

Brixworth Bulletin

Including Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport

Issue No.22, September 2009

From Larkrise to Brixworth..... Reviving an old annual village event.....



Flower & Produce Show

Preparations for the first Flower and Produce Show to be held in Brixworth for at least 30 years have now been completed by a very hard working committee. Programmes containing the classes, rules and entry forms have been available since the end of July from K..F.Troops, Lovells Hardware, the Library Information Point and Blasons Garage. Copies can still be obtained from those 4 outlets or can be easily downloaded from www.brixworthbulletin.com. The show will be opened by Mr Richard Turney at 2.00pm on Saturday 19th September 2009 at the marquee in the churchyard of All Saints'. There will be live music by the Eddie Cockram band plus tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes for sale.

There are in total 56 classes of exhibits in 10 categories – Flowers, Floral Arrangements, Handicrafts, Photography, Cookery, Preserves, Produce including the special vegetable classes and two children categories (aged 4–7 and 8-15). The committee have assembled an impressive array of judges namely Esther McMillan, Head Gardener of Kelmars, Pam Pettitt and Audrey Hawkins (Flowers & Floral Arrangements), Ken Troop, Jackie & Darryl Tidd (Produce), Daphne Turpin and Jennifer Slater, (Cookery) Jennifer Slater & Margaret Smith (Preserves), Steve Wagstaff (Photography), Jane Stock and Louise Cramp (Childrens classes), Mandy Dawkins & Sheila Jowers (Handicrafts) and Sian Porter (Special Vegetables). Judging will take place in the marquee between 11.30am until 1.00pm. The photograph classes will be displayed in the Heritage Centre. The marquee and the Heritage Centre will not be open to the public during that period.

The Community Newspaper has donated three cups for the Event winners. The Best in Show cup will be awarded for the best exhibit in the 46 classes for adults and a cup each will be awarded for the best exhibit in the children's 4 to 7 category and the 8 to 15 category. The cups will be presented by Parish Council Chairman, Ian Barratt. First, Second and Third Certificates will be awarded for each class.



It is hoped that villagers will respond to this initiative by submitting as many exhibits as possible for the show. Exhibits must be brought to the marquee between 9.30am and 11.00 am on the day of the show. Children's exhibits are entered free, but there is a 50p entry fee for adults. (5th entry and more are free) The committee would be delighted if there could be a large attendance at the public viewing between 2.00pm and 4.00pm

There will be an auction of exhibits at 4.05 pm. Mercedes Benz H.P.E. has very generously donated a signed T-shirt by Lewis Hamilton, the reigning Formula One World Champion and this gift will be auctioned at the same time.

The organisers thank the local businesses and organisations for their generous sponsorship. The sponsors' names are acknowledged on the back of the programme.

To round off the day, the committee are hosting a traditional harvest supper at the Brixworth Centre (next to the Church) at 7.30pm. A hot home cooked meal will be served and there will be a bar and the supper will be accompanied by a live Folk Band – M62. Tickets can be obtained at Lovells Hardware or at the Flower & Produce Show - £8 each.

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Mercedes-Benz HPE goes green



Mercedes-Benz High Performance Engines' environmentally responsible policies are clearly demonstrated at their recently completed Technology Centre in Brixworth.

The new development has been designed from the start to take advantage of sophisticated engineering to reduce our impact on the environment. Having undertaken initial environmental surveys as well as flood studies, as a company we committed ourselves to substantial investments in time and money to develop our green agenda. Initiatives designed to reduce the environmental impact of the new development include:

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Mercedes-Benz H.P.E. took these decisions at the start of the project to show our commitment to recognising the importance of green issues as key to our future, both in the local community and in the automotive world. If you are interested in finding out more, please e-mail publicity@mercedes-benz-hpe.com.

David Storie Associate proposes to submit an application to D.D.C. to build 5 industrial units and 9 houses on the ex-Mabbutts Timber Yard, Station Road. Details of the proposal may be found on page 13 of this issue.

The Bulletin intends to add a blog page to its web-site very shortly, but until this is available, you can e-mail comments on this or any other subject by logging onto our web-site on www.brixworthbulletin.com

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

AIDEN CONNOLLY



Subject 'Friends'. Winner who receives £25 - Colin Dyson

The two other photographs were taken by Jane Neill

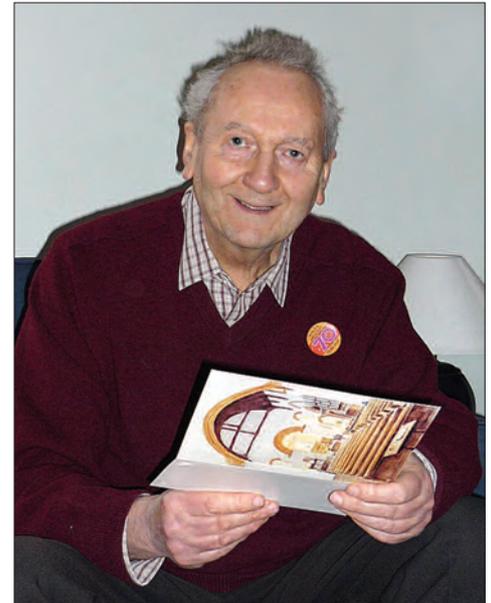


'Paddy and Minty, aged 14'



Friends on bench in Spratton Road

As the Flower and Produce Show in September has a photographic competition, The Bulletin will publish the prize winners in the next issue.



The Bulletin team was very saddened to hear of the death of Aidan Connolly. Aidan had been one of our distributors since the inception of the Bulletin and he could always be relied upon to deliver promptly and accurately.

Aidan was born on 2nd January 1939, the second son of Dr Charles Connolly, a devout catholic and his wife Frances, a physiotherapist, who was a practising Protestant.

Aidan started his schooling at the Convent in Kettering, before being sent to Wellbury Prep School and then to Ampleforth Abbey to complete his education. He trained in London to become a Chartered Surveyor. After qualifying he worked for several years in Kettering with his wife and two children. The family moved to Old in 1976 and their third child was born a few years later. In 1986 they moved to Brixworth, Aidan continuing to work in Kettering and Northampton until he retired in 1999.

He was a keen cricket player in his younger days and was a member of Kettering Cricket Club, the Northampton Saints Cricket Club and the Northants Bedouins. He also played hockey for Kettering well into his 30s.

Like his father, he was a devout catholic and rarely missed Sunday Mass.

The Bulletin Team sends their condolences to his family.

Genesis Development on Ex-Rigiflex Site.

A representative of Genesis advised the Bulletin that the 34 units should be available for possession by December 2009.

There are 19 units available for rent and 15 units for sale. Nominations for rental will be accepted in September and the range of prices for the units for sale will be available at that time.

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Brixworth and District U3A Report



The Group continues to receive a steady trickle of new members with a membership currently at around one hundred and well over half of these regularly attend the monthly meetings. As usual these are held at the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month commencing at 2p.m. with a raffle and tea and biscuits after the speaker. However, due to a prior booking of the hall, the August venue has had to be changed and will be held at the Northampton Sailing Club with a presentation on Sailability (Sailing for the Disabled) project. We have had recent presentations on the Air Ambulance Service and Cook and Cure with Herbs, and future talks are on Food Additives and Music for All.

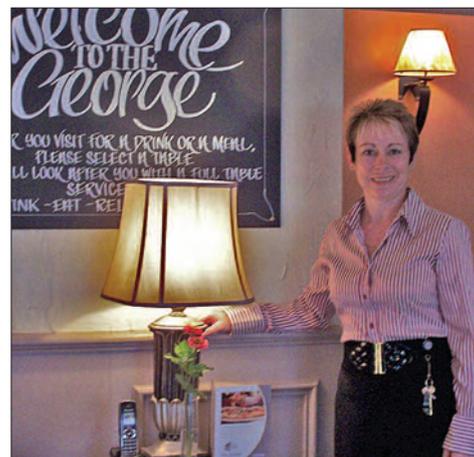
The established groups meet monthly apart from the Art, and Table Games groups which meet twice monthly. Lunches have been held at the Stags Head, Maidwell, The George at Brixworth and in July, the annual evening outing will be at The Red Lion at

East Haddon. Rambles have been successfully undertaken starting and finishing for lunch at Waterloo Farm near Great Oxendon, The Wheatsheaf, Crick and the Bell Inn at Gumley. The Genealogy and Conversational French groups continue to flourish and the Away Days Group has visited Lamport Hall and enjoyed a guided tour of the historic parts of Brixworth. The Theatre group is planning to see Fascinating Aida in September and maybe Evita in November. Rather than starting a new gardening group a number of members have joined the established Brixworth Gardening Group.

The committee continues to hold bi-monthly to review progress and we would like to hear from any members with an interest in any subject that may form the basis of a new interest group. Any one interested in joining should contact the Membership Secretary, Peter Davies on 880401.

Gerry Dobson

Jayne Sharpe, Landlady of The George



Jayne Sharpe, Landlady of The George Inn, Brixworth first moved to Northampton 24 years ago from her native city of Birmingham.

Jayne's vast experience in the Brewery trade began in the 1980's when she managed the North Star in Kingsthorpe and later promotion by Ansells Brewery moved her to a pub in Derbyshire. Jayne then left the pub trade to concentrate on bringing up her children Danielle, Laura and Adam. Tragically, Adam became ill with a brain tumour and died at the age of fifteen, two years ago. During Adam's illness and since his death, Jayne has raised over £10,000 for Teenage Cancer Trust.

After the death of Adam, Jayne felt she needed to change her lifestyle. Charles Wells Brewery had used a series of temporary managers to run the George Inn and was looking for an investor to take over permanently and to refurbish the pub. Jayne, who had always liked Brixworth, visited the George with her family and decided that this was the challenge she had been looking for.

During an extensive and expensive refurbishment of the George, Jayne chose the colour scheme and design to achieve the colour co-ordination she wanted. The George re-opened and the villagers of Brixworth immediately made Jayne and her family very welcome and have been very supportive of the 'New George'.

There were a few initial small problems, when toilets were vandalised and some people objected to the changes she had made and to the way she intended to run the pub in the future. Jayne has a zero tolerance policy towards drugs and anti-social behaviour, and thankfully the George experiences very little of this behaviour.

Jayne is building up a reputation for good food with an emphasis on using fresh ingredients whenever possible. Jayne has employed a first class chef and is very proud of the growing reputation of the George which has an excellent selection of quality ales and wines.

The George also offers opportunities for private meetings, functions and gatherings in some of its lovely rooms like the Library and Retreat.

Sue Verallo



Sunny Socks

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COUNTRY EYE

by Brian Webster

Masters of Flight in Your Garden

Every few seconds as I sit at my keyboard I have to brush away a persistent kamikaze hover fly which seems intent on joining me on the keys. This is one of our commoner species and has been given the name of marmalade hover fly, not because of its fondness for the breakfast jampot, but because it's black stripes are interspersed with stripes which are marmalade-coloured. It is a spectacular little beast and actually quite pretty if you take a close look, with huge chestnut-coloured eyes. A related species is shown in my picture.



Hover flies are totally harmless to you and me, and like the bees are vitally important for the work that the adults do in pollinating our flower and some of our vegetable crops. There is an added bonus because the grubs of many of them, which look a bit like minute green slugs, make it their life's ambition to chomp their way through as many greenfly and other nasties as they can find. So all in all they turn out to be of vital importance to us as members of this great unsung insect army that through their activities help to ensure we have food to put on our tables.

Although many hover flies pretend to be bees or wasps, they are actually more closely related to the pesky house flies that do cause us problems, due to their fondness for dung and for rotting flesh. But whereas house flies dart from place to place, hover flies have a much more leisurely approach. Bees and wasps have four wings, whilst hover flies and house flies have only two. This gives them a much more triangular shape when they are settled. Actually at some time in the distant past their ancestors did have four wings, but over time the hind pair have become modified into what look like tiny drumsticks only a few millimetres long. For a long time scientists were baffled as to what possible use these could have. They are called halteres and turn out to be absolutely vital to the insect. Watch them for a while and you can see that they are skilful fliers, manoeuvring rapidly. They can also hover as they approach a flower or a landing pad. Slow motion film has shown that the forewings are able to flex through almost

360 degrees, while the halteres are beating rapidly. It appears they act like the tail propeller on a helicopter keeping the insect stable as it flies.

One of my favourite hover flies is the big one, which pretends to be a bee, that is common along hedgerows and in woodlands. You can often spot it along the Brampton Valley Way. Overcome with curiosity it will approach you very closely, hovering in front of you as it looks you over. Then suddenly, its curiosity satisfied, with a loud buzzing it will be gone.

Still on the subject of flight, I suppose you will have heard the one about the bumble bee. Apparently one of our leading flight engineers calculated beyond doubt that bumble bees cannot fly. The ratio between the tiny wings and their comparatively huge body mass means that they should not be able to get off the ground. But no-one thought to tell the bumble bees this!

Sadly as I wrote in my last Bulletin article, these vast armies of insects on which we depend totally are under threat from human activities. In the past few years their numbers have been vastly reduced. If we do lose them, then our own futures may well be in the balance. We need them. Long may they continue to flourish.

Happy Birthday Sunny Socks



Sunny Socks Nursery School celebrated a 20th birthday in March this year. Over this time we have seen many changes and this year is no different. From September 2009 we are offering places to children under the age of 18 months. We have accepted babies at our nursery in Duston for 3 years now and it has become apparent that there is a need in our village and surrounding area for early years provision.

We are restructuring the nursery to create a specific area for our under 2's and will be ready to show parents the change from early September. Anyone who has used Sunny Socks will know the high standards we strive to achieve and this new initiative will have the same attention to detail and outstanding care.

Please contact our nursery for further details and costs. We can also tell you about funding for older children. Come and see our setting in the beautiful location of Park Farm and meet the team.

Lesley Eaton

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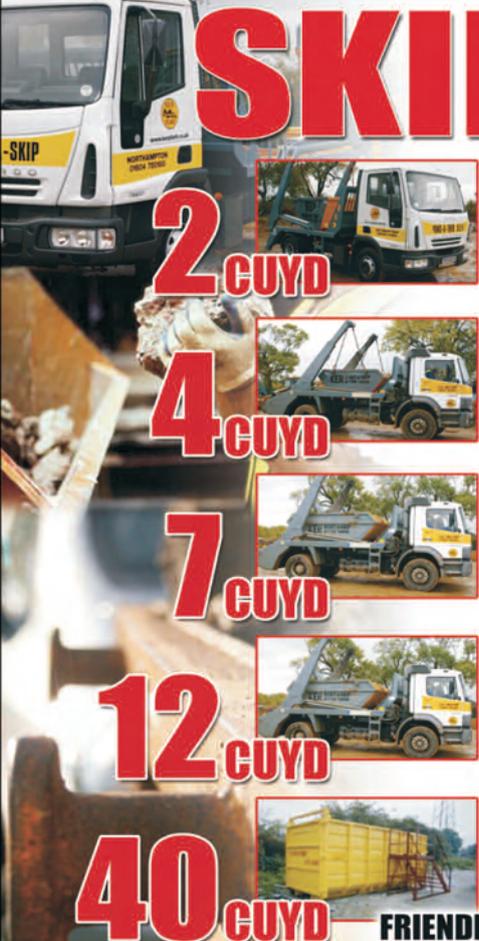
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DRAUGHTON NEWS



As I said in my last report, thanks to grants from Biffaward, Northants County Council, Hollowell Steam Rally and lots of hard work by the folks of the village, Draughton has at last got the long awaited kitchen and toilets on the Club Room.

We had a wonderful Grand opening ceremony on May 15th. So many people, including ex-residents, came to join in the celebration. Some of them were born in the village over 80 years ago.

The ladies of the village produced a super array of food and 2 gentlemen made donations for the wine. Thank you all very much.

The opening ceremony ribbons were cut by Mrs Beattie Russell and Mr Ben Tew. Mrs Russell was born in the village and lived here for over 75 years before moving to Moulton about 10 years ago. Mr Tew is one of the Club Room Trustees and our oldest resident.

Now that the rules have been relaxed to allow anyone with a strong connection to a church to marry there, my niece and her husband Stuart were able to be married in St Catherine's on May 2nd. Claire has many happy memories from when she was a child and her father (my brother) and myself regularly attended services in St. Catherine's.

The Rev Mary Garbutt made the service very special and the church looked lovely. The weather was wonderful and all the spring flowers were out in the churchyard. Some beautiful wild wood anemones grow under the lime trees.

Here in Draughton, it has been a problem finding new members eligible to serve on the PCC and the Archdeacon came and addressed a meeting on July 23rd to clarify the situation. This is such a small community and there are people of different denominations living here but they all are willing to help in some way to keep this lovely old church open

for worship. There are no Churchwardens at the moment but several volunteers have joined with Mary to form a PCC plus a secretary and treasurer.

The church is desperately in need of money, specially, for re-wiring and heating and there is to be a fund raising **Autumn Fayre** on **20th September from 2-4 pm** with all kinds of stalls and teas. Do please come along to support St Catherine's. *Anne Block*

BRIXWORTH LIONS QUIZ

The Brixworth Lions are organising a fundraising quiz on Friday 18th September 2009 to be held in the Village Hall.

The quiz will start at 8.00pm (doors open at 7.30pm). The price is £10 per team of 4 persons and £3 for each additional member. Please pay on the door. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

p

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Guides raise money for Charities

On May 19th, the guides held a coffee evening at Brixworth Centre and raised £251.61. This is to be split between 4 charities chosen from 'Changing the World Project' co-ordinated by Girlguiding U.K. The charities, the guides chose, were WWF, Water Aid, The Woodland Trust and National Deaf Children Society.

Many thanks are given to everyone who supported us.

Jill Gunnett – Guider 1st Scaldwell Guides.



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ART EXHIBITION – part of the 2009 Open Studios At Brixworth Library (1st Floor), Spratton Road, Brixworth

Preview Evening on Friday 4th September 2009 from 5.00 to 7.00 p.m.

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BRIXWORTH DRAMA GROUP

Village Hall Farce

In a mildewed Village hall Val and Ben sat either side of a table. There was a stony silence interspersed by little irritating noises from Val, which dragged on and on. So began the latest Brixworth Drama Group's latest offering "It Can't Go On" This little play was the first of two in their mid summer production both written by the talented Stuart Cooper. It concerned a thin on the ground pre play meeting to discuss the am drams next production written by their chairman Simon played by Tony Farrow. The play starred Heather Pool as Val the disapproving diva who considered Simon's play to be largely obscene and had made a careful note of all the relevant passages to back up her case. This evidence together with Val's fearfully pursed lips proved a formidable challenge indeed for the hapless Simon when he appeared with an air of loud bravado. Eileen Truby played the timid Doreen. Eileen seems to be getting typecast in timid characters. I particularly enjoyed David Harris's nicely understated performance as Ben the man with personal problems at home. Heather also directed the play jointly with Amanda Pilgrim.

The second play entitled "Manor from Heaven" was the play the group in the first play had been discussing. Are you managing to keep up? Directed by Stuart Cooper, the story involved a newly opened hotel awaiting its first guests. We had a disorganized owner William played by Mike Culverhouse. When he frantically twiddles his hair one is reminded of the immortal Stan Laurel. Then we had the ultra efficient Manageress, Miranda who had hopes of marrying poor William. Miranda was played by that stalwart of Brixworth Drama, Sue I'Anson who never fails to turn in a polished performance. If you are beginning to think this sounds familiar, you would be wrong because it is not set in Torquay and the waiter is called Peter and is not Spanish. Nor apparently did he have any flies! However the receptionist is called Carla played by Amanda Bird. We got to see a lot of her especially after the chewing gum stuck to her skirt. Nice legs Amanda! And the cook is called Alfonso, played on the night we went, by David Harris in his second role of the evening. If I tell you that when he finally turned up to save the day he was dressed as Batman and thinking of committing suicide because he was in love with the chambermaid Geraldine played with gusto by Sue McAspern in a chicken costume, you will appreciate gentle reader that there was much to laugh at in this farce. The whole farcical element was kept nicely moving along by that doyen of comic roles, James Skeggs playing George the handyman who was trying to fix the sliding doors. This was



a role with plenty of scope for improvisation which James exploited to the full. Well, I think it was improvisation.

Farce is not everyone's cup of tea and timing is especially critical to make it work well. Judging from the audience reaction the group accomplished this very well. However it would be unfair not to mention the hard work put into both performances by Eunice Ellis who acted as prompt.

Dennis Coles

The wardens of All Saints' Church, Brixworth appeal for additional volunteers to assist in mowing the churchyard. An engine driven mower is available at the vicarage with petrol supplied. Please telephone Sheila Jowers, 01604 880474

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PLANNING STATUS REPORT

REFERENCE NO. & DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	P.C. RECOMMENDATION & DDC DECISION
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/2009/0183 36 Stannard Way. Dormer extension to front & rear and garage conversion.	PC 30/3 No objection.
DA/2009/0206 8 Highslade. Single storey extension (in access of 4 metres deep) to rear.	PC 8/4 No objection.
DA/2009/0209 3 Dairy Close. Side extension above & to rear of garage.	PC 28/4 No objection subject to conditions
DA/2009/0260 10 Tantree Way. Take down existing conservatory and build single storey extension.	PC 11/5 No objection. DDC Refused.
DA/2009/0262 Land to north of Visitors Centre, Brixworth Country Park. Change of use of agricultural land to camp site. Erection of camp site office.	PC 11/5 No objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2009/0298 15 Pytchley Way. Two storey side extension and porch.	PC 20/4 No objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2009/0315 1 Brackenborough. Single storey extension.	PC 20/4 No objection
DA/2009/0316 20 Church St. Demolish existing garage and replace with new double door garage to adjoin house with extension to rear.	PC 20/4 No objection.
DA/2009/0314 85 Spratton Road. Two storey extension to side of dwelling.	PC 11/5 No objection.
DA/2009/072 Pitstop Restaurant, Quarry Road. Change of use of restaurant/ conference building to offices (B1) plus single storey extension.	PC 1/6 No objection.
DA/2009/0376 36 The Knoll. Two bed bungalow (amended design)	PC 22/6 No objection
DA/2009/0463 3 Northampton Rd. Widen gable end. Remove velux window.	PC 13/7 No objection.
DA/2009/0455 10 Tantree Way. Rear & side single storey extension.	PC 13/7 No objection.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir

I had to reply to Jane Neill's letter bemoaning the landscaping to the Mercedes plant on the A508.

I can't think of a better piece of work to make that end of the village look more attractive. The old hedge was an unkempt eyesore and to my mind the park landscaping will serve the village well for years to come. I applaud Mercedes for what they've done. I really feel that a little imagination in terms of what this will look like in three or four years time will serve Jane well.

Bob Campbell

NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN

The next issue of the Bulletin will be on the 1st December 2009. Copy and details of advertisements for this Christmas edition should be available by 1st November.

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QUARTERLY POLICE REPORT

It has been a busy period for the Daventry Safer Community Teams. Inspector Julia Potts has recently joined the Sector as Commander. PC Gary Wright has recently moved across to Daventry Rural South Safer Community Team after 10 years on the sector and PC James Reid has joined the Daventry Rural North Safer Community team to replace him.

The lighter nights have seen a rise in reports of juvenile nuisance and anti-social behaviour in and around the villages of Brixworth and Spratton. It is common for young people to congregate in large groups and gather in the streets, but only a small number are consuming alcohol, throwing objects, damaging property and disturbing local residents in the ways that are complained about.

We know that people, particularly if they have been the victim of criminal damage or similar crimes, are often concerned about the presence of groups of young people and we accept that this is something that people say affects their confidence in local police, but in this area, reports of juvenile nuisance have fallen and we hope the robust approach taken will continue this trend.

The Daventry Rural North team have been busy over the past few months responding to the priorities identified by local people. The Beat 20 Community Panel – that's the villages of Brixworth, Cottesbrook, Creaton, Haselbech and Spratton - identified the following priorities:

1. Youth and anti-social behaviour at Yew Tree Lane Spratton; speeding in Spratton.
2. Anti-social behaviour and parking in Brixworth.

The Team has conducted 29 targeted, anti-social behaviour patrols in the problem areas and issued stop search tickets when alcohol has been confiscated. We should remember that Brixworth is an alcohol free zone and drinking in public places is not permitted.

The parking problems continue on Northampton Road and Pytchley Way and

Fixed Penalty tickets have been issued to offending drivers. There appears to be a few people who continue to disobey the parking restrictions. No motorists who break the law will be given a warning and all offenders will receive a fixed penalty notice while we tackle this priority for local people.

We recently received an email from a resident in Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth, who comments on the police presence:

"I was weeding my front lawn and took pains to say to everyone who passed (and there were quite a few!) 'It's good to see the police are keeping an eye on the lads'. I was surprised how a couple of people who had just walked past the police car said they hadn't noticed!!!"

We are out and about all the time, so please take a moment to speak to your local Police Officers and PCSOs about any concerns you may have.

At the Community Panel Meeting on July 16, new priorities for Beat 20 were discussed and adopted. For Brixworth, these are:-

- Anti-social behaviour on the recreation ground in Froxhill Crescent, and memorial bench on Spratton Road (junction with Brampton Way).
- Speeding (in the 'circuit loop of Co-op, Brampton Way, etc).

We will be looking to work with our partners to take steps to address the issues raised

And just a reminder for when you try to contact us - Brixworth Police office is not permanently staffed so please call our new Police contact telephone number: To report incidents or to contact the team call 03000 111 222 or in the case of emergency 999.

This is important in order that we can deploy the proper resources to any incident in your area.

To contact the Safer Community Team by email SCTDaventryRuralNorth@northants.police.uk You can also Crime Stoppers, in confidence on 0800 555 111

Jo Hillery

Lollipop Person for Northampton Rd
Shirley Harrison, Head of School Crossing Patrol Service advertised in the last issue of the Bulletin for a School Crossing Patroller near Brixworth CEVC School. She has advised the Bulletin that an offer has been made to an applicant, subject to an enhanced criminal record bureau check. This check is obligatory for all successful candidates and it is anticipated that the check will be complete by end of September. Hopefully Brixworth residents will see a 'Lollipop Person' on Northampton Road in the autumn.

Kingsthorpe Co-op Reunion

For all ex-Grocery, Butchery and Chemist Staff, a buffet lunch will be held at the Frog and Fiddler, Kingsthorpe on September 10th at 12 noon.

Tickets are £5 per head. Partners are welcome Please telephone Joan Shelton (nee Eldred) on 01604 460391.

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BRIXWORTH COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

East Midlands Ambulance Service community defibrillator officer, Sarah-Jayne Parsons said 'Community First Responders can help save lives. They give extra support to our ambulance service when someone has had a serious illness in a remote location. The on-call CTR is dispatched at the same time as an ambulance and because they are already in the area where the incident has taken place they can be first on the scene providing essential treatment.

The Brixworth CFR Scheme was launched in the Community Centre on the 8th July 2009. Group Coordinator Philip Elvidge said: 'People interested in joining our scheme need to be over 18, physically fit, have a full driving licence and access to a car and be a good communicator.'

'Once we have secured funding and our members have been trained we will give a fast response to people in our community who suffer a cardiac arrest, heart attack, have chest pains, people who are unconscious or have severe breathing difficulties. We arrive on scene with a kit bag which contains an automatic external defibrillator, oxygen and basic first aid equipment.

EMAS provides the necessary training and support and because CFR schemes are financially self supporting, they are grateful for any input from local businesses and community groups. On average it costs £2,000 to set up a scheme and purchase a life saving bag.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer CFR or sponsoring the scheme should contact Philip Elvidge on 07964162918 or e-mail CFR.brixworth@hotmail.co.uk

Strictly Brixworth!!

Want a chance to learn to dance? Want to relive past glories or just have a good time? Then come along to a Rock n Roll dance evening at the Village Hall.

The Friends of All Saints, Brixworth have invited Geoff Bates of the Carnival Dance Club, Northampton to give us two hours of instruction on how to Rock n Roll!

He guarantees that by the end of the evening, beginners will have learnt enough steps to "strut their stuff" when the DJ puts on Bill Hayley or Shakin' Stevens, whilst the more experienced will have had an opportunity to brush up on style and technique (whilst you never know, perhaps even finding a new step or two!).

So, dig out those blue suede shoes, pile up the beehive and make a date to Rock n Roll!

Brixworth Village Hall, 21st November from 7-30pm. Tickets £7-50 each from Lovells Hardware. Light refreshments available. All proceeds in aid of All Saints Brixworth

HANGING HOUGHTON AND LAMPORT NEWS

The Parochial Church Council held a successful Auction at Lamport Hall on the 11th July. The weather was not kind on that day, restricting the numbers who attended, however a significant sum was raised for the church. Thanks go to the organiser, volunteers and to all those who offered auction items.

There was an attempted burglary in Lamport in the last month, luckily they were disturbed during the break-in and ran off. Please take extra care with your security as this type of crime is on the increase.

I am told that a second property has been sold in Manor Gardens.

No news at present on the wind farm front, DDC are still waiting for the re-application from Bolsterstone for the proposed Lodge Farm site. They are also still awaiting further info on the Harrington application and are not expected to make a decision until September.

Dog fouling is still a problem for some of the Hanging Houghton residents. The dog warden has been alerted so if your dog is the one causing the problem beware, as the fines are very significant.

Mike Philpott.

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Initial consultations cost £42 and follow up appointments cost £38. **Patients typically achieve 90% relief of symptoms within 3-5 sessions.** We receive many patients through GP referral and as members of the General Osteopathic Council, we are accepted by all major insurance companies. For further professional advice, or to make an appointment, please contact us at the above number. Our telephone is answered between 8.30am and 6pm every weekday.

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Theatre Review: *All's Well That Ends Well*



All's Well That Ends Well
Helena (Michelle Terry) &
King of France (Oliver Ford Davies)

All's Well That Ends Well, currently playing in the Olivier auditorium at the National Theatre, is one of Shakespeare's least well-known plays and has often been described, along with *Troilus & Cressida* and *Measure For Measure* as a 'problem play'. It is a 'tragicomedy' based on a story taken from Boccaccio's "Decameron" in which the characters struggle through many vicissitudes towards what may turn out to be, as the title suggests, a happy conclusion.

Helena, the feisty, orphaned daughter of a skilled physician, falls desperately in love with Bertram, the haughty Count of Rossillion who is in service with the King of France. Using a remedy passed down to her by her late father, Helena bravely ventures to cure the old King of an agonising fistula and, as a reward, asks for the hand of Bertram in marriage. Bertram, however, is indignantly opposed to the match but Helena and the King stick to their guns. This sets off a train of events with many twists and turns, deceptions, disguises and mistaken identities, confusion over the exchange of not one ring but two and the device of the 'bedtrick' where a clandestine bedding in the dark turns out, subsequently, to have been not with the expected lover but with someone else.

Does all end well? Although the story has the characteristics of a fairy-tale, the ending is not quite of "they all lived happily evermore" variety: the best that the King can manage in conclusion is "All seems to be well".

Directed by Marianne Elliott and designed by Rae Smith, this is a lavish, energetic production with a fairy-tale set incorporating a towering gothic castle, a concealed high-level walkway and a cyclorama on which are projected huge spiders, crows and owls flying in the turrets and, in the second half, a distant view of a Tuscan skyline. The fairy-tale atmosphere is heightened by appropriate live music and by occasional "freeze frame" action pauses. Costumes and props are timeless: the widow, her daughter & friend are dressed in colourful modern prints whereas the Lords Dumaine appear in splendid Ruritarian uniforms.

There are some very fine performances, especially from Michelle Terry (Helena) and Oliver Ford Davies (King of France). Both of these actors have the gift of speaking Shakespeare's verse with enormous intelligence and clarity. Helena, who can come over as something of a grasping opportunist, is played forcefully but with humanity and it is impossible not to sympathise with her when she declares "My friends were poor, but honest" and, later, when referring to the bedtrick, "...But O, strange men, That can such sweet use make of what they hate...". Conleth Hill is amusing as the effete braggart Parolles (companion to Bertram) though the lengthy scene where he is entrapped and exposed for the liar that he is, would have benefitted from some judicious trimming. The Countess of Rossillion, Bertram's mother played by Clare Higgins, is not so much of the grande dame but more of the caring mother and step-mother, the latter rather unusual in a fairy-tale! There are excellent supporting performances from the rest of the cast and, having thoroughly enjoyed it, I came away wondering why this play is not performed more often.

All's Well That Ends Well runs at the NT until 1st October. Tickets are not at West End prices and range from as little as £10. Mid-week matinees offer great bargains for pensioners. George Hammerschmidt

George Hammerschmidt is a very frequent theatre goer and it is hoped that he can review a theatre production locally or in London for each future issue of the Bulletin. The criterion is that the performance is continuing after the date of issue, so that readers can take advantage of the review. It means that quite often, a production that he has seen and would have wished to review, is ending before our issue date.

BRIXWORTH YOUTH FOUNDATION CHARITY EVENT

Following on from last year's successful fundraiser when we raised over £4,500, the youth foundation is again hosting a disco, prize draw and auction at the village hall on Saturday, September 19th from 7pm onwards.

Those who attended last year's event will recall that at the last minute we had to change our venue from a beautiful (but extremely soggy) outdoor garden party to the dry and warm village hall. This year we have decided to cut out worrying about the weather and go indoors! As we do not have to hire a marquee, we have lowered admission to £10. This will include a welcome drink, hog roast, desserts and entertainment

We are very grateful to local businesses who are donating prizes for the evening. One exciting item is a signed cricket ball by Monty Penasar! Argos have agreed to sponsor us under their community cashback scheme which means they will top our funds up by up to £1,000, depending on what money is raised on the night. Carnival Taylor and Furnisha have also agreed to a 10% reduction on production of a ticket for the event.

It hardly seems possible, but the youth foundation is now in its fifth year of operation. We're looking a bit smarter these days with new flooring and are really pleased with our new youth theatre club running on Fridays. We have also recently received funding for a part time paid worker to set up more structured events for young people on Wednesdays.

We are hopeful that last year's success will be matched and that the residents of Brixworth will again show their community spirit in support of the young people of today and the responsible citizens of tomorrow.

Val Lowden

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Sarah Featley, Brixworth Resident, who is reading for a MA at Nottingham University in Journalism interviews Councillor Chris Millar recently re-elected as County Councillor



The different types of council that cover Brixworth often leads to confusion as to what each council does for us. SARAH FEATLEY talks to County Councillor Chris Millar to find out what the County Council does for us and what it means to him to be a member of our local government.

Councillor Chris Millar has been the County Council representative for the Brixworth division since 2001, and is also leader of Daventry District Council, a post he has held since 1999. He moved to Northampton in 1993, and has lived in Brixworth since 2001. Aged 55-years-old, he has three sons who are 18, 21 and 24.

But how did his role in local government start?

He previously worked in banking in London, Manchester and the Midlands, and has lived all over the country since his birth in Bristol.

He got involved in local government after being part of a group campaigning against the expansion of an incinerator facility in Guilsborough.

As the County Council representative for the Brixworth division, Chris also represents 14 other villages.

Chris acknowledges that the local government structure can seem complicated, and so explains: "Northamptonshire has what they call a 'three tier local government structure'.

"This means it is governed by the County Council, with seven District Councils and numerous Parish Councils making up the other two tiers. So it is hardly surprising that many residents are confused by what each Council is responsible for if they have a specific issue or concern to deal with."

So as our representative, what is Chris regularly contacted about?

Chris describes: "One of the County Council services I tend to get contacted most on is relating to the state of our roads! After years of under-investment in our local road network systems and with traffic volumes increasing, I recognise there is still a long way to go to 'catch up' on the backlog despite the very many improvements seen in recent years.

"I receive numerous other communications on matters relating to rural transport, schools, youth activities, social services, voluntary services, 'special needs', environmental issues, and many more!"

Chris, as an elected local representative, also feels that an important part of his role is to act as an advocate for both individuals and collective action groups – such as the groups who are opposed to wind farm applications in Brixworth, Kelmarsh and Harrington.

He adds: "As Leader of a Council that is firmly in favour of advocating a 'green' agenda and renewable energy sources it may seem strange to some that I am happy to put in strong representations against wind farm proposals.

"I believe there are two points here, one is that my role as I see it is to represent to the best of my ability the views of constituents, and secondly I do understand the concerns of local people who live in this beautiful part of Northamptonshire with the number of wind farm proposals that are coming forward in a fairly uncoordinated fashion."

Chris continues: "I fully accept the reasons why landowners are attracted to the offers made to them but equally feel the Government is failing to show enough national leadership in this area; by advocating thousands more turbines yet failing thus far to produce a National Renewable Energy Plan.

Returning to his County Council role, Chris believes it is important he engages with local Parish Councils by offering advice and support to their village objectives and plans. He explains: "I have a tremendous amount of respect for the Parish Councils in my patch as I know how much they do on behalf of their local communities.

"Fortunately I was able to utilise my County Council empowerment fund over the past two years by donating monies totalling £20,000 to support Parish Council and Community Group

Projects. This scheme is again available for the coming years and I would be delighted to hear from anyone dealing with a community project who feels they need the support of this fund to get their scheme moving forward."

So what does Chris enjoy the most about his role?

Chris replies: "As I am involved in many aspects of local government, I am fortunate to experience a whole variety of different situations, which makes life very interesting. Despite spending much of my time dealing at a senior strategic level on many policy matters, such as examining the future government housing growth plans that have been developed across West Northamptonshire and considering it's potential impact on villages within the Brixworth Division, I find the most enjoyable and rewarding part of the whole experience is helping local residents to resolve their individual or collective problems and issues.

He explains: "People don't realise that we do a tremendous amount. We collect the rubbish, make planning decisions – especially the policies regarding where Brixworth goes next.

"We provide environmental health, and are responsible for the collection of council tax."

But what should be done for the Brixworth of the future?

"One problem is the lack of affordable housing"

He added: "It is important, especially at the moment to build houses that people can afford to live in".

"People often want to stay in the same area as where they grew up, but if they cannot afford the housing then they may leave and not necessarily come back.

"So we're very pleased with Brixworth – we've got some units going up at the old Rigiflex site which are going to be more affordable."

Some would also say that a further problem faced by the village is a lack of facilities for its many residents.

Councillor Millar said that as more and more houses were built here, the centre of the village never kept pace with the housing growth.

The council would like to encourage the conversion of more old buildings in Brixworth into business units, as a way of creating new jobs.

There are other problems that need to be examined, such as improving the public transport, and increasing the police presence.

However, Councillor Millar said he will continue to push for the best services for those in the district.

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An Antiques Roadshow and Open Day is to be held at Brixworth Library and Community Centre, Spratton Road, on Thursday, 15th October, 2009, between 10 am and 4 pm

DRAMA GROUP'S NEXT PRODUCTION

'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' will be performed on Saturday 23rd, Friday 29th and Saturday 30th January 2010 in the village hall. There will be matinee & evening performances.

The drama group has recently launched its own web-site. Here you can read about the members of the group, see what plans are afoot, see pictures of rehearsals and read the Goldilocks Blog. You can even vote on past productions and suggest ideas for future plays and events. Visit <http://brixworthdramaticgroup.com> and join in the fun.

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Brixworth Technology Park, formerly Mabbotts Timber Yard

David Storie Associate is to apply to D.D.C. build 5 industrial units for research & development and light industry uses together with residential infill along the site frontage of Station Road. The Station Road Residents Group which has written to neighbours claiming that the plans propose to:

- Knock down most of the existing disused buildings and replace them with five new industrial units, each of which could be occupied by multiple companies. The plans already make provision for the future extension.
- Provide parking for around 200 vehicles.
- Build an extra 9 residential properties along the front of the area.
- Build a new service road for the area suitable for articulated vehicles.

D S A claims benefits including provision of jobs, re-use of brown-field site and a visually pleasing development.

The proposed site layout can be seen on www.brixworthbulletin.com

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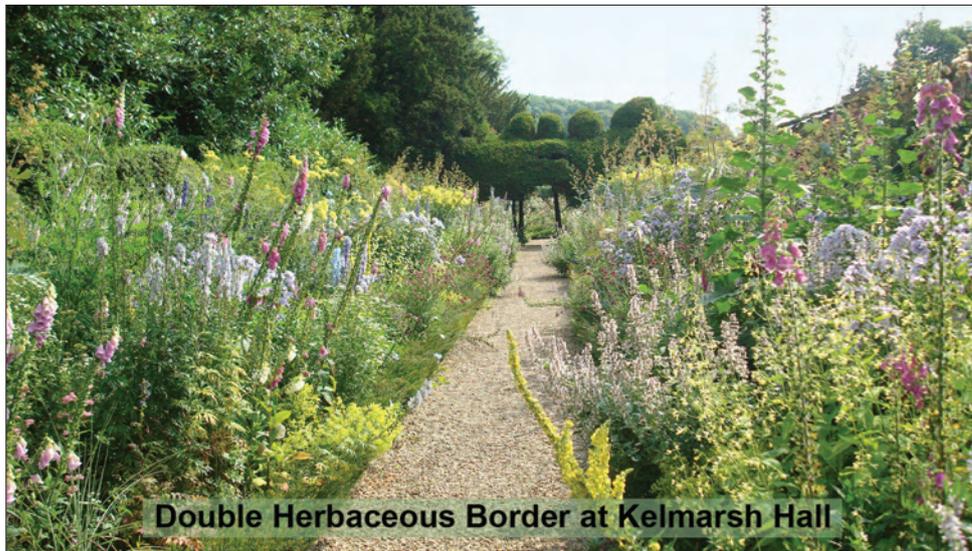
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Gardening Notes by Catherine Hole



Double Herbaceous Border at Kelmarsh Hall

Once again the end of summer has arrived and autumn is bringing in darker nights. The summer season has not lived up to weather forecasters' predictions just the odd week of really nice warm seasonal sun, many exceptionally heavy showers and quite chilly nights.

This has all resulted in – naturally – complaints from gardeners who are never content with weather conditions. Staking of plants has been important with destructive strong winds playing havoc with hollyhock, lilies, oenothera (evening primrose) and any other lofty willowy plants. Unfortunately some staking is not aesthetically undertaken in that canes are often far too tall and stand well above the height of the poor plant, therefore highlighting the stake rather than the flower, so creating a garden of canes.

In early autumn many flowers are flame-coloured, dahlia, chrysanthemum, rudbeckia, and the autumn flowering aster known as the michelmas daisy, of which butterflies enjoy this last burst of nectar of the year and especially favour the variety 'King George', with rich violet-purple colouring. The other butterfly favourite now is the 'sedum' flower that comprises many tiny blooms of pale pink and is often host to many insects on each 'head'. This plant is easily grown and divides readily into many small plantlets in spring. In May I snip off the top 6-8cms of each stem as this then prevents them becoming too tall and straggly later, therefore not requiring support. Gardens to visit to appreciate these flowers are Kelmarsh Hall, Coton Manor or a little further afield, Waterperry in Oxfordshire has a wonderful autumn display, plant nursery and restaurant.

Berried shrubs such as pyracantha and berberis will now be putting on their performance of red, orange and yellow. Cotoneaster 'horizontalis' in early summer produces a mass of tiny white/pink flowers much loved and visited by bees, so much so that on a warm, quiet day the whole plant appears to hum. These are followed in autumn by a startling display of bright red berries and red leaves which if the winter sun catches

them gives a lovely warm glow. Blackbirds do not tend to eat these until all others have been eaten suggesting they are not so palatable.

Amelanchier 'lamarkii' is a small tree that has all year round interest. Bronze- coloured leaves emerge in April at the same time as starry white small flowers clothing the branches which are followed later by bright red berries which blackbirds immediately find irresistible (as with the honeysuckle berries). In autumn the leaves of the amelanchier turn fiery orange and red. The Sorbus (rowan) tree has had exceptionally good berries this year.

The vegetable garden has been quite successful as rain has fallen frequently most of the time. Potatoes have cropped well.

Runner beans suffered with the cold spell particularly when temperatures dropped low at night and also were battered by the strong winds in exposed sites. However, the plants recovered and a good crop is expected as they are now full of flower. The peas were plentiful although some plants were lost to pigeons in the early stages! Carrots should now be at a size to 'pull' but take care to ensure that the remaining carrots are covered by soil otherwise 'carrot fly' will enter and nibble them. Leeks and parsnip will be growing well and provide a welcome addition to winter casseroles. They need not be dug until required as frost does not damage either.

Marrows and courgettes will grow with continuous picking until the first frost destroys them. Marrows can be kept in a dry frost free place for some weeks after picking.

Brussels sprouts mature during autumn and winter and should be picked when the size of walnuts and still tightly closed starting from the bottom of the stem upwards. Nowadays it is common practice to see whole stems of plants for sale in greengrocers with sprouts attached as this preserves them and is probably cheaper than individually picking.

A gentle reminder that bulbs will shortly arrive in nurseries and garden centres, unbelievably for the spring of 2010 already one decade into this new century. It is a good idea to select bulbs quite early as there is more choice and quality is better.

Whilst the summer has been disappointing, thankfully we have had no fears of drought, quite the contrary.

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Sports Extra News

BRIXWORTH ALL SAINTS FOOTBALL CLUB

The season ended with the 1st team coming a respectable 3rd and the reserves winning their respective leagues. The reserves just dropped 2 points all season and only 2 games all year, which were both the cup finals. The 1st team also lost in a cup final after the tie at Sixfields ended with a penalty shootout. On the whole it has been an excellent season, and we are eagerly awaiting the new season to begin. Pre-season preparations are going very well, including winning the Spratton 6 a side tournament. New players have signed for the club, resulting in a great atmosphere and high expectations for the forthcoming season.

We are still looking for additional members to assist in duties like match-day nets, line marking, assistant referees, fund raising and general support for next season. Look out for posters for fund raising events in the near future. Training is on Wednesday evenings starting at 6.30pm (unless we have a game). All are welcome.

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

Nigel Eldred- chairman BASFC 07812 609095 or neldred@hotmail.co.uk

LONG BUCKBY RUGBY CLUB



LBRFC has a long tradition of attracting players from Brixworth and surrounding villages and we welcome players of all abilities and ages.

We have a thriving mini/junior section with over 300 children from U6 all the way through to U17. At LBRFC children quickly make friends as they are introduced to or coached in the skills of rugby in a fun and informal setting catering for all skill levels. Everybody is welcome to participate including those at senior level where the club runs teams from colts through to veterans sides.

If your child or even you (contact the club), would like to learn to play rugby in a safe environment, please come along when the season starts on Sunday 6 September and we will get your child involved and tell you all you need to know. Sessions run from 10.30am to 12. We look forward to welcoming you at our rugby club. For further information refer to the website at www.lbrfc.co.uk. *Jan Foster*

Northamptonshire County Council launches major push for School Governors



The national charity, School Governors' One-Stop Shop (SG OSS) has launched the second phase of its innovative partnership with N.C.C. In a bid to increase the number of school governor volunteers across the county, SGOSS has delivered thousands of leaflets and posters to public libraries, leisure centres, churches and local clubs. Over the coming year, members of SSGOS will run information sessions and recruitment events. A new website www.northamptonshireneedsschoolgoverors.com has been launched to support the initiative.

Last year SGOSS helped to recruit 170 volunteers, 50 more than the agreed target. Steve Acklam SGOSS C.E.O. said that we hope to bring in 120 new volunteers into school governance this year.

The photograph above shows some of the officials who attended the launch in June. Martin Lawrence, School Governance Advisor, N.C.C., Joan Kirkbride, Cabinet Member for Children & Young People N.C.C., Janet Scott, Deputy Chief Executive, School Governors' One Stop Shop SGOSS and Andy Nichols, Governance Manager, N.C.C.

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

40th Anniversary of Central Sports Pavilion Project



L - R: Jack Mayes, Geoff Smith, Gordon Blake, Harry Jones, Dave Manning, Jack Henderson, John Blason, Frank Watkins, Martin Hamilton and John Buckby

In the summer of 1969, it was agreed to form a committee as a joint venture between the Football Club and the Cricket Club to create a new facility for sport at St. David's playing field. Sport in many surrounding villages was struggling to survive in the 60's and 70's, whilst Brixworth maintained strong sporting traditions and the need for a new pavilion was paramount. At that time the 'pavilion' was a wooden shed which doubled as an equipment store and did not do justice to the progress that the clubs wished to make. There were no toilets, one cold tap over a small sink and very little else.

A committee was duly formed in 1969 with the aim of raising sufficient funds – there being at that time no grants or outside funding available.

The original committee of Gordon Blake, Frank Watkins, John Buckby, Martin Hamilton, Dave Manning and John Blason representing the football and cricket clubs. Jack Henderson was President, Geoff Smith, Chairman, Jack Mayes, Secretary and Harry Jones who was then Chairman of the Cricket Club and a very keen supporter of the project.

The earliest meetings were held at Harry's cottage, sitting in convivial comfort round his wonderful old dining table, where Harry dispensed much valuable wisdom, inspiration and sherry!

Every penny for the new building had to be raised by various events. These included sponsored walks, donkey Derbys and the popular 'themed' dances at the village hall. These were always well supported and

among the most successful were a Tramps Ball, an Arabian Nights Ball and Hallowe'en Dances. The New Years Eve Dance became an annual event for many years. The very first simple effort to raise funds was to guess the number of beans in a jar which was placed on the bar of the Coach

and Horses pub. The princely sum of seven pounds, fourteen shillings was raised!

With the agreement of the Parish Council, a lease was signed and a peppercorn rent of £1 a year was to be paid. Enough funds were eventually raised to commence building. Many committee members were skilled craftsmen and were able to assist in the building and interior finishing which reduced the cost considerably.

The completed pavilion was duly opened in 1974 by the then Cobbler's captain Stuart Robertson. The following years saw the pavilion grow and extend as funds permitted. Some forty people have served on the Central Sports Committee at various times throughout the forty years. As a founder member and Chairman for the last twenty nine years, I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts in providing this great facility for the use of the village which is entirely self-funding and is a fitting testament to the original gentlemen who began this project in 1969. It is hoped that a celebration of the forty years of Central Sports will be held later this year at the pavilion of course!

John Blason (Chair)

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