

Brixworth Bulletin

Including Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport

Issue No.14, September 2007



The above photograph shows the new crop being grown by local farmer, Richard Turney, in a field near Froxhill Terrace. The poppy plants contain morphine and when the crop is harvested in the second half of August, the seed pods will be sent to a company in Scotland which will chemically extract the

pain killing drug. Only the seed pods contain morphine, the seeds will be used in food.

Despite a poor year with a very dry April and a rain sodden June and July, Richard hopes to have a reasonable crop. The crop can only be sown one year in five in the same

field and therefore next year's crop will be sown near the Church, probably in the field owned by the Thomas Roe Charity Trust. The crop is the first to be grown in this county although it has been grown in Hampshire since 2001.

Harvey Fox

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

The Brixworth School governors are considering the possibility of hiring out one of their unused portakabin classrooms to a village pre-school group. If this happens, it may exacerbate the problem in the village of overcapacity in the five existing centres whereby function rooms are available for hire i.e. the Community Centre, the Village Hall, Brixworth Centre, Heritage Centre and Sports Pavilion.

When the Community Centre was opened in April 1999 by Neil Kinnock, the Parish Council sold the old Parish Hall as it was realized that there would be a considerable increase in the function room availability in the village. The Village Hall was extensively renovated in 2000 with the aid of large grants and the Brixworth Centre had a considerable face-lift in 2003, again aided by grants. Both

these buildings are, in general, well fit for purpose. The Heritage Centre which was featured in the last Bulletin was rebuilt in 1996. The Sports Pavilion which is used for a variety of functions has a large room with a bar. The only facility which has a high occupancy is the Community Centre whilst the others manage to cover their running costs with quite a number of vacant slots available for use.

If one of the playgroups leaves their present location, the loss will be keenly felt by the Centre affected.

Perhaps it is time to have a website with all the Centres displayed with their facilities and charges. This would enable potential users outside the village to see what is on offer. The village requirements have probably reached a natural ceiling.

Harvey Fox

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SPONSORED 'TRIKE' RIDE AT BRIXWORTH CENTRE



On the 10th/11th of July, children attending the Pre-School had great fun taking part in a 'Sponsored Trike', organised by the committee. Each child 'triked' their way around a circuit, receiving a certificate and treat for completing the course, whilst raising funds for the chosen charity 'The Birthmark

Support Group'.

The previous event, the annual Spring Fayre, held on the 19th May, successfully raised £521 for Pre-School funds. Many thanks once again to the sponsors Elsby & Co., Chartered Accountants and everyone who worked hard to make it happen.

Lions 'Ferret Out' a Donation for the Air Ambulance Service



The Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance Service have benefited from a recent fund raising activity carried out by Brixworth Lions.

The Lions organised a Ferret Race in Scaldwell Village Hall in conjunction with International Ferret Welfare who provided the ferrets and arranged the races. On the evening, the race goers studied form, sized up the conditions and laid their bets. But due to form, none of the ferrets followed form, and there were many losers. However, there were winners, those being the International Ferret Welfare who received a donation from the Lions to help in their work in rescuing maltreated ferrets and the main winners, the Air Ambulance Service.

At a meeting on Wednesday 13th June, Lion Jim Wardle, coordinator of Brixworth Lions, presented a cheque for £514 to Colin Caldecote of the Air Ambulance Service who then gave an interesting presentation about the air ambulance and the service it provides to this area.

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CELEBRATES HIS 40th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS
ORDINATION AS A PRIEST**



James Bonsor, Derek Grass, Sylvia Woodhead, Rev. Anthony Watkins, Mrs Patricia Watkins, Leslie Pomeroy, Sheila Jowers.

Over 60 parishioners of Brixworth and Holcot churches enjoyed a celebratory lunch at the Brixworth Centre on the 20th May to mark the 40th anniversary of Father Anthony Watkin's ordination. Derek Grass,

in his speech, covered many aspects of Father Watkins life as a priest in London, Chester and Tewkesbury as well as his 25 years to date at Brixworth/Holcot.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH BRIXWORTH SUMMER FETE



Dancing Display at the Fete

All Saints' Church Brixworth held its annual fete and flower festival in June and raised £2,400. The weather was kind despite a very wet June and July. The Arts

Exhibition sold over a third of the exhibits and raised £400 for the funds of the Friends of All Saints' Church.

**HOWCUTT FAMILY REUNION
14 JULY 2007**



About 30 members of the family met up at Brixworth Country Park for the first reunion of all branches of the Howcutt family. Fortunately, we had almost ideal weather to enjoy an event that was mainly held outdoors.

People came from as far afield as Yorkshire and Sussex, including descendants of all three branches of the Howcutt family. Not all of us share the same surname – for some it was a grandmother or even a 2 times great grandmother who provided that crucial link.

After examining several photograph albums, we were able to identify people dating back to the 19th century. The family moved on to Brixworth and visited the Church – the venue for many past family christenings, marriages and funerals. We tried our hand at deciphering the inscription on the tombstone of William Howcutt (1726-1782), from whom all English Howcutts get their name. Next stop was the old village school house which is now the Heritage Centre, where we enjoyed looking at displays about the history of the village.

Most of us took a stroll along Silver Street, where many Howcutts lived in the 1800's to 79 Northampton Road (built by John Howcutt in 1826) and then on to the surviving portion of the workhouse in Spratton Road, where our ancestors went when times were hard.

We rounded off the day with a meal in the garden of the "Coach & Horses", no doubt following in our forebears' footsteps.

Francis Howcutt

It would be interesting to hear from other old Brixworth families regarding reunions or their history.

**PLANNING APPLICATION
DA/2007/0734**

Dr Dallas Burston's planning application to build a new clubhouse for bowls and cricket purposes, and for laying out a bowls area, car park and access was approved by DDC on the 15th August 2007. This brings to an end the long running saga regarding possible alterations to Haywards Barn.

IN MEMORY OF PEGGY MALLARD



Kathy Utley, Practice Nurse, Dr M R M Southcott and Sue Mallard

Pytchley Court Health Centre, Doctors and Staff were very pleased to accept the gift of a resuscitation cupboard and an eyesight testing screen from Sue Mallard and her brother James in memory of their mother Peggy Mallard who sadly passed away last year. Village residents will have fond memories of Harry and Peggy and the farm in Church Street, where they lived and their children grew up.

Many of our patients coming into the surgery will spend some time in the treatment room where these items are situated, and some will benefit from their use.

As Practice Manager, and on a more personal note, I remember years ago taking members of the Brixworth Girls Brigade on a trip around the farm to see the many and diverse animals that lived there – a visit that was enjoyed by all. *Sue Salmon.*

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by Brian Webster



Lion's Teeth in the Garden.

I sit looking out of the window at a healthy show of lion's teeth on my front lawn. It shows what kind of a gardener I am when I let you into the secret that lion's teeth is none other than the common dandelion, indeed the name comes from the French dent-de-lion, which means lion's teeth. A glance at one of its leaves will show the jagged edges, like some huge mammal's teeth, and this is where the name originates. Another name for it is wet-the-bed. An old superstition has it that the plant, placed in the bedroom, would result in just such an accident. The French, again, more bluntly, call it pis-en-lit.

But the dandelion has much more going for it than a cluster of odd names. For a start it is one of the world's most successful plants, having turned the exploiting of us humans into a fine art. Originally a far from common plant, its population explosion began as soon as the first soil was turned, and has continued ever since. Even its seed is remarkable. Having parachuted in from afar, it has a battery of grappling hooks enabling it to screw itself into the soil.

Every part of the plant is edible, although it has to be said that the leaves taste very bitter unless you put a bucket or other container over them, or earth them up, to blanch them. Then they have a pleasant mild taste, ideal in early spring salads. The flowers also make a colourful addition to salads, if you can find any that are not infested with tiny black insects. Finally the roots may be roasted and ground to make a caffeine-free coffee substitute. As may be expected the French know all of this. They grow the plant as a vegetable.

Although dandelion has nectar, and is much visited by bees and other insects, it turns out that it is mainly pollinated by the wind. So if you could come back to life after the merest instant of earth time, say 20,000 years or so into the future, you could well find that it had given up producing expensive, showy flowers, to rely entirely on the wind to do the job.

Above all it is the perfect example of a weed – a plant in the wrong place. Its flat rosette of leaves mean that the lawnmower passes harmlessly over it, while its deep taproot makes it very hard to dig up from the lawn or vegetable garden. Leave just a tiny length of root in the ground, and a new plant will grow from it. Forget all this, and it has to be admitted that it is an attractive plant with its glossy leaves and showy golden yellow flowers. In fact if it was hard to grow, you gardeners would be queuing up at the garden centre to buy it for your garden.

ASHWAY CHANGING ROOMS OFFICIAL OPENING

Councillor Alan Hills (Chairman of DDC) will officially open the changing rooms at The Ashway on Saturday 1st September 2007. The Junior Football Club is arranging a friendly match to be played after the opening.

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People can find out more about their family heirlooms during a special **Antiques Roadshow and Open Day** at Brixworth Library & Community Centre in Spratton Road.

Brixworth Information Service, which raises awareness of Daventry District Council and its services in the community, is hosting the Open Day in partnership with Northamptonshire County Council Libraries on Thursday, October 11th 2007 from 2.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

Residents are invited to bring along an heirloom for a professional valuation during the event.

There will also be an opportunity to speak to officers from Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council who will be on hand to offer specialist advice and information on a range of council services, including Council Tax and Housing Benefits, Care and Repair, Community Dog Warden and Home Energy Conservation.

Other activities during the day include a free prize draw, Pre-school Rhyme Time, free computer taster sessions, Reading Group, the War Hammer Club for 11 to 15-year-olds, giveaways and exhibitions from organisations including Northamptonshire Police.

For more information contact: **Brixworth Information Service** on (01604) 882355 or 889362 or e-mail: info_service@daventrydc.gov.uk

SPRATTON ROAD RECREATION GROUND REGENERATION

Following the Annual Parish Council Meeting in 2006, a small group of residents formed a Group to discuss and plan the development of the Spratton Road Recreation Ground, given that a certain amount of money has been allocated by the Parish Council for such a scheme.

The Group has held 6 meetings and attended various Parish Council meetings to present their proposals and have now handed over the Project to the PC to take it forward. Basically, what the Project hopes to achieve is

- To create an enjoyable space for everyone
- Maximise the use of green space
- Reduce the scope for anti-social behaviour

Whilst

- Recognising the needs of nearby residents
- Working within the constraints of a budget
- Complying with relevant regulations

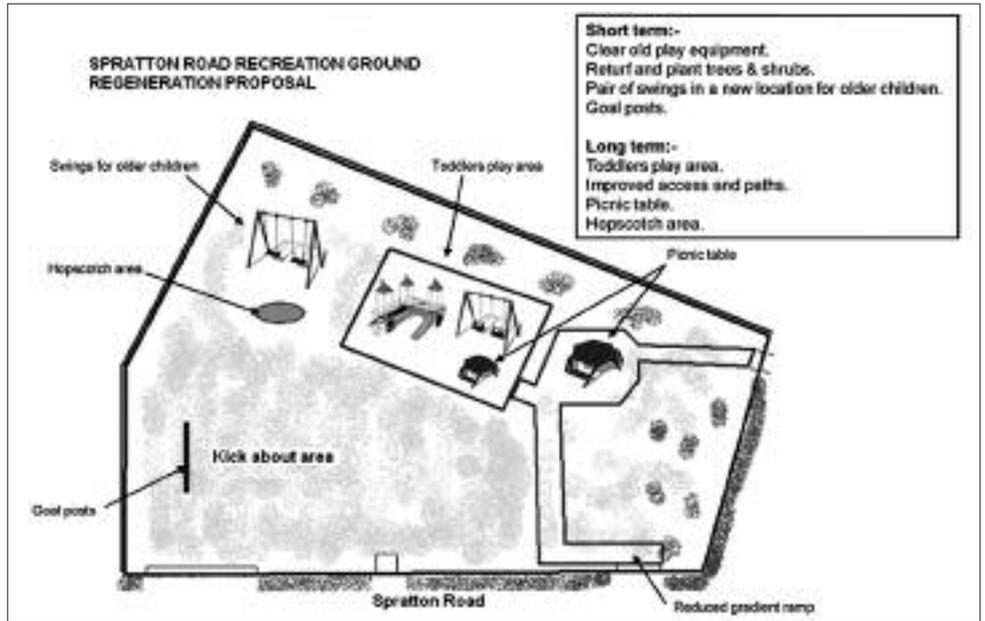
Thus, the proposed scheme would feature:

- Removal of existing play equipment
- A "Toddler Play Area" in a suitable vandal-proof material sited in a location to discourage anti-social congregations especially at night
- Two swings and a picnic table either side of this area
- Ample space set aside for "kickabout" area
- Pathway to facilities to enable pushchair and wheelchair access

The Parish Council continues to pursue the potential to purchase land to provide a suitable facility for bike stunts and other pursuits for the teenager users. However, realistically such a scheme is likely to take a year or more to progress.

It is hoped to present these proposals to the village in the near future in the Library Foyer but if anyone would like more information they can get in touch with me or attend one of the many Parish Council meetings.

Jane Neill



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We have some really good news for this month's Bulletin. The Trustees of the Club Room have asked me to report that they have been awarded grants by Biffa and by Northampton County Capital Funding Programme for the building works on Draughton Club Room. The Trustees are Gabrielle Cornwell, Kate James, Ben Tew and Ron Block and they have worked really hard for such a long time. Before they could apply for grants they had to establish title to the property. This involved collating all the evidence regarding the use of the Club Room as a village amenity and dozens of letters backward and forward to solicitors to get the Land Registry to accept their claim.

Thankfully the Club Room was used for Whist Drives and other regular events for many years and all were documented by the organizers, specially John Rose and Jack Sheppard who kept the place going from the late 1940's to the 1970's. Ron and I had our wedding reception in the room in 1952.)

Then there were numerous meetings of the Trustees and the endless filling in of forms to get to this point. Not to mention having to change the plans at short notice when a preservation order was put on the yew tree!

The builders say they can start the work in October, so let us hope this really will be the year that Draughton Club Room gets its kitchen and toilets and we shall have reached our goal.

Grateful thanks go also to the fund raising committee, now known as "The Friends of Draughton Club Room" for all their hard work with the Spring Fayres, Harvest Suppers and other fund raising events. They had to provide the third party funding. Thanks to everyone who has supported their efforts and please use the room when the building is complete.

The Church has also benefited from some hard working volunteers raising funds. The quiz night on the 8th June was great fun and did incredibly well and that was followed by a very successful golf evening on the 20th June. The fete was held on the 15th July and despite the rain clouds and all the competing events locally, made the magnificent sum of £650. Thanks to all involved in all these events and all who supported them.

There is one more event to come. For a long time the playing field has not been used and has got overgrown with nettles and thistles so there is to be a two day event in September to raise funds to get it cleared.

Anne Block

NEWS GATHERERS NEEDED

The Bulletin needs villagers who can advise the Editor of news within the village. There is not a need for the news gatherer to write the article, just point the Editor in the right direction. If you can help please ring Harvey Fox on 01604 8803



Members of Brixworth History Society and friends have recently returned from a long weekend in France. This is the fourth time the Society has visited France, the first being to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of D-Day in 2004. This year the group travelled to the Loire Valley and stayed in Tours; time was spent looking at châteaux and tasting some of the famous wines made there. Luckily the weather was once again favourable, the wet weather was left at home and this meant that the châteaux were seen at their best. The most picturesque was Chenonceau, built across the River Indre, which was the dividing line between Vichy France and Nazi occupied France during World War II; during the war many took

advantage of its position by entering via the occupied zone and exiting via the southern door on the opposite bank. Other châteaux visited were Amboise, Blois and Chambord - the largest with 440 rooms, 365 fireplaces and 84 staircases, not built to be lived in but as a hunting lodge!

There was also a visit to the Vouvray wine cellars with their 2.5 kms of tunnels and storage for 4 million bottles of wine - needless to say there are not 4 million after the visit!

Next year's visit will probably be to the Ardennes; details will be available at History Society meetings which take place on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.45am in the Village Hall.

Pauline Kirton

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir

During a casual conversation, I am informed of the following:-

Thoughtful car owners who in consideration of other road users will make efforts to park their vehicles off the road whenever possible, but instead of receiving any recognition or even assistance to do this, our local council will insist upon the pavement and kerb being modified by a contractor, approved by them at a quoted price in excess of £1000 plus a charge by the council for administration (approximately £150)

Looking at the present parking situation and anticipating the situation in 5 years time, I am forced to doubt this information and assume that the source of it must have originated in the local councils current 'joke book'.

Could we seek from the council confirmation (or denial) of the accuracy of the situation!

R Beaumont

Mr Beaumont was referring to a Lesson Road house owner.

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VILLAGE HALL ADMINISTRATOR

Hayley Wincott has been appointed the new administrator for Brixworth Village Hall and she has been in post since 16th July. She is the fourth administrator in the last 12 months and users of the hall will hope standards of administration return to the high standards of early 2006.

The WiiGs have joined the Village Hall committee.

PARISH COUNCIL ON THE MOVE AGAIN

The Parish Council have been holding their full council meetings at the Heritage Centre in Church Street for the last six months. They had moved from the Community Centre for security reasons but had voted to return to the Olive Branch Branch. However at the meeting held on the 24th July, they voted to move to the Village Hall, so all subsequent meetings will be held there.

LORD ROBERT NODEN

Since the 10th June, the village has a Lord living amongst us. Lord Robert Noden acquired the title when he purchased a plot of land in the Highlands of Scotland. The estate has fishing rights and the land may be enjoyed by Lord Robert and his heirs in perpetuity. No doubt his fishing friends will be queuing to go to Lochaber with him.



Brixworth has a youth club?????

Yes it's true! Brixworth Youth Foundation runs a youth club for young people 11-17 years of age on Monday evenings at 10 Ironstone Close, Brixworth from 18:30-21:00. This includes school holidays and Bank Holidays with the exception of Christmas and New Year.

The Foundation also runs a media club where young people can become involved in a number of music and film based activities. This includes skills in karaoke, DJing, using



computer technology to make music and development and tuition for young bands in all aspects of the music industry. Sessions are every Thursday from 18:30-20:30.

It costs £5 annually to become a member and £1 per session. Guests are welcome and pay £2 per session.

Next year we have plans to develop a youth theatre, so if you are interested in any of the above mentioned activities as a volunteer or as a member ring John on 07913110934.

John McFadyen.

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POLICE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM THE RACING POST

It seems no time at all since the last report however I have a few things to report.

In the last bulletin enclosed was a return form requesting 'what you feel are the concerns within your community'. I am disappointed by the response, as we have probably had no more than about 12 returns from the bulletin. We are keen to know how you feel about the issues that concern you so together with partners we can improve matters. We welcome suggestions detailing how you would like us to collate your opinions.

Early indication from all returns point to anti social behaviour around the village centre, including drinking in public, parking and speeding, as your concerns.

Over the next few months local community members along with ourselves will gather all your returns and decide upon the 3 priorities for the next 6 months or so. These priorities will be displayed and publicised locally.

Parking does seem to be a rather emotive issue in Brixworth. We have to use common sense and discretion in relation to parking infringements and ask for understanding of this. We cannot possibly 'ticket' every offending vehicle but will take action where an unnecessary obstruction is caused, particularly in relation to junctions where visibility is reduced by inconsiderate parking. Please do not use St Davids Close as a parking area for the sports field; frequently elderly residents are blocked in their own homes and this is not satisfactory. The government is keen for the local council to take on responsibility for parking enforcement, to date Daventry and Kettering councils are holding out but I guess it will only be a matter of time before civilian wardens are seen on our streets.

A 17yr old male is currently on bail for causing grievous bodily harm when a youth was run down on Brampton Way on 9th April – the Crown Prosecution Service will review this case and make a decision on charge in the near future.

Since the last report the 22 year old Brixworth male appearing in Crown Court for some local burglaries received an 18 month sentence.

The Brixworth adult male convicted of selling alcohol without a license and to youths was finally sentenced to 28 days imprisonment but has appealed to the Crown Court; he is currently on court bail pending that appeal.

A particularly malicious incident occurred outside the Community Centre on May 3rd when a fit and able adult female parked in the disabled bay. Upon return to her vehicle she was annoyed by an elderly disabled gentleman's car parked close to hers. The woman then smashed an egg against this gentleman's car and drove off having verbally abused him to staff at the Centre. This woman has been dealt with for this offence and issued with an £80 fine

On May 7th a Brixworth adult male was caught on the CO-OP CCTV stealing a £3000 carbon fibre pushbike. Unfortunately the Crown Prosecution Service, following arrest and interview, have chosen not to proceed with the case.

An 18yr old Brixworth female has received an adult caution for setting light to fencing on St David's playing field on 21st May.

3 local school boys are currently being dealt with for offensive graffiti on the new changing rooms on the Ashway playing field (around June 4th) and on other items of public property within Brixworth.

PCSO Jo Hillery will be working with Jemma from August 1st to get to know the role and area.

4 motor vehicles have been stolen from across the area over the last week all with keys left in the vehicles!!! Please be aware that opportunists are around and will take your vehicles without a thought in such circumstances. Keep your homes and vehicles secure and leave nothing on display. We have a good selection of security measures that can be used in the home and to secure out-buildings and sheds.

Finally, please let us know your concerns we are striving for a balanced opinion. You can post the return cards in the box at the Community Centre to me at Catherine House Harborough Rd or hand them to us when you see us about, alternatively email us at SCTDaventryRuralNorth@northants.police.uk

PS Mike Grady

Eagle-eyed readers of the horse racing pages in the last couple of months could have been forgiven for expressing surprise at the sight of the name Brixworth Scribe among the list of runners.

Not only has the newcomer to the flat racing ranks now been seen at Windsor, Leicester, Hamilton (near Glasgow) and Carlisle, but his performances have merited steady improvement with a third place, second and finally a win on his last outing on the 27th June at Carlisle.

Although the two year-old is trained in North Yorkshire by Bryan Smart, he is owned by three local men, Mick White, Mark Beesley and Paul Mason.

Paul Mason is the son of the late Ron Mason who trained racehorses successfully for many years at Guilsborough while Mark Beesley has now lived in Brixworth for ten years and writes regular freelance reports on racing and tennis in the Chronicle & Echo and the Kettering Evening Telegraph. Two years ago his book – 'A Season in the Sun' – recalled the Cobblers rise to Division One in 1965/66.

Explaining the story behind Brixworth Scribe, Mark said "I first came into contact with Paul Mason shortly after I moved to Brixworth. At the time a horse named Guilsborough was running in his colours and realizing there must be a local story, I managed to track him down. Paul now runs a thriving breeding business at Ash Tree Farm near Staverton."

He added "Paul and his wife Rachel and their children Rachel and Suzannah have become great friends but the whole business blossomed when I introduced them to Mick White whose packaging firm Dalepak Ltd was taking off in Northampton. Mick was anxious to buy mares and have runners at the races himself and enjoyed success with a horse called Crimson Silk. The pair approached me this year and said they wanted to run a two year-old in recognition of my support and I came up with the name Brixworth Scribe."

Mark Beesley

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LOCAL DOCTOR RETIRES

After 38 years in practice, Dr David Alston has retired as one of the resident G.P.'s at Brixworth's Pytchley Court Health Centre. On the 20th June grateful patients presented Dr Alston with a crystal decanter and glasses. It is expected that Dr Alston will continue as locum doctor to the practice as and when required

DACT NEWS

Peter Oliver joined DACT as a volunteer car driver and volunteer minibus driver in December 1997, becoming a member of the Management Committee in July 1999. Peter was also later elected onto the Finance Committee where he provided a valuable contribution. His wealth of experience has benefited DACT in so many ways and assisted in the development of a strong and effective organisation. Peter founded the Brixworth Travel Club which still provides minibus transport to the Brixworth and surrounding areas. This has been a lifeline to many people who would otherwise be rurally isolated and provides a much needed service every week of the year.

Peter is standing down from the Management Committee but is continuing as a volunteer driver. He will be sadly missed on the Management Committee.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 2007

Stephanie Arnold and Vanessa Crooks would like to thank all who gave and those who distributed and collected the envelopes. The amount raised in Brixworth was £1641.72.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A groups offer opportunities for learning and social gatherings to the over 50s within a local area. Internationally, there are ten tutored courses and 28 untutored courses available through the internet. These cover a great range of subjects.

In addition to these courses, each U3A group can organise its own courses on any chosen subject with Foreign Languages, Genealogy and Local History proving very popular. These can be supplemented with regular group meetings and day trips to places of interest. U3A is mainly targeted at the over 50s but not exclusively so. For more information, visit www.u3a-info.co.uk.

Anyone in Brixworth, Walgrave, Holcot or surrounding areas who would be interested in forming a U3A group or learning more about U3As are asked to contact:- Philip Pomeroy (01604 781246) poms@wits-end.fsnet.co.uk or Gerry Dobson (01604 882493) gerry.rosemary@btinternet.com If there is sufficient interest, we will arrange an inaugural meeting.

The most important aspects of a U3A group are that it should be interesting and fun. There are no achievement awards presented and no pressure on results. It is purely an opportunity to learn and meet new friends.

We look forward to hearing from you.

RUSHAVENN TIME AUTHOR DIES

The well-known children's writer, Theresa Whistler, who worked with a group of Brixworth Primary School children on Saturdays for an extended period of time with the aim of writing a full-length children's story in the early 1980s, has died peacefully at her Devon home. Her son, Daniel, a documentary writer for the BBC, would like to hear from any of the children (now adults) (**Graham Cleary, Julia Dawkins, Dawne Fleet, Sarah Goodwin, Iain Hogg, Alexander and David Houston, Stephen King, Hugh Leeming, Lorraine Miller, Andrew Musson, Alex Myles, Carl Salmon, Jennifer Spurgeon, Rachel Wagg**) who worked with Theresa on the ground breaking Rushavenn Project. Any Bulletin reader knowing the present whereabouts of the above is asked to draw their attention to this notice. The book written by Theresa and the children, **Rushavenn Time**, won the prestigious Nestle Smarties Prize for Children's literature IN 1988 Daniel is anxious to receive written reminiscences – long or short – of this memorable venture.

Further information can be obtained from myself on aeestos@talktalk.net

Peter Woods (former Head Teacher)

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PLANNING STATUS REPORT

REFERENCE NO. & DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	P.C. RECOMMENDATION & D.D.C. DECISION
DA/2006/1304C/McInerney Homes, Land at Holcot Rd. Amended plans to permit footpath 1.8m wide on Holcot Rd. side of development	P.C. 31/1 No Objection. DDC approved
DA/2007/0213 Cedar House Brixworth Hall Park. Outline planning permission for new dwelling.	P.C. 27/3 Objection. DDC refused.
DA/2007/0290 8 Eastfield Road. Conservatory to rear	P.C. 24/4 No Objection.
DA/2007/0243 12 Woodsfield. Outline application for a three bedroom dwelling.	P.C/ 24/4 Permission only recommended for a bungalow. DDC refused.
DA/2007/0264 Detached dwelling on land to the rear of 20 Northampton Road.	PC 24/4 No Objection. DDC approved.
DA/2007/0265 61 The Ashway. Conservatory to rear.	PC 24/4 No Observations. DDC approved.
DA/2007/0274 21 Broad Street. Single storey extension to rear.	P.C. 24/4 No Objection. DDC approved.
DA/2007/0320 12 Dairy Close. Side extension to provide utility room at rear with study over existing garage	PC 24/4 No Objection provided built to match existing materials. DDC approved
DA/2007/0324 Merry Tom House. Garden room (amended scheme)	PC 24/4 No Observations. DDC approved.
DA/2007/0381 Co-op 3 Hunters Way. One fascia sign, one double sided projecting sign (internally illuminated)	PC 24/4 No Objections, but PC would not like to see sign illuminated throughout the night. DDC approved.
DA/2007/0396 Sunnybank, Station Road. Loft conversion to provide bedroom, bathroom and study.	PC 24/4 Objection – roof-lights out of character to the property which is in conservation area.
DA/2007/0383 Land at rear of 24 Northampton Rd. Variation of condition 3 of DA/2007/0065 re Plot One only. Pedestrian visibility splay.	PC 24/4 Noted DDC approved.
DA/2007/0600 87 The Ashway. Construction of wind turbine.	PC 26/6 Objection as it is considered unsightly and detrimental to the street scene.
DA/2007/0625 Sedgebrook Grange, Bampton Lane (Old Barn Merry Tom Lane). Conversion of redundant barn to Class B1 Office.	PC 26/6 No Objection but subject to conditions.
DA/2007/0621 44 The Ashway. Single storey rear extension.	PC 26/6 No Objection.
DA/2007 0666 29 Windmill Glade. Two storey extension to include conversion of garage to playroom, utility area & wc at ground level & a further bedroom at first floor level.	PC 26/6 No Objection.
DA/2007/0734 The Manor House Northampton Rd. Erection of a clubhouse for bowls/cricket, laying out bowls area, car park and an access.	PC 24/7 No Objection subject to condition.
DA/2007/0724 1a The Ashway. Two storey extension to side of dwelling.	PC 24/7 No Objection.
DA/2007/0731 Rosemount, 22 Northampton Road. New conservatory and vehicular access.	PC 24/7 No Objection to conservatory but concerns re access.
DA/2007/0736 CPL Arcemas Ltd Quarry Road. Installation of a new silo and bund wall to existing factory.	PC 24/7 No decision until further information on type of material to be stored.
DA/2007/0754 Land adjacent to 24 Northampton Road	PC 24/7 PC wishes to see the existing hedge to front of property retained either side of proposed new access.

DRAMA ACADEMY

Since January 2007, Sarah Moloney, the Principal of the Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, has opened six studios. However as the Academy has grown so quickly, Sarah is opening a studio at Brixworth's Community Centre in September and it is advisable to book early.

KELMARSH SAFETY CAMERA

The speed camera on the A508 just before the junction with the A14 at Kelmarsh was modified in June 2007 and can now monitor drivers both approaching and driving away from the camera. It is one of the first in the county to be so modified, so drivers should drive at or below the 40m.p.h as the camera can see both ways.

B.A.S.F.C.

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Ticket prices: £5 adults,
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Sundays

7.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist (first Sunday of the month)
10.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist & Address
6.00 p.m. Evensong

Weekdays

Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Fridays 7.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist
For other days, see weekly sheet in Church



FROM THE VICAR

Dear People of Brixworth,

I'd like to recommend a book I've read recently, entitled "Nobody's Child" by Michael Seed (Metro Publishing).

It is not a book to take to bed and at times it is painful (indeed nauseating) to read. If I hadn't met him or heard him speak I would probably not have bothered to read this book which tells of the early life of one who survived childhood abuse of the most brutal and sadistic kind to become a Franciscan monk and priest.

His father was a bully in ways too awful to recount here; his mother suffered from depression and through much drug-taking became something of a zombie, before committing suicide on a railway line, leaving Michael then largely at the mercy of his witch-like paternal grandmother.

Yet somehow he emerged from all this as a human being with a great capacity for learning and making friendships. His supposedly maternal grandmother helped him greatly through her affection and genuine care as well as one of the teachers at the school for disturbed children to which he was eventually sent. Thankfully we learn eventually that his parents weren't really his parents. He had been adopted at an early age.

Religion-wise he was baptized a Roman Catholic, became a strict Baptist for a while and then an Evangelical Anglican when he was made not just to renounce but denounce as heresy everything taught him as a Roman Catholic. It is amazing that he persevered within his faith after all this but he did and as a Roman Catholic priest has helped many to overcome their own problems and disillusionments over faith-matters, through his humour, his directness and his boyish zest for life.

We hear much about child-abuse these days and the courts and our newspapers seem to be filled with cases of it. Here is a true story of real abuse without litigation or rancour with a thoroughly constructive and even happy outcome, as all who have had any dealings with Michael Seed would strongly wish to testify.

Yours sincerely

Anthony J. Watkins

CALENDAR FOR AUTUMN 2007

- Sept.** 2 SUNDAY: TRINITY XIII Service at 7.45a.m. & 10.00a.m.
9 SUNDAY: TRINITY XIV Service at 10.00a.m. only
16 SUNDAY: TRINITY XV Service at 10.00a.m. only
23 SUNDAY: TRINITY XVI Services at 10.00a.m. & 6.00p.m.
30 SUNDAY: St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS Services at 10a.m. & 6.00p.m.
- Oct.** 7 SUNDAY: DEDICATION FESTIVAL Services at 7.45a.m., 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m.
14 SUNDAY: TRINITY XIX Services at 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m. (at Holcot) HARVEST THANKSGIVING
21 SUNDAY: TRINITY XX Services at 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m.
28 SUNDAY: ALL SAINTS' DAY (PATRONAL FESTIVAL) Services at 7.45a.m., 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m.
- Nov.** 4 SUNDAY: ALL SOULS' DAY Services at 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m. (No service at 7.45a.m. this Sunday)
11 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY Services at 7.45a.m., 9.30a.m. & 6.00p.m.
N.B. At 10.45a.m. Short Service of Remembrance
18 SUNDAY: TRINITY XXIV Services at 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m.
25 SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT: FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING Services at 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m.
- Dec.** 2 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT: Services at 7.45a.m., 10.15a.m. & 6.00p.m.
N.B. Advent Carol Service in candlelight at 6.00p.m.

Please note the change from 10.00a.m. to 10.15a.m. on Sundays from the beginning of October. (I had hoped to avoid further change of timing but can't face another winter of being late and agitated! Vicar)

EVENSONG will be suspended for three Sundays in September as last year but it is hoped the congregation on Sunday evenings (small, but much valued) will return invigorated after the break.

ALL SOULS' DAY is officially Friday. 2nd November this year, the day after All Saints' Day which is observed internationally on November 1st. For pastoral reasons these observances are made more of on the two Sundays that flank them, since sadly most Church of England people don't believe in churchgoing on weekdays. However, on Friday 2nd November after the special requiem service at 10.00a.m., the church will be open (with an attendant on hand) for people to come and pray for loved ones departed and if they so desire, light a candle and leave a record of the names of any they would like remembered at the service on the following Sunday morning.

FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

Sunday. 13th May	William Owen PARSONS 11 The Ashway
Sunday. 27th May	Curtis William ARNOLD 59 Broadlands

HOLY MATRIMONY

Saturday. 12th May	Jon Christopher BILLSON & Helen Mary LEGG 47 Honeyholme
Saturday. 9th June	John FOSTER & Claire Christine WOOLRIDGE 9 Demswell
Saturday. 21st July	Mark James ALLEN & Rebecca Alison JEYNES 15 Waterlee Furlong

HOLY BURIAL

Saturday. 23rd June	Constance WATKINS 11 Northampton Road
Monday. 23rd July	Jean ELDRED 4 Parkfield Road

HANGING HOUGHTON AND LAMPORT NEWS

The village “Summer Frolic” held on the 30th June was a great success with nearly 200 villagers and their friends attending. The event was held at the barn in the valley below Hanging Houghton. Local band Superfly played a variety of music and the dance floor was very popular. The villagers decorated the barn, ran the bar and the burgers and sausages stall. Thanks go to all the villagers who helped organize this event, particularly Tom and Fran.

It is hoped to repeat the event next year, when hopefully the weather will be better!

There has not been much progress on the work at Clint Hill Farm, although I am told that preparation for building will commence at the end of August. The developers are Deeleys of Coventry.

The council is still considering the bonfire night event as we have lost our original site for this ‘do’. We are looking at the possibility of using the barn at the bottom of the valley.

David and Janice Tanzer have moved from Hanging Houghton after 22 years. They have gone to Holcot, we wish them well in their new home. We also extend a warm welcome to the new family moving in and hope that they will be very happy.

Some of you will have noticed the vehicle that was for sale at the junction of the road from Hanging Houghton and the A508. The council has phoned the vendors to inform them that this is not allowed by the Highway Authority rules. The vehicle has now been moved. *Mike Philpott*

RESEARCH ON BRIXWORTH ALL SAINTS’ CHURCH

If you’ve lived in Brixworth for twenty years or so, you may remember teams of archaeologists clambering about on scaffolding and making drawings of the walling of the church. If you moved in more recently and missed the excitement (!) you might like to know what it was all about.

For several years we (The Brixworth Archaeological Research Committee) carried out a detailed survey of the oldest parts of the church, drawing every individual stone to scale. Then, because the stones are very varied in type, our geologist, Dr Diana Sutherland from Mears Ashby, inspected them one by one and noted precisely which type of rock formation it came from.

Why are we doing this? Well, partly to discover the exact age of the building. I remember years ago having a sandwich and a beer in The George during one of our lunch breaks, and said this to some of the men at the bar. ‘Can’t archaeologists read, then?’, asked one of them, ‘You’re wasting your time. The notice board at the end of the street says it was built in AD680’. In fact, though the church may have been founded then, excavations in 1981-82 showed that the present building was put up nearer to AD800 – so there was probably an earlier church that has entirely vanished. Lots of changes took place in the almost 300 years up to the Norman Conquest, and we really need to find out more about them to understand how the church took its present shape. That’s the real point of the survey.

All the data we gathered lay dormant until two or three years ago. Now with the aid of grants from major archaeological societies we have begun to process the information, using sophisticated computer techniques that were not available when we carried out the work. The colourful stone-coded drawings can be manipulated to show where each type of stone was used, and we hope to show which batches of stone were available at what date. Some we know came from other buildings that had been demolished and in some cases burned. But which buildings and where?

As the hunt for answers to these questions goes on, we will try to keep you, the people of Brixworth, up to date with how we are getting on and what results are coming out of the research.

David Parsons

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**SPRATTON'S FOLK
FESTIVAL – 13th & 14th July**



Another very successful year for the Spratton Folk Festival held on 13th and 14th July. Despite terrible weather before and after the event, the sun shone over Spratton culminating in a beautiful salmon sunset on the 14th. The crowds of over 5,000 were treated to a wealth of folk bands from near and far, including Irish and Morris dancing and bands such as Show of Hands, The Ginger Pig Band and Togmor.

The highlight on Saturday evening was the world famous Capercaillie band from Scotland, who had everyone, young and old, up dancing. A real treat on our doorstep that will certainly be repeated by me and my family.
Jane Neill

THOMAS ROE CHARITY

The next meeting of the Trustees will be on the 11th September 2007. Applicants for educational grants should obtain their application forms from the Daventry Information Office and get them countersigned by a Trustee, before submitting the form to Ursula Morris, Clerk to the Charity, before the end of August.

BRIXWORTH UPLANDS BUILDING

Some time ago I wrote in the Bulletin about the History Society's plans in partnership with the Friends of All Saints Church to lease the old school building in Church Street known as the Uplands Centre and convert it into a local museum for Brixworth.

Since then we have drawn up a Business Plan and received substantial promises of help, both with the initial funding and running the museum. Sadly however it became increasingly clear that we could not hope realistically to raise all the £50,000 we needed to get the museum equipped and open to the public. As a result we had to inform the County Council who own the property that we could no longer proceed with the negotiations for the lease.

We are very grateful for the generous financial offers of support we received both from the County Council and the Parish Council as well as a number of individuals. We also appreciated the professional help, freely given, which we received from Paul Tudor and Tom Warrender of Messrs Underwoods and Wilson Browne respectively.

Now the Uplands Centre stands forlornly boarded up while the County Council decides what to do with it. Hopefully it can still be retained for the benefit of the people of Brixworth.
Dennis Coles

'I applaud the marvellous efforts of many local people and other partners in their attempt to raise the necessary funding to get the existing redundant Uplands Centre converted into a local museum. Whilst this was not possible in the end, I am confident that a smaller museum facility will emerge in the Heritage Centre in the coming months. The County Council are now undertaking an exercise to establish potential future uses for the Uplands Centre in order to determine its future'.
Chris Millar

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featuring



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TOO MANY NHS MANAGERS? WHERE ARE THEY?

It was recently decided that my seventy-five year old heart could do with some help and that I should be fitted with a cardiac pacemaker. These small, battery-powered, devices are (surgically) tucked under the skin of the chest near the shoulder and one or two fine wires are threaded along a handy vein from the pacemaker into one or more chambers of the heart where they are able to deliver an electrical pulse whenever the heart forgets to do the job. I was assured by my consultant, Dr Jekyll (no, not his real name), that this operation is a simple, routine procedure carried out under a local anaesthetic with just a single overnight hospital stay.

On the due date, I checked in and was pointed vaguely in the direction of a vacant bed.

Then – a very long nothing happened. No one came to welcome me, talk to me, book me in, take notes or anything, though a lady with the drinks trolley offered me a forbidden cuppa. Eventually, I wandered over to the nurses' station (so called, I imagine, because the nurses seem to spend most of the time just standing there) and asked what might be happening next. The most they managed was to hand me that sexiest of garments, a hospital gown.

Eventually, the questions and note-taking began. Now it seems to me that if one person asks a patient "are you allergic to anything?" and writes the answer in the patient's notes, that should be enough for all comers. But no, I must have been asked the same question by at least six people. Only self preservation stopped me replying that I am allergic to being repeatedly asked the same question. Then the registrar, Dr Hyde, arrived to listen to my chest and to tell me that he was going to do the job but that Dr Jekyll, the consultant would be keeping an eye on things. He was also interested to discover if I happened to be allergic to anything.

I then enjoyed the usual cannula experience. After the fat, jolly nurse (the only one in the ward whose mouth was able to shape itself into anything even resembling a smile) exclaimed "Ooh, lovely big veins", she proceeded to introduce the cannula into a fleshy area on the back of my hand somewhere near one of the lovely big veins, arriving at the intended destination after two or three pain-inducing attempts. She clearly believed in Becket's tenet "No matter, try again, fail again, fail better". Third attempt, cheers all round and a lovely bruise as a souvenir.

In the theatre I was greeted by a very cheery Dr Jekyll. Sadly, his cheerfulness faded later. We had a brief debate as to which side of me the device would best be placed and, though Jekyll had earlier thought the right would be more appropriate he now decided to go for the left, the more usual location.

Because this op. is done under a local anaesthetic, I was fully aware of all that followed. I was told that I would be given the local anaesthetic injection in the relevant area and that, sorry, the injection would hurt but it was all in a good cause. I was to be sure to let them know if I felt any pain while they were working in the cavity and more local would be forthcoming. It did and it was, several toe-curling times!

The British Heart Foundation's booklet on pacemakers states that this operation usually takes between 30 and 60 minutes. I, however, was on the table for over three hours and bursting for a pee after two! They could not find the vein into which to thread the all important wires. Both consultant and registrar took turns and made several attempts to locate the elusive pipework, they wheeled in various gadgets to aid them and they even phoned a colleague to see if he would like to have a go; it made me think of "Fifty-fifty, Ask-the-Audience and Phone-a-Friend". I said to Dr Jekyll "I bet you wish you'd gone for the right side after all" to which the wag replied, "I wish I'd gone on holiday!" Finally they made it but with only one wire (the plan had been for two) and lots of assurances that the simple pacemaker (one wire) would do just as good a job for me as the complex (two wire) version, though that did leave me wondering why they had been going for the two wire job in the first place. But I was now so desperate for relief and feeling pretty stressed that I no longer cared.

In the recovery room, I enjoyed the bliss of a bottle but then found that I could not hold it with my left hand. My left arm had become completely numb and paralysed. I tried to discuss the matter with the recovery nurse but language and culture made this as frustrating as trying to communicate with Tiscali's Indian call centre. She called over a (pacemaker) technician but he shrugged his shoulders with something of a "nothing to do with me, guv" attitude. I guessed that the numbness and loss of use might be as a result of the local anaesthetic I'd received in the area near the top of my arm and the nurse seemed relieved at this suggestion. Wheeling a doctor in for an opinion did not, however, seem to be on the cards. By next morning, my arm was more or less back to normal and I realised that I had not, after all, been afflicted with a stroke.

After a fitful night listening to sufficient fluids being coughed up on which Noah might launch his ark, I was due to go home. "Mustn't hang around", I thought. "They need the beds, don't they?" I washed, breakfasted, dressed and by 9.00am, sat waiting to be discharged. Expectation: "Good morning – how are you feeling? Now, we'll shortly change your dressing, your doctor will come and see you and, if he is satisfied with your progress, will discharge you. You may then summon your chauffeur & vamoose". Reality: nothing. For hours. Clearly no one was in charge. I kept visiting the nurses' station and asking what was happening, with only vague responses.

Only after much persistence did I discover that I was supposed to have an X-Ray which I finally had at around 3.00pm. (This followed a bizarre episode where a doctor strolled over to ask me if I'd had an X-ray that day. I told him I hadn't. Five minutes later he returned and asked me if I was SURE that I hadn't had an X-ray? I told him that I felt certain that I would have noticed if I had.) I finally checked out at 3.30 pm which meant that my bed, though not being used by me, was effectively "blocked" to any new patient for the best part of the day.

One of the usual complaints about the NHS is that hospitals suffer from excessive management. In this case, there seemed to be a complete absence of any management whatsoever. It was impossible to work out who was in charge, who was responsible for knowing what was to be done, when it was to be done, ensuring that things got done and for keeping this poor old patient informed. I would have expected it to be the Ward Sister; no doubt there was one but, regrettably, we never met!

Agromenes

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1st BRIXWORTH RAINBOWS 10th BIRTHDAY



On the 28th June 2007, the 1st Brixworth Rainbows Unit celebrated their 10th Birthday.

Heather Evans and Michelle Cole, the guiders who run the Unit in the village, were joined by girls past and present to help celebrate this special occasion.

We had about 40 girls attend, two of which were from our first group when we started back in 1997. We were also joined by our then District Commissioner, Jo Moore, who

helped us set up the Unit.

Our present group of girls helped our guests perform the "Good Evening Friend Rainbow" dance. After a few practices everyone got the hang of it. During the evening we had the cutting of a cake and the singing of both our original and new meeting songs.

Heather and I would like to say thank you to all the girls that attended, it was lovely to see them all.
Michelle Cole

BB's TRAIL AT BRIXWORTH'S COUNTRY PARK



Liza Goddard opened BB's Little Grey Men Trail on Saturday 21st July at Brixworth's Country Park. BB's inspiration for his book "The Little Grey Men" came one evening in the nursery at Lamport Rectory. Along the trail are some of the characters from the book which tell the story of the brother gnomes Baldmoney, Sneezewort and Dodder and their adventures looking for their brother Cloudberry.

CONGRATULATIONS DR. PAUL RILEY



After attending Brixworth VC Primary and Moulton schools, Paul went to University College Northampton and gained a degree in Podiatry.

He practiced in Oxford for two years, then went on to study medicine at Leicester Medical school from where he has just graduated.

He will be taking up a post at Northampton General Hospital this summer.

His wife Sarah, parents Colin and Angela and all the entire family and friends wish him the very best in his medical career



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REVIEW OF DRAMA GROUP'S LATEST PRODUCTION



A great drama was enacted in the Village Hall when the Brixworth Drama Group staged their latest production in mid June. No, not the play, Silly, I meant the flood that came through the flat roof into the ladies' toilets and the reception area. The Drama Group were forced to halt their first night performance mid way through because the water could have caused an electrical fire. However thanks to hard work by the Fire Brigade assisted by members of the Group and the Village Hall committee, it was possible to get the roof repaired and the hall sufficiently dried out for the remaining two performances on Friday and Saturday both of which played to full houses. Well done for the prompt response to this emergency.

The Brixworth Drama Group has been in its current existence for 25 years. During that time it has experienced its ups and downs like most organisations. But recently, the group has been going from strength to strength with a confidence reflected in the staging of a performance during the summer season, normally a desert for amateur dramatics.

This time they put on two one act plays of which the first was 'The Allotment' by Gillian Plowman marking a successful directorial debut by Heather Pool. It told the story of a quartet of mature ladies doing community service on an allotment. As each one unveiled their story we learnt of Lorna's (Libby Bowers) Shakespearean aspirations and Marcie's (Jean McDonald) limited driving skills. The comedy continued to build throughout the play as doubt was increasingly cast on the ladies tenuous grasp on reality. Finally, the inept Probation Officer Daisy's (Sue I'Anson) revelation to Norah (Sue McAspern) tipped an unsuspecting audience over the edge into shocked pathos.

The second play 'Last Panto in Little Grimley' is David Trisham's sequel to the 'Last Tango in Little Grimley' which the group performed recently. Again we see the last four surviving members of the Little Grimley Amateur Dramatic Society. Gordon

the Chairman/Producer/Script-writer played by Mike Culverhouse, managed to display all the least endearing attributes of Simon Cowell and Alan Sugar. Eileen Truby played Joyce the Treasurer/Secretary, who probably failed the first round of the 'Sound of Music' auditions televised last year and was the sort of minute taker who made Dibley's Frank look efficient. Gordon is reined in from bullying the timid Joyce with a sharp reminder by Margaret the leading lady (Heather Pool) of a cardinal rule of many village organisations, "never upset the Treasurer!" Finally there was Bernard, Stage Manager and the group's nearest thing to a Best Boy played dryly by Andy Knight whose opening position was unenviably beneath a

large stage flat.

Gordon persuades them to tackle the Christmas pantomime he has written with predictably hilarious results. The script has been devised to exploit the baser instincts of their target audience despite Margaret's protestations that she is not prepared to go topless. This is followed by an entertaining spate of vituperation between Margaret and Bernard which was hugely enjoyed by the audience. After considerable discussion the cast finally manage to agree a date for their rehearsal (Yes they could only fit one into their busy schedules) only to arrive and find that the script has been produced on Gordon's new word processor which mixes up the t's and s's with great confusion. The cast carried off this interchange with a style that Ronnie Barker would have been proud of. All four members of the cast under the sure handed direction of James Skeggs gave very convincing performances and put great feeling into their characters. Was this reflecting their own life experiences?

Altogether these were two hugely entertaining performances from the group; even the programme had an amusingly quirky appearance. I'm looking forward to their future possible production of the third play in the series 'The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley'. Meanwhile if you feel you would like to be part of this group whether on stage or off, you can get in touch with the real Secretary – Eileen Truby eileen@truby.freeserve.co.uk or telephone 01604 880692. You will be guaranteed a warm welcome from this friendly group.

Dennis Coles

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On the 3rd June in Milton Keynes and 13th June at Silverstone race circuit, two separate groups of women from the village took part in a sponsored walk/run for Cancer Research. In one group, the mothers were running with their daughters.

As Pearl's family, we were honoured that both groups took part in this event in

memory of Pearl and were kindly named 'Pearl's Girls'. They raised over £1,000 which is a real credit to them all for such a worthy charity. I have arranged a game of football against Spratton for the over 40's on the 26th August at Spratton for the MacMillan charity where we aim to raise a further £1,000.

Stuart Mitchell

Eliza Robinson (age7) and Sammy Guilliver (age7) took part in the Race for Life 2007 at Burghley House, Stamford on the 20th May.

They walked the race with their mums. Eliza and her mum Louise walked it in 55 minutes and Sammy and her mum Lindsey walked it in 49 minutes.

They raised money for cancer research. At the end of the race, they received a medal for taking part. They enjoyed the walk and were very proud to take part.



PHILIP HOLLOBONE MP

Member of Parliament for the Kettering Constituency

reads, enjoys and is pleased to support the Brixworth Bulletin.

Local residents in Brixworth, Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport wishing to get in touch with their Member of Parliament, please contact Philip via:

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Philip is always pleased to visit constituents in their own home if more convenient

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Brixworth Cricket Club



With 2 Saturday teams, a Sunday team and 5 junior sides, all playing league matches, Brixworth cricket has never been in a healthier state. With increased interest in the club at all levels, the outlook for future seasons is extremely promising.

With 8 victories to date from 15 games, the 1st XI lie in 4th place in Division 1 of the Northants Cricket League. Only 10 points separate the top 4 teams (at the time of writing)

so an exciting climax to the season is in store. Paul Blakemore and Alex Lacey have dominated the batting, both scoring over 450 runs so far. Blakemore's innings of 140 against Rothwell has been the highlight of the season. Our Australian opening bowler, Nathan Rice has sadly had to return home, but while he was here he made a great impression along with some useful performances. Captain Colin Sibley and Dave Marlow have also bowled extremely well.

The 2nd XI have had mixed fortunes - also lying 4th in Division 5 of the league. With several very close finishes and, on their day, without doubt, the strongest team in the league, consistency has been hard to find and bowling teams out to win matches has proved difficult on too many occasions. The most positive aspect has been the continuing development of our under 17 contingent. Tom Chapman has batted well and made several appearances for the 1st XI, most recently performing extremely well against a strong Geddington team. Adam Shulver continues to impress not only with the bat and has bowled extremely well at times this season. Ashley Hammond and Fraser Bennet have also made useful contributions with bat and ball and all show great promise for the future.

Our junior teams have all had great fun and a good deal of success. The under 9s won the Kwik cricket festival at St Crispins. The under 10s, in their 1st season of competitive cricket, have won 5 and lost 4 matches (all by less than 15 runs) and could even make the league play offs. Our coaching sessions have unearthed some very good talent to join Henry Timm, Miles Porter, Declan Slinn, Matthew Bridges, Rottemi Seagun and 'keeper Aquib Naved.

The U13's have had a mixed season with the B team finding the step up to this level difficult, but always playing with great spirit and broad smiles on their faces. The A team, after a wretched start have recovered well, with wins in their last five games to finish in the top 6. Danny Higginson has had a fine first season of spin bowling, taking 18 wickets - more than half the team's wickets. The run scoring was led by Toby Cowley and Joe Curtis with significant contributions from George Jackson (including a great innings against a full strength ONs side) and Ali Duncan with 3 20's (not out) in his last 3 games.

The U17's had a disastrous start to the season, however very good wins against Saints by 9 wickets (Shulver 52 not out), Horton House by 20 runs, Towcester by 50 runs turned things around. In the batting, the usual suspects Shulver and Tom Chapman have led the way with Ash Hammond and Adam Wallinger having fantastically consistent seasons with the bat both averaging over 40. With the ball James Chapman is realising his potential with 12 wickets followed by Fraser Bennett with 9. The U17's finished 3rd in the league and reached the semi finals of the cup.

Henry Timm is in the County Squad at U9s and the following went forward to the district teams; U11s - Henry Rawlings, Taylor Nolan; U13's - Joe Curtis, Toby Cowley, George Jackson, Callum Johnson, Ali Duncan.

Many thanks must go, as always, to our main club sponsors - Merrys, Jewson and Mainland. Without their continued support the club could not function as successfully as it does. *C.Timm*

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Brixworth Cricket Club Golf Day is on the 26th September at Overstone Park. Teams of 4 - £40 per person - including 18 holes of golf, bacon roll and coffee on arrival, and 3 course carvery dinner. For full details please contact Andy Roper on 686643 or Chris Timm on 882591