

Brixworth Bulletin

Including Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport

Issue No.17, June 2008

BRIXWORTH PREPARES FOR DE-BAGGING!



The movement to make Brixworth plastic carrier bag free is gathering pace, with more than half of the village's traders committing to use alternative products to plastic bags.

Pupils at Brixworth CEVC Primary School were challenged to come up with designs illustrating the problems with the use of plastic bags. At a special ceremony towards the end of April, Laurie Brocklehurst learned that his picture would be printed on the side of fair-trade organic cotton bags, kindly sponsored by Merry's Estate Agents. These

bags will be distributed free to every household in Brixworth together with an explanation of the aims of the campaign.

Fellow pupil Anna Sherwood will have her picture used on posters to promote the campaign. Laurie received a Bug Hunting kit and Anna received a Big Strange and Nasty Plant kit as prizes.

Other children whose entries deserve a special mention were James Bandey, Tara Denton, Bethany Hutchings, James Johnson, George Kimbell, Ruth Knight, Tosin Segun,

Jamie Sharp, Annie Sparkes and Courtney Woodward.

Heather Pool, Customer Service Advisor at Daventry District Council's Brixworth Information Service, who first suggested a plastic carrier-bag free scheme in February, said "There were so many lovely entries that it was very difficult to choose one winner-so we chose two. The children did some fantastic work. It really got them thinking about environmental issues while, at the same time, highlighting to other people what we are trying to do.

We are continuing to get out and about to talk to people, supporting those who are going plastic carrier-bag free and talking to those not yet on board to see if we can find a solution that will make it practical for them to use alternatives to plastic bags. We are also trying to inform as many customers as possible of our aims and encouraging them to take a re-usable bag with them when they shop."

Businesses taking part in the proposed Brixworth plastic bag free zone extend from La Boutique in Harborough Road up to Expressions in Northampton Road, Kennel Terrace, Spratton Road shops including the Olive Branch Coffee shop and Pitsford Cycle shop, Brixworth Country Park shop and Manor Farm shop.

The official launch of the plastic bag free Brixworth will take place on June 26th.

Currently 13 billion plastic bags are given away in the UK each year.

Becky Hutson

GENESIS MAKES MUSIC TO THE EARS OF BRIXWORTH VILLAGERS STARTING ON THE HOUSING LADDER



HOLCOT ROAD HOMES

Genesis Housing Association has become a partner with McInerney Homes for the 14 houses on the Holcot Road and they will be offering all the homes for either shared ownership or for rental, thus in one stroke, making the homes affordable for Brixworth people starting on the housing ladder.

Similarly Genesis is entering into a partnership with Amberley Homes this month and will be offering all the 34 units on the ex-Rigiflex site for shared ownership or rental. Instead of only 10 units deemed to be affordable under the original 106 planning consent, all units should now be affordable to new starters on the housing ladder.

Please turn to page 3 for more detail under the Zebra Crossing article. *Harvey Fox*



NORTHAMPTON ROAD HOMES

**PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION – BIRDS
WINNER – GEOFF RAYGADA**



Part of last year's art exhibition

The Twelfth Annual Art Exhibition will be held over the weekend 6th - 8th June 2008 in the Heritage Centre, Church Street, Brixworth. There will be nearly a 100 exhibits by 25 local artists and the opening hours are

6th June Preview	7.00p.m. - 9.00p.m.
7th June	11.00a.m. - 5.00p.m.
8th June	11.00a.m. - 5.00p.m.



Runner-up: Emma Poole



Third Place: Colin Dyson

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ZEBRA CROSSING – NORTHAMPTON ROAD



At last, Highways are ready to install the long awaited zebra crossing near the ex-Rigiflex site on the Northampton Road. They have the funding and manpower in place to commence the installation as soon as the developers of the building site have installed the utilities to their site. However work on the building site has been suspended for over four months and this has seriously delayed the completion of work associated with the utilities near the proposed zebra crossing on the road.

The Bulletin has spoken with John Kieley of Midsummer Housing Association and Paul West, Managing Director of Amberley Homes and they have confirmed that Midsummer Housing concluded negotiations on the 30th April with Amberley, the outcome being that Midsummer have sold their portion of the site to Amberley. Prior to these negotiations, Amberley were responsible for 21 units and Midsummer for 13. Now Amberley are owners of the site and they are concluding discussions with Genesis Housing Association to be their social housing partner. Instead of 10 of the 34 units under the original 106 agreement being affordable



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION 08

14 residents were nominated for the 14 positions as parish councillors. As no election was needed, the village has 10 councillors from the last council and 4 new councillors, Angie Gunnett, Ron Low, Steve Pointer and Frank Wiig.

At a recent meeting of the new council the following Chairs were appointed.

P.C. Chairman	I Barratt
Highways & Environment	C.Bament
Planning	B Chattaway
Finance	R Monk
Recreation	T Everard

houses, all the units will now be designated affordable.

Mr Samuel Accafuah of Genesis confirmed that the affordable houses would be a mixture of shared ownership and rental. Funding for the build will be provided by the National Housing Corporation and Genesis.

It is hoped that the new partnership can be persuaded to complete work on the utilities to the site as soon as possible to enable the zebra crossing to become operational without delay. The Bulletin is indebted to Lynda Ferguson of D.D.C. for her help in unravelling these complicated arrangements.

Harvey Fox

CROMWELL COTTAGE



Located in the pretty village of Kissingbury, the Cromwell Cottage re-opened on Friday 18th May after a major refurbishment.

The new landlord, Phil Daley, aged 30, who originates from Cambridge, has the added bonus of head chef experience having worked at the very successful Trout pub in Oxford for the last two years.

Food will be served from 12 noon every day, with an extensive range of wines by the glass, draught continental lagers and real ales.

Phil Daley comments “The new, warm interior is looking great and I look forward to meeting the local residents as they pop in for a meal or a drink and rediscover this beautiful pub”.

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OBITUARIES OF LOCAL RESIDENTS

MARTIN ANDERSON



Martin Harry Anderson, 1959 – 2008. The dash simply denotes a time span, but Martin compressed so much into that dash, achieved so much and touched all of us who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Martin was born in Wath-Upon-Dearne and it is here that he grew up with his brother Michael, sister Liz and parents Nancy and Geoff. He was a true Yorkshire man and very proud of his roots and heritage, even harboring thoughts of playing for his beloved Yorkshire at cricket.

Upon leaving school Martin joined a national food company, FMC in Sheffield and embarked upon a management training program that encompassed all aspects of food manufacture, from a short time working in an abattoir as a “hands on red meat man”, working in the manufacturing process on the factory floor to selling to supermarkets. His career developed and moved him around the country finally settling in Brixworth in 1994 at this time working for Geest in Lincolnshire. This culminated in his position from 1998 as Sales Director at Walkers Charnwood Bakery, part of the Samworth Group of companies, based in Leicester, market leaders in ready meals, sandwiches, and PORK PIE production – yes PORK PIES! Martin was passionate about everything he did and this included his work, there was never a man more passionate about pies.

Martin had many, many friends and from so many circles, he was able to converse with people at all levels and they would instantly take to his warm and caring personality. He was always in contact and would never let a friendship die or dwindle away through lack of contact whether that be with his life long childhood friends from Sheffield, work friends past and present, his Thursday night drinking friends here in Brixworth or the many people he knew in the village.

His other great passion and well known to most, was Barnsley Football Club. His Volvo

could have found its own way from Brixworth to Oakwell. Having being a season ticket holder over 20 years his passion was soon shared by his son, Harry and they would regularly make the pilgrimage North every other weekend.

Family was of utmost importance to Martin. In Rosemarie, he found a soul mate and partner, getting married in 1987, with whom he could share everything of value to him. Nothing more so than their children, Grace and Harry, and how proud he was of them. Grace, when she made the decision, as a nine year old, to spend six months in France with a French family, and latterly their shared passion together for music. (They were usually found together in the “mosh pit” at concerts). Harry, during their first cycle around Pitsford Water, keeping up with him all the time, and of course for the last few years, the shared passion with him for Barnsley Football Club.

He died after a 16 month battle with cancer, which proved difficult and draining for both him and his family. Martin was a man who would have wanted us to remember the positives in life during our times together, his presence and easy going attitude being testament to a person who truly cared about the welfare of others. He would always take time to speak to everyone he knew, not rushing but really listening, you never left his company without feeling that you had had a proper conversation. Beneath the exterior was a person who really did care, his actions speaking louder than words, none more so than in him personally raising over £5000 for charity by cycling 250 miles in 5 days in Cuba.

Melfyn Lloyd Ellis & Richard Cook

Four Brixworth ladies are running in the Edinburgh marathon (26 miles) on 25th May 2008 in memory of Martin Anderson. All money raised will be donated to Cancer Research UK. If you wish to make a donation, a Justgiving website is available at www.Justgiving.com/brixworth4

CYRIL PRATT

1916-2008



Cyril Pratt, who had lived in Brixworth for 33 years, passed away after a short illness on 11th February 2008.

Cyril who was born in Filey, Yorkshire, and brought up in Peterborough, served in the Home Guard and Territorial Army during the war.

He joined the Metropolitan Police at the end of World War Two and one of his first jobs was controlling crowds at the Victory Parade. He was on duty at the funeral of Queen Mary and the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. He rose to the rank of Station Sergeant and received three commissioner’s and four commander’s commendations. One of his most memorable incidents was cornering a gang of four, single-handed and making arrests.

On retirement from the police force, Cyril and his wife Margaret ran the shop in Cottesbrooke for four years.

They moved to Brixworth in 1975. His interests centred around his gardening, the Church and his family. He and Margaret were regular attendees at All Saints Church. Margaret died in 2002. Cyril served as a Church Warden and for a spell assisted Father Watkins as Verger. A choirboy in his youth, he took up singing again and was a member of the Church Choir for 25 years.

Cyril is sadly missed by his 6 children and 14 grandchildren. He was particularly proud of his 23 great-grandchildren who he referred to as “All of my Treasures”.

Christine Pratt



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TANDEM SKYDIVE IN AID OF CHARITY

My daughter Leonie Tite carried out a tandem skydive on Saturday May 3rd in aid of the Prostate Cancer Charity. This skydive was in memory of her late father who came from Brixworth, Jeff Tite. Leonie's father was an ex professional boxer who passed away two years ago, from this illness. She managed to raise £548 from family and friends. The photographs show the skydive in progress and Leonie after completing the dive.
Barbara Ambrose



Photograph by courtesy of Country Eye

Last summer, a bunch of regulars at the Red Lion decided that Brixworth needed something for the villagers to get together and simply have fun. Sadly, we lost one of our friends on the way who had spent his last days in the Cynthia Spencer Hospice. As a result we decided to combine the get together with a fund raising event.

So on the 1st September 2007, the first Brixworth Funday was held at the Red Lion with a fancy dress car rally, barbeque, sponsored head shave, various stalls, a Wii competition and a most successful charity auction, followed by a disco. With the weather holding and the support of many people, we managed to raise £4,000 for Cynthia Spencer Hospice.

Considering the late start to organise this event and a lot of last minute running around

we think the result was quite good. But to us, quite good is not good enough. So this year we have started early so that no-one has any excuse not to participate, donate or simply just to turn up.

This year's Funday will again be held at the Red Lion, thanks to Gary and Paul on Sunday AUGUST 31st. It will be run along a similar theme as last year with a live band and more activities. This all depends on the support of businesses and individuals. Donations are of course welcome, but items to be auctioned add more to the spirit of the day.

So if you think you can help in any way or have items to donate, please contact Jackie on 01604882235 or Eddie on 07979258659 or Gary and Paul at the Red Lion

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**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
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PROGRAMME OF EVENTS**

7th June – Flower Festival in Church all day.

4p.m. – Canapes and Wine in the Marquee followed by an organ recital given by Andrew Moodie, director of music at Northamptonshire Grammar School at 5p.m. The recital will include Widor's Toccata and other well known pieces from the organ repertory. Admission by ticket only: £5 adults, children free. To reserve your ticket, telephone 01604 881836 or 01604 889429.

8th June – Garden Fete from 2p.m. featuring a range of entertainments, bouncy castle, face painting, grand raffle, numerous stalls and a dancing display by Northampton Dance Club.



Brixworth Bulletin readers - book before midnight on Monday, June 16 and get cut price tickets.

Spratton is once again hosting its stunning music festival this summer – with folk lovers, festival goers, families and friends all invited to the weekend of fun.

Running on **Friday, July 11 and Saturday, July 12 2008**, this weekend of music and entertainment will combine two days of live music with dancing, traditional craft stalls, beer tents, a massage area, children's entertainment and camping pitches. On the Sunday there will be further music and entertainment throughout the village too.

Over 5,000 are expected to attend this much awaited festival and, as well as belting out the tunes on the main stage, there will be a second stage dedicated to drumming and accordion workshops, local music and young people.

On main stage will be Oysterband on Friday night and Peatbog Faeries on Saturday night. Other acts lined up for the festival

include Stageworld, Invocal, Crucible, Harriet Bartlet, The Angel's Share, The Queensberry Rules and Mad Dog McRea.

A big hit for families last year, and set to return again this year, was a circus marquee – where children can watch clowns in action and also try their hand at plate spinning, juggling and a host of other circus skills, free of charge.

Buy your tickets in person at Spratton's village shop or at K. Troop, Greengrocer in Brixworth or by going on line at www.sprattonfestival.com Make sure you quote the special offer code 'village08' before making your purchase. Make sure you book before midnight on Monday, June 16

Key in the special code and your adult weekend ticket will cost £20 and your children's/concessions/OAP ticket will cost just £10. Young people aged 10 and under are FREE.

Please note, if you book after midnight on Monday, June 16 you will have to pay the full rate – which is £34 for an adult weekend ticket and £17 for a young person's. Find out more about the festival by logging on to www.sprattonfestival.com

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HANGING HOUGHTON AND LAMPORT NEWS DRAUGHTON NEWS

Work is proceeding apace now at Clint Hill Farmyard development at Hanging Houghton – now called Manor Gardens, with some 8 houses already at first floor level. Prices range from £500,000 to £1.8million. It will be interesting to see how these properties sell in the current housing/mortgage situation.

The Parish Council have received a Scoping Report on this development of a proposed wind farm between Hanging Houghton and Brixworth. This development involves seven 120 metre high wind generators. The proposed site will be on the right hand side of the A508 going south from Hanging Houghton to Brixworth, in the fields opposite the entrance to Lodge Farm. The Parish Council is totally opposed to this development and is in the process of forming an Action Group to fight this proposal. At this point in time no formal plans have been passed to Daventry District Council.

Welcome to Ian and Marion Leather and their children who have recently moved to 6 Townsend Close, the Gores old house.

Mike Philpott

The churchyard has looked lovely with all the spring flowers and now the volunteers have started mowing in earnest, it looks very smart.

There is to be a Summer Fayre for church funds on Sunday, 8th June from 2pm until 4pm. There will be delicious cream teas, home made cakes and preserves and the usual stalls as well as some different ones including a photo booth, producing prints of you and your family.

Three ladies, Anne Hickey, Kate Calnan and Ann Smeaton are taking part in the Ribbon Walk for breast cancer care. They are also holding a coffee morning on the 28th May at Bosworth Farm House to help the cause. The councillors representing Draughton on the Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council are Gabrielle Cornwell, Sebastian Calnan and Rod Smeaton who were returned unopposed.

Last but no means least, congratulations are given to Sarah Hickey who completed her first marathon in London in a time of under 5 hours, raising over £2,500 for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Anne Block

BRIXWORTH LIBRARY NEW OPENING HOURS FROM 2nd JUNE 2008

Monday	10.00a.m. – 6.00p.m.
Tuesday	10.00a.m. – 6.00p.m.
Wednesday	10.00a.m. – 6.00p.m.
Thursday	10.00a.m. – 6.00p.m.
Friday	10.00a.m. – 6.00p.m.
Saturday	09.00a.m. – 1.00p.m.

Village Hall Quiz Night

Nearly 60 villagers turned up at the village hall on April 11 with brains finely honed and stuffed full of all the vital information they hoped they would need for the challenging evening ahead of them. They were preparing to compete for the prestigious Village Hall Quiz shield. The minority sport of baiting the poor question master was also indulged in by a perverse group of rabble rousers and barrack room lawyers.

The prize for best team name was awarded on the basis of topicality and speed of response to “The Bag Ladies (not plastic).” As usual the competition proper consisted of five rounds of twenty questions covering subjects you learnt at school, subjects you should have learnt at school and things you would never have been taught in school!

Coming third and proving they really knew quite a lot were “The Don’t Knows”. Another unduly modest team the “Know hoppers” came second helped by good tactical use of their joker in the Trivia round where they scored 19 out of a possible 20 which was then doubled up to 38. Unfortunately their poor performance in the Sport round saw them fall behind the front runners “Shine a Light” who displayed an excellent cross section of knowledge and became the worthy champions. So once again the coveted shield goes back to the Brixworth Christian Fellowship together with our congratulations.

My thanks to my glamorous assistants, Julia, Ange and Les for their help and support.

Could your team do better next year. Here are four sample questions for you to try (answers page 11).

- 1 How many spots are there on a standard domino set?
2. Is Aberdeen on the East or West coast of Scotland?
3. Which Victorian politician became Earl of Beaconsfield?
4. Who is current chairman of the parish council?

Dennis Coles



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POLICE QUARTERLY REPORT

Our thanks to your Parish Council and Brixworth residents for your continued support, part funding and securing our office base; it's been advantageous to us, being close to the heart of our area and I am sure, increased our presence and time in the village.

Your Local Community Panel met once more in February 2008 and following discussion agreed to leave area priorities as Parking, Youth Nuisance and Speeding.

Parking – Firstly I would like to apologise to staff and residents at Boniface House as I incorrectly suggested that parking was available in their car park at weekends. Extra parking is available at weekends but in the car park of QMP/Saxon House car park.

On Tuesday 29th January 08 your Parish Council hosted a public meeting to discuss the ongoing issues surrounding parking problems and solutions for Brixworth. After listening to comments and observations from the floor the Parish Council agreed on a number of parking restrictions. The agreement was for double yellow lines to be placed on the junction of Kennel Terrace and Northampton Rd/Holcot Rd on the corner of Spratton Road leading round onto Northampton Rd, on the junction of Pytchley Way and Spratton Rd supported by a waiting restriction in the lay by outside the shops to stop those who choose to park there all day. We still wait a date for the commencement of these works.

As most are aware we have placed no waiting cones on the junction of Spratton Road and Pytchley Way, as this seems to be the most congested and most abused area. Please park sensibly keeping junctions clear and not on the pavement. Despite this, since my last report 5 £30 fines and 10 warnings have been issued. In addition, I appeal once more for those using St David's sports field to use the club car park off Froxhill Crescent and not block entrances or pavements in St David's Close.

Youth Nuisance/Underage drinking – We are continuing to monitor this situation and by and large are pleased with the improvement in general behaviour in the village. We were disappointed however, on the night of 7-8th March when a large group local youngsters, mostly Moulton Secondary school attendees, decided to meet up in Brixworth. This group were responsible for 3 cases of indiscriminate damage across the village and an assault on a 14yr old girl. Two 15-year-old girls have been processed appropriately for the assault. If any one has any information regarding these incidents please get in touch.

A pub watch scheme has been launched and includes the pubs in Brixworth and surrounding villages. Once set up, the landlords will run this scheme, and they will have the power to ban anyone (who commit offences on their premises) from not only their pub, but all licensed premises that are scheme members. Trading standards have and will continue to run test purchases at the pubs and off licenses in the village targeting under age sales.

Youth provision is often raised as an issue and work is being undertaken by members of the community panel to provide a BMX track in the village. The Youth Club is always keen to attract

young helpers; please contact John McFadyen through the Parish Council or us if you are interested or would like to know more.

Speeding – Speeding remains a primary concern and since the last report we have had several speed surveys carried out. These measure speed and traffic flow 24/7.

Northampton Road between the Ashway and Froxhill roundabouts show some marginal speeding, Holcot Road is rather more of a concern along with the Harborough Rd.

We will be conducting speed enforcement in these locations and have issued 22 tickets and 7 warnings over the last 6 months in the village. Together with your Parish Council we continue to work towards solutions for traffic calming to make your village safer for all.

March 31st is the end of the Force year and we are pleased to announce that this sector has seen a significant reduction in crime. Brixworth has seen the greatest drop in overall crime across our sector (down 23%). Criminal damage in the village is 52% down along with a reduction in Dwelling Burglary. Of concern is that theft of motor vehicles is up, very many of which had been left insecure with the keys in the ignition, and one went from Ferrofields very recently (keys in the ignition).

Although crime is down overall please don't become complacent, much is committed by opportunists so blatant invites like keys and property on display, keys on the hall table, in the door lock etc– I hope you understand. Taking simple measures can prevent a great deal of crime; we can assist with advice, a home security pack and crime prevention products, just ask.

Following the report of the 3 drink drivers

from the village in the last bulletin another Brixworth resident has been prosecuted for drink drivING and has received a lengthy ban and this time, a suspended prison sentence.

The 18year old Brixworth female on remand for serious offences committed elsewhere has now been convicted and is serving a 2½ year sentence.

We are holding regular surgeries at the Community Centre 10-11am on Saturday mornings, please feel free to come a long to discuss anything. Dates as follows 3rd May, 24th May, 14th June, 5th and 26th July.

We and community partners are still interested in hearing your concerns so please let us know by filling out one of the cards available in the Community centre, emailing us on SCTDavenryRuralNorth@northants.police.uk , calling 08453 700700, or simply telling us when you see us.

PS Mike Grady

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BRIXWORTH CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

'We are the champions'



On Friday 29th February, our indoor athletics team competed in the Daventry and South Northants District final at Daventry Leisure Centre. They were the overall winners of this competition and were then selected to represent Daventry in the County Athletics Championships on Wednesday 5th March.

Our athletes supported one another with great enthusiasm and showed a tremendous amount of team spirit! We are proud to announce that Brixworth School are now the **COUNTY INDOOR ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS**. What an achievement!



Many thanks to all the parents and friends who supported the team on both occasions.

Mrs Parker and Miss Fyfe



CONGRATULATIONS

Brixworth Primary School will be represented at the **National Festival of Music for Youth** for a second year running! This is a great result for the school choir. They will perform at Birmingham Symphony Hall in July 2008. The choir is one of 300 groups, selected from over 1500 groups who auditioned at 57 regional events, to reach the national level. This is really impressive for a primary school as the selection category includes children up to the age of 13 (including selective county groups). I am sure you will want to join me in congratulating all the children concerned.

Ruth Cross

BRIXWORTH OSTEOPATHIC CLINIC

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PLANNING STATUS REPORT

REFERENCE NO. & DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	P.C. RECOMMENDATION & D.D.C DECISION
DA/2007/1192 Coach & Horses, Harborough Rd. Change of use of storage building to letting bedrooms.	PC 27/11 No objection subject to Listed Building Consent. D.D.C. Approved
DA/2007/1113 & 1114 Fearing Int. Ltd. Creton Road. Renewal of permission DA/2003/0492 for factory class B1 light industrial and DA/2003/0490 for light industrial building.	PC 27/11 No objection.
DA/2007/1192 Coach & Horses, Harborough Road. Change of use of storage building to letting rooms.	PC 18/12 No objection to proposed changes to windows. No Objection to listed building consent for change of use. D.D.C. Approved
DA/2007/1360 Land to the west of Mercedes Avenue. Installation of 60 metre high anemometry mast to measure wind speed and direction.	PC18/12 No Objections providing site is considered suitable and has been designated for commercial use.
DA/2007/1316 & 1317 1 & 2 Hunters Way. Two one bedroom flats at first floor above No 1 and on one bedroom flat at first floor above No 2.	PC 18/12 PC strongly objects.
DA/2007/1362 72 Froxhill Crescent. Change of use of garage to use for grooming of pet dogs.	PC 29/1 Objection. D.D.C. Refused
DA/2007/1419 25 Knightons Way. Single storey rear extension.	PC 29/1 No objections
DA/2007/1400 Buckton Fields, Land at Brampton Lane Boughton. Residential development consisting of approx. 1250 dwellings	PC 29/1 Traffic increase objections.
DA/2008/0016 Beech Hill 25 Church St. Demolition of conservatory and outhouse, construction of extensions to house and new detached garage	PC 25/3 No Objection
DA/2008/0136 85 Spratton Rd.	
DA/2008/0383 5 Iron Pikes Two storey extension to front of dwelling	PC 29/4 No Objection
DA/2008/0347 43 Froxhill Crescent Detached double garage at front of dwelling	PC 29/4 No Objection
DA/2008/0356 87 The Ashway Retention of win turbine on a permanent basis	PC 29/4 No Objection
DA/2008/00403 Mercedes Benz Morgan Drive Single storey building to provide facilities for trackside race technicians. This will replace temporary storage containers currently sited on hard standing area.	PC 29/4 No Objection
DA/2008/00393 Haywards Barn Northampton Rd. Erection of Bowls Clubhouse	PC 29/4 Strong Objection

LOLLIPOP LADY FOR NORTHAMPTON ROAD CROSSING IN BRIXWORTH

Since December 2007, the Bulletin and other publications have been advertising the post of 'Lollipop Lady' for the school crossing on the Northampton Road Brixworth. The Bulletin spoke with Shirley Harrison of the School Crossing Patrol Department and although two people had asked for application forms, nobody had submitted a completed form. It normally takes some time to process an application, so it is essential that if somebody is interested in the vacancy, the completed form should be returned without delay.

Shirley Harrison was concerned about the delay in building the zebra crossing for, without that, it would not be safe for other crossing places to be used because they would not meet the Health & Safety criteria. However the delay regarding the zebra crossing should not deter possible applicants, as it is hoped that a speedy resolution will be found to end the delay in building the crossing. See page 3 article.

If anyone is interested in applying, please contact the School Crossing Patrol Manager on 01604 654448.

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BEST OF BOTH WORLDS



Since we moved to Thrapston eighteen months ago we've lost count of the number of times we have been asked 'Do you miss Brixworth?'. Having lived in the village for most of our married lives our answer has consistently been 'Yes, of course we do' – you can't live somewhere for 36 years without building up a vast collection of memories, memories that don't immediately disappear when you move.

In truth, much of what we now say we miss had sadly disappeared from the village's social calendar many years before we left Kennel Terrace; events like the annual village firework display held on land now occupied by Mawsley Machinery (with a group of Brixworth ladies supplying hot dogs and drinks from a caravan), the May Queen pageant, the horticultural show, Village Hall dances with live bands (providing you had reached the top of the waiting list for tickets) and so much more that all helped make Brixworth such an attraction for us when we arrived from Northampton in 1970 (incidentally our first house was on Brixworth's only housing estate at this time, Stannard Way!)

More recently new events we particularly enjoyed supporting and taking part in were the Old Tyme Music Hall shows, pig roasts at Park Farm, History Society exhibitions (who will ever forget the late Phil Forman parading round the village on his showground steam engine 'Yorkshire Belle' advertising the event in 1991), and the Friends of All Saints' Art Exhibition in the Heritage Centre (so good to see the annual exhibition now in its 12th year). We have fond memories of these events and the many friendships we have made with those associated with them.

Thankfully we have recently renewed our passports so we are able to visit many of our friends and catch up with the latest Brixworth news and gossip! (surprisingly our journey

time from Thrapston to Brixworth is about the same as it was from Brixworth to the centre of Northampton). On most visits we discover new houses springing up in the most unlikely of places, notably on the Northampton and Holcot Roads, and building sites that seem to have been deserted for months. No parking cones on various street corners seem to have become a permanent feature of the village landscape, suggesting to us there are even more vehicles clogging up the village than there were when we lived there. We haven't

seen evidence of additional facilities in the village to cater for the apparent increase in the population, so nothing new here since we moved. Thankfully the rural charm of the conservation area that attracted us to Brixworth nearly forty years ago has been preserved, and long may this be the case.

So 'yes' we do sometimes miss Brixworth, but there is so much we now enjoy in our new lives in Thrapston. Having distant countryside views from our bungalow along the Nene valley and the river meandering its way northwards towards Oundle and beyond is a big plus for us. Living in a small town, not much bigger in population than Brixworth, we are in walking distance of many more facilities, like a first class supermarket, specialist shops, banks, hotels, a street market, an undertaker and an excellent leisure centre (we also have double yellow lines, traffic wardens and a mayor!). However, the Brixworth Library and Community Centre is one facility we cannot match in Thrapston. With a new circle of friends, mainly from the local History Society, and very good neighbours we now really do have **The Best of Both Worlds**. *John & Mandy Dawkins*

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 7

1. 168
2. East
3. Disraeli

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Since the end of my time at Moulton School, I have known that I wanted to work as a journalist, and this year I was lucky enough to be accepted onto a Masters course at Nottingham Trent University, studying Magazine Journalism. I am currently in my last year of a joint honours degree in English and Media & Cultural Studies, and have thoroughly enjoyed my course and the time I have spent at university. While progressing through university, it has become clear to me that in the cutthroat world of journalism, although experience is important, a Masters degree is an invaluable tool when trying to pursue a career. The Masters degree I have chosen to do is of a high quality, at a renowned centre for journalism, and will equip me with the skills that I need to succeed. I am also given the opportunity to attain the journalistic qualifications necessary to become a journalist, and hope to undertake a work placement at a suitable magazine while on the course. A key issue for students hoping to study for Masters Degrees is that of funding, and I have been lucky enough to be given a grant from the Thomas Roe Foundation, a local charity that is able to award money to people pursuing an education. The money will be incredibly useful and I plan to use it to purchase my textbooks, which can often be expensive. It was brilliant to be able to apply to a local charity, and I would highly recommend it to other prospective students. I am now studying incredibly hard in order to achieve the 2.1 that the Masters course demands, and plan to spend the summer working full-time to raise the funds needed for my accommodation and living costs. Hopefully, I will start the Masters course in October, and after that hope to start my career as a journalist. Although I am aware of the hard work involved, I feel up to the challenge and look forward to the future!

Sarah Featley

LOCAL CHARITY - FUNDS DISTRIBUTION

At a recent meeting of the trustees of the Thomas Roe Foundation a total of £1800 was donated by the charity in support of local needs. A sum of £1000 was donated to Brixworth School in support of a worthy project there. Some start up funding was awarded to a new Mums and Tots group in Scaldwell plus there were several individual grants specifically donated for educational purposes.

Funds are available to individuals under the age of 25 and resident in Brixworth or Scaldwell who require financial assistance for educational purposes.

Anyone wishing to apply can pick up an application form from the Library in Brixworth or from the Information Service located within the library building on Spratton Road. Alternatively an application form and any further details

about the Charity can be obtained from the Clerk to the Trustees Ursula Morris on 505554 (or via email on ursula@enta.net) Meetings of the Trustees are held twice yearly to consider applications. These are currently held in early September and in March.

An Exhibition of Art and Ceramics

SIXTH SENSE

The exhibition will be held in the Floyd Conference Room at Highgate House in Creaton, Northamptonshire on Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd June 2008 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day



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The Baynards Zambia Trust, a charity whose treasurer lives in Brixworth, raises money to help communities in Zambia become more self-sufficient. It provides resources and helps local people build homes and schools as well as providing general support to selected long-term projects in Zambia. The charity is run by a group of Trustees who meet the UK administration costs and since there is no paid staff, all monies raised goes directly to Zambia.

Joe Westly and Claire McNeill, the head boy and girl from Bishop Stopford School in Kettering, organised a party at "Level" nightclub in Kettering and raised an astounding £1,262 for the Baynards Zambia Trust.

More information on this worthwhile charity can be found on the website www.bzt.org.uk *Nicola Neill*

The Brixworth and Scaldwell Scout Group will be holding a cake and second-hand book stall in Brixworth Library foyer on the second Saturday of each month during 2008 to raise funds for the scout, cub and beaver packs in the village. The stall will be open from 9.30a.m. until 12.30p.m.

NEXT PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The Subject will be **HOLIDAY PHOTOGRAPHS – SCENIC OR AMUSING.**

Entries by end of July

The Friends of All Saints Brixworth would like to give you all advanced notice that due to popular demand, they will again be holding a Barn Dance in the Village Hall. Make sure that you put Saturday 13 September 2008 in your diaries. Please also note that the Heritage Centre, the visitor centre for the Church, will no longer be open at weekends in October. *Jane Neill*

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NEW BRIXWORTH TODDLER GROUP



A new afternoon toddler group started this April. Its aim is to deliver a few hours of fun each week for children ages 0-4. The group

provides a fun and safe atmosphere for children while their care givers can enjoy a cuppa, a biccy and a nice chat. Various art activities are laid out for the children each week; as well as numerous toys, puzzles, books and games for each age group and capability. The children are given a healthy snack and enjoy a song and story time at the end of each session. The committee is comprised of Christy and Lee Robinson, Emma Hall, Claire Cleary and Melisa Noell. The sessions are held at the Brixworth Village Hall every Tuesday afternoon during term time from 1.45p.m. – 3.30p.m.

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COUNTRY EYE



by Brian Webster



So What's a Hemiparasite Then, and Why Does it Matter?

When I was a boy growing up in old Kingsthorpe in the 1940's, just 50 yards from my front door was a stone-walled field. Climb over the five-barred gate and I was in another world, where the grassland was bespangled with colourful wild flowers all summer long. Where clouds of butterflies, bees, hoverflies and other nectar-seeking insects jostled each other for a place at the nectar tables. The drowsy hum of these legions, it seemed to me, almost drowned out the rich song of the skylarks overhead. Intent on finding their nests I would watch where they landed, mark the spot, and run to it as fast as my legs would carry me, only to find no nest there or nearby. It was only later that I discovered that the wily bird deliberately landed some way from the nest, and then cautiously threaded its way through the massed stems to the actual nest.

It's fair to say that in this small field I cut my natural history teeth. I could and did spend hundreds of hours here, honing my identification skills, at every turn discovering something new and wonderful. I am glad to say that this wonder, bewilderment even, stays with me still. I was not alone in my natural world. Most of the time I shared this private space with Tess, the rightful owner. She was a sturdy, shaggy-coated pony, who earned her keep by pulling a churn-laden cart around the local streets, delivering milk from the farm in the next street to the local households. Tess's day ended early, so for the rest of the time she whiled away the hours in her field. Most of the time Tess and I got on pretty well, but she did have her bad-tempered side, and as I learned a savage bite. More than once I was forced to beat a hasty retreat, clearing the gate like some champion hurdler with Tess hot on my heels.

The butterflies, which were my special interest in those days, included clouded yellows the small copper, the wall, gatekeeper, common blue, brown argus, as

well as the orange tip and green-veined white. All these evocatively named insects are much reduced in numbers, indeed some are no longer with us locally.

Sadly these distant memories will ever remain just that. The field has long gone, together with its incredibly diverse natural history community. Today the primary school stands on the site, the grassland reduced to tiny fragments of carefully-manicured lawn. Meanwhile Northampton now extends a full mile to the north of this spot, and will undoubtedly extend still further in the next few years, with more of our tiny fragments of wildlife-rich countryside covered over with concrete, bricks and mortar. This they call progress.

One of the wild flowers of these far-off days was the hayrattle. This little wild flower has intense yellow flowers, followed by papery seed-cases, in which the large seeds rustle, rather than rattle, when you shake them. I have found it sparingly in the grassland around Pitsford Water, and along the Brampton Valley Way. The amazing thing about this plant is that it is what the botanists call a hemiparasite. You and I could get away with calling it a semi-parasite. It seems that underground it is quite capable of getting along on its own roots. But it will also invade the roots of nearby plants, literally getting into the other plant's roots, and stealing nutrients from them. Amazing you might say, but so what? Well, in order to accomplish this the hayrattle will most likely have had to produce complex chemicals in order to avoid the plant equivalent of tissue rejection in its host. In other words this process has some similarities to that in some human diseases, cancer being one obvious example. Could it be that this insignificant little plant hides something useful to us? Let it become extinct, and we will never know.

U3A PRESS RELEASE

Brixworth and District U3A has now been accepted as a full member by the Third Age Trust with effect from 1st April 2008 and has in excess of fifty members. Interest groups have been formed for Art, Away Days, Genealogy, Lunching, and Walking and it is hoped that more groups can be started, in particular for table games such as whist, bridge, scrabble or dominoes, from September onwards.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 2 pm in the Community Centre above the Brixworth library and a full programme of speakers has been arranged. After the presentation, tea and biscuits are served, the raffle is drawn, and members sign up for any of the group activities in which they may be interested. The next monthly meeting is on **June 4th when the subject is the Family Tree**. Recent activities have included a blue badge guided tour of the village of Kings Cliffe, lunch at the Tollemache Arms at Harrington, and a four mile circular walk from Maidwell followed by lunch at the Stags Head.. These activities take place once a month apart from the art group which meets twice monthly.

The committee meets every other month to ensure that matters of an ongoing nature are receiving adequate attention, an interesting programme of events is being arranged, and to co-ordinate the group activities. We would like to expand the group and new members are more than welcome and cordially invited to our monthly meetings. *Gerry Dobson*

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CONFIDENT PERFORMANCE FROM BRIXWORTH DRAMA GROUP



Drama Group - Camp Confidence

It was a warm summer evening as we walked down to the Village Hall to see the last night of Brixworth Drama Group's latest production. Well productions, I should say really as the evening was comprised of two short plays. We got there early which was just as well as the hall soon filled with an eagerly expectant audience.

The first play was Camp Confidence by well known author Diana Raffle. Ms Raffle has written a number of comedies for an all female cast. Camp Confidence is set in a campsite somewhere in England. Regular fans of Brixworth Drama Group were pleased to see many of their favourite (I was going to say "veteran" but thought this might be misunderstood) actresses delivering hilarious performances. Amanda Pligrim as Julia the camp leader/coach/mentor simply oozed sueded confidence in between phone calls to check up on her erring husband. Libby Bowers as her somewhat reluctant assistant/ dogsbody put on a convincing performance of a person with no more confidence than the quartet of ill assorted clients who gradually put in an appearance. In fact it takes an awful lot of confidence to perform most of the play in a chicken outfit whilst trying to maintain some small vestige of dignity and Libby carried this off without ruffling a feather. This was despite the fact that Maria played by Sue l'Anson with a wonderful Mexican accent turned out to be allergic to birds. The whole performance benefited from the sure



Drama Group - Fat Lady

directorial hand of Stuart Cooper and the whole cast's comic timing was superb.

The second play was the final one in the Little Grimley Trilogy "The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley" by David Tristram although several references to abolishing plastic bags suggested that Brixworth's Bag Lady, Heather Pool who played leading lady Margaret may have inserted a few topical lines of her own. Rarely has a collection of one-act comedies been so outrageously popular as the Little Grimley series, and "The Fat Lady Sings" completed the trilogy with a gusto that delighted the Brixworth audience. The story started off quietly enough until you realize that none of the three Am Dram committee members present are speaking to each other due to Gordon played by Mike Culverhouse having been less than tactful in his remarks to Joyce the Treasurer/Secretary played by Eileen Truby. Eileen's prolonged sniveling was a tour de force. Nor did Margaret need more than facial expressions to express herself especially when Joyce had passed her back her handkerchief after heartily blowing her nose into it. Eventually, Bernard played by James Skeggs turns up. This leads to an interesting debate as to whether his appearance should be minuted under

Apologies as he had apologized for being late! You had to see it to believe it. Likewise it was hard to decide whether it was funnier watching Bernard's attempts to play a trombone or to see him later with the trombone wrapped around him after the brawl with a rival society. It was excellent comedy acting from all four cast members directed by Jon Mackley. Is this the last we will see of the Little Grimley quartet? I hope not.

A great evening's entertainment! Well worth my concessionary ticket price.

Dennis Coles

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BRIXWORTH CRICKET 1st XI TEAM



Brixworth Cricket Club, finally, after years of work, played their first game at their new Northampton Road ground on April 26th.

After much toil from the committee and sweat from the ground-staff, we were blessed with a dry April day, whilst the end result – a draw, wasn't in the script, it was with immense pride that the fixture took place. With around 150 spectators, numerous local press and ex-England star Devon Malcolm in a Brixworth shirt it was more than we could have hoped for.

The ground is already receiving rave reviews and huge thanks must go to Dallas Burtston for the facility he has provided and to head groundsman Dave Salisbury in producing such a fine place to play cricket.

The formal launch will take place during the 2009 season once all the building work and the new clubhouse are complete. The club has some exciting plans to celebrate this momentous achievement, which really will put Brixworth on the cricketing map – watch this space for more information over the coming months.

In terms of performance, our 1st team sit third in Division One, after a victory and two winning draws, whilst our 2nd XI have had a storming start to the season and are currently top after three straight victories.

We also had a highly successful junior day

and will again be running three junior teams at u11, u13 and u14 level. So far all three teams have won their first games of the season.

A huge debt of gratitude to all who have worked tirelessly to enable this move to happen, we do hope local residents will pop down during the summer and take a look - it really is a splendid place to watch as well as play cricket.

Chris Timm

BRIXWORTH ALL SAINTS FOOTBALL CLUB

The season so far has left both 1st team and reserves in the lower positions of their respective leagues. The reserves unfortunately have not been able to avoid

relegation and the 1st team are poised precariously 3rd from bottom awaiting other results. The reserve team proceeded into the semi-final round of the reserve division cup but lost 3-2 versus Whitefield Norpol.

We are still looking for additional members to assist in duties like match-day nets, line marking, assistant referees, fund raising and general support. We are always in need of good quality footballers in order for us to compete with teams at the higher end of the leagues. Training is at 7 o'clock every Wednesday all year round.

There will be an ELVIS impersonator performing at the village hall on the 5th July at a cost of £6 a ticket and proceeds will go to Brixworth All Saints Football Club.

The date for BRIXWORTH'S GOT TALENT 08 is 22nd August. Anybody interested in submitting an act should contact me.

We are delighted in acquiring the footballing talent and knowledge of local lad Adam Knight as the new 1st team player/manager. He has played high level football within the county and has proved himself as a motivator, tactician and a team leader in previous posts. We wish him every success.

I would like to thank all involved for their exceptional efforts so far this season and if you would like to contact me for any reason my details are below:

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