

# Brixworth Bulletin

Including Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport

Issue No.13, June 2007



Mercedes-Benz

## NEW DEVELOPMENT AT WOOD PARK



**ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF COMPLETED DEVELOPMENT**

In December 2005, we reported that Mercedes Benz High Performance Engines Ltd and Ilmor Engineering Ltd had become separate businesses.

On Wednesday 4th April 2007, Mercedes Benz High Performance Engines held an Open evening for residents to look at and comment on the plans for their new development at Wood Park, Brixworth.

Mercedes Benz plan to concentrate all their activities at Wood Park and whilst they would not be increasing the numbers of their workforce, they would like to add a second building alongside the current building on the site, which as phase II, will concentrate all their manufacturing facilities in a building of some 10,000 square metres. The plans for the proposed building will be submitted to Daventry District Council by the beginning of May 2007 and it is hoped to obtain planning permission for work to commence in September/October 2007. It is hoped that the building will be complete by the end of 2008 and will be fitted out by early 2009.

A third phase plans to extend northwards the existing building by a further 2000 square metres. An artist's impression shows the proposed new building and the extension.

Ilmor Engineering currently own the Ferro Field site and Units 3, 4 and 5 of the Quarry Road site. At the moment both companies share restaurant facilities at Quarry Road.

Mercedes Benz plan to build a new restaurant at Wood Park and will sell Units 1, 2, 6 and 7 at Quarry Road.

The current work force at Mercedes Benz is about 250 whilst Ilmor have about 45 personnel. Mercedes will concentrate on F1 engines whereas Ilmor will design and build special racing engines.



**LAYOUT OF NEW BUILDINGS**

*Harvey Fox*

# ROYAL VISIT

## THE KEYS TO THE ASHWAY PLAYING FIELDS' CHANGING ROOMS ARE HANDED OVER TO THE PARISH COUNCIL



His Royal Highness the Duke of York officially opened the Mercedes-Benz Technology Centre in Brixworth on Thursday 26th April 2007. The Duke of York met staff and toured the impressive new facility of Mercedes-Benz High Performance Engines located on the Wood Park site which can be seen on the right hand side of the top photograph on page 1.



On Tuesday 17th April 2007, the changing rooms were deemed to be complete and the keys were handed over to the Parish Council clerk, Mrs Jane Macken by Peter Timlin who acted as project co-ordinator.

The photograph shows the outside of the changing rooms which appears to be quite small. However as the Clerk remarked that it is a bit like Dr Who's Tardis in that the interior is very spacious! The two changing rooms are well appointed and can easily accommodate the teams and their reserves. The showers are even appealing to scruffy youngsters, so that every team player can return home in a well scrubbed condition.

The lavatories can be accessed from

outside the building by players and spectators without using the entrances to the changing rooms.

The playing field and changing rooms can be hired from the Parish Council at the current rates:

### Village Teams

- a) Mini soccer teams £17.63
- b) Under 18 teams £23.50
- c) Senior teams £41.13

### Teams from without the Village

- a) Mini soccer teams £17.63
- b) Under 18 teams £29.38
- c) Senior teams £47.00

It is hoped that the changing rooms can be hired at the start of the next autumn season.



## PHILIP HOLLOBONE MP

### Member of Parliament for the Kettering Constituency

reads, enjoys and is pleased to support the Brixworth Bulletin.

Local residents in Brixworth, Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport wishing to get in touch with their Member of Parliament, please contact Philip via:

Tels: 01536 414715 / 0207 219 8373 / 07979 850126  
E-Mail: [hollobonep@parliament.uk](mailto:hollobonep@parliament.uk)  
Address: House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Philip is always pleased to visit constituents in their own home if more convenient

This page is paid for out of the House of Commons Incidental Expenses Provision for Philip Hollobone MP





Just under 40 people gathered for the two churches' Good Friday march of witness this year. The march began with the congregation gathered around the Cross, in order to focus on the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, and was led by Rev Phil Walter and Fr Anthony Watkins. The march then moved off and proceeded around to Brampton Way, where there was a pause for a further reading, prayer and hymn. It then moved to Froxhill and turned down Northampton Road (where another stop was made for prayer), before circling back to the library for a final hymn. Traditional hot cross buns and refreshments were then served at The Olive Branch Coffee shop for the returning pilgrims. There was general satisfaction at the way the march went. It was good to see folk from both churches present to remind the community that Easter centres around the death of Jesus rather than chocolate eggs! And it was good also that, as in previous years, the sun came out to shine upon us.

*Ian Rees*

The editor unreservedly apologises for the misunderstanding regarding the reasons for not publishing Country Eye in the last issue of the Bulletin.

# BRIXWORTH NURSERY FARM



The photograph above shows that Brixworth Nursery Farm is close to completion. It is a four acre site located one km from Brixworth along the Holcot Road. The development includes a new build centre providing a class room, dining area, kitchen, etc. to act as a day care facility for adults with learning difficulties. There are also a number of poly-tunnels and animal shelters on the small holding.

The attendees at the centre will have the opportunity to develop skills in reading, writing, money recognition and budgeting. Other sessions available will be art and crafts,

music, drama, woodwork and cookery courses.

Within the four acres, the attendees will be actively involved in the development and maintenance of the small holding. It is anticipated that there will be approximately five staff.

Rachael Warwick has told the Bulletin that the centre should be open at the beginning of June 2007. Naturally she is extremely busy at this time, preparing for the opening, but she hopes to provide us with more information after the centre has opened. We wish her every success with her very worthwhile project.

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**SPRATTON ROAD BRIDGE**  
**Local traffic black spot**



*Approaching bridge from Brixworth*



*Approaching bridge from Spratton*

The increasingly real and potential dangers of the very narrow Spratton Road Bridge will be well known to local drivers; dangers frequently worsened by the low level mist which hangs around that area in the early mornings and evenings.

Past attempts by Brixworth Parish Council to prompt the Highways Dept. to introduce further safety features have been largely unsuccessful. However, following a serious accident a couple of years ago, The Highways Dept is now willing to consider implementing 'a traffic regulation order' to ease the situation around this troubled area. The Parish Council is recommending a 'shuttle system' with priority given to traffic approaching from Brixworth. It is also thought that a speed restriction be introduced on the entire length of the route. The Council, with the full support of local County and District Councillors and the police, argues that improvements are vital now with the heavy use of The Brampton Valley Way crossing by pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders and the busy car park where children play. The popular light railway is also attracting increasing numbers of tourists. As well as normal traffic, the bridge is heavily used by HGVs and school buses. In short, the problem can no longer be ignored.

During the writing of this report, the Bulletin received the sad information that on the 19th April a head on collision took place on the bridge causing one of the vehicles to overturn.

It is very much hoped that the Highways Department will now give serious consideration to the Parish Council's application.  
*Paddy Fox*

**HANGING HOUGHTON AND LAMPORT NEWS**



Another church grounds working party was arranged for the 21st April, to do a clean up after the winter. This was arranged by Mary Parker and was well attended. A photo of some of the working party is shown above.

The Church Council have arranged for a 'Family Fun Day' to be held on the 2nd June at Shortwood House, Lamport. This promises to be a good day with dog handling and agility displays, various stalls, tombola, raffle, bar and refreshments, etc. The event runs from 11.30am to 4.00pm, and there will be parking provided on site. Please note the date in your diary and come and support the local church.

As the parish council are not arranging a 'do' this summer a group of friends and neighbours are going to arrange a Summer Frolic at the barn in the bottom of the valley below Hanging

Houghton and next to the Brampton Valley Way. All of the local villagers will be invited to attend. The planned date is the 30th June commencing at 8.00pm. Look out for the information leaflet that is to be distributed soon and please book the 30th June in your diary.

The work on the Clint Hill Farm site is progressing and the demolition of all the barns is now complete. There are still some large piles of rubble to be cleared.

I am sad to have to inform you of the recent death of Brian Woodcock of Manor Road, Hanging Houghton. His funeral took place at Lamport Church, with refreshments afterwards at the Kettering Golf Club where Brian had been the Club Secretary. Our sympathy goes to Brian's widow Mary and family.

*Mike Philpott*

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# A BIG SCHOOL WITH A SMALL SCHOOL FEEL



Brixworth CE VC Primary is, in terms of pupil numbers, one of the largest schools in the county. While economies of scale deliver advantages in resources and budget, the challenge for the school is to provide an environment in which every pupil has the chance to receive education to the highest standards; to fulfil their potential, and, to be cared for in such a way as to ensure a high level of personal well-being; in other words to be treated as an individual.

Having led a small rural primary school prior to Headship at Brixworth, where we achieved a personalised approach to learning, I believe it is possible to treat every child as an individual and to make every pupil feel special in a big school.

The size of the school means that it has the financial capacity to fully resource all areas of the curriculum including capital intensive subjects such as information technology. Pupils have access to interactive

whiteboards, networked computers and the latest IT software. The school has an ICT suite with the facilities to take a whole class of pupils; a dedicated music studio; and, sports equipment to cover indoor and outdoor physical education.

Brixworth Primary employs over fifty people. This means that the teaching and support staff bring a wide range of skills and talents to the school and to pupils' education. The breadth of teachers' experience enables the engagement of curriculum specialists and the development of focused subject leadership. The school has achieved the nationally recognised Artsmark to gold standard and the Basic Skills Quality Mark.

The expertise of teachers and the interests of individual staff mean that at any time in the school year a huge range of extra-curricular clubs and activities are offered to pupils. For instance in the week this article was prepared the front page of the school's newsletter listed twenty-two events and activities in addition to the taught curriculum. These opportunities included music sessions (recorders, choir and guitar) performing arts (dance and drama) sport (athletics, rounders, cricket, tennis, rugby, tae kwon-do and sailing), sewing, computer and construction clubs. In addition to these there were French Language classes, a St John Ambulance First Aid session for Year 5's and a visiting speaker gave a presentation to our top juniors about his experiences of mountaineering.

The above all outline the advantages of a big school. The concern some parents may have is that their child will be lost, overlooked or not provided for as an individual. The school's organisation and management structure helps to overcome this:

Firstly, the school is organised into year group teams of from three to five classes. This means that Team Leaders work closely with their teachers and support staff and know the children in the same way that they would be known within a small school. In effect each team is a 'mini-school' of 70 to 130 pupils.

Secondly, the school has in place approaches which lead to clear assessment of pupils' levels of learning, as groups and individuals, and this enable teachers to target children in lessons to maximise opportunities to progress.

Finally, the school celebrates children's achievements in assemblies, and in the weekly newsletter, and has in place a range of award schemes which recognise pupil's qualities and raise self-esteem.

The consistent message teachers give to our pupils is that every child is special. It emphasises the importance of the individual in the whole school and the wider community. Brixworth Primary is a big school with a small school feel!

*David Boucher*

## The Human Mechanics



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Helen Mathieson is the owner and has worked in Brixworth Osteopathic Clinic since it opened in 2000. Sam Ryall joined the practice in 2003 and has experience in Cranial Osteopathy, a particularly effective form of treatment for babies. In August, we were joined by Cheryl Stalkov who also treats babies.

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2 Church Street, Brixworth

# BRIXWORTH UNION WORKHOUSE



The 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act made the biggest changes to the relief of the poor for over two hundred years. The act stated that: (a) no able-bodied person was to receive money or other help from the Poor Law authorities except in a workhouse; (b) conditions in workhouses were to be designed to discourage people from wanting to receive help;

The area of the Brixworth Union, two thirds of which belonged to the Spencer estate meant the Board of Guardians was comprised largely of Spencer tenants. Not surprisingly, at their first meeting in an upstairs room at the Red Lion, Earl Spencer was elected Chairman.

A 4 acre plot in Spratton Road was purchased at a cost of £600 and James Milne designed the building. The original authorised expenditure was £3,253. The actual cost was £5,800 by the time it was opened.

Soon after the Workhouse had opened in 1837 a Bow Street Runner was sent to Brixworth to investigate the strict policy being adopted by the Guardians regarding the payment of "out relief" to the poor and needy of the parish. Brixworth became known as the "dark portion of rural England" due to its almost complete withdrawal of "out relief". "Out relief" meant people got a little financial assistance enabling them to stay in their own homes. Even then no one wanted to go into the workhouse if it could possibly be avoided because of the prison like and spartan conditions. It was an institution feared by the old and needy, a place where families were split up, women in the eastern wing, men in the western side and children separated from parents. Mrs. Briddon, one of the cooks, described the food as meagre and tasteless being mainly bread and cheese with occasional portions of meat. In fact workhouse inmates were allowed 137 ozs (about 4kg) of food a week, although this

varied according to whether you were male, female or a child. A criminal in jail by contrast was allowed 292 oz. No wonder the Brixworth Poor Law Board was known as the "Bury all Board". Nor were meagre rations the only way that the Guardians tried to cut costs. It was common practice for the bodies of those who died in the workhouse to be sold to medical schools unless relatives claimed the body quickly. Despite these deterrents, if you were old, mentally ill or the mother of an illegitimate child there was nowhere else to go if your relatives didn't care for you.

At the time of the Census in 1851 the total in residency was 134 although the building was designed to accommodate 265. By 1891 this number had been cut to 82. In 1892 a Local Government Committee set up to look into the conditions in the Workhouse, instructed the Brixworth Guardians to: "*make the building more cheerful*". They also recommended the provision of: "*a more continuous occupation during the day both for the infirm and able bodied and that women should be employed in knitting and needlework of some kind*". Three years later a social commentator was still saying "the inmates of the House are either worthless in character or feeble in mind and body" At the turn of the Century it was still common to see men breaking stone and women picking oakum (unpicking old tarred ropes) to pay for their bed and board.

The Workhouse was often used as a halting place for tramps and vagrants and as many as 2,000 casuals were admitted at different times each year. Special "cells" were provided for tramps to segregate them from the more permanent inmates and they were never allowed into the building until after 6.00pm. If any of the casuals had money they would often hide it in the high boundary hedge of the Pytchley Kennels opposite the

Workhouse to avoid having it taken off them by the Officers. When the hedge was eventually removed by Council workmen during road widening in Spratton Road, folklore has it that several caches of money were discovered having not been reclaimed by the inmates.

In 1935 the functions of the Workhouse and the Brixworth Union were taken over by the Brixworth Rural District Council and Brixworth Workhouse closed. The Council bought the land for £2,000, rear buildings were demolished, and many of the rooms including the Chapel were converted into offices. Much later the Community Centre was built on what had been the Workhouse gardens. The remaining building is now used by a firm of surveyors whilst the village dentist surgery occupies the Women Tramps' wards.

I am grateful to Brixworth History Society for the use of their archives in researching this article. However any errors are entirely my responsibility.  
*Dennis Coles*

## Guildsborough Surgery Patient Participation Group

Guildsborough Surgery has set up a Patient Participation Group (PPG) that will allow patients to have more involvement with the Practice.

The group can feed back suggestions or complaints and also support the practice in different ways.

If you are a patient and are interested in joining the group or wish to make any comments, please contact:

**Barbara Hogg PPG Member**

**Tel: 01604 880552**

**e-mail: [barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk)**

## BRIXWORTH SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

Brixworth Primary School will be holding their annual summer fete in the school grounds on Saturday 30th June 2007.



# DRAUGHTON NEWS



In my last report, I expressed the concern which a number of people have mentioned about the state of the roads in and out of the village, but despite numerous reports to the Street Doctor and County Council, they are still in a dreadful condition. With no rain for so long, all the water has dried up and the big potholes are now visible, but our concern is for cyclists who do not know the road and may hit one of them and have a nasty accident.

Following the great success of the Quiz night last year, in aid of St. Catherine's Church, another has been arranged for Friday, 6th June. Tickets are available from Melanie Duke and Jo Prout.

Congratulations to Ben and Gwen Tew who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on the 21st April. Their daughter Dorothy and family organized a party for them in Walgrave Village Hall. Friends and relations came from near and far to help them celebrate this wonderful happy occasion.

## Brixworth Centre Pre-School Fundraising Events

The Pre-School annual Spring Fayre was held on Saturday 19th May which was very successful and was kindly sponsored by Elsby and Co. Chartered Accountants of Sywell. The Pre-School also held an Easter Activity afternoon, which included face painting, making Easter cards and decorating biscuits. This event was a complete success and enjoyed by all who attended and raised approximately £140 for the Pre-School.

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**In Memory of Pearl Mitchell**

Stuart, Lisa and family, George, Poppy and Mary and Bob Mitchell would like to thank everybody for their overwhelming support during Pearl's short illness and at her funeral. The family wish to thank everyone for their continued support which they believe is a credit to the village.

Pearl supported MacMillan Nurses and a total of £625.00 was donated at her funeral and since. A further £650.00 was collected for the CCU Critical Care Unit at Leicester.

**Daventry District Elections 2007**

Liz WiiG retained her seat as a conservative councillor on DDC. She received 1285 against 319 for the other candidate. The turnout was 35.9%. She has asked the Bulletin to express her thanks to all who voted for her. The Council now comprises 35 conservatives, 1 labour and 2 liberal democrats.

Brixworth Drama Group has donated the profits of £2000, made from their pantomime Aladdin performed in January, to two charities. The Helen and Douglas House Hospice in Oxford cares for children and young people with terminal diseases and The Earl Mountbatten Hospice in Newport I.O.W. provides for patients with life-limiting conditions from the time they are first diagnosed with an incurable condition. The latter was the hospice that cared for the author of Aladdin, Bill Sputters until his death. Each charity received £1000. Brixworth Drama Group would like to thank all those who gave their support.

**BRIXWORTH WOMENS INSTITUTE**

The Institute meet on the second Tuesday of each month at Brixworth Village Hall, Holcot Road Brixworth at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are very welcome. Contact numbers: President – 883615; Secretary - 880317

The remainder of our 2007 Programme is as follows:

- June 12th Mr T. Williams will talk on Assets and Wills
- July 10th W.I. ladies A taste of summer
- August No meeting
- September 11th Mr K McGrath Talk on life in a monastery
- October 5th Annual General Meeting
- November 13th Mrs Rhodes Demonstration on sugar craft
- December 11th Christmas Party

The Group's next production will be two one act plays. "The Allotment" by Gillian Plowman is a drama about a group of somewhat mature ladies doing community service for various offences. When a new young probation officer comes to visit her clients to get to know them, she finds out more than she bargained for. It is an emotional and interesting play with an all female cast.

On a lighter note "Last Panto in Little Grimley" by David Tristam is the hilarious sequel to the successful comedy "Last Tango in Little Grimley" which the group performed last year.

The performances will be held in Brixworth Village Hall on Thursday 14th, Friday 15th and Saturday 16th June at 8.00pm. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £4 for concessions. Live music will be performed by various members of the group and seating will be arranged in the popular cabaret style with a licensed bar available before and after the show.. Tickets can be obtained from Lovell Hardware, Spratton Road, Brixworth or Libby Bowers on 880672.

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# POLICE QUARTERLY REPORT

I shall start by thanking you for assisting us in securing our new premises at Catherine House Harborough Rd Brixworth. We moved in on March 5th and are now well settled with most teething problems sorted. PCSO Allan Whenmouth has joined the team and by the time this article is at the press we will have become your Safer Community Team. In a nutshell this means that our team will be dedicated to the Daventry Rural North sector.

In addition, we will be canvassing the public to see what your main concerns are. (Please use the response forms within this bulletin to let us know). Once this data has been disseminated, 3 local priorities will be decided upon by representatives of the community and together with local partners we will work towards tackling them. This is a major change in Community policing giving you a say on what we prioritise rather than decisions being made at the Home Office. Progress will be regularly announced at public meetings, in the press and displayed in the Community Centre and village post office. Eventually progress will be communicated on [www.compassunit.com](http://www.compassunit.com)

This is not only the end of the financial year but the policing year too, so I shall supply a few statistics.

Hanging Houghton recorded no crime, Draughton 5 (4 theft and one burglary), and Lamport 4 crimes (thefts). With the exception of Draughton all show a huge decrease on 05-06. Draughton suffers at the Brampton Valley Way crossing where cars are frequently attacked in order to take property left on display.

Brixworth parish shows an increase in overall crime to 242 crimes (up 6%). Viewing previous years however shows a steady overall decrease particularly in relation to burglary and violence. Criminal damage still dominates the figures with 94 (38%) in total – this does however represent a reduction on last year. There have been fewer thefts from motor vehicles and no robberies reported.

We have detected 31% of the damage offences, 35% of violence and 100% of reported drugs offences. All well above force average and target.

Recent court activity related to the village includes a 12 month supervision order being placed on a 17 year old female for theft and criminal damage, a 2 year anti social behaviour order being issued to Mark Chambers (18yrs) of 2 Woodfield Brixworth; full details of this are on display in the community centre and village post office. 2 males, 17 and 22 year old are due to appear in court on 25th April for TWOC and another 22 year old has been committed to Crown Court 25th May 2007 for assault, damage, TWOC

and burglary. In addition to this a local male has been convicted at Northampton Magistrates court for storage of and sale of alcohol without a license and selling to underage youth, he will be sentenced on 11th May 07.

Please let us have your views and concerns via the enclosed return form. These can be mailed or dropped in to the Community centre in Brixworth, at our office on Harborough Rd or handed to one of us whilst on patrol.

Thanks *Police Sergeant Mike Grady*

Daventry Rural North
Working together locally

Safer Community Team

As your local Safer Community Team, we want to find out what concerns you most about your local area, so that we can work with our partners to deal with any problems and help improve your quality of life.

To help us do this, please tell us what you consider to be the three most important issues in your neighbourhood? (Please tell us when and where any problems occur, and indicate whether you consider them to be minor, moderate or serious).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Minor Moderate Serious

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Minor Moderate Serious

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Minor Moderate Serious

We are hoping to set up a community discussion group where local people can discuss local issues with the police and other agencies. Would you be interested in taking part in such a group or attending a community meeting? If so, how can we contact you?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no. \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any other comments, suggestions or information?

**What to do next:**

- Hand the card to one of the team when you see us around
- Look out for one of the special post boxes in local shops, community centres and similar locations
- Or pop it in an envelope and post it to Sgt Mike Grady, Catherine House, Harborough Rd, Brixworth, NN6 9BX

What is your ethnic origin?

Your age:

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45 to 54

55 to 64

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# PLANNING STATUS REPORT

REFERENCE NO. & DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	P.C. RECOMMENDATION & D.D.C DECISION
DA/2006/1154 10 Kennel Ter Conservatory to rear	PC 28/11 No Objection. DDC Refused
DA/2006/1168 25 Knightons Way. Single storey extension to rear of building	PC 28/11 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1199 8 Waterpike Conservatory to rear	PC 28/11 No Objection DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1278 T K Cable Ltd., Staveley Way. Erection of 2.4m high security fencing and gate.	PC 19/12 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1277 75 The Ashway. First floor extension over garage.	PC 19/12 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1305 Mercedes Benz High Performance Engines, Wood Park, Morgan Drive. Temporary restaurant facility 9.6m x 24m required for 3 years.	PC 19/12 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1333 11 Stonehill Way. First floor extension to side of property.	PC 19/12 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1351 24 Broad Street. Ridged roof over existing rear extension. Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey extension.	PC 19/12 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2007/0037 Hadleigh Cottage, Holcot Road. Extension to the side and rear of the property with detached double garage at the front.	PC 31/1 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2007/0044 Beech Hill, 25 Church Street. Demolition of conservatory and outhouse, construction of extension to house and new detached garage.	PC 31/1 No Objection providing materials used are in keeping with existing buildings. DDC Approved.
DA/2007/0061 77 Northampton Road. Outline application for demolition of out buildings and erection of new dwelling, alteration to vehicular access.	PC 31/1 No Objection providing stone wall on Northampton Rd. side of property is retained. DDC Approved.
DA/2007/0065 Land at rear of 24 Northampton Road. Three terraced dwellings and vehicular access onto Broad Street.	PC 31/1 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2007/0142 79 The Ashway Alterations to garage to form garden store and side extension to kitchen	PC 24/4 No observations. DDC Approved.
DA/2006/1304 McInerney Homes, Land at Holcot Rd. Amended plans to permit footpath 1.8m wide on Holcot Rd. side of the development.	PC 31/1 No Objection.
DA/2007/0213 Cedar House Brixworth Hall Park. Outline planning permission for new dwelling	PC 27/3 Objection. DDC refused
DA/2007/0290 8 Eastfield Road. Conservatory to rear	PC 24/4 No objection.
DA/2007/0243 12 Woodfield. Outline application for a three bedroom dwelling at land at 12 Woodfield.	PC 24/4 Permission only recommended for a bungalow.
DA/2007/0264 Detached dwelling on land to the rear of 20 Northampton Road.	PC 24/4 No objection
DA/2007/0265 61 The Ashway. Conservatory to rear.	PC 24/4 No observations
DA/2007/0274 21 Broad Street. Single storey extension to rear.	PC 24/4 No objection
DA/2007/0320 12 Dairy Close. Side extension to provide utility room at rear with study over existing garage.	PC 24/4 No objection provided built to match existing materials.
DA/2007/0324 Merry Tom House. Garden room (amended scheme)	PC 24/4 No observations
DA/2007/0381 Co-op 3 Hunters Way. One fascia sign, one double sided projecting sign (internally illuminated)	PC 24/4 No objections, but PC would not like to see sign illuminated throughout the night.
DA/2007 0396 Sunnybank, Station Road. Loft conversion to provide bedroom, bathroom and study.	PC Objection – rooflights out of character to the property which is in conservation area.
DA/2007/0383 Land at rear of 24 Northampton Rd. Variation of condition 3 of DA/2007/0065 re Plot One only. Pedestrian visibility splay.	PC 24/4 Noted.

## EX-RIGIFLEX SITE

In previous Bulletins we reported the progress of the planning application of the Rigiflex site for conversion to 34 housing units. Under the 106 agreement, 10 of the units are to be affordable (7 of which are to be shared ownership and 3 available for rental)

Rigiflex have relocated and we will cover that new location in our next issue following an interview with Mr Peter Garley, Managing Director of Rigiflex.

John Wilcox of John Wilcox Land has sold the land with the attendant planning permission on the 16th April 2007 to Midsummer Housing Association, a member of the Guinness Partnership in Milton Keynes. Midsummer Housing Association has since sold part of the site on to Amberley (Gramm Homes Ltd) PO Box 5657 in Milton Keynes. Amberley will work with one of DDC's partner RSL's (Registered Social Landlord) to develop 10 affordable homes. Amberley will also develop 11 homes for private sale. Amberley are ready to start on site and will commence late June. Midsummer have retained ownership of part of the site. The Bulletin asked Mr John Kiely of Midsummer about the remaining 13 units and his answer was 'Due to changes in policy by the Housing Corporation and DDC, we have yet to decide if we will develop the remaining 13 units for affordable or whether we will sell this piece of land on. We are currently appraising the scheme but if we do proceed with the development, we will be developing these units for new build homebuy (shared ownership).'

The Housing Corporation encourages Associations to agree to use only one RSL on small sites such as this one.

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# WORLD FAMOUS BANDS ARE LINED UP FOR NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FESTIVAL AT SPRATTON



One of the UK's premier folk festivals is on our doorstep – with world famous folk bands being lined up for this summer's Spratton Folk Festival. The two day festival, with tickets on sale at [www.sprattonfestival.com](http://www.sprattonfestival.com), includes a packed schedule of bands and performances from two internationally renowned folk groups.

Show of Hands, a British based group who were voted Best Live Act by the public at the 2004 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, have headlined at festivals such as Glastonbury and WOMAD and perform all over the world. The band – made up of duo Steve Knightley and Phil Beer – describe themselves as a mix of rock, roots, blues, country and trad and play on an array of instruments – including the slide guitar, fiddle, mandolin and South American cuatro.

Top folk band Capercaillie, who have sold over a million albums and wrote music for Hollywood movie 'Rob Roy', will also headline at the Northamptonshire festival.

Festival organiser and Spratton resident, Gary Ashton, said: "This is a very exciting addition. Lead singer Karen Matheson is known as one of the finest Gaelic singers alive today, with actor Sean Connery describing her as having 'a throat that is surely touched by God'.

"Along with all the other bands we have lined up this festival looks set to be the best yet by far. This is the first year we have attracted national names and we are now set on making this festival an annual and self sufficient event which raises money for good causes in the county."

Northamptonshire jazz and blues group, The Ginger Pig Band, will be back on stage again this year – along with one of last year's favourites, Togmor – who interplay bursts of jigs and reels with evocative acoustic songs.

Around 5,000 people are expected at this year's Spratton Folk Festival, which will start on Friday, July 13 and run until Saturday, July 14 late evening. There will be beer tents, catering, craft stalls and heaps of children's entertainment, including a circus and big top.

Proceeds from the event will fund future folk festivals and fund local causes in the county.

Prices: For tickets and details log on to [www.sprattonfestival.com](http://www.sprattonfestival.com)

Children aged 10 and under are free and adult tickets start from £6 a day. An adult ticket – which gains you admission for the whole weekend – ranges from £17 to £34.

There are also weekend rates, concessionary tickets and a two night camping pitch is £20.

We have a special offer - just for Brixworth Bulletin readers. Book before midnight on May 31st and you can get any two tickets for the price of one. Simply log on to [www.sprattonfestival.com](http://www.sprattonfestival.com), follow the buy tickets links, follow the 'promotional code' link and enter the code - **bh2179**

## BRIXWORTH PHARMACY

Despite the fascia above the pharmacy in Brixworth proclaiming Gordon Davis Pharmacy which was erected in early 2005, when Mr Powdrill sold his business to the Gordon Davis group of pharmacies, the business was sold to the Co-operative Group of pharmacies in June of last year.

At that time The Co-operative Pharmacy, which has more than 450 branches across the UK and is the country's third largest pharmacy chain acquired the 30-strong Gordon Davis chain which included the Brixworth branch.

At the time, Simon Davis, managing director of Gordon Davis (Chemists) Ltd said 'I am delighted to have reached agreement with the Co-operative Group Pharmacy and I know these branches will continue in safe hands. These are good shops with excellent staff, and I am sure they will continue to thrive.'

Nicola Illingworth and Teri Clayton are continuing as pharmacists and staff levels have not been affected. The Pharmacy is a completely different managed business from the rest of the Co-op shops in Hunters Way.

It is understood that Mr Powdrill continues to own the pharmacy premises but not the business.

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**Northampton Sailability** based at Northampton Sailing Club offers facilities for disabled people to enjoy a wide variety of sailing activities, ranging from joy rides on Pitsford Reservoir to Royal Yachting Association standards in dinghy and keelboat sailing. Our aim is to enable people of all abilities to enjoy sailing in safe environment. We have a variety of boats, some specially designed for people with limited mobility which, together with our supply of experienced volunteers, safety equipment and appropriate clothing, permits members and visitors to just "Turn up and go sailing!" A hoist is available to transfer sailors from wheelchair to boat if required.

Sailing is normally available every Monday and Friday, April to October, (except Bank Holidays), and also on two Saturdays of each month, from 10:30am to 4:30pm.

Sailing tuition is organised on an informal basis with a personal coaching scheme on Mondays, except Bank Holidays.

Group trips and fun sailing take place on Mondays and Fridays. Several Day Centres who care for the disabled bring groups along for joy-rides and a picnic and have a great time. Other groups interested in this activity are welcome. While we have one boat which takes up to ten for group sailing, we would like another as we would like to have the capacity to take on more groups. Fund raising and seeking sponsors for this additional boat is our goal.

*In September there is a trip to Holland to sail yachts with Brussels International Sailing Club. This is an annual event with exchange visits alternate years. Netherlands and Oosterschelde are very suitable for complete beginners. There is a bit of tide, not much wind and little sea state. It is planned as a beginners' / starters' week. Another annual trip is to the Norfolk Broads where there is a Trust which provides excellent facilities for groups such as ours.*

*We have strong links with local Rotary groups who have provided boats and a regular band of helpers. There are various sponsored fund raising events during the year. Last year our chairman did a dawn to dusk sponsored sail on the longest day.*

*In the past other members have raised funds by sailing round the Isle of Weight, to the Isle of Man and across the English Channel in Wayfarer dinghies. No doubt other such escapades are being planned for this year.*

New or potential sailors are welcome and also helpers who do not need to be sailors as there are plenty of shore jobs as well. If you are interested, just turn up to one of our sessions or tel: 07952579380. [www.northamptonssailability.org.uk](http://www.northamptonssailability.org.uk) for our website.

Gabriel Leeming



**Northampton Sailing Club** celebrated 50 years of Sailing on Pitsford Reservoir last year. In its early days there was a waiting list for joining but with the opening of new reservoirs there are many more inland clubs and the waiting list is a thing of the past. The membership now is steady around 600 and new members (sailing or social) are welcome.

The main season starts at Easter with a full season of club racing on Sundays, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. But you can cruise 365 days each year. In addition there are weekends when we run open meetings with many different classes of boats coming (some from long distances) to compete.

Some hardy members do sail all winter as you may have noticed. The biggest open meeting of the year takes place every year at the end of January. It is a charity event (Steve Nicholson Memorial Trophy) and this year 130 boats took part with over £2400 raised for Asthma UK. Two other winter meetings attracted 44 and 30 boats.

The Youth Sailors were busy developing their skills over the winter. Our UK 29er Youth Squad sailors have now progressed to the 49er and have gained a place in the GB Squad in preparation for the Olympics.

**FOUND IN CAR PARK OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

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## Land owned by Thomas Roe Charity



Prior to the last Trustee meeting of the Thomas Roe Charity in March 2007, the Parish Council Clerk had written to ask the Foundation to register an interest in the Charity's land for which the Parish Council could possibly consider using as a suitable place for BMX/skateboarding.

The Thomas Roe Trustees considered the Parish Council's request and agreed that they were prepared to consider leasing one parcel of land (six acres) of grass land to the east of the arable field (19 acres) which is owned and will be retained by the Charity. The Charity is prepared to grant a lease for five years to the Council from the end of December 2007 at a rent of £800 per annum. The Thomas Roe Trustees have requested a response by September 2007.

The field is located just beyond the allotments on the Creaton Road on the opposite side of the road. The field is surrounded by a hedge and accessed by a metal gate on the footpath running beside the Creaton Road. The grassed field slopes gently to the south and east and could be used for the indicated purpose proposed by the Parish Council. Councillors have been requested to look at the field prior to the next Parish Council meeting on the 22nd May 2007, when the matter will be discussed.

### DO YOU PLAY TENNIS?

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Cannot play? – but would like to; or your game is a bit rusty; our Coaching Team can offer you Group/Individual coaching; initially you do not have to become a member.

So why not pop down to the club – bring the five pieces of fruit with you - and of course your racquet – get fit and have FUN!

Just ring Rita on 01604 769095 to arrange a visit.

## Let's hear it for the Lions!



**Lions litter pick team**



**Brixworth Centre Border**

Photographed here are members of the Brixworth Lions who on Sunday 25th April carried out their twice annual village litter pick and path clearance – this year they concentrated on the Ashway Playing Fields and the path leading down to the A508, thick with weeds and brambles. At the same time several parish councillors litter-picked other areas in the village. But we can't leave it all to the Lions – there is just too much for them to handle.

The Parish Council is looking to co-ordinate a voluntary team of residents to help with an Autumn litter pick to coincide with the Lions who plan to carry out the next one on Sunday 14th October 10am-12noon. If anyone would like to join in, please contact the Parish Clerk, Jane Macken on 881243, preferably well ahead of the date so that she can organize a delivery of pick-a-sticks, gloves and bags from Daventry District Council.

*Paddy Fox*

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The Heritage Centre is available for hiring at a rate of £3.50 per hour, seven days a week. It has a lower room which can seat 24 people and has kitchen facilities as well as the usual conveniences. An upper level, which is part gallery, can accommodate a further 12 people. Catering facilities are available for making tea, coffee or soft drinks.

For further details please contact Tony Brunton on tel: 01604 880941 or Jane Neill on tel: 01604 880618

## ART EXHIBITION 2nd – 3rd JUNE

The Friends of All Saints' Church are holding their annual Art Exhibition at the Heritage Centre, Church Street, which will be open to the public on the Saturday 2nd June and Sunday 3rd June from 11.00a.m. - 5.00p.m. Over 30 artists will be exhibiting and there will be an excellent range of choice at very affordable prices.



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The Quiz which was held at the Village Hall on Friday 20th April raised £214 to provide much needed funds for the Village Hall. It was a very enjoyable occasion. Grateful thanks are given to Les Tyrer and Dennis Coles for organising the event.



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# COUNTRY EYE

by Brian Webster

## A Glass of Wine at Sunset



As I settle down to write my column, the last rays of a spectacular sunset, painted by nature in colours from muted greys, intense yellows, oranges and flame reds, begin to diminish as the sun drops below the horizon. The sky in my tiny window of a view over the valley of the Brampton Nene, has held me spellbound, it seems for seconds, but in reality for more than half an hour. And still I am no closer to finding a subject to write about.

A sip from my glass of home-made wine and there it is! Why not write about sunsets and home-made wine? The wine was made from elderberries gathered within a couple of hundred yards from home, and although I made it myself I have to say it is rather good, if more than a little heady. I use unrefined sugar and fresh yeast with no other ingredients apart from the fruit, while my demijohns come from the local recycling centre, and my bottles too are recycled via friends and family members. So what could be more environmentally friendly than that? When I look a little closer, more than a tinge of unease, if not outright guilt sets in.

Take the demijohns. They will almost certainly have been made in a factory in this country, from materials shipped in from heaven-knows where. Heat is used in their production, transport is used bringing materials in and delivering the finished product to its point of sale. So already we are clocking up transport miles, and electricity use, all drawing on diminishing fossil fuels in the process. Similarly with the bottles. The

wine that they originally held came from Australia, South Africa, Chile, Spain, Italy, and many other countries. Corks come from the bark of the cork oak tree, many of them from the Mediterranean region, but at least these are often harvested sustainably. But the downside is that cork and bottle will have notched up thousands of transport miles.

Well at least we can guarantee that my home-made wine doesn't harm the environment!

The fruit is gathered locally from the hedgerows, so is arguably organic. But what about the sugar? Unrefined it may be but it has still been grown and harvested in Kenya, thousands of miles away, perhaps (heaven forbid) on land that has been forcibly taken from a peasant farmer, and who now has no option but to work for subsistence pay, for an oppressive master. If I buy organic and fair-trade I have at least an assurance that those who produce my bought wine, sugar, and many other products are fairly rewarded for their work, and able to live with amenities like a roof over their heads, clean water and sanitation, schools for their children, all things that we take for granted. So that is what I now tend to do, and encourage my family to do the same.

But what about the beautiful sunsets? Surely they must be beyond reproach? Well no, actually. The spectacular colour effects are often the result of light being reflected off tiny airborne particles of pollutants, once again the result of our thoughtless lifestyles. Hey Ho!

### PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS TO VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

At a special meeting held on Tuesday 17th April 2007, Parish Councillors considered applications for grants and awarded the following:

#### **Brixworth Youth Foundation**

#### **Financial support for part rental of club premises.**

The annual rent and insurance is £16,200 and £4,000 was sought and £4,000 was awarded. Previous grants were £5,500 in 2006/2007; £5,000 in 2005/2006 and £5,465 in 2004/2005.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch**

#### **Financial support for new**

#### **Neighbourhood Watch signs**

At a cost of £123.14, it was requested that 16 new neighbourhood watch signs be purchased and the Parish Council staff used to erect signs. This was agreed. Previous grant £50 in 2006/2007.

#### **Brixworth Travel Club**

**Financial support to subsidise hire costs for providing a minibus service to and from Brixworth to local villages and towns** £600 was sought and granted. Previous grants were £600 in 2006/2007 and £500 per annum in period between 2003 and 2006.

#### **Brixworth Junior Football Club**

#### **Financial support for Junior Football Club**

Historically the Parish Council has granted £250 to offset ground rent charges for use of St. David's recreation ground. It was agreed to grant £250 this year.

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# SPORTS PAGE \*\*\*\*\* SPORTS EDITOR: John Blason

## BRIXWORTH JUNIORS U9's FOOTBALL TEAM



Top from L-R: Bradley Gathercole, Joe Dennis, Christian Dean-Foster, Peter Downey, Thomas Middleton, Tosin Segum, Callum Moore, Luke Gardner, Cameron Stockwell  
Bottom from L-R: Harry Jackson, Finn Skuce, Tom Welek, Scott Brooksbank, Alex Haycock, James Johnson, Alexander Page. (Others not in photo: Thomas Beckett and Daniel Peacock)

Brixworth Juniors U9's Football team play in the Northampton & District Youth Alliance Football league. Currently there is a squad of over 20 players which consists of both under 8's and under 9's and these make up two teams called the 'Panthers' and 'Pumas'. Both teams have had a fantastic season and all players have enjoyed themselves. The commitment from both players and parents throughout has been great and much appreciated. It is pleasing to see how much the players have developed, both individually and when playing in a team. The Panthers have progressed well and have a chance of finishing in the top two of their league, whilst the Pumas who were only set up in February of this year, have worked hard and are

improving significantly.

We would like to pass on our thanks to Mercedes Benz High Performance Engines for sponsoring the kit for our first season.

Next season we are hoping to run an under 9's team and two under 10's teams. Training will commence on Monday evenings at the Ashway Playing Field from 6pm - 7.15pm starting 18th June when we will be holding trials for next season. If your son or daughter is aged 8, 9 (year 3 or 4) and aged 10 (year 5) from 1st September 2007, they will be eligible to come along.

If you would like any further information, please contact Adam Haycock on 07796 175065 or Ian Middleton on 07788 715375.

## BRIXWORTH BADMINTON CLUB

Gaining the Sport England Clubmark and Badminton England Silver Club accreditations has helped enormously in raising the profile of the club. We now have a thriving junior section which plays at Guilsborough School on Fridays between 6.30pm and 7.30pm. Our senior membership has also increased, but we still welcome new members of any standard. If you played years ago at school or occasionally hit a shuttle around in a leisure centre, and would like to join us please 'phone either Tony Blackwell on 01788 822697 (Juniors) or Geoff Dawson on 01604 882369 (Seniors). You will be made most welcome without any obligation. We cater for all standards of players and can offer coaching on request. We are also family friendly and regularly organise social events for members and their families. There are 7 league sides of widely differing standards, and we also arrange friendly matches on demand. Many of our members do not wish to play over competitively and are just content to play on club nights which are Wednesdays and Fridays during term time.

31 of us have just enjoyed a superb day out at The All England Championships at the N.I.A. in Birmingham and we have a number of other social activities in the coming months.

*Philip Imison*

## BRIXWORTH GIRLS U14's FOOTBALL TEAM

Brixworth girls U14's are having a fantastic season. They have won the NTEFA Cup in March and secured the league title with 3 games still to play. They are off to Sixfields with the boys U11's to play in the league cup final. Despite all this the team is still without a sponsor. What more do they have to do? Any help would be gratefully accepted. The team has a new kit but they still need jackets which could be marked with sponsor's name. So if you think you may be able to help, please telephone Sharon Hanson on 882319

## BRIXWORTH U12's FOOTBALL TEAM

Brixworth U12's would like to thank the kind sponsorship from Atkins which has been a great help and really appreciated by the manager, coaches and all the boys. This was the first season in the 'A' league and was a big step up in the quality of teams that the boys had faced on a regular basis. Our intention was to stay in this league and we are happy to say that the boys achieved this, although it was a little too close for comfort towards the end. It was a hard season but I think the boys have learned a lot and will hopefully kick on next season and push up the league. Well done all and thanks to everyone who has helped during the season.

*Ken Muir*

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