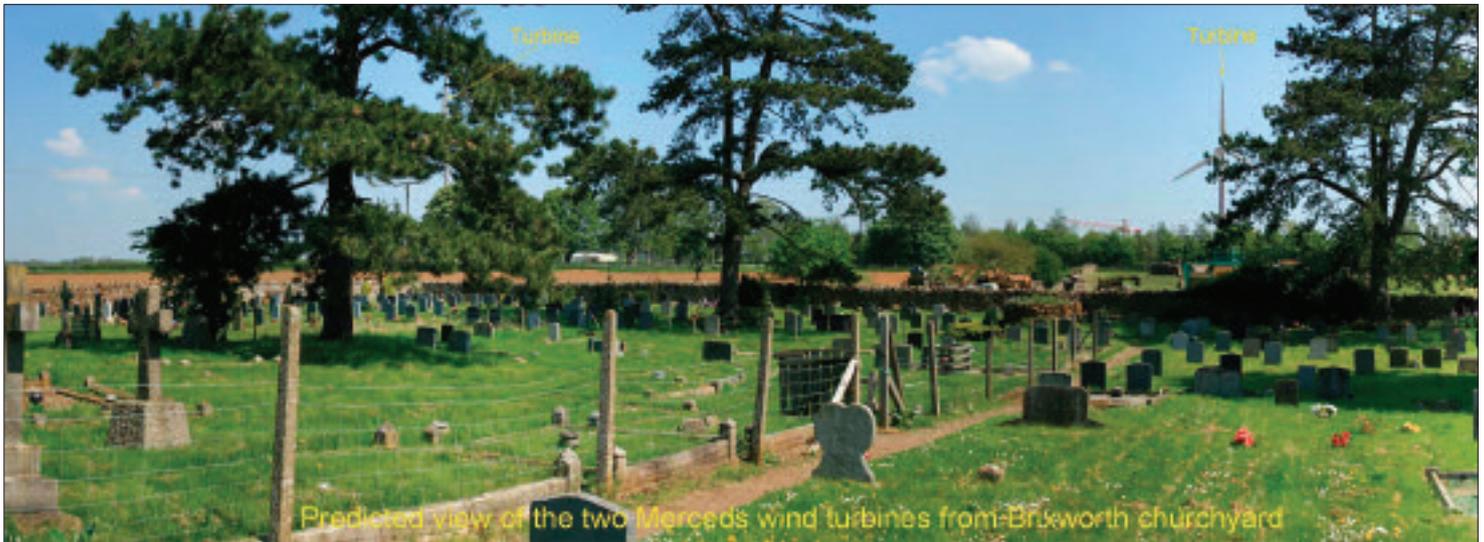


Brixworth Bulletin

Including Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport

Issue No.19, December 2008

MORE TURBINES PUT WIND UP PROTESTORS



Mercedes HPE have submitted a planning application to erect two wind turbines, each 127 metres high on their Brixworth site positioned as shown on the map. The photograph shows a predicted view from the churchyard.

A considerable number of local residents has reservations about the installations of the two locations (Bolderstone plc & Mercedes HPE) for wind turbines for some understandable reasons. However two important points have been raised by the applicants.

1. An important report by Logica CMG claims that in only 8 years, demand for energy could outstrip supply by 23% at peak times. The increasing demand will have to be matched with increased generation. Coal and gas fired power stations take many years to build and nuclear power stations take about two decades.

2. The Large Combustion Plant Directive which came into force on 1st January 2008, covers all generating plant above 50MW of capacity which is likely to emit sulphur during the combustion process, limits such plant to 20,000 hours of generating time between 1st January 2008 and 31st December 2015 after which time they must close unless they had fitted gas desulphurisation equipment before 1st January 2008. They can therefore only produce electricity for 28.5% of the available hours in a year. This compares with the capacity factor of around 22% to 35% for a typical wind farm.

A site meeting was held at Morgan Drive on Saturday 1st November and the intention was to raise a blimp to a height of 127 metres to show the height of a turbine, but the hot air

balloon was buffeted by high winds and the demonstration was unsuccessful.

Ola Kaellenius, Mercedes HPE Managing Director, spoke to me on 11th November and sent through the following statement.

‘Mercedes-Benz HPE and Wind Direct would like to confirm that they have temporarily withdrawn their planning application for two wind turbines in Brixworth in order to allow additional information to be provided to D.D.C. This will enable a more informed decision on the project.

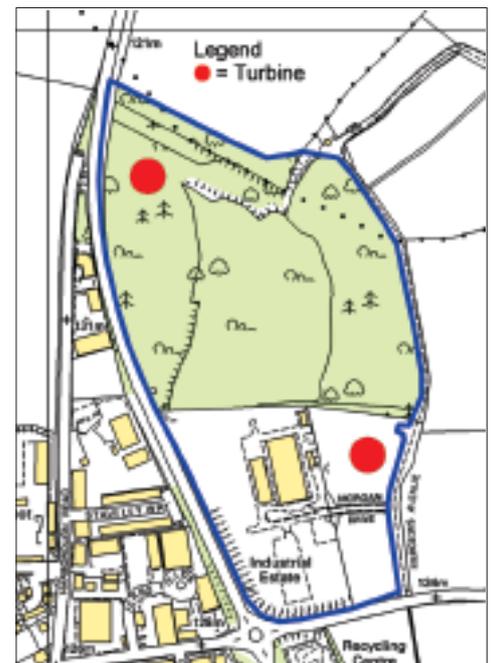
Mercedes-Benz HPE and Wind Direct intend to resubmit the application early in the New Year. We would like to take the opportunity to consult with local residents and stakeholders during this period and have also decided to postpone the exhibition due to be held on the 13th November until the New Year.’

If you have any further enquiries, please contact Peter Kubiena on 01604 880100 or e-mail: publicity@mercedes-benz-hpe.com

Harvey Fox

The Bulletin would like to offer congratulations to Mercedes HPE for their part in supplying engines to McLellan's Formula One racing car in which Lewis Hamilton won his first world championship.

Past issues of the Bulletin can be viewed online on www.brixworthbulletin.com. Messages can be sent to the editor on a pre-set addressed e-mail format.



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The entries submitted for the Bulletin photographic competitions have been of an excellent quality. We hope readers will continue to send in their photographs, which even if they do not win the £25, we may use their entries in future issues of the Bulletin.

NEXT PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION
COMPETITION
The Subject will be 'HIDDEN PLACES IN BRIXWORTH'
WINNER RECEIVES £25
Entries by end of January



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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH - REPAIRS



Every five years, those responsible for the Church, i.e. the Vicar and his church council are obliged to commission an architect to inspect and report on the state of the church fabric.

The last report in November 2006 listed much that required attention. Had all that was listed been put right, the cost would have exceeded £100,000.

Priority always has to be given to keeping the water out. Thus it was decided to dig into a reserve of funds kept for such a rainy day.

Urgent roof repairs just completed will cost £15,000. Much of this is the cost of complying with Health and Safety legislation concerning scaffolding.

With reserves now depleted and further work needed before long, there is a serious funding problem, likely to be beyond the ability of a declining congregation to meet.

In future it is possible that appeals will have to be made to individuals, families, groups, organisations and businesses in the village to sponsor specific work. Might it be that a potential donor would agree to fund the painting of one down pipe or a group pay for some new stone work for a window. There is perhaps satisfaction derived from seeing how one's money was spent.

Derek Grass

DRAUGHTON NEWS HANGING HOUGHTON AND LAMPORT NEWS

On Sunday, 5th October, Mary and the congregation for the 8a.m. Holy Communion Service discovered water running down the inside of the south wall of the St Catherine's church. On investigating they found a quantity of lead had been stolen from the lower roof and the heavy rain that morning had poured in.

The churchwarden covered it with tarpaulin as a temporary measure to stop further damage and reported the theft to the police.

The church has now been protected by Smart Water Forensic Systems and residents, especially those living near the church, are asked to be vigilant and call 999 if they see anyone suspicious.

Better news regarding the Club Room as the project is now under way. Progress report will be made in the next issue.

The controversy regarding the proposed Harrington Wind Farm rumbles on. Let's hope the NUON Renewables' findings and plans weekend in the Loder Hall, Maidwell, will answer some of the questions. *Anne Block*

SKINNER

Sandra and Gary would like to welcome their fifth grandchild Samuel Peter, born to Katie-Louise and Mark on the 12th May 2008. Many thanks to everyone who sent cards and presents for Samuel's Christening. I take this opportunity to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. *Sandra*

The Parochial Church Council held the **Harvest Supper** for our villages at the Loder Hall in Maidwell. This event was well attended and a good time was had by all. The PCC raised a good sum of money for the church.

Our annual **Bonfire Night** was held on the 5th November. Despite the horrible weather conditions, the attendance was good. The bonfire and fireworks both went off well. Our thanks go to all of the helpers, particularly to Tom Saunders for allowing the use of his field and farm buildings. The apprentice firework lighters, John and Paul, did well!

We welcome 2 **new** sets of **neighbours** to the village of Hanging Houghton, firstly Guy, Caroline and their daughter, who have moved into the cottage vacated by Sue and Dave Bayes, and secondly Paul and Eleanor Phillips who have taken occupancy of the gatehouse in Manor Gardens. We wish them both a warm welcome to our village and look forward to meeting them at some of our future village events.

On the subject of **wind farms** the great majority of residents of the two villages are opposed to the proposed construction of the 9 turbines in Brixworth. This is hardly surprising considering the wonderful views that we enjoy of the historic Brixworth Church and the countryside bordering the Brampton Valley Way.

There are numerous other reasons why these huge alien machines should not be situated onshore, and if you want further information please visit the "stopbrixworthwindfarm" website.

We were all greatly cheered by the decision taken by the Brixworth Parish Council to "strongly object to the Mercedes planning application for 2 turbines", and now hope that DDC will make the same decision.

The building taking place at **Manor Gardens** Hanging Houghton has been slowed down recently. Work continues on the exteriors of the remaining seven dwellings, while the developers await an upturn in the housing market *Mike Philpott*

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100% Nature specialises in helping customers with a number of ailments including: acne, asthma, arthritis, babies health, chicken pox, colds, eye/ear/nose and throat infections, eczema, molluscum contagiosum, pregnancy and immune support. You can also get one-to-one advice for any health complaint not yet listed.

You can order online at www.100percentnature.co.uk (and have your postage refunded upon collection) or call 01604 880151.


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FUND RAISING FOR THE CYNTHIA SPENCER TRUST

Jackie Tidd presenting a cheque for £936 to Pam Nock of the Cynthia Spencer Trust which was raised by the Red Lion Charity Fun Day



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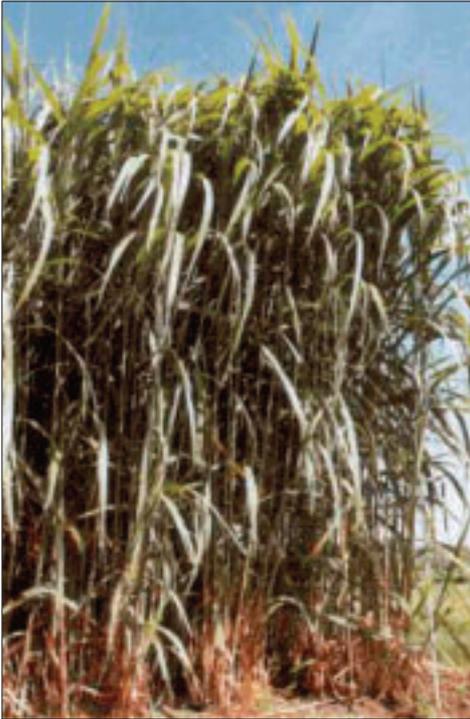


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BIOFUELS AND BRIXWORTH

BY DR. PETER WILLIAMS (Resident of Silver Street)



Miscanthus of the type grown in Brixworth

A wind farm is proposed for Brixworth, the Government has just increased its pledge to reduce green house gases by 2020 and new forests of 6ft tall grasses are springing up around Brixworth. Are these totally independent phenomena or are they all inter-related.

Remember the summer of 2008, or what there was of it? You will certainly remember the furore around the increase in food prices, the riots in Asia when rice became scarce and the increase in petrol prices. Remember that the increase in food prices was put down to the enormous expansion in biofuels? Remember also how shortly after, fuel prices dropped in late October and somehow the argument around biofuels seemed to fade away? There is one unifying concept behind all these issues, that is global warming and the fact that it is perceived that we need to do something about it.

However just to confuse matters, a very learned professor in the USA, Denis Avery, recently questioned whether we are moving in the right direction because he believes that the world is actually cooling!

I come at it from a slightly different angle but the conclusions are the same. It has been said that we need to stop living off what the sun has put in the bank and start to live off what the sun creates today. There is a finite source of fossil fuels and somehow we have to find a renewable source of energy. All of the above factors relate directly to this issue. Let me try and briefly piece this jigsaw together and suggest how it might impact on our environment here in Brixworth.

I want to focus here on renewable energy from crops. There are many options for

renewable energy, wind farms or wave power being two alternatives. Crops which grow using energy from the sun are also a source of renewable energy. Seeing fields of Miscanthus planted locally has made me think how this issue will affect my local environment in Brixworth. Look out for the crop on the right as you drive down the Harborough road from Brixworth to Kingsthorpe. I work for a company that is a partner in the construction of a bioethanol plant in Hull, so have a vested interest in the subject. These are my personal views.

We call the bioethanol plant a biorefinery, ethanol will be just one of the products we shall produce from a renewable source, but more of that later.

Just recently, on the 16th October, the UK Government committed to cutting green house gas emissions by 80%, up from a 60% target, by 2050. One way to do this is to burn greener fuels in the engines of our cars. The incentive to do this is a piece of legislation called the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO). This is exactly what it says. The UK Government is obliging the fuel industry to use greener fuels. In the UK the RTFO means that fuel companies will gradually have to increase the percentage of biofuels used in their products (diesel and petrol). This will start with 2.5% for 2008/9 finally reaching 5% in 2010/11.

Currently biofuels are produced from cereal crops (corn or wheat) which produce bioethanol as a replacement for petrol or from oilseed crops (rapeseed and soya bean meal) from which we can produce biodiesel. This is where the food versus fuel debate started. These are termed the first generation of biofuel crops. It is interesting that we have been producing ethanol from these crops for several hundred years but the value of the ethanol is somewhat higher when it is matured in barrels, given a fancy label and called malt whisky. This is potable alcohol, basically the method of producing the alcohol is exactly the same as producing biofuel ethanol.

What people do not know is that for every litre of alcohol produced from the starch in the grain there is a valuable co-product made up of the fibre and protein of the grain which is fed to livestock. This co-product, distillers dried grain and solubles has been a source of animal feed coming from the Scottish whisky industry for many years. Much of the best Scottish beef has been fed on this product.

So when people talk about the acreage which will be sown to produce grains for bioethanol they fail to say that basically one third of the acreage is producing animal feed, not to mention all the straw that is now being used in the open yards for rearing pigs. But the acreage we shall need to meet the RTFO is large. It is calculated that to meet the UK 2010 RTFO goals approximately 3 million tons of wheat will be required. This is a tremendous incentive for farmers to produce more wheat.

But don't forget the equivalent of one third of this land is producing the co-product for animal feed. This is a tremendous opportunity for British farmers and will help bring vibrancy back to the country side. And a final thought, when the wheat is planted it is a matter of choice whether we choose to use it for food or fuel. At some future time we may make the choice to sacrifice petrol for the car for food we eat, but by growing wheat we have the choice. We can definitely expect to see more fields of wheat planted around Brixworth.

What about the Miscanthus that is now being grown locally? These are termed the second generation biofuels. They are capable of producing more biomass per hectare compared with cereal crops because they grow all the year round, even though the amount of sunlight that they receive in a British winter is only minimal. These crops will grow in the bright winter sun available in central North America, but their ability to do so in the United Kingdom is uncertain. Miscanthus can either be dried and used directly to fire power stations or again can be used to produce biofuels. However, I wonder whether sufficient thought has gone into the logistics of cropping and drying such crops and then transporting them long distances to the power stations. I definitely know that the technology to create bioethanol from the crop has a long, long way to go and currently is nowhere near being cost effective. It is for this reason that I favour the first generation technology. Wheat is a crop that we know how to grow and grow well in the UK. But stands of Miscanthus are definitely a new sight on the Brixworth horizon, look out for them.

Finally, a word about biofuels and the potential risks to food supply. Have you noticed that all the fuss about the conflict between biofuels and food supply has died down? It's not that there is no issue. Biofuels will require more land to be cultivated. However, if sustainable biofuels are used and forests are not sacrificed to plant oil palms, then biofuels are a means of achieving demonstrable carbon savings in the fuel sector and making the UK less reliant on imported fuels, particularly when we happen to live in a country with only minor reserves of coal, oil or gas. The farming sector is key to the UK economy and this is a great incentive for the countryside. It is ironic that the focus on a world wide grain shortage as was reported in the summer has been followed by record world wide harvests which have allowed us to partially replenish those stocks that only four months ago were looked at with dire consequences. Farming has a knack of responding when needed.

So here in Brixworth we have a microcosm of the UK response to global warming. New second generation biofuel crops already planted, the potential to see flowing wheat fields soaking up the sun's energy, who knows maybe a wind farm. Did you realise that Brixworth is at the cutting edge of technology to cut global warming?

CLIMATE CHANGE



The photograph, which shows two goldfinches at a feeding box after snow had fallen on Easter Day 2008, was taken by Hannah Cheyney in her garden at Froxhill Crescent.

Recently on the 28th October, we had a covering of snow accompanied by a long period of very cold weather. Probably in December and January, we will have a heat wave, which wouldn't go amiss due to the very high energy costs currently being imposed by gas and electricity suppliers.

As the government has dispensed with Energy-watch, the organisation which used to look after the consumers interests, we are left with OFGEN who seem determined to exercise even less control than the FSA over banks.

Harvey Fox

CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH IN MEMORY OF ANDREW MITCHELL



This photograph shows footballers who took part in a charity football match at Cogenhoe in September which raised £700 towards the funds of Dream Flights, a charity which sends seriously ill children on a holiday of a life-time. The match was arranged between a joint Brixworth/Spratton team and a Cogenhoe team in memory of Stuart Mitchell's brother, Andrew, who died from cancer in October last year. Stuart and Andrew were players with all three teams during their playing days. Stuart, whose wife died of cancer within the last few years, has raised money on a regular basis for charities in memory of his wife.

PAYING THE BILL

Around three years ago, two police officers came to the Parish Council; what did they want? I had paid my TV licence, my car was taxed, but no - they offered us a deal - a police officer in the village...if we'd help pay for it. Our village survey told us this was a key area for us to focus on, so the Parish Council took the plunge and the rest is history! Mike and his team have made a terrific impact on the village and our huge

thanks are due to him for his leadership of his team. Best of luck in your next position, Mike. I will miss your reports to Parish Council. Often you came in your own time and you managed to make even the mundane sound interesting! You and your team have made Brixworth a better place to live in and that is policing at its best.

Ian Barratt Chairman B.P.C.

The advertisement features a dark green background with a white silhouette of a building at the top. Below the silhouette, the text 'the george' is written in a white, lowercase, serif font. Underneath, a larger white serif font reads 'The George in Brixworth is now open following an extensive refurbishment.' Three small, square photographs are arranged horizontally: the first shows a plate of food with a glass of beer; the second shows a tall glass of beer; the third shows a plate of food with a glass of beer. Below these images, white text reads: 'Jayne, Jerry and the team welcome you to The George a refurbished, restyled traditional welcoming village inn, with a contemporary twist, friendly service and a relaxed atmosphere. Enjoy delicious traditional food, with quality ales & wines. Why not book your Christmas Party here at The George and enjoy a sumptuous feast from our excellent homemade Festive Celebration menu. Call 01604 881439 to book your party now!' At the bottom, a white banner contains the text 'drink • eat • relax • enjoy' in a dark green, lowercase, sans-serif font. Below the banner, white text provides contact information: 'The George, Northampton Road, Brixworth, NN8 9BU Tel: 01604 881439 Email: mail@thegeorgebrixworth.co.uk Web: www.thegeorgebrixworth.co.uk'

BULLETIN BOARD

Brixworth and District U3A

Update

It is now a year since this new branch of the Third Age Trust was started and we have over seventy members from Brixworth and the surrounding villages. The monthly meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 2p.m. in the Community Centre over the library and during the year we have enjoyed a varied and interesting range of speakers who have talked on a diverse number of topics.

There are now several 'Interest' groups including Art, Genealogy, Away Days, Rambling, Lunch Club, and Conversational French. A new group has formed for table top games which will start with Scrabble, and will expand to other games over the coming months. Advance notice of group activities is available at the monthly meetings and this is when members have the opportunity to sign up for any events in which they would like to participate.

The committee meet every two months to deal with administrative matters and to plan further events and the groups meet on a regular date each month with the Art, French, Genealogy, and Table Games groups meeting at specified venues under the guidance of a fellow member. Recent Away Days have been arranged to Lyveden New Bield, Cottesbrooke village fete, and Wadenhoe whilst the ramblers have visited Great Brington, Gumley, Eastcote, and Maidwell, starting with coffee and finishing with lunch, at the local hostelry. The Lunch Club has recently visited the Red Lion at East Haddon (for an evening meal), The George at Great Oxendon, and The Bell at Little Addington, and a Christmas lunch has been arranged for 9th December at The Royal Oak at Walgrave.

The meeting on December 3rd will be of a seasonal nature but as the Christmas lunch is on a rambling date there will not be a walk then, but the usual monthly outings will recommence on January 13th. Similarly, the away days are rested over the winter months and will recommence in March 2009.

Gerry Dobson

BRIXWORTH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 2009 PROGRAMME

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Brixworth Village Hall at 7.30p.m.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| January 13th | Lisa Donald will talk on Macmillan Cancer Support. Competition A Buckle |
| February 10th | Anthony Noble will talk on my time on board the Royal Yacht Competition Royal Souvenir |
| March 10th | John Elliot will talk on a parliament of owls Competition Model of an owl. |
| April 14th | Danielle Shaw will talk on life of a romantic novelist. Competition Love Token |
| May 12th | Resolutions Competition Cup and Saucer floral arrangement |

BRIXWORTH CHURCHYARD

Thanks to a few volunteers who have been working very hard this summer in keeping the grass etc. under control, the churchyard as a whole has looked in a better state than even I can remember. I know they don't want to be mentioned by name but many of us who pass through the churchyard regularly know who they are and that we owe them a great debt of gratitude. If there any others in the village, who would like to share their labour with them, such as strimming, please let me know.

A.J.Watkins.

Daventry District Council Brixworth Information Service

This office will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Saturday 27th December and New Year's Day. It will be open as normal on Monday 29th December and Friday 2nd January and Saturday 3rd January 2009.

BRIXWORTH SHORT MAT BOWLS

The club meets every Friday at Brixworth Community Centre Church Street.

The times are 2.30p.m. - 4.30p.m.; 7.30p.m. - 9.30p.m. If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome. Contact number 01604 880343 - Les Hawkins.

Janet Hickman

DOG OWNERS

Since many of you like to take your dog(s) through the church yard, it is important that you keep them on a lead. This is especially necessary in the case of Alsatians and other big dogs which might well attack passers-by they take a dislike to, resulting in terrible consequences.

A.J.Watkins, The Vicar

The Friends of All Saints' Church will be holding a Barn Dance on Saturday 14th February 2009 at The Village Hall. Tickets from Bev King 01604 880951

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

It's such a shame that George Hammerschmidt (*September Bulletin*) felt impelled to recount his negative experiences of being a School Governor with readers of the *Bulletin* and potentially put off anyone from becoming one. Schools need their Governors and often find it difficult to recruit new members. It can be a very challenging but ultimately rewarding opportunity and a great way of contributing to your local school and learning new skills. I have only recently become a Foundation Governor at our Primary School here in Brixworth and I must say that although it was all a bit mystifying at first, I have been made to feel most welcome by both the Governing Body and the school on my visit there last term. I am quickly picking up all the jargon and abbreviations and feel that I understand a little better what is involved in the all-important job of educating our future generation. I have no regrets so far and would implore anyone who may be reconsidering after reading the *Bulletin* article to give it a go.

Yours faithfully
Jane Neill

Dear Sir

My name is Gareth Humphrey. I am 27 and I have been a resident of Brixworth for the last 17 years.

As I am sure you are aware, Remembrance Day is just round the corner this year and I am

concerned, as an ex serving soldier, that there is going to be a lack of recognition for our armed forces, both dead and alive as I have not seen any invitations in the village.

I assume there will be the usual service at the church, but I was wondering if there will be a parade to the church for a service for example? This would be a chance for all heroes to meet and appreciate those that cannot be here to share such a momentous day.

I appreciate that time is not on our side to organise such an event if none has been arranged, but I would be grateful if this could be arranged in Brixworth in the future.

Kind regards
Gareth Humphrey

Editor's note: Last year the *Bulletin* reported that about 60 residents attended the Remembrance Day Service at the memorial in front of All Saints' Church. This year, there were about 100 people attending. Several people have talked about a joint service between the church and B.C.F. Perhaps the Brixworth Parish Council could have exploratory talks with the Rev. A.J. Watkins of All Saints' church and the Rev. P. Walter of B.C.F. to discuss the possibility of a parade or procession from a point in the village to the memorial, followed by a joint open air service.

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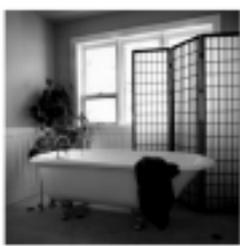
Getting Brixworth Fit - A note from Ali - Brixworth's Personal Trainer

Brixworth is a brilliant place to live for many reasons and especially if you wish to get fit and maintain a healthy lifestyle. We have so many excellent places to run; power walk or cycle and a wide range of fitness classes available to try. Trying to start an exercise regime and/or a healthy eating plan need not be baffling. My advice is to keep it simple - eat a bit less and exercise a bit more. Monday evening fitness circuits in the Village Hall is always popular and is for all levels of fitness and age groups. Wednesday Pilates is great for core strength and posture. Let's get Brixworth and surrounding villages fit!

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| Weds. | Pilates | The Centre | 6.15 - 7.00 |

Classes are mixed and for all levels of fitness.

PLEASE RING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

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QUARTERLY REPORT

should there be a youngster out there willing to submit an application to 'Money for Youth' with help of course from the Parish Council, please get in touch.

Speeding

Over the last 3 months 33 enforcement visits have been conducted across this sub beat resulting in 25 fixed penalty tickets being issued 2 x report to court, 8 cautions or warning letters, 5 fixed penalties for mobile phone use and 7 penalty notices for no seat belt.

Additional traffic offences of note – 2 drink drivers, one following an accident on the Creaton road and one stopped in Brixworth. Both are now disqualified from driving. Further speed enforcement is to take place in the village shortly.

Crime figures, in comparison with Apr – Sept 07 are down 11%. A number of motorcycles have been targeted in the village recently, one was returned following payment of a large amount of cash to an intermediary. Clearly there are still those in the village who feel that is an acceptable way to behave. If anyone has any information that may help us bring offences to justice and you prefer to remain anonymous please call CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

The next Neighbourhood watch meeting is on 16th December at the Community Centre, all are welcome. PCSO Jo Hillery holds a surgery in the Community centre where you are welcome to come and discuss any issue; the next dates are 29th Nov and 20th Dec, all between 10 and 11am in the Community Centre.

As always we are keen to hear your comments and concerns. Please feel free to contact us on 08453 700700, by email SCTDaventryRuralNorth@northants.police.uk, by visiting the force website www.northants.police.uk and navigating to the Daventry Rural North pages or speaking to us when you see us.

Finally I am on the move into an Inspector posting in Northampton from November 7th for 6 months, so I will take this opportunity to thank you all for your understanding and cooperation over the last 3 years and ask that you support my replacement in the same way. As yet I am afraid I do not know who that will be. Thanks
PS Mike Grady

The Community Panel covering Brixworth and area met again in September and local concerns were discussed. Concerns have been collated over the past 3 months and ignore previous data collected; nonetheless the 3 priorities remain unchanged at Speeding, Youth Nuisance and Parking.

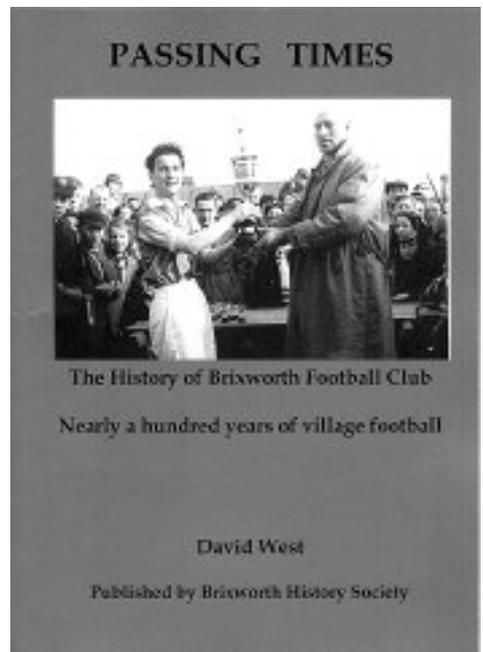
Parking

The proposed works for parking restrictions on the Spratton Road/Pytchley Road area, Spratton Road/Northampton Road corner and the junction of Kennel Terrace/Northampton Road and Holcot Road should be in by Christmas. Your Community Panel decided that little more could be done with regards to the parking issues and the matter would be reconsidered once the yellow lines had been laid.

Youth Nuisance

The number of calls in relation to Anti Social Behaviour remains half of those received 12 months ago and the general feeling from the majority is that matters are significantly improved. The Community Panel decided that youth nuisance should remain a concern, there always seems to be potential for inconsiderate behaviour. As a result of this we continue our patrols as part of normal business. There are still a small number of youths who seem immune to the troubles and harassment they cause to the community. Much of this is caused by alcohol misuse and I remind all that Brixworth is an Alcohol Free Zone and that of course it is illegal for under 18's to purchase or be given alcohol. In the near future my staff will be provided with test strips to counter the habit of mixing vodka, in particular, into soft drinks to disguise alcohol.

Work continues on a proposed BMX track and the parish council now has a separate committee working on the project. The latest proposal is to site the track off the old Harborough Rd. Funding will be required and



The author, Dave "Tasty" West is a lifelong Brixworth villager well known throughout the village and especially in football circles where older members still remember Dave's own formidable abilities as a striker.

Dave has spent years in painstaking research to produce this history of his beloved club. He has consulted widely with football colleagues past and present as well as digging through the archives of local newspapers and official footballing records.

The result is a book of over 200 pages covering the whole history of the Brixworth Football Club from its formation in 1911 with its headquarters in the Coach and Horses through to the 2007/08 season. In between are detailed just about every fact and anecdote about the club that you could possibly want to know. The pages are liberally dotted with team photographs, as well as pictures of dozens of individual players accompanied by a brief biography. There are also details and plans of the various pitches used throughout the club's history together with extracts from various Parish Council minutes when they considered what at the time were contentious issues such as whether the club should be allowed to use the Recreation Ground on a Sunday afternoon.

This book is well researched and well written and makes an enjoyable read for anyone with any interest in football or local sport. It's the sort of book that village football fans will want to keep handy for reference and to settle arguments (or start new ones) for years to come.

Copies can be obtained from the author on 01604 880194 or through Brixworth History Society (07725 432651) www.brixworthhistory.org . They can also be obtained through the Library. The price is £9.95 plus £2.00 p&p. Dennis Coles

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PLANNING STATUS REPORT

| REFERENCE NO. & DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION | P.C. RECOMMENDATION & DDC DECISION |
|--|---|
| DA/2007/1316 & 1317. 1 & 2 Hunters Way. Two one bedroom flats at first floor above No 1 and one bedroom flat at first floor above No. 2. | PC 18/12 PC strongly objects. DDC Refused |
| DA/2007/1400 Buckton Fields, Boughton. Residential development consisting of approx. 1250 dwellings. | PC 29/1 Traffic increase objections. Now amended but still PC concerns. |
| DA/2008/0635 Co-op Pharmacy, Hunters Way. Install new shopfront. | PC/30/6 No Objection. DDC Approved |
| DA/2008/0645 Horton House. Demolition of existing garage and replacement with new enlarged single storey garage. | PC/14/7 No Objection. DDC Approved |
| DA/2008/0941 Froghall Farm, 4 Froghall. Alterations to house, single storey extensions and barn conversion. | PC/ 30/9 PC Objects. |
| DA/2008/0949 The George, Northampton Road. New Signage | PC/30/9 PC has no observations. |
| DA/2008/0686 The Granary, Church Street. Listed building consent for internal alterations to remove staircase, enlarge bathroom and separate bedrooms. | PC/14/7 No Objection. DDC Approved. |
| DA/2008/0823 50 Brackenborough. Conservatory to rear of dwelling. | PC/1/9 No Objection. DDC Approved. |
| DA/2008/0997 Mercedes Technology Centre, Morgan Drive. Two wind turbines, foundations and ancillary equipment, new access to site. | PC/3/11 PC strongly object |
| DA/2008/0979 Mercedes HPE, Morgan Drive. Construction of a new exhaust stack and below ground carbon filtration. | PC/ 28/10 No Objection. |
| DA/2008/0994 Unit 1 Ferro Fields. Conversion of garage to office. | PC/28/10 No Objection. |
| DA/2008/0996 The Manor, Harborough Rd. Guest wing comprising flat, function and games rooms with roof terrace. | PC/28/10 PC objects |

A Brixworth Family

It all started in 2001 when I received my Grandfather's medals from his service in the Royal Navy. His service lasted thirty two years spanning the first and second world wars. With the service number engraved on the edge of the medals I obtained a copy of John William Smiths service record and found that he was born in Twywell in Northamptonshire in 1897 and at the time of enlisting was resident in the then village of Corby.

This was the start of research into my family history and with the surname Smith a task that at the time seemed mammoth.

Fast forward to today I have now traced the family history back to 1786 through Northamptonshire, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Hampshire and Dorset returning to Northamptonshire and the village of Brixworth.

Two of my ancestors, James (1862) and Thomas Smith (1874) moved to Brixworth between 1890 and 1900. By 1901 James was living in Church Street in Brixworth a short distance from Thomas and both had married local girls.

James was married to Hannah Tite born in Brixworth in 1867 and Thomas had married Ada, whose maiden name I have yet to discover. James and Hannah had a son Reginald born in Brixworth in 1886.

Hannah's parents Joseph born in 1818 and Sarah Tite born in 1825 also had a son Albert who was born in 1863.

My research continues and I would be interested to hear from anyone who may recognise or have any information regarding any of the names. *John Smith*

johnsmith.inmk@yahoo.co.uk
Tel No - 01908 311405



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BRIXWORTH DRAMA GROUP

Brixworth Drama Group will be performing their traditional winter pantomime, Babes in the Wood at Brixworth Village hall in January 2009. The performances will be at 2.30pm and 7.45pm on Saturday 17 January; 7.45pm on Friday 23 January; and 2.30pm and

7.45pm on Saturday 24 January. Babes in the Wood has been written by two long-time members of the Drama Group, Mike Culverhouse and James Skeggs, with Mike Culverhouse directing.

Brixworth Drama Group Chair, Stuart Cooper, who plays the evil Sheriff of Nottingham in the pantomime, described the show as 'traditional but with contemporary touches which should appeal to young and old alike'.

Babes in the Wood tells the story of two children, Jack and Jill, and their wicked uncle, the taxing Sheriff of Nottingham, who is eager to keep their inheritance for himself. The Sheriff also has his heart set on the beautiful Maid Marion, who has eyes only for Robin Hood. Although the Sheriff kidnaps Jack and Jill, and Maid Marion, Robin Hood and his Merry Men mount a series of daring and dramatic rescues in a variety of locations

including the dungeon below what the Sheriff likes to refer to as his 'huge castle' and the Haunted Wood. Populated with memorable characters, Brixworth Drama Group's hilarious pantomime will take audiences on a rollercoaster ride of thrills and excitement, danger and romance, with music and dance, leading them to a safe and heart-warming harbour of happiness at the end.

Tickets (priced at £5 for adults, £4 for Children and Concessions, and £12 for a family of four – two adults and two children) will be available from Lovells Hardware, Spratton Road, and Libby Bowers on 01604 880672 from Mid-November.

IMPORTANT: Can all children coming to the show please bring along their teddy bears since teddy bears are important to the pantomime plot and will also really annoy the Sheriff who absolutely loathes the cuddly creatures.

Jon Mackley





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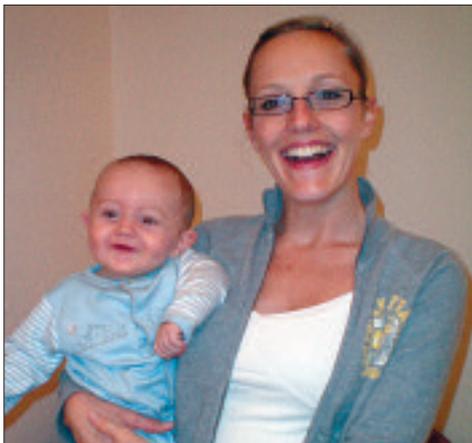


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NATALIE CORDNER



My name is Natalie and seven months ago, I gave birth to my little boy, Archie (shown in photograph). I was anxious to lose the post pregnancy weight and had been qualified to teach aerobics for sometime. So in July this year I set up the classes in the village on a Monday at Brixworth Centre (next to church) at 7.30p.m. and on a Thursday above the library at 7.45p.m.

Both have been successful, although since the darker, colder evenings the numbers have dramatically dropped. I would like to say a massive thanks for all the support from my attendees, but I would like to increase the numbers attending.

I am a member of REPS (Register of Exercise Professionals) with a YMCA Fit Studio Instructor qualification. So why not come along and see what you think. It is very informal, you don't need a mat, just some trainers and some water! We do about 20 minutes of aerobic work then we concentrate on toning for the remainder of the hour. Hope to see you there! *Natalie*

MALAWI EXPEDITION Moulton School Year 11



On the 6th July 2008, twenty of Moulton School's Year 11 students embarked on a trip of a life-time to work on development projects in remote communities in Malawi. As part of the World Challenge programme, the students had paid for the trip themselves through a series of fundraising events held throughout the year.

On the arrival of their tents and equipment the group split into two teams and set off on their expeditions. The first week in Africa was the acclimatisation phase which involved a 2 day trek and was great preparation for the main climb up Mount Mulonje.

The favourite part of the trip was the project phase in which the group spent a week building a children's playground. The interaction with the locals was great and it was wonderful to see the local children enjoying the project. There were other projects such as planting fruit trees, painting a classroom and building 2 'eco-bogs' to improve the soil.

The group were of the opinion that they would never pass up the opportunity to go on another World Challenge Expedition and urge Brixworth pupils when they progress to Moulton School to take up this type of opportunity.

Legs, Bums & Tums

Everyone welcome to join in friendly classes every Monday and Thursday.

Monday: 7.30-8.30pm
(Brixworth Centre, next to church)

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BRIXWORTH SCOUT GROUP



Daventry area. This term the Beavers have been working towards the Faith Badge, learning about giving to others and supporting the Brixworth Christian Fellowship's annual Christmas shoe box appeal.

Our Cub section in November has again won the district swimming gala, third year in a row I believe. This year they joined forces with the cubs from Spratton and jointly won the event. Well done to all the Cubs who took part and again thank you to the leaders for giving up their time to attend this event.

The Scouts have also been busy, attending a raft race earlier this summer, where they had to build and paddle across a lake. The competition was extremely strong and the scouts involved worked extremely hard and did themselves proud. They also took part in the annual Daventry District Night Hike and came fifth in a very well attended event.

We are a very popular group and are always looking for adults to join and grow our team. All we ask is you can give a couple of hours a week. You don't need Scouting skills to help, just common sense, as assistance will be given. If you want further info please contact me via www.brixworthscouts.com.

Colin Bell, Group Scout Leader

A new scouting section called Explorers started in September this year, and has already become one of the largest in the Daventry District. We will, over the next few years, run a varied programme, to give the young people who have joined, skills to assist them later in life, and the confidence to lead others. They will have regular opportunities to meet with other units in the area to do larger joint activities. Setting up this unit has taken a lot of hard work and I would like to thank Doug Leach and Jane Elmore for their hard work.

The Last 12 months for this group have been exciting, with group camps, raft races,

night hikes, swimming galas, etc. We have in place an exceptional group of leaders and without their time and dedication Brixworth Scout Group would not be the success that it is. The list is too long to name them all. We have four sections in this group, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers, with age ranges from 6 to 18 years old. We are one of the biggest scouting groups in the area.

The Beaver section attended a Beaver Olympic event earlier this year, with events like Frisbee, hockey, standing jump, and football. The Beavers did really well and came fourth out of all the groups in the

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BRIXWORTH YOUTH FOUNDATION

From September, I took on the challenging role as Chair of the Foundation from John McFadyen. John had worked tirelessly over the last 2-3 years to move the Foundation on so that we now offer something for different age groups and interests, with the Youth Club on Monday nights and Media Club every Thursday. With help from a small group of dedicated volunteers, and the services of BAM (Big About Music), we continue to offer these services throughout the year, including school holidays.

There is more to come in 2009. We are hoping to be able to offer a weekly Theatre Group session which would give youths the chance to learn both drama and stage skills. We have funding from Northampton County Council to employ a leader to run this group so if you are interested please contact me or keep a look out for details. We have also been offered a stage from Euro Towers Limited.

We are also looking for volunteers so that we can open on a Wednesday evening, offering a further Youth Club night with different activities planned for each week. We would love to hear from anyone who enjoys interacting with children and can spare an evening from once a week to once a month (see contact details below).

Following our successful Band Night on 31st October, our Media Club singers will be performing their favourite songs from Pop and Musicals in the Village Hall on Friday 5th December, with doors opening at 7pm. The audience will have the opportunity to join in with the Karaoke at the end of the evening. Tickets are available from the Youth Club, or from me, at £3 for adults and £2 for under-16s. Please bring your own drinks (ID may be requested).

I would like to thank all the committee and volunteers who give up their valuable time to benefit the youth of Brixworth. Please contact me if you would like to join us.

Jane Ames 01604 889150

brixworthyouthfoundation@theashway.freserve.co.uk



Brixworth Youth Foundation

Event raises £4500

Despite the late change of venue due to the weather, the 'Garden Party' on Saturday September 6th was a resounding success.

The event that took place at the Village Hall was originally to be held at the beautiful gardens of Victors Barns kindly offered for the party by Dr. Dallas and Sally Ann Burston.

However the good old English weather was forecast to be 'very wet' so a change of venue was found with the Village Hall stepping in at the last minute.

On the evening the Hall looked lovely the tables decorated with arrangements from the Gardening and Flower Club and balloons all in the 'Waitrose' colour scheme of green and yellow.

The guests were welcomed with Cava donated by Waitrose Kingsthorpe and enjoyed a disco and supper of Hog Roast and desserts made by the ladies of the W.I.

The highlight of the evening was the Charity Auction which raised an amazing £1,900. All the prizes were donated by local businesses and residents. Ray Bell made this up to £2,500 with a generous donation of £600.

A further £900 was made from our Prize draw. The top prize of a £300 Specialized bike given by Pitsford Cycles was won by Mrs. Morrow.

The Youth Foundation Committee would like to thank everyone involved in making the event such a success; those who gave up their time, donated prizes, bought prize draw tickets and attended the event.

A total of £4500 was raised from the event, which will go towards ongoing running costs of the Youth Club and Media Club.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Brixworth Youth Foundation should contact Chair Person Jane Ames on 01604 889150.

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by Brian Webster



'What am I going to do with all those leaves? They're everywhere.' I heard this from a neighbour of mine a way down the street. To me this meant that a keen gardener was one thing she was not. Every single leaf is a valuable source of humus in the form of leaf mould. But first it has to be gathered in. I fear for my life whenever I see someone bearing down on me brandishing a lawn rake at this time of the year. A furious bout of activity sees the leaf bounty gathered into a heap in the centre of the lawn. If it's a windy day like as not the whole lot will be redistributed over the garden while the bin is being fetched. I have no time for lawn rakes. I find that a good stiff yard broom does the job better.

To me leaf fall is an important time. I try to gather all of them that I can, and I have two containers to hold them. The first will be filled with the bounty from last year, still rotting down into that wonderful clean-smelling mould that is so useful in my garden and on the allotment. Some experts tell us that leaf mould made in this way is devoid of nutrients for your garden plants, merely adding bulk and structure to the soil. But even this is vital for health. I believe that there is goodness in these leaves, and I have used it as a potting compost with excellent results.

The second of my containers is filled with the leaves that I have gathered this year. In the early stages it may take two years for the leaves to completely rot down. But I find with an established system they are ready after little more than a single year. Saving your own leaves is easy. The best way is to knock four stakes into the ground to form about a yard square. Then tack some chicken wire – no more than a two inch mesh – around it. Pile the leaves into it, keep it moist but not wet, cover the top with a bit of old carpet, walk away from it and just leave it to nature. If you can't be bothered with all of this, stuff a strong plastic sack full of leaves, pierce some holes in it with a fork, and

just leave it in a corner of your garden. Wonderful stuff for your tomatoes or for your treasured houseplants.

An old friend of mine who lives in the village may be seen pushing a wheelbarrow around the streets at this time of year. Not content with the leaves provided by his own plot, he sweeps up those shed from the street and park trees. He comes from the wise old school you see where nothing that could be used was allowed to go to waste. I remember from my childhood days, the competition for the droppings the milkman's horse had left in its wake! Such goodness would frighten your plants into growing.

Right now you may have noticed an increase in the numbers of blackbirds and starlings in your garden. The last of the swallows and martins have gone by now, and these birds have come in from the continent, seeking to take advantage of our milder winters. They are indistinguishable from our native birds, except that bird ringers have noticed that on average their wings are slightly longer. Very sensible, don't you think, if you intend going in for long distance travel?

BRIXWORTH ALL SAINTS FOOTBALL CLUB

Both first team and reserves are proceeding very well in their respective leagues and even at this early stage in the season all involved feel that we can compete with the best in our divisions. We have acquired numerous quality players pre-season and this has left managers with pleasant squad selection problems due to our strength in depth. There are early considerations for a third team next season to accommodate our squad size.

I would like to thank all involved for their exceptional efforts so far this season and if anybody would like to contact me for any reason my details are below:

Nigel Eldred—Chairman BASFC
07812609095 or neldred@hotmail.co.uk

BRIXWORTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL

It has been a hectic start to the football season, now that the club has grown with teams in almost every age group. We now have a successful feeder system with Tony Proctor running the U7's sessions on a Saturday morning which provides a great platform for competitive football. We'd love to see more girls' teams in the club, so if you fancy running a squad please get in touch. We fully support all our managers with FA coaching, kit etc.

Finally, the whole club were sad to see Dave Coleman move on as Chairman after many years of sterling service. We all appreciate his contribution to junior football in this village.

Jon Howarth Chairman BJFC
E-mail: jon@thewigwamcompany.com

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SPORTS PAGE ***** SPORTS EDITOR: John Blason

BRIXWORTH CRICKET CLUB CELEBRATES THEIR MOST SUCCESSFUL SEASON



Both senior teams won their respective leagues and remained undefeated throughout the summer. As far as anyone knows, this is a unique achievement by any club in the history of Northants league cricket. The 1st X1 will return to the Northants Premier League in 2009 – the top tier of English club cricket. Congratulations to Colin Sibley, who was the top wicket taker in Division 1 and to Chris Richmond and Fred Newborough, who both scored over 500 runs. The 2nd X1 will return to Division 4, with every chance of building on this season's success and continuing their desire to move as far up the leagues as possible. Richard Foster was the leading wicket taker in Division 5. Trophies were presented to Alex Lacey and Andy Roper, the two victorious captains, at the recent League Dinner held at Wickstead Park on 17 October.

2009 will also see the formation of a 3rd X1, as the club continues to grow, attract new players and as the older members of our junior teams mature and get the chance to start playing senior cricket.

The club's move to its new ground on Northampton Road has been a major contributory factor in the club's success this season. Better playing and practice facilities, allied to the knowledge that we now have arguably the most picturesque ground in the County have helped inspire all who have turned out during the course of the season.

Thanks must go to all those who have ensured that 2008 has been such a successful and enjoyable season; Dave Salisbury for his tireless work on the wicket and the outfield; Dave Kirton and Brian Waller for all their support with the grounds and in helping to prepare our temporary clubhouse to such a high standard. Both captains, as always, deserve special mention for guiding their teams to victory and for their enthusiasm throughout the season. Devon Malcolm has been a great inspiration to those who have played with him, especially during the first half of the season, and the club looks forward to his continuing involvement in the years ahead.

Our junior teams performed equally well, despite some challenging weather throughout the 'summer'. All three teams had their most successful seasons to date, which was recently celebrated at a well attended junior presentation evening on 10 October. Many thanks are given to all 3 captains – Danny Higginson, George Jackson and Aaquib Naved who all gained valuable experience throughout the season. Congratulations also to Joe Curtis who won the Andy Bransby Junior Player of the Year Shield for the second successive year, as the under 14s

leading run scorer, and for scoring an outstanding 127 against Great Linford – the highest score, as far as anyone can remember by a Brixworth junior player!

Congratulations also to Toby Cowley, who performed admirably at Under 15 District Level, to Ali Duncan who represented Northampton Schools and to Henry Timm who was selected to play in the Northamptonshire Under 9 county squad.

The club looks forward to building on the unprecedented success of 2008, in terms of remaining competitive at all levels by attracting new players, developing existing talent through improving our coaching resources, attracting more volunteers and by continuing to develop the cricket and other leisure facilities at Northampton Road. All of these projects will require funding support, to ensure that Brixworth has the facilities it truly deserves and various grant applications with local authorities and sports bodies are currently being pursued. Our sponsors have provided great support once again this season; thanks in particular to Mercedes High Performance Engines, Haddonstone, RS Components, Watson Fuels, Phipps Henson McAllister and Loftstyle. If any other local businesses would like to contribute to the club's growth, please do not hesitate to get in touch!
Chris Timm, Chairman

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