

## Reasons to be cheerful

News reporting is such a negative thing. Death and drama is what's considered newsworthy. "No news is good news" they say, but the reverse is sadly also true: Good news is not news.

Well, not here and not now. Just for once, we'd like to dedicate the front page to some of the good and great things that have happened in and around Brixworth recently.

### 1) Dog poo gone

First everyone noticed it because over the summer, a group of volunteers armed with cans of special orange spray made dog waste highlighted the problem with some dog owners not cleaning after their pooches – literally. Day-glow orange paint ensured that everyone saw the scale of the problem, which amounted to 70 dog messes on St Davids' playing field in a week, and 47 on the Ashway.

The campaign was a resounding success: in the three months after, St David's saw three new cases of dog fouling, and The Ashway just two. Long may it last!

Head to YouTube and search for 'Brixworth dog mess' to see Parish Councillor Sandra Moxon explain the scheme.

### 2) No second new takeaway

The decision to refuse planning permission to convert 130 Northampton Road – currently Northampton Pets – into a fast food takeaway stands, after planners turned down the appeal against the decision. Lots of villagers showed their support for the pet shop while the planning application was live. Let's hope they continue to do so, and the pet shop thrives!

### 3) Speeding down 75% Station Road

People living in the bottom part of Station Road – the newly-



christened Station Cottages – can celebrate the fact that speeding seems to have fallen dramatically over the past year. The 2015 Speedwatch campaign recorded only a quarter the number of drivers breaking the speed limit as last year. Now if only Northampton Road had a similar trend...

### 4) Kittens rescued

There's nothing to bring an internet community together like cute kittens, as a thread on the popular Facebook group 'Brixworth let us know' neatly illustrates. Within hours of a second kitten being found in as many days the same area, group members had organized a search party and promptly found a third kitten. Happily, all three have found new homes and are doing well.

### 5) Ringside seats for Vulcan farewell

The last flying Vulcan's farewell tour of Britain this autumn took it far and wide, but Brixworth – no stranger to the occasional classic plane flypast – got treated to an up-close-and-personal bye bye.

Do you have any good news to share? If so, email me at [editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk](mailto:editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk)

- Claudia Flavell-White

## Your Deserving Cause 2015

With Christmas on the way, and New Year not far behind, it's a natural thing to check the bank account and see what the balance is.

For the *Bulletin*, I'm happy to say the news is good and we're fortunate enough that, thanks to continuing support from our advertisers and careful financial management by the whole of the *Bulletin* team, we're in a position to support some local causes with a financial leg-up.

But who this might be, that is up to you, the people of Brixworth, Lamport, Hanging Houghton, Draughton and Cottesbrooke. There are few rules around who or what can be nominated for this, other than it has to be something local. The *Bulletin* can support individuals or organisations, clubs and facilities. Past recipients have included the Draughton Clubhouse, the Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts, the Country Park and the church organisations, as well as specific individuals (who could forget the disabled girl Connie who asked for specialist help to improve her walking skills!)

So, if you know of someone local who is struggling to make do, a village organization in need of a (modest) injection of cash or a local event that needs a slight boost to get off the ground, please get in touch. You can contact the *Bulletin* by calling 882 567 (evenings and weekends please) or email [editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk](mailto:editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk) - the deadline is 15 January 2016.

We will profile all nominations in the March issue of the *Bulletin*, after which you will get a chance to vote for which cause you would most like to see win. Money is allocated proportional to votes received so all causes that go through to the vote stand to benefit.

I look forward to hearing from you!

*Claudia Flavell-White*

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Visit [www.brixworthbulletin.co.uk](http://www.brixworthbulletin.co.uk), join us on Facebook or follow @BrixBulletin on Twitter.

# It's Ahead of You



Have you ever wondered how long it takes to produce the great show you are watching in the Village Hall? Hundreds of you came to see Brixworth Drama Group's last play 'Allo 'Allo in the summer and, judging from the laughter, thoroughly enjoyed it. Now many of these local players are busy rehearsing for the pantomime in February. They have been joined by some very talented youngsters in what is likely to prove one of our most popular pantos for some time.

The chosen panto is that ever popular favourite, Puss in Boots, but with a script updated with a number of topical references.

Well, the heroes are all suffering economic hardship and there is a nasty foreigner buying up all their assets. That's topical, isn't it?

The panto will be staged on February 6th, 12th and 13th, 2016. Be sure to look out for the tickets when they go on sale in a few weeks as they are likely to be snapped up quite quickly. – Dennis Coles

## Jacko to make his Debut at Nativity

For many of the hundreds of people who attend the Brixworth Outdoor Nativity each year – and last year saw well over 300 – the real star of the event has to be the donkey. This year Brixworth Christian Fellowship Community Church has announced the debut performance from Jacko. It is not yet known whether he will be accompanied by his good friend, the Shetland Pony.

Jacko's predecessor, who was called Jacob, did sterling work over many years as long as he could follow his little friend to the stage area under the spotlights. On Sunday 20th December at just after 4.00pm outside Brixworth Library and Community Centre a star will make his entrance. A little later, we will see the baby Jesus! – Mike Nice

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# Speed Watch stats back calls for traffic calming on Northampton Road

Northampton Road has swapped with Station Road as the road with the biggest speeding problem in Brixworth, according to this year's Speed Watch campaign.

The number of cars speeding at Northampton Road has almost doubled compared with 2014, with 49 cars caught above the 30mph limit. Even more concerning, a separate campaign clocked one vehicle doing 75mph on that stretch of road. All in all, in the absence of speed cameras, more than one in four cars travelling down Northampton Road breaks the speed limit.

Station Road however has had a vast improvement, with only 18 cars caught speeding versus 73 last year. While the timing of the campaign in the summer could have had an impact, there is reason to hope that the speed reduction measures that were put in place in Station Road over the course of the past year have had an effect.

Campaigners are now calling for action to be taken to slow the traffic on Northampton Road. The need was further underlined by the accident on the zebra crossing near the



school earlier this spring. A schoolboy was struck by a car, which had overtaken a bus stopped at the crossing.

Fortunately, the boy was not severely injured. His mother, Melissa Trenfield, tells the *Bulletin*: "We always take extra care on the zebra crossing as I have seen, and continue to see, many cars shoot across the zebra crossing with no regard for the pedestrians it serves. On this particular occasion, I held my hand up to thank the bus driver for stopping to let us cross and did not for one moment

think a local person would overtake a bus on a zebra crossing at school drop off time. My son was thrown up into the air and onto the car bonnet before landing on the floor. We were very lucky on that day, the outcome could have been very different. We are also very grateful to the many bystanders for their help. I feel it is important we work together to make our roads safe for the children to walk to school. The implementation of traffic lights or a lollipop person would be a huge asset to improve safety.

## Parish Council raises legal defence budget to £64,000

The Parish Council has raised its budget for defending itself against a court case brought by former Parish Council member Stephen Pointer from £50,000 to £64,000.

Pointer sued the Parish Council in 2013 for alleged discrimination for failing to provide 'reasonable adjustment' for his failing eyesight, in form of an iPad. After several pre-hearings, the case went to court at the end of November and is due to be concluded by 6 January 2016.

The Parish Council says that if it is successful in defending itself, it will seek to recover its costs from the claimant. It is also still seeking to recover £6500 from Pointer for a related previous case.

Meanwhile, it has been brought to the *Bulletin's* attention that our story in the previous issue, "Parish Council removes Pointer", could be taken to infer that the Parish Council has actively voted to disqualify Pointer from Council membership.

We would like to clarify that Pointer was automatically disqualified because he had been continuously absent from Council meetings for six months. - CFW

## Winter Wonderland Parties at Brampton Heath Golf Centre

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## Neighbourhood Plan ready for submission

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee has been working hard to bring the Neighbourhood Plan to completion.

At the time of writing, the Plan was due to be approved by the Parish Council at a special meeting on 1 December, after which the plan is due to be submitted to Daventry District Council.

The revision has encompassed several of the points raised during the consultation and the professional advice we have received. Playing fields have been added to the list of Local Green Spaces to ensure they remain free of development (allowing essential development to enhance their function).

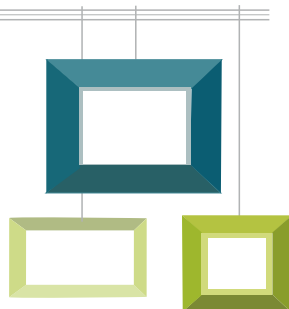
Once examined by DDC and approved by the Parish Council (that's not expected to happen until early summer 2016), the Neighbourhood Plan is expected to be put to the people of Brixworth for a public referendum – hopefully in autumn 2016.

Once accepted, it will become a piece of planning legislation that carries quite an amount of weight. Bob Chattaway, speaking on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee, says: "It can of course be challenged should a planning decision go to appeal but it would require something else of a very substantial nature to prevail against it."

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# Council targets irresponsible dog owners

Dog owners are being urged to take heed of new enforcement powers introduced across Daventry District to tackle the issue of fouling in our parks and open spaces.

The new Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) introduced by Daventry District Council is designed to target the small number of irresponsible dog owners who persistently fail to pick up after their pet, creating a mess as well as a health hazard.

The PSPO, which came into force on December 1, means dog walkers risk a £100 fine and potentially prosecution if they fail to:

- Pick up their dog's poo
- Carry the means for picking up their dog's poo while on a walk
- Stop their dog from entering a fenced-off playground
- Place their dog on a lead when directed by a Council officer
- Put their dog on a lead in the area around the visitor centre/café at Daventry Country Park

The decision to implement the PSPO was made after a public consultation revealed strong support for it. Enforcement of the PSPO will focus on education at first, with people who fall foul of the new rules reminded of their responsibilities as dog owners by Council enforcement officers. However the new powers will be fully exercised from January 1, so dog owners are being urged to make sure they have plenty of poo bags with them.

Cllr Mike Warren, Health and Housing Portfolio Holder on Daventry District Council, said: "Every year our Council receives more than 100 complaints about dog fouling, which poses a real health hazard, especially to young children.

"We've introduced a number of innovative ideas and campaigns to tackle the problem, and those have proved effective in the main. But we still have a small minority of persistent offenders that we are keen to stop.

"This new order gives us greater powers to take effective action against those irresponsible dog owners who do not pick up after their pets.

"Our initial priorities will focus on raising awareness of the new powers among local communities and to educate dog walkers about the issues. We will be advising them to make sure they have extra poo bags with them at all times to ensure they have the means to pick up, regardless of how long they've been out and about with their pet.

"These new powers are not intended to penalise the many responsible dog owners in our District, who should be assured that our officers will be taking a common-sense approach on their patrols. It's not unreasonable though to expect someone who has just arrived at a venue to walk their dog to be carrying poop bags."

People can find out more about the PSPO at [www.daventrydc.gov.uk/dogfouling](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/dogfouling)



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# Police Report



Nitrous oxide, sold in small metal canisters, is thought to have become the second most popular recreational drug in Britain

## Dangers of Nitrous Oxide

POLICE are asking young people and parents to be aware of the dangers of nitrous oxide after a number of discarded canisters were found in the area recently.

Nitrous oxide, often called 'laughing gas', can be very dangerous when inhaled. It can cause oxygen starvation to the brain, leading to premature death, and the risk increases if it is taken with alcohol and when it is taken in a confined space. We are asking parents to be aware of the dangers and talk to young people who are in their care.

It is legal to possess nitrous oxide in the UK. However, it is illegal to sell it to anyone under the age of 18 if the seller thinks it is going to be illicitly used.

Other common street names that parents and guardians should be aware of are 'whippets', 'hippie crack' or 'chargers'.

For more information on all types of drugs, legal highs and their effects please visit [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

## Lead Theft from Rural Churches

Northamptonshire Police are concerned

about thieves stealing lead from the roofs of rural churches. Arthingworth church has been the latest target – but Lilbourne and Great Brington churches also have been recent victims.

The removal of lead from the rooves of churches can cause considerable damage inside the church as rainwater can then get inside.

There is currently an ongoing investigation with reference to these types of crimes, but we are asking the community to be vigilant and report anything you consider suspicious immediately on 101.

## Speeding

The Safer Roads Team is carrying out speed enforcement actions in the area – this usually involves speed cameras but can also relate to other traffic calming measures. Local teams have also been monitoring traffic in the area.

## Schools Parking Patrols

Following complaints from a number of local residents and parents parking outside local primary schools, local PCSOs carry out patrols in the vicinity of local schools. In addition to my regular parking patrols at Brixworth and East Haddon schools, other schools are visited as and when my shift pattern and operational duties permit. We remind parents and carers that the 'zig zags' are there for a reason and that Highway Code Rule 243 states "do not stop or park near a school entrance". We ask you to consider some primary school children have to travel to school on a school bus and the safest place to drop off is at the school gates ... many parents park elsewhere in the villages and walk with their children to school. We appreciate that the drop off and pick up time at the school gates is the busiest time in most of our villages and we ask all road users to have patience around these times.

– PCSO 7145 Jo Wright

## Protect your machinery

Northants Police have joined forces with the UK's only official ACPO approved marking scheme for machinery – CESAR – to offer the rural community in Northamptonshire the opportunity to have their machinery and equipment protected by CESAR at a discounted price of £99 per Cesar system or Cesar compact system.



CESAR marking systems can be applied to a wide range of machinery, from sit-on lawn mowers to combine harvesters, trailers to horseboxes, quad bikes to mini-diggers.

Northamptonshire Police will be hosting special days across Northamptonshire to allow you to have your machinery marked. To secure your place, email [cesar-it@northants.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cesar-it@northants.pnn.police.uk) or phone PC Hutchings on 07557 778382

The Cesar-it days will be arranged around the demand of yourselves and availability of your machinery.

Anyone presenting a machine to be protected by the Cesar system must provide the original receipt or proof of purchase, and their DVLA V5 log book or original certificate of conformity.

Places are limited and bookings for installation must be made and paid for in advance.

To qualify for the discounted price, CESAR will require ten items to be marked in one place on the same day. The ten items can be from different owners so don't worry if you only have one or two items to get marked.



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# Country Eye

## Welcome back to our Brixworth skies

John Clare, our own great poet was an even-greater naturalist. He recognised over a hundred different birds where he lived in east Northamptonshire. The buzzard is not mentioned in his poetry, but from his days in a lunatic asylum, he emerges from his confusion to recall it "whizzing... over in the wood." Even earlier, as a Helpston youth, he graphically describes how he climbed up to a tree nest. Clare died in 1864.

The buzzard ceased to soar in majestic circles over our skies sometime in the middle decades of the nineteenth century. Its demise was due entirely to human persecution. Being a flesh-eater, both freshly killed or carrion, its readiness to feast on the easy pickings provided by guileless young poultry or game birds proved to be its undoing. So whenever it was sighted it was greeted with a hail of shotgun pellets. As the prolific writer Rev. F O Morris put it in 1851, "it is gradually becoming more rare." Meticulous research by leading authority Leslie Brown indicated it had gone other than as a casual wanderer, by 1865. He also showed that its return coincided with the start of World War 2. Delving into the records he noted that wherever gamekeepers had gone to war from the big estates, buzzards soon began to reappear in their former territories. The expansion originated from the north and west, where they still were relatively common.

In our own county, it was recorded on just ten occasions in 1968. Despite more being seen in 1976, this proved to be a false dawn, and it was not until 1983 that birds were being spotted throughout the year, and especially in the breeding season. It was probably breeding

by 1991, but the first proved nesting was in 1994, with up to three more likely. From these tentative beginnings it has once more become a familiar sight in our skies. My own view is that there could easily be a hundred pairs in the county at the present time. These we may claim as being homegrown.

The buzzard, along with the red kite, about which I wrote recently, and all the other predatory birds and mammals, play a vital part in the wild community. Most modern game managers recognise this and have a tolerant attitude. But there are still a few who will kill what they see as competitors without compunction. Certainly if you keep fowls or breed game birds for the shoot, your charges should be kept



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under cover until they are well grown. But they remain under greater threat from foxes, and feral cats than from our birds of prey.

At the same time as these birds are thriving, the death of our wider countryside continues apace. Dead and dying bees and other pollinators on my patio speak in silent condemnation. Welcome though they are, the colony of tree bumblebees that have commandeered a garden nestbox for the second year running, are themselves a warning. Twenty years ago they would not have been here. They are part of the northward expansion of a whole raft of species in response to climate change, induced by our runaway use of fossil fuels.

Agribusiness, along with most of modern society, are profligate users of oil. It is used to build, deliver, operate, and feed the giant machines that pound the life out of the soil. The pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, and all the other -icides with which they drench the soil, along with the fertilisers, growth-inhibitors, all are derived from oil. Those glowing monuments dedicated to the great God SPEND, the supermarkets, where much of what is grown on the land ends up, rely on oil to power, illuminate, distribute, display, heat, refrigerate, the list is endless.

Hopeless though it may seem, we have one last chance to break this seemingly unbreakable cycle. In December, talks are scheduled to take place in Paris, aimed at tackling climate change. Already the rich and powerful are lined up to derail those talks, as they have done so many times in the past. This time we must not, cannot, allow this to occur. Only you can make this happen, you who are reading these words. Doing nothing is no longer the default 'choice.' – Brian Webster



# Japanese Knotweed

## Meet Brixworth's least welcome resident

There are some things from the East, especially Japan, that we welcome with open arms in the West – just think of sushi, Anime films and bonsai – but not so welcome is a plant: Japanese Knotweed.

Actually it's unfair to blame the Japanese, as this plant grows in several places across the Far East, but its common name has stuck.

Found growing on the side of volcanoes, Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia Japonica*) was first introduced to Europe in 1829 by Phillipe von Siebold. Von Siebold only brought back one female plant, and every piece of knotweed in Europe is a female clone of the original plant. It was originally considered a fine ornamental plant which covered large areas quickly.

But there's the rub. Knotweed can grow up to 20cm a day and is no respecter of brick, tarmac, paving or concrete. Its roots can grow up to three meters down under the surface of roads and concrete, ready to explode through the hard stuff. This is why the plant is so dangerous to the construction industry and the home owner.

There are clumps of knotweed (termed 'stands') growing in various locations in and around Brixworth. There are no natural predators, and while it does not produce seeds, it can grow from minuscule fragments of rhizomes. This makes it extremely difficult to eradicate. In theory, it's possible to dig the plant out, but in practice it's near on impossible as any piece of root you miss can sprout another plant. Just 0.8g of root is enough for a new plant to grow.

Knotweed typically grows in 'Stands' interlinked through the rhizome system. These spread as we build, dig up gardens and carelessly discard the roots/rhizomes. It's also a bit like an iceberg, as the bit you see overground is tiny compared to what's lurking underneath.

Initially lauded for its beauty and potential as animal feed, in 1847 it was named the "most interesting new ornamental plant of the year" by the Society of Agriculture and Horticulture in Holland. In 1850, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew received a shipment from von Siebold of various plants from his travels, including a sample of Japanese Knotweed. By 1854 the plant had been sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh and was then sold commercially by nurseries.

The rest, as they say, is history.



In 2010, experts introduced to the UK a Japanese bug, *aphalara itadori*, which feasts almost exclusively on knotweed. It is hoped this will become available to gardeners if it works – and doesn't bring its own issues with it!

You can turn to chemicals, especially treatments containing glyphosate, but beware: it can take up to five years' treatment to finally be rid of the pesky plant. Your correspondent was once told by a famous TV gardener to bruise the leaves with something like a tennis racket before spraying. Just remember to tell your neighbours first, lest they think you have entirely lost the plot!

Or – and this is a favourite type of revenge – you could eat the problem and cook your Japanese Knotweed (though you'd need to eat A LOT to making any kind of impact on the problem). If you have a liking for the weird and exotic here's a recipe.

### Japanese Knotweed Purée

Gather stalks, choosing those with thick stems. Wash well and remove all leaves and tips. Slice stems into 1-inch pieces, put into a pot and add  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar for every 5 cups of stems. Let stand 20 minutes to extract juices. Add only enough water to keep from scorching, about half a cup. Cook until pieces are soft, adding more water if necessary. They will cook quickly. When done, the Japanese Knotweed needs only to be mixed with a spoon. Add lemon juice to taste and more sugar if desired. This purée is excellent spooned over vanilla ice cream or baked in a pie shell.

### Japanese Knotweed Bread

2 cups unbleached flour  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar  
1  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp baking powder  
1 tsp salt  
1 egg  
2 tbsp salad oil  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup orange juice  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup chopped hazelnuts  
1 cup sweetened Japanese Knotweed Purée

Preheat oven to 350F. Sift dry ingredients together into a large bowl. Beat the egg white with the oil and orange juice. Add, along with hazelnuts and purée, to dry ingredients. Do not mix until all ingredients are added, and blend only enough to moisten. Do not over mix. Spoon gently into buttered 2lb loaf pan. Bake about 1 hour or until a skewer inserted in the centre comes out dry. Cool by removing from pan and placing it on a rack. – *Kate Calnan*

### Japanese Knotweed Dos and Don'ts

The one main DO if you find yourself invaded is to get a professional in – especially if it is threatening your build, your house or that of your neighbours.

However, if you do find yourself cosying up to a rogue stand of knotweed there are a lot of DON'Ts:

1. Don't allow Japanese Knotweed to establish and spread off site. This may be an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act and even involve you in litigation with your neighbours.

2. NEVER flail or trim green knotweed stems. This is one of the surest ways of spreading viable pieces of knotweed over a much larger area, making the problem far worse.

3. Don't bother composting knotweed material: it won't kill it.

4. Don't dig it out – for reasons given above – but if you do dig it up be careful about getting rid of it. Japanese Knotweed is classified as 'controlled waste' under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and can only be disposed of at licensed landfill sites.

# Christmas 2015 waste and recycling collections

Please note the following Christmas and New Year arrangements for waste and recycling collections.

## **Christmas Day** (Friday, 25 December)

There will be no collection on Christmas Day and instead ONLY those properties affected will receive a collection of their recycling and food waste on Sunday, 27 December.

**Boxing Day** collections (Saturday 26 December) – There will be a recycling and food waste collection on Saturday, 26 December, but brown bins will not be collected.

**New Year** collections (Thursday, 31 December and Friday, 1 January) – Black bin, recycling and food waste collections will take place as normal.

**Black bins** – Over Christmas and New Year, black bins will continue to be collected as normal on their fortnightly cycle. Please make sure you recycle as much as possible as excess side waste and bins with raised lids will not be collected.

**Brown bins** – From 21 December

until Monday, 18 January 2015 brown bin collections will be suspended. Crews will collect extra recycling instead. Please refer to your collections calendar as to when your brown bin will be collected next.

**Recycling boxes and food bins** will continue to be collected weekly as normal. There are alternative recycling arrangements for households scheduled for a Christmas Day collection (Friday 25 December).

## **Extra recycling**

Large cardboard will be collected from Boxing Day (26 December) until Saturday, 9 January inclusive.

If you have large cardboard and it won't fit in your recycling box, please flatten it as much as possible and place next to your boxes on your collection day. Please do not place it inside another cardboard box.

You can also put out other extra recycling for collection over Christmas. If you have more recycling than your boxes can hold, please continue to sort your items and place them into clear or white bags next to your boxes (not black or green sacks)

**Real Christmas trees** will only be collected when garden waste collections resume district-wide from 18 January, 2016.

Please put your tree out next to your brown bin on your scheduled collection day from this date, or take it to your local household waste recycling centre. Find your nearest at [www.daventrydc.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/recycling)

Please note there are no parish collection points of Christmas trees in Daventry District. Any trees found in public places will be treated as fly-tipping.

You should have received a calendar in December last year for collection dates for the 2015 and 2016 two-year period. If you no longer have this calendar you can download it from [www.daventrydc.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/recycling) or call us on 01327 871100. Please note there are no changes planned to your existing collection day or schedule in 2016.

Daventry District Council's offices and Contact Centre will be closed from Friday, 25 December 2015 until Monday 4 January 2016.

During this time you can report a missed bin collection on our website at [www.daventrydc.gov.uk](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk).



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## Brixworth Heritage Trail

Brixworth may soon have its very own Heritage Trail around the village. Building on the work of the History

Society, small blue plaques would be produced for interested residents to display on their property, featuring a short description of the history or interesting features. The trail would have a large central display board showing the route, and what can be seen, together with leaflets guiding walkers.

Lubenham, near Market Harborough, is one local village that has a well established trail.

A small group of residents has met to discuss the plan and will be meeting again in the new year to look at grant funding. If you are interested in the project and would like to get involved, please contact Mike Nice ([mike.nice100@gmail.com](mailto:mike.nice100@gmail.com)) or Dennis Coles ([mail@denniscoles.net](mailto:mail@denniscoles.net)).





## Lamport and Hanging Houghton

### Village BBQ

The Lamport and Hanging Houghton village BBQ took place on the August Bank Holiday. We normally hold this event on the village green in Hanging Houghton, however the weather was so bad that the event was moved to the barn across the Brampton Valley Way to the west of the village. We have Tom Saunders to thank for the use of the barn at very short notice and also for providing a generator for the electricity. BBQs were provided by Buff Marshall, Colin Harris and myself. Bob Cox also helped to decorate the barn. I wish to thank them all for their help and support.

Over 40 villagers turned up to support the event and a good time was had by all.

### Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper was held at the Loder Hall in Maidwell on the 10th October. The supper was organised by Mary Parker and her band of supporters.

Good food was provided by Susie Wood and the desserts were prepared again by the band of supporters. The Supper was well supported and enjoyed by all. The raffle was very good, and funds were raised for the Lamport church.

### Dog waste

The local parish council have installed a dog waste bin at the entrance to Hanging Houghton village at the request of villagers. This will be emptied on a weekly basis. – *Mike Philpott*

## Coffee morning raises funds for Macmillan

Christine, Simon and Eileen would like to thank everybody who supported the recent World's Biggest Coffee Morning fund raising event (held in conjunction with The Olive Branch) on Friday 25th September 2015 in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

The event, which was held in the foyer of Brixworth Library outside the Olive Branch Café, raised an amazing £222.83.

We are also grateful to Paul of Paul Martins Hairdressing who supported this event by allowing us to place a tasty array of cakes (under a covered cake stand) on display in his shop to tempt his customers. Thank you Paul and all your customers for your help towards raising the above amount. – *Eileen Truby*

# Merry Tom Mansion fuels debate

A heated debate took place at the August meeting of the Parish Council's planning subcommittee concerning the proposed development of a very large house off Merry Tom Lane, just north of Chapel Brampton. The Parish Council objected to the planning application on the grounds that it contravened planning policies.

Stephen James, chair of the subcommittee, says it is of concern that this "massive" property of eight bedrooms could be visible to the public wanting to enjoy the open countryside, and that it would require a new entrance from the road and increase vehicular activity. In addition, no ecological study has been carried out in an area that may contain badger sets.

Planning legislation states that the building of isolated new homes should be avoided in the countryside. However, an exception can be made for special circumstances, such as buildings of exceptional quality or of an innovative nature. Barry Waine, acting for the would-be owner-occupier Mr Price, believes the house would meet this criterion as it would be constructed in the tradition of the nineteenth-century Arts and Crafts movement. He says a precedent was set when permission was granted for another house nearby, and does not believe the development would influence any further expansion of the village.

Mike Nice, who has been involved in drawing up Brixworth's Neighbourhood Plan, objects to this argument, saying: "We don't want anything there, even if it is of architectural merit." The proposed development falls within the designated special landscape area. The Neighbourhood Plan, currently in draft form, stipulates that after the current Barretts development at the south of the village "any further development will be limited infill only." Mike believes this is a particularly sensitive issue as there have been several campaigns against development in this area in the past.

Daventry Planning authorities have asked the applicant to consult with OPUN Design Support Services in the East Midlands who have made a number of suggestions to be incorporated into the planning application. However, these are mostly interior amendments. It is expected that the application will be submitted to Daventry Planning Committee in either November or December 2015, some six months before the Neighbourhood Plan is expected to be ready to be accepted. – *Jennifer Fitzgerald*



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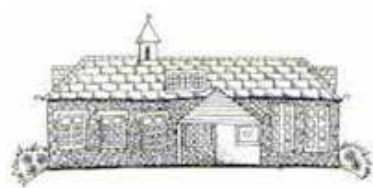
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# Welcome to the Brixworth Centre

## [www.brixworthcentre.org.uk](http://www.brixworthcentre.org.uk)



The Brixworth Centre has been the village school from 1870 to 1973 when the present school was built in Froxhill Crescent. The Centre is now used by a variety of local groups and is available to hire for parties and events.

There is something for all

ages at the Centre from pre-school through to retired residents of the village. The groups include Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Bowls and Jelly Beans (church toddlers group) as well as the very successful pre-school. The Centre is managed by a small group of trustees and a representative from each of the user groups plus a chair person, treasurer and secretary make up the management group. All these people are volunteers giving up their time to run the groups and manage the Centre. One of the biggest issues is raising money for maintenance, cleaning and replacing fixtures and fittings. At the present time we are raising money to replace the old school windows. So far we have raised money through the very successful "Quiz and Chips" evenings and a variety of fund raising events such as fun days and fetes; however we have a long way to go yet so we hope that villagers will support our fund raising events including the next quiz and chips evening on the 30th January 2016. For private party hire of the Centre, please email us: [centre@brixsecure.co.uk](mailto:centre@brixsecure.co.uk)



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## Girlguiding



Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK. We are active in every part of the UK, giving girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities. We build girls' confidence and raise their aspirations. We give them the chance to discover their full potential and encourage them to be a powerful force for good. Rainbows are for girls age 5-7yrs, Brownies 7-10yrs, Guides 10-14yrs.

Brixworth Rainbows meet at the Community Centre, above the library, Wednesdays 4pm-4.45pm.

1st Brixworth Brownies meet at Brixworth Centre on Tuesdays 5.45pm - 7pm.

1st Scaldwell Guides meet at the Centre on Tuesdays 7pm-9pm.

It is all about having fun and making new friends, take part in lots of activities including cooking, crafts, challenges, camping and outings. For more information regarding Guides, please contact Jill Gunnett on 01604 880929 or visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

For information on Rainbows or Brownies, please call 0800 169 5901 or visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)



## Scouts Group

Brixworth has a highly successful Scout group that has been in the village for over 100 years. We run two Beaver colonies for ages 6-8 ½ yrs, a Cub pack for ages 8 ½ - 10 ½ yrs, two Scout groups ages 10 ½ - 13 ½ yrs and the village also has an active Explorer group for those aged 13 ½ to 18 yrs. Overall we give approximately 120 young people the chance to be part of the Scouting family. Our enthusiastic group of leaders

tries to ensure that our young people get to experience as wide a range of activities as possible, including plenty of opportunities to be outdoors and learn new skills. Most of our young people stay with us right through from Beavers to Scouts and then on to Explorers. The waiting list admin can be contacted on [brixworthbeavers@btinternet.com](mailto:brixworthbeavers@btinternet.com) (for all groups, not just Beavers) The Group Scout leader can be contacted on [brixworth\\_gsl@btopenworld.com](mailto:brixworth_gsl@btopenworld.com) For more information go to [www.daventryscouts.co.uk](http://www.daventryscouts.co.uk)





## The Brixworth Church



The Church group hold various activities in the Centre including Jelly Tots which is a toddler group every Wednesday at 1.30pm. Sunday mornings the Centre is open from 10am for refreshments before and after Sunday Service. Please contact Rev.Chloe Wilson-Thomas

Tel: 01604 882014 or email [chloe.thomas5@btinternet.com](mailto:chloe.thomas5@btinternet.com)

On the 3rd Sunday of every month, there is a Sunday School run by Richard & Andie Kempa, we meet in church at the 10.30am service. Tel: 01604 883661 for further information.

## Brixworth Short Mat Bowls Club



Our club has been going since 2005. We meet every Friday between 2.30pm and 4.30pm and at 7.30pm to 9.30pm at the Brixworth Centre Church St. We are always happy to welcome new members afternoons and evenings.

Contact the chairperson on mobile 07762211721 or 01604 880317.

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# Chris Heaton-Harris MP's WESTMINSTER REPORT

## The LA 2015 Special Olympics World Games

For a number of years, I have been a keen advocate and supporter of the Special Olympic and so this summer, I went to support our British Special Olympic team in the World Games in Los Angeles.

First though, I think it's worth noting that the Special Olympics isn't the same thing as the excellent Paralympics. The Paralympics is mainly for physically disabled people and has quite a different mission.

The mission of the Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-style sports for children and adults with intellectual and learning disabilities. This gives them opportunities to develop physical fitness and demonstrate sporting prowess, whilst building their confidence and skills.

I have seen with my own eyes how the Special Olympics shifts the focus away from what people with intellectual disabilities can't do, to what they can do. As the attention to their disabilities falls away, you start to see talents, abilities, determination and courage, like any other sportsperson.

I've long believed that sport has an amazing transformative power that enables us to see through disability and for me, the Special Olympics captures this belief completely.

The Los Angeles games were always going to be amazing – and they truly were. I'd met many of our athletes before they headed off to LA. In fact, I'd seen some of them competing a couple of years ago in the GB games held in Bath. I knew how much effort had gone in to getting into the team and just how much it meant to our athletes to walk out into the LA Olympic stadium, in front of 50,000 fans and a massive live TV audience on ESPN, to represent their country.

What I had failed to imagine though, is how the parents, friends and carers of these athletes would feel. I know not many of them were able to fly to LA to see the games first hand, but it was obvious from those who were there how immensely proud they were of their sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, who carried the Union Jack that day.

Think about it. Your child, which some in society would have written off, is now representing their country in a sport that they are excelling in. There are no adjectives that can sum that feeling up at all.

What I can tell you, however, is how the athletes were feeling as they walked into the stadium, as I was given the huge honour of walking in with them.

I decided that walking in at the front would not be right and so

embedded myself amongst some of the footballers I had got to know towards the back of the group. As we entered the stadium, the noise was astonishing and a sea of hands went up with team members taking photos, selfies and recording this amazing moment. Every member of the 155 strong Team GB squad was waving, with plenty of fans in the stadium waving Union Jacks.

The rush of emotions was quite something – I was just there to support, but I had never felt anything quite like that in my life. Heaven knows what it was like for the athletes and their coaches!

Then, the games commenced. Over the next few days, I watched many sports including badminton, handball, speed skating, football and basketball. However, the sport was not the only thing happening at the Games. Behind the scenes there was a important and interesting summit about inclusion for those with disability and more importantly, every athlete had the opportunity of visiting the "Healthy Athletes Village". Here, volunteers from across the US came together to give health, eye, hearing and dentistry checks to the athletes.

Alas, it is still the case that in many countries these checks simply don't take place, meaning those already struggling with a intellectual disability often find themselves not being able to see or hear properly. This further excludes them from so many things, making them even less able to access education, work, or simply get on in life.

Since my teens, I've been volunteering or finding some other way to help those with learning disabilities, and I've always loved playing and watching sport. Therefore, having the chance to watch our athletes compete in a World Games, demonstrating first hand why we should be aiming to be a more inclusive society, was for me a pretty amazing way to spend a chunk of my summer holiday.

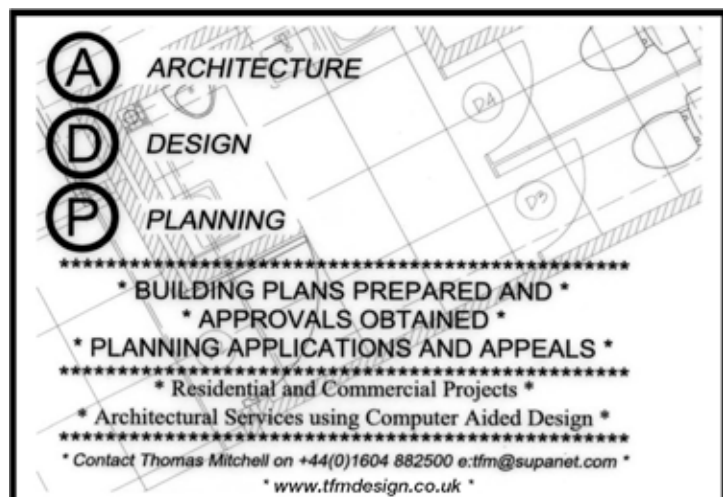
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# Brix & Mortar

‘Twas the night before Christmas, and  
we looked for a house...’

You may think me a little premature to talk about Christmas but, with this being the final edition of the Brixworth Bulletin for 2015, I thought it worth talking about what used to be known, in the estate agency industry, as the ‘sleepy’ time of year.

Britain apparently now moves all year round, according to national property website Rightmove. In fact it is not just the likes of Amazon that see website activity ‘spikes’ between Christmas and the New Year, property hunters are also out in mass, from their settees at least, during this period.

Brits definitely make time for home-hunting during the hectic Christmas period, as last year proves. There were over one million visits to rightmove.co.uk between Christmas Eve and Boxing Day alone, as home-hunters escaped from the cycle of wrapping presents, opening presents, cooking food, eating food, and slumping down in front of a movie and the Queen’s speech. Even as the hours ticked by waiting for Santa to come down the chimney ahead of Christmas Day

morning, many were looking to change the home he delivers to next year. So if you were home-hunting on Rightmove, Zoopla or agents’ own websites at an unusual time of day or night over the Christmas and New Year period - don’t worry, you weren’t alone!

We all know how much the internet has changed the way we look for property and appreciate the freedom it gives us to look at the times we want. The interesting question to ask though is whether, as a seller, armed with these facts, we should reconsider when to place our property on the market, if we’re looking to move early in the year. Traditionally, everyone waits until January. By doing so you become part of a large influx of homes all arriving to the market at the same time. With stock levels so low at this time of year – Brixworth has only 13 second hand homes available on Rightmove at the time of writing (21st October) – you are better off to start showing your home off now. Remember, you do not have to have a board outside or accept viewings during the Christmas break. You are just whetting the palate of potential buyers ready for January. – *Stuart Little*

## Kingsthorpe Indian restaurant in English Curry Awards Finals

Lasaan Indian Restaurant at Whitehills Crescent in Kingsthorpe has made the finals of the English Curry Awards. The curry house survived a gruelling competition to make it to the final in the Regional Restaurant of the Year category.

In total over 15,000 nominations were received from the public right across England. While Lasaan did not ultimately win, just making the final is a huge accolade, say Jabeer Miah, Anamul Haque and Raff Miah, the management team at Lasaan. “It is great to be part of the national awards! The English Curry Awards are the best awards in the industry,” they say. “It’s a great feeling to know you are amongst the best in the Midlands and the Award will mean we are double Award winners having won the Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence only a few months ago.”



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# Community Service

## Jennifer Fitzgerald speaks with Mike Lacey, former Chair of Brixworth Parish Council

Mike Lacey recently stepped down as Chair of Brixworth Parish Council. The Bulletin talked to him about the four years he served, overseeing an eventful period in the Parish Council's history.

Mike first joined the Council in 2007, out of a desire to contribute to the well-being of the community, and having spare time while working for his own company. "I have certain skills from my business career and it seemed the proper thing to do at the time", he says. A near-death experience in a plane also reinforced his desire to "pay something back."

Mike wasn't a local. Originally born in Solihull, and having emigrated with his family to Canada in the sixties, Mike moved to Brixworth in 2002 to take up a job at Sloan Helicopters at Sywell. This followed a successful career in the aircraft industry, mainly in sales but also as an aircraft engineer and promotional pilot.

At first, Mike wasn't sure what his contribution to the Council was likely to be but he soon discovered an interest in planning. He learned as much as he could about the subject and subsequently became Vice Chair of the Council's Planning Subcommittee for a number of years. In 2010,

the Localism Bill became a matter of much debate and Mike thought Brixworth was an ideal candidate to take advantage of the new legislation. In part due to this enthusiasm, Mike was nominated for Chair of the Council.

Among his achievements was initiating Brixworth's Neighbourhood Plan, although Mike is at pains to point out that its completion was due to the contribution of many others. He says: "I think there are two kinds of people – people who start things and people who run things", placing himself firmly in the first category.

The Neighbourhood Plan brought several welcome developments, not least the engagement of the BRANE (Brixworth Residents Against New Estates) action group, which eventually resulted in the plans for a new doctors' surgery. Other outcomes have included the ongoing work needed to clarify the status of the lease-holding of the sports pavilion on the St David's playing fields, which has legal implications.

Mike modestly points out that he doesn't think the role of Chair is particularly special, because the Chair has to rely heavily on Council members for their support. He says he is particularly grateful to a group of

individuals who helped him during his tenure.

However, Mike's personal contribution was recognised in some measure when he was invited to one of the Queen's garden parties at

Buckingham House last year. While he wasn't introduced to the Queen in person – there were "thousands" of people attending – he apparently did manage to make eye contact with her over "tepid tea and cake".

Mike's biggest disappointment has been realising that many people in the village are still not aware of the work the Parish Council does, or of the time so many people give freely for the benefit of the community. He has tried to make the Council appear more relevant to the village, for example, in overhauling the format of the Council's annual meeting to make it more interesting.

A major challenge during Mike's time as Chair has been the court case brought by a former Councillor against the Council, which has not yet been resolved. "I wish it never happened but it was not something I could control," he says. Unprepared for such a situation, Mike has found he has had to learn aspects of law he never imagined he would.

Mike believes Brixworth would be best served if proper elections were held for its Parish Councillors. He hasn't experienced any elections where PC Candidates were voted since living in the village from 2002. As there are never enough candidates, all the Parish Councillors have been co-opted by default as the Council is obliged to take on board anybody who applies. This situation has not improved and it worries Mike, who encourages Brixworth residents to consider coming forward.

"There are currently no fewer than three open vacancies," he points out. "If the Parish Council is supposed to represent grassroots democracy, the first thing we need is a proper democratic election at which we have to vote for our representatives!"

The next date at which such an election could happen is May 2016 – but only if the number of candidates for seats on Brixworth Parish Council exceeds the number of seats available.

So if you agree with Mike that Brixworth would benefit from a Parish Council that's actually been elected by the people it serves – put your money where your mouth is, contact the Parish Clerk Emma Baker on [brixworthpc@gmail.com](mailto:brixworthpc@gmail.com) or 01933 682447 and find out about joining the Parish Council, and next year's election.



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# Local cancer survivor attempts world record

Adrianne Hill is aiming to raise a combined £100,000 for Cancer Research UK and Mind by completing the #OpenYourMind challenge.

The 26-year-old from Brixworth will travel over 18,000 miles under her own steam by stand-up paddleboarding (SUP), running and cycling across a nine-month period, as she aims to raise awareness of how powerful the mind and body is, and how people should not let adversity stop them in their quest to live fulfilling lives.

The challenge – which will be the first time a person has attempted such an adventure – is being under-taken with no official support crew, and Adrianne is urging people from around the world to join her on the fight to beat cancer and depression as she travels across 18 countries on four continents.

Adrianne, who is using her life savings towards funding the trip, said: "Surviving cancer has left me with scars and a weak right leg and after being diagnosed with and recovering from depression, I felt compelled to try to inspire people that have been on a similar, rocky journey.

"I want to inspire people by proving just how powerful the body and mind are, how they can overcome the huge obstacles that life can bring, and to show that it is possible to turn around whatever situation you're in.

"I'm hoping that people will join me along the way, whether it be for one mile or 100, and in turn show that there is the support network there to help people get through tough situations."

Ahead of her challenge, Adrianne will be leading a Christmas bike ride on Sunday 13 December at Brixworth Country Park. The ride will set off from Pitsford Cycles at 10am, with half-price bike hire available from the cycle shop. "Christmas hats are encouraged!" Adrianne says.

The bike ride will be followed by a gala dinner in Northampton on Saturday 20 February. Everyone is welcome to come and join Adrianne and show their support - for more information, please contact Adrianne on [info@worldsupbikerun.com](mailto:info@worldsupbikerun.com).

The start of the challenge itself is on Friday 4th March from Pitsford Cycles in Brixworth Country Park. Pitsford Cycles are kindly offering free bike hire to anyone who wishes to join Adrianne, be it for a few miles or the whole leg to London.

Vicky Urquhart, fundraising coordinator at Mind, said: "Adrianne is taking on an

absolutely incredible challenge which has never been attempted before. We hope that Adrianne's inspirational story will motivate people across the UK, and further afield, to join her in her travels and raise money for both Mind and Cancer Research UK.

"It takes a great deal of determination and dedication to plan a challenge like this and we'd like to extend our deepest thanks to Adrianne for choosing to support Mind. The money raised will help us to provide information and advice for anyone affected by

mental health problems, and will support our work campaigning for the rights of people whose voices are often ignored."

Anyone looking to get involved can head to [www.worldsupbikerun.com](http://www.worldsupbikerun.com), or email [info@worldsupbikerun.com](mailto:info@worldsupbikerun.com). To make a donation, please visit: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/worldsupbikerun>.



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# Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts

The Scout group was pleased to welcome back, after the summer break, more than 100 young people to a whole series of interesting and fun activities.

## Beavers

The two Beaver colonies continue to run smoothly side-by-side. The Beavers were invited to work for a number of activity badges over the summer holidays including Collectors, Hobbies and Photographer. On the first night back they shared with us all their hard work and delighted us with their knowledge and abilities. The Beavers went Pond Dipping, Bug Hunting and did a Treasure Hunt at Sywell Reservoir, were visited by Brixworth First Responders, Police Community Officer and Fire Brigade and had fun with the phonetic alphabet. They also learnt a lot about Native American Indians, and took part in a Cowboy and Indian themed sleepover at Overstone Scout Campsite. They also went conker hunting, making models with the conkers they found and cress heads. Just before half term a visitor from Anglian Water helped them play games and learn all about water conservation.

## Cubs

Cubs were welcomed back after the summer break with an evening of group games, which included games and quizzes about Cubs. They then took part in a sponsored walk along the Brampton Way raising £180 towards buying new rounders and cricket sets for the group. Focus then moved on to fire safety, practicing fire drills, looking at fire detectors and of course a visit to the fire station. Over the summer holidays Cubs were invited to look at their Book Reader, Animal Carer and Swimming badges and an evening was spent validating all their hard work with the leaders. The half term was completed by a visit from the Anglian Water education team learning how important it is to look after and conserve our water.

## Scouts

Two new Scouts troops started meeting on Monday & Wednesday from September 2015. With that in mind they started the term

with some team building exercises, and followed it up with a little problem solving. They then spent some time out and about learning map reading skills and practicing what to do on a hike should an emergency occur. These two things came in very handy for the teams that took part in the annual Star Trek. This is where teams are dropped off at an unknown starting point with a map and compass, about 9pm and have to make their way across the fields to ten different stations, where ten tasks have to be completed before heading back to the start where breakfast awaits them. Other activities enjoyed this half term include looking at hobbies and working with Blasons for their mechanics badge.

With the new troop starting a number of places have been created in Scouts. If you have a young person, boy or girl, aged between 10 and 14, who likes the sound of these activities and others we have written about please contact the waiting list administrator using the email below.

## Explorers

Explorers came back with a bang after many of them did very well in their GCSEs. They started with a weekend camp by the beach, spent an evening learning how to play poker and did a night walk back to the village from Harlestone Firs. They also all got their BuddyBand2, a waterproof activity tracker, it records the steps they take through the day and then using an app on their smartphones they upload their step count to the teams website. The aim is to walk from Northampton to the grave of Lord Baden Powell in Nyrie, Kenya – without leaving the country. The Explorers indulged themselves in a spot of messy food games, racked their brains with some team-based problem solving exercises and watched a scary movie for Halloween.



The Explorers continue to raise funds for their trip to Kandersteg in 2016. In the build up to Christmas they will once again be doing Santa's Sleigh around the village, and many Elves and Fairies will be helping him as he comes to visit everyone. Please support them in their endeavours. If you know of any scheme in your company that supports such causes please put our name forward or let the leaders know how they can apply.

All sections were involved in the Remembrance Day Parade in the village (pictured, above). "It was an excellent turnout," said Pete Lennon, Group Scout Leader. "It is great to see so many young people paying their respects."

## Get involved!

As always we continue to look for new leaders in all sections, particularly Cubs and Scouts. If you would like to find out more about becoming involved please come and talk to us.

To find out more about Scouts in general please visit <http://scouts.org.uk/>. To find out more about Brixworth and Scaldwell Scout Group contact Pete Lennon, Group Scout Leader [brixworth\\_gsl@btopenworld.com](mailto:brixworth_gsl@btopenworld.com). To put your young person (boy or girl) on the waiting list for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers please email their name, date of birth, your name, address and telephone numbers to [brixworthbeavers@btinternet.co.uk](mailto:brixworthbeavers@btinternet.co.uk) - Kim Phillips

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# Brixworth & District U3A



Our group meets in Brixworth Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm. We have a variety of interesting speakers and time afterwards for tea and a look at all the information on interest groups and sign up.

The August meeting was held at the Northampton Sailing Club where 80 members enjoyed all-day sunshine, a lovely lunch and afternoon tea. Volunteer members of Sailability were on hand to take U3A members for a sail on their Drascombe long boats (pictured below).

A new class Bridge for Beginners has started in the Heritage centre on a Friday afternoon. This follows up a successful Bridge class on a Thursday evening also in the Heritage centre. On a Thursday there are two rounds to go (Oct & Nov) in the Duplicate Bridge Challenge, with Barry Johnson still top of the league table.

The evening dining group is popular and attracts around 25 members who meet once a quarter at Highgate House and enjoy a three course meal with tea/coffee in pleasant surroundings.

Our last walk of the year will take place on 10th November at Blakesley in the south part of the county, there being no walk in December.

The Christmas lunch this year will be held on Wednesday 9th December at Northampton Golf Club, Harlestone.

On Sunday 27th September the Brixworth U3A Songsters were very pleased to perform a lunchtime concert in Brixworth Church as part of the Brixworth Music Festival. They were joined on this occasion by the Reedology Ensemble, (as both groups share the same Musical Director) with a combination of clarinet, flutes and saxophones. The Songsters sang nine songs which included one of their all time favourites - 'You Raise Me Up' and these songs were interspersed with instrumental arrangements from Reedology including 'Summertime'.

Further information on the U3A and interest groups can be found on our website [www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth). – *Judy Smith*

# Brixworth Central Sports Club

You may have seen young and not-quite-so-young people play football or cricket at St Davids Recreation Ground, or enjoyed a pint while watching a big game on the TV, but do you know what Brixworth Central Sports Club is and what it does?

The Club was built through funds raised by local residents of Brixworth back in the late 1960s early 1970s and has been extended a number of times over the years to meet changing needs and standards. While the club is at heart a sports club used by Brixworth junior and senior football teams, as well as the Cricket Club's 4th team and Juniors in the summer, it is also much more of a social club in recent years. It caters for families with a range of toys and table football as well as children's films and music. All the sports TV channels are available through BT Sports, covering major league football games, rugby, golf, motor racing and all major sporting events. There is also now a skittles table at the club and when it is not being used for a league match there's an opportunity to have a game of killer skittles.

We have a number of activities to support the costs of running the club, including fun days, live music and games. We never charge an entrance fee. There is a small membership charge of £3 per year; over 60s pay £2 and children are free. The facilities, including a staffed bar, kitchen, music, karaoke and the main club room, are free to use on the days that the club is open. At other times there is a small charge of £30 to cover lights, heating, water etc. The club has a disabled access and toilet and baby changing facilities.

The club is managed by a group of volunteers and between us all who do the ordering, cover the bar, take bookings and organise events. At the present time the club is in negotiation with the Parish Council to extend the ground area to incorporate a larger patio ready for next summer. To cover these extra costs we are raising money again through raffles and events as the club puts any money raised back into its facilities.

Every Christmas we have a party for the children – the highlight each year is Father Christmas arriving with a present for each child. This year the party will be on Sunday 20th December and as always, there is no charge. Details of all events can be found on the Brixworth Central Sports Club Facebook page.

The club, at St David's Recreation Ground, is open Sundays from 1.00pm, Mondays (in the summer) from 6.00pm, Wednesdays from 6.30pm Fridays from 6.00pm, Saturdays from 4.00pm.

The committee always welcomes new members and interested people to join or just come and enjoy a drink with the family.

– *Jackie Bird*

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# Library events

## Christmas events

Saturday 12th December The **USA choir** will be singing carols in the foyer after 10am (check at Library nearer the date for timings).

Sunday 20th December 4pm **BCF Nativity** will take place outside the Library & Community Centre. Library will be open as usual from 1-4pm, access via side entrance from car park.

## Activities for children

**Rhymetime** for the Under 5s  
Mondays 2.30pm & Fridays 10.30am

**Crafts & Discovery Club** for children aged 4-11years (term time only)  
Mondays 3.30-4.30pm

**Play & Learn** for Under 5s  
Tuesdays 1.30-3.00pm

**Health Visitor Clinic**  
Thursdays 10am - 12.30pm  
Weekly weigh-in clinic, followed by developmental checks. Sure Start staff available, see programme for activities details. Please note that the mezzanine floor will be closed to all other users during this time.

**Play & Learn** for Under 1s  
Thursdays 10.30-12noon

**Family activities**  
Sundays 1-4pm

Christmas Holiday: **Messy Crafts** with a Christmas and winter theme, for children up to 12 years, under 8s must be accompanied by their parent/carer.  
Wednesdays 23rd & 30th December 2.30pm  
Free, but please book in advance

February Half-Term: **Messy Crafts**  
Wednesday 17th February 2.30pm

## Other events & services

The **Morning Readers Group** Book Club meets first Tuesday of every month 10.30am

Our wonderful volunteer **IT Buddies**, Robin & Nick, are available if you need help with IT basics, using a lap top, or want to get to grips with a new i-pad, or any other IT questions or queries. They can give you free 1:1 help and advice at a convenient time for you at Brixworth Library. Just come in and make an appointment.

This has proved a very popular service, and we have had a lot of positive feedback from satisfied customers.

**NAB Mobile Unit** on the library forecourt  
Wednesday 25th November 11.30 am - 12.45pm for help and advice on visual impairment issues.

- Bus Passes – new, lost and renewals
- DVD hire
- Checking service for online Blue Badge applications

- Computer Use – free on Fridays (charge for printing)
- Photocopying
- Laminating
- Library shop
- Room or pod hire - speak to library staff for more information.

## Volunteering opportunities

Get involved at your local library and gain experience for a career!

Thinking of a career working with children, but need some experience first? We have volunteering roles at the library for helpers and leaders with the **Under 5s Activities** and **Children's Crafts Activities** and can offer you training, work experience and a reference. There are activities most days of the week, so hours can be flexible (eg couple hours a week or fortnightly, term-time or school holidays only) but you must be available to help on a regular basis.

Other volunteering roles available are:

**Display Assistant** If you would like to make the most of your creative skills making displays for the library then this is the role for you!

**Super Sunday Volunteer** If you regularly have some time to spare from 1-4pm on Sundays, consider this varied role. You could be greeting customers, making coffees, helping with craft activities, tidying & shelving etc

**Stock Assistant** If you have a tidy mind & like shelving books, enjoy reading and socialising with customers, then this is the role for you.

We also welcome any young adults volunteering for their Duke of Edinburgh award.

For any of the above roles, or for more information on volunteering at the library, come in and speak to Jill, or view the volunteering roles and apply online at [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/getinvolved](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/getinvolved).

The library is **open every Sunday** 1-4pm. Why not come along for a quiet read of the Sunday newspapers or your favourite magazine, and enjoy tea and biscuits for £1?

Contact us at [brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk) and keep up to date with all the latest activities at [www.facebook.com/brixworthlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/brixworthlibrary)

## Opening Hours

Monday – Friday 10am to 6pm  
Saturdays 9am to 1pm  
Sundays 1pm to 4pm

## Bank Holiday Closures

Friday 25th, Saturday 26th, Sunday 27th, and Monday 28th December 2015 plus Friday 1st January 2016

# CHAMBERS

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## Mercedes AMG wins food award

Everyone loves a winner and Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains (to give them their full title) are matching their prowess in the field of motor sport with a less obvious success.

Each year the Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership promotes the Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards to recognise culinary excellence. The Partnership includes organisations as diverse as the University of Northampton, Daventry District Council and JP Morgan amongst others.

Against hot competition Mercedes won the coveted award of Healthy Eating in the Workplace of the Year in the Sport, Health and Education category (we're given to understand that there wasn't a category for Fast Food, otherwise their victory would surely have been a foregone conclusion!). Although, keeping to the culinary theme, this title is a bit of a mouthful, it's great to see a local firm succeeding in this field with a commitment to healthy eating for its workforce.

We know the area is quite a centre for good food, with its famous paté and wine and an enviable range of excellent food shops and outlets and to chew over news of this success is the icing on the cake! – Ian Barratt

## Planning update

<b>DA/2015/0568</b> <b>29 Brackenborough</b> Single storey extensions to front and rear of dwelling	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0286</b> <b>Brixworth Nursery Farm, Holcot Road</b> Construction of 10 independent living units, associated clubhouse and staff accommodation	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0373</b> <b>14 Tantree Way</b> Construction of two storey extension to rear and front and single storey extension to rear	BPC Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0604</b> <b>25 Stonehill Way</b> First floor side extension and single storey rear extension	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0565</b> <b>4 Hunters Way</b> Illuminated signs	BPC Objection DDC Approved

<b>DA/2015/0472</b> <b>Rear of Saxon Heights</b> Demolition of existing workshop. Construction of 4 dwellings with garages	BPC Objection DDC Refused
<b>DA/2015/0653</b> <b>Eaglehurst Barn</b> Listed building consent for conversion of workshop to study	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0640</b> <b>36 The Ridings</b> Single storey extension to side/rear to link house to garage	BPC Meeting not quorate DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0725</b> <b>Ilmor Engineering</b> Formation of 6 parking spaces to front of building (revised scheme)	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2015/0745</b> <b>2 Windmill Glade</b> Demolition of existing conservatory. Construction of single storey extension. Alterations to garage to form family room	BPC No Objection DDC Approved

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Mon.	Circuits	Village Hall	8.00 - 9.00
Weds.	Pilates	The Centre	6.15 - 7.00

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# All Saints' Church, Brixworth

Dear Friends,

## ARE YOU READY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Now that we're into December, our thoughts are firmly on the Christmas season, Christmas shopping and preparations for the great day.

In the church we're not quite there yet. We still have Advent to go. December 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning of the church year, and we begin the Advent season. It's all about getting ready---but also waiting in expectation. Waiting for the arrival of Jesus in the manger and the hope that he will bring for the world—the hope that evil and injustice will be overcome by love. During this time we also reflect upon Christ's second coming at the end of time. It is my prayer that we can all look beyond the business and commercialism of the Christmas season to remember what it is really all about.

Here at All Saints at the beginning of December we will also be celebrating the lives of two Saints at our Christmas Tree Festival. Those of St. Nicholas, and St. Boniface, who, legend has it, discovered the first ever Christmas tree, and whose relic we have at All Saints. We will also be linking St. Nicholas to his secular counterpart, Father Christmas, in our Festivities.

We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas services, and at our Christmas Tree Festival to taste the mulled wine and mince pies!

*Rev. Chloe*

### Priest-in-Charge:

Rev. Chloe Willson-Thomas  
The Vicarage, Station Road  
t: 01604 882014  
chloe.thomas5@btinternet.com

### Churchwardens:

Mrs Vanessa Crooks  
5 Whaddon Field t: 01604 882058

Mr Michael Lewis  
8 Breach Close t: 01604 881836

## WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY SERVICES

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month	10.30	All-Age Service
	11.45	Said Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Choral Evensong
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	7.45 am	Said Eucharist
	10.30	Sung Eucharist
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10.30	Sung Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Candlelit meditation service
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.30	Sung Eucharist
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.30	Sung Eucharist



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

Henry George Webb  
Zachary Beames  
Oliver Reeves

### Weddings

Daniel Perry and Rebecca Rose  
Oliver Dinnage and Stacey Szymala  
Adam Eldred and Charlotte Coleman  
Alex Mann and Katy Boddington

### Burials

Millicent Banks  
Vera Shaw  
Ephraim Peter Mason



## Services for Advent and Christmas

Advent Carol Service	6.30 pm	Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas Tree Festival Family Celebration	10.30 am	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December
Christingle Service	4.00 pm	Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> December
Joint Outdoor Carol Service with BCF	7.00 pm	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December
Crib Service	2.00 pm	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> December
Midnight Mass	11.30 pm	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> December
Family Communion Service	10.30 am	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> December

## 'GROWING SAINTS'

Our new Sunday School meets on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 10.30am in church and then in the Brixworth Centre

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5<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> December 2015

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Email [chloe.thomas5@btinternet.com](mailto:chloe.thomas5@btinternet.com)



Brixworth Medieval Feast



The year is drawing to a close and it's been an eventful year for the Parish Council. Here are some of the things we've achieved during 2015.

With a team of willing volunteers, we embraced Daventry District Council's anti-dog fouling scheme, and the result was a dramatic fall in the number of messes ignored by dog owners.

As many people will be aware, we began our own programme of verge mowing this year, and we've had some great feedback from local residents regarding the positive effect this has had all over the village. The spring daffodils also seem to have been appreciated, so we invested in some more bulbs which Parish Councillors and members of the public planted around the village back in October.



Following concerns from local sports clubs over the state of The Ashway and St David's playing fields, we've implemented more comprehensive and specialised maintenance of the grounds and we plan to continue this trend in 2016.

At the beginning of the year, we began reaching out to Brixworth residents via social media. This has led to unprecedented levels of engagement, and we've had a fantastic response from people wanting to volunteer to support the local community in various ways throughout the year. We've also heard about the local issues that many people are concerned about and although we are unable to resolve them all, we passed many of your comments, such as concerns about speeding and crime in the village, to the Police And Crime Commissioner, Adam Simmonds, when he visited Brixworth in August.



With overwhelming public support, we objected to the planning application to turn 130 Northampton Road (Northampton Pets) into a takeaway. Daventry heard the community's objections and refused permission.

In a joint venture with Northampton County Council Highways, we installed traffic calming on Silver Street, to stop that narrow road from being used as a cut-through by vehicles trying to access the industrial estate.

We continued to host walk-in surgeries at the Library/Community Centre on the first Saturday of every month (except for bank holiday weekends), and we reported all issues raised to the full council for consideration. During our surgery at the beginning of October we were fortunate to be joined by County Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift who wanted to hear local concerns and offer advice and support.

The main theme of all our significant achievements is that they're community achievements. The Parish Council has the power to make decisions affecting Brixworth, but it takes a strong community of volunteers to drive improvements forward. On behalf of the Parish Council, thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time for the benefit of the village during the past year.



# Police and Crime Commissioner visit

Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner Adam Simmonds' stated aim is to make Northamptonshire the safest place in England. As part of his campaign he has been visiting Parish and Town Councils in Northamptonshire during the summer to find out what problems we face in our villages and towns.

On Friday 14th August he visited Brixworth so that he could observe first hand some of the issues our community is facing. He met with Cllr Parnaby, Cllr Parker, Cllr Coles and the Clerk outside the Community Centre.



The issues raised were:

**Speeding** particularly Spratton Road, Silver Street, Northampton Road and Holcot Road. Mr Simmonds suggested we include some of these areas in the speed limit review which is being carried out by David Farquhar Northamptonshire Highways Director.

**Crime** Mr Simmonds was concerned with the number of violent crimes we have had in the village in the past year, 6 in total. We discussed the robbery at the Co-op earlier in the year. The Councillors informed the Commissioner that the Parish Council had contacted the Co-op about their concerns for the staff and what procedures they have in place to keep their staff safe.

**Parking** and the issues relating to parking outside the Co-op and on Spratton Road were discussed. Whilst we were observing the area there were many vehicles parking on the paths as the car park was full.

Mr Simmonds informed the Councillors that he does not want to reduce the number of police officers and PCSOs to below 1220 in Northamptonshire but he does have to make some savings in his budget, however these will come from reducing the number of more senior staff members as he wants to be to have more Officers on the streets.

The Police and Crime Commissioner will be producing a report at the end of the year as a result of his visits with Parish and Town Councils.

# Parish Council Surgeries

Brixworth Parish Council hold a drop-in surgery at the Library & Community Centre on the first Saturday of each month.

The aim of this surgery is to understand, record and hopefully address any issues or concerns raised by residents and for the residents to generally get to know and recognise the Councillors.

Since the surgeries were introduced the main issues or concerns recorded have been in relation to dog-mess around the village, lighting and general care of pathways and alleyways, traffic volume and parking issues, litter and swearing at the football matches held on the playing fields.

In addition to these there have also been general inquiries about the Neighbourhood Planning Scheme, facilities within the village and general advice being sought about things such as the planning process and bringing the grass cutting of verges in house.

If the councillors present are unable to address any issues or concerns raised then these have been referred to the Parish Clerk for follow-up and the appropriate action taken.

The surgery held on 3rd September was attended by Northamptonshire County Councillor for Brixworth Ward, Cecile Irving-Swift who was eager to hear from Brixworth residents in her role at Daventry District Council.

The surgeries are held from 10am until noon so come along to the Library & Community Centre and chat with Brixworth Parish Councillors.



# Rural Policing in Brixworth

November's Parish Council Surgery was joined by PC John Hutchings who brought along the rural policing machine called a Manitou, PCSO Jo Wright who brought the mobile police station and PCSO Natalie Halling who was armed with a wide range of information leaflets.

The event was set up to engage with the local community to listen to their concerns and offer advice to the residents of Brixworth especially as a result of the recent increase in burglaries in the village. The mobile station holds a range of information including a television with DVDs which talk about rural crimes and safety, information leaflets as well as the police officers who are always happy to talk to the public about police related issues. The mobile police van is used for serious crimes but PCSO Jo Wright said that it is an added attraction at conventions and police events, as is the Manitou, as they encourage people to approach the police officers.



The Manitou can be seen around the country lanes and farms driven by PC Hutchings. It attracted quite a few comments on the day as it is a more unusual police vehicle. PC Hutchings is also promoting a scheme called Cesar Data Tagging. This is a Home Office approved scheme which is available to anyone who wishes to protect larger items of machinery such as sit-on mowers, horse boxes and quad bikes, as well as tractors and other farm machinery. The Data tag system gives each piece of equipment a unique 'fingerprint' that thieves simply cannot remove, thereby providing a powerful deterrent against theft and an invaluable aid in recovery. The items of machinery will have an identifiable and visible triangle but also thousands of microdots which cannot be seen by the naked eye. Therefore, even if the triangle is removed the microdots remain and owners will be identified. Where there are 10 or more items to be tagged there is a promotional offer of £99 per item and farmers who take up the scheme will get a 12% discount on their insurances with the NFU. For more information about this scheme PC Hutchings can be contacted by email at [Cesar-it@northants.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Cesar-it@northants.pnn.police.uk).



Despite the rain, residents approached the vehicles and spoke with the police officers and the Parish Councillors who, between them, were able to offer advice and support on a number of village issues.

# Saving Community Facilities

County Councils have increasingly fewer funds available to preserve older buildings and amenities, a local example of which is the old school building now known as the Brixworth Centre. So how can communities have more rights and time to save the facilities and buildings that are special to them?



The Localism Act 2011 in conjunction with The Assets of Community Regulations 2012 allows for Parish Councils or local

community groups to nominate community assets that are of value to the local community. These assets may also provide a real social benefit and if lost would not necessarily be accessible to residents especially where travelling is required to access the resource in another area. This legislation provides local people with an increased opportunity to save a much loved shop, pub or other local facility. It is these amenities which help to define a village and make it special. In Brixworth we have a number of historic buildings, facilities and open spaces that are used and loved by the residents.

As a result of the development of the neighbourhood plan for Brixworth it has provided the opportunity for the Parish Council to consider all the non-residential properties, facilities and open spaces in the village of social value. Once a list has been drawn up the Parish Council will then inform the local authority of nominated assets to be included on the list of 'assets of community value' and to be entered on the land charges register.

Once an asset has been listed nothing further will happen unless the owner decides to dispose of it. At such time the Parish Council and local community will be notified and given six months to put together a bid to purchase it.



# Planning Update

Following September's report and the visit of the Planning Inspector to the site on 3 August 2015, we can report that the appeal on the Hot Food Takeaway at 130 Northampton Road has been refused by the Planning Inspectorate. A victory for common sense and the Village.

The application to discharge conditions on Phase 2 of the Barratt Homes development to the east of Northampton Road has been received and is currently with Daventry for a final decision.

An application to build 4 houses at the rear of Saxon Heights and on the site formerly occupied by Ideal Motors was opposed by residents. The Parish Council considered the application and objected to it. Their objection to this development was sustained by Daventry District Council which rejected the application.

Coupled with the application for the second phase of the Barratt Homes two further applications have been received, one for the new surgery by Assura, who will be providing the facilities for the practice to move into, and the other for additional parking spaces adjacent to the library.

The surgery is part of the section 106 agreement negotiated with Barratt Homes as part of the Phase 2 development and the parking spaces adjacent to the library replaces part of the Section 106 agreement for Phase 1, when two properties in Spratton Road were to be demolished.



These two properties have now been sold, we will have to wait their fate.

A number of applications are still outstanding with Daventry, a number of which your council have objected to, more on this next time.

## Contact Details

### Clerk to the Council

Emma Baker  
Email: [clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk)  
Tel. 01933 682447  
Website: [www.brixworthpc.org.uk](http://www.brixworthpc.org.uk)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/brixworthpc](https://www.facebook.com/brixworthpc)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/brixworthpc](https://twitter.com/brixworthpc)

Alexander Coles  
*Chairman*



Emma Baker  
*Clerk to the Council*  
[clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk)



Ian Barratt



Jacqueline Bird



James Hodges



Stephen James



Michael Lacey



Sandra Moxon



Kevin Parker



David Parnaby



Peter Saxton



You?



Parish Council photos by Brixworth Photographic Society



# BRIXWORTH MATTERS

 BCF Community Church

## “O COME LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD”

Christmas is coming! For many children a time of great excitement and anticipation and when the day arrives an explosion of joy! I have been touched recently by the facts concerning children in many parts of our world for whom Christmas will be a disaster. Refugees, homeless, orphaned through wars and strife, poorer than we could imagine literally millions who will not celebrate Christmas as we do.

2000 years ago Jesus was born in humble circumstances, the Son of God who would be the Saviour of the world. God with us here on earth. His birth, life, death and resurrection reveal to us that the real meaning of Christmas is not just for those who can afford to buy presents, have lovely

Christmas trees, eat lots of food and enjoy the family 's get together, but for the whole world. The angels gave “good news of great joy to all people for today a Saviour has been born.”

Let me encourage you to take a fresh look at Christmas, to see the essence of it not in terms of the glitter but in the light of God's love as He came to earth to save us from our sin.

Have a great Christmas from all at BCF Community Church

Contact: Phil Walter on  
01604 882040



## Outdoor Christmas Nativity

**Sunday 20th December 2015 4 p.m.**

Come and join us as we celebrate and act out the Christmas Story. If you have children they may like to take part! Dress them up as an angel or a shepherd or a king and we will include them in the Nativity (great photo opportunity!) We hold it outside the Library and Community Centre and Jacko the donkey (and maybe another) will be part of the entertainment! We are pleased to announce that included in the afternoon will be the “Brixworth U3A Songsters” Look forward to seeing you then.

P.S If the weather is inclement we will be holding the Nativity at the School at the same time (possibly without Jacko!)





## BreaCFast@9



Are you missing out? Families with children of Primary School age are warmly invited to join us for breakfast (at 9:00) on a Sunday morning followed by a great mixture of Craft, Bible stories (usually a cartoon version) some singing and a general good feel factor surrounds it!

Those who come along have a great time and it is a good place to meet friends or make new ones. Why not try it?

## Carol Singing

In the village Monday  
21st December from 7:30 p.m.

fancy joining us for an hour or so of Carol Singing around the village? Just meet outside the Library & Community Centre – children welcome!

## The Olive Branch

More than just a Coffee Shop, the Olive Branch is the place to meet, be kept informed of Village life and receive a warm welcome. If you have never tasted the fine coffee and food – why not try it!

Mon, Tue, Thur 10-3.00, Fri 9.30-2.30,  
Saturday 9.30-1.00  
Wed 10-11.30

Pensioners Luncheon Club Wed 12 noon\*  
\*(membership currently full ask to be added to waiting list)

The Olive Branch,  
Library & Community Centre,  
Spratton Road, Tel 889030

Run by volunteers this non-profit making venture has a welcoming atmosphere.



## Dynamites

### Children's Club

Friday's in term time:

5 – 6pm for Key Stage 1 children

6:15 – 7:15 for Key Stage 2 children

On Friday's at the Library & Community Centre, Spratton Road.

Great fun for the children and an hours rest for the parents! For more information contact Mark on 882832



## Everyone Matters to God

BCF Community Church believes wholeheartedly that everyone matters to God and therefore the same applies to us. Should you need to talk, to share your burdens, to seek help in any way please do not hesitate to contact:

Phil on 882040 or the Olive Branch on 889030 and we will please to share with you in any way we can.

## Junior Church

### Each Sunday 10:30am

Parents, remember Sunday School?

The positive experience you had? Well, Junior Church gives a very warm welcome to all children of whatever age to our Sunday Services which includes a special time together. Bible Stories, games, quizzes, craft and much more.

For more information why not ring Phil on 882040

## Christmas Day at BCF

you can be sure of getting your Christmas Day off to the best start! Meeting in the school from 10:30-11:15 we celebrate together the birth of Jesus in Carols, readings and much more.

A warm welcome awaits.



## Operation Christmas Child

has got off to a good start and by the time you receive this publication we will hopefully be well on the way of beating last years figure! Our aim is 1,500 shoeboxes which will go to children in Eastern Europe – for many the only gift they will have.



## BCF Community Church Weekly Events

<b>Sunday:</b>	09:00 – 10:00	BreaCFast@9 (Brixworth School)
	10:30 – 11:45	Main Service of Worship (Brixworth School) (including Junior Church and Creche)
<b>Monday:</b>	20:00 – 21:30	Prayer Meeting in the Olive Branch
<b>Tuesday:</b>	19:30 – 21:00	TNT – for Teenagers*
<b>Wednesday:</b>	20:00 – 21:30	Home study Groups
<b>Thursday:</b>	10:00 – 11:30	Olive Shoots – a Mums & Tots group*
<b>Friday:</b>	17:00 – 18:00	Dynamites Children's Club – age 5-7 years*
	18:15 – 19:15	Dynamites Children's Club – age 8-11*
(*held at the Library & Community Centre)		

You will always receive a very warm welcome at any of our Services on a Sunday at 10:30. At the school. As we share together in worship, we also provide a Junior Church for children of all ages. Come and join us!

If you would like to know more about anything in Brixworth Matters or to know more about the Christian faith, then phone Phil on 882040 or go online [www.bcfchurch.co.uk](http://www.bcfchurch.co.uk)

# Brixworth Village Organisations

Type	Name	Contact	Telephone	E mail/ Website	Venue
Youth	Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers	Kim Phillips, Bob Pickes, Jez Leeke & Doug Leach		brixworth_gsl@btopenworld.com	Brixworth Centre
Youth	Rainbows	Elaine Coe	881978	www.girlguiding.org.uk	Community Centre
Youth	Brownies	Michelle Coles	880024	www.girlguiding.org.uk	Brixworth Centre
Youth	Guides	Jill Gunnett	880929	www.girlguiding.org.uk	Brixworth Centre
Youth	Little Acorns Pre-School	Supervisor	07534 426594	www.littleacornsbrxworth.co.uk	Village Hall
Youth	Olive Shoots (Mums & Tots)	Becky Reid	882327		Community Centre
Youth	Surestart	Janice Layton	880246		Children's Centre
Youth	Rhymetime (under 5s)	Jill Barber	0300 126 1000	jbarber@northamptonshire.gov.uk	Library
Youth	Dynamites	Rev. Phil Walter	882040	philwalter@btinternet.com	Community Centre
Youth	Brixworth Primary School	David Boucher	883900	head@brixworth.northants-ecl.gov.uk	School
Youth	Brixworth Centre Pre-School	Emma Hinde	07791 906305	brixworthcentrepreschool@yahoo	Brixworth Centre
Youth	Mighty Oaks (After School)	Jo Bailey	07508 659017	mightyoaksbrixworth@aol.co.uk	School
Youth	Brixworth Juniors Cricket	Mandy Batchelor	07966 045231	apbatchl@btinternet.com	Cricket Ground
Youth	Krystle's Dance Academy	Krystle Gerrad	07791 852891	krystalgerrad@btinternet.com	Community Centre
Youth	Sunny Socks Nursery	Lesley Eaton	882155	www.sunnysocks.co.uk	Park Farm
Youth	Brixworth Juniors Football	Rob Kelly	7531004415	www.brixworthjuniors.co.uk	St. Davids/Ashway
Sport	Brixworth All Saints Football	Ian Bandey	07812 609095		St. Davids Field
Sport	Brixworth Cricket Club	Chris Timm	07718 628895	brixworth.play-cricket.com	Cricket Ground
Sport	Angling Club	Adrian Rose	881873		
Sport	Badminton Club	Trevor	843064	Trevitox@hotmail.com	Guildsborough Sch.
Sport	Golf Society	John Wilson	880490		
Sport	Indoor Short Mat Bowls	Janet Hickman	880317		Brixworth Centre
Sport	Circuit Training	Alison Cooper	077321 65546	info@act-ive.com	Village Hall
Sport	Tai Chi	Cuong Sam	7958039715		Village Hall
Sport	Pilates	Louise Grumi	07766 807184	pilateswithlouis@gmail.com	Community Centre
Sport	Tennis Club	Will Haxby	880715	brixworthtennisclub.org.uk	Cricket Ground
Sport	Yoga	Anne Widdup	07729 099206	change4good@annewiddup.com	Community Centre
Adult	All Saints Bellringers	David Hamson	881089		Church
Adult	Friends of All Saints' Church	Caroline Monk	882982	brixworthfriendsl@btinternet.com	Church
Adult	All Saints' Flower Guild	Margaret Oliver	881012		Church
Adult	Brixworth Drama Club	Sue l'Anson	07990 624713	sueianson89@googlemail.com	Village Hall
Adult	First Responders	Phil	07989 267071	www.emas.nhs.uk/cfr	
Adult	Art Class for Beginners	Ray Coles	494160		Community Centre
Adult	Bridge Club	Andy Heaver	880721		Heritage Centre
Adult	Gardening Club	Judy Smith	881186		Community Centre
Adult	University of the 3rd Age	Peter Davies	880401	peter.davies@waitrose.com	Village Hall
Adult	Women's Institute	Linda Murray		lindamurray48@hotmail.com	Village Hall
Adult	Photographic Society	Ian Topham	880780	ian@tophams.net	Community Centre
Adult	BRANE	Bob Chattaway	881281	brane@talktalk.net	Community Centre
Adult	Brixworth History Society	Heather Parr	07817 006364	hlparr@aol.com	Village Hall
Community	Brixworth Information Point	Mike Nice	882622	brixworthinformationpoint@btconnect.com	Community Centre
Community	Community Centre	Mike Nice	880086	mike.nice100@googlemail.com	Community Centre
Community	Village Hall	Hayley Wincott	880654	administrator@brixworthvillagehall.co.uk	Village Hall
Community	Brixworth Centre	Julie Tear	882818	julie@brixsecure.co.uk	
Community	Heritage Centre	Tony Brunton	880941		Heritage Centre
Community	Central Sports Pavilion	John Noble	7789515346		St. David's Field
Community	Parish Nurses	Elaine Gregory	07812 507875		Community Centre
Community	Olive Branch Coffee Shop	Mike Nice	889030	mike.nice100@googlemail.com	Community Centre
Community	Saxon Spires PPG	Barbara Hogg	880552	barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk	
Community	Brixworth Fire Station	Tony Reid	07779 064872	treid@northantsfire.org.uk	Fire Station



# What's on

25 Nov - 3 Jan	The Snow Queen	Royal
27 Nov - 3 Dec	Steve Jobs	Errol Flynn Filmhouse
28 Nov	That'll be the Day	Derngate
29 Nov	The Little Angel	Lighthouse, Kettering
29 Nov	Steeleye Span	Derngate
29 Nov	Derek Jacobi	Boughton House
29 Nov	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lamp-ort Railway
3-5 Dec	The Mikado Live	The Castle, Wellingborough
4 Dec	So this is Christmas	Derngate
4-10/12	The Lady in the Van	EF Filmhouse
4 Dec - 3 Jan	Oh no! Not Snow!	Underground
5 Dec	Christmas Market	All Saints, Brix
5-6 Dec	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lamp-ort Railway
6-Dec	Bolshoi Live: The Lady	EF Filmhouse
7-29/12	A Christmas Carol	The Castle
8 Dec	Jane Eyre	EF Filmhouse & The Castle
11 Dec - 3 Jan	Jack and the Beanstalk	Lighthouse
11 Dec - 3 Jan	Cinderella	Derngate
12-13 Dec	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lamp-ort Railway
13 Dec, 10am	Christmas Bike Ride	Country Park
14 Dec	Exhibition Live	EF Filmhouse
16 Dec	The Nutcracker Live	The Castle
17 Dec	Simon Spillet Quartet	The Castle
19-20 Dec	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lamp-ort Railway

20 Dec, 4pm	Nativity	Brixworth Library
21 Dec, 7.30pm	Carol Singing	Brix Library & Community Ctr
27-Dec	Mince Pie Special Trains	N'pton & Lamp-ort Railway
7-16 Jan	The 39 Steps	Royal
8 Jan	Motown's Greatest Hits	Derngate
9 Jan	Circus of Horrors	The Castle
9 Jan	Beyond the Barricade	Derngate
10 Jan	The Big Band	The Castle
11-16/1	Saint Petersburg	Derngate
14-16/1	Tipping Point Dance	The Castle
16 Jan	Les Pecheurs de Perles	EF Filmhouse
20-24 Jan	Snow White and the 7 Dwarves	The Castle
21-22/1	Anton & Erin	Derngate
22 Jan	Jim Davidson: Charlton Nil	Lighthouse
22-23/1	Burlesque Show	Royal
23 Jan	An Evening with Bernie Keith	Derngate
24 Jan	Bolshoi Live: The Taming of the Shrew	EF Filmhouse
24 Jan	The Circus of Horrors	Lighthouse
26 Jan - 6 Feb	Jersey Boys	Derngate
28 Jan	Les Liaisons Dangereuses	The Castle
28 Jan	NT Live: Les Liaisons	EF Filmhouse
28 Jan	The Magnificent Music	Royal
29 Jan	David O'Doherty	Royal
30 Jan	Turandot	EF Filmhouse
30 Jan	I'm Hans Christian	Royal
3 Feb	Sean Lock - Keep it Light	The Castle
5-27/2	The Herbal Bed	Royal
6-7 Feb	Hapaning 2016	Lighthouse
6 Feb	Puss in Boots	Brix Village Hall
10 Feb	The Classic Rock Show	Derngate
11 Feb	Johann Strauss Gala	Derngate
12-13/2	Fame: The Musical	Lighthouse

12-13/2	Puss in Boots	Brix Village Hall
13 Feb	Renaissance - Fire and Ice	The Castle
15-18 Feb	Holiday Project: Greek Myths & Legends	Underground
16 Feb	Brendal Cole - A Night to Remember	Derngate
18 Feb	Ed Byrne	Derngate
20 Feb	Rumours of Fleetwood	Derngate
21 Feb	RPO: Alan Buribayev	Derngate
25 Feb	ELO Again	Lighthouse
25 Feb	Broken	The Castle
25 Feb	As you Like it	EF Filmhouse & The Castle
26 Feb	Heather Small Live in Concert	Derngate
26 Feb	Westcoast	The Castle
27 Feb	Katherine Ryan	Derngate
28 Feb	Jason Donovan	Derngate
1 Mar	Stewart Francis: Pun Gent	Lighthouse
2 Mar	Rob Beckett - Mouth of the South	The Castle
3 Mar	Clare Teal	Royal
4 Mar	The 80s Invasion	Derngate
4 Mar	Tommy Tiernan	Royal
5 Mar	Skerryvore	The Castle
5 Mar	Manon Lescaut	EF Filmhouse
5 Mar	Richard Herring - Happy Now?	Royal
6 Mar	The Tommy Cooper Show	Lighthouse
7-12/3	The Yeomen of the Guard	Royal
9 Mar	An Evening with Lulu	Derngate
12 Mar	The Bootleg Beatles	Derngate
14-19/3	The Perfect Murder	Derngate
18 Mar	Lee Mead	Lighthouse
19 Mar	Dane Baptiste	Underground
21-26/3 Mar	The Last Tango	Derngate
24 Mar	Russell Kane	Royal
27 Mar	How the Lion became King of Tinga Tinga Land	Lighthouse
28 Mar	Hello Kitty	Derngate
31 Mar	Tosca	Derngate
1 Apr	David Morgan: Blammo!	The Castle
2 Apr	Champions of Magic	The Castle



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[www.annewiddup.com](http://www.annewiddup.com)

# Brixworth Pumas Under 12s unveil new sponsorship

Brixworth Pumas Under 12 Football team is delighted to welcome new sponsors: Millers Consultancy have agreed to sponsor the away kit, while the estate agency Belvoir will sponsor the home kit.

## Millers Consultancy



Based in Northampton, the land and development company Millers Consultancy works right across the UK and specialises in the delivery of affordable housing and strategic land. Millers' services span the full range from finding and disposing of land to managing projects, and the company works with a broad

range of clients from small-scale developers of bespoke projects to large-scale multi-site developers.

The company says: "We believe in supporting clubs and associations such as Brixworth Juniors Football club who provide much-needed support to the young people in the local community."



## Belvoir!

Belvoir is a specialist letting and sales agency run by two Brixworth residents – Simon Haywood and Susan Bunce. Simon's partner's and Susan's sons play for the local



Brixworth Under 12s team. Simon retired from the RAF last year to run the Daventry-based Belvoir franchise, which services villages between Daventry and Brixworth and beyond. He says: "We are delighted to be supporting local grassroots football where coaches and officials all give up their valuable time to allow children of the local villages to play football in a more structured way."



A key player in liaising with new and potential sponsors and keeping the club financially stable is Simon Compton, a keen volunteer, coach and secretary for the club. It is Simon's job to approach many firms at this time of the season to endeavour to the club's finances on an even keel, which will lead to more improved coaches and hopefully many more players joining successful academies in the future. Brixworth Juniors has over 200 players in teams spanning from the under 7s to the under 18s. To the pride of everyone at the club, recently some players have been incorporated into the Northampton Academies.

Anyone wishing to support the Brixworth Juniors should contact Simon on 07985 810817 - Simon Compton



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# Cup delight for Jaguars

Brixworth Jaguars U11's came into round two of the NTFA cup hoping to replicate their positive league form and with high hopes of a victory; only Corby Hellenic Fisher FC stood in their way.

The game began in a lively fashion, and it was Brixworth who drew first blood in just under three minutes. A long throw from Oliver Savage found its way through to Robert Vizor who coolly dispatched it under the goalkeeper to give the hosts an early lead. Clever play from midfielders Joe Davide and Leon Rush continued to fashion chances, and it was this partnership that would lead to a second goal just 4 minutes after the first. A surging solo run from Davide was followed by a piercing through ball which Rush took into his stride and stroked home with great finesse.

Brixworth Goalkeeper Tom Wallinger was called into action for the first time soon after, but displayed a safe pair of hands. This in tandem with sound defending from Savage and Stirling Green kept Corby at bay. Midfielder Ted Hutchinson continued to pull the strings in midfield, and it was the Brixworth number 14 who provided the third goal of the match on the 20 minute mark. A Brixworth corner seemed to have been dealt with, however Hutchinson produced an outrageous acrobatic effort to arrow the ball into the Corby goal. Brixworth showed no sign of slowing; continuing to bombard and overwhelm their opposition. On 24 minutes, striker James Henry played a pinpoint accurate pass to Alistair Osborne, whose shot demanded a fine save from the Corby goalkeeper. However, just minutes later, Brixworth would extend their lead further. A forward pass from Green was flicked on expertly by Oliver Rose into the path Osborne, who floated the ball exquisitely over the goalkeeper's hapless head, and into the far corner of the net. The Jaguars wasted no time with celebrations, and quickly registered a fifth. A superb cross from Robert Vizor found an unmarked Ross Anzalone in the box who fired into the top corner. Brixworth went into half time five goals to the good; by far the dominant team.

The second half began in contrasting fashion to the first; it was Corby who applied the early pressure. This was to pay dividends 5 minutes in; the Red Striker dispossessing the Brixworth Defender, and planting it into the bottom corner. This sparked Brixworth back into life; an instant reply brought two goals in the space of a minute. Firstly, a quick Brixworth attack saw a deep cross from Vizor met by Wallinger at the far post, who stroked home the Jaguars' sixth of the game. This was shortly followed by a sweeping Brixworth attack which saw Davide unleash a powerful drive into the bottom corner after reacting quickest to the loose ball after the Corby goalkeeper had stopped well from an Oliver Savage strike.

Continuously solid defending from Anzalone made a Corby goal seem unlikely, and Brixworth continued to bombard their hapless opposition. Tricky dribbling from Ethan Kelly drew a foul from the opposing defender, and the Brixworth man fired the resultant free-kick into the top corner of the goal. Oliver Rose joined the score-sheet in the 55th minute, after confidently running onto a through ball, and finishing expertly past the helpless goalkeeper. Brixworth were not done there. Minutes before the full time whistle, the men in white entered double figures after a brilliant Brixworth move was finished coolly by James Henry. Henry hunted his second in the dying embers of the game, but could only drag his shot wide following some good hold up play.

The full-time whistle marked a dominant and ruthless performance from an impressive Brixworth side; deservedly emerging victorious. As well as a squad that oozes quality, performances like these will instil this side with the confidence that they can progress all the way to the final.

MOTM: Joe Davide

- Jacob Reid

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# Brixworth Cricket Club - 2015 Review



As winter sets in, the 2015 season seems a long way behind us! But it's worth briefly reflecting on another successful summer as the Club continues to grow on all fronts.

On the adult side, we introduced a men's 4th team for the first time. Whilst we struggled on the odd occasion to fulfil fixtures, this proved a huge success and gave more players the opportunity to play cricket on a Saturday afternoon who wouldn't otherwise have been able to. Our 1st XI maintained their status in the Northants Premier League, finishing in eighth place. We also won the County T20 plate competition and, much to everyone's delight we were awarded the Ground of The Year trophy as well. This is testament to the tremendous work all our groundstaff do throughout the year and especially on an almost daily basis during the summer months. Huge thanks go to John Wykes, Nigel Riches, Ashley Hammond, Martyn Cowley and Dave Salisbury – the club is indebted to you all! We can justifiably now claim to have the best ground in the league – it remains the envy of all clubs who come to play at Brixworth.

Our 2nd XI narrowly missed out on promotion to Division 2, whilst the 3rds had a disappointing season due in large part to injuries and inconsistent availability, but they will bounce back next year I'm sure.

Our junior section continues to flourish with around 140 boys and girls registered from u5s to u15s. Friday evenings remain the highlight of the week for many families as the children enjoy the coaching on offer and the parents look on and catch up with friends, whilst enjoying a drink or two and the BBQ! Our three junior teams enjoyed varying levels of success – all winning their fair share of games. The current U11 squad look particularly strong and we look forward to monitoring the progress of a number of very promising young players. This year's U15s now move into adult cricket and so the cycle moves on and our challenge as a club is to ensure we maintain coaching at all levels so the players can reach their potential and, most importantly, continue to enjoy the game. We have another three coaches taking their Level 2 qualification over the winter to ensure we maintain our standards and can deliver the right level of technical support at all age groups.

A huge thank you to all our coaches who give up so much of their time throughout the season and a massive thank you also to Mandy Batchelor who has been instrumental in building our junior section over the past five years into what it has become today and to all the parent volunteers who help out with the bar and the BBQ every week.

We always want to get better – on and off the field and at every level. So to all cricket lovers in the village, whether you've lived here for some time or recently moved in, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Whether you're a player (at whatever level), a coach, an umpire or a scorer or you'd like to get involved as a volunteer, we'd love to hear from you. – *Chris Timm, BCC Chairman* (christimm\_24@hotmail.com; 07718 628985)

## Brixworth Amateur Golf Society

Brixworth Amateur Golf Society has now arranged the following venues for 2016:-

4th March at Kilworth Springs Golf Club – The George Clapton Memorial Trophy  
22th April at Kirby Muxloe Golf Club  
24th June at Kibworth Golf Club  
5th August at Aspley Guise Golf Club  
7th October at Market Harborough – The Tim Moulds Jug

5th April the Annual General Meeting will be held in The Sports Pavilion. Everybody is welcome.

Anybody interested in joining should ring John Wilson on 880490. – *John Wilson*

## Football U7s looking good



The youngest age group has just completed their first mini-season of eight matches and with the boys wearing their new kit they certainly looked like a force to be reckoned with. Their dominance on the pitch is more than a little bit frightening and they have ended up with a set of results that any team at any age would be envious of, seven wins and one draw. A huge 45 goals scored and only 13 against shows the team has great promise. A huge amount of credit goes to the players' undisputed skills and the dedication of their coaches.



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