

New surgery to be completed February 2018

The long process of reaching agreement for a new, larger, GP surgery is nearly at an end. A revised start date for construction has been set for April this year, with the premises expected to be completed by February 2018. According to the planning approval granted to Barratt Homes for the new developments at the south of the village, the construction must begin on or before the occupation of the tenth dwelling in the second phase of house building.

Getting to this point has been a complicated affair, requiring input from Assura, the property management company that manages Brixworth's current surgery premises on behalf of NHS Property Services, the planning department of Daventry District Council, Northamptonshire Council, the Highways Agency, and, of course, the doctors of Saxon Spire practice. Brixworth



residents have been represented by the Patients Forum, the Parish Council, BRANE (Brixworth Residents Against New Estates) and the Neighbourhood Plan committee.

Chris Millar, Leader of Daventry District Council, and a Brixworth resident, has been involved in the project since the beginning. He

Community Spirit

The community spirit is alive and well in our neighbourhood. It's wonderful to see. Just in case you missed it, here's a few examples that happened to catch my eye in recent weeks.

1) An appeal, posted at the end of January on behalf of a new shelter for homeless people in Northampton, for old towels, bedlinen, cutlery and personal care items.

Within five days, people in an around Brixworth had donated stacks and stacks of towels, blankets, plates, bowls, shampoo, shower gel – the list goes on – with Katie at Northampton Pets turning her shop into an impromptu drop-off point.

Vanessa Kneale at the Housing Department and her friend Lucy Jennings, who'd posted the appeal, were gobsmacked with the reaction.

2) Karen Johnson's musing about her neighbour, who'd almost ended up spending Christmas alone, generated an online brainstorm about drop-in community events, where anyone's encouraged to come along and make new friends. The idea grew legs, a team of volunteers got together and started planning. The end result is 'Brixworth Cares', a free community lunch taking place at the Village Hall this Easter Sunday.

3) Seems not a day goes by without someone relocating lost gloves, bus passes, cats or indeed partially addressed parcels with their owner, thanks to social media.

It's easy to think that everyone just spends their days going to and from work and doing their daily chores to care much about their community or participate in community activities. Whoever thinks that couldn't be more wrong.

Sure, social media can also be used to spread hate, bully, defame and whip up an almighty storm in a teacup. But its use for these lovely acts of community, caring and kindness sure gives me hope.



Heidi
Flavell-White

The Brixworth Bulletin are:

Claudia Flavell-While, editor
882567; editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk

Neal Brown, advertising
882334; ad.manager@brixworthbulletin.co.uk

Fiona Kelsall, invoicing

George Hammerschmidt, art and design
880212; art.editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk

Louise Robinson, distribution
883641; dist.manager@brixworthbulletin.co.uk

Sheila Jenner, treasurer
881173; treasurer@brixworthbulletin.co.uk

Regular correspondents:
Jennifer Fitzgerald
Mike Philpott
Kate Calnan
Brian Webster

Letters to: The Old School, Manor Road,
Hanging Houghton NN6 9ES; or post them
in our letterbox at the Community Centre.

The *Brixworth Bulletin* is published
quarterly in March, June, September and
December. The deadline for contributions
and advertising for the June 2017 issue is 25
April 2017.

Visit www.brixworthbulletin.co.uk, join us
on Facebook or follow @BrixBulletin on
Twitter.

says: "I am personally very proud of what we as a collective team have achieved, it certainly hasn't been easy."

In addition to the above parties, Chris has had to intervene personally with Jeremy Hunt, the Secretary of State for Health, Simon Stevens, Head of NHS England, as well as our MP, Chris Heaton-Harris. Part of the reason for this is that the scheme has been completely community-led. Chris says: "I believe the project is fairly unusual in that it has all been done bottom-up."

The surgery plan started two years ago before the second phase of Barratt's house-building was approved. Because the agreed contribution to the community from the first phase only amounted to a few extra car parking spaces in the village centre, the team was able to negotiate a new surgery as part of the second phase.

The latest obstacles to be surmounted include the agreement for a right-hand turn into the surgery from Northampton Road, demanded by the Highways Agency. A footpath to the bus stop and the position of speed restriction signs have also been recently agreed.

It is not yet known what will happen to the existing surgery premises, but some local parties have already expressed interest in taking them over.

Of course, we can still expect a number of hitches, especially as legal contracts still need to be exchanged. However, a sod-cutting ceremony is planned for the end of April.

– Jennifer Fitzgerald



Donated tree brings Christmas cheer to library

The Christmas community spirit was out in full force for Brixworth library this year with a wonderful tree donated by a village resident, which was cut and delivered to the library, also free of charge.

"I am all too aware of the financial pressures that every organisation faces at the moment," village resident Lorraine Holder told the *Bulletin*. "With this in mind I donated a Christmas tree that's grown too big for my garden to the Library and Community Centre.

"One of my neighbour's nephews, Marcus Rose works as a tree surgeon for Northampton Treework in Brixworth and has offered to cut and deliver the tree to the library free of charge." – cfw

HC
one of a kind

www.hc-one.co.uk

Pytchley Court Care Home

Providing a high standard of care in Brixworth village

Pytchley Court Care Home offers elderly ladies and gentlemen personalised care and support in the heart of the community



At Pytchley Court kindness is at the heart of everything we do. Our care and services are tailored to individual preferences including food, hobbies and interests. You are welcome to visit Pytchley Court at any time and a colleague will be happy to show you around.

- Residential Dementia Care
- Nursing Care
- Residential Care
- End of Life Care
- Palliative Care

For more information, please
contact The Care Line team
T: 0333 999 8604
E: careline@hc-one.co.uk

accountability | involvement | partnership

ACTive 
Personal Training
Fitness Consultant, Sports Therapy
Pilates Instructor

Try a personal trainer or join one of our fitness classes in Brixworth

DAY	CLASS	VENUE	TIME
Monday	Circuits	Village Hall	7.00 - 8.00
Weds.	Pilates	The Centre	6.15 - 7.00

Classes are for all levels of fitness

Tel: 01604 743361 / 07732 165546
e-mail: alicooperfitness@gmail.com

Footpath closure sees village edge remodelled

The field on the edge of Brixworth, to the west of Northampton Road, has been a hive of activity in recent weeks.

The field had previously had a permissive footpath run around its perimeter, which was very popular with local residents, dogwalkers and ramblers. As explained in the December issue of the *Bulletin*, the scheme under which the permissive path operated ended on 31 January.

Within days, workers were building a new stone wall, closing off access to the field (pictured, right). This was followed in mid-February by a significant tree planting operation. In total, the *Bulletin* understands that contractors planted 19 oaks and around 6,000 other trees and shrubs including maple, scots pine and holly, to cover an area of around four hectares, or just under ten acres (see below).

It is as yet unclear what the motivation for the tree planting scheme is. Given the location and history of the field – in 2011, a proposed 150-house-development on the site met with fierce resistance from the village – there has been speculation that the trees could pave the way for future development. This is because the recently-approved Neighbourhood Plan protects the views around the village, but that protection could be weakened if the views are already obscured by trees.



footpath. The footpath along the Spratton Road, leading from the edge of the village down to the Brampton Valley Way, was also closed at the end of January. Previous managed by Berry Brothers on behalf of the Woods Will Trust, the field was bought by the Society of Merchant Venturers a few years ago and is now also managed by Savills.

“It’s quite concerning, as the permissive path alongside Spratton Road was the only safe pedestrian route down to Brampton Valley Way,” says Bob Chattaway, chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The Steering Group has decided to refer both matters to the Parish Council. – cfw



Ben Knight, land steward at Savills, who manages the field on behalf of the Society of Merchant Venturers, sought to reassure readers: “There’s a Neighbourhood Plan and a very good Local Plan, neither of which identifies this land for development,” he told the *Bulletin*.

While we weren’t able to get more detailed answers at this stage due to time constraints, we plan to have a more in-depth discussion with Ben about the field and any plans for it in the next issue.

The field at Northampton Road is not the only one to have recently lost a permissive

The six reasons to choose O’Riordan Bond to sell your home in Brixworth in 2017:

One

We are local and understand Brixworth

O’Riordan Bond is the only estate agent with an office in Brixworth – a local office with local knowledge. Each May - June instruction will receive a 20% discount on our sole agency fee.

Two

We advertise your home regularly

If you instruct O’Riordan Bond to sell your home your property will be advertised four times in the first eight weeks in the local press. Advertising regularly will help the right person being found for your home in the correct time scales.

Three

We’re open at times to suit you

We’re open at times to suit our clients. 8.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday, Saturdays and Bank Holidays, convenient for viewings after work and at weekends.

Four

Your home will be professionally photographed

Each instruction in Brixworth and the surrounding villages will benefit from FREE PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND FLOOR PLANS.

Five

We show your property at it’s best

We take time and effort to represent every property in the best possible light. On www.oriordanbond.co.uk you will find floorplans, numerous colour photographs, location maps and printable colour brochures for properties.

Six

We get you the best possible price

Being local and focused on selling property in Brixworth and the surrounding villages means choosing O’Riordan Bond Brixworth increases the chances of securing a purchaser at the best possible price.

Please call O’Riordan Bond on 01604 880077



marketing impact - professional service

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group toasts referendum success

Brixworth residents resoundingly endorsed the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan, with 1317 voting yes and only 57 against in the referendum, which took place in early December.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, which had worked hard over three years to prepare the plan, was very pleased with the turnout of 33.45%, which compares very favourably with smaller turn outs at Moulton and Earls Barton and was very close to Spratton's.

This new piece of planning legislation will assist the Parish Council and Daventry's Planners to control new development and ensure that the hilltop setting and character of the village are protected.

The Steering Group will continue to function for a time to monitor the plan and its position in relation to DDC's new Local Development Plan and to assist the Parish Council whenever required to do so.



The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Back row, from left to right: Mike Lacey, Rick Spurgeon, Mick Bates, Mike Nice. Front row: Mike Parsons, Bob Chattaway, Frank Allen. Members not pictured: Paula Jones, Ian Barratt and Malcolm Rous.

Easter Bunny coming to Brixworth!



The Easter Bunny is visiting Brixworth on Good Friday (14th April) and hiding lots of eggs and goodies around the village!!

By following clues, you may very well find tasty rewards, refreshments, cakes and a raffle at the end. Katie Bland, owner of Northampton Pets, says: "We wanted to the start of the Easter weekend to be fun for the children and adults alike, so what better way than to have an Easter Egg Hunt. We will even have a bouncy castle!"

The hunt will start at 11am and cost £2 per child. All proceeds will be donated to the charity, Bloodwise. Katie added: "Bloodwise fund world-class research and offer expert information and support to anyone affected by leukaemia and other blood cancer disorders, something very close to many people in Brixworth, including me."

Information and tickets are available at Northampton Pets and via 881100.

Following the referendum David Parnaby, who moved away last year, resigned as Chairman. Bob Chattaway has stepped up from his role as Vice Chairman to take the chair and his position has been filled by Frank Allen. Mike Parsons remains as Secretary.

The Group members are most grateful to everyone who turned out to vote and especially to those who expressed their support in person during the various consultations and public displays. The splendid article on the front page of December's *Bulletin* was especially appreciated.

Regrettably, at the time of writing, it appears likely that access to two permissive paths is to be lost. One, adjacent Stonehill Way, Froxhill Crescent and Shelleycotes provides superb views over the rolling ironstone slopes to the southwest and the other a safe pathway to the Brampton Valley Way alongside Spratton Road. An attempt by Mike Parsons on behalf of the Steering Group to establish a dialogue on the matter was only partially successful inasmuch as his comments were to be passed on to Savills, the Society's agents. — Bob Chattaway



Sunny Socks
NURSERY SCHOOLS

Park Farm, Brixworth,
Northampton
Tel: 01604 882155

www.sunnysocks.co.uk
brixworth@sunnysocks.co.uk

Contact us to arrange a visit to see
our homely and friendly nursery

- ★ Open 51 weeks a year, 8 am - 6 pm
Part-time sessions available
- ★ Committed to quality childcare
from birth to school age
- ★ A loving & caring environment where
children can socialise & play safely
- ★ High levels of security for your peace
of mind
- ★ Fully qualified, dedicated & long-term
staff

Quote from our Ofsted report:
"Children are eager to participate & show high levels of engagement in activities. They are curious and keen to try new things out for themselves. They make good progress & acquire good skills & attitudes to support their future education".

Police warns of 'unprecedented' car crime spike

In early January, I was catching up on the Community Safety Partnership's December report on Daventry crime. There was a bittersweet message that whilst thefts from vehicle had increased, the majority of that increase has been outside Daventry District, which has seen a more moderate rise of 1.6%. This keeps it one of the safer places in the county.

However, there is dismaying news to buck that trend this morning as the crime sheet shows an unprecedented series of vehicle crime over the past two days with eleven vehicle crimes on the rural patch and three in the town. There are some common themes, and I wanted to share these with our community so that whilst we investigate the crimes, you can assist by firstly being aware of the problems and trend, and secondly, ensuring that you don't inadvertently make your vehicle attractive to thieves. I always worry about unduly increasing people's fear of crime, but the feedback I've had from recent communications has shown an appreciation across our community of us candidly updating you on trends and advising how to prevent becoming a victim of that crime trend.

I reiterate that this series is unusual. Rural vehicle crimes appear to be targeting predominantly commercial vehicles (for tools and plant) by force. The town crimes appear to be targeting potentially insecure vehicles with property on view or accessible.

Please help us nip this trend in the bud by following the advice which I give in the light of the crimes that have occurred.

- Ensure all vehicles are locked. You may invalidate your insurance by not securing your vehicle.
- Leave nothing on display. You may know that the carrier bag on the back seat has



(say) your gym kit in it, but the thief won't. You may think that £20 worth of small change on display in the ashtray is minimal, but the thief won't. You may have innocently left the charging lead dangling between the seats. However the thief will target the car to see if there is an electronic device attached!

- If you have a commercial van with tools in it, these vehicles are traditionally safe parked around our District other than at key locations. However, for the time being, consider making your tools and plant safer and leaving a notice visible to indicate that there is nothing of value left in the van overnight. Consider alarming your vehicle. For less than £50, you can buy a movement detector which takes a SIM card which you can set like a car alarm and which will text you and sound a 90dB siren when activated

- Keep an eye on your neighbour's vehicle and report anything suspicious – you will not be criticised for reporting suspicious circumstances via 999. That's what the emergency number is for. If you are victim of such a crime, please do report it. I know it is easy to ignore car alarms due to false alarms, but at the time being, I ask that if an alarm sounds, it is investigated. One of the Weedon victims reported a suspicious car leaving the area when the alarm sounded. Nearly all the other crimes have only been discovered by victims returning to their vehicle.

Other than our dwellings, a car or vehicle is often someone's next-most-valuable asset. There's also the hassle in having to have auto-glass replaced or repaired. Please share this information and keep our District safe from harm. – Sam Dobbs, District Sergeant

Brixworth Landscaping

For personal service & creation of your ideal garden, contact Matthew Cox:

Phone: 01604 882390
Email: 82matthewc@gmail.com
Mobile: 07702 317828

82 Froxhill Crescent
Brixworth
Northampton NN6 9LN



applying technology to security

Alarm Installation & Maintenance
Commercial & Domestic

Insurance Company Approved

Brix Secure Ltd
www.brixsecure.co.uk

01604 882456
jason@brixsecure.co.uk

- ✦ Intruder Alarms
- ✦ CCTV
- ✦ Fire Alarms
- ✦ Access Control
- ✦ Intercoms
- ✦ Monitored Systems



Kelmarsh Hall appeals for historic photographs

Can you help with Kelmarsh Hall's project to open up the Laundry and 'below stairs' areas of the Hall?

They are currently searching for photographs and images to help them illustrate what life was like at Kelmarsh.

Tunnelling through the Past is a project to preserve and open up to the public the laundry and the service rooms in the basement of Kelmarsh Hall. As part of the new exhibitions they are hoping to include pictures of people who worked at Kelmarsh Hall and what life was like 'below stairs'.

They are particularly interested in images dating from c.1864-c1950 and specifically

- People who worked in the house in the past (such as butlers, house stewards, laundry maids, chauffeurs, gardeners and cooks)
- The laundry
- The butler's quarters and images of 'below stairs'
- Parties and house guests

They require scanned images to a particular resolution so need the original to copy from and they would love to hear the stories behind the images. If you have no images but have memories you would like to share of Kelmarsh Hall please look out for their Memory Days happening soon.

If you can help, email Carla Cooper at enquiries@kelmarsh.com or telephone 01604 686 543



The Butler's Pantry will formally open to visitors later this year

Tour the Works

Anyone interested can get an early view at the work: Kelmarsh Hall is opening the new areas to the public while the work is still ongoing. Restoration Tours and 'Have a Go' Experiences where visitors can try their hand at lime pointing, lime washing and joinery are scheduled for 1 and 29 March.

The work was made possible thanks to a £1.3m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and support from other funding. The laundry and service rooms in the basement are expected to open to the public later in 2017.

~The George~



We have ample facilities to hold various functions. You can use our conservatory area or smaller rooms for your private parties. We can accommodate baby showers, christenings, funeral receptions and birthdays, catering for any size groups. We have a small snug room to provide a private meeting area for local businesses.

Live music played on the first saturday of each month



Four large split screens
showing Sky & BT Sports



BBQs, Bike clubs, Darts, Pool, Fundays, Charity events



Follow us on Facebook to see all updates



Brixworth, NN6 9BU 01604 881439
mail@thegeorgeatbrixworth.co.uk
www.thegeorgeatbrixworth.co.uk



Our highly trained Osteopaths help patients of all ages with a variety of conditions including neck or back pain, sciatica and other nerve pain, pelvic pain, recurring headaches, shoulder, hip, knee and foot pain, common sports injuries and more. Many patients are pregnant or new mothers, have work strain or pain and stiffness related to advancing years.

Established in 2000 with the majority of our 3500+ patients having being referred to our Osteopaths through word of mouth, by local GP's or other practitioners. The clinic now also offers Podiatry, Chiropody, Exercise Rehabilitation, Sports & Remedial Massage and Reflexology services.

BRIXWORTH
OSTEOPATHIC CLINIC
PART OF THE APOLLO HEALTH GROUP



Call now on 01604 889241
or book online@
www.brixworthosteopathy.com
Quote "BB17"

01604 889241 | info@brixworthosteopathy.com
Brixworth Osteopathic Clinic, Catherine House, Harborough Road, Brixworth,
Northants. NN6 9BX

John Wilson 1943 – 2016

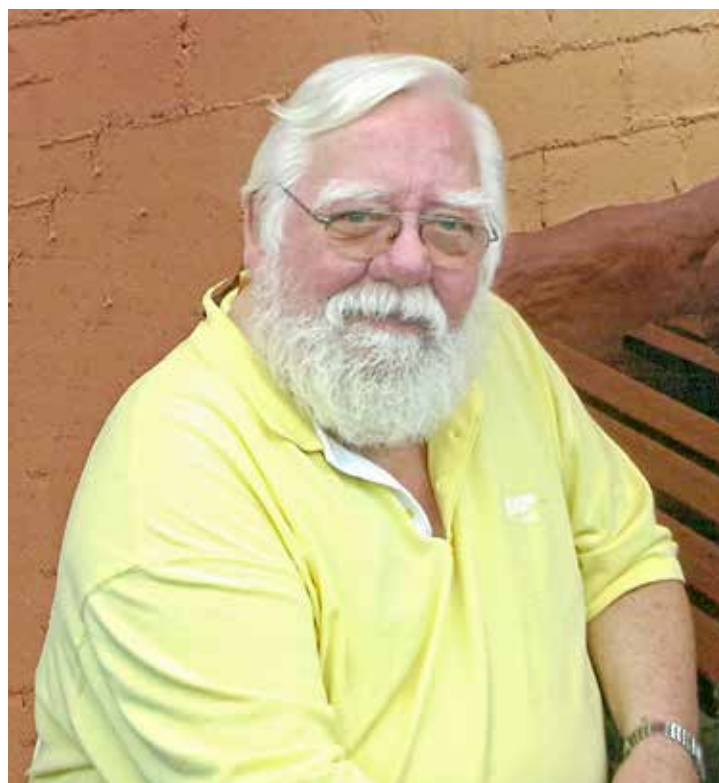
John Wilson passed away in hospital on 26th December 2016 after a long illness. A well-known figure around Brixworth, who had spent most of his life in the village, he will be greatly missed for the contribution he made to our local communities through his strong community spirit and participation in village life. His daughter, Elizabeth, says: "If you had cut Dad in half, you'd have found 'Brixworth' written all through him, like a stick of rock."

John was born in Brixworth 73 years ago, where he grew up with his grandparents. He attended Brixworth village school, and in his teens his passion for football led him to play for the Brixworth Youth and Brixworth Reserves teams, later becoming the Chairman of a football club playing at Cottesbrooke. Playing darts and skittles for the Red Lion were also favourite pastimes.

At the age of 16, John was instrumental in forming a new youth club with a few others, which met in the village hall and became very popular, organising dances on Saturday nights.

In the 1960s, John left Brixworth to join P&O as an Assistant Purser, sailing round the world on passenger liners. On his return in 1969, he took up a job at County Hall, subsequently becoming an Education Welfare Officer and Clerk to Governors at various schools. He and his wife Hazel moved into Northampton after their marriage, and then to Rochdale where John worked in the Education Department. They returned to Brixworth in 1982.

John always had many tales to tell about his time at sea, and continued to enjoy travelling on many foreign holidays with Hazel.




Sport continued to be a keen interest of John's, who also played cricket for Northamptonshire County Council in the 70s. He was a regular bridge player on Monday nights too. Twenty-seven years ago, John founded the Brixworth Amateur Golf Society with about 30 others. Over the years, the society had known about 120 members. John was elected Captain in what turned out to be his final year with the society in 2015. He was also a member of Brampton Heath Golf Centre.


Over several decades, John acted as Clerk to several local parish councils including Pitsford, Overstone and Ecton. He only relinquished his role at Pitsford a few years ago.

John is survived by his wife Hazel and daughters Elizabeth and Emma. He was the proud granddad of four.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks for the many messages of sympathy, love and support they have received from friends, especially from members of the Brixworth U3A and Brixworth Golf Society. – Jennifer Fitzgerald

BLINDS · AWNINGS · SHUTTERS
Local manufacturers & installers of high quality internal & external blinds
Verticals, Rollers, Venetians, Pleated etc etc
Visit our showroom to see what we can offer; open late on Thursdays
FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS





19 Staveley Way, Brixworth, Northampton, NN6 9EU

Telephone: 01604 883744
Email: info@dr-blinds.co.uk
Web: www.dr-blinds.co.uk



A ARCHITECTURE
D DESIGN
P PLANNING

* BUILDING PLANS PREPARED AND *
* APPROVALS OBTAINED *
* PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS *

* Residential and Commercial Projects *
* Architectural Services using Computer Aided Design *

* Contact Thomas Mitchell on +44(0)1604 882500; 07902 863911
e:tfm@supanet.com *www.tfmdesign.co.uk*

Draughton prepares for Classic Car Show

After a fun evening celebrating Robbie Burns in our newly lit and be-stoved little clubroom, Draughton's thoughts are turning to warmer days and the Draughton Classic and



Vintage Car Show with its now-legendary cream teas in the marquee and a super assortment of stalls from plants to bric-a-brac and games – so, something for all the family on Sunday June 25th.

Each year we are blessed with wonderful cars from nearly every era and with stunning provenances - and, each year, the quality of cars gets better. We have also welcomed fascinating motorbikes so, if you have a lovely car or motorbike you'd like to bring along, please contact: sebastian.calnan@yahoo.co.uk

For a lovely day out please join us in Draughton on Sunday June 25th 1-5pm. – *Kate Calnan*

BRIXWORTH
DENTAL
PRACTICE

smileforalifetime™

BRIXWORTH
LASER &
SKINCARE



Dental Practice

DENTIST OF THE YEAR 2016

- For just 53p/day you can enjoy award winning private dental care
- Orthodontics, Dental Implants, Hygienist
- Early, late and Saturday appointments

brixworth-dental.co.uk

Laser & Skincare

NOW OPEN AND OFFERING

- Laser hair removal
- Northamptonshires only Magma Diode Laser
- Dermapen
- Cryopen
- Dermal fillers and Botox

brixworth-laser-skincare.co.uk

Brixworth Dental Practice and Brixworth Laser & Healthcare
Charter House, Spratton Road, Brixworth, NN6 9DS

☎ 01604 880293

Hanging Houghton fights for Phone Box

The red phone box in Hanging Houghton is looking towards a new future, after BT earmarked the phone for removal due to low use.

Initially, BT had wanted to remove the phone box altogether. A note still posted inside the booth says: "Our information shows that this phone box has had very little use over a significant period of time. We're therefore proposing to remove this phone box." A six-week consultation period started in September.

Villagers were dismayed at the prospect. The phone box, which stands on the village green next to the communal noticeboard, is a much-loved landmark and adds character to the village. Moreover, the absence of street light in Hanging Houghton means that the phone box can be the only source of light in the village late at night.

Having consulted with a selection of local residents, Lamport and Hanging Houghton Parish Council took steps to protect the phone box from demolition and successfully applied to Historic England for the box to become a listed 'building'. The council now needs to adopt the box, which will make it responsible for the upkeep. It is still waiting for BT to confirm when the telephone itself will be removed and whether the power will be cut off.



Parish Councillors are debating what use they would put the box to in future. Current suggestions include establishing a book exchange and housing a defibrillator. More ideas are welcome; if you have any to add to the list please contact the clerk Frances Allbury on LHHPCouncil@btinternet.com. – *Claudia Flavell-White*

Brixworth Home & Hardware



- Garden products
- Paint
- Timber
- Bulbs
- Watch batteries
- Kitchenware
- Bakeware
- Logs & kindling
- Calor gas & coal
- Carpet cleaner hire
- Dry cleaning, etc.

Hunters Way, Spratton Road, Brixworth - 01604 880580
(formerly Lovell Hardware)

Country Eye

Find colour where there is none

Dank, dreary, dead even, that's how our countryside can appear at this time of year. Yet even in the depths of the coldest winter, a few hardy flowers may be found. Where I wait for the bus, for weeks now I have kept an eye on one of them. Hugging the base of the bus stop pole, where it sensibly avoids being trampled, grows a lowly shepherd's purse plant. Even in a white frost, it bears at least one tiny white cross-shaped flower. Insignificant it may be but it is a sure indication how tough and resilient it has to be, especially if chance puts you into the category of "weed." Here it has made a life for itself in a crack in the tarmac. But you need to look for it.

Not so the bright yellow of the occasional dandelion flower that may raise its head, especially in grassy spots away from the cold. Our distant forbears knew both of these wayside herbs. Shepherd's purse gets its name from its flat triangular seedpods, like the hand-sewn leather purses of the time. Dandelion is from the French *dent-de-lion* or lion's teeth, referring to the jagged tooth-like edges to the leaves. It has also been called the plant pig, because just like the cottager's porker, every scrap of it could be used. Dandelion leaves are perfectly edible and good, but they taste bitter. Put a flower pot over a plant and blanch them and they taste much milder. The flowers too may be eaten, and a few of them add colour to a springtime salad. Some folk still gather a gallon of the flowers to make dandelion wine. I must confess that it is one wine that I have never been able to get right. At best my efforts have been barely drinkable, so I have stopped



Flowers at Pitford Water Northamptonshire. These are covered with little black flower beetles which feed on pollen and sometimes nibble on the petals

making it. Finally dandelion roots can be roasted and ground to make a caffeine-free substitute for coffee. Chicory, from which another coffee substitute is made, is a close relative with bright blue instead of yellow flowers. It, too is found as a wayside plant, but is much less common.

Aside from the daffodils, crocuses, snowdrops and tulips, there is another group of plants for which the early months are a peak 'flowering' time. The mosses, those bright green cushions or irregular patches that grow on walls, tree trunks, gravestones, etc, have a winter and springtime showing of elegant beauty. But it is a miniature world, so it needs to be looked for. Armed with a simple magnifying glass, the swan-necked long stems that arise from the plant carry 'fruiting' capsules of many varied shapes. Often they are pointed in a boat-shaped oval, but others may be round- or even umbrella-shaped. As they ripen and dry out, they explode, catapulting thousands of microscopic spores into the air. These are so light they may rise into the stratosphere and drift around the world until they settle. Virtually all perish, but every now and then one will find itself in an ideal spot, and grow into a new plant.

Growing alongside them will be lichens, which may look similar, but belong to an entirely different group. Even today experts are unsure where to put them in the great scheme of things. It's well known that what we see as a lichen is not one organism but two. The visible part is a fungus, which is not even a plant, while the other is an alga, cousin to seaweed and to the green slime that makes the garden path slippery. Now new research seems to be pointing to the fact that a third partner may be involved. In nature things are never simple! Yet we are currently taking a bludgeon to our local nature. Pounded by industrial agribusiness, concreted over by our burgeoning need for housing, nature has so far been resilient in this onslaught. But indications are she will not remain so for ever. We continue to ignore the warnings of climate change. Have we sown the wind and are now about to reap the whirlwind. If so we are in deep, deep trouble.

— Brian Webster



Safely Contained Self Storage

Secure storage container units for all your **business** and **domestic** needs

Drive up location

7 days a week site access

Flexible, affordable storage solutions

Park Farm, Spratton Road, Brixworth, Northampton NN6 9DS

info@turneypf.co.uk

Tel: 01604 880 237; 07731 399885

www.safelycontained.co.uk

Jack and the Beanstalk

Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is! He's behind you!

It's January, it's Brixworth, so it must be panto time again! Sure enough, Brixworth Drama Group put on some 'sparkling' family entertainment and thrilled their audiences with an adaptation of Jack and the Beanstalk by James Skeggs.

This was a pantomime with a difference. Yes, there was Jack, the cow, magic beans, the giant and a spectacularly crafted beanstalk but... there was also a princess to be rescued, children to be saved and – who'd ever have thought it – a chicken laying eggs!

Set in Brixworth on the Mould, King and Queen Crumble, played by Allan Pope and Elaine Gregory and annoyingly heralded by Fiona Hodkin, rule over a terrorised kingdom. Taxes need to be raised in order to save Princess Apricot and so the story unfolds...



Dame Trott (James Skeggs) feeling proud of her son, Jack Trott (Caitlin Braham-Nicoll)

Firstly there was the giant, played by Alex Coles, who was exceptionally loud but invisible. His favourite food was children made into particularly tasty Brixworth School Pâté. His wicked sidekick was Black Creep, a decidedly nasty and thoroughly evil individual played very realistically by Stuart Cooper, who captured the village children for his meals. The children, played by Amy Hodkin, Boo Moxon, Tom Moxon and Sophie Vyner-Mayes, were versatile with dancing, singing, manipulating ribbons in the dark and being strung up by Black Creep. Instead of the goose, Heather Pool played a giant chicken. Not only did she talk and sing, after much straining, huffing and puffing, she also managed to lay a golden egg. Quite an achievement!

Aided and abetted by Fairy Cabbage Patch played by Eileen Truby, Jack was the hero of the day not only rescuing the princess, sweetly played by Elizabeth Moxon, and freeing the chicken but also killing the giant and being persuaded not to kill Black Creep. Caitlin Bramham-Nicoll gave a very mature commanding performance as Jack and was in good voice, singing strongly. Ben Holland played Conkers the village idiot with aplomb and surprised many of the audience with his unexpected entrance at the start. Dame Trott, played by James Skeggs amused us all with her 'interesting' jokes, 'good looks', change of costume and her appalling taste in men. Black Creep's face was a picture when he was married off to her at the end...

However the character who really stole the show for this reviewer was Gertie the cow. Her dancing prowess was second to none, showing off her slow steps to a rendition of Country Garden and then changing the tempo to dance to MC Hammer's rap. Wonderful co-ordination from Jacob and Isaac Leach.

Music played an important part with the excellent live music of guitars, drums and flute adding to the overall experience. The musical highlights included a duet, written by Brixworth's very own Stuart Cooper, sung by Princess Apricot and Jack and the colourful musical



Black Creep (Stuart Cooper) threatening Jack. Looked on by King Crumble (Allan Pope), Conkers (Ben Hollands) and a villager (Roger Chapman)

cabaret doing a 'larger than life' surprise turn at the royal party with 'instrumental' support from the village children. As well as music, there were many other supporting roles that go on both on and off the scenes. These include supporting cast, back stage, props and scenery, front of house and lighting.

The last mention should go to Mark Sharman who directed and produced a wonderful pantomime, surely one of the best ever.

This was truly entertainment for all children, young and old: flashes to welcome Fairy Cabbage Patch, a wand with spectacular lights, a sword fight managed very professionally by Ben Leach as the Master of Ceremonies, loud bangs, jokes and innuendos, good overcoming evil, and everything ending happily ever after. – Caroline Monk

*Open 9.30am – 3.30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays
and weekends by appointment*



second hand
designer curtain and blind
exchange shop

• also selling cards, candles and cushions from local designers •

THE WILDERNESS, KELMARSH, NN6 9NA
01858 515020 • bumble@kelmarshcurtains.co.uk

Views on the EU referendum

WESTMINSTER REPORT

Chris Heaton-Harris MP (Con, voted Leave)



will continue to be reliable partners and close friends with our European countries, and will form a new and equal partnership, bolstering Britain's future and securing a better deal for ordinary working British people. Theresa May's speech on the 17th January laid out our 12 negotiation objectives and confirmed that we will avoid a punitive deal where we remain partially inside the EU. Both cementing Britain as a self-governing, independent nation and ensuring a positive and constructive partnership with the EU, I am pleased with the plan the Prime Minister has laid out.

The plan will bring an end to the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice in Britain, guaranteeing we are completely in control of our own laws. Similarly, we will regain control of our borders. Given the importance of immigration to many who voted leave, it is undoubtedly a key objective in our negotiations that we will control the number of people who enter Britain, albeit ensuring that the brightest and best

continue to come and work or study in Britain. Working to ensure the right powers are returned to Westminster, we will also be able to pass appropriate powers to devolved administrations, strengthening the Union and overcoming both new and existing barriers.

We will ensure individuals' rights, both EU nationals in Britain and British nationals in the EU, and we will also ensure that workers' rights are not overlooked by translating European Law into our domestic regulations, which fully protect and maintain them. Finally, in pursuing a Free Trade Agreement with the European Union, we will ensure the freest possible trade in goods and services outside of the EU's Single Market. And because we will no longer be members of the Single Market, we will no longer be required to contribute vast sums to the EU budget. Instead, we will have the freedom to contribute to specific EU programmes, but only those that are both chosen by us and are in our national interest.

It is an exciting time for our country and whilst there will be challenges ahead, I am quite convinced our future is brighter now than it has been in years.

Chris

Post The House of Commons
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA

Phone 0207-219-7048 or
01604-859721

e-mail chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk

Twitter @chhcalling

Management Centre

Moulton
THE VENUE

Moulton College has a highly skilled Hotel Services team that is able to offer a wide range of catering and accommodation solutions for your event.

The Management Centre has been tastefully converted from former farm buildings and accommodation.

There is a wide range of rooms available, accommodating up to 50 in theatre style, to small meeting rooms for 12. Most rooms have built in data projectors. Televisions, DVD, flip charts and overhead projectors are all available. Catering is prepared and served by our own staff, enabling us to provide a wide range of buffets. Vegetarian and special diets are easily accommodated.

To discuss any aspect of these facilities please email: thevenue@moulton.ac.uk

Or contact one of our Hotel Services Managers on: 01604 491131

Moulton College, Gate 4, Pitsford Road,
Moulton, Northampton, NN3 7QL

thevenue.moulton.ac.uk

Search for us on: www.venuefinder.com



T&T PLUMBING

- Central heating
- Boiler replacement
- Conversions
- Bathrooms designed & installed
- Landlord certificates
- General house repairs and building work

Local personal service, based in Brixworth



01604 889447
07855 051198
07851 726812

Views on the EU referendum

ALT WESTMINSTER REPORT

Abigail Campbell (Lab, voted Remain)



The referendum on 23rd June 2016 asked a simplistic question about a very complex situation. The government never expected to lose so it made no plan for leaving the EU.

And as a country are paying the price. We are divided. The government is woefully unprepared. Parliamentary democracy is being sidelined – MPs only had a vote on article 50 because an individual took the government to court.

Accepting the outcome of the referendum shouldn't mean putting democracy to one side: it didn't come and go on the 23rd June.

For there are huge challenges ahead, and big questions to be answered. What if the EU fails to agree the UK's many demands? How can we leave the single market and secure "frictionless trade" with the EU? How are we to be an "open global trading nation" while walking away from the world's largest free

trade agreement? What kind of trade deal can come out of an aggressively protectionist America First policy? What's going to happen, exactly, at the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland? Why would anyone but tax-avoiders want to live here if we become the tax haven of Europe?

Did anyone really vote for this, for any of it?

I think our MP should be asking these questions and more. He should be demanding Parliament has the opportunity to scrutinise the terms of the deal the government negotiates with the EU. He should be actively representing everyone in this constituency – the 20,000 who voted to remain in the EU and the 20,000 who didn't vote, not just the 30,000 who voted to leave. He should be asking about the future of the EU nationals living here who have yet to receive any firm guarantee from the government that they can stay working in and contributing to our country. I've heard Chris speak up before the referendum about

the benefits of migration to this constituency, and to the country as a whole, and I really hope he continues to do so now.

We may have given the government a mandate to leave the EU, but we did not give it permission to negotiate the terms of that exit behind closed doors.

I was profoundly sad when Britain voted to leave. I believe our international relationships define and strengthen us individually, locally and nationally. I really hope our MP examines his conscience to make sure he is acting in the best national interest over the coming weeks months and years. Because there is every possibility, in my view, that Brexit will deliver us a truly historic national disaster.

Abigail Campbell stood against Chris Heaton-Harris in the last general election as Labour's candidate for Daventry.

Abigail

Braunston, Northamptonshire

Host your birthday parties at Moulton College

The Barn

The Loft

The Chris Alderson-Smith Annexe

4 hours for £60!

Catering packages available from £3 per child



Check out our 360° images on this website:
www.venuefinder.com/venues/moulton_college/v3493

Moulton
THE VENUE

Contact us by email at: thevenue@moulton.ac.uk
Tel: 01604 491131 ext 5010
Gate 1, Moulton College, Pitsford Road,
Moulton, Northampton NN3 7SY

T&T ROOFING

- Built-up flat roofing systems
- Re-slating & re-tiling
- Guttering & lead work
- Storm damage & emergency repairs
- Extensions & loft conversions
- General house repairs and building work

Local personal service, based in Brixworth



01604 889447
07855 051198
07851 726812

Brix & Mortar

House prices to level off in 2017

Property will once again be a hot topic in 2017, whether it is a lack of homes being built, annual price inflation chugging along despite Brexit fears, or landlords being increasingly targeted by the Government. The Office for National Statistics showed that during 2016 house price inflation showed signs of easing off, with prices up 6.9% to the end of October, down from 7% in September and down from a peak of 9.3% in June. Before I give you my thoughts on whether to buy or sell a home this year, here is snapshot of what the experts are telling us.

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS): House prices will rise by 3% next year as the number of transactions stabilise. RICS believes property

values will rise in each region of the UK next year, with East Anglia, the North West and West Midlands recording higher gains than the national average.

Nationwide: Growth will be around 1% this year. Robert Gardner, chief economist at Nationwide, said: "Survey data indicates that, while new buyer enquiries have remained fairly subdued, the number of homes on the market has remained close to all-time lows, in part due to low rates of construction activity."

Halifax: Martin Ellis, housing economist at mortgage lender the Halifax, is offering a hedge-your-bets prediction of between a 1% and 4% rise.

So finally the steep increases of the past few years appear to be levelling off. Like the people above, I do not see house prices falling without supply outstripping demand. It looks like prices will now rise at sustainable levels and I believe they'll will keep doing so for many more years to come. The housing market has survived Brexit and the reduction in interest rates has made mortgages the most affordable for years. I continue to believe that if you can afford to move you should do so. Bricks and mortar will remain a sure medium to long term investment.

So the message that seems to be coming through is that 2017 will be a good year to buy. – Stuart Little



Thinking of buying or selling in Brixworth?

HOMES URGENTLY REQUIRED IN YOUR AREA

call **Stuart**, your local property specialist, on

01604 616886

stuart.little@horts.co.uk

view all our properties online www.horts.co.uk

Your local property consultant

stuart little

Olive Shoots

Olive Shoots is a not-for-profit mums and tots group that is run by BCF Community Church and volunteers from the community. Our hope is that parents, carers and tots will enjoy this great group, as we seek to provide a relaxed and happy environment for all who come. Children enjoy the activities provided as they play, learn and grow together. It's also a great place for mums and carers to come and make new friends and feel supported.

One parent, Mia Garrod, said recently: "I have been going to Olive Shoots for nearly seven years now, taking all three of my children. I love the warm welcome and friendly atmosphere – you are always greeted with a smile. There is always a lovely craft going on, great stories and singing too. The biscuit and cuppa are just the icing on the cake. I've made lots of friends at Olive Shoots and can't imagine not having a little one young enough to go along with."

Olive Shoots Mums and Tots group is open every Thursday (term time) from 10am-11:30am.

Volunteers plan free Community Lunch

Villagers are organising an Easter lunch for the community, to be held at Brixworth Village Hall on Easter Saturday.

The lunch will be free of charge and open to all, starting at 1pm.

It is being set up by a small group of volunteers, who are doing all the cooking, planning and hosting on the day. The cost of the food and the hire of the village hall is supported by donations from the community and the Brixworth Bulletin.

Anyone who wants to attend should contact Paula on 07738 566546 or Neal on 07766 951554. Paula said: "This is just so we have a reasonable idea how many people to expect and it's always nice to know you're expected!" Paula added that you can also email on brixworthcares@gmail.com.

The idea was sparked in a discussion of Facebook by Karen Johnston, with several others spontaneously pledging their support. Neal Brown took on the task of organising the project, but he says it's really a communal project: "Brixworth Cares is an idea that believes in community values and community effort," he said.

Billie Passchier has volunteered to prepare the food. She said: "I used to run a catering business, Portfolio Events, so I know what it takes to cook for large events. While I haven't



finalised the options yet, I'm thinking it should be something Spring or Easter themed, perhaps a lamb stew and a chicken fricassee, followed by hot cross bun bread and butter pudding and Easter Egg Rocky Road. Dietary requirements, even complex ones, can be catered for, just as long as people mention these when they reserve their place."

Another of the organisers, Danielle Hillery, said: "This event really is about bringing people in the village together. It's an opportunity to make new connections, say hello to old friends and meet new people. The village has changed so much and everyone's so busy it can be hard to come together as a community." - cfw

CHAMBERS High Class Family Butchers

BBQ Time

Fresh local beef & lamb
Free range pork
Home-cooked meats
Home-made sausages
Beef, pork & lamb burgers
Kebabs & pork ribs
Marinated chicken



Delicious!

105 Northampton Road
Brixworth
Northampton, NN6 9DX
01604 880226

THE BREADLINE of Brixworth Ltd

Freshly made hot & cold rolls

Baguettes ● Wraps ● Sandwiches

Jacket Potatoes with a variety of delicious fillings

Beef Burgers ● Hot Savoury Pastries ● Plated Breakfasts

Cakes, Snacks & Drinks ● Toasted Ciabattas & Paninis

Salads ● Fresh Bread

Breadline Vans serving local businesses

Need a business Lunch? We could supply & deliver to you

Visit the shop and meet our friendly staff at:
105b Northampton Road, Brixworth NN6 9DX

Mon - Fri 7 am - 4.00 pm; Sat. 7 am - 3.30 pm

Phone orders taken on

01604 882533 or email sales@breadbrix.co.uk

Card payments accepted
www.thebreadline.co.uk

Come and help the Central Sports Club

Brixworth Central Sports Club needs more volunteers to help staff and run the club's activities, chiefly the Club House bar. The club can only open if there are enough volunteers to staff the bar. In addition, the Club needs help with fund raising and other small tasks for the club.

Over the years, the Central Sports Club has become an integral part of village life. A particular highpoint in 2016 – as always! – has been the visit by Father Christmas, who visited the club on St David's Playing Field in the run-up to Christmas to meet the local children and give them all a small gift. The traditional Boxing Day party was another success, with the games organised by Chris Gathercole and volunteers running the bar all day and all evening. Unfortunately a shortage of volunteers meant we were unable to open on New Year's Eve, despite several requests from members and residents.

Membership costs £1 per adult for the year. Children are welcome (no membership required) but must be accompanied by an adult. The club provides the cheapest beers and wine in the village and is open Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. It can be booked free of charge on any evenings, and for a small charge at any other time.

There is a programme of activities throughout the year. The children's fun days are always free of charge. We are also planning the return of some old favourites such as the quiz and chilli night, as well as new games such as friendly skittles matches and killer table skittles. You can find dates and times on posters in the club house or on Facebook.

If you can spare a few hours to help with the Club, please contact Jackie Bird or Chris Cooke on 881203 or speak to the bar staff or one of the committee members.

– The BCSC Committee

Helen West Jeweller

Individually Designed,
Gold and Silver Gem set jewellery
Ideal gifts

Open Wed to Sat, 10am-5pm

1a Kennel Terrace
Brixworth,
Northampton NN6 9DL
Tel: 01604 882755

www.hwestjeweller.co.uk



Photographic Society raises money for pre-school

Once again Brixworth Photographic Society held some pre-Christmas Portrait Sessions. The sessions raised £200 which the Society donated to the Brixworth Centre Pre-School. Ian Topham, chairman of the Photographic Society, presented the cheque to the pre-school's supervisor, Emma Hinde.

Photo by Graham Billing, Brixworth Photographic Society

Travel in style...

Rely on us to be on time, everytime

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ■ Airports & Sea Ports | ■ Chauffeur Service |
| ■ Theatre Trips | ■ 4-6-8 Seaters |
| ■ Nights Out | ■ Specialist Courier Service |
| ■ Local Village to Village | ■ Secured Airfreight Service |

We move people and products
in the UK and beyond...



Quick Booking
Scan me to text us your booking!

KPD
GROUP

01604 882 798
www.kpdgroup.com





Standing room only for BCF Nativity

The Brixworth Christian Fellowship Outdoor Nativity is one of the biggest events in the village and this year was no exception. In fact, for the first time, Spratton Road was closed outside the shops and the library, providing a peaceful backdrop to the celebration.

The weather stayed fine if cold, and the coffee and warm mince pies in the Centre afterwards were greatly appreciated. The Fellowship team must have spent most of the day setting up a stage and lights to prepare for the afternoon and the village looked magical against the backdrop of pink clouds at sunset as the Nativity started.

New pastor Andy Lloyd-Williams welcomed a crowd with standing room only, the U3A choir led some of the singing along with the BCF music group, the children of the village dressed as various stable animals, angels, shepherds and kings and the performance was led by Allan Pope as a news reporter commenting on events and interviewing various participants including a shepherd. The screens showed a snowy journey on a donkey across the fields with a young Mary and Joseph and a very real donkey joined the performers at the front and was very well-behaved.

By the end of the evening it felt as if Christmas had really begun and in the true spirit of fellowship. – Elaine Coe

G. HAMSON & SON LTD

PRIVATE, COMMERCIAL & HEAVY MOTOR ENGINEERS



- Vehicle Steam Cleaning
- Air-conditioning Service
- Pre-packed Solid Fuels
- Calor Gas Stockist



Harborough Road Garage, Brixworth, Northants. NN6 9BX
Telephone 01604 881098

K. F. TROOP & SON

Fish, Fruit, Vegetable & Flower Retailers
and Wholesalers to the Catering Trade



6 Hunters Way, Brixworth, NN6 9EL
Tel: 01604 882366; Mobile: 07885 562130

Short Mat Bowling Club

The league season is under way and Brixworth has won their matches against Ravensthorpe, Creaton and Yelvertoft but lost to Welford and Kilsby. We are now mid-table with five more matches to play. In addition to the league games we have club nights with our annual club target competition in February.

If you would like to try Short Mat Bowling, come and join the other new members and have a go. We can guarantee you will have some fun.

We meet every Friday at the Brixworth Centre in Church Street at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

For more information contact Janet on 880317 or 07762 211721.

— Martin Carnell

Thanks for the stamps

Library volunteer Judi Beaudoin would like to thank all the people from Brixworth and District who responded to her request to save their used postage stamps. The response was brilliant and the stamps will be sent off to the charity Canine Partners. This will help raise money to train puppies to assist people with disabilities.



If you would be so kind as to continue to save stamps throughout the year, the collection box will be put back in the library foyer next Christmas. Thank you! — Judi Beaudoin

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 first walk of 2017 took place at Maidwell with 31 walkers (see photo) and 20 strollers who enjoyed a welcome drink and excellent lunch afterwards at The Stag's Head. A prior arrangement meant the strollers had access to look around the church, while the walkers covered just over five miles, taking in the lane to Blue Berry Lodge and back via Brampton Valley Way. In March the group will be visiting Husbands Bosworth for the very first time, with the May event – still to be arranged – will be the 100th walk for the group.



A small group of weekenders from the weekend group went to 78 Derngate at the end of November. The house was set out for the family Christmas and a very detailed and informative guided tour was followed by a delicious cream tea. The weekend group has 29 members and an average of about a dozen join in for the monthly activity which are suggestions from members within the group.

The badminton group meet at Old Village Hall on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month from 2-3.30 pm. It's a very friendly group and there are spare racquets for anyone who would like to give it a go.

The annual Christmas lunch was held in December for the second year running at Northampton Golf Club, Harlestone. A three course lunch was enjoyed by 60 members with the winter sun streaming in through the windows.

Further information on the U3A and interest groups can be found on our website www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth. — Judy Smith



Fosters & Guinness £3.30 John Smiths £3.10
Bottled Ales £3 Strongbow £3.30 Wine £3.10



BRIXWORTH
CENTRAL SPORTS CLUB

Opening times:

Wednesday	7pm to close
Friday	7pm to close
Saturday	4pm to close
Sunday	12pm to close

Come and join us at St David's Recreation Ground

Available for private bookings on Mon, Tues & Thurs. For enquiries please call (01604) 881203 or 07715 231550.

New members welcome—only £1 to join! For our latest news & events look for us on 



- Laptop Screens Replaced
- Windows Not Starting
- Wireless Network Setup
- Virus and Malware Removal
- Replacement Laptop PSU
- While You Wait Repairs

Fixed Price Workshop Repairs & Onsite Service

Tel 01604 411444

www.computerdoctors.co.uk



Olive Branch hosts Senior Citizen Christmas lunch

Once again The Olive Branch organised the annual Brixworth Senior Citizen Christmas lunch, held in the Library and Community Centre hall, with 70 people attending.

Before the meal began the Brixworth school children sang festive songs to the guests. This is always a treat to hear the children sing and everyone looks forward to it. Then the 3 course meal was served with wine and was enjoyed by all. After the meal, Angela Moles played and sang to entertain everyone, and all joined in. This year the usual Father Christmas was unable to attend, but his brother came along instead and the place was full of laughter with his jokes and all received a present from him.

David and Irene Brown, two of the senior citizens attending, said: "We would like to thank Vernon Salmon and all the volunteers. The Christmas lunch was excellent for all the pensioners. Brixworth school children singing to us was very entertaining, we all enjoyed it. Thanking you for a very lovely day."

Many thanks to all the staff and helpers, donations from people and businesses that contributed to a fantastic afternoon.

— Vernon Salmon

Saxon Spires Health Talks

We will be continuing our series of Health Education Talks, with a talk on Skin Awareness by Dr Catti Moss. The talks will be on two dates at Brixworth Surgery on Tuesday 9th May at 6.30pm, and Guilsborough Surgery on Thursday 11th May at 6pm.

Come along and learn more about this important topic.

For more information contact Barbara Hogg on 880552 or email barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk

Educational grants for under 25s

Did you know that there is a local charity supporting education of under-25s in Brixworth and Scaldwell?

Anyone who meets the criteria can apply for a cash grant, provided it's for educational purposes. They can be used to cover the cost of buying school uniform, books, course materials, musical instruments and computer equipment, as well as helping with travelling expenses (for example, a school trip).

Application forms are available at the library, the Brixworth and Scaldwell parish council websites, or from Ursula Morris (505554 or ursula@ursulamorris.co.uk).

Players wanted for Brixworth Juniors U15s Football Team

Brixworth Juniors U15s are looking to recruit new players. Training occurs on Wednesdays between 6 and 7pm and matches are played at 2pm on a Sunday. If you are interested in playing, please email brixworthjuniorsfc@gmail.com for further information.

Social Centre

Moulton
THE VENUE

The College Social Centre is a state-of-the-art, fully licensed facility, comprising the Barn Bar, the Chris Alderson-Smith Dining Suite and the Loft Bar.

The Barn Bar is a large, open plan area accommodating up to 200 people that can be used for a variety of different events, including trade fairs, birthday parties, Christmas parties, Christening receptions, dance classes, group meetings and training events.

The Loft Bar is a smaller, more intimate venue that can be used as part of a larger event or on its own for smaller events.

To discuss any aspect of these facilities please email: thevenue@moulton.ac.uk

Or contact one of our Hotel Services Managers on: 01604 491131

Moulton College, Pitsford Road, Moulton, Northampton, NN3 7SY

thevenue.moulton.ac.uk

Search for us on: www.venuefinder.com

Chris Alderson-Smith Dining Suite	No charge if a full meal is booked
The Barn	£100 per day Friday to Sunday £30 Monday to Thursday evening Additional charges during December
The Loft	£100 per day Friday to Sunday £20 Monday to Thursday evening



Organising a Cinema under the Stars



Meet the organisers (from left to right:) Letisha Swamy, Abigail Mackenzie, Lucy Barwell, Dominique Dorsett-Vidal and Lauren Sheppard.

Open-air movie screenings have become very popular in recent years. A particular highlight this year will be 'Cinema Under the Stars', bringing the Disney classic The Lion King to Brixworth Country Park on 13 May.

While many have been sharing details of the event and buying tickets (at the Bulletin's press time, 300 of the 500 tickets available had already been sold), there are a few things many of you might not know about the project:

1) The event is in aid of charity, with all proceeds toward the Northampton Hope Centre, which tackles poverty and homelessness.

2) The night is organised by a team of five students in the final year of their Events Management degree at Northampton University, and the event forms part of their final year assessment. In fact, the assessors will be there on the day, no doubt adding to the students' stress levels (but not spoiling the enjoyment for the rest of us!)

3) The team's project manager, Lucy Barwell, is a Brixworth resident – as is the course tutor, Claire Leer.

Lucy says the amount of planning that goes into a project like this can be quite an eye-opener. She said: "My mum used to tell me, 'I planned my own wedding – how hard can it be?'"

The answer is, pretty hard. Starting with a feasibility study in the autumn to identify the target audience, demographics and demand (if any), via sponsorship (hosting the event is expensive, and being a charity fundraiser, there is zero budget to pay for anything) to an array of licenses covering everything from the right to show the film to hosting a one-off event. Add to that risk assessments, production schedules, stall holders and sorting out contracts, and you have a busy few months remaining for the five organisers.

While the plans are well in hand, there are still a number of outstanding purchases to

make such as an electricity generator, high vis jackets, signage and stationery. Loans, donations or contacts for any of the above would be much appreciated.

"I sleep quite well at night; however, on occasions I have randomly woken up and thought wow, that would be a brilliant idea! It is hard to stop thinking - my brain goes into overdrive," Lucy said. "I am just lucky enough to have a group of hardworking



passionate people that work alongside me. And now my mum has had a good insight, her snide remark has not been mentioned since!" - Claudia Flavell-While

Planning update

DA/2016/0929 Mint Cottage, Cross Hill Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0928 The Grange, Kennel Terrace Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0927 The Pound House, Harborough Road Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0926 The Coach And Horses, Harborough Road Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0925 The Firs, Saneco Lane Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0924 The George Inn, Northampton Road Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0923 The Lodge, Harb'gh Rd Listed Building Consent for heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved

DA/2016/0846 14, The Ridings Single and two storey extensions	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0805 Mercedes AMG Additional parking, landscaping, external lights	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
PD/2016/0082 Tollbar Cottage, Pitsford Change of use of agricultural building to dwelling (resubmission)	DDC Refused
PD/2016/0077 Agricultural Building off Holcot Road Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to dwelling	DDC Approved
DA/2016/1027 Hillside 33, N'pton Road Demolition of existing garage. construction of new garage & utility room	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/1009 Brixworth Nursery Farm, Holcot Road Variation of Conditions 5, 6 & 7 of planning permission DA/2015/0286	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2016/0930 The Granary, Church St Listed Building Consent for installation of heritage information plaque	BPC No Objection DDC Approved



This page is sponsored by

your local property consultant

stuart little

Tel: 01604 616886 Fax: 01604 639955 Mobile: 07970 251814 Web: www.horts.co.uk



Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts

We hope you enjoyed the last article about the Explorer trip to Kandersteg, Switzerland. We know they all enjoyed the trip!

Since the last update the Beavers have been up to all sorts of things. There was an exciting visit to Sywell Air Museum – if you have not been we would highly recommend it. There was also a trip to Mereway Fire station and to Tesco at Weston Favell to make pizzas. The Beavers also went conkering, made poppies for Remembrance Day and took part in some Christmas activities including a party. Since the New Year, Beavers have welcomed some new members and said good bye to some old friends as they moved up to Cubs. Activities have included looking at food and healthy eating, Chinese New Year and discovered what they could make with construction toys like Lego, K'Nex etc.

Meanwhile the Cubs were also out and about in the Autumn with a visit to Holdenby Falconry, the Buddhist Centre and a walk along the Brampton Valley way conveniently finishing at the chip shop! They also had some visitors, one from the police dog handlers and another from a Veteran to talk about the importance of Remembrance. Other activities have included learning about emergency aid, backwoods cooking and Christmas crafts. The New Year was kicked off with disability awareness and astronomy.

The Scouts have tried their hand at map reading and navigation by going on a night

hike. They also went out to visit Mereway Fire Station (*pictured, right*) and the Police Control Room at Wootton, played wide games in Brixworth Country Park and enjoyed spooky Halloween games at Overstone Scout camp. Another exciting outing was a trip to a garage and to Mercedes to learn more about engineering. The new year started with Brass Monkey camp for which the weather was slightly kinder than it has been in some years, which have seen two feet of snow!

Explorers, since getting back from their big trip, have been as busy as ever. They worked hard to get their First Aid qualifications, did a night hike, some cooking, watched a scary movie for Halloween, had a bonfire, and visited Bounce Trampoline Park. As a large number of them will become eighteen this year, the Explorers have been finding out more about Network, and how as young adults they can use the scouting movement to continue meet up and meet new people.

As always we continue to look for new leaders. If you would like to find out more, please come and talk to us and find out how you can join in all the fun.

Many members of the executive committee are stepping down this year after many years of service. Roles that we will be looking to fill include chair, group scout leader and treasurer. These roles are ideally suited to people who would like to help out, but cannot commit on a weekly basis.



To find out more about Brixworth and Scaldwell Scout Group contact Pete Lennon on brixworth_gsl@btopenworld.com. To put your 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 – Kim Phillips

Christmas Eve carols at Hanging Houghton

*Once in lovely Hanging Houghton
Stood a lowly village green
All it needs is carol singers
Who will make the Christmas scene
Gather round, be it cold or mild
All you folks and every child.*

So read the invite to what's rapidly becoming a seasonal highlight for Lamport and Hanging Houghton, the singing of Christmas carols on Hanging Houghton Village Green on Christmas Eve. This year, the weather was pleasant for the time of year with little wind and no rain or snow.

The evening was enhanced by the organist (a friend of Nigel Coles) who came to support the event. This encouraged 50 to 60 adults and children to sing the carols with great gusto and melody.

Seasonal food and drink was passed around and all felt that it was an excellent way to start Christmas. Our thanks to all who attended and particularly the organist Andy Bransby who played so effectively.

Thank you to Bob Cox for the report, Colin Harris for the poem, and everyone who helped organise the event.

– Mike Philpott

Tel: 01604 880229


A.H. Blason & Son
Automotive Engineers

- Fuel sales
- Class 4 M.O.T.
- Servicing
- Repairs

Open Mondays - Saturdays
info@blasonsgarage.co.uk www.blasonsgarage.co.uk

Blasons Garage - Serving the Community for nearly 100 years

Blasons garage is a family run business; now run by the 4th generation of the Blason family. We have been serving the local community for nearly 100 years.

We promise to give you the best service at competitive prices. Our company strives to give you the best customer service we can offer.

Alfred Henry Blason founded the compnay in 1920 and we retain our strong family connections, with Alfred's Great Grandson Sam Blason now running the garage.

We employ highly skilled, friendly staff that will get the job done well, and with a smile.....



Come and see !!

Rector:

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

Churchwarden:

Mrs Vanessa Crooks
5 Whaddon Field t: 01604



As I write this we are in the season of Epiphany—which means the 'showing forth' or revealing of Christ. After we have celebrated Christ's birth at Christmas, there follows a time when we get to know him, and discover who he really is. Epiphany is a time when we think of the light of Christ breaking out in our consciousness, transforming us, and changing our attitude to life.

Jesus asked his first disciples to "Come and see", and they followed him. They stayed with him for a day and liked what they saw. Their meeting with Jesus was transformative. Then they spent more time with him, got to know him, and were never the same again.

Many of you came to our Christmas services- they were packed, with record numbers attending our Carols Round the Beacon, our Christingle and Crib services, and Midnight mass. It was wonderful to see the church so full—with all seeking to experience the special light that Christ brings to us at Christmas.

So now we find ourselves at the start of Lent—a season where we take stock of ourselves, and begin to prepare for Easter. Easter is in many ways more important than Christmas, because we learn about the heart of the Christian faith: the amazing sacrifice of God's own Son on the cross for us, and the joy of his Resurrection.

I ask you to "Come and See" all that is happening at All Saints—some of which you can get a taste of on these pages, but for more information please see our website. Spend a little while getting to know Jesus, and experience his transforming power for yourselves.

Rev. Chloe



CHRISTINGLE



CHRISTINGLE

SPECIAL SERVICES

March 5th All Age Service-celebration of St David

March 26th All Age Mothering Sunday Celebration

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday 9th April: Family Communion (jointly with Holcot)

Tuesday 11th April: 9.30 Eucharist, 6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 12th April: 6.00pm Evening Prayer

Maundy Thursday 13th April 7.30pm The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday

Good Friday 14th April 10.30am Ecumenical Walk of Witness with BCF; 2.00pm Meditation on the Cross

Easter Sunday 16th April: Sung Eucharist 10.30am



Junior Church



Junior Church

SUMMER FETE

June 4th

2- 4pm

Prosecco and
strawberries

Tea and cakes in the
marquee



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Jellybeans Toddler group
Wednesday at 1.30 pm

Singing Saints Youth Choir
Wednesdays at 5 pm

Our Junior Church,
"GROWING SAINTS" meets
every third Sunday at
10.30 am

FATHER'S DAY TEAS

in the marquee

June 18th.

3 to 5pm

PUDDING PARTY

April 22nd

7 to 9pm

£5 per ticket, raffle,
teas and coffee.



FROM THE REGISTERS

Burials

Elijah James Burchett
John Charles Titman
Andrew Sheil Purves
John Wilson
Dorothy Ellen Watkins

Churchyard Volunteers Needed

also someone to
co-ordinate the
mowing of the
churchyard

Pattern of Services

1 st Sunday of month	10.30am All-Age Service
	11.45am Said Eucharist
	6.00pm Choral Evensong
2 nd Sunday	7.45am Said Eucharist
	10.30am Sung Eucharist
3 rd Sunday	10.30am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
	6.00pm Taizé Service
4 th Sunday	10.30am Sung Eucharist
5 th Sunday	10.30am Sung Eucharist

Weekday Services

Tuesday	9.30am Holy Communion & 'Coffee Pot'
---------	---



Brixworth Parish Council began 2017 in a very different shape to a year ago. We lost three members, but gained another six, leaving only one seat currently available. The Parish Council is now almost up to full strength, thanks to

Neal Brown, Elaine Coe, Stuart Coe, James Collyer, Anthony Jennings and Justyna Pittam, who all joined us last year.

Additionally, you may be aware that our new Parish Clerk, Peter Rowbotham, took over from Emma Baker at the end of 2016. Peter was already the Parish Clerk for Great Oxendon Parish Council, and he brings valuable knowledge and experience to Brixworth for this demanding role.

Following our request for comments in the last issue of the Bulletin, and the publication of our Business Plan, the Parish Council's budget for the 2017/18 financial year was recently approved. This budget includes funding for a mobile speed camera to tackle the problem areas in the village, which will be welcome news for many residents. More details on the Budget can be found elsewhere in this issue.

This year, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 18th April, in the main hall of the Community Centre. If you represent a local community organisation and would like to deliver a short presentation at the meeting, please contact the Clerk. Contact details can be found on the Parish Council's website, www.brixworthpc.org.uk. The Annual Parish Meeting is open to all Brixworth parish residents, and refreshments will be served from 7pm. Come along and join in!



Council welcomes new Parish Clerk



The Parish Council has a new Clerk following the recent departure of Emma Baker who has now taken up a similar post with another local council.

Peter Rowbotham stepped into the role at the beginning of the year. Peter, who lives in Market Harborough, has extensive local government experience having worked in local government at

Cleveland County, Elmbridge Borough, Harborough District and Great Oxendon Parish.

Peter is married to Gill, an IT consultant, and has four children. His eldest child, Lucy, is working whilst studying towards being an accountant. Jack is at Sheffield Hallam University studying business but is currently on a year out with Microsoft. Tom is currently studying for his GCSEs whilst Ben is in KS2 at the local primary school in Market Harborough.

Being active in the local community is a big part of Peter's life. He is a school governor at The Ridgeway Primary Academy and also a Trustee/Director of the Learn AT multi academy trust. After a long rugby-playing career with Horden, Middlesbrough, Esher and Kibworth (now Market Harborough), Peter is now Club Secretary and Safeguarding officer at his local club. He is also a lifelong supporter of his home town football club, Hartlepool United.

Most weekends are spent watching sport as his two youngest boys both play junior football on a regular basis. He also watches Market Harborough Rugby Club play, as well as taking in the occasional Hartlepool football match!

Peter is enjoying his new challenges at Brixworth Parish Council, and commented, 'There is a real sense of community at Brixworth generated by the hard working councillors, volunteers and staff who all want to make Brixworth better. It's great to be part of the team'.

If you need to contact the Parish Council you can contact Peter direct on 07983 141 786, via email at clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk, or by using the contact form on the web site at www.brixworthpc.org.uk.

Litter pick campaign

Due to the success of previous litter picking campaigns, the Parish Council has decided to organise twice-yearly events.

The first litter pick of 2017 will take place on Saturday 18th March.

The second litter pick will be held late in Autumn and the date is yet to be confirmed.

Details of both litter picks will be published on the Parish Council website and through its social media pages.



You may have seen the litter pickers from Amey in the village recently. Following numerous complaints to Daventry District Council by local residents, DDC sent litter pickers to the reported problem areas: Spratton Road (especially around the shops); The Slip; The Ashway; and the stretch of road leading out of the village by the cricket ground.

In general, litterbugs are far more likely to drop their rubbish in spots where there's already litter around. We won't stop them altogether, but we now have the opportunity to stop the 'normalisation' of litter in the village.

Welcome, Stuart Coe!

Having lived in Brixworth for around fourteen years now (and still perhaps not considered a true 'local' yet!), I have met some great people and long enjoyed all the amenities the village has to offer us. Like any community, it has many strengths; however, this should never be taken for granted and we must continue to consider the views of everyone living here if we are to ensure that the village can grow and flourish. This is exactly what interested me in initially joining the Brixworth Parish Council and, although it does make additional demands on our time, I believe that it is time well spent.



Welcome, Elaine Coe!

I have lived in the village for fourteen years and Stuart, my husband, is also a Parish Councillor. We have three children, two boys and a girl; two of whom still attend Brixworth Primary School and one is at Secondary school.



By profession I am a teacher at secondary levels and my subjects are English and Media. My interest in education also goes further as I am a caseworker for my teacher's professional organisation through which I can give advice to members and assist in sorting out their difficulties.

I decided to become a Parish Councillor as a way of putting something back into the Community. I prefer to get actively involved.

Amongst my interests I enjoy reading and I am a member of a local reading group.

I am looking forward to getting involved with the Parish Council's projects and playing an active part.

I have worked for almost twenty years as a secondary science teacher, although my substantive role at present is as the Division (County) Secretary for the National Union of Teachers (NUT). Since becoming the trade union representative at work nearly ten years ago, my interest and experience in protecting education, the profession, and our members has developed and this has encouraged me to step up repeatedly, wherever the demand is needed. I already sit on several negotiating forums with our County Council and it seemed a very natural progression to join the Parish Council, after first approaching Councillor (Alex) Coles last summer to ask how I might put some of my skills to use locally.

I am very keen that residents have a voice and that they can be assured of having a positive impact on their own community. I look forward to hearing from anyone who would like to discuss some of the ways in which we, at the Parish Council, may be able to help, and you may find my contact details on your Council website www.brixworthpc.org.uk.

Planning matters

Since the last report, planning applications for any work have been of a minor nature, no doubt the New Year will see demand increase.

Whilst work has commenced on Phase 2 of the Barratt development, there does not appear to be any start on the new surgery, hopefully this will commence in the near future.



Work appears to be continuing on the Indian Restaurant, the name Purple Ivy now appearing on the windows and lighting being installed, no further works appears to have taken place on the Chinese Takeaway.



Work appears to be nearing completion on the extension to the Mercedes High Performance facility.

As with previous reports there still remain several applications outstanding with Daventry although at this time a majority of these are domestic extensions and have not been opposed by your Council.

Finance report

At the Council's January meeting the Budget for next year's Precept (the portion of your Council Tax that comes to the Parish Council) was agreed. This has been a challenge, to provide facilities and amenities that the village require whilst being aware of residents' income.

The Community Grant of £2,500 has been maintained. Likewise the Village Project remains and an amount of £2,500 has been allocated.

Welcome, James Collyer!

James was born in Weston Favell and lived there until the mid eighties before moving with Kodak to live and work just outside Sevenoaks in Kent.

He travelled and worked as a photographer 'over the pond', cruising out of Vancouver up

through the interior of Alaska, on the famous P&O's *Pacific Princess* - better known as the love boat from the 1970s TV series! James moved back to Northamptonshire and finally settled in Brixworth with his wife and five children, Evangeline, Jake and step-children Antony, Nicola and Jason. They have been happy here in Brixworth for the past nine years.

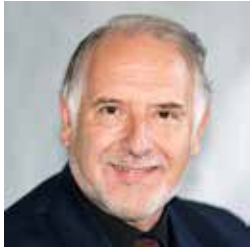
James loves this village and likes to give something back by being an active member of Brixworth First Responders and the Community Church with whom he has travelled to the displaced persons camp on the border between Thailand and Myanmar to run an adult activity training camp. He helped re-start the Brixworth and Scaldwell Scouts in the early noughties as the Group Scout Leader and also manage the Fernie Fields Community Centre in Moulton for the Scout Association. James was also the manager at Jay Gee Dog Sanctuary on Creton Road in the late 1990s

Today James works as a science teacher at Northgate School Arts College where he has taught for the past 11 years and was on the Board of Governors from 2009 until 2013. He is also the Managing Director of a National Health and Safety training company based in Brixworth.

Hobbies include skiing, Taekwon-do and motorcycling (when it's fine!) and traveling.

Through a wealth of life experiences and a common sense approach James looks forward to helping keep our village a gem of Northamptonshire!





Ian Barratt



Jackie Bird



Neal Brown
Chairman, Media & Communications



Elaine Coe



Stuart Coe



Alex Coles
Chairman



James Collyer



Stephen James
Chairman, Planning



Anthony Jennings



Sandra Moxon



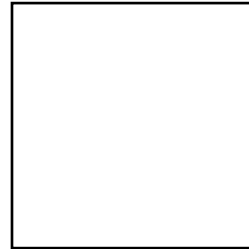
Kevin Parker



Justyna Pittam



Peter Saxton



You?



Peter Rowbotham
Parish Clerk

10 Shelland Close
Market Harborough
Leicestershire LE16 7XU

Email: clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk

Telephone: 07983 141 786

Facebook: facebook.com/brixworthpc

Twitter: [@brixworthpc](https://twitter.com/brixworthpc)

Web: www.brixworthpc.org.uk

Parish Council photos by
Brixworth Photographic Society

Parish Council meetings March to May

Full Council

Tues 28th March 2017 7.15pm
Tues 25th April 2017 7.15pm
Tues 23rd May 2017 7.15pm

Planning

Mon 13th March 2017 7.30pm
Mon 3rd April 2017 7.30pm
Mon 24th April 2017 7.30pm
Mon 15th May 2017 7.30pm

Media & Communications

Weds 15th March 2017 7.30pm
Weds 12th April 2017 7.30pm
Weds 17th May 2017 7.30pm



BRIXWORTH MATTERS

 BCF Community Church

LOVE. Probably one of the most powerful things we can ever experience, sung about since time began and expressed in millions of different ways. However, if someone told you they had loved you even before you were born, how would that make you feel? In the New Testament (NT), we learn that person is God who loved us 'before the creation of the world' (*Ephesians 1:4*). How amazing is that?!

It gets even better! Once we receive God's love personally the NT also tells us that no matter what, not even death nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(*Romans 8:39*). As a song that I sing to myself (badly) from time to time says, 'God's love is long and goes on and on and on!'

You see, no matter our background or where we are from, what we have done and indeed whatever we are currently doing with our life, God has a deep personal love for all of us. Do you know God's love personally? Anyone can. Each day God opens his arms wide and invites anyone and everyone to experience his love through faith in Jesus Christ.

Every Sunday morning BCF Community Church meet to worship God and grow in a deeper understanding and knowledge of God's love for us and plan for our lives. You are very welcome to join us, we meet at 10.30 at Brixworth Primary School.

Finally, may I recommend the Soccer and Netball School that we are running for the first time in the second week of the Easter holidays (see the advert below). We will be welcoming to the village a specialised organisation called SportReach to lead us through a wonderful week of skills and matches in football and netball. The kids will also have time inside with fun and interactive bible stories. Your child doesn't need to be the next Messi, Ronaldo or Caitlin Bassett but if they enjoy sport I can promise they will be well looked after and have an amazing time. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions about it.

Best wishes. *Andy*



Contact Andy Lloyd Williams on 07958 604961



WHO IS IT FOR?

Soccer School is for anyone aged 7-14

Netball School is for anyone aged 8-12

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The Price: £49/child
(£30 for additional siblings and anyone on income support.)

WHEN & WHERE?

At Brixworth Primary School,
Wednesday 12th. - Saturday 15th. April

Time: 10am-4pm (5pm Sat)

Saturday 15th. Family BBQ -
from 4:30pm approx

Sunday 16th. 10:30 Awards Service

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andy Lloyd Williams / Mark Palmer

TEL: 07954 604961/07917 573784

EMAIL: andylloydwilliams@gmail.com
bcf.cw2012@btinternet.com

Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Outdoor Christmas Nativity



The Christmas Nativity continues to grow each year. This time over 400 people turned up making

the production possibly the largest outdoor event in Brixworth. Even the road had to be closed! We had interviews with 3 special guests, an Angel, a Shepherd and Wise Man. However, like every year, Jacko the donkey stole the show. Special thanks to the Hamson's, Troop's and many others for their continued support.

Senior Citizen Christmas Lunch

This year, 70 senior citizens gathered upstairs in the community centre to enjoy the Annual Christmas Lunch. The event brings such a huge amount of joy to so many as it includes children from the local school coming to sing, Angela Moles singing old favourites and Christmas Carols being sung by all. Father Christmas was in a particularly good mood, though it seemed this year he had developed a dryer sense of humour.

Special thanks to all the volunteers and locals business who have been hugely generous and supportive to make it all happen.

EASTER

Come and join us

Good Friday

Easter Walk and Service
Easter walk begins at the
Library Community Centre at 10.30am.
Walk finishes up at the Saxon Church for
a joint service just after 11am.

Easter Sunday

Our Easter Sunday family service at
Brixworth Primary School
is a Soccer and Netball
celebration service
which starts at 10.30am.
Everyone is welcome
even if you or your children have not
been part of the Soccer and Netball
week.



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.



BCF Community Church Weekly Events

Sunday:	10:30 – 11:45	Main Service of Worship (Brixworth School) (including Junior Church and Creche)
Monday:	19:30 – 21:00	Prayer Meeting in the Olive Branch
Tuesday:	19:30 – 21:00	TNT – for Teenagers*
Wednesday:	19:30 – 21:00	Home study Groups
Thursday:	10:00 – 11:30	Olive Shoots – a Mums & Tots group*
Friday:	17:00 – 18:00 18:15 – 19:15	Dynamites Children's Club – age 5-7 years* 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 Andy on 07958 604961

Library events

Activities for Under 5s

Rhymetime for the Under 5s

Mondays 2.30pm and Fridays 10.30am

Play & Learn for Under 5s

Tuesdays 1.30 – 3pm

Play & Learn for Under 1s

Thursdays 10am – 12noon

Baby weigh-in clinic

Thursdays 10am – 12noon, followed by developmental checks.

Now fortnightly, next clinic 2nd then 16th March.

Rhymetime for the Under 5s

Fridays 10.20am for 10.30am start

IAIM Infant Massage with Leveta Lawson

Wednesday mornings 11am – 12 noon term-time only.

These are five-week courses for parent/carer and baby (from age six weeks). Price is £60 per course to include all materials, payable in advance to Leveta Lawson (see Facebook page: infant massage by Leveta Lawson) or see staff at library.

All Under 5s activities are in the Children's Centre Area on the mezzanine – lift available in foyer. The Children's Centre area is closed to other users during Under 5s sessions.

Activities for children up to 12

Crafts

Saturdays 9am – 1pm, Sundays 11am – 2pm

Messy Crafts

Wednesdays 2.30pm every school holiday – next sessions next sessions Wednesday 5th & 12th April 2017, and Wednesday 31st May

Under 8s must be accompanied by their parent or carer. Free, but please book in advance either at the library or email brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk

Adult events

Adults' Colouring Club

Free and suitable for all ages teens upwards. All materials provided, we have a wide selection of colouring sheets for you to choose from, so why not give it a go! Helps you relax and unwind. Drop in from 11am to 2pm, tea and coffee available for £1.

Book Club

The Brixworth Library Morning Readers Group meets first Tuesday of every month 10.30am. Open to all – please ask at library or email brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk

Get involved

We are looking to set up a new "Friends of Brixworth Library Group" this year. Anyone interested please contact Jill Barber at brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk

Quiz Night is back!

Friday 10th March at 7.30pm with our original Quiz Master Steve. Teams of up to four people, £2.50 per team member – tickets available from the library.

Gain experience

Thinking of a career working with children, but need some experience first? We have volunteering roles for **Under 5s Activities Helpers/ Leaders** and **Children's Crafts Activities Helpers/Leaders** 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. We would particularly like Rhymetime Helpers (no singing required!) and Rhymetime Leaders.

We would also love to recruit more **IT Buddies** – we need volunteers to help customers with IT queries, getting to grips with new lap-tops, iPads, tablets etc and also help with Blue Badge online Applications.

We also welcome anyone 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

Other Services

IT Buddy

Our new IT Buddy, Ian Topham, is 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 queries. He can give you free 1:1 help and advice, just come in and make an appointment (usually available Tuesday or Thursday).

New Service! "myHermes Parcelshop"

You can now collect, send & return your parcels from Brixworth Library via myHermes – to find out more visit www.myhermes.co.uk/parcelshop

- 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
- Pod hire: For more information, please speak to library staff.

Opening Hours

Monday – Friday 10am to 6pm

Saturdays 9am to 1pm

Sundays 11am to 2pm

Easter & May Bank Holiday Closures:

Friday 14th - Monday 17th April

Monday 1st May

Monday 29th May

Open all other days as usual

Contact us at brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk - note new email address, also check out the new website www.firstforwellbeing.co.uk

Keep up to date with all the latest activities at www.facebook.com/brixworthlibrary



What's on


Area event Local event

Submit yours at www.brixworthbulletin.co.uk

28 Feb	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre
1 Mar	Have-a-go Restoration	Kelmarsh Hall
2 Mar	Lee Nelson	Derngate
4 Mar	Rob Brydon	Derngate
4 Mar	Barb Jungr: Bob Dylan	Derngate
4 Mar	Rob Brydon	Derngate
5 Mar	Spring Walk	Kelmarsh Hall
8 Mar	La Boheme	Derngate
8 Mar	Brixworth Belles Psychic evening	Brixworth Village Hall
8 Mar	La Boheme	Derngate
10 Mar	Paul Carrack	Derngate
12 Mar	RPO: Elgars Cello Concerto	Derngate
14-18/3	Cirque Berzerk	Derngate
16 Mar	History Society: The Lost Church of St. Denys	Brixworth Village Hall
18 Mar	Quiz and Chips	Brixworth C'tre
18 Mar	Richard Gadd	Underground
19 Mar	Wedding Fair	Kelmarsh Hall
22 Mar	Sean Lock	Derngate
24 Mar	The Sensational 60s	Derngate
25 Mar	Stewart Lee	Derngate
26 Mar	Antique and Vintage Flea Market	Brixworth Village Hall
26 Mar	Mothers Day Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
27/3-1/4	Sister Act	Derngate
28 Mar	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre
29 Mar	Have-a-go Restoration	Kelmarsh Hall
30 Mar	Brixworth Cancer Support Group	Saxon House, Brixworth
2 Apr	Paul Weller	Derngate
4 Apr	Naomi Wilkinson	Derngate
5 Apr	Russell Brand	Derngate
6 Apr	The Bootleg Beatles	Derngate
8 Apr	Quiz Night	Brixworth Cricket Club
8 Apr	Bernie Keith Stand Up	Derngate


8-29/4	Death of a Salesman	Royal
12 Apr	BCF Soccer and Netball School	Brixworth Primary School
13 Apr	Brixworth Belles Darts and Skittles evening	Red Lion, Brixworth
15-17 April	Easter Egg Steam Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
16-17/4	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Lampport Hall
16-17/4	Country Fair	Kelmarsh Hall
18-22/4	Million Dollar Quartet	Derngate
20 Apr	History Society: John of Gaunt, Mike Ingram	Brixworth Village Hall
22 Apr	Pudding Party	All Saints Brix
23 Apr	St Georges Day Special	N'ton & Lamport Railway
25 Apr	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre
25 Apr	Boycott and Aggers	Derngate
27Apr	Brixworth Cancer Support Group	Saxon House, Brixworth
28 Apr	Remembering Fred	Derngate
29 Apr - 1 May	Brampton Bear Special Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
30/4-1/5	Art, Craft and Design Fair	Lampport Hall
30 Apr	Rock 4 Hope	Derngate
2 May	Sam Bailey	Derngate
2-6/5	Not Dead Enough	Derngate
6-7/5	Food and Drink Festival	Althorp Estate
7 May	Book Week Special Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
9 May	Life in the English Country House Between the Wars	Lampport Hall
9-13/5	The Addams Family	Derngate
11 May	Brixworth Belles Alpacas & spinning demonstration	Brixworth Village Hall
13 May	Cinema under the Stars	Brixworth Country Park
16 May	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	Community Centre
17 May	Omid Djalili	Derngate
18 May	History Society: Coaches, Carriages and Canals	Brixworth Village Hall
20 May	KT Tunstall	Derngate
21 May	Al Murray	Derngate
22 May	Live on Mars	Derngate
23 May	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre

23-27/5	Running Wild	Derngate
25 May	Brixworth Cancer Support Group	Saxon House, Brixworth
27 May	Rail Ale and Music Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
28-29/5	Festival of Country Life	Lampport Hall
28-29 May	Rail Ale and Music Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
1 June	Henning Wehn	Derngate
2-4/6	FloVibe Festival	Kelmarsh Hall
2 June	That'll be the Day	Derngate
3 June	Iconic Movie Soundtracks	Derngate
4 June	Church Summer Fete	All Saints Brixworth
4 June	Northants Ultra 35	Lampport Hall
4 June	Worlds Greatest Drummer	Derngate
7-8/6	Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom	Derngate
8 June	Brixworth Belles Swing Fit evening	Brixworth Village Hall
9 June	Jimmy Carr	Derngate
16 June	Beverley Knight	Derngate
17 June	History Society: Day Trip to Portsmouth	Portsmouth
17-18/6	AACI Autoshow 2017	Kelmarsh Hall
18 June	Fathers Day Teas	All Saints Brixworth
18 June	Fathers Day Cream Tea Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
22 June	The Illegal Eagles	Derngate
25 June	Vintage & Classic Car Show	Draughton
27 June	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre
29 June	Brixworth Cancer Support Group	Saxon House, Brixworth
1-2 July	Steam Fair	Hollowell
8-9 July	Great British Food Show	Kelmarsh Hall
9 July	Cream Tea Steam Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway
11 July	Brixworth Belles Gin Tasting and Tour	Warner Edwards, Hannington
13 July	History Society Trip to Normandy	Caen
14-15/7	Great Expectations	Royal
15 July	Twelfth Night	Lampport Hall
16 July	Trad Jazz in the Garden	Lampport Hall
16 July	Cream Tea Steam Trains	N'ton & Lamport Railway



YOGA FOR YOU

Brixworth Library Community Hall
MON 7.30 - 9.00 pm
TUES 1.45 - 3.15 pm
 All abilities welcome
 01933 673212 / 07729 099206



ANNE WIDDUP

change4good@annewiddup.com
www.annewiddup.com

Taste the true flavours of Indian, Bangladeshi and British Asian cooking cultures.

OPENING HOURS
 Open 7 days a week
(inc. Bank Holidays)
 Monday - Saturday : 5 - 11pm
 Sunday: 5.00 - 10.30 pm



Lasaan

Restaurant and Takeaway
(inc. deliveries)

8 Whitehills Crescent
 Northampton, NN2 8EP
T: 01604 844244 / 843500
E: info@lasaan.co.uk
www.lasaan.co.uk



Planning the next Cricket season

With the new season little over two months away, we look forward to another exciting summer of cricket for players of all ages and abilities.

We will once again be running four Saturday adult sides in the Northants Cricket League, playing in the Premier, 3rd, 9th and 13th divisions. New players are always welcome – at all levels, as are umpires, scorers, other volunteers and anyone who would like to help our incredible ground staff who do a superb job maintaining our two grounds in the village.

Our junior section continues to grow, with coaching on Friday evenings and age group teams at U13 and U11 and kwik cricket tournaments for U9s. Fridays from 6pm are also our family nights – extremely popular for parents to unwind at the end of the week with a beer or a glass of wine and enjoy the BBQ in beautiful surroundings. Junior registration evening will be Friday 31st March and outdoor training will start on Friday 7 April.

Social events already planned are a Quiz Night on Saturday 8th April and the return of our Beer and Music Festival weekend on 23rd – 25th June. If you'd like to get involved with the club in any capacity, or attend any events, please get in touch!

Contact Chris Timm (christimm_24@hotmail.com or 07718 628985) or Will Haxby (willh@haddonstone.co.uk or 07912 267988)

– Chris Timm

Maintenance prepares Tennis Club for 2017



The committee members of Brixworth Tennis Club have had a busy end to the year, completing some vital clean up and maintenance work to make sure the club is in tip top condition for the activities and tournaments being planned for 2017.

First in the maintenance programme was removing a significant build-up of moss and algae from deep in the tarmac surface. Once this was accomplished, the surface was treated with a moss-prevention chemical. There is no miracle cure and the courts will need ongoing regular maintenance to keep on top of the moss growing back.

After that came the task of clearing the whole court area of fallen leaves – if these are left to build up, they prevent the courts from drying out and encourage the growth of more moss.

With all the winter maintenance done, it is time for the committee to finalise planning for the 2017 events calendar, which will build on the great success of the Junior and Senior tournaments held in 2016. Dates will be published on the club's website (<http://www.brixworthtennisclub.org.uk>) and Facebook page in due course.

Membership of the club remains steady with just under 30 adults, 23 juniors and 9 families and annual fees have remained low at £55 for adults, £20 for juniors and £125 for a family.

The club also holds junior coaching sessions on Saturday mornings and an Easter Camp from 14th to 18th April. Our coach, James Haley, is a licensed, LTA CCA qualified and PTR Grade professional tennis coach available for individual sessions for club members. Costs range from £18 – £25 per hour.

Club tennis sessions are held on Tuesday and Friday evenings as from April and Sunday mornings throughout the year, weather permitting, and are supported by regular social events.

If anyone is interested in joining the tennis club, please contact Jonathan Martin at secretary@brixworthtennisclub.org.uk or visit the website above for details. – Peter Saxton



HeatEx

**Central Heating Installation
Specialising in all aspects of heating**

Plumbing work also undertaken
over 18 years experience in the trade

For information and quotations, contact:

**Paul Bennett
HeatEx Contracting
53 Thorpeville, Moulton
Northampton NN3 7TS**

**t: 07932 636124; 01604 643037
e: heatex@outlook.com**



**Gas Safe & Oftec
Registered**



This page is part sponsored by Watson Fuels

