

BRIXWORTH BULLETIN

The quarterly newspaper for Brixworth and surrounding villages

Issue 78, September 2023

NEW CO-OP FINALLY OPENS!

On the morning of Friday 21st July, the sun came out - as did the light blue ribbon, the giant scissors and villagers young and old. After two years of planning disputes, parking concerns and delivery issues, the official opening day of the new Co-op store had arrived.



To the Co-op's credit, they eschewed using a dignitary for the ribbon cutting ceremony in favour of the local community – with representatives from the Wombles, the Community Larder and children from Brixworth Pre-School. Three-year-old Violet was delighted that she “cutted it with the big scissors,” and loved the Co-op tote bag full of child-friendly goodies that they were all given as a ‘thank you’.

Operations Manager, Ragesh Hindocha, then presented the staff with a large hamper of goodies to share as a ‘thank you’ for their hard work during the move, and manager, Steve Littlewood, received a bottle of champagne. Steve said that he was very excited to open the new store, as it was long awaited and much needed in the village. Indeed, all the staff were smiling and seemed very happy in their new working environment.

Steve said that they’d had a very busy morning with 15 people queuing up outside before the doors opened at 7am! Shoppers arriving after the official opening at 10am, were treated to a glass of champagne, a free tote bag and a money off token.

There were audible “oohs” and “aahs” from people as they entered the store. Jane Wall’s reaction was “Oh my God, it’s huge!”, she used to play skittles in the old Red Lion and couldn’t believe that they’d fitted such a large shop onto the same footprint.

Shoppers, Jean and Billy, said, “the range is fantastic now, it’s going to be great for Brixworth and it’s good to have the Post Office

integrated.” The wide aisles, rows of tall refrigerators and self-service checkouts are all huge improvements on the old store, but the extensive range of food and other products on offer was what seemed to most impress people on opening day.

The downside of the larger store, however, is that it now falls under Sunday licensing laws and will only be able to open 10am to 4pm on Sundays. There are also those who still have concerns about the parking/traffic situation, but only time will tell if this settles down. Neighbourhood Officer, Chris Bates, said: “Parking is an issue here, but then it was always an issue at the old site too.”

Most people, however, were upbeat and positive about the new store and felt it was a great addition to the village. We wish Steve and his staff all the best for the future working in their smart new space.



While the new Co-op has space for an integrated Post Office inside the store, the move of the Post Office hasn’t been completed at the time of writing, owing to technical issues. The Bulletin understands that the move is expected to be complete at the end of September. Meanwhile, while there has been ample speculation about the future of the old site of the Co-op, nothing formal has been announced yet. Watch this space, as they say...

– Tracey Calnan

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The *Brixworth Bulletin* is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The deadline for contributions and advertising for the December issue is 25 Nov. 2023.

For the latest events and our online archive, visit www.brixworthbulletin.co.uk.

Parish Council to apply for Co-op zebra crossing

Brixworth Parish Council will apply for planning permission to create a zebra crossing to serve the new Co-op, in order to give residents visiting the shop on foot a safe way of crossing Harborough Road.

The zebra crossing was first proposed by Jonathan Harris, who represents Brixworth Ward on West Northamptonshire Council. Harris told the Bulletin: ‘We first had discussions with the Senior Management team at the Coop about the idea of safety mitigations back in the Spring of 2021. This included the idea of a Zebra crossing. We did not want it to interfere with any of the existing businesses but recognised that safe crossing, particularly for children and the elderly and infirm was likely to prove difficult. Unfortunately, they had a change of personnel working on this project and progressing ideas became more challenging’.

Harris had made that call for a pedestrian crossing, along with new road markings and a 20 mile and hour speed restriction, for some time. He had flagged the need for these to the planning inspector who considered and upheld the Co-op’s appeal against West Northamptonshire Council’s opposition to their delivery management plan, back in March of this year.

The inspector at the time turned down the request, noting that the appeal was limited to measures needed to manage goods deliveries to the site, so he could not consider wider issues such as the safety of pedestrians shopping. Since, in his opinion, visibility for anyone entering or exiting the site was sufficient, he felt that imposing speed restrictions or installing a pedestrian crossing would be “onerous and unreasonable” – even with cars parked on the road near the Co-op.

Brixworth Parish Council took a different view and in its meeting on 27 July agreed to pursue the creation of a zebra crossing, along with dropped kerbs. The next step to resolve is how to pay for it. Dialogue will need to take place between the parish, West Northants Council and the Co-op in the hope that a solution may be found but since paying for a crossing wasn’t a condition for planning approval, there is no guarantee that this will be a success, so Councillors will need to consider alternative options.

Other measures to improve the safety of that stretch of road are also being discussed, including a local 20 mph speed limit. Villagers have also suggested installing some mirrors opposite the car park to improve the visibility of the road for cars exiting the car park.

There are also considerations to relocate one of the existing village speed measuring devices to be relocated to near the Co-op to get some indication whether the shop is drawing more traffic into the village. Harris is also keen to reinvigorate a ‘Speed Watch’ scheme with the support of the Parish Council within the village as many residents regularly express concerns about this. Volunteers will be sought to get involved.

Meanwhile, parking issues at the new Co-op provided ample source for discussion on social media, particularly in the first few days of the new store opening. Since the hectic first few days, things appear to have calmed down a little (this writer at least had little trouble finding a parking place most times she visited, admittedly avoiding the busy lunchtime period!).

There is also concern that cars might be parked on green verges along Harborough Road, destroying the grass. The Parish Council has drafted a proposal for sturdy planters, funded by the Co-op, to be installed along the verges to prevent cars parking there. It has obtained the required permissions from West Northants Highways to install them. The planters are expected to arrive the next few weeks.

– Claudia Flavell-While

We need your deserving causes

Every once in a while, we at the Bulletin check our bank account to see what the balance is. As a community newsletter, the Bulletin team works entirely voluntarily. So any money left over after paying for the print costs is given back to the community.

But where in the community should it go? This is where it’s over to you, our readers. We need your suggestions for causes that would benefit from a financial leg-up.

There are few rules around who or what can be nominated for this, other than it has to be something local. The Bulletin can support individuals or organisations, clubs and facilities. Past recipients have included local toddler groups, the scouts, village halls, the Country Park and the church organisations, and even individuals.

So, if you know of someone local who is struggling to make do, a village organization in need of a (modest) injection of cash or a local event that needs a slight boost to get off the ground, please get in touch. You can contact the Bulletin by emailing editor@brixworthbulletin.co.uk - the deadline is 30 September 2022.

The Bulletin Team will then get together and consider all nominations. An update on who we’re supporting will be published in the December Bulletin.

I look forward to hearing from you! - Claudia

The changing face of Brixworth's Co-op

The Co-op has had a presence in Brixworth for well over 100 years. Clockwise, from bottom left:



- ◆ The first store, at the bottom of Silver Street, established in the early 1900s;



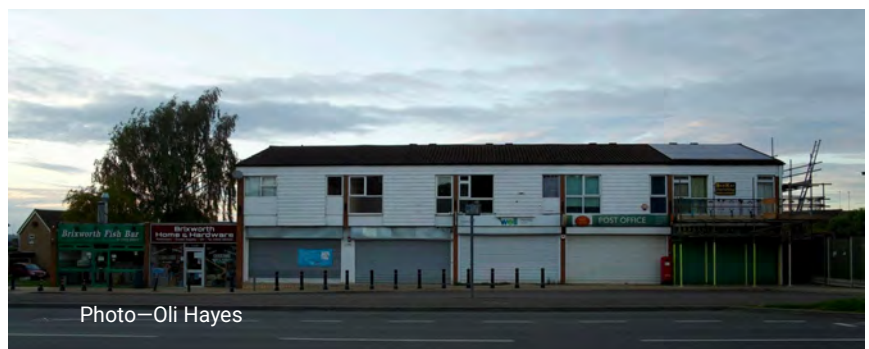
- ◆ the second store at Northampton Road, diagonally opposite Blason's Garage;



- ◆ the third store at the corner of Northampton Road and Holcot Road, which was opened in 1935 and remained in operation till the late 1980s;



- ◆ and the most recent shop at Spratton Road, which served the village until July this year.



Photo—Oli Hayes

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A guardian angel for families in need

Of all the interesting jobs and hobbies we have featured to date, this is arguably the most important – Brixworth resident Karen Parsons has recently been appointed as Northamptonshire’s first Clinical Nurse Specialist in Paediatric Palliative Care, providing much needed support and care to families of children with complex medical needs and terminal illnesses.

Karen remembers wanting to be a nurse since she was about six years old, but she also knew that she wanted to work with children. She trained specifically as a children’s nurse on a pioneering course at the University of Northampton. There were only six students on the course at the time and whilst studying, Karen was given a placement with Community Children’s Nursing. After that, she says, “my mind was made up!” She went on to spend 25 years working for the NHS in this field.

Earlier this year, an opportunity came up for Karen to take on a role at the Rainbows charity, Rainbows runs a children’s hospice in Loughborough but covers the whole East Midlands region with its outreach work. Although employed by the charity, Karen works for the University Hospitals of Northamptonshire NHS group and

Healthcare Foundation Trust. Her work is peripatetic and is divided between visits to Northampton and Kettering hospitals and families in the community.



Karen works across the spectrum from Ante-Natal to 25-year-olds and provides “a different approach to care, a holistic one which takes into account the child’s family and offers support to them too.” At the time of this interview, BBC One had recently aired the Jack Thorne drama “Best Interests” which addressed many of the issues these families face on a daily basis. The Rainbows staff were

encouraged to watch the drama, which was later used as a point of discussion and learning in a professional development session. Karen believes that a key aspect of her role is about helping the families to find a way through the stress and emotions of caring for their child. She says: “I value the ethos of Rainbows and this role is all about very important choices for the families, ones they may not have known existed – whether that is hospice, hospital or at home.”

So, from diagnosis to end of life, as well as providing clinical care, Karen is alongside families on their complex, emotionally challenging journey, bringing her decades of experience to ensuring that they have all the support and knowledge they need. When asked what qualities were needed for such a specialist role, after a moment’s reflection, Karen answered, “be approachable, non-judgemental, compassionate and caring.”

It is clearly a difficult and demanding job which not many of us could do, but Karen acknowledges that it can also be immensely rewarding - the ‘best’ part being “when you get to give families a choice,” and the ‘worst’ being the much-publicised frustrations of working within the NHS system. Of this new direction her career has taken, however, she says “I love the uniqueness of this role and recognise the gap for Northamptonshire in ensuring families know about Rainbows. I will provide holistic support for the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of the whole family and am looking forward to working within the community.”

Karen does not plan on resting on her laurels, however; as well as lecturing on the Children’s Nursing course at Northampton, in September, she is going to be developing her skills further by taking a course in Palliative Care in Medicine with the University of Cardiff. We wish Karen every success in her new role and all future endeavours.

Next year the Rainbows charity will lose its last bit of state funding and be 100% reliant on charitable donations. Anybody interested in finding out more about the wonderful work Rainbows does or fundraising activities, please go to www.rainbows.co.uk.
– Tracey Calnan



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Harvey Fox:

1934 – 2023

It is with great sadness that I am writing this obituary for Harvey Fox – former editor of the Brixworth Bulletin, owner of the Fox in the Pound bookshop, member of the Parish Council and Friend of All Saints Church – today. I have known Harvey for over 30 years. He was a good friend and godfather to my daughter plus a close colleague on the Brixworth Bugle, Parish Council and Friends of All Saints' Church. I have so many happy memories of long boozy lunches and New Year games evenings, trips to art galleries, gardens and stately homes and even a 24 hour trip to Amsterdam!



Harvey was born in Sunderland in October 1934 and was very proud of his birthplace and a keen supporter of Sunderland AFC. Both he and his younger brother Neville were educated at Barnard Castle School where Harvey was both House Captain and captain of the rugby team, giving him a lifelong love of all sports.

Following school Harvey was required to complete national service and joined the

army for two years where he was stationed in West Germany to help rebuild infrastructure in the aftermath of the war. In 1956 he was accepted to St Catherine's College, Cambridge where he completed his degree in engineering. Harvey married Pat in 1960 and had 3 daughters, Deborah, Nicola and Tracey. He worked in various power stations both in England and Scotland before finally settling with his family in Kibworth Leicestershire. It was here, while writing for the Kibworth Chronicle that he met Paddy who already had two daughters, Hattie and Sophie and in December 1985 they married, completing their merged families in 1986 by the birth of their daughter, Alex.

In 1988, Harvey became Managing Director of Carlton Deep Sea Systems, a company that made submarine engines. He was part of a team who developed a closed cycle diesel system, an achievement he remained very proud of for the rest of his life.

By this time, their love of books inspired Paddy and Harvey to open the Fox in the Pound Bookshop at their home in Brixworth. What a village treasure this was and discovering it one day when walking the streets with my fractious 2 year old was like stepping into Aladdin's cave! Later, in 1992 they started a community newspaper



– The Brixworth Bugle – with Paddy as editor and Harvey her right-hand man! With a great team behind them this proved such a successful venture that in 1994 the newspaper won a national competition for village newsletters run jointly by The Countryman with ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). The late author, broadcaster and chief judge, John Timpson commented “By using lively layouts, hard-hitting articles and forthright comment, it gives a feeling of topicality and immediacy, but it is not afraid to criticise and comment”.

Harvey took over the editorship of the Bugle in 2004, renaming it The Brixworth Bulletin and transforming it to colour in 2006. He passed it on to the current team in 2010.

Paddy died in 2016 and then a year later Harvey was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. He met this with his usual determination, continuing to keep active both at home and in his garden. He also took great pleasure in the company of friends and family and was particularly delighted when his daughter, Alex gave birth to lovely Hannah last July (pictured left) He will be greatly missed by all his family, particularly his 4 daughters, 2 step-daughters and 6 grand-children.

All of us at the Brixworth Bulletin send our heart-felt condolences and gratitude to Harvey's family.

- Jane Neill

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Open water swimming at Pitsford

Embracing nature's serenity and adventure

Date: 8am, Saturday, 22nd July

Nestled in such picturesque landscape, Pitsford Reservoir beckons swimmers with its alluring charm. On a rain-kissed Saturday morning, a group of around 20 water enthusiasts (including myself) gathered at this tranquil oasis to embark upon an Open Water swimming experience. This was only the second session to be held at the reservoir although, as reported in an earlier issue of the Bulletin, it has been a long-held dream for Swim Cube owner Stuart Hacker.

The water temperature stood at a refreshing 15 degrees, providing a thrilling yet comfortable challenge for us. Some swimmers donned wetsuits, providing an extra layer of warmth and buoyancy, while others proudly swam 'skins' style, braving the cool waters in natural swimwear. The diversity of attire showed the inclusive nature of open water swimming, where individual preferences are embraced and celebrated.

Pitsford Reservoir offers two contrasting courses: a 750 metre course for the adventurous and a shorter 300 metre course for those seeking a milder challenge. Regardless of the course chosen, we were in for a delightful rendezvous with nature, with the gentle pitter-patter of raindrops only adding to the atmosphere. While some may have considered



this a downside, true enthusiasts know that swimming in the rain adds a unique sense of connection with the elements. The cool drizzle created a mystical ambiance, further enhancing the joy of the experience.

Despite the rain, the water remained surprisingly calm, creating an ideal environment for us to embrace the moment without battling harsh currents. The clear water allowed us to see beneath the surface, revealing the fascinating underwater world of Pitsford Reservoir. Fortunately, the presence of weeds below the surface did not hinder our progress, as we glided through the water with ease.

Ensuring the safety of all participants was a team of dedicated volunteers, stationed both on the banks and aboard a boat and kayak. Their vigilance and expertise offered reassurance to swimmers, allowing us to focus solely on our strokes, immersing ourselves fully in the experience.



Safety kayak on alert (Louise Chapman)



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Reservoir:



Each swimmer was meticulously registered before entering and exiting the water, an exemplary safety feature.

Swimming in the reservoir was a sensory feast - the lush greenery adorning its shores, the melody of raindrops falling on the water and the cool stillness of the water combined to create a truly meditative experience. In moments like these, open water swimmers are not merely exercising their bodies, but nourishing their souls with Nature’s therapeutic embrace. We relished every stroke as we swam in harmony with the gentle ripples, our rhythmic movements synchronising with the beating of our hearts.

The attraction of open water swimming isn’t only about the exercise and places of scenic beauty like the reservoir, but also in the profound sense of camaraderie with like-minded individuals. Strangers soon become friends, bonding over their shared passion for open water swimming. Encouraging words and smiles are exchanged, creating an atmosphere

of support and unity.

The collective sentiment among us that Saturday morning was unanimous – the experience at Pitsford Reservoir had been so relaxing and enjoyable, with the reservoir providing a canvas on which to paint our own happy memories, while the rain added an ethereal touch to the experience.

For those seeking a truly remarkable open water swimming experience, Pitsford Reservoir is undoubtedly a destination worth exploring. Embrace the magic of the rain-kissed waters, the camaraderie of fellow swimmers, and the serenity of nature, and you will find yourself enchanted by the allure of this picturesque haven we are so lucky to have on our doorstep.

Open Water Swimming at Pitsford is arranged with Anglian Water, who own the reservoir, and expertly organised by The Swim Cube on site near the car park.

For more information visit www.theswimcube.com

- Neal Brown

Brixworth Drama Group will be performing two plays on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd September at 7pm at the Village Hall in Brixworth as part of their 40th anniversary celebrations.

The first play, “Money, Money, Money” by Ian Ashcroft, tells the story of the ladies of the WI in the picturesque village of Warden-cum-Wooding who need money and to get it, need to modernise. Their efforts at fundraising are “so disappointing” as Mrs Hartington-Jones likes to remind the group’s chairperson, Hermione Richardson-Hulme, every time she meets her. Will the ladies succeed in their attempt to ‘update’ their fundraising techniques? Think Calendar Girls meets The Vicar of Dibley!

In the other play, “Zoo” by Terry Adlam, Richard Blount is having a bad day; his zoo is being inspected by a potential investor, he’s fired his secretary, there’s a tiger on the loose, he’s seeing a giant penguin, and about to find out what happens when the chimps watch “Top Gear” DVDs. It’s like David Attenborough in Fawlty Towers!

The village hall will once again have cabaret-style seating and a licensed bar.

Brixworth Drama Group chair, Jon Mackley, said “We were thrilled to see how the village supported the Group for our last production and we have chosen two laugh-out-loud plays for the September performances which we know the audiences will enjoy. In addition, the author of “Money, Money, Money”, Ian Ashcroft, has asked that, instead of the Group paying for a performance licence, we can make a donation to Bedford Samaritans, and we are delighted to oblige and support such a worthy cause.”

Tickets priced at £8 will be available from Brixworth Home and Hardware and from Libby - (tel. 01604 880672).



In addition to the two nights of performance, members of the Drama Group have organised an additional event: a morning of entertainment at Brixworth library (mezzanine level) at 10am on Saturday 28th October, featuring three short presentations of stories written by A.A. Milne, Julia Donaldson and Janet & Allan Ahlberg and should be great fun for the audience, regardless of age. This is a **free** event and we look forward to seeing you there.

If you are interested in joining Brixworth Drama Group in any capacity (acting, directing, costumes, backstage, front of house or any other roles) please come along to one of our meetings, contact us through Facebook, or contact Eileen Truby on 07934 530220.

For further information contact: Jon Mackley, Tel 07840 711190

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Lampport Hall update

As summer draws to a close, we are looking forward to crunchy leaves, cosy evenings, pumpkin spice and digging out our favourite scarves.

For Lampport, September has become the month of Northants Open Studios where over 100 local artists arrive to display and sell their work. This year they return with an even bigger art exhibition. We are proud to be expanding on the success of the last few years and continuing to support artists of all mediums from across the county. The exhibition opens on 3rd September and will be open every Wednesday-Sunday until 30th September. There will be a



display of over 100 artworks and all pieces will be for sale. We are proud to continue this partnership and fully support their ethos of making art accessible for all.

The exhibition is free entry.

September is a month of new beginnings for many and Lampport Hall will also be opening as

part of Heritage Open Days for the first time. Lampport will be opening entirely for **free** so come along on 9th September between 10am and 4pm to enjoy everything the Hall has to offer. In the Hall, we have the chance to meet some of the talented conservators who have cared for and restored elements of our collection over recent years.

This will include a demonstration and workshop by Lincoln Conservation, a talk and demo by Landi textiles conservators and a book conservation demo by Bendix Library. Claire Seely Glass Design, a familiar face at our craft fairs, will also be demonstrating how to make a stained glass window with some opportunities to have a go yourself.

For families and younger visitors, we will have some hands-on crafts to enjoy as well as a Historic Legacies treasure trail and Georgian characters to meet. Hannington Vintage Tractor Club will be providing demos throughout the day in the Museum of Rural Life. Also outside will be the chance to try croquet on the lawn with Northampton Croquet, watch the Morris dancers perform or try your hand at horseshoe tossing. It's sure to be a great day and in the spirit of Heritage Open Days, all activities are **free**.

We are really proud of both these events and hope to entice as many of you as possible through the doors this month to enjoy some wonderful experiences on your doorstep. We hear so many people say "I've lived here for years and never visited" so why not pop along to see what we have to offer? It gives us great pleasure to share what we have here and opening for free is a great way of doing that.

We are also celebrating the start of the British game season by welcoming back Danny Tompkins for the third year running for our Taste of Game night. On Saturday 14th October, Danny, a prestigious game chef in the county, will be creating a magnificent three course menu to celebrate the best of seasonal produce. Served in the spectacular surroundings of the Hall, the dinner is sure to be an evening to remember with top class food, fine wine and a roaring fire.



There will also be an auction raising money for charity on the night with spectacular prizes and experiences on offer. The Hall and Gardens are open until the end of October on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am-4pm with the café and gift shop also open until 3pm. On the first Wednesday of each month the Hall is open on a 'free-flow' basis, allowing you to explore the Hall at your own pace and draw on the knowledge of our room stewards.

Check the website for more details on events and house opening:

<https://www.lamporthall.co.uk>

– Eleanor Carter,
Lampport Hall Preservation Trust

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Lamport

Artists across the whole of Northamptonshire are dusting off their drawings, firing up their kilns, preparing their printing presses and sorting their studios ready to welcome visitors to this year's Northants Open Studios, which will see over 200 artists welcome you to their creative spaces to see where the magic happens!

The Northants Open Studios programme, which runs for the month of September, brings together hundreds of local artists who not only will be opening their studios for visitors but will also be running workshops, demonstrations and exhibitions at some of the county's biggest art spaces including, but not limited to, Northampton Museum and Art Gallery, 78 Derngate, Chester House, and Boughton House.

The successful Central Exhibition will also be held again at Lamport Hall, which brings together one or two pieces from each artist taking part and is a great starting point for visitors to see which artists they'd like to visit. Lamport Hall, who generously sponsor the event, saw 2,800 people visit the exhibition last year during September and there will also be the return of the hugely popular mini masterpieces secret postcard sale to raise funds for next year's event.

Katie Boyce, Director and Organiser of NOS (pictured above) says

"We can't wait for this year's open studios and we've been preparing for months already to make sure everything looks great for this year's visitors! Northants Open Studios has grown enormously over the last few years as we've seen lots of artists picking up their paintbrushes again since Covid and coming back to creating, and it's been amazing to see the breadth of talents and skills across the county."

Mark Herrod, Estate Director at Lamport Hall says “We’ve been thrilled with the success of NOS in the past few years and are very proud to be supporting the event again this year, which promises to be bigger and better than ever. The diversity and range of styles and mediums always amazes me, there really is something for everyone!”

The Central Exhibition will be kicked off with a launch party on Saturday 2nd September and then will be open every Wednesday to Sunday throughout September.

All the details of individual artists studio opening times will be available in a brochure which is distributed across the county and on the NOS website at :

www.northantsopenstudios.co.uk





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Open week for Pytchley Court

Times have been tough for the care sector over the past few years, but one local home is now keen to put all of that behind them by making a concerted effort to connect with the community again.

Back in the sunshine at the end of June, it was National Care Home Open Week and the staff at Pytchley Court kindly invited me along to see what was going on as they celebrated with various events and special guests. Walking through the car park, it struck me as ironic that the home shares its site with a day nursery – two ends of the spectrum of life in one place!

As I entered the home, Lincoln Noel, a charismatic local pianist, was about to lead a sing-along on his electric organ; only a few notes later, one of the residents was already up and dancing with a member of staff. The home's Wellbeing Coordinator, Judy Barwick, informed me that the



residents had already had a flower arranging class that morning thanks to a large donation of flowers from Waitrose – so their week really was off to a flying start.

Judy is delighted to be welcoming members of the public into the home again after enduring such a “lonely, isolating time” during the pandemic. She describes the positive effect outside visitors can have on residents. The previous week, a group of Moulton College students had been in to help turn the garden into a colourful seaside-themed space for residents to enjoy, as many of them really miss going to the seaside.

Pytchley Court's manager, Sue Watson, says that the idea of Open Week is to invite the public in to share what's going on. One of the home's recent initiatives has been to establish a twice weekly (Tuesday/Thursday 2-4pm) Chatterbox Café – where all are welcome to come and share stories over a cup of tea or coffee.

Sue has been in the role for the past six years and, apart from the herculean task of steering the home through the pandemic, she has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for residents. Sadly, it's now the case that 95% of the residents are suffering from some form of dementia, but



Sue's background in mental health nursing means that she has developed the right skills for the job. She hopes “to make a difference. It's a challenge and we're not faultless but try to learn from our mistakes and improve.” The home has only 37 residents, so is relatively small and it currently has a waiting list. Its ethos is aptly summed up on a stone decorated by one of the Moulton College students with the words, ‘They call this home, we call it family.’



When I visited, Professor Martin Green OBE (CEO of Care England) was also visiting and told me how impressed he was with Pytchley's caring and creative approach to making things better.

Pytchley Court's Open Week continued with an exciting programme of activities, including arts and crafts, a pamper day, a tea dance and a tree planting ceremony with local MP Chris Heaton-Harris. The residents regularly have the opportunity to go on trips using the home's minibus; when I visited, it was the Monday after Glastonbury and somebody suggested that they should organise a trip there next year – after all, this year's acts included a 76 year old (Elton John), a 74 year old (Yusef Cat Stevens) and last year, 80 year old Paul McCartney – and if anyone can make this happen, I'm sure Sue and her team can!

– Tracey Calnan

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People often ask me, why do you do all this, which branch of the forces did you serve in, and do you need any help? So this is probably a good time to explain a few things.



The Bishop of Peterborough blessing and dedicating the Standard

Firstly, I have never served in the armed forces and I do what I do for my father who served in the Royal Navy during WW2, whose medals I proudly wear on the right hand side on Remembrance Sunday. Secondly, I do it to support our serving armed forces, our veterans and all their families via the Legion. I was brought up that Remembrance was very important, for

without those who gave the ultimate sacrifice we would not have the world we live in - which we all like to moan about,! - but at least we have the ability to moan about it. Also for

those who survived, without them we would not be here. It's as simple as that! In 2015 I approached Rod King, the then poppy appeal organiser (PAO) to see if he needed some help, his wife Bev said yes,

would you take over as PAO? With their invaluable assistance I took it on the following year. Over the next few years, with a bit of effort the village total went from around £2,000 to almost £10,000 with poppy flags, displays, poppy cascades lamppost poppies, even barbed wire sculptures and of course the assistance from the Co-op for permitting a stand indoors at Remembrance time

By the end of 2022's appeal I realised I needed some help.

This led to the forming of an official branch of the RBL for the village and surrounding area From an idea in December 2022 to forming the branch in February, having our first fundraiser on 24th March, purchasing a new Standard (many thanks to Brixworth Parish Council) to having it dedicated on 14th May, the branch has gone from strength to strength.

Already we have had a coach trip to the National Memorial Arboretum, a stall at Hollowell steam rally, a car rally/treasure hunt and vinyl DJ set on 5th August.

To our forthcoming events: first being a return to Brixworth Cricket Club by Gary "Elvis" Beckwith on Friday 22nd September, tickets available soon at £10 pp. Then on Thursday 19th October (timing to follow), at Brixworth Central Sports Club, an evening on Northampton Saints with a talk and slideshow by Graham McKechnie, historian to the Saints, regarding players during WWI including Edgar Mobbs. Also a talk by Kevin "the kit man" Buckby, the Saints current kit manager about present day Saints and their forces connections. Entry is open to everyone as it is not a normal club night and is **free** but we will be having a donation bucket available .

Our last function this year will be the Ride for Remembrance on 22nd Oct. This is for motorcycles and scooters to ride from the George in Brixworth to Northampton War Memorial to lay a wreath and launch the poppy appeal. This has been very eventful over the years due to the weather - a tornado last year.! Meet



at the George from 10am all welcome. By the time this bulletin hits your letterbox preparation for this year's poppy appeal will be under way. If anyone would like to help in any way, whether it be to have a tray and tin in their workplace or similar, or to help with putting up displays or collecting please feel free to contact me. If anyone would like more information on becoming a member of this branch in whatever capacity as much or as little as they want, our meetings are on the 3rd Monday of every month in the George starting at 19.00, the next is 18th September. Or contact me on 07979 258659 or razoredie@live.co.uk

Thank you all for your support. I am very proud of this exciting branch and what this village can achieve.

None of which would be possible without the support of the current members and the committee of:

- Madame Secretary herself, Elizia Gathercole,
- Treasurer Ian Topham,
- Vice chairman Mark Valentine,
- BCS Kath Cockerell,
- Standard Bearers Martin Jones and Dave Harris,
- Parade Marshall Gareth Humphrey

All pictures by Adedapo Segun, Brixworth Photographic Society

- Eddie Edmunds - Chairman

Brixworth History Society

Over the summer months the History Society members have been out and about visiting various places of historic interest. In June we had a coach trip to Suffolk to visit Sutton Hoo, the site of an Anglo-Saxon ship burial. En route we stopped briefly at the wool town of Lavenham and then at Woodbridge for lunch. Some of us were lucky enough to see a fly past with all the planes on their way to London for the Trooping of the Colour Parade.



In July we had a fascinating guided tour of the Prebendal Manor and gardens at Nassington. The Manor is the earliest surviving dwelling in Northamptonshire, and was built in about 1200 on the site of a Saxon Hall in which King Cnut stayed. The gardens are being recreated as a medieval garden.

At the time of writing several members are planning to visit Boughton House, near Kettering, for guided tours.

In the autumn we will restart our meetings in the Village Hall. All meetings start at 7.30 pm and visitors and new members are welcome.



Dates for the diary

- 21st September: The Culworth Gang & the County Hall by Richard Blacklee
- 19th October: Medieval Northampton Growth & prosperity in the 11-13c by Ruth Thomas
- 16th November: Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust – Pete Austin

More information can be obtained from our Secretary at jandrhardiel@gmail.com

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Brixworth
Wombles

have had an incredible start to the year. In the first six months they have collected 289 bags of litter. This equates to approximately 3.6 tons of waste removed from our environment. For the first time they are working to a yearly planner that seems to be very effective to date.



“We have been busy but now there is a natural break with the summer holidays. As well as the actual picking we very much enjoyed attending Brixworth Junior FC Annual Open Day. This was so rewarding to be able to engage with villagers and to have children asking to litter pick at the event. It was truly heartwarming” says Peter Duffy, Chair of Brixworth Wombles.



“Brixworth Beavers invited us to a pick mid June. The Beavers excitedly cleared the Ashway Park and surrounding areas, ending with a big thank you and several requests to do it again! A huge thank you to all that attended, we had a lovely evening”

“And then towards the end of June we had 25 Co-op Store Managers join in for a village pick. And what a fantastic job they did, especially as it was an incredibly hot day. We really appreciate all of the support the Co-op have provided” said Peter.

While there is now a programmed break for the organised picks, individual Wombles will be out and about keeping the village clean and presentable. CPL Aromas have very kindly asked to assist and will be around in August so look out and give all a cheery wave and a thank you.



Book Club One over the last two months have been reading ‘Wide Sargasso Sea’ by Dominican-British Author Jean Rys and ‘Kiara and The Sun’ by Japanese-born British novelist Kazuo Ishiguro. The first book title

they concluded wasn't a very satisfying read, but it has prompted some members to re-visit Jane Eyre. The second book was a very interesting read and they would recommend it.

The guest speak at The Family History Group was a member of our u3a, Brian Collett who is the world expert on the Collett Family. He has 78 family trees for the Collett family and a data base of over 20,000 from all over. This group can advise on search techniques, where and how to look for answers, including some places you would never think of.

The London Studies Group and Coronation Fun had their meeting in May. Many of the 30 members who attended brought along coronation memorabilia to display. Some of the group recalled their memories of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation. They had tea, coffee, cake and two London themed quizzes. An enjoyable time was had by all.



The June meeting for the garden group was an afternoon tea on the allotments in Scaldwell. Pictured right enjoying themselves in the sunshine.

Dates for the Diary:

- Wed Sep 6th—AGM followed by “Barrow to Baghdad and Back Again” with Philip Caine
- Wed Oct 4th—“Working for Auntie (BBC Tales)” with Christine Green
- Weds Nov 1st—“Saints, Sinners, Stars and Scandals” with Derek Blunt

New members are always welcome so why not come along to one of our meetings for a cup of tea and biscuit and find out what we do. Meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month at Brixworth Village Hall, starting at 2 p.m.

If you would like more information please visit our website on u3asites.org.uk/brixworth where you can browse our Newsletters and will find lots of information on membership and all the various groups that are available.

- Judy Smith

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COUNTRY EYE:

Stinking Iris

It has been years since I last watched TV. Do I miss it? No way! There is so much going on out there in my garden to beat any TV drama hands down. And I have all-day viewing from where I sit in my conservatory. It is no exaggeration to say that nothing out there stays still for very long. But I must begin by assuring any among my dear readers who is named Iris that the first word of my title doesn't refer to you. Indeed the original Iris was a Greek goddess whose job it seems was to look after the rainbow and make sure its colours stayed beautifully burnished. Think of the huge range of colours in the gardener's bearded irises.

One of the many priceless plants I am privileged to have has been formally named *Iris Foetidissima*: the Stinking Iris. Rummaging back through my notes tells me it came as seed gathered from a small ancient wood in the south-west of our county called Mantle's Heath in 1978. So it has been with me in my various gardens for close on half a century.

How it came to be given this unpleasant title is a mystery to me. Many of today's popular books, that do seem to repeat each other, accuse it of smelling 'sickly sweet', but to my not very sensitive nose it doesn't smell of anything in particular. Writer Richard Mabey agrees when he tells us that he had to rub the leaves hard to detect a faint odour of 'slightly rancid raw beef'. A little boy from a vegetarian family said he could smell nut roast. To balance that out a meat-eating family said they could smell steak-and-kidney pudding. If you prefer another name it has gathered a few in folklore. Among them are roast beef plant, and bloody bones. Also there is Gladdon, which seems to have come from the Old English 'gladwyn', which means a sword and refers to its long, narrow pointed leaves. If I had to, this is the name I would choose, accurate and straight to the point (yes I know!).

It seems it is one of the few wild flowers to buck the trend and is actually increasing in Northamptonshire. Published in 1930 George Claridge Duce in his classic flora said it was rare, while Gill Gent and her team had found more locations for it by 1995. The latest edition has upgraded it to occasional. Today it is turning up in more places, especially churchyards. Its bright orange seeds, ranged

in the open pods in rows like gaudy peas, are popular with flower arrangers for winter bouquets on graves, and for the church. Maybe because they are not very tasty the birds leave them alone until the lean times of late winter, when they have little choice. Then it's likely they help spread them around. The latest county map shows they are more often found in the eastern half, much less so west of Northampton.

If past events down south are anything to go by it tolerates disturbance well. When the Channel Tunnel rail link was being built an ancient woodland where it grew stood in the way and had to be clear felled. The contractors spread some of the soil on a nearby hillside which was then planted with trees. Needless to say the resulting undergrowth was at first dominated by coarse grasses nettles and thistles from the seedbank below. But as they were shaded out amazingly some of the woodland specials, including Gladdon, began to appear. I have within the last few days transplanted one in my garden, and already it stands tall, looking as if it has been there for ever. Some plants keel over at a touch while others turn out to be more tolerant of disturbance.

Nationwide one of our leading experts suggest Stinking Iris is one of a suite of plants, including the Bluebell, of which the United Kingdom holds an important part of the European population. That being so, he argues, it should appear more often on a conservationist's lists of desirable plants to nurture. I couldn't agree more.

- Brian Webster



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Community Foundation seeks Trustees

Northamptonshire Community Foundation is recruiting up to three trustees to join their Board from November 23. Northamptonshire Community Foundation is a grant giving charity and provides much needed and often life changing grants to some of the County’s most vulnerable and in need people.

The Board of Trustees acts collectively to govern the foundation, which is the leading grant-making charity in the county, promoting and managing philanthropy to create long-term and sustainable funding for the voluntary and community sector.

Rachel McGrath, CEO of Northamptonshire Community Foundation, said:

“We warmly welcome interest from a broad range of people that are passionate about Northamptonshire’s communities and especially candidates with expertise or experience in the



Pictured above; NCF-funded group, Baby Basics Northampton, at the end of a volunteering session put on for The Big Help Out 2023, making Moses basket starter packs for new parents

areas of investment, equity, diversity and inclusion, use of digital technologies and environmental philanthropy.”

Interest is welcomed from people who have a love for, and a strong connection to, Northamptonshire, and who share a passion for

making a difference through charitable giving and philanthropy.

To find out more, including information about how to apply, visit the Vacancies page on Northamptonshire Community Foundation’s website:

www.ncf.uk.com/vacancies



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Brixworth & Scaldwell Scout Group

The highlight of summer term was our group camp at the Overstone Scout Activity Centre. Beavers, Cubs & Scouts enjoyed camping, cooking and outdoor activities, and it was an opportunity for many Beavers to sleep under canvas for the first time. Once again, we were



blessed with excellent weather.

We were adopted by a local cat; we think he joined us for the

barbecued sausages. Big thank you to all the leaders and parents for the hard work setting up, cooking, running activities and packing down. All sections have made the most of the light summer evenings.

Beavers enjoyed hikes, litter picking on the Ashway playing fields with the Brixworth Wombles, cricket, scavenger hunts, plants and gardening, a water fight and a visit from Icarus Falconry.



Cubs learned about cycle maintenance and camp skills, enjoyed a cycle ride around Pitsford Reservoir/ Brixworth Country Park, a games night, joined Beavers for the visit from Icarus Falconry and held an end of term water fight.

A huge well done to the 9 Cub Scouts who walked the 11 miles from Market



Harborough along the Brampton Valley Way to Brixworth for charity. Despite the rain and tired legs all the cubs made it to the finish and raised over £2,600 for various charities including: Cancer Research UK, Northamptonshire Sport, Motor Neurone Disease Association, Pancreatic Cancer Research, Great Ormond Street Hospital, Parkinson's UK. Well done to the Cubs & leaders involved.



Scouts enjoyed evening hikes, a treasure hunt around Market Harborough, a "parents versus Scouts" rounders match, wide games at Brixworth Country Park, and a cycle ride from Market Harborough back to Brixworth.

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A woman with blonde hair tied back is performing a squat exercise. She is wearing a blue tank top and red leggings. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is blurred, showing other people in a gym or leisure centre.

The logo for West Northamptonshire Council, featuring a stylized 'W' and 'N' inside a circle.

West Northamptonshire Council

The logo for everyone ACTIVE, with the word 'everyone' in a script font and 'ACTIVE' in a bold, sans-serif font.

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Explorers participated in backwood's cooking, evening hikes, an evening cycle ride with the reward of a chip supper from the Brixworth Fish Bar, joined Scouts for the rounders match, and took part in air rifle shooting at the Overstone Scout Activity Centre.

Brixworth Scouts hosted the burger stall

at Brixworth CEVC Primary School summer fete. This year we introduced bacon rolls and bacon and cheese burgers, and raised over £280 for our group. Thank you for leaders, parents and Scouts for your support, and to everyone who visited our burger stall.

This term has been the time for hellos and goodbyes. We welcome Sam and Claire to Cubs and Scouts respectively. We also say goodbye to Steve, Nick and Bob who are stepping down. Steve has been with Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts for over 7 years, and during his time has been Akela in Cubs, Scout leader and most recently Explorer leader. Nick joined as Beaver leader 2013, and has been a Cub leader and most recently been our primary Scout leader. Bob has been with Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts for over 12 years, and after starting as a parent helper became a Beaver leader, moved on to be Akela in Cubs, Scout leader, Explorer leader and most recently has been Group Scout leader. We are sad to say goodbye but thank them for their dedication and support over the years.

Explorer Section

Sadly, there is a knock-on from the leader changes, and something that we have been trying to avoid. We require minimum leader number to operate in a safe manner and this leaves us with only one Explorer leader. Sadly, we must announce that the explorer section will not restart in September.



We apologise to the Explorers who are still attending and enjoying the sessions. Everyone who has attended Explorers has been fantastic and a joy to be with. The reason everyone volunteers and gives their time is to try to provide a unique experience for young people and hopefully provide some skills to use in later life. We hope that this is a temporary suspension, and we can restart the Explorer section once we can run activities safely. Unfortunately, we cannot predict if and when we will restart. James will temporarily support Scouts to stay with us and will be working hard to rebuild the section when possible and developing his skills to provide an engaging programme once we can restart. Our Explorers who want to remain within the Scouting movement will be able to be a young leader to support our other sections until the Explorer section restarts. Being a young leader is very rewarding and there is an opportunity to become certified which can then be put on their CV in the future.

Brixworth Scouts Needs You

Our wonderful team of adult volunteers are from all backgrounds and help to run the groups for our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers. We are at a critical point, without leaders to organise and run sessions week-on-week or trustee members to help with admin activities, Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts will not be able to operate. We need volunteers to

replace our leaders and to comply with 'leaders to young person' ratios for each section. If we do not have leaders, we cannot run the weekly sessions and more sections will close. Our leaders are running multiple sections or covering trustee/admin activities. More leaders, parent helpers and trustees help to spread the load - we need leaders to run the sessions, trustee support, a treasurer, people with social media skills to help communicate our activities and to run our Facebook page.

Commitment is flexible to fit around the amount of time that each volunteer can give, but without leaders, parent helpers and trustee team members we will not be able to function. If you would like to join our leadership and trustee team, or support as an occasional helper please contact: gsl@brixworthscouts.org.uk or enquiries@brixworthscouts.org.uk. We will help you to find a role that you'll enjoy and that will really make a difference to the young people in our village. If you would like to put your young person (boy or girl) on the interest list for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers, please send their details to: enquiries@brixworthscouts.org.uk

To find out more about Scouting in general, visit:

<http://scouts.org.uk>.

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The Brixworth dagger returns home



When the new doctors' surgery on was opened, a small display cabinet was placed in the foyer with

archaeological finds from the site. It was hoped that other finds could be added to the display.

After two years of protracted negotiations, Mike Nice, from Brixworth Heritage Group has been given permission to add the 'Brixworth Dagger' to the exhibition. "This really will be the centrepiece to our display", he said. The dagger or short sword dates from the 3rd or 4th century BC and, like all the other artifacts in the display, was discovered by Cotswold Archaeology during their surveys before the work on the Saxon Rise estate could

commence. It is possible that the dagger was placed in the ground as a 'closing deposit' at the end of the life of a settlement. Most notable among the items currently on display are a Roman cremation urn and a quern dating back to the Iron Age.

The dagger was retained by the archaeologists for further investigation and conservation work and is particularly fragile. It has been the focus of negotiations involving Cotswold Archaeology, the former Northamptonshire County Council and the newly created Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre. The Parish Council has provided essential insurance cover.

"It was feared that the finds would be 'squirrelled away' out of sight by the authorities" said Mike Nice. "So, although it has taken a long time, the village has finally obtained loan of these items for the next few years at least". The display has cost residents nothing as the display case together with a presentation to residents



and a workshop for Primary School pupils were all funded by a grant to the Heritage Group by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

This is their second successful grant application, the first having funded the Brixworth Heritage (Blue Plaque) Trail around the village.

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Planning decisions

WND/2023/0212 Stoneleigh, Saneco Lane First floor side extensions, cladding on the existing front and rear gables and dormer and construction of front ground floor extension (revised scheme)	BPC supported WNC approved
WND/2023/0174 Co-op Stores, Harborough Road Six internally illuminated and non illuminated fascia protecting and wall mounted signs	BPC supported in principle WNC pending
2023/5161/FULL Victors Barn, Northampton Road Erection of two chalet bungalows – subject to an age occupancy condition	BPC not supported WNC pending
2023/5036/TCA Brixworth Cottage High Street 1 x Lawson Cypress – Fell	BPC unable to comment WNC approved

2023/5173/FULL Orchard Lodge, Silver Street Replacement windows and doors to various locations in the property	BPC supported WNC pending
2023/5310/LDP Campsite, Land At Hill Farm, Northampton Road Lawful Development Certificate for Proposed Use of land for the siting of touring caravans for residential purposes without limitation as to length of stay	BPC not supported WNC pending
2023/5376/FULL All Saints Church, Brixworth Temporary siting of storage unit	BPC not supported WNC pending



2023/5412/FULL The Yard rear of 105 Northampton Road Change of use from class B2 to class E (chiropody/podiatry)	BPC supported WNC pending
2023/5757/TCA Brixworth Hall Archway Harborough Road Yew (T1) – Remove to ground level. Yew (T2) – Reduce by 2 – 2.5 metres. Plum (T4) – Target prune by 2 – 2.5 metres and thin inner canopy. Horse chestnut (T5) – Remove to ground level. Row of horse chestnuts (T6) – Crown lift to 4 – 4.5 metres.	BPC supported WNC pending
2023/5774/MAF Mercedes-Benz High Performance Engines Construction of two storey People Development Centre building with associated roof mounted plant.	BPC supported WNC pending

Brixworth Calendar

This year, the Brixworth Photographic Society will be producing the 2024 Brixworth Calendar jointly with the Brixworth History Society.

The History Society has provided archive images to make this possible. It will show Brixworth as it was in bygone days and how it appears now.

The “Brixworth Then and Now” calendars will be on sale at all the usual outlets Troops, Blasons the Post Office and the Olive Tree, for £5 by the end of September.

Brixworth Church Annual Lecture

The Friends of Brixworth Church in conjunction with the Medieval Research Department at Leicester University will be holding the Brixworth Annual Lecture on:

Saturday 28th October 2023 AT 5.00 pm in Brixworth Church: “Preaching in English in Anglo-Saxon England” by Dr Helen Gittos, Fellow and Tutor in Medieval History, University of Oxford.

Tickets £12 (including pre-Lecture tea and cake at 3.30 pm in the Heritage Centre), £8 for Friends and Students, can be obtained by email to: brixworthchurchfriends@gmail.com. Ticket reservations available from September onwards.



For professional advice in the comfort of your own home, contact Rosie Wright for a free initial appointment.

Specialist in Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Estate Planning



Rosie Wright is a member of the Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners and of the Society of Will Writers



Rosie@BrixworthWills.co.uk www.BrixworthWills.co.uk

01604 973373

42 Froxhill Crescent Brixworth Northampton NN6 9LN

Brix & Mortar

Impact of Mortgage and Interest Rate Rises on Housing Market: Affordability Challenges Emerge

For sellers navigating these challenging market conditions, relying on a good local estate agent becomes imperative.

The housing market in Great Britain is experiencing significant repercussions from the recent surge in mortgage and interest rates. The Bank of England's Base Rate has been raised 13 times since December 2021, reaching a current 15-year high of 5%. These measures were taken in response to unexpectedly high inflation figures, but the consequences are now becoming evident in various aspects of the real estate sector.

As mortgage rates climb in tandem with the Base Rate, potential homebuyers are grappling with higher costs, directly

impacting their affordability. Many are now pausing their plans to carefully evaluate how these changes will affect their budgets. As a result, the real estate market is witnessing a slowdown in purchasing decisions, with some buyers opting to delay their entry into the market.

The increasing affordability challenges are not only affecting buyers but also influencing sellers. As homebuyers become more cautious, some sellers have adjusted their asking price expectations in an effort to attract motivated buyers. Consequently, the average asking price of homes have seen a decline, dropping by 0.2% this month (June 2023) to £371,907, slightly below the typical for this time of year.

Despite the adjustments in asking prices, house prices have demonstrated remarkable resilience during the first half of the year. Demand from homebuyers remains higher than in 2019, which was considered a more typical market period. However, the recent rate rises have contributed to a noticeable decline in the number of home sales agreed upon in June.

While some potential homebuyers have put their plans on hold, others, particularly first-time buyers, trader-uppers, and downsizers with higher deposits and lower mortgage requirements, are still actively searching for properties. These buyers are diligently factoring rate rises into their budgets and are keen on finding homes that are reasonably priced and align with their financial capabilities.

Homes that are priced realistically continue to attract motivated buyers, primarily due to the shortage of available properties in comparison to historical norms. In contrast, properties that require a reduction in asking price face difficulties in finding buyers, especially given the current market conditions. Setting an appropriate price from the beginning is vital for attracting and retaining interested parties, as initial overpricing significantly reduces the likelihood of a successful sale.

A knowledgeable agent can provide accurate evidence of recent property prices achieved in the area, helping sellers set competitive and appealing asking prices that attract potential buyers.

As the housing market adapts to the impact of mortgage and interest rate rises, both buyers and sellers must remain vigilant and well-informed about market dynamics. The long-term implications of these changes remain uncertain, but with prudent strategies and professional guidance, homeowners can navigate these turbulent waters successfully.

- Stuart Little HI.Dip
Property Consultant



Thinking of buying or selling in Brixworth?

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stuart.little@horts.co.uk

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Your local property consultant



stuart little

What's on

31/08	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre
03/09	Open Studios	Lampport Hall
04/09	Brixworth PC Planning	Community Centre
08/09	Mini Heritage Explorers	Lampport Hall
09/09	Heritage Open Days	Lampport Hall
10/09	Foraging Experience	Lampport Hall
13/09	Nene Valley Festival - Nick Penny	Lampport Hall
14/09	Heritage Open Day - Hidden Treasures	Kelmarsh Hall
17/09	National Garden Scheme Open Day	Kelmarsh Hall
17/09	Jordan Gray	Royal
17/09	The Hollies	Derngate
17/09	National Garden Scheme Open Day	Kelmarsh Hall
18/09	The Wonder of Stevie	Derngate
19/09	Yippee Ki Yay	Royal
20/09	Lampport & HH PC Meeting	Lampport Hall
20/09	Cube Love 2023	Derngate
20/09	Magical Bones: Soulful Magic	Royal
21/09	Hansons Valuation Day	Kelmarsh Hall
21/09	History Society - The Culworth and County Jail	Brixworth Village Hall
21/09	Much Ado About Nothing	Royal
21/09	Tim Vine - Breeeeep!	Derngate
21/09	Posy Pop Up	Kelmarsh Hall
22/09	NC Jazz: Art Themes and New Directions	Royal

22/09	Fascinating Aida 40th	Derngate
22-23/09	Brixworth Drama: Zoo and Money Money Money	Village Hall
23/09	Seann Walsh	Royal
23/09	Gyles Brandreth: Cant Stop Talking	Derngate
24/09	Massive Magic Show	Royal
24/09	Gala Dinner	Derngate
24/09	All-Age Harvest Festival Service	All Saints Church
25/09	Brixworth PC Planning	Community Centre
26/09	Miriam Margolyes	Derngate
27/09	Mark Simmons:	Royal
27/09	Jimmy Carr	Derngate
28/09	Ivo Graham:	Royal
28/09	Phil Wang	Derngate
28/09	Brixworth Parish Council Meeting	Community Centre
29/09	Royal Liverpool Philharmonic	Derngate
29/09	Cara Dillon:	Royal
30/09	John Robins	Derngate
01/10	Autumn Walk and Artisan Fair	Kelmarsh Hall
01/10	BIG KIDS for a Quid	N'ton & Lampport Railway
01/10	Babatude Aleshe	Royal
02-03/10	Oh What A Lovely War	Royal
04-05/10	Crimes on Centre Court	Royal
05/10	Pro Artium Lecture Series	Kelmarsh Hall
06/10	Mini Heritage Explorers	Lampport Hall
06/10	Kae Kurd	Royal
07/10	Cara Dillon	Royal
08/10	Do I Love You?	Royal
08/10	Harry Redknapp	Derngate
10/10	Do I Love You?	Royal
11/10	Pete Firman	Royal

12/10	Pro Artium Lecture Series	Kelmarsh Hall
12/10	Paul Zerdin Puppetman	Royal
13/10	Coffee Tasting	Lampport Hall
13/10	Rosie Jones	Royal
14/10	Game Dining Experience	Lampport Hall
14/10	Tom Stade:	Royal
15/10	Bridget Christie	Royal
16/10	Brixworth PC Planning	Community Centre
16-18/10	Diversity - Supernova	Derngate
19/10	Pro Artium Lecture Series	Kelmarsh Hall
19/10	History Society: Medieval Northampton	Brixworth Village Hall
19/10	Whats Love Got To Do With It?	Derngate
20/10	Royal Philharmonic - Music of Bond	Derngate
21/10	Steve Backshall	Derngate
26/10	Brixworth PC Planning	Community Centre
27-28/10	Tom Davis: Underdog	Royal
28-29/10	Halloween Weekend	N'ton & Lampport Railway
28/10	Drama Group: Presentation of stories	Brixworth Library
28/10	Friends Annual Lecture: Helen Gittos	Brixworth Church
29/10	Beverley Knight	Derngate
03/11	Jimeoin: The Craic!	Derngate
04/11	Rhythm N Blues	Derngate
05/11	James O'Brien	Royal
05/11	Two Mr Ps in a Podcast Live	Derngate
06/11	Brixworth PC Planning	Community Centre
06/11	Simon Reeve - To The Ends Of The Earth	Derngate
07/11	Reginald D Hunter	Royal
08/11	Killer Queen	Derngate
09/11	Richard Herrings Theatre Podcast	Royal
09/11	Rugby World Cup After Party	Derngate
10/11	Mini Heritage Explorers	Lampport Hall
10/11	Danny Robins	Royal
10/11	Jools Holland	Derngate
11/11	Andrew Bird	Royal
11/11	Northants Sings Out	Derngate



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- ✦ CCTV
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- ✦ Access Control
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jason@brixsecure.co.uk



Library News

Opening Times

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

Saturday 10am-2pm

We've had another busy summer at Brixworth Library. This year our Summer Reading Challenge theme was 'Ready, Set, Read!'

which focused on sports, games, and play, and getting children active through reading. We enjoyed lots of energetic events throughout the holidays including: brilliant bouncy castles and soft play from SAFE Bounce, Steve Dimmer's amazing Magic Show and



a cool Circus Skills Workshop with Just Karen. All these fantastic sessions were fully funded by the Friends of Brixworth Library. Thank you so much to them for making these sessions possible.

If you're reading this at the beginning of September there is still time to get involved. The Summer Reading Challenge ends on 9th September. If your child has read six books over the summer holidays, then put them to good use: earn stickers, a certificate, and a medal. Just drop into the library and tell us what you've been reading.

We also had a busy spring with our Coronation Art Gallery filling every window in the library. We had some brilliant art works submitted to celebrate the king's coronation, including this fantastically silly creation.



Friends of Brixworth Library

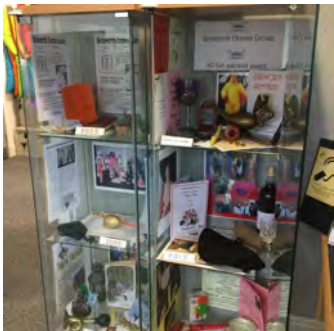
A date for your diaries: The Friends of Brixworth Library will be back again with their ever popular Christmas Fair on Saturday 9th December. If you would like to book a stall for this event, or if you would like to be involved in future fundraising efforts, please get in touch with them: friendsofbrixworthlibrary@gmail.com, or @FOBXL on Facebook.

Welcoming Spaces

Everyone is welcome to spend as much time as they like at the library, completely free, with no questions asked. Whether you are looking for somewhere to work, study, play, keep warm, or even read a book, we are here for you. And, as part of the Welcoming Spaces initiative, you can even help yourself to free tea and coffee too.

Community Cabinets

Are you part of a local group, organisation, or cause? Are you looking for new members or just want to let people know what you do? We have two glass cabinets available to host mini-exhibitions in the library.



Hire is on a monthly basis and is completely free. If you are interested please email:

brixworth.libraryplus@westnorthants.gov.uk or pop in and see us. Brixworth Drama Society have already hosted a fantastic display of memorabilia celebrating their 40 year anniversary.

Library to You

If you struggle to visit us because of age or disability we can bring the library to you. We have volunteers who will hand-pick items and deliver them to you in your own home all for free! If you are interested in this service, please give us a call.

IT Buddy

Our friendly volunteer Ian offers free, 1-to-1 help with IT issues. Want to learn to email, shop online or listen to music on your phone? Ian can help. Bring your own device or use one of our computers or tablets. Pop in to make an appointment.

Ukraine Community Support Hub

Drop in to meet a representative from the Resettlement Team for support and a friendly chat – Fridays 13:00-15:00. For more information, call 0300 126 7000, or email: resettlement@westnorthants.gov.uk

Saxon Spires Social Prescribers

The Saxon Spires Social Prescribing Team hold a drop-in 3-4pm on the first Thursday of the month. Come along to meet others, discuss any help you may be looking for and to find out about local groups, activities or services.

Children's and Family Events

Free, term-time activities for under 5s

- **Explore a Story -walk-in** - Tuesdays 14:00-14:30 - interactive story session with craft.
- **9:30 Rhyme Time -online booking only** - Wednesdays 9:30-10:00 - singing with scarves, puppets, and instruments. (Space



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stuart little

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



MUST be booked in advance via Eventbrite website or app)

- **10:30 Rhyme Time -walk-in only (1st-come, 1st served) - 10:30-11:00** - singing with scarves, puppets, and instruments. (Paper tickets can be collected, in person, on the day)
- **Under Ones Fun -drop-in** - Thursdays 10:30-12:00 - meet other families with babies under one.
- **Pre-School Play -drop-in** - Fridays 10:00-11:00 - child-led play with toys for all ages.

Activities for primary school aged children

- **Construction Club** - Saturdays 10:00-13:00 - LEGO, DUPLO, K'nex and more...
- **Board Games Café** - Mondays 15:30-16:30 - traditional family fun.
- **School Holiday Events** - crafts, scavenger trails and entertainers. Special events are advertised in the library and online here:
- Facebook Events: www.facebook.com/BrixworthLibrary/events
- Events Calendar: www.tockify.com/nccevents (search for 'Brixworth Library')
- Event Booking: www.eventbrite.co.uk (search for 'Brixworth Library')

Business & IP Centre (BIPC)

The Business & IP Centre Northamptonshire (BIPC) are launching a programme of business support in Northamptonshire. Build Your Business is a new programme aimed at small businesses, entrepreneurs and anyone thinking of starting their own business, and is fully funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The programme will consist of personalised one to one advice sessions, webinars, workshops, access to specialist business databases, and start-up grants of up to £2,000.

There are also upcoming core workshops at Brixworth Library:

- Monday 4 September 2023 – 13:00 to 15:00 – Business Basics Workshop
- Monday 11 September 2023 – 13:00 to 14:00 – How To Research My Market Workshop
- Monday 18 September 2023 – 13:00 – 15:00 – How To Write An Effective Business Plan Workshop
- Monday 8 January 2024 – 13:00 to 15:00 – Business Basics Workshop
- Monday 15 January 2024 – 13:00 to 14:00 – How To Research My Market Workshop
- Monday 22 January 2024 – 13:00 to 15:00 – How To Write An Effective Business Plan Workshop

Business drop-in sessions are run at Brixworth Library each Monday morning between 9.30 and 12.00, and other bookable appointments can be arranged with a member of the team. To find out more about the Business & IP Centre visit www.bipcnorthamptonshire.co.uk.

Supporting Independence Programme (SIP)

The Supporting Independence Programme is a free Public Health service tailored to prevent, support, and manage the health and wellbeing needs of anyone eligible over the age of 18, who may be showing signs of reduced independence.

With up to 12 weeks of one-to-one support, our team of dedicated Wellbeing Advisors are committed to providing you with the interventions, knowledge and resources needed to make your wellbeing a priority, helping you to increase and maintain healthy living.

This service can include the option of telephone and face-to-face appointments in a local community setting, as well as walk and talk sessions with your allocated Wellbeing Advisor.

If you or someone you know would like to refer into the service, or you would just like some more information, please visit our website www.westnorthants.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/supporting-independence-service, or call us on 01604 361533.

Strong Start

Strong Start offer free, universal support to pregnant families and those with children under 5 living in Northamptonshire. We offer 1:1 telephone support on a range of health and wellbeing topics. Strong Start also run regular face to face programmes in local venues including Children's Centres. To find out more about our service please visit our website www.westnorthants.gov.uk/strongstart or follow us on Eventbrite www.strong_start_team.eventbrite.co.uk or scan this QR code.



Other Services

- bus pass applications and renewals (drop-in)
- blue badge applications and renewals (by appointment)
- free Wi-Fi
- free computer and tablet use (some charges apply)
- printing, photocopying, and scanning
- Evri ParcelShop with Print in Store labels

Brixworth Library Contact Details

- Email: brixworth.libraryplus@westnorthants.gov.uk
- Phone: 0300 126 7000 (option 6; then option 3; and ask for Brixworth Library)
- Website: westnorthants.gov.uk/libraries
- Facebook: facebook.com/BrixworthLibrary
- Friends of Brixworth Library Facebook: facebook.com/FOBXL
- Events Calendar: northampton.gov.uk/eventscalendar

Not that long ago, while my family and I were out walking the dog in fields, we came across a couple of men using metal detectors.

We asked if they'd found anything. "Not so far today!", they replied. However, they had been successful on other occasions, and showed us gold coins and other items they had previously found. Their most valuable find was a Saxon gold sovereign worth quite a few thousand pounds. Interestingly, they didn't need the metal detector for that one. One of them simply saw it on the ground with his own two eyes. He just stumbled across it...what a find!!

All this reminded me of a parable (a story containing an important truth) that Jesus told about a man who also found significant treasure in a field. He then sold all he had so he could buy the field and so obtain the treasure (Matthew Chapter 13 verse 44).

Parables in the Bible challenged people in a different kind of way. They had an uncanny knack of forcing folk to replace the different aspects of each story with Jesus or themselves.

So when we replace the treasure with Jesus' and the man with ourselves, the point Jesus is making becomes clear. Jesus is saying, make me (Jesus) the 'treasure of your life' and though it will sometimes cost you in all sorts of ways, it will be the most important and valuable discovery you will ever make.

Jesus is not talking about material or financial value. But about spiritual value. Making Jesus the 'treasure of your life' means trusting him and obeying his word (the Bible) and this brings one in to a friendship with our creator God as we live and then forever after we die. What could be more important and valuable than that?? No wonder Jesus said himself "I have come to bring a rich and satisfying life." (John Chapter 10 verse 10)

One Christian writer puts it well... 'The searching of our soul, the deepest desires of the heart, will only be fulfilled in a friendship with our creator God who knows us and made us to be with him.' It is the reason why Jesus died on the cross. What could be more important and valuable than that.

No wonder Jesus said when he was on earth I have come to bring you life and life in all it's fullness.

Jesus died and rose again to make this possible.

Andy



Contact Andy-Lloyd Williams on
07958 604961

Summer 2023 Holiday Club

What a fantastic week we had running the holiday club and the family fun day. With the weather forecasts suggesting rain and wind, we did get some, but not when the events were happening!

At the holiday club, it was great to see so many children enjoying themselves again with all the different activities. We had wonderful crafts and fun sports all run by our friends at Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs. It was good to see the children growing in confidence.

One parent said, 'To begin with, my daughter was unsure about some activities. But later, she couldn't wait to get back to get involved.' Another said, 'My child made lots of new friends.' A big thanks to all the parents who signed up their children and to all the volunteers who helped make it happen. Thanks too, to the school and Northamptonshire Community Foundation who awarded us a grant to help us put together these events.





2023 FAMILY FUN DAY

What a great day! Again, it was good to see so many people come and enjoy the afternoon with us on the school field. The inflatables were a big hit, as always. Mike at the bike clean and lube station was busy all the time. The burgers and hotdogs from Chambers' Butchers were a big hit. We managed to get some great feedback from families who joined in the fun. One said, 'It was great to meet new people and catch up with friends.' Another said, 'Not many things that you can do for free these days.'

Big thanks to all who joined us for the day, particularly Brixworth Firefighters, the Police, King Bouncelot, Marios Ice Cream, the School, NCF, and all the volunteers who helped make it happen.

People continue to ask us, 'Why don't we charge for our events?'

It's all about God's grace to us – we just want to share that with you!



School Uniform Exchange

Despite having to move into the Community Centre foyer because of the downpour, this end of term event was a great success with many, many good quality uniform items given new owners. This year we were able to extend the range to local secondary uniforms too.

The free burgers and hotdogs were also greatly appreciated!

Brixworth Community Foodshare

With the current cost of living crisis deepening, this summer school holiday period saw us delivering Brixworth Community Foodshare gifts every fortnight. We were able to support around 20 local families each time. We were very grateful for generous donations from the Central Sports Club, Troops the Greengrocer, All Saints' Church and the many Olive Branch customers who quietly handed gifts over the counter. Many local families have expressed their thanks for this support over the holiday period.

Brixworth Community Church Weekly Events

Sunday:	10:30 – 11:45	Main Service of Worship (Brixworth School) (including Junior Church and Creche)
Monday:	19:30 – 21:00	Prayer Meeting in the Olive Branch
Tuesday:	19:30 – 21:00	TNT – for Teenagers*
Wednesday:	13:30 – 15:00	Home study Group
	19:30 – 21:00	Home study Groups
Thursday:	10:00 – 11:30	Olive Shoots – a Mums & Tots group*
	19:45 – 21:30	Home study Group
Friday:	17:00 – 18:00	Dynamites Children's Club* (*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

[YouTube@brixworthcommunitychurch](https://www.youtube.com/brixworthcommunitychurch)

www.brixworthcommunitychurch.org

(Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1188559)



Brixworth Community Church Coffee Shop

Our village Community Coffee Shop and the place to meet, be kept informed of village life and be sure of a warm welcome.

Mon - Thur 10-3.00, Fri 9.30-2.30, Saturday 9.30-1.00

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



Home of the All Day
Brixworth Breakfast
and much more!



All Saints'

BRIXWORTH

We are a church family seeking to nurture fellowship and faith in Jesus Christ...and to share the good news of His saving love with Brixworth and beyond.

What we've been up to...



Thanks to everyone who came out to support our Fete... and to all our helpers!



The South Atlantic Medal Association Airborne Riders pay their respects at the grave of Private Gerald Bull



Dedicating the new standard for the Brixworth and District Branch of the RBL





What we've got coming up...



ALL SAINTS' TRIP TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM

On 12th August, we've arranged a coach down to the British Museum, in London, to view the wonderful archaeological exhibits there. Contrary to the claims of many, the records of the bible are intended to be taken as historical fact - they are not legends or myths. Foreign rulers and kings of Israel and Judah who feature in the Old Testament are found in external archaeological evidence. Lots of this evidence is housed in the British Museum... and we're off to see it!

ALL-AGE HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

On 24th September, All Saints' Church family will be celebrating God's good provision and care. Everyone is welcome to join the celebration.

"Hallelujah! It is good to sing praise to our God, and it is fitting to sing glorious praise."
(Psalm 147:1, the Bible)



All Souls' Day Service of Remembrance **Sunday 29th October, 4pm**



This is a short service, to remember those who we love but see no more.

During the service we read the names of those for whom we have taken funerals over the past twelve months. If you would like to add a name of a friend or family member (whether they've died in the past twelve months or not), please get in touch.

What's always going on...

- **We meet every week, in the All Saints' Church Building, at 10:30am.** The service last for about an hour and a quarter. There is a children's area with toys and a craft for Primary-School-aged children. There is also refreshments after the service. Everyone is invited and you will be warmly welcomed.
- **FAMILY FAITH AND FUN. 3rd Sunday every month. 4-5pm.** Aimed at families who find it hard to be with us on a Sunday morning. FFF meets at the Brixworth Centre. We play games, sing songs, and have lots of silly fun, all while learning something about Jesus. Get in touch if you'd like to know more, or if you'd like to come along.
- **Thursday Lunch at The George (1st Thursday each month).** As a church family, we enjoy spending time and eating together. You don't have to come to church to join us for lunch, but you will need to book in with us.
- **Men's Fellowship (2nd Wednesday of each month) and "All Saints' Belles" Women's Fellowship (3rd Thursday of each month).** A great chance for us to get to know each other and invite our friends into a relaxed atmosphere. The men often meet in The George Inn; the ladies in the Heritage Centre. Again, everyone is welcome!

FOR MORE INFO

Contact, David Reith

01604 880 139

revdavidreith@gmail.com





BRIXWORTH P

Working towards

Chair's Chat

Vice Chairman Lynne Compton

Community

Community Events Working Group

Anyone For Tennis?

New net arrives at the MUGA

Green Framework

Aims for net zero carbon parish council by 2030

Bin Replacement

New bins are heading to your Public Open Spaces

safe4summer

Top tips for a safer Summer

Northamptonshire Talking

Get connected with what's happening in Brixworth

Chair's Chat

As I write this, Summer is in full swing but not with quite the weather we had hoped for! However, the rain has been beneficial for the gardens and allotments.

The new multi-use games area (MUGA) is now lined and tennis net in place (moveable for those who want to play other games, such as basketball or football). I

walk over St David's Playing Field most days after work, and it seems very well used and enjoyed. The next improvements planned at St David's Playing Field are a ball-stop net at the MUGA and sound dampening on the existing fencing.

There are a number of projects in the pipeline; bin replacement programme, adopting the BT kiosk on Silver Street (this will become an asset for the community possibly for a defibrillator or community book swap). We are also looking to the future, producing a business plan to explore further village improvements.

It is with regret I must inform you that two long-serving Councillors have resigned from Brixworth Parish Council, Councillor Sandra Moxon, Chair of the Council and Councillor Kevin Parker. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank them both very much for their sterling work as Councillors and champions for the village of Brixworth.



Community Events Working Group

Brixworth Parish Council has committed to establishing a Community Events Working Group. The group will be made up of Councillors and officers, but will also be open for residents, community and voluntary group representatives and event organisers to join. The aim for this working group is to consider village events and engage with organisers, participants and relevant parties for the benefit of the community. For more information, please contact the office at admin@brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk



Community Events



@brixworthPC



MUGA - Anyone for Tennis?

The MUGA at St David's Recreational Ground has been warmly received by residents in the village. We are pleased to announce that the Multi Use Games Area has now been equipped with a fantastic new tennis net system.

The versatile net has lockable casters which allow it to be easily rolled in and out of position on the court and is also weather resistant.

Tennis is a great sport for maintaining health, fitness, strength and agility. It also has social and psychological benefits. As well as a great physical workout, tennis is also a non-impact sport, a great way to meet people and spend time with friends, suitable for all ages and skill levels and you can start the game at any age.

If you are interested in the private hire of this facility for your sports club, please contact the Clerk for more information. The MUGA supports social inclusion and play for all, including spectator space and wheeled access.





DID YOU KNOW?

GRASS CUTTING

The Council maintains the grass on its own land and works on a two weekly cycle. It also cuts the highway verges on the 30 mph roads only on behalf of West Northamptonshire Council.

To report grass cutting outside of the village area please use the West Northamptonshire Council's Self Service Reporting Form.

<https://www.brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/about/council-services/>
<https://selfserve.daventrydc.gov.uk/forms/locationreporting.aspx?filter=grounds>

This Information has been brought to you by Brixworth Parish Council.

Green Framework

Brixworth Parish Council would like to thank the Brixworth Climate Action Group (BCAG) for their crucial part in putting together the Brixworth Green Framework.

BCAG membership includes residents and Councillors who work together on environmental issues in the village.

The framework explains Parish commitments and aspirations with the aim of becoming a net zero carbon Parish Council by 2030.

To view the framework document, visit:

<https://www.brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/council-policies/>



[brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](https://www.brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)



Bin Replacement

Our Councillors have had lots of comments during our Saturday Surgery sessions regarding the condition of our litter bins.

Over the coming weeks, Brixworth Parish Council will be replacing the Parish owned litter bins around the village. In consultation with the Brixworth Climate Action Group, which is made up of Councillors, local residents and the Brixworth Wombles, the Sherwood bin was the preferred choice.

This bin is manufactured from Everwood material; a unique, realistic timber grain polymer. It is strong and robust, requires minimal maintenance, and is both vandal and weather resistant. A sloped hood prevents rain water gathering in the bin. The single opening on the Sherwood bins, complete with lids, will also prevent litter escaping from the bin as much as is possible.

Our new bins which will be installed in public open spaces around the village including: St David's Recreational Ground; The Ashway; and The Pocket Park off Eaglehurst. Let's keep Brixworth Tidy!



safe4summer Campaign

As we reach the height of Summer, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service wants residents and visitors to the county to have an enjoyable and safe summer and have provided a range of safety advice as part of the #safe4summer campaign.

Whether you're planning a BBQ with friends, home improvements or an evening walk by the river, we have a few simple guidelines to help keep you safe. For even more advice, visit <https://www.northantsfire.gov.uk/safe4summer-campaign>

BE BBQ SAFE

- Take care when using cooking fires, and if you are the cook, don't drink too much alcohol and don't get distracted
- Never leave the barbecue unattended
- Never, ever use petrol or paraffin to start or revive your barbecue
- Keep the barbecue well away from sheds, fences, trees and garden waste
- Make sure children and animals stay well away from the barbecue
- Keep a bucket of water, sand or hose nearby for emergencies
- Make sure the barbecue is fully extinguished and cold before moving
- Never put the ashes straight into a bin, they could start a fire



BE DIY SAFE



- Do not overload sockets and do not use multi-way adaptors for power tools
- Always uncoil electrical extension cables fully, otherwise they can overheat and cause a fire
- If you're fixing an electrical appliance, switch off the appliance at the socket and pull out the plug
- Invest in a portable Residual Current Device (RCD) - a safety device that can instantly switch off the power
- Don't use electrical equipment in the garden when it is raining
- NEVER use water to put out a fire involving an electrical appliance. Pull the plug out or switch off the power if it's safe to do so

BE WATER AWARE

- Never swim alone - you may need help unexpectedly
- Don't drink alcohol when undertaking water related activities, it impairs judgement and your ability to swim
- Avoid walking routes near water if you have been drinking alcohol
- Supervise children in and around water - drowning can happen fast and silently
- Don't dive or jump straight into open water, this can cause potentially fatal cold water shock even on a hot day
- Take care around the water when walking or jogging - many who struggle in the water did not intend to go into the water in the first place



@brixworthPC

Northamptonshire Talking

Get connected with what's happening in your local area, stay up to date and get involved in shaping what goes on where you live or work.

Northamptonshire Talking, the new name for Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert, is a free messaging service from Northamptonshire Police and local partner organisations, providing news and updates on relevant policing and community matters.

You can sign up to receive email updates about crime and suspicious activity where you live or work, crime prevention advice and updates from your local neighbourhood policing team.

You can choose the type of information you want to receive and whether you would also like to get news and information from our trusted partners such as the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and Neighbourhood Watch.

You'll also have the opportunity to reply directly to your neighbourhood officers and have your say on local policing priorities.

For more information and to sign up visit:
<https://www.northamptonshiretalking.co.uk>



HOW TO REPORT

NOISE COMPLAINTS

- West Northants Council can take action on noise coming from the following sources: neighbours, DIY, industrial and commercial premises, intruder alarms, car alarms, noise from construction sites and anti-social behaviour.
- If your complaint is about shouting or arguing in the street or fireworks you will need to contact Northamptonshire Police.

**REPORT
IT**

<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/environmental-health/noise-pollution>

This Information has been brought to you by Brixworth Parish Council. All Incidents of this nature are reportable to and investigated by West Northants Council using any of the contact links above.

Contact the Parish Clerk:



To contact the Parish Council please write to:
 The Parish Clerk, The Information Point, Brixworth Library and
 Community Centre, Spratton Road, Brixworth NN6 9DS
 Email: parish.clerk@brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Telephone: 01604 347993

Full Council (Thursdays): 28 September, 26 October, 30 November
 Planning (Mondays): 4 September, 25 September, 16 October
 Surgery (Saturdays): 2 September, 7 October, 4 November

Please check website & noticeboard to confirm dates and times.
 All meetings are held in the Library and Community Centre.

For further information please contact the Clerk.

The Brixworth Parish Council Team



brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk

Brixworth Bowls Club Summer Season



The club met for a social gathering at Waterloo Farm where a delicious afternoon tea was enjoyed on a warm sunny day in beautiful surroundings. The food, especially the cakes, was delightful.

Target night

Our previous Target evening was so much fun we decided to have another one! The winners were Jeff Newitt and Mike Nice.

The evening was rounded off with a bring and share supper.

We always welcome new members and recently delivered leaflets to houses around the village to promote the Club.

If you're interested contact details are:

Jenny Chapman on: 07522 559673 or email on: brixworthbowlsclub@hotmail.com



Pictured above:
Mike Nice - runner up,
Jenny Chapman - club chair and
Jeff Newitt - winner



Happy Birthday to Norman Jackson, who celebrated his 100th birthday at Saxon House this summer.

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New Nissan Juke Hybrid Fuel figures (WLTP) - CO₂ mass emission - Combined (g/km) 114, Fuel Consumption - Combined (mpg) 48. WLTP figure is 67% (pending final homologation in 2022) for electric mode driving based on WLTP standard testing conditions. Figures shown are indicative and for comparability purposes. Actual real-world driving results may vary depending on factors including the starting charge of the battery, accessories fitted after registration, weather conditions, driving styles and vehicle load.
*Based on comparison of Juke Hybrid Tekna+ with Juke Petrol DCT Tekna+ grade **80% figure for electric mode driving quoted based on internal testing data in City driving conditions. Library image for illustration purposes only. Bristol Street Motors Nissan is a trading name of Bristol Street Fourth Investments Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Company registration number 00522856. VAT Registration number 902737238. Registered office: Vertu House, Fifth Avenue Business Park, Team Valley, Gateshead, NE11 0XA.

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