodhope

Stockbridge Road

Tisbury

Hants SO51 ONG by the date shown below.

Copy may be hand written, typed or on PC media 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 36848

Latest Copy date for the next issue is

15th May 2008

## From the Chairman

takes a meandering route. We also tend to stick to a familiar path even when shown a quicker one. These results parallel similar findings in ants and fish.' The study sounds very plausible and should give great confidence to our leader when he crosses Hadrian's Wall and into Border country without a backward glance!

You may have noticed from the Parish Council notes that a planning application at Upper Slackstead Farm had been submitted. The Council objected to the proposal. Even though the development falls outside the Parish boundary there are a number of factors which will affect the village if the proposal is accepted. The BVA Committee posted details of the application on the four village notice boards for the benefit and guidance of residents. The village website, also give general details of the application and the BVA Committee's letter in response. Also, you may have noted that the website publicised the invitation to an Exhibition in the Romsey Town Hall regarding proposals for the development at Abbotswood on 7 and 8 March.

In the future the website may play a more prominent role in many of our lives as it provides at a glance 'work in progress' and the latest news from around Braishfield. I

How wonderful it is, on the first dry enough day of spring, to lie back on the grass and let your mind freewheel in the empty expanse above and appreciate 'the tumbling clouds'. Clouds are for dreamers, and their contemplation benefits the soul. To look at them and through them, lifts us all above earthly concerns. Clouds are expressions of the atmosphere's moods and are endlessly captivating - once we start looking properly. The display is available to us all. Everyone has a ringside seat; you do not have to live in an area of outstanding beauty to enjoy them. Though they are entirely explainable scientifically, they remain mysterious and artistic. You can tell that cloudless monotony is not for me.

The Farley Chamberlayne Charity walk is upon us once again in May. No doubt quite a number of walkers are now under training? I was interested to read a copy of the journal *Biology Letters* which proclaimed the findings of a study, - 'when it comes to following directions, humans are no more sophisticated than fish or ants. Most of us are happy to play follow my leader, even if we are trailing someone who does not know where they are going and

## From the Chairman (cont')

hope you make good use of it.

The Annual General Meeting of the BVA was held on 22 January. It was a friendly meeting which took little time! The Committee found encouraging support from those attending, although the numbers were down. We are grateful to all those who have supported the Association in various ways during the year. Steady progress has been made to improve the quality of the News and Residents Guide, supported by the birth of the Village website in 2007. We intend to continue and develop all three, particularly with your help. Please let us have your suggestions and contributions for the News.

George Elliott  
Chairman

The Romsey Show said goodbye to its 2007 President, Lawrie McMenemy in the beginning of March. At his farewell Lawrie said, 'being President of the Romsey Show is very much top of the list, probably only bettered by being Saints' FA Cup-winning manager.' The newly elected joint president for 2008, Michael and Sue Teale, graciously said, 'we will do our best to fill the boots of Lawrie McMenemy, who has been a marvellous president.' A happy ending - we wish Lawrie and his family well.

## Your Letters

### The Braishfield School Association Seek Storage Space

The BSA have purchased, or acquired a number of artefacts to help in its fund raising activities. This includes a large marquee, a number of chairs (30'ish), some tables and a range of collapsible exhibition boards that would be useful for staging a display, or back drops for the children's plays/presentations/fashion shows etc.,

We are now desperate for somewhere local to store such items and seek help from anyone with some spare storage space that is dry, easily accessible and reasonably secure. A total floor area of approx. 20 sqm would suffice.

Should anyone be able to help please can you drop me an email with your phone number and I will be pleased to call back.

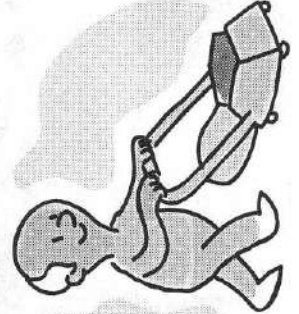
Any help will be gratefully appreciated,

Many thanks,

Julia Stevens email: [mikenjules@mikopy.com](mailto:mikenjules@mikopy.com) or tel: 01794 367801

### All Saints Church Mowers

As another season approaches the mowing teams are all set to tackle the job on a rota basis. A number of new recruits have been signed up to join the happy band bringing our number to 36. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested please e mail Richard Brazier at [rd Brazier@hotmail.com](mailto:rd Brazier@hotmail.com)



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## SOCIAL CONTACT GROUP

At this time of the year, sometimes the days seem endless but if you are a member of the Social Contact Group there is always something planned to look forward to.

We were delighted to be invited by one of our members, Mrs Ann Bird, to join her at home to celebrate her very 'special' birthday in February. Eighteen members enjoyed a wonderful tea and the photo shows a very happy Ann with friends from the group.

Following the success of last year, we held another Bingo Coffee Morning on the 12th March in the Village Hall. The morning started with the Choir of Braishfield School entertaining us, their singing was

superb with such confident soloists, this reminded us that despite the recent bad weather, Spring is just around the corner. A fun Bingo session then followed with Mrs Maggie Batchelor very kindly acting as the Caller.

We plan on visiting Braishfield School on the 2nd April to meet the children and tour the school, a chance for some of our members to recall their own school days.

If you would care to join the Social Contact Group then please do not hesitate to contact Gill Allison on 522965, we can assure you of a very warm welcome.

Hazel Prince



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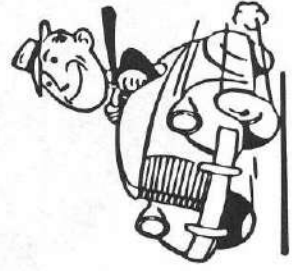
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## Braishfield School

of her time to be a school governor. She has supported the BSA in many ways over the years, most especially with her famous cake making-skills. Mrs Light has also helped ensure the continued link between the school and the wider village community, a role we know she will continue.

Braishfield School has benefited enormously from having Gill Light as a member of staff and she will be sorely missed. We all wish her a very happy retirement and hope she will come and visit us often.

E.M. McLennan.

The end-of-year celebrations at Braishfield School will be tinged with sadness this July. Mrs Gill Light has decided the time has come for her to retire and spend more time with her family. Mrs Light has been a respected and valued member of staff at our school for over 20 years. Her kind caring nature has comforted, reassured and consoled children and parents alike through their Early Years.

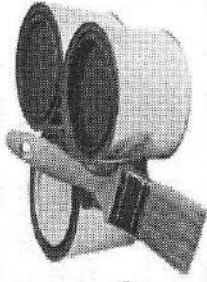
Mrs Light's commitment to Braishfield School has gone beyond her role as Early Years assistant and invaluable member of the Early Years team. She has given willingly



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## Braishfield Horticultural Society

Recent weeks have seen a number of changes in the weather pattern. The situation has gone from too much rain to brilliant sunshine during the day and heavy frosts at night, followed by more rain and high winds. We then entered a period of calm but mild, wet, miserable days. Maybe by the time this goes to print, your summer may be over. Just think about it.

Since our last report, we have enjoyed two more meetings, both of which have been well supported. The first, in February, was when we had been looking forward to a visit by Wolfgang Bopp. Unfortunately, because of a family bereavement, Wolfgang was unable to join us, but, we were very fortunate when Fran Zaenglein, also a member of the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens Staff, agreed to step in at the last minute. It was suggested that Fran made her own choice of subject on this occasion and what an interesting choice she made. Fran had fairly recently been a member of a small group of seven, who had trekked through the Mountains of Altai in Siberia and this was her chosen subject. Supported by some interesting photography, we were taken on a journey that only the brave could endure. The conditions were primitive in the extreme and the food carried, more or less survival rations. Apart from the experience, it is amazing what some

people will do to find some unusual plants and flowers. Fran is an excellent Speaker and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone at the meeting.

Geoffrey Marsh joined us in March to talk about Friends and Foes in the garden. An interesting, if unusual subject. Geoff spoke about the many creatures and weeds we find in our gardens and their benefits or problems to us. He appears to be very tolerant of everything except rats. He is also a wild life photographer and had in addition to his slide show, many photographs on display, which could be purchased. Moving on into April, a reminder that Carol Watson will be our Speaker, when, of course, we will be holding the Spring Show. Please do your best to support the annual event.

In May, Stuart Pocock will be with us once again, to give us the benefit of his experience on growing roses. Everyone loves roses and Stewart is the man to answer all your problems. That is, if you have any of course. As most members are now aware, all matters arising with regard to the proposed visit to Highgrove, are now in place. It has taken the best part of three years to arrive at this position. The idea proved to be very popular among our members and in the beginning we were over subscribed in numbers. Only 25 people are permitted in a visiting group at any one

time. The date we have been allocated is Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May but a number of folk are unable, for various reasons, to go at this time. The result is that the list has reduced to the number allowed. No need for a ballot after all. Wow!!! I trust that everyone meets the security check. The cost of the visit, which has been set at £25.00 per person, includes coach travel and a contribution to the Prince's Trust Charities. We are obliged to travel by coach, as the party must arrive together in one vehicle.

Payment is requested by no later than 8<sup>th</sup> April when we have our next Meeting, preferably by cheque and made payable to the Braishfield Horticultural Society. As most members are aware, The Society donates to various charities each year. Following a successful 2007 and in particular the results of the Flower Show, a donation of £200.00 has been made to the Rose Road Charity. Give yourselves a pat on the back. By the time that the next edition of the BVA is published, hopefully, the outside visits for June will be in place. Meanwhile, if anyone has any bright ideas on the subject, please pass your thoughts on to any member of the Committee. The main criteria being that the site be within reasonable travelling distance and perhaps having a welcoming hostery fairly close by. Put your thinking caps on.

Finally, a gentle reminder. A few Annual Subscriptions are still outstanding. Your Treasurer will be pleased to receive same A.S.A.P.

Bob Thomson

BHS Secretary & Scribe.

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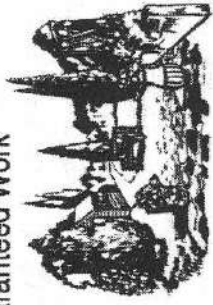
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## Some Exciting Changes to Young Saints!

Young Saints' is a children's club organised and run by All Saints' Church in the village. Many village children have attended our events over the last few years, either our regular Sunday morning club meetings or our "one-off" events.

The leaders have recently been reviewing the work that we have been doing with the children. We realise that due to sports commitments and family activities, Sunday mornings are not a good time for children to attend meetings. However, our workshop-type events such as the Summer Treasure Trail, the Bonfire Party and the Christmas Play have always been particularly successful. We feel this is partly because of the timing of the events and partly because they are a little bit longer, giving parents a chance to do something useful in their children's absence!

Starting this year, we are therefore intending to organise this type of event more often, every 6 weeks or so, usually coinciding with important events in the Church calendar and taking place either during

school holidays or on Saturdays. These events will have a Christian theme, and incorporate all kinds of activities including craft, drama, music and outdoor activities. As with all Young Saints' activities, they will cater for children of primary school age. Due to our commitment to these events, the club mornings we were running on the third Sunday of each month will not take place at the moment.

We will be advertising our events with flyers through doors. We always welcome new faces, so if you are not on my regular "mailing list", please let me know so that I don't miss you out. Also, if you would like to help out as a leader we would be delighted to hear from you!

Don't forget that there is a Family Service at All Saints' on the first Sunday of every month starting at 9.30 a.m.

The Young Saints Leaders.  
Kate Marshall - 367932  
Hannah Boothman  
Meriel Fiddes  
Jane Johnson

## Advertising Charges for 2007/8 in The Braishfield

### Village News

1 year half page	£60
1 issue half page	£12
1 year full page	£120
1 issue full page	£24

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## Molly Mary Marsh 1927-2008

Remembering Molly Mary Marsh with a smile.....

Molly Mary Marsh who died peacefully on 1st February 2008 aged 81 will be remembered by many in Braishfield having worked for many years in the post office. On retirement she lived firstly with us in the village and later at her flat in Test House at Holliman Drive, Romsey.

Mum to us and Molly to her friends - always with a cheerful and happy disposition. Despite a dodgy knee that would not behave itself, hence her four wheel chariot lifeline, cruising around Romsey causing havoc and mayhem in the high street. A smile, a wave to old neighbours and friends - time to chat and catch up on Braishfield gossip/scandal! All that chatting takes its toll so she would head for the cavalry in the form of SAMTAX taxis. Mum we'd say "it's not good to be seen loitering around the public toilets by the bus station" - her reply "don't be silly, it's the Taxi's office".

The shining Knight would arrive, usually Richard in his red taxi to convey her back to the flat - sometimes via a scenic route with mum giving the tour guide info. We junior members of the family would arrive at the flat - not very often a cross word, just a scowl as you walked in the door, then a beaming smile as she'd spring into action in her wheelie to put kettle on.

"Have you brought any cakes with you?" would be the question. "Yes, a sticky bun each". "Oh, no I mustn't really, oh perhaps just the one." Time comes to work off that excess - she'd make for the communal stairwell to commence her physical ascent on the 39 steps. Many a flat mate has caught her in mid flight - "Molly, what are you doing?" - Her reply "oh, just practising for the airplane steps when I go out to Paul & Brenda in France" (my overseas estate). After all that exertion it's time for a fag (just one a day) "oh yeah!" Then, haven't you lot got things to do? In other words, it's time for us to depart. So she could enjoy her dinner and watch her beloved "Emmerdate". Perhaps one more fag before going to bed, "phew what a day" she'd say.

A lovely service at East Chapel on 8th February was conducted by the Rev. Terry Hinks and we would like to thank him and all our friends and family for their support at this sad time. God bless our lovely mum...

Paul & Brenda Marsh



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## Fun Page - Tales of the Sky

1. On a Southwest flight (SW has no assigned seating, you just sit where you want) passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing, when a flight attendant announced, "People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!"
2. On a Continental Flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."
3. On landing, the stewardess said, "Please be sure to take all of your belongings. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have."
4. "There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane"
5. "Thank you for flying Delta Business Express. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride."
6. As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Reagan, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: "Whoa, big fella, WHOA!"
7. After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in Memphis, a flight attendant on a Northwest flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, sure as hell everything has shifted."
8. From a Southwest Airlines employee: "Welcome aboard Southwest Flight 245 to Tampa. To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle, and pull tight. It works just like every other seat belt; and, if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised."
9. "In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child traveling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are travelling with more than one small child, pick your favourite..."
10. "Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Southwest Airlines."
11. "Your seat cushions can be used for flotation; and, in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."
12. "As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses."
13. And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Delta Airlines is pleased to have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"
14. Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Salt Lake City: The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt."
15. Overheard on an American Airlines flight into Amarillo, Texas, on a particularly windy and bumpy day: During the final approach, the Captain was really having to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the Flight Attendant said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to Amarillo. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!"
16. Another flight attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing: "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."
17. An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exhaled, smile, and give them a "Thanks for flying our airline." He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally everyone had gotten off except for a little old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?" "Why, no, Ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?" The little old lady said, "Did we land, or were we shot down?"
18. After a real crusher of a landing in Phoenix, the attendant came on with, "Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal."
19. Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways."
20. Heard on a Southwest Airline flight. "Ladies and gentlemen, if you wish to smoke, the smoking section on this airplane is on the wing and if you can light 'em, you can smoke 'em."
21. "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, non stop from New York to Los Angeles. The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax and.. OH, MY GOD!" ----- (Silence) ----- After a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant accidentally spilled a cup of hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger in Coach yelled, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

Have you got a funny story for the news fun page  
Please e-mail it to me  
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## Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society

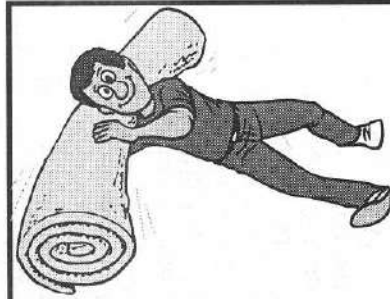
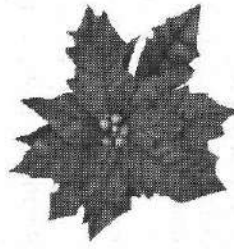
**W**e started the New Year with our AGM and once the official business was completed our members enjoyed an American Supper followed by two fun quizzes. 2008 is a special year for our Society as we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary in July, but more of that in the next issue of the BVA News.

Our February meeting was well attended and members thoroughly enjoyed Mrs Pamela Welch's interpretation of 'A long & Winding Road'. The completed arrangements were stunning and as there was a happy blend of

traditional and contemporary there was something to please everybody.

We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month and extend a very warm welcome to all new members. Details of our next meetings are on the Diary Page.

Hazel Prince



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Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008, 7:30pm

at  
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An evening with local Naval Researcher: Richard Ellis

Telegraphs and Semaphores - How the Internet of 200 years ago passed through Farley Chamberlayne

Followed by:

Race for Glory - HMS Pickle and the race to bring the news of Trafalgar back to England

In the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Admiralty built networks of signal stations from London to the naval bases at Portsmouth and Plymouth. One station was even built in Farley Chamberlayne! This talk will explore the origins, history and demise of these groundbreaking communication systems, and explain why the Farley Chamberlayne station was built at great expense... but never used!

Following his talk, Richard Ellis will tell the story of how the news of Trafalgar was brought to the Admiralty by HMS Pickle, and how this straightforward mission turned into a race, with fame and fortune riding on the outcome.

The Micheldever Local History Society described Richard as "A Local Naval Researcher". He was in the Navy for some 13 years, and had had a career in military communications.

Tickets £5 each to include refreshments.

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## A Reprieve for the 101 Service

An eleventh hour decision by Hampshire Police Authority has given a well-deserved reprieve to the 101 service, which allows the public to report non-emergency incidents. The service, which is mainly used to log incidents of anti-social behaviour, looked doomed when central government withdrew funding in November. However, a one-off payment of £220,000 from central funds, plus further local savings, has enabled Hampshire police to continue the service for another year. Once that time is up, a decision will be made about 101's long-term future.

It would seem that the service has been well-used, with more than 350,000 calls logged since it started in 2006. The Chief Constable himself has expressed

disappointment at the Home Office withdrawing its financial support for the scheme. However, it is clear that more publicity is needed for the service, to make sure everyone is aware of it.

Also, there have been concerns that some technical issues need resolving, such as reports of noise incidents which are not always acted upon immediately. The next year will give everyone involved with the 101 service a chance to iron out any glitches and spread the word about its usefulness.

It would be a great shame if it could not be continued beyond 12 months. Let us support the service and use it appropriately if we can.

George Elliot

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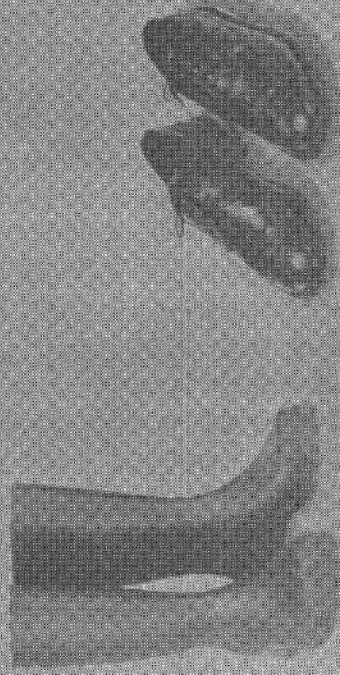
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## Village Notices

### BRAISHFIELD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

#### VILLAGE HALL, BRAISHFIELD

Tuesday 1st April 2008 - 8.00pm

Lynne Dadley - Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance

Parish Council review and financial report 2007/2008

This is an opportunity for you to hear and speak about local issues in Braishfield

### Braishfield Village Hall Management Committee

#### Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3 April 2008 - 7.30pm

To be held in the Committee Room

Everyone is welcome

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## Braishfield 'Over 60's Club'

Years ago the Newport played the Dog and Crook at cricket and the collection at this event was given to the Over 60's Club in Braishfield - then Dave, who was landlord of the Dog and Crook, and two had the idea of something special for the residents of Braishfield. Mike Harris and David Old suggested the Sunday before New Year would be best for a party. The first was held at the Newport, and then the Pubs took it in turns to host the event for a few years. As the party grew in size it became too large for the Pubs so we moved to the Village Hall. Then the Social Club joined in and so we had the extra help and use of the lovely hall. The party has been celebrated now for twenty years.

....

Facts are not necessarily useful! But you may wish to know that there are 120 who are over 60 living in Braishfield. This important piece of information came to light when 77 of them attended the New Year Lunch in the Social Club on 20 January this

year. The event has long since passed but it does require special mention as we celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Year - a memorable occasion. We were made welcome by a generous reception, followed by a delicious lunch and wine, during which we were entertained with music, song and dance - which kept some of us in step and in tune? The children of Braishfield School sang beautifully.

Those who attended wish to thank the Committee, lead by Ricky Dorley and the many kind 'helpers'; and also, the Social Club and the three pubs - *The Wheatsheaf*, *The Dog and Crook* and *The Newport*. The team were more than generous in their time and hard work to give us all a memorable feast. As the invitation said, come to 'the crossroads where friends and neighbours meet'... we did just that, taking away with us many happy memories.

From one who enjoyed the celebration.

### Rubbish News

Please note the following from the recent Bin Collection Days calendar sent out by Test Valley which was not explicit before  
Recyclable materials in cardboard boxes left beside the brown bin on recycling weeks will be collected throughout the year

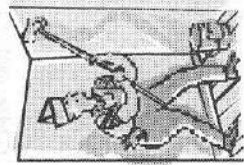
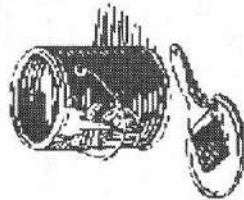
Recycle weeks beginning 1st 14th & 28th Apr. 12th & 26th May

Household weeks beginning 7th, 21st Apr. 12th & 26th May

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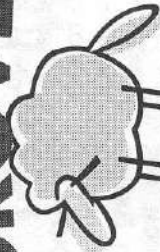
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## Sheep matter at Elm Grove

All last year's lambs have gone now; Kate is pleased that she sent 26 to be packaged and sold directly to friends and villagers. The others went to Salisbury Market where, one week, she achieved the highest price of the week, which was good news.

The next major event is lambing. The first are due to appear from the end of April, although there has already been a first. A week ago Kate noticed from afar that one of her 'pet' ewes that she wasn't going to use for lambing this year, was in the field with two lambs; they were full term and she given birth to 3, one didn't live. They were obviously the result of an illicit liaison last autumn! (Kate remembered that one evening she and Ian were all dressed up to go out and noticed a ram where he shouldn't be and they had to round him up and put him back from where he had escaped, and repair the fence, all before being able to continue on their journey.) A shelter was made hastily and little polythene coats put on the lambs as the weather was absolutely disgusting. They needed a little bit of feeding, but Mum was soon able to do that herself and all is well.

Lambing this year will be a little different - Kate is herself pregnant, so will not be able to assist in deliveries or early care. Ian her husband is going to have some extra tuition and her Mum Linda is going to come and stay for 2 weeks to

assist. Kate will be able to act as a non hands-on consultant so will be advising and organising. We hope that the Cow Pen, which is currently being renovated by Dick Ord, will be ready to use as a nursery as usual.

All the pregnant ewes are here now; next week the shearer is coming to crutch them, so that their rear ends are cleaned up ready for lambing. Kate had them all scanned a few weeks ago and there are lots of triplets, which are in one field, lots of twins, which are in another and then the rest singles. As a result of the scanning, the ewes have different levels of food to make sure they keep well during pregnancy and that the lambs will be well.

Once the lambs are born, most of them will go to Kate's other grazing that she has at Overton. She would love to have more grazing locally, so if anyone does know of any, could they please ring her on 368794.

The fields will be rested over the summer some of them are being left for the all-important hay, so when you see the fields empty it is for a purpose and all part of the yearly cycle.

If any of you would like to come to see the lambs, give Kate a ring after the end of April and she'll be happy to let you come. Wendy and Peter Quarendon

## WELLOW Fitness Centre

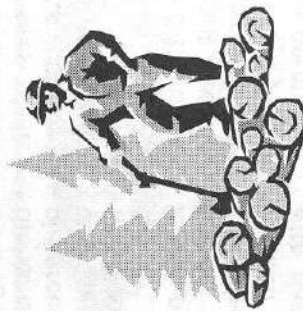
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## Braishfield Parish Council Notes

This report on the Parish Council covers the Council's meetings held on 5th February and 4th March 2008.

The Parish Council took on responsibility for the War Memorial some years ago and recently obtained a valuation for insurance purposes. This indicated that the insurance value should be increased from the existing £20,000 to £32,000 and the Council has agreed to do this. It also obtained a quotation for cleaning the Memorial and accepted a quotation from Lockerley Stone & Masonry for this. It is expected the work will be done shortly.

From a comment made to the Council, it has agreed to replace the backing pieces on the four notice boards situated around the village. These are the boards which are open to the weather and have suffered the ravages of it. The material has been obtained and a volunteer has offered to do the handywork.

The Council has followed the usual practice of making a grant towards the cost of the churchyard maintenance. The grant was £500 this year. The Council is not permitted to make grants to organisations for religious purposes, but burial grounds are not included in this. The argument for making a grant is that should a PCC close a churchyard or part of it, then the local civil Parish Council would be re-

quired to take over the whole maintenance responsibility.

The Council also agreed to make a donation of £75 to the Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society, noting that changes are in hand to improve the Society's finances.

Debate continues about railings outside the school. Concern has been expressed about the safety of children walking along the path to the Recreation Ground entrance. This trip is necessary because the School uses the village hall as an assembly room. A recent suggestion has been to consider using railings similar to those along the footpath in Hursley. However, this has not received total support and a reduced scheme has been proposed.

Investigations also continue into the construction of a replacement playground and discussions will take place with the School on which equipment should be used.

It was noted that the proposal to reduce the speed limit along Braishfield Road has now been advertised and comments have to be made to Hampshire County Council by 24th March. The Council agreed to re-affirm its support for the proposal.

Following comments made last year about safety of the dipping platform at the pond, the height of the

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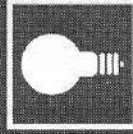
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rail has been increased and it is now believed that this is an acceptable compromise between allowing small children to have access to the pond while protecting them from it.

There have been quite a number of planning applications received recently for the Parish Council to consider, with just one decision made by Test Valley Borough Council.

The extension at Holmsleigh at Crookhill was refused by TVBC owing to the impact on an adjacent property and a new application has now been submitted. Test Valley has put a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on the oak tree at the side of Braishfield Road behind Newport Terrace.

The Council objected to the proposed swarf facility by BKP at Bunny Lane on the grounds that traffic levels are unclear in the application, though appeared too high, and also the work start time of 6.30am is too early.

The Council also objected to what it saw as the unnecessary encroachment on to agricultural land for the driveway at Axminster Cottage, Lower Street.

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st April at 8pm immediately after the April council meeting which will start earlier than usual at 6.30pm. This year the guest speaker will be Lynne Dadley of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance service. This is in fact a registered charity which relies on donations for its operation. Quite how close this operates with the normal ambulance service will no doubt be explained at the meeting. All villagers are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting at which you can hear reports from the Parish Council, but the main purpose of the meeting is to allow villagers to express their own views about the village. The Council would welcome your attendance.

The TVBC Planning Authority dealt with just one application as follows:

07/3342/F	Holmsleigh, Braishfield Road	Alterations and additions	Refused
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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:

08/194/T	1 The Terrace, Newport Lane	Tree work	Objection
08/107/T	Beechwood, Church Lane	Tree work	No objection
08/237/F	Replacement dwelling	Sunnybank, Church Lane	No objection
08/376/F	Side extension	Holmsleigh, Braishfield Road	No objection
08/73/F	Change of use of agricultural land	Axminster Cottage, Lower Street	Objection
HCC/2008/0018	Swarf bulking up facility	BKP, Bunny Lane	Objection
08/519/F	Rear extension	Whites Cottage, Dores Lane	No objection
08/398/F	Replacement extension	Spinney Corner, Church Lane	No objection
08/527/T	Tree work	Clayhill, Braishfield Road	No objection

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