

## New surgery almost finished

Building work on the new Brixworth surgery on the Saxon Rise housing development is almost finished. At Bulletin press time, the new surgery was expected to be opening on 18 June.

The expected timeplan is for the old surgery to close at the end of the day on Wednesday 13 June. There is no surgery in Brixworth on 14 and 15 June – anyone needing an appointment on those days will need to travel to Guilsborough while the Brixworth surgery is on the move.

While the expectation is for the surgery to open on schedule, please check notices at the surgery and online just in case the completion dates had to be moved after the Bulletin went to press.

The new surgery, built by Barratt Homes as part of the new housing estate, provides a much needed increase in capacity, both for doctors and nurses to see patients, and for patients to park at the surgery. The old site is due to be sold for redevelopment after it has been vacated.



In April, the surgery building was largely completed

BNPSG chairman Bob Chattaway, noted that the group had been determined to respond to all issues raised during the neighbourhood plan consultations, and how gratifying it was to see these efforts rewarded with the opening of the new surgery. Millar added: "This shows what can be done when we all work together to achieve a positive outcome for our community, which looked highly unlikely

### Community Effort

Kathryn Baines, Practice Manager at Saxon Spires, said: "We really need this new building. The old practice was too small to cope with the demands, and no longer fit for purpose. We are thankful for the efforts of the community, councils, and individuals who have worked to make this happen."

Many groups and individuals worked tirelessly to negotiate the construction of the new surgery, particularly the Brixworth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BNPSG) and Chris Millar, leader of Daventry District Council.

when we commenced our collective journey."

### Equipment Fundraiser

The NHS have not funded any part of the construction of the new surgery and the NHS is not in a position to fund fitting out and any increased on-going costs. The practice has absorbed all legal costs and transfer costs which will total £85,000, with no opportunity to recover that expense.

*(Continued, p2)*

### Deserving Causes – the votes are in!

Once again we ran our Deserving Causes campaign, and once again you turned out in droves to cast your vote. Thank you!

We had five very deserving causes submitted, the most ever. Turnout was very healthy too, with a total of 523 votes cast. The bulk of votes, garnering 47% of ballots cast, was for Brixworth Centre Pre-School. This translates into very healthy donation of £1399, which will go towards the construction of a mud kitchen at the pre-school. The work will take place over the summer holidays and we look forward to bringing you an update later this year.

Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group got 28% of the vote, or £838. The money will be used to buy equipment for the soon-to-be opened new surgery on Saxon Rise. SSPPG continues raising funds for the necessary equipment, which is estimated to cost around £13,000. For more information, see page 2.

Brixworth Community Church received 18% of the vote towards their Soccer and Netball School, and the church used the £545 to offer free and subsidised places to some of the children attending.

The Brixworth Centre and the Country Park shared the remainder of the votes, worth just under £200. The money will go towards repairing the chairs at the Centre, which are damaging the floor, and replacing a worn notice board at the park.

Thank you again for submitting your causes and voting for how the money should be allocated. We look forward to doing this again once our reserves allow.

*Maadi Flavell-White*

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The *Brixworth Bulletin* is published  
quarterly in March, June, September and  
December. The deadline for contributions  
and advertising for the September issue is  
25 July 2018.

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Twitter.



(Continued from p1) This leaves the issue  
of finding the money to pay for fitting out  
the increased space. While much equipment  
and furniture will be moved over from the  
old practice, the larger space requires  
more equipment. The Saxon Spires Patient  
Participation Group (SSPPG), which provides  
the link between the practice and the local  
community, is now  
campaigning for  
donations to purchase  
some of the additional  
equipment needed.

SSPPG estimate that  
just to buy the essential  
new equipment to  
set up the additional  
consulting and other  
rooms will cost around  
£13,000. For more  
information, contact the  
secretary at barbara.  
hogg@tiscali.co.uk



The existing surgery is currently on the market to be sold.

or the project co-ordinator at  
squarefoot@btinternet.com

Brixworth Parish Council,  
the Brixworth Bulletin, BRANE,  
several sports clubs and other  
organisations have already  
pledged support with donations.  
Should you wish to assist the  
SSPPG to purchase equipment  
and need further details, please  
contact the secretary, Barbara  
Hogg, on 01604 880552 or  
the Project Co-ordinator, Mike  
Parsons, on 01604 881993.

The SSPPG would welcome any  
donation you may care to make in support  
of this appeal. Cheques should be made  
payable to "Saxon Spires Patient Participation  
Group" and sent to the SSPPG Project  
Co-ordinator, 8 Stonehill Way, Brixworth, NN6  
9LW. If you prefer to make a bank transfer,  
please contact the project coordinator on the  
email above. – Sandra Attwood, Chair, SSPPG



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## SSPPG Carers Week

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# Lampport Church looking at future options

Almost all rural churches face similar challenges of trying to keep the fabric of their buildings intact as well as paying for day to day expenditure. Lampport is no exception and recently the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for Lampport Church took pre-emptive action to help ensure that it has adequate funds so this exceptional church can be enjoyed by future generations.

Speaking at a well-attended meeting of the Lampport and Hanging Houghton community to discuss the church finances, Reverend James Watson said: "We have to wake up and smell the coffee. We have a financial situation which needs to be addressed, and we need to do something quite urgently."

In 2017, the church raised £5,229 from fund-raising events, donations, service collections etc, but expenses – for repairs, clergy, insurance and so on – came to over £10,000.

Derek Mills, treasurer of the PCC, said: "It's my responsibility to make you aware of this shortfall early on, so that we as a community can act before it gets worse. While we have some reserves, they would be used up within two years if we had to use them to plug the gap."



To stabilise the church finances, the PCC is asking for villagers to set up regular donations, however small, to provide a regular income for the church.

Much of the church's financial difficulties stem from the cancellation of a concert in 2017, which should have been the PCC's main fundraising event of the year, but suffered from poor ticket sales. While the PCC is running other community fundraisers, there is a limit to how many can realistically be organised each year. There is also little scope for reducing the costs.

The option of using the church as a much-needed communal space for the villages (Lampport and Hanging Houghton have no village hall) was also raised. However, there is little scope for this without substantial more fundraising, because the church lacks

facilities such as toilets, a kitchen or running water.

Similarly, while the PCC is keen to explore the idea of mounting a BT broadband tower on the church spire, which would provide an income, developing this will take time. Meanwhile, the PCC is focusing on more fundraisers and regular donations to secure the immediate future.

Closing the meeting, Watson said: "This is not a desperate situation. There is a lot of enthusiasm and will in the community to help and put the church on a secure financial footing. But we do need to act now."

If you would like to find out more, or make a donation to the church, please contact Derek Mills, treasurer of Lampport and Hanging Houghton PCC, on 881624. – cfw

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# Primary School's new Head promises tweaks, not turns

Brixworth CEVC Primary School has had a new headteacher this year, Mrs Kathryn Young. However, Mrs Young is no stranger to Brixworth's children or their parents: she has worked at the school for ten years and was previously Deputy Head under Mr Boucher.

Partly because of this continuity, and partly because Mrs Young believes she is working from a very good foundation, parents do not need to expect any major changes under her tenure. She says rather, that there will be small tweaks. "My aim is to be the best we possibly can be through high quality teaching for results above the national average. This means keeping the children engaged in their learning and having responsibility for their learning, and through strengthening relationships with the local community."

Mrs Young's priorities include developing the curriculum. "As well as ensuring it is broad, balanced and creative, I want to make it fun so that both children and teachers are inspired and 'buzzing'." She plans to include more events around subject areas so that each Topic begins with a "Wow Day", includes visits outside, or visitors coming into school, and ends with a "Fabulous Finish". Examples of this have already included Years 3 and 4 being told a volcano had exploded in their classroom – some teachers were dressed up in forensic outfits to investigate



– and teachers acting out characters from the novel "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" when Years 5 and 6 were learning about chocolate.

Mrs Young also plans to develop the outside space more by creating a forest school. She says, "I believe it's important for children to learn how to take risks". Such an environment will allow them to do that.

She says that having to keep up-to-date with all the changes in government requirements and expectations keeps the school on its toes, but that is not a bad thing. Regular staff training and staff visits to other schools help achieve this, and Mrs Young speaks highly of the support she has received from both the diocese and local authority.

Keeping abreast of technology is also a major challenge. This not only means helping children use computers and tablets in the classroom but also using technology more in communicating with parents via the website, email, text and social media. Teaching children about online safety is considered highly important.

The school has gained two new classrooms as a result of the new housing developments in the village. However, Brixworth's expansion has not created such a stretch on resources as feared. Fewer children than expected have been arriving from the new homes.

It is apparent that Mrs Young, a native of Yorkshire who moved to Northamptonshire after meeting her husband, loves her job and lets school take up quite a lot of her personal time. When she is not busy with school affairs, she enjoys long walks and going running at the weekend. She says: "I am quite quiet really." She likes baking, which she finds very therapeutic, and has recently discovered an "amazing" chocolate cake recipe. Of course, she is a fan of "The Great British Bake Off".

Mrs Young says she continues to be impressed and very grateful for how supportive staff and parents are. One example of this occurred during a heavy snowfall last December, when a number of parents and staff turned up before seven o'clock to help clear the snow from the school's paths.

Through the *Bulletin*, Mrs Young wants to say to parents: "I feel extremely privileged to be the headteacher at such a fantastic school. Thank you for making me feel so welcome and for your ongoing support. I look forward to working with you in future to create a school where everybody can be the best they can possibly be."

– *Jennifer Fitzgerald*

An advertisement for theRoseGallery. At the top is the logo, a stylized 'R' inside a circle, followed by the text "theRoseGallery". Below this is the text "Fine Art Gallery | Bespoke Picture Framing | Home Consultations". The main part of the ad is a cartoon illustration of a man with a very long neck, wearing a grey coat and a striped hat, walking a small dog. The illustration is signed "Sam Tott". At the bottom, the text reads: "The Rose Gallery (within Bell), Kingsthorpe Road, Northampton, NN2 6LT info@therosegallery.co.uk | 01604 713743 | www.therosegallery.co.uk".



# Parents fight for Great Creaton Primary

Great Creaton Primary School is fighting for its survival, following a severe drop in the number of pupils attending.

The school currently has around 30 pupils taught in two classes, but ten children are due to be leaving in July. Northampton County Council is now considering whether to close the school, in the face of a passionate campaign by parents to keep it open.

“Great Creaton Primary has qualities not easily found elsewhere,” says Kirsty Lowe, one of the parents at the school. “Its small size and sense of family encourage less self-assured children to grow in confidence. The high adult-to-child ratio offers opportunities for children to study at their own level, not just at that of their age group. The school is non-religious, ideal for those seeking secular schooling

for their children. It also caters very successfully to the issues of children with special educational needs.”

Lowe adds: “People whose children have really struggled in other schools have found their school experience completely turned around by Creaton. I am sure there are many more parents out there hoping to find a school with similar qualities, but who are simply not aware of the existence of Great Creaton Primary.”

The school has always been small and relied on pupils coming from the surrounding villages to keep up the numbers. Part of the school's issue is that Ofsted says it ‘requires improvement’, though Lowe says that Northamptonshire County Council told the parents that for a school of this size, attaining a “good” Ofsted is nearly impossible, particularly since Ofsted recently changed its criteria, making it even harder to reach a higher rating.

NCC is holding a consultation meeting about the future of the school on 12 June, ahead of the final decision. However, if at least 30-40 children are registered to attend the school from September, it would certainly remain open.

If it does not reach that number, the school could close at the end of 2018, though funds are available for it to remain open for a further year or two, which would give teachers and parents a chance to reverse the school's fortunes.

Lowe says: “Obviously these are uncertain times for Great Creaton Primary School, but I remain hopeful that we can save it!”

The parents are happy to talk to prospective parents about our experiences with Great Creaton primary. Just email [creatonparents@gmail.com](mailto:creatonparents@gmail.com). – cfw

## Joining the barber-shop boom

Brixworth is catching up with the booming business in barbering.

Dan Clarkson, co-owner of the new Bulldog and Bear on Northampton Road, says: “Gents are now looking after themselves more and caring about their appearance,” following the trends set by celebrities and footballers.



Dan and his partner, Natasha Wright, moved to the village eighteen months ago. Since having a baby they have wanted to build a business near where they live, and Natasha has already worked in this industry. There have been significant delays since starting work on the venture in October 2017 and Dan says it has been quite a challenge on top of having a new baby and holding down a full-time job.

The services offered will include traditional hot towel shaves, nasal and eyebrow waxing, steam facials, beard trims and sculpting, charcoal peel-off masks and gentlemen's haircuts.

Their target market is “every gentleman and their son in a ten-mile radius.” In order to appeal to every age they have aimed for a modern but traditional look to their salon including Chesterfield sofas and wingback chairs, “so everyone feels comfortable to come in, whether for a 20 minute haircut or a full pampering experience”.

– Jennifer Fitzgerald

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# The Sun Shines on St. George's Parade



The annual St. George's Day Parade and service saw a good turnout from Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts from Brixworth and Scaldwell Group. Around 50 young people with their leaders gathered outside the Community Centre in perfect weather to raise St. George's Flag. Then, with a police escort and flags flying, they marched to the Primary School for a family service with Brixworth Community Church (pictured, above). After being rewarded with drinks and cakes, Rev. Andy Lloyd-Williams and Community Worker Mark Palmer spoke of the value of friendship in scouting and the Christian life.



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# All change for bin collections

The weekly rota of bin collections in Daventry District is changing with effect of June 2018. From that time onwards, black bins will only be emptied every three weeks. Recycling will be collected every two weeks, as will garden waste, while food waste will be collected every week.

The recycling will be collected in new full-sized bins with blue lids, which are due to be delivered to local households during May. They will replace the blue and red boxes currently in use.

Garden waste collections will be optional. Anyone wanting to have their garden waste collected in future will need to register on Daventry District Council's website or call 0345 2185215. There is a fee of £35 per year for this service.

It is likely that the collection day will change when the new service is introduced, but at the Bulletin's press time, the exact details were not yet known. You should receive a full information pack, including a collection calendar and collection day information, during May 2018.



# Breadline relocates to Spratton Road

The Breadline is excited to announce that they are on the move. Their new premises will be located on the Spratton Road in the old village workhouse. As a nod to the past, the new shop will be renamed The Workhouse. There will be seating for around 30 people as well as seats outdoors. The Workhouse will look quite different from The Breadline, however to ensure customers feel as comfortable in the new surroundings, they can be reassured that there will be the same relaxed atmosphere and smiling staff. The Breadline staff will be sad to serve the last bacon bap from The Breadline but they have now outgrown their little shop and want to offer more to Brixworth village. The Workhouse will be serving the usual Breadline favourites as well as introducing some new exciting options. They look forward to seeing you there!

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# Memories of snow



It may seem a distant memory now that spring has made up for its lateness by giving us glorious sunshine and the kind of heat normally reserved for the height of summer. But this year's prolonged snowfall has gifted us with breathtaking sights and amazing displays of community spirit. Below just two thank you messages, which we've no doubt show just the tip of the iceberg of good deeds done.

*Clockwise, from top left: Sunrise by Ian Topham, Ashway Fields by Chris Howard, Brampton Valley Drifts by Roy Baxter, and Snow Leopard by Steve Nicholas*

*During the heavy snow falls late this winter, Manor Road into Hanging Houghton had it's fair share of snow. At times, it was very tricky negotiating in and out of the village. The residents owe a show of thanks to Bruce Ward, who carted and spread the salt from the bunker at the top of the village until supplies were exhausted. – Paul and Eleanor Phillips, Hanging Houghton*



*I would like to thank my friends and neighbours for all their help they've offered me in the heavy snow we had at the beginning of March. They have helped me in so many ways, including clearing the snow outside my hose and assisting me when my freezer broke down. Thank you also to the lovely lady who does my shopping for me every week. – Bertha Chapman, Brixworth*



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# Country Park Update



After what seemed like an incredibly long winter, Spring eventually sprang into action in April, and made great efforts to make up for lost time. Suddenly, wildflowers began to blossom, with subtle splashes of colour from dog-violets, lesser celandine, cowslips and chickweed. Trees and hedgerows began to leaf up, and the white blossoms of blackthorn and cherries bloomed. The birds, after a few

false starts due to the weather patterns early in the year, started nesting, and everywhere seemed to buzz with life again.

## Brixworth Country Park

At Brixworth Country Park the air literally buzzed with swarms of our regular annual visitors: the over-friendly non-biting midges.

A little annoying for humans, these insects are a valuable source of food for other creatures further up the food web, including trout, frogs, swallows and bats.

## Sensory Garden

The main focus of attention for the rangers and the volunteers over the past few months has been the renovations in the Sensory Garden. The work has been made possible by the Mick George Community Fund via a grant awarded by GrantScape, and despite the weather and other setbacks, steady progress has been made.

New sensory play equipment from Inclusive Play was installed in February, including a new sand pit, a trampoline, some rainbow chimes and bongos. Two pieces of equipment are powered by kinetic energy, either by pumping a pedal or turning a handle, so why not give them a go next time you walk through the garden?

A variety of wooden sculptures, all carved by William Lee of iSculpt Ltd, have been installed as well. Pride of place, in the middle of the garden, is the Gnome Totem, which ties in with our existing BB Little Grey Men Trail. Also placed within the garden are sculptures of a frog, a snail, a giant worm, a great crested newt, a hedgehog, and a stag beetle. How many can you find?

Drier weather enabled the rangers and volunteers to sand and stain the woodwork in the garden to add a splash of colour all year round, and the colour scheme has been extended to include the Tots Corner play area, and the main play area.

## Volunteer Update

Following our call for more volunteers in the last issue, three new volunteers have joined us on a Thursday (at time of writing). We now have more volunteers than we can fit in our truck, which has given us the opportunity to set two tasks on a Thursday, one along the Brampton Valley Way, and one at Brixworth Country Park. This is fantastic and means both sites can benefit from the tender loving care of a weekly volunteer group. There is certainly plenty of work to keep two groups busy!

The newly formed Brixworth weekly volunteer group have been busy sanding and staining the picnic benches and seats around the park in preparation for summer, as well as painting the Sensory Garden and giving the Little Grey Men Trail a new lease of life.

## Summer Safety

Everyone loves the summer, and we had to wait a long time for the temperatures to rise this year. The rangers would like to remind all our visitors to be safe when enjoying the park. Barbecues are permitted, and although portable barbecues are preferred, there is a concrete slab next to each picnic bench for people to use instant barbecues. We ask that people act responsibly and follow the Countryside Code by taking their litter home with them. This includes disposable barbecues.

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In April, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue was called to the park when someone disposed of a hot barbecue in a compost bin. The bin and its contents caught fire, and the perimeter fence and a nearby tree also suffered damage (pictured, above). Thankfully, no-one was injured.

## Brampton Valley Way

### Brampton Halt

In March, work was undertaken to repair and improve the drainage along the section of path near the Brampton Halt pub. This is an area that has suffered from a lot of standing water during the winter months, and the new drainage has already been put through its paces during the very wet start to April. We are pleased to report that it was one of the driest sections along the whole Brampton Valley Way! Just another thirteen and a half miles to sort out...

### Cutting Back

Ranger Andy and the volunteers have been kept busy clearing up after the long winter. The months of snow and rain brought down a lot of trees and sections of hedgerow which the team have been cutting back and tidying up, to keep the path accessible for everyone.

### Keeper's Cottage

In the last issue we mentioned Volunteer Lyndon's efforts to clear around the old iron bridge south of Keeper's Cottage. His work is complete and has opened up views of the bridge and the surrounding countryside. A new memorial bench has been installed near the bridge which overlooks the view across the fields towards Maidwell.

Regular users may have noticed that the wooden bridge over the drainage ditch next to Keeper's Cottage Garden has been removed. This was for safety reasons due to sections of the bridge rotting out. The garden is still accessible from either end and provides a quiet picnic spot, sheltered from the main track by the ditch and a line of trees.

## Events

The rangers have put together a full calendar of events for 2018, both fun and educational. Remember, only a few of our events are aimed exclusively at children (Nature Tots, for example). Many are great fun for adults too, so don't be afraid to book yourself onto Underwater World!

**Nature Tots** offers a nature-themed walk with a ranger, followed by a craft activity for pre-school children. £3.50 per child per session, includes refreshments. Booking is a must. Nature Tots meet at 10am on the third Wednesday each month during term time.

Our **Xplorer** events provide an excellent introduction to orienteering and are a fun way for families to spend an hour or so exploring

the park. Follow the map to find the markers and report back to collect your certificate and a gift. Suggested donation of £1 per child.

**Underwater World** gives people of all ages the opportunity to explore the aquatic life of our ponds from the safety of dry land. The one hour sessions of pond dipping provide ample time to dip the nets into the water, identify the exciting creatures that you find, and to look at what other people have discovered. There are six packs per session and we recommend a maximum of three children (or adults!) per pack. Packs are £5 each.

Our popular **Fires and S'mores** event is back this summer, giving participants the opportunity to use a fire to split some firewood, then toast a marshmallow over the fire and squish it between a couple of chocolate biscuits to make a British version of the American s'more. £2 per child. Suitable for ages four and upwards. Children must be supervised by an adult.

Also returning this summer is the **Kelly Kettle Challenge**, where Ranger Andy will teach you some basic bush craft skills and the art of lighting a fire (safely!) before you use the Kelly kettles to boil some water and make a nice cuppa. £2 per participant. Suitable for ages eight and upward (adults welcome!). Children must be supervised by an adult. Booking essential.

**Brixworth Bushcraft for Kids** is a new activity for 2018. Join the rangers on a mini bushcraft adventure for children and their adult. The two-and-a-half hour session will include shelter building, safe use of tools, whittling, lighting a safe camp fire and

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preparing and cooking a campfire meal. You will also have the option of preparing some locally-sourced fish to cook on the campfire. Limited spaces available, booking essential. Suitable for ages 10 and upward. Two sessions from 10am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 4pm. £15 per child and their adult.

**Naturally Playful** is a chance to explore all things natural! Den building, bug hunting, quizzes, natural art, mud faces, detective hunts and much, much more! Two sessions from 10.30am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 3pm. £2 per child.

Come and make your very own **'rock bug'** to take home – a buzzy bee, spotty ladybird – the list is endless! £2 per child. Two sessions from 10.30am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 3pm.

**Bugs at Brixworth** - Come on a bug hunt with an Education Ranger and find out about the creatures living here at Brixworth! £2 per child. Booking essential. 45 minutes sessions running from 10.30am – 3.15pm.

Join Rangers Debbie and Andy for two bat events. Use bat detectors to listen for the echo-locating noises of the bats and learn more about the flying mammals and their habitats. The **Batastic Tunnel Walk** will take you through the Oxenden Tunnel along the Brampton Valley Way. **Bat Walk at Brixworth** will take place at the country park. Booking essential. £5 per person.

For more information about any of events, please contact us on 0300 126 5932 or email [brixworth@firstforwellbeing.co.uk](mailto:brixworth@firstforwellbeing.co.uk). All events are subject to change and weather-dependent. - *Vikki Austen*



### Dates for the diary

- Nature Tots – Wednesday 18th July 2018 – 10am to 11.30am
- Fires & S'mores – Wednesday 18th July 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Kelly Kettle Challenge – Wednesday 18th July 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Volunteer work day – Saturday 21st July 2018 – 10am to 4pm
- Naturally Playful – Friday 27th July 2018 – 10.30am – 3pm
- Naturally Playful – Tuesday 7th August 2018 – 10.30am – 3pm
- Brixworth Bushcraft for Kids – Wednesday 8th August 2018 – 10am – 4pm
- Underwater World – Tuesday 14th August 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Xplorer Orienteering – Wednesday 15th August 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Underwater World – Wednesday 22nd August 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Rock bugs – Thursday 23rd August 2018 – 10.30am – 3pm
- Batastic Tunnel Walk – Saturday 25th August 2018 – 7pm – 9pm
- Fires & S'mores – Wednesday 29th August 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Kelly Kettle Challenge – Wednesday 29th August 2018 – 11am – 3pm
- Bugs at Brixworth – Thursday 30th August 2018 – 10.30am – 3.15pm
- Volunteer work day – Saturday 15th September 2018 – 10am – 4pm
- Nature Tots – Wednesday 19th September 2018 – 10am – 11.30am
- Brixworth Bat Walk – Friday 21st September 2018 – 6pm – 8pm

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# Country Eye

## A vote for change



An iceberg the size of Wales has separated from the Antarctic's Larsen B iceshelf. That sounds serious but how on earth is that anything to do with us in Brixworth? The answer, simply put, is that it has happened as a direct result of climate warming in which we all play a part. Plug in your kettle, notch up the central heating an extra degree, sit working at your laptop as I am doing now, virtually all the myriad things we do require electricity. And this is generated mainly from fossil fuels such as coal, oil, or natural gas.

Millions of years ago, the remains of dead plants and animals became locked up deep underground. Under enormous heat and the pressure of rocks laid down on top of them, they have become the fossil fuels we utterly depend on today. It is a process that is still happening; if you make compost for your garden or allotment you are borrowing the countless billions of tiny life forms that earn their living as agents of decay. You then interrupt the process by spreading the rich compost on the soil.

For uncountable timespans this natural cycle has led to a slow increase of carbon becoming locked away in the ground, and in the fathomless ocean deeps. It remained so until about 300 years ago, at the start of the industrial revolution, when we began to mine this resource, initially as coal, and burning it to make steam to drive power machinery, and later generate electricity. It is important to remember that life on earth

could not exist without carbon. It is the basic building block of all life on Earth as we know it. The problem is that, where it accumulates in the atmosphere, it is in the wrong place. It creates an invisible shield that leads to the well-known 'greenhouse effect', preventing some of the sun's heat from radiating back into space.

The polar ice caps are melting as just one of very many results of this warming, which brings us back to our iceberg. Impossible though it seems, it is forecast that the Arctic could become ice-free for a period every summer as a consequence. Changes like this are affecting global weather patterns, and

with it ours. It is clear that we are in uncharted territory so far as the future is concerned. So change is needed. So far our politicians and other so-called leaders have failed dismally to initiate any meaningful shift in policy. I have always believed that the necessary change must come from us. That means from you and me. Indeed early signs of this change are already there, in events like our leaving the EU, the latest general election result, our recent decision for the Neighbourhood Plan or the election of Donald Trump as US President – all are votes for change, for 'none of the above'. In other words, specifically for a move away from central top-down government.

For more than 50 years I have believed that the only way to a decent long term standard of life for us all, including all our fellow species on the planet, is way above our heads. Yet paradoxically it is easily within our grasp. Our ancestors who harnessed the power of the wind and the water to drive early machinery to grind their corn were on the right track. Indirectly, they were using the ultimate source of power on earth – the sun. Its constantly renewed energy can supply all the power we need and more. We just need the will to do it.

Admittedly inertia is a major obstacle, and this is where we come in. I believe that the recent voting patterns spell out a desire among ordinary people for change. For sure the present system has failed us, and especially so in the case of the young.

Could it be their new young blood that holds the key, the motivation, for a meaningful future on this beautiful, fragile planet? I hope so. – *Brian Webster*

## Draughton Classic Car Show

Beautiful cars from a range of decades will be adorning the village for the fourth year running on the afternoon of Sunday 24 June.

Adding to the glittering bumpers will be a stunning array of stalls and games. In the tea marquee, delicious refreshments will await, as will a cask of real ale in the pop-up pub alongside. – *Kate Calnan*

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# Chris Heaton-Harris MP's WESTMINSTER REPORT

## Coffee mornings

Over the last couple of months I have been hosting coffee mornings in villages across my constituency. These have been a great success and some crucial local issues have come to my attention. I've heard about issues concerning potholes to the local bus service; but I know every village is unique and has its own hot topics.

So I want Brixworth and all the surrounding villages to be a part of the conversation! If there is interest from local residents I would be more than happy to host a coffee morning in your village to discuss what matters to you. If this is something that you want to help me arrange, please email me at [chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk) or just give me a ring on 020 7219 7048 and we'll get something sorted as soon as time permits.

These coffee mornings are all part of a broader goal of mine to connect with my constituents to get a better idea of the concerns and problems that the people of 'Daventry' are facing. As a local resident myself I am committed to seeing the local area move forward and improve. Basically, I want to be a better Member of Parliament for you and every single conversation helps me do just that.

Whilst I want to know more about my constituents' lives I also want you to get a better idea of my life as an MP. I want to break down the barrier between constituency and Westminster. With this

in mind I have released a series of videos where I have discussed a number of topics. These range from my office and how we work to help you to my role as a Government Whip. Hopefully these



provide some insight into the way things work here in the world of Westminster. Keep an eye out for more to come in the near future!

Take a look on my social media outlets if you're interested: @chhcalling and [www.facebook.com/chhcalling](http://www.facebook.com/chhcalling). There might be a topic you want to hear about. Maybe it's a part of Westminster that intrigues you or an aspect of my job you would like to know about? Let me know what you think.

Hopefully see many of you soon for a coffee and a chat. If anyone can't make it for some reason, please get in touch, using the email address below. I'm always here to help.

*Chris*

Post The House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

Phone 0207-219-7048 or 01604-859721

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# Brix & Mortar

## Prices reach record high

According to Rightmove's Commercial Director, Miles Shipside, house prices across the UK have hit a record high. In April 2018 he said:

- Prices of new-to-the-market property rose by modest 0.4% (+£1,228) this month, but enough to push the national average to a new record of £305,732
- This surpasses the previous national high of £304,943 set in July 2017 by 0.3%, with six out of eleven regions also hitting new peaks
- Record monthly visits to Rightmove in March indicate strong interest in property, though the subdued 1.6% annual rate of price increase warns that many buyers are increasingly price sensitive
- On average sellers are achieving 96.7% of their final asking price, a gap of just over £10,000 on the current national asking price, though this varies by region, location and property

With this in mind I thought I would look at how our village of Brixworth has fared with price rises over the last few years.

I became a self-employed Property Consultant, working under the umbrella of Horts Estate Agents back in June 2011. During this seven year period I have sold over £25,000,000 worth of houses in our village and prices have increased by around 50%. In my mini survey I looked at four types of homes and took an average of the price they sold for in 2011 and what they are achieving today.

The results were:

- 2 bedroom semi/terraced house - In 2011 average price achieved £142,380. Now £212,727
- 3 bedroom semi-detached house - In 2011 average price achieved £160,642. Now £231,944
- 3 bedroom detached house - In 2011 average price achieved £175,312. Now £267,231

- 4 bedroom detached house - In 2011 average price achieved £257,567. Now £407,870

Impressive reading but let's also bear in mind some of the other bullet points in the Rightmove article and the implications.

It suggests in the third bullet point that buyers are becoming more price sensitive. We have to remember that properties are only worth what people will pay for them. With the comparable information available online to estate agents, buyers and sellers, getting the asking price right should be a formality. Homes that remain on the market for a long period of time are only doing so because the agent is not working with their vendor to adjust the price according to activity levels.

The fourth point really validates the third in that houses are selling for close to the asking price so there is no need to put a large margin on top of your homes' true value. In fact, the properties I have sold recently have been achieving, on average, 98.3% of the asking price.

My personal thoughts on the market here in Brixworth is that our ever expanding village, with all its' great amenities, will continue to see a small increase in price this year. However, there is of course a ceiling that will be reached at some point. We must remember a healthy housing market is a market for all and the bottom step of the ladder must remain achievable by first time homeowners. – *Stuart Little*



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# Lampton & Hanging Houghton News

Hanging Houghton had excitement of the unwelcome kind in March, when some 100 people descended – uninvited – onto Tom Saunders' barn for an illegal rave. Some had apparently come from as far away as Somerset! Police attended and the ravers eventually left, leaving all their mess behind them. Tom was left with the unpleasant task of clearing the barn.

The tenants who moved into 8 Manor Road have left for pastures new. The near neighbours must be very thankful, as the second-hand car dealer will no longer be parking up to six extra cars in the already crowded area. Let us hope that the new tenants will be more considerate.

The new defibrillator has now been installed in the old telephone box on Hanging Houghton village green. It now remains for the volunteers to be trained in its use – and for us to hope it won't be needed.

There have been two attempted robberies from vans parked in Hanging Houghton during April. Other local villages are reporting similar events. Please remain vigilant, and do not leave anything valuable on display. – *Mike Philpott*



## Brixworth Station

Brixworth Railway Station, pictured around 1958. The train station stood where Creaton Road crosses what is now the Brampton Valley Way. The station was on a branch line connecting Northampton with Market Harborough and Melton Mowbray, but the line was closed in the 1960s and the station buildings were since demolished. Eagle-eyed walkers can still find the foundations in the undergrowth today.

# History Society Update

Meetings this year have been as varied as they have been interesting – thanks to our secretary, Marian, for arranging them.

In February we had a talk on the Royal and Dergate from their archivist Michael Brayley. The 'Rep', built in 1884, was joined in 1983 by the multi-purpose use Dergate, built on the site of the old United Counties bus station. Lastly, the Errol Flynn Filmhouse, named for

the actor who played at the Rep in the 1930s.

In March we heard from Graham McKechnie about the Northampton born Saints player, Edgar Mobbs, who raised his own company of sportsmen to fight in World War 1, but was sadly killed in battle in 1917.

In April, Eve Bacon gave a talk based on her research concerning Victorian baby farming. This is a practice that shocked us all; we had no idea that babies who could not be looked after by their mothers were given to 'child minders' or adopted, where they were sometimes given drugs to keep them quiet – so quiet that they did not feed. Many died and in London some were found wrapped in brown paper in the Thames. It was a sad reflection on those times.

At the time of writing (April) we are looking forward to hearing about Bandstands in May and in June and July we have visits to the Holy Sepulchre Church, a walk round the old village for new members, a day trip to Ely and Cambridge, and a canal boat trip.

We are continuing to research Brixworth after WW1 and hope to exhibit the results at weekends in the Heritage Centre this summer.

A descendant of Alfred Summerfield, who came from Brixworth but was killed in WW1, has sent us his details. Alfred's name is on the Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing in Belgium; the History Society visited there in 2014 and laid wreaths at the names of those men we had researched at the time. Unfortunately Alfred was unknown to us then; we have now put his details on our website.

Brixworth History Society meets at 7.30 on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. For all details of the Society, check our website [www.brixworthhistory.org](http://www.brixworthhistory.org) and see our posters around the village. – *Pauline Kirton*

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# Friends of Brixworth Library

Following Northamptonshire County Council's consultation, the decision was made to keep Brixworth Library open. While we are obviously very pleased about this, we are conscious that there is still an impact on the members of staff who have worked so hard in our library and also a great number of communities who have not been so lucky, and we will still support them appropriately.

We hosted our most successful **Quiz and Chips** night ever on January 19th. Attendance was excellent and we raised £200 for the library. The next Quiz and Chips will be on June 15th, with tickets available now from the Library or on Eventbrite and with drinks for sale on the night. Make sure you book early, as space is limited.

On Saturday April 21st we hosted our second **Craft Fair** at the library. This was very well attended with more than 20 stalls, selling unique and handmade gifts and household items. Many local artisans were present demonstrating their skills including The Good Loaf, LCJ creative projects, The Playbag company, Purple Moon, Zoe Ruth Designs, Gateway, Sweet Pea Gifts, Wren and Moss and many others.

The beautiful weather helped to create just the right tone for our lovely fair, unfortunately we weren't so lucky with the weather for our Literary Wine and Cheese Evening which was postponed due to the snow.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the library and appreciates the important part it plays in our local community. We look forward to seeing you on June 15th for our next quiz, and keep watching our Facebook page and Twitter account (@of\_brixworth) for future events.

– Elaine Coe

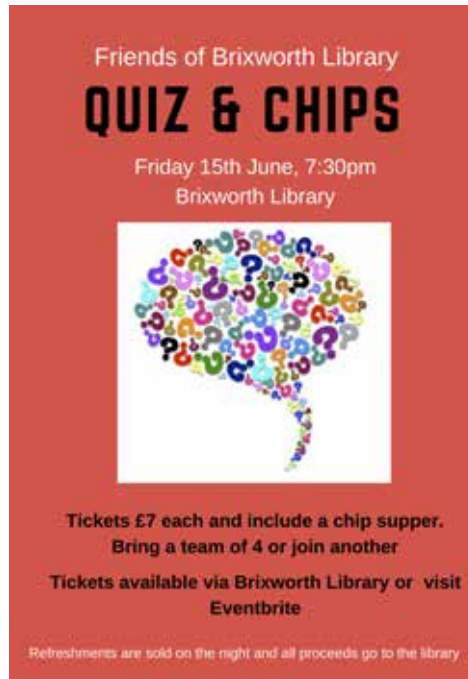
## Casino Night Fundraiser for Lampport Church



Hanging Houghton and Lampport held their 4th annual Casino party fundraiser in aid of the Lampport church fabric fund on Saturday 24th March. It was an evening of pies and pudding, Pontoon and Roulette, horse racing and fellowship for 42 villagers, which raised £572 plus gift aid.

It was great to see so many new faces with the regulars and lovely to have such a good turn out from Lampport this year.

The evening was a real community event, although special thanks to Nige and Sue Cole for hosting, Susie Wood for the excellent pies, Margaret Westley's superb organisational talent, Alison and Cathy from Manor Gardens for the washing up and everyone who supplied the incredible desserts. – Sue Cole



## Family Day at the Kennels

The Pytchley Hunt Kennels will be holding their annual Family Day at the Kennels on Sunday 10th June, at the kennels on Station Road, Brixworth from 2pm. Admission is £5.00 per car.

The team will be running a family dog show with lots of classes for



terriers, sporting dogs, non-sporting dogs etc, along with lots of fun classes such as 'Dog with the most appealing eyes' and 'Dog the judge would most like to take home'. There will be rosettes to 4th place in every class.

There will also be lots of trade stands, a licenced bar, refreshments, and the hugely popular terrier racing, which usually starts at about 4.30pm.

We would love to see people from Brixworth and the surrounding villages and really look forward to welcoming them to our friendly, great fun afternoon.

– Tracey Murray

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# Brixworth & District U3A

The belated glorious spring weather coincided with our first garden visit of 2018 to Titchmarsh House Garden. We were welcomed by Sir Ewan and Lady Harper who gave us a brief history of the garden. The garden was at its springtime best with bulbs in flower and trees full of blossom. We wandered around the garden at leisure and Sir Ewan was on hand to answer any questions we had. Tea and homemade cake was taken on the terrace, and again the family joined us while we all chatted.

The creative writing group which had its first meeting in September 2017 have a variety of writing backgrounds, poetry, short articles, academic and just enjoying having a go. So far they have written letters to or from an ancestor and tried new poems following on from a well-known first line. Currently they are inventing a conversation between two fairy tale or nursery rhyme characters. This group meets on the third Friday morning each month from 10am till 12 noon in the Heritage Centre, Brixworth.

The Science and Technology Group meet the first Thursday monthly 2-4pm in the Old School Room, Holcot. Topics discussed have included the latest thinking on climate change, the history of gunpowder and fireworks and in June "Bad Science".

The July monthly meeting will feature a talk on the Bermuda Triangle by Captain William Wells. Captain Wells, master mariner, a former ship's captain and commercial marine pilot with some 49 years at sea, is paying a return visit to our U3A.

Brixworth & District U3A meets in Brixworth Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm. We have a variety of interesting speakers, followed by tea and an opportunity to find out more about the various interest groups and sign up. Further information on the U3A and interest groups can be found on our website [www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth). – *Judy Smith*

# Scaldwell News

The Friends of Scaldwell Playing Field carried out a park tidy up on 29th April, to be followed by another on 29th July. We always welcome volunteer helpers for these sessions, and will do our best to reward their efforts with a tasty bacon roll.



Scaldwell will once again be part of the Northamptonshire traffic Speedwatch campaign which will run from June 16th to July 21st. Volunteers are always needed to support this activity so if you are interested in supporting us and want to know more then please let me know by contacting the Parish Clerk at [scaldwellpc@gmail.com](mailto:scaldwellpc@gmail.com).

I would like to thank the very dedicated and unsung small bunch of volunteer litter pickers from both Scaldwell and Old who have done a great job clearing the verges and ditches around Scaldwell, Old, Lamport and up towards Brixworth; they do look great!

Their success does however highlight how much rubbish is being dumped which is an anti-social act. If you see this happening, please report it to Daventry District Council using their online reporting systems. – *Phil Purcell*



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# John Keith Wilson 1944 – 2017

John was born and grew up in Brixworth where he attended the local infant and junior schools. He passed the 11 plus and continued his education at the Grammar School in Northampton.

In the early 60s, John joined up with Jeff Jones (also from Brixworth) and Mick 'Tuss' Tustin from Sprattton to form the Group 'Johnny and the Kossacks'. They played many times at the Village Hall Youth Club before moving on to the dance circuit throughout the Midlands.

John married Ann in 1967 and they had a daughter and son together. Their first home was one of the Pytchley Hunt cottages in Kennel Terrace. John joined the police force in Northampton and served thirty years, rising to the rank of Inspector. During his service he was a village bobby in Moulton (where his family lived for 20 years), worked in C.I.D., traffic, and training departments as well as the control room. He was also a police diver.

Upon retirement he and Ann moved back to Brixworth where he re-united with Jeff to form a duo known as 'Take Two'. They started with village hall 60s gigs, raising money for the Brixworth Youth Club and the porch at All Saints Church.

Sadly, after John suffered a stroke he was unable to continue to sing. His health never fully recovered and over the next few years he developed chronic kidney disease.

John died at the age of 73 in December last year. At his funeral in January 2018, donations were received for the two kidney charities and a grand total of £615 was raised and duly divided.

John's family would like to thank all those who attended his funeral and made a donation towards this excellent result. – Ann Wilson



## Local man to head Northants Chamber of Commerce

Brixworth resident Kevin Rogers has been elected as the President of the Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce.

Kevin, who is also Chairman of Wilson Browne Solicitors, was delighted at the news. He praised his parents, who ran a market stall, as an inspiration in his career. "They taught me the value of a strong work ethic, being decent to those around you, and where possible working with a smile on your face... values I still hold dear.

"I am lucky enough to have had a varied employment background: security guard, carpet salesman and lawyer! I have worked in Northamptonshire for 15 years, and when I first became involved with the Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce I was impressed by how strong those values are echoed; not just across the membership but in each and every staff member that I have come across."

In the business world, GDPR and Brexit are the latest headline challenges to overcome, but we also face others that are as pressing: such as recruitment, skills training and inspiring the next generation or workers, entrepreneurs and business leaders. The county is also often quoted as having the highest number of new businesses: a testament to entrepreneurial spirit. We have national and international businesses in our county, as well as fledgling start-ups and SMEs, and the Chamber supports all of these.

I encourage all businesses associated with or based in Northamptonshire to engage with their local Chamber. This is a membership organisation, run by and for the members. Those in Chamber not only get the support from Chamber staff but look after each other by offering introductions, advice and support, and all of this more often than not with a smile on their face. I look forward to helping the Chamber as much as I can. – Kevin Rogers

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Our main criteria were a non C of E school that was small enough to feel like home. The warmth of this school immediately appealed, as did its secularism. Children learn when they feel safe and happy: there is no doubt Great Creaton provides exactly that. Hearing other parents' experience of thriving children only reinforces our conviction that we made the right choice. **Kirsty and Stefan**

The staff here are amazing. My daughter was in a class of 30 at her previous school. She was doing great when she started but was falling behind by year 1. My requests for help fell on deaf ears. She was 2.5 years behind when we pulled her out and now she is really starting to catch up. **Claire**

This school means so much to me and is an amazing place to be. My learning is much better than it was and what used to be my worst subject is now my best! **Rachel, aged 10**

The small size and the nurturing ethos of the school provide individual support for pupils, which is appreciated by many parents. One told the inspector, 'The school operates like a family where older and younger children play, learn and share friendships together.' *Ofsted 2018*

**Wraparound care:** Great Creaton Primary offers Breakfast Club from 8am and CATS "Creaton Activity Time" until 5.15pm.

**On-site pre-school:** The Ducklings pre-school, with Forest School experience, is in the same building, and offers excellent pre-school to reception transition.

To view Great Creaton Primary School, anytime, phone 01604 505535 or email office@greatcreaton.northants.sch.uk

We still have availability for September 2018! And you don't even need to be in our catchment area to apply. In the catchment area for Guilsborough Secondary School.

From the parents at Great Creaton Primary

# Great Return for Soccer and Netball School

As last year's soccer and netball was such a success, Brixworth Community Church decided to invite the team from Sports Reach back for the second time, and this was clearly the right thing to do. One child who came to last year's event enjoyed it so much that every time we saw him he asked "Are we planning another soccer and netball school?"



The theme this year was "Follow Him" and we, in our smaller groups, explored that well known verse from the Bible where Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me". One parent said that "surprisingly, my daughter really enjoyed this time, especially the memory verses, it helped her so much with her reading."

We had interesting weather, with a kind of a mountain mist for the first three days, but fortunately no rain, which meant that we could use the school outdoor facilities. It was great to see that the netballers had increased in number this year.

One of the things that I love about my job as a community worker is working with children and young people. It does my heart good to hear children having fun, as they laugh, giggle and sometimes scream out in excitement! And that's what was heard at the school as the children played outside and as they grew in confidence and skill as they practised tirelessly at different skills and strategies. One of the juniors got so confident that they just missed out on winning the trophy for the penalty shootout! A real bittersweet moment.

Saturday was World Cup Day and BBQ, and what a great day it was, the sun shone on us all as we enjoyed this great time of competition. Well done to all the children who took part. The parents v coaches netball and football match this year was so exciting and very competitive (especially after hearing that the England netball team had just won the Gold in the Commonwealth Games). It seems that some parents may have been training up for the event!

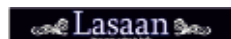
To make this event as successful as it was, we need to thank firstly our friends at Sports Reach, for their team and expertise. We are very grateful to our friends from Brixworth Bulletin who donated (from the Deserving Causes scheme) money towards running this great event, this enabled us to offer free and subsidised places to those families who would have otherwise struggled to raise the registration fee. Thanks also to our friends at Brixworth CEVC Primary School for the use of this amazing facility. Thanks to the Olive Branch Coffee Shop for organising and supplying the BBQ. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make it happen, and last but by no means least, big thanks to the parents for your continued support and choosing to let your children come to our event. What a great community that we live in.

- Your friends from Brixworth Community Church

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## Student gifts Information Point a display stand



Regular users of the Library and Community Centre may have noticed a new addition in the foyer. We now have our very own unique display stand outside the Information Point.

It has been designed, made and donated by local student, Kieran Macken, as part of his A Level Design Technology coursework. Kieran is now a student but took time in his Easter break to fit the unit in the foyer where it is now being admired and well used.

Kieran is only one of the many volunteers who have given their time to the Community Centre. We have seen parts of the hall and foyer recently been repainted, the garden at the rear of the Olive Branch has been upgraded and we have gained new volunteers in the Information Point and the Coffee Shop.

Thank you to you all. – *Mike Nice*

## First Responders get Photographic Society donation

Brixworth Photographic Society are pleased to announce that from sales of the 2018 calendar, the Brixworth First Responders will be benefitting by the sum of £800.

Also, from profits on sales following the Christmas Portrait Sessions, the Brixworth Centre Pre-School will be £150 better off.

Sean Goodhart is to be congratulated on having his panel assessed and being given the distinction of Associate of the Royal Photographic Society (ARPS). Anyone living locally who is interested in any or all of the aspects of photography, please contact Ian Topham via [ian@tophams.net](mailto:ian@tophams.net) or as Ian G Topham on Facebook.

– *Ian Topham*

## Planning update

<b>DA/2017/1002</b> <b>St David's Recreation Ground</b> Siting of storage container	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2017/1083</b> <b>17, Northampton Road</b> Two storey side extension	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2017/0936</b> <b>10, Staveley Way</b> Replace roller shutter door with glazed aluminium section and double glazed door	BPC Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2017/0700</b> <b>Holcot Road Garage</b> Demolition of existing garage. Construction of four dwellings.	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>PD/2018/0001</b> <b>37, The Slip</b> Prior approval for single storey rear extension	BPC Not consulted DDC Approved
<b>DA/2017/1231</b> <b>Mercedes-Benz High Performance Engines</b> Single storey extension to staff restaurant	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>DA/2017/1210</b> <b>35, Spratton Road</b> Installation of external metal extract duct	BPC Objection DDC Approved

<b>DA/2017/0780</b> <b>Land At Paddock Lodge, Tantree Way</b> Construction of two detached dwellings and replacement double garage for existing bungalow	BPC Objection DDC Refused
<b>DA/2017/0310</b> <b>The Old Vicarage 14, Church Street</b> Listed Building Consent for repairs/reinstatement of Brew House and Coach House to be converted into two two-storey holiday lets	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
<b>NMA/2018/0011</b> <b>Agricultural Building Off Holcot Road</b> Non material amendment to application PD/2016/0077 (Change of use to dwelling) remove south elevation windows above bi-fold doors and change ground floor window, reduce number of windows to west, change window design to north elevation, insert roof lights on south elevation	DDC Approved

## Expanding the planting scheme

Last Spring Brixworth Parish Council organised planters at the entrances to the village. Everyone loved the bright floral displays, and the scheme is now being expanded to include Station Cottages on Station Road. The Parish Council wish to thank Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts, the Parish Council groundsman and Mr Troop for making this scheme such a success.



## Thanks for the stamps

Thank you again to all the wonderful people who saved their used postage stamps over the past year. These were handed over to Gill Pick at Clipston at one of the coffee mornings that she regularly arranges in aid of Canine Partners.

I was lucky enough to meet David and his lovely dog Crunchie. I asked David what sort of things that Crunchie does to assist him. He helps with all sorts of jobs, mainly picking up and carrying things. He opens doors and helps with dressing, in particular socks and shoes. He is also of course a faithful companion to David.

Please continue to save your stamps throughout the year and I will collect them again next Christmas. Thank you.

– *Judi Beaudoin*



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# Library events

## Change to Opening Hours

Please note that Brixworth Library is staying open going forwards and thank you all for the support given to the library and staff over the last few months.

However, our opening hours have changed slightly. We are still open the same amount of hours, but on weekdays we now open – and close – one hour earlier, and Saturday opening times have been moved to a little later in the day. The library will remain closed on Sundays.

### Opening Hours

Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm  
Saturdays 10am to 2pm

### Bank Holiday Closures

Monday 28th May  
Monday 27th August  
Open all other days as usual

## MyHermes Parcelshop

Don't forget, Brixworth Library is now a myHermes Parcelshop – you can collect, send & return your parcels from Brixworth Library via myHermes – to find out more visit [www.myhermes.co.uk/parcelshop](http://www.myhermes.co.uk/parcelshop) but note new opening hours.

## Blue Badge applications – new!

Our Volunteer, Lynda, will be here on Wednesday mornings from 10-12 to help with online Blue Badge Applications. Enquire at the library to make an appointment.

## Activities for Under 5s

**National Bookstart Week** is 4th – 10th June this year so there will be freebies for all Under 5s who attend one of the sessions that week – theme is Bookstart Bird Boogie!

### Rhymetime

Mondays 2.30pm

### Play & Learn for Under 5s

Tuesdays 1.30 – 2.30pm

### Play & Learn for Under 1s

Thursdays 10am – 12noon



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over the last few months whilst all the consultations on libraries have been taking place. Brixworth Library is staying open, so the Friends will continue to run regular events, including the ever popular Quiz Nights, in the library. Please do support them; they are a friendly and committed group and new members are always needed and welcome. Why not come along to one of our informal meetings, or check the Friends of Brixworth Library Facebook page for activities?

## Upcoming Friends Events

Check out the Friends of Brixworth Library Facebook page for all the latest updates and news.

### Quiz & Chips Night

Friday 15th June 7.30pm, £7 a ticket to include fish & chips. Tickets are available at the library or on Eventbrite. There will be a bar on the night.

## 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 a couple of 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 like 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 any young adults volunteering for their Duke of Edinburgh award.

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

## Other Services

- 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

Contact us at [brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk](mailto:brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk)

Keep up to date with all the latest activities at [www.facebook.com/brixworthlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/brixworthlibrary).

– Jill Barber



# What's on

26 May	A Walk in the Woods	Martin Moore Wood
26 May	Danny Baker	Derngate
27-28 May	Festival of Country Life	Lampport Hall
29/5-9/6	The Band	Derngate
29 May - 2 June	Education, Education, Education	Royal
30 May	Xplorer Orienteering	Brixworth Country Park
2 June	Wildflower Walk	Country Park
3 June	Tennis Tournament	BrixTennis Club
3 June	All Saints Summer Fete	All Saints Church
3 June	Cream Tea Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
7 June	History Society visit to Holy Sepulchre Church	Holy Sepulchre Church, N'pton
8 June	Stamp out poverty 17k Fundraising Walk	Brampton Valley Way & C'try Park
9 June	Northanger Abbey	Holy Sepulchre Church, N'pton
10 June	That'll be the Day	Derngate
10 June	Family Day	Pytchley Hunt Kennels
13 June	Brixworth Belles - Pimms Picnic	Brixworth Country Park
15 June	Quiz and Chips	Brix Library
16 June	Volunteer Work Day	Country Park
16-17/6	Teletubbies Live	Derngate
17 June	Cream Tea Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
18 June	Grumpy Old Women	Derngate
19 June	Music for Hope	Derngate
20 June	Nature Tots	Country Park
22- 24 June	Cricket Club Music & Beer Fest	Brixworth Cricket Club
22 June	The Illegal Eagles	Derngate
23 June	History Society visit to Ely and Cambridge	Ely and Cambridge
23 June	Primary School Summer Fayre	Brixworth C.E.V.C School
23 Jun	My Town	Holy Sepulchre Church, N'pton

24 June	Classic Car Show & Village Fair	Draughton Village
24 June	A night at the ballet	Derngate
24 June	Minibeast Safari	Country Park
24 June	RPO:A Night at the Ballet	Derngate
24 Jun	Minibeast Safari	Country Park
25 Jun	Ladies Lunch & Art Historian Hattie Bennett	All Saints Church, Brix
25-30 June	Titanic - The Musical	Derngate
30 June - 1 July	Paw Patrol	N'pton & Lampport Railway
1 July	Tennis Tournament	Brixworth Tennis Club
7-8 July	Great British Food Festival	Kelmarsh Hall
7 July	Elkie Brooks	Derngate
7-15 July	Bugsy Malone	Royal
8 July	Cream Tea Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
12 July	Brixworth Belles - Belly Dancing	Brixworth Village Hall
12-14 July	Little Baby Bum	Derngate
14 July	Mawsley Community Choir Summer Concert	The Centre at Mawsley
15 July	Last Night of the Derngate Proms	Derngate
18 July	Fires and Smores	Brixworth Country Park
18 July	Nature Tots	Brixworth Country Park
18 July	Kelly Kettle Challenge	Country Park
18 July	Sir Ranulph Fiennes	Derngate
19 July	The UK Pink Floyd Experience	Derngate
20-22 July	The Crucible	Underground
21 July	Volunteer work day	Brixworth Country Park
21 July	Much ado about nothing	Lampport Hall
22 July	Help for Heroes T20 Fundraiser	Brixworth Cricket Club
22 July	Trad Jazz in the Garden	Lampport Hall
22 July	Cream Tea Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway

27 July	Naturally Playful	Brixworth Country Park
27 July	Music and Supper	Lampport Hall
28 July	The ELO Experience	Derngate
5 Aug	Tennis Tournament	Brixworth Tennis Club
5 Aug	Cream Tea Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
7 Aug	Naturally Playful	Country Park
8 Aug	Brixworth Bushcraft for Kids	Brixworth Country Park
9 Aug	Brixworth Belles-Reenactment evening	Brixworth Village Hall
14 Aug	Underwater World	Country Park
15 Aug	Xplorer Orienteering	Country Park
22 Aug	Underwater World	Country Park
23 Aug	Rock bugs	Country Park
25 Aug	Batastic Tunnel Walk	Oxenden Tunnel, Brampton Valley Way
26-27 Aug	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Lampport Hall
29 Aug	Fires and Smores	Country Park
29 Aug	Kelly Kettle Challenge	Country Park
30 Aug	Bugs at Brixworth	Country Park
1-22/9	The Lovely Bones	Royal
2 Sep	Tennis Tournament	Brixworth Tennis Club
8-9 Sept	Peppa Pig's Adventure	Derngate
11 Sep	Brixworth Belles - Painting Evening	Brixworth Village Hall
15 Sep	Volunteer Work day	Brixworth Country Park
15 Sep	The Greatest Showman Outdoor Sing-along	Kelmarsh Hall
19 Sep	Nature Tots	Brixworth Country Park
19/9-6/10	Kinky Boots	Derngate
21 Sep	Brixworth Bat Walk	Brixworth Country Park
29 Sep	Hal Cruttenden: Chubster	Royal
7-Oct	Tennis Tournament	Brixworth Tennis Club
9 Oct	Brixworth Belles- Psychic Evening	Brixworth Village Hall

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## Council Chat

This year has seen an eventful few months for local government in Northamptonshire. The financial woes of the County Council have forced a lot of difficult decisions regarding front line service provision. The inevitable budget cuts did put the future of the Brixworth library in doubt. However, we were pleased that the library, and its associated services, are now all continuing under the adopted budget – but 21 other libraries in the County remain at risk of closure. The Library is now working on reduced days with new opening hours and its staffing structure has changed to achieve savings. The financial problems continue and it is possible that further in-year savings will be required if the current proposals are not sufficient to deliver financial sustainability.

Following a recent 'Best Value' inspection of the County Council, the Lead Inspector recommended that 'a new start is required for the residents of Northamptonshire'. This could lead to the end of both the County Council and the Daventry District Council. The suggestion is that Brixworth would be better served by a new 'unitary' Council by 2020 which would cover the existing areas of Daventry, South Northants and the Northampton Borough.

The Parish Council has set its own budget in February. Our local budget of £170,745 is miniscule compared to the £11.6 million revenue budget of Daventry District Council and the £441.27 million that the County Council has for its own services. The Parish Council is again providing the village grass cutting service both on its own land and the highway verges. It also continues to maintain its open spaces and recreation grounds. It will once again be providing and maintaining the entrance plants to the village and will continue the festive annual Christmas tree scheme. A speed activated sign has been recently ordered for use around the village to complement

## Wanted: New Parish Councillors!

The Parish Council is reshaping its team following the recent resignations of three of its Councillors - all leaving because of either family or work commitments.

The recent resignation of Alex Coles as Chairman of the Parish Council means that a new Chairman will be elected at its Annual Meeting in May. Stephen James is the current vice Chairman of the Council. Alex has been a tremendous asset to the Parish Council and it will very much miss his skills, expertise and his smooth and efficient chairing. Likewise it was sad to see both Neal Brown and Peter Saxton recently step down. Both have been committed Councillors who have contributed to community life through the use of their business skills and experience.

If you would like to contribute to community life through being a Parish Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk at [brixworthpc.org.uk](http://brixworthpc.org.uk). Free training is provided and it is a worthwhile community role.

the good work being undertaken by the Brixworth Speedwatch team. This year we are also planning to increase the level of car parking enforcement within the village. This is a priority after receiving residents' comments.

We hope to be consulting Brixworth residents on setting our priorities for the next financial year. By giving the Parish Council your feedback you can help shape our budget priorities for future years.



## What is a pot hole?

Technically speaking...

According to Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) a pothole is "a sharp edged depression anywhere in the carriageway where part or all of the surface layers have been removed" and "its maximum horizontal dimension is greater than 250mm and is greater than 40mm deep on strategic roads, main distributors and secondary distributors or greater than 50mm deep on local access roads and link roads."

Potholes generally fall within either Category 1 or Category 2.

- A pothole greater than 75mm in depth is Category 1.
- Between 50mm and 75mm it could be Category 1 or 2 depending on where it is in the carriageway.

Category 1 defects should be repaired within five working days. Category 2 defects in the road should be repaired within four calendar months. Anything less than 50mm won't be repaired unless it is on a strategic road.

To report a pothole please use the Northamptonshire County Council's on-line 'Street Doctor' service. You can link to this service from [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk)

## Grants

The Parish Council has recently awarded a number of important small grants for the benefit of the Brixworth residents. We are pleased that these grants encourage and support our voluntary organisations with their community activities and projects.



All applications for funding are considered on their merits and the amount of any Grant awarded is always at the sole discretion of the Parish Council. The grants awarded during the last financial year include:

- £300 to the University of the Third Age (U3A) towards the purchase of a new table tennis table.
- £525 to Brixworth Juniors Football Club to assist in the provision of a community defibrillator at The Ashway Changing Rooms.
- £4,000 to the Saxon Spires Patients' Participation Group in order to purchase essential equipment for the new doctors' surgery.
- £762 to meet the printing costs of the 2018 Brixworth Calendar – the proceeds being awarded to the Brixworth First Responders.
- £1500 awarded to the Brixworth Music Festival towards the cost of a new piano.

If your local group would like to be considered for a Brixworth Community Grant please check eligibility and download the forms from the Parish Council web site at [www.brixworthpc.org.uk](http://www.brixworthpc.org.uk)

## The Parish Council welcomes Alan Lovell

Alan has spent his working life protecting the community in many different ways.

Earlier in life, Alan worked in the Police in Northamptonshire for 30 years, in various community roles and was a Safer Community Sergeant when he retired. He would



like to support the community in making important decisions and is experienced at mediating in disputes.

He is now an Environmental Protection Officer for Daventry District Council where his role is to keep the community safe from environmental crime and would like to bring his skills to the role of Parish Councillor.

Alan has lived in Brixworth for 10 years and his hobbies include walking, cycling and camping – when he is not rock'n'roll dancing with his wife! His nine grandchildren take up all of the rest of his free time.

About his motivation, Alan said: "I joined the Parish Council to get more involved in the local community, and I feel that there's an under-representation of my age group."

## Paint means Poo

2017 was the third consecutive year in which Daventry District Council has undertaken a district-wide campaign against dog fouling. Brixworth Parish Council has supported the campaigns with the help of a great team of volunteers and these campaigns have raised increased awareness of the issues of fouling within the village.

There is legislation relating to dog fouling. The 'Public Spaces Protection Order' (PSPO) was implemented across Daventry District on from December 2015. Under the PSPO it is an offence to:

- Fail to pick up after your dog on all land to which the public has access, including agricultural land.
- Fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer. This allows Council officers to direct that a dog is put on a lead when it is causing nuisance and/or danger to other persons and their dogs.
- Fail to prevent your dog from entering a designated children's play area
- Fail to keep dogs on leads in the designated 'dogs on leads area' around the Visitor Centre/Café in Daventry Country Park.
- Fail to provide the means to pick up after a dog at the request of an authorised officer.

The Council's enforcement officers routinely patrol open spaces around the district, including hotspots

where dog fouling problems have been reported. The aim is catch the offenders or act as a deterrent.

**Any breach of the Order could result in the issuing of a £100 fixed penalty notice or being taken to court and receiving a fine on conviction of up to £1000.**

Due to the success of the previous campaigns Brixworth Parish Council will be looking for volunteers and dog walking groups to help us with the 2018 Paint means Poo campaign and dates will be announced in the near future.

For more information or if you are interested in participating, please contact the Parish Clerk on [clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk) or phone 07983 141 786.



A dog poo spraying campaign is taking place in this area to:

- Highlight the amount of dog fouling
- Shock irresponsible dog owners into picking it up
- Make the fouling clearly visible to pedestrians
- Raise awareness of health and safety issues

Please pick up after your dog and keep your community clean!



[www.daventrydc.gov.uk/dogfouling](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/dogfouling)  
or phone 01327 871100

## Planning Matters

The Brixworth Planning Committee meets approximately every three weeks to consider any planning applications on which the Parish Council has been consulted. The meetings are on a Monday evening at 730pm usually in the first floor meeting room of the Community Centre at Spratton Road. (Please check the web site for details).

The agenda is available on the Parish Council's web site and there are links to view the actual planning applications held on the Daventry District Council web site.

The first quarter of 2018 has been quiet from the number of applications received.

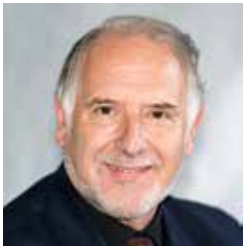
Mercedes Benz had applied for a Single Storey Extension to the staff restaurant at Morgan Drive, Brixworth. The Parish Council offered no objections to this pro-

posal but only after it had received assurances with regard to the satisfactory landscaping of the site. There have been quite a few 'tree applications' within the Conservation Area. A major application recently considered was an outline application for commercial floor space on land to the west of Mercedes Avenue, Brixworth. The Parish Council objected to this development as it was thought to be contrary to the adopted planning policies for this area.

The Parish Council and its Planning Committee continues to be supported by the Brixworth Neighbourhood Planning Group. This Group has produced some fantastic work for the Council and has recently formulated detailed responses to consultations on the National Planning Policy Framework and also to the Daventry Settlements and Countryside Local Plan. Having such support from the community on planning matters is invaluable.



# Brixworth Parish Council



Ian Barratt



Jackie Bird

Frances Peacock  
*Chairman, Planning*

Elaine Coe



Stuart Coe



Alan Lovell



James Collyer



Stephen James



Kevin Parker



Sandra Moxon



You?

Peter Rowbotham  
*Parish Clerk*

10 Shelland Close  
Market Harborough  
Leicestershire LE16 7XU

Email: [clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk)  
Telephone: 07983 141 786

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

Web: [www.brixworthpc.org.uk](http://www.brixworthpc.org.uk)

Parish Council photos (mostly) by Brixworth Photographic Society

## Parish Council meetings June to August 2018

### Full Council (Village Hall)

Thurs 28th June 2018..... 7.15pm  
Thurs 26th July 2018..... 7.15pm  
Thurs 30th August 2018 ... 7.15pm

### Planning (Community Ctr)

Mon 4th June 2018..... 7.30pm  
Mon 25th June 2018..... 7.30pm  
Mon 9th July 2018 ..... 7.30pm  
Mon 30th July 2018 ..... 7.30pm  
Mon 13th August 2018..... 7.30pm

### Media & Communications (Community Centre)

Weds 13th June 2018..... 6.45pm  
Weds 11th July 2018 ..... 6.45pm  
Weds 22nd August 2018 .. 6.45pm

## Your Data and the new Regulations

The Parish Council is prepared for the new General Data Protection Regulations ("GDPR") which will take effect during May 2018. It has adopted and updated its relevant policies and also appointed a Data Protection Officer. GDPR imposes a few new burdens on the Parish Council, including new reporting requirements and the potential for increased fines and penalties.

Residents can be assured that any data held by the Parish Council will be processed lawfully and the

data would only be used for the purpose which it was provided for. We do not share your data and we do not store it any longer than necessary. Any data we do hold will be secure and this will be maintained on an ongoing basis to keep our records both accurate and relevant.

If you are interested in the new legal requirements please visit the Information Commissioner's web site at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)



**BRIXWORTH**  
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*Following Jesus Together*

# BRIXWORTH MATTERS

[www.brixworthcommunitychurch.org](http://www.brixworthcommunitychurch.org)

Have you ever thought of what it would be like living alone on a desert Island? I'm sure after a short while we would all get bored!?

I know we all need a bit of peace and quiet every once in a while but life was never designed to be lived alone. God's plan, right from the beginning, is that we would all come to know him and grow in a relationship with Him, but it is also His plan that we grow in a deeper relationship with others too.

Just as a football player is able to get encouragement from his or her teammates, so too the Christian will find support from other Christians. Or, to use another sporting analogy, just as a marathon runner can find it harder training or racing on their own and easier alongside others, so too Christian friendship and fellowship can be such a source of strength, support, and encouragement.

In the past when I have felt a little lost and unsure which direction to turn or go, the wise words of other Christians have often been a helpful step in seeking God's will for my life. They have helped me understand the Bible. We all need help understanding the Bible because the Bible will help us understand life and our next steps as Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is lamp to my feet and a light to my path!"

Here at Brixworth Community Church we have Church life on a Sunday morning for all the family (service at 10.30) to help with all of this but also four well-established home groups to support us perhaps more personally during the week too.

Please get in touch with myself if you are thinking of exploring God or what it means to follow Jesus Christ, I would love to help, support and encourage in any way I can.

Best wishes *Andy*



Contact Andy Lloyd-Williams on 07958 604961



## SOCCER & NETBALL SCHOOLS 11th-15th April 2018

Just as we did last year, Brixworth Community Church ran a 4 day Soccer and Netball School in the 2nd week of the Easter holidays. Our sporty friends from other parts of the country joined us to help lead us through a great week alongside many children and families.

It was an amazing week. New skills in netball and football have been learnt, children and adults have grown in confidence and their God given identities, and the Church has shared their love for Jesus Christ in a fun and relevant way.

Amazingly, the rain stayed away and on the Saturday the sun came out all day for the competitions, BBQ and parents verses coaches matches. Thanks to everyone who helped to make the event so successful, but most of all thank you God!







## Walk of Witness

Over 50 people joined with All Saints Church and Brixworth Community Church on a bright, cool, Good Friday 'Walk of Witness'. All ages came, from those in a pushchair to an over 90 year old.

We started at the Community Centre and walked through the village to All Saints Church. When we got there Rev. Chloe and Pastor Andy Lloyd-Williams led us in a time of contemplation around three wooden crosses. This was followed by an opportunity to nail our own individual prayers to the cross. The sound of nails hitting wood was very moving.

Following this, we were very pleased to have coffee and Hot Cross Buns waiting for us in the nearby centre.

On Easter Sunday we had a joyful Family Service, celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Summer Holiday Club 25th-27th July 2018

The years seems to be flashing by again, and here we are your friends from Brixworth Community Church starting to plan this year's Summer Holiday Club. Dates have been set with the school for 25-27th July.

The club will be offered as before...FREE! Children who attend Dynamites Children's club or Junior Church clubs regularly will have first refusal, all other places will be secured on a first come first served basis.

Full of action packed fun, where children from key stage 1 and 2 will enjoy fun, games and activities, such as Sports, Arts and Crafts, Bible Adventure, Quiz and Dance! As this event is FREE the places available tend to be snapped up quick, so to avoid disappointment please return your registration form and a £10 refundable deposit with haste. Please look out for registration forms early July.

## Outdoor Baptism

After a busy Easter weekend, Brixworth Community Church held its first ever outdoor Baptism! In previous baptisms, this Church has gone to another Church building to conduct the service. This time we tried something new.

As many witnessed, we hired a temporary baptistry and Joey and Lara Gwinn were baptised on the patio just outside the Olive Branch!

Nearly 100 people came to the community centre to the service upstairs and baptism downstairs.

As you can see in the photo we do, as many other Christian churches, believe that the whole person should be submerged, just like when John the Baptist baptised Jesus in the Jordan river.



## 30th Anniversary

On the 25th of May this year Brixworth Community Church celebrated 30 years as a Church. We marked the occasion with a photo at the end of the service on the Sunday and of course cake took centre stage.

## The Olive Branch

Your Community 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.



## Brixworth Community Church Weekly Events

<b>Sunday:</b>	10:30 – 11:45	Main Service of Worship (Brixworth School) (including Junior Church and Creche)
<b>Monday:</b>	19:30 – 21:00	Prayer Meeting in the Olive Branch
<b>Tuesday:</b>	19:30 – 21:00	TNT – for Teenagers*
<b>Wednesday:</b>	13:30 – 15:00 19:30 – 21:00	Home study Group Home study Groups
<b>Thursday:</b>	10:00 – 11:30 19:45 – 21:30	Olive Shoots – a Mums & Tots group* Home study Group
<b>Friday:</b>	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

# ALL SAINTS CHURCH

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

Come to the Dance!

In the church, the season of Easter has only just come to an end. We are now in the long season of Trinity, and last Sunday –Trinity Sunday---we celebrated a God who is one, and yet three.



God is not only Father, but also Son, and Holy Spirit. And these three persons are in relationship with each other. They flow back and forth and round a round, twisting and turning rather like partners in a dance.



Here at All Saints during the last few months, the dancing has been first rate. I have seen the church community not only grow in number, but also in fellowship and relationship. All Saints is a good place to belong at

the moment. There is a feeling joy and sharing about our services and our social events. The atmosphere is relaxed and happy, and supportive.

And this is what a church should be all about.



At the beginning of June, we hold two events in which the whole community comes together. One is our Summer Fete, the other is the special day of celebration that the 'Friends' hold, recognising the importance of preserving our magnificent building and its heritage.

And it's wonderful to see everyone working together—mirroring the dance of the Trinity---supporting each other to make all that we do a success and raising vital funds for the church.



I hope to see you at these events, and at others we hold throughout the year, and perhaps at some of our services.

So take your partners! You are invited to God's dance here at all Saints, and I can assure you, you will be made most welcome.

*Rev. Chloe*



Dancing to Rock and Roll at Brixworth Music Festival



# SUMMER FETE

and

## THE BIG LUNCH

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
12.30 - 4 pm

Bring a picnic lunch  
Sandwiches, cake and tea available

Stalls

Games

Bouncy Castle

Grand Raffle

Music by Abington Wind Band

# CHILDRENS' ACTIVITIES

## JUNIOR CHURCH: GROWING SAINTS

Every third Sunday  
at 10.30am

## SINGING SAINTS

## YOUTH CHOIR

Wednesdays at 5-6pm

## JELLYBEANS

## TODDLER GROUP

Wednesdays at 1.30 - 3pm

*Please see our website  
for more details*

# CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

**On 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday  
of the month**

**Meet at 10am in  
the churchyard**

Please come -  
we need your help

Strimmers, shears, rakes  
& grass collection bags  
would be useful

## SERVICES

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

# LTA Quorn Family Tennis Cup

Luck was with Brixworth Tennis Club as the sun made a rare appearance and shone the whole day, thereby allowing children to partner up with fathers, mothers and sisters to play at its first ever Quorn Family Cup. The winners were Gaurang Mehta and his six year old son Ishaan, with sisters Elizabeth and Isabella Moxon coming in close second. Gaurang and Ishaan will now play against other UK club winners on grass courts and attend the Classic Birmingham Tournament to watch Britain's Johanna Konta and two-time grand slam champion Garbine Muguruza.

For details on joining and the opportunity to take part in future tournaments and club play, visit [www.brixworthtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.brixworthtennisclub.org.uk) or phone 07434 621395. – Sandra Moxon



# 25 Years Brixworth Juniors

Brixworth Juniors will be 25 years old this season.

The team celebrated with football fun day 13th May on St David's playing field. The day featured lots and lots of football, bouncy castles, beat the keeper, Keepie Uppie and other fun competitions – though the highlight had to be the old versus new 7 a side football match at lunchtime. The local scout groups provided breakfast and lunch, plus the clubhouse bar was open for drinks.

Congratulations to the fund raising committee for another sterling job helping the club in raising funds for coaches course and equipment. – Simon Compton

# U10s girls reach Cup semi finals

Brixworth under 10s girls continue to impress their coach and parents. On Saturday 21st April they played in their first-ever cup quarter final match against Kingsthorpe Melody. Both teams started well, but Kingsthorpe were the better team. By half time they had scored two goals to lead as the girls went in for a well-earned drink.

The coach's advice was to continue working as hard as they had been and focus on creating more chances. The girls kept smiling and did their best, resulting in the second half in a right foot hammer shot from Mia, followed by a second via Evie with around 5 minutes left of the match. A great comeback, and the final score of 2-2 meant the match went into extra time.

There were more changes within the team as players were given breathers. No one scored any goals in the first half of extra time, and the second half was heading the same way when – with barely a minute left to play – some nice link up play between the Brixworth girls saw Mia sneak in to get the winner. It was incredible, the girls went from two nil down at half time to 3-2 winners. They should feel so proud, semi-finals here they come! – Simon Compton

# Top youth coach for U11s



It's not every day you get the opportunity to be coached by top FA youth coach Pete Sturgess, but on 9 April Brixworth U11's were invited by the Northants FA to take part in a Professional Development session for football coaches from across the county. The boys were put through their paces as Pete demonstrated a series of drills showing the latest FA approach to coaching young players, with both players and coaches learning a great deal from the experience.

I would personally like to thank all the players for giving up their time to support the coaching development programme, they behaved impeccably and were a credit to Brixworth Juniors Football Club.

I would like to say a massive thanks to the boys and their parents for giving up their evening to be at this prestigious event. It was great to see so many coaches at this foundation phase development evening and to see the boys get so much enjoyment from the coaching. You were all a credit to the club. Thank you. – Simon Compton

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# The Cricket Season's underway (finally!)

Brixworth Cricket Club's 2018 Senior fixtures started on Saturday 28th April – a week later than originally scheduled, due to the horrendous Spring weather in March and the first half of April when it did nothing but rain. Let's hope the weather now remains kind throughout the season and allows lots of both Senior & Junior cricket matches to be played at both Brixworth's cricket grounds in the village.

The cricket club is in good health in 2018. There are just over 100 children under the age of 13 registered, learning to and playing cricket regularly which is great to see. There is also a larger pool of senior players who are representing the Club's four Senior teams each Saturday. Pleasingly there are some very talented teenagers playing at a good level, which bodes well for the future success of the club. Volunteer numbers at the club have also increased, however we could always do with more adult helpers and adult players, so if you have an interest in playing/ coaching/scoring/helping behind the bar or umpiring, please contact Chris Timm on 07718 628985.

Friday evenings from 6pm at the ground on Northampton Road continue to be successful and great fun this season. While the 100-odd children are being coached on the outfield, the parents enjoy a beer/wine/prosecco or two from the clubhouse bar. Food is available from the BBQ. It really is a good, fun night and if you have not visited the ground before please do come down to the club, enjoy a drink and a burger and see for yourself what an enjoyable evening it is at a beautiful venue.

## Brixworth crowned Short Mat Bowls League Champions



Brixworth finished off the 2017/18 season in fine style in the Northamptonshire Independent Friendly Bowls League. The last 5 games brought wins against Yelvertoft away, Ravensthorpe home, Yelvertoft home, Kilsby home and Creaton at home.

The team finished on 54 points, having won nine and lost three of their 12 games. This crowned them league champions, six points ahead of second-placed Welford. It is a fantastic improvement on last year's performance when Brixworth were runners-up.

Brixworth hosted the league annual general meeting, which was attended by over 70 people representing all the clubs in the league. They were treated a home-made supper, quiz and live music and the presentation of awards. A very proud Club Captain, John Wykes, receive the cup on behalf of the club.

Short Mat Bowling is good fun come and have a go for free and make new friends. Equipment is provided and you are always welcome. We meet on Fridays at 2.30pm and 7.30pm at the Brixworth Centre in Church Street.

For more information visit [brixworthbowls.com](http://brixworthbowls.com) or like us on Facebook. The club Chairperson can be contacted on 07762 211721. – *Martin Carnell*

Brixworth Cricket Club will be hosting its third **Beer/Music Festival Weekender** from Friday 22nd June – Sunday 24th June. The event proved really popular last year and we are assured that the sun will shine once again at this year's event for the whole three days! There will be a choice of over 20 beers, ciders and lagers, all with exotic names to choose from this year. "Love Muscle" will be returning for a third year as it was the most popular beer once again last year. There will also be prosecco, wine and Pimm's.

Friday 22nd June (from 6pm) is the family members night. There will be Junior cricket coaching, a live band performing, a BBQ and the bar will of course be open.

Saturday 23rd June sees the main events. The bar will be serving from 2pm, a cricket match will be taking place from 11am, three brilliant live music bands will be performing from 7.30pm onwards and there will be a hog roast also (vegetarian option available also). Evening admission on Saturday 23rd June is by pre-purchased wristbands only, adults £12 (includes hog roast), under 12's £7 (includes hog roast). To purchase tickets please contact Will Haxby on 01604 880715 or by email: [brixworthcc@outlook.com](mailto:brixworthcc@outlook.com)

Sunday 24th June from 1pm there will be Brixworth's first ever Ladies Cricket Tournament, The bar will be serving our selection of beers and cider and there will be a tasty BBQ.

Everybody is welcome to come along to the cricket club's Festival Weekender, all ages, the more the merrier. We would love to see you there, it's bound to be a terrific weekend.

Brixworth Cricket Club is also looking forward to hosting a "Help for Heroes" event on the afternoon of Sunday 22nd July. A cricket match will be taking place involving a Heroes side, the bar will be open and once again everybody in the village is very welcome to come down and support this great charity, so keep the date free. – *Will Haxby*



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# Brixworth Juniors Football Club

Brixworth Juniors is proud of its Minis and Juniors. Several of the U7 to U11s teams reached the Cup Quarter and Semi-finals. Well done to those teams!

We do not produce league tables for these age groups as it is important for the players to develop and learn to play in multiple positions, so that at the age of 13 or 14 they can choose their preferred playing positions.

The emphasis is on playing out from the back and through thirds with brave football. We are trying to produce technical footballers who are comfortable on the ball and can pass within their defence/Gk line and dare to play out from the back. You should allow your children to be brave and not ask them to just kick the ball away when you think they are playing dangerously near to their own goals. Allow them to be expressive, gutsy and confident and praise them for positive play.



## U12s and above

The Under 12s are now third in the C-league. Credit to that team who are pushing to get promoted. After watching them a few times this season, it would be great to see them move up a division. That said, five teams in this group are separated by only two points, so it will be a close run. The Under 13s have had an up and down season with injuries and the lack of a goalkeeper. Currently they are fifth in the B-league, but on a stable 22 points, which will allow them to remain in that league for the next season.

Both U14s teams are having good seasons in the A-league. It is a credit to the club to have two teams at this age group. The Panthers are fifth on a fantastic 27 points and have just recently drawn with the top two teams in this league. The Pumas' first season

in the A league sees them on 19 points and in seventh spot. Again, this side have beaten all the teams that they were promoted with, which puts them in a good position to remain in this league next year.

The U15s find themselves in sixth spot on 18 points in their league. This has been a good solid year for the team with no draws and a few games in hand, they will easily consolidate their A league status into the U16s age group next season. It was nice to hear from this coach that on a recent weekend of football U14s, U15s and U18s, all played Parkland teams and won – we both agreed that doesn't happen often, which just shows how our Brixworth teams have improved over the years!

Our U18s team is actually an U17s as you have two years in the U18s age group. They are currently fourth in the C-league football and playing some nice football under a coach

who is having his first full season with this team at this level. I know that they will only improve under this well-disciplined manager.

## New sponsor

The club is pleased that the Shared Ownership Shop, a specialist estate agent

based in Northamptonshire, recently agreed to sponsor the home kit for the U14 Pumas.

Brixworth resident John Kiely, joint owner of The Shared Ownership Shop, said his company is delighted to support this great grassroots club and the local community.

He said: "Brixworth Juniors Football Club shares the same values as us at the Shared Ownership Shop so it was an easy decision for us to extend our sponsorship to the new home kit. We also agreed to continue our sponsorship of the team's away kit through our sister company Millers Consultancy."

He added: "The team has worked hard over the past few seasons to progress to the A League and we hope that their football kits give them an extra spring in their step to continue this success in the season ahead."

– Simon Compton

## Cricket Helps Heroes

A very special charity cricket match will take place on 22 July in aid of Help for Heroes. The aim for the T20 match between Brixworth Cricket Club and the Help for Heroes Cricket Club raise funds for the Help for Heroes charity and their recovery centres.

The Brixworth Team will be made up of club players and local sporting celebrities, the Help for Heroes team comprises beneficiaries in various stages of their recovery.

There will be two cricket matches, both played at Brixworth Cricket Club on Northampton Road. The first starts at 11.30am and the second at approximately 3.30pm. The bar will be open the BBQ will be sizzling, and there will also be a coffee and cake stand.

This is a family day out with children's activities including face painting, a petting farm, guess the number of sweets in a jar and guess the number of balloons in the car. There will also be a raffle with some fabulous prizes including family days out, and signed shirts from our local teams.

Everyone is welcome, entry is free, and there is also free car parking.

– Martin Carnell

## Tennis club wins first League match

Brixworth Tennis Club decided to give competing in the Northants Lawn Tennis Summer League a go for the very first time since its set-up four years ago. The Northants League, with a total of 117 teams and 559 fixtures, is where tennis club's teams of men, ladies or mixed doubles compete from April to August.

So, with the club's first ever match of the season, players Helen Millichamp, Karen Green, Mark Morris and team captain Miles Tildesley got off to a great start with an 8-0 win over Duston United. Miles Tildesley commented: "We've never done anything like this before and it was nerve-wracking; but we managed it. I'm so proud of the team and look forward to more successes."

To keep up with Brixworth Tennis Club results, visit our website at [www.brixworthtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.brixworthtennisclub.org.uk)



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