

## Barratt's Go, Carter Jonas No

### Work on 150 new houses to start next summer

Brixworth Parish Council and others opposing the expansion plans for Brixworth are in uproar, following the decision by Daventry District Council's Planning Committee to approve Barratt's plans for 150 new houses on the edge of Brixworth.

Meanwhile plans for a second 150-house estate proposed by Carter Jonas, previously rejected by DDC, are definitely off. Carter Jonas had planned to appeal against DDC's decision but withdrew after the other estate was given the go-ahead, citing a "material change in the circumstances".

Barratt Homes plans to build the new estate on land adjoining the Wilson Estate to the west of Northampton Road. Andrew Swindell, Managing Director at Barratt Northampton, tells the Bulletin: "We anticipate construction work will commence in summer 2013, with the first new homes available for sale at the end of 2013."

The decision was made in a fraught meeting in Daventry on 8 August and was a close-run thing, with five councillors in favour versus four against. DDC's planning officer Steve Ellis had recommended approving the scheme, pointing out that Daventry District has fallen significantly behind its five-year target for building new houses and therefore had to presume in favour of the



Above: The land the Barratt estate will be built on

development. He added that the negative impact of the development would not significantly outweigh the benefits.

It is unclear whether housing really is in short supply: while local estate agent Stuart Little points out that there are currently noticeably fewer houses on the market in Brixworth than normal, *(continued over)*

### We nearly managed it!

Four Councillors from Daventry town and one from Crick ignored the opinions of over 3,000 people from Brixworth and the surrounding villages on 8 August by voting to approve Barratt's application to build 150 houses off Northampton Road. Four councillors representing villages voted against the proposal but it was defeated 5-4. So BRANE's attempts to resist this unwanted development narrowly failed. On 14 August we heard that because of this, Carter Jonas had withdrawn their appeal on behalf of the Society of Merchant Venturers to gain planning permission for 150 houses in the field opposite. Welcome news after the disappointment, but not received as joyously as it would otherwise have been.

Where does that leave us now? The Barratt's decision in line with Officer's advice means that Daventry's failure to maintain a five-year land supply for building new homes overrides any other considerations. Our boundaries have now been breached and our arguments that Brixworth is full have been disregarded. BRANE will continue to reflect public opinion and hopefully build a stronger case now on infrastructure grounds to prevent further large estates being imposed on Brixworth. We shall continue to support the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and keep a watching brief on the situation in general.

Many people have thanked me personally for my efforts but I must publicly acknowledge that none of it would have been possible without the magnificent work undertaken by Mike Parsons, Marc Maslanka, Matt Cox, Frank and Pauline Allen, Mark and Anne Blaber and Keith Howell to name but a few. The support from Nigel Ozier was invaluable and thanks is due to our councillors Frank and Liz Wiig, Nick Bunting and Chris Millar as well.

The tremendous ongoing support we received from so many residents has made me proud to be part of a community that cares so much for its village, its values and its neighbours.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Shattuck'.

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The *Brixworth Bulletin* is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The deadline for contributions and advertising for the December issue is 25 October 2012.

(continued), that's doesn't necessarily mean there's a queue of buyers. "It's hard to say whether there is a shortfall in supply - the market is simply slow," he says. "The low interest rates are allowing people to remain in properties they would struggle to afford otherwise, while buyers are finding it much harder to secure finance and that's the bigger problem."

The developers note that the building the estate will create some 300 construction jobs between 2013 and 2016, and that 44 of the houses on the estate will be affordable.

Despite this, there has been strong opposition from Brixworth and surrounding villages: DDC had received 170 letters opposing the development and statements of objection from Brixworth, Scaldwell and



Demolishing two houses will create an extra 11 parking bays at the shops

Maidwell Parish Councils. Parish councillors, BRANE campaigners and scores of villagers attended and spoke strongly against the development, as did Chris Millar, who leads DDC and represents Brixworth. But they failed to sway enough committee members.

Mike Lacey, chair of Brixworth Parish Council, says that the case against the application was not given any serious consideration or weight. He explains: "It was all about doing something to resolve the five-year land problem which played into the developer's hands. Brixworth, along with the Saved Policies of Daventry District Council [designed to limit new development to sites inside the village boundary] were sacrificed on the altar of expediency."

Millar agrees: "I was surprised that despite the very clear representations made against this proposal that the majority of the committee present did not appear to appreciate the impact this application would have on Brixworth! On another night, with more planning committee members present, I believe the outcome may well have been different."

Five members of the planning committee were unable to attend, including Liz Wiig, who lives in Brixworth and sits both on Brixworth Parish Council and DDC's Planning Committee but on that night could not leave her critically ill husband. She'd submitted a statement in which she argued vehemently against the development but as she was not present she was not able to vote - had the vote been tied, the deciding vote would have fallen to chairman Steve Osborne, who tells the *Bulletin* would have rejected the plans.

Wiig says: "I was so appalled by the decision that I offered my resignation from the planning committee as I do not wish to be party to such injustices. The leader has not accepted my resignation and I have received many phone calls and e-mails asking me to re-consider in order that I can carry on representing the people in my ward."

Millar says that with the decision made, people should now look out for the detailed planning application to make sure the new housing estate is well designed and delivers benefits to the village, including increased parking by the shops. Linked with the housing plans is an application to demolish the two houses nearest to the shops, next to Troop's greengrocers, to create an additional 11 car parking spaces - a move that Millar notes confirms that the village is indeed full, as BRANE have argued all along.

"There is a real fear that if the village continues to grow with large proposals such as this one on the outskirts, then Brixworth



Above: Barratt Homes's new estate will fill in the space between the David Wilson estate and the allotments to the south of Brixworth

will lose its identity as a village community," he says.

Outlying villages fear that events in Brixworth set a precedent for more greenfield development. Chris Heaton-Harris, Conservative MP for Daventry, notes: "I'm very disappointed with the outcome. I think approving this application will open the floodgates for more speculative applications in green space near Moulton, Long Buckby and Crick."

Meanwhile, the Parish Council is considering whether it can still challenge the decision over procedural issues. An amendment was tabled at the debate but ultimately only one vote took place, leaving councillors uncertain whether they were voting on the original motion or the amendment. "I expect that this is something for the Parish Council to take advice on," says Lacey. "The war is not over and next time, perhaps, they will not be able to take advantage of the summer holiday season. Perhaps, all is not yet lost." - cfw

## The votes

### For

Richard Atterbury	Crick
Deanna Eddon	Daventry Abbey South
Andrew Harris	Daventry Hill
David James	Daventry Abbey North
Maureen Luke	Daventry Abbey North

### Against

Daniel Cribbin	Moulton
Bob Patchett	Woodford
Cecile Irving Swift	Welford
Alan Chantler	Yelvertoft

### Absent

Liz Wiig	Brixworth
Barry Frenchman	Spratton
Colin Morgan	Daventry Abbey South
Diane Osborne	Long Buckby
Wendy Randell	Daventry Drayton

# Mark May

Torchbearer, Oakham, 3 July 2012

“The day was simply amazing, I smiled so much it hurt! To run with the Olympic Flame was just one of those experiences I wish could have lasted forever. My entire family from Sandwich in Kent came up and watched me and to see them all cheering me on was just fantastic. Since running with the torch I have taken it in to a few schools, kids tend to want to know if it's real gold... Sadly not! Oh and can it be re-lit... Again it's a no!

Having watched some of the Olympics, I have decided I really want to try and make it to Rio 2016 and win a medal! Sadly with my age it leaves only Archery or Shooting...”



# Mike Nice

Gamesmaker, Lords, 28 July - 2 August

‘Gamesmakers’ was the title given to the volunteers you saw on your screens in the purple and red uniforms.

I had six very memorable days at Lord's, pushing wheelchairs, escorting VIPs, directing visitors and soaking up the atmosphere. Among the highlights were team meetings in the famous Long Room.

Although Team GB were not among the medals, the sense of being part of the Olympics was very real and it was great to help so many people have a great day out. (Our venue gained the only 5 star rating from The Guardian and we achieved 92% customer satisfaction!).

I was also great fun!



## Brixworth's Olympic heroes

### Ruth Gillet

Torchbearer, Kettering, 2 July 2012

“The day was just the most fantastic experience ever. Surprisingly, I didn't feel even slightly nervous. I think that the massive excitement I felt made nerves impossible! I was amazed that when I got off the bus at my designated position, there were so many friends and family there. My family wore printed T-shirts showing messages of support which was a lovely touch. Along the route there were so many Brixworth faces it felt like being at home. Brixworth people have also got behind me since. I have been asked to appear at Scouts, Cubs, Guides, both pre-schools, Brixworth Primary, Olive Branch, Dynamites and also schools outside Brixworth and even some home visits. So many people have wanted to see the torch and be photographed with it. People have also been very generous with their donations and so far have contributed £370 to The Autistic Society. I would like to thank everyone for their support and making the experience so special. I will never forget it!”



### Caitlin McClatchey

Swimming

200m freestyle, 4x100m and 4x200m relay

Caitlin McClatchey, who swims for Scotland but grew up in Brixworth and went to school in Northampton, took part in two swimming events at the London Olympics – the 200m freestyle and the 4x200m relay.

McClatchey, who finished seventh in the final of the 200m freestyle and came fifth with the team in both relay races, says she was overwhelmed at reaching the final of the freestyle. She told the Northampton Chronicle & Echo: “I've had such a tough time and even considered quitting after the Commonwealth Games because it seemed as if there was no light at the end of the tunnel. I'm just so pleased to get into the final. I didn't expect it because I knew it was going to be such a tough event so I'm really overwhelmed.”

McClatchey, 26, says she may well quit swimming before the 2016 Olympics in Rio but hopes to still take part in the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in two years' time.



# Southcott's retirement sparks staff changes at Saxon Spires



Dr Michael Southcott retired from Saxon Spires practice at the end of June. He had been a well respected GP in Brixworth for over 25 years and will be missed.

As a result, there will be changes to the roster of doctors at Brixworth. Since 6 August, the doctors working there are:

- Dr Neil Menon, who has been a partner at Guilsborough for 12 years and who already does a weekly surgery at Brixworth. Dr Menon is interested in cardiology and is a GP trainer
- Dr Chander Nayar, who joined the practice in September 2011
- Dr Estelle Briggs, who continues her normal surgeries
- Dr Joanna Warcaba, who joined the practice in August 2012. Dr Warcaba has

## Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group

The SSPPG held a Carers Coffee Morning in June at Guilsborough Surgery, which we're pleased to report raised £80 to support the work of Northamptonshire Carers. The group is planning a similar event in Brixworth in the autumn.

If you're interested in complementary therapy, Rowan Holistic Health will be holding a taster day offering patients the chance to try a range of different therapies on 7 September, 10am – 4.30pm at Guilsborough Surgery. Check the SSPPG noticeboards in the surgeries for details.

If you're interested in the work of the SSPPG, come to our next meeting which will be held at Brixworth Surgery on Tuesday 18 September at 6pm.

To find out more about our group, contact SSPPG secretary Barbara Hogg on 880552 or email [barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk)

worked with the practice as a registrar and has an interest in palliative care

- Dr Julia Boon and Dr Simon Twigg will do surgeries on alternating Friday afternoons.

## change in opening hours

The practice at Brixworth will be open on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 6.30-7.30pm to cater for people who find it difficult to attend the surgery in normal hours.

Guilsborough surgery also has late opening hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays (6.30-7.30pm) and Saturday mornings 8-10am.

## Cathy Utley

Following the unexpected death of Cathy Utley in December 2010 there were lots of donations, raising a total of £6,500. This is being used to refurbish the reception area in Brixworth and will pay for new seating and a play area for children. There will also be a plaque in Cathy's memory.

## flu clinics

Flu vaccines will be arriving at the practice at the end of September. The timing of this

winter's flu clinics will be announced in early September on [www.saxonspires.co.uk](http://www.saxonspires.co.uk) and on posters at both surgeries.

Flu vaccines are available for patients aged 65 and over, anyone who has diabetes, heart disease, asthma and COPD, anyone who takes medication that suppresses the immune system, patients without a spleen, pregnant women and carers. Others should wait until all the patients in the above groups have been vaccinated before making an appointment.

## fund raising

The staff at both surgeries aim to raise £20,000 to purchase a new ultrasound scanner. Dr Boon is mentored by Mr Clive Aldrich in scanning for gynaecological problems and we want to have a doctor trained in doing musculo-skeletal ultrasound scans. Various fundraising events are planned over the coming months including coffee mornings, raffles and guess the name of the teddy bear. There will also be a prize bingo night on 28 September in Ravensthorpe Village Hall, starting at 7pm – please book your places now! – as well as a quiz night for teams of up to six people on 13 October in Naseby Village Hall at a cost of £5 per person including a light supper.

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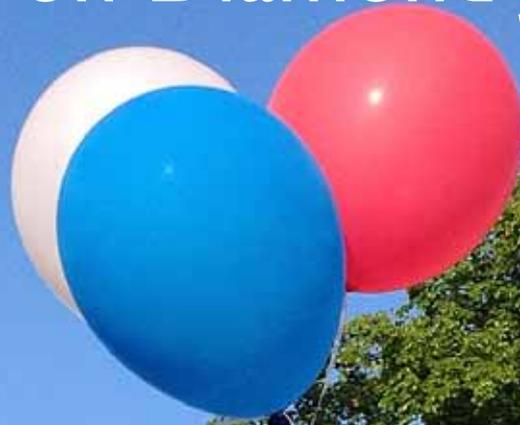
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# Sun shines on Diamond Jubilee party



After a soggy Sunday for the pageant, it was with trepidation that the Brixworth Jubilee Committee waited to see what the weather had in store for the Jubilee celebration on the evening of Monday 4 June. They need not have worried! The clouds cleared and the sun shone and people started to arrive in numbers to Brixworth All Saints' churchyard - men, women, grandparents, children of all ages and even the odd dog!

The evening got off to a good start with the bell ringers and a Service of Thanksgiving for the 60 years of the Queen's reign. In the church, the crowds were treated to some lovely Jubilee-themed flower displays, and just outside the door the Queen's Oak Morris Women danced beautifully on a rather challenging slope and even had many of the villagers joining in! There were bouncy castles, free face-painting, a treasure hunt round the churchyard, lucky dips for adults and children (with some fantastic Jubilee prizes), an Indian bucket game and a grand raffle. The beer tent, bell-ringers BBQ and Co-op curry buffet did a roaring trade and had long queues all evening.



Children from Brixworth Primary School held a competition for the best Jubilee hat

Brixworth Primary School had helped organise the poster and hat competitions and many congratulations to all those children who made such an effort in both.

Towards the end of the evening, the Jubilee Choir led the villagers in some hearty patriotic singing culminating in the dramatic lighting of the Brixworth Beacon as part of a world-wide event linking over 2,000 beacons.

Altogether, the evening was a happy, family-orientated and truly memorable event. It had been organised by the Jubilee Committee under the Friends of All Saints' Church and was generously supported by the Brixworth Parish Council and numerous businesses and organisations. However, principal thanks must go to David Hymas, without whose enormous hard work the evening would never have happened. Sadly, David is in the process of moving away from Brixworth – turn to p25 for a run-down of all the things he's been doing for the village. He'll be missed.

-Jane Neill



Brixworth's Millennium Beacon was one of 2,012 beacons lit around the world

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# From Brixworth to the heart of Volleyball

Claudia Flavell-While speaks with Lisa Wainwright, ceo of Volleyball England and newly resident of Brixworth

It started with an email received shortly after the June issue of the *Brixworth Bulletin* hit the streets:

Hi

*Great cover story of the Brixworth Bulletin! My family and I are new to the area; just moved from Bedfordshire to Brixworth and love it! In relation to the story on Ruth Gillett, it's great to hear of all her work locally, and as Chief Executive of Volleyball England, I can say she really is a star! As you can imagine I am heavily involved with the Olympic and Paralympic Games with my team of staff and volunteers but I just wanted to say hello.*

*Lisa Wainwright  
CEO, Volleyball England*

Needless to say, I got in touch – it's not every day you hear that one of the movers and shakers in sports has moved into the village. A few weeks later on a blissfully dry evening I met Lisa in the garden of The George to discuss Brixworth, volleyball and a certain low-key sporting event Lisa had helped bring to London.

"We've not been long in Brixworth but it's been great. We bought the house in December but moved in April. Prior to that we lived just south of Bedford, where we'd been a long time. But I work at Loughborough University and the journey was just too long; we wanted a village that was more conveniently located and offered lots of community activities for the children and lots of outdoor opportunities like cycling for me, and Brixworth fit the bill perfectly.

To be fair I've not been able to get active in the village community yet because of this little event that's been taking up all my time; plus we've been busy selling our houses and with the kids – we have a nine month old daughter and a second baby on the way.

However even before we moved in full time, we regularly visited the Sure Start centre in Brixworth, which is great. We did the first aid, baby massage, baby buddies etc, all of which were totally free of charge and the support was wonderful. So I've taken lots from the village but as yet not given anything back; though that's something I'm looking to change once this summer's over.



*Lisa with her daughter Mackenzie and Audrey Cooper – Beach Volleyball Olympian from Atlanta, Team GB's indoor women's coach 2012 and torchbearer*

I'm currently loving walking at the reservoir, and my daughter (and the dogs) are loving the park near our house in Broad Street – we've already had a few picnics when we've had a sunny day. Cycling will be the next task for us.

Perhaps bizarrely for the CEO of Volleyball England I've only played casually and while I enjoy it I'm not very good at it! I do want to take up a team sport again though, I spent many years playing netball, much to the detriment of the ligaments in my knees.

I also want to go visit the sailing club when I get a chance – not that I sail myself but I love watching it and I'm sure once the kids grow a little they'll enjoy it too!

The best thing about Brixworth – apart from the reservoir and the beautiful church – is the atmosphere. When you walk around you always see someone walking, cycling, rollerblading etc, and everyone says hello to you. I'm from Yorkshire and the level of friendliness I've encountered in Brixworth reminds me of the people there which is lovely; I've not found many places like that.

I always loved sports, I played every sport you can imagine and always knew I wanted a career involving sport. I studied Physical Education with Geography at Warwick University – a typical choice for a PE teacher,

though I wasn't sure teaching would be for me. While at uni decided to take a sabbatical year to work representing university sports and loved it. That started me on the path I'm still on and gave me the skills I needed in terms of raising funds and influencing people – I'd find myself going to the vice chancellor's house to attend meals and learning to work the universities system to get access to the facilities we needed, hence the fabulous sporting facilities now at Warwick!

After that I joined De Montford University in Bedford as East Region Netball Development Officer, followed by several years where I was yo-yoing in increasingly senior positions between England Netball – the body responsible for promoting the sport, secure funding for facilities etc – and Sport England, which is the government agency that allocates funding for the various sports, gets involved with drafting sports policy and so on.

Seven years ago, I found myself as Head of Volunteers for Sport England doing a lot of work preparing the bid for the London Olympics, specifically on how we might involve volunteers. That's not just the volunteers helping people find their way and welcoming visitors to the UK, but also the many sports volunteers such as coaches, linespeople, etc. We've got 70,000 volunteers

involved with the games; making that happen was a big part of the Olympic bid.

Eventually I decided to get out of the London ratrace, and that's when I took the opportunity to move to Volleyball England in Loughborough. There I'm accountable for driving our strategy, vision and aims for volleyball in England. Most recently that's meant developing a strategy for getting our volleyball players to the next Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

That involves providing facilities. Until last year we only had one inland beach volleyball court in the UK, in Shoreditch in East London. It was a dreadful venue, you could barely play on it but despite that it was always fully booked. So one of our targets is to have ten inland beach volleyball centres across the country by March 2013. The Olympics are helping us to achieve that – "all" we had to do is persuade LOCOG (the London Olympics organising company) to buy the 4,115 tons of sand they would need for the beach volleyball court at Horse Guards Parade, which is of course only temporary, and allow us to take the sand away afterwards to use in the six planned beach volleyball centres in London and others around the country. Plus we then had to persuade Government to give us the funding for all the other equipment and facilities. But as a result we will have 22 inland Beach courts, including one three-court facility at Kettering.

We also arranged and trained the technical officials we'd need for the Olympics/Paralympics – referees, people who sweep the sand, linespeople etc. We've held lots of events to find them and had initial interest from hundreds of people, which we eventually narrowed down to the 108 technical officials helping at the Games. It's still quite a challenge because you need people with the right skills, and the UK is not historically a huge volleyball nation!

In addition to beach volleyball, we have the indoor volleyball at Earl's Court, and

the sitting volleyball in the Paralympics, where the UK will be fielding a team for the first time ever this year at Excel

As for the somewhat sexist attitude that can sometimes permeate people's comments on beach volleyball – particularly women's beach volleyball – it does not bother me in the least. For

## **“Seven years ago, I found myself working on the London Olympic Bid, specifically on how we might involve volunteers...”**

playing on sand, a 'bikini' is a practical and logical outfit (and if players for reasons of ethnicity or religion want to cover up, they can). The players are athletes who train and compete just as hard as any other, and they are no less fantastic role models. So what if it gets a few newspaper headlines and gets people talking; fundamentally, if you look at athletics or some of the tennis players, they wear very similar kit.

People also wonder with the indoor game why one of the players wears a different colour shirt. It's not because they put it in the wrong wash! They're the

Libero, which is a 'free player', basically a specialist defensive player (like a goalie) who's also typically shorter, and to mark them out they get a different shirt.

During the Games I was mostly busy playing host to our many guests. We've invited around 1,000 people – all of them volunteers from the clubs all around England who we've given tickets as a thank you. Plus every coach who's coached one of the Olympians or Paralympians has been invited too.

After the Olympics, I'm involved in the Paralympics, then I'll be straight off to the Volleyball World Congress in the US, and as soon as this is finished we'll be into the cycle of preparation for the 2016 Games in Rio.

As for how people get involved with Volleyball: go to [www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net), that's the site of the Volleyball England, which has information on all the local volleyball facilities, events and festivals, clubs, and how to get involved. There are sadly no formal volleyball facilities at Brixworth – the closest indoor courts are in Northampton, where Ruth plays, and for beach volleyball there are three brand new courts in Kettering which are being launched on 18 August. And yes, the sand there is real Olympic sand, which will have been transported straight from Horse Guards Parade.”

## **Cheryl Harris, Registered Osteopath at the Newlands Practice, Brixworth**



Cheryl Harris has been offering osteopathic treatment in Brixworth for more than six years and is now working from her new location in Newlands (opposite The George Inn). At the Newlands practice you can enjoy the highest level of care and dedication to your family's health in a friendly, professional environment.

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# Wok's for dinner?

Jennifer Fitzgerald tucks in with Henry Cheng aka Mr Wok

There can't be many hungry people in Brixworth who have not come to know and love the village's excellent takeaway food outlets – the Fish and Chip shop, Brixworth Tandoori, [Lee's Chinese takeaway,], and of course the Chinese takeaway-in-a-trailer that can be found at the top of Harborough Road on the industrial estate also known as Mr Wok.

Mr Henry Cheng, aka Mr Wok, has been running the takeaway for 15 years, though this is about to come to an end soon: Cheng will soon be retiring and handing over the business because of his wife's poor health. As he hasn't had a proper holiday in 15 years, we think he deserves a well earned rest!

## How did the business start?

I took over the takeaway that was already here in 1997. I had come to England from Hong Kong in 1972 at the age of eighteen, the last member of my family to emigrate to Newcastle. I learned to cook while I worked for ten years as a waiter. I had my first takeaway business in Saltburn in 1982 and a friend invited me to come to Northampton.

## What is your relationship to Brixworth?

I live in Weston Favell. I came to Brixworth because there were no other Chinese takeaways here at the time, and it was a well-off area with nice people who weren't going to cause me the kind of trouble you can get in other places. The trailer is sited on the industrial estate so the noise from the electricity generator doesn't cause a disturbance.

## What changes have you seen over the years?

Not many really – customers keep coming! Business has kept about level over the past few years because of the recession. It was growing step by step before that.



## Who is currently involved?

At the moment, there are three of us. I sold the business a few months ago to Mr and Mrs John Chan. I shall have to stop working soon to look after my wife who has spinal injuries and can't walk. I'm helping the Chans out over the next few months until my wife comes out of hospital.

## Tell us about your customers

They are all ages, young and old, and families.

## Describe your typical day

In the morning we prepare the food, slicing up the meat and preparing the vegetables. I leave my house at about 4.30 pm to be here for ten to five. At night, we take the trailer back. After I get home, well after midnight, we have to wash up and take the frozen food out of the freezer to defrost for the next day. Yes, I have a big kitchen at home!

## Is your business seasonal?

There's not really much difference between Summer and Winter. In the evenings, it gets quieter after 9pm.

## Is the food you serve the same that Chinese people eat?

Not really. At the takeaway we serve an English version of Chinese food. At home we cook differently. Our Satay and Szechuan menu comes closest to what Chinese people eat. We tend to eat smaller meals with more meat and fewer vegetables. We also like to cook chicken and fish whole with the bone, while the English prefer meat without bone.

## What are your main challenges?

Being a small family business and operating out of a trailer, we couldn't cope with a huge increase in customers, so we stay small.

## What message do you have for your customers?

Thank you for your custom over the years. Good health to everyone, all the best.

Mr Wok's hours of business are: Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday – 5.30pm to 11pm; Friday & Saturday – 5.30pm to midnight

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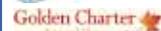
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# Brixfest draws the crowds

The musicians were booked, the sponsors had paid up, but two challenges remained for Dean and Pat Baron, the organisers of the rock festival which took place in the beautiful setting of the Lake House in Brixworth Hall Park on Saturday 28 July. Would enough people turn up? (Despite heavy advertising, only thirty tickets had been sold by the previous Monday.) Would the weather hold?

They needn't have worried, as the event exceeded all expectations. More than 400 people came, the weather stayed fine, and over £6,000 was raised for a range of



## Keith Chambers update

The *Bulletin* has been wanting to interview Brixworth's Northampton Road butcher for a while, but this has not yet been possible because of Keith Chambers' prolonged illness. Keith has been off work since May due to complications that occurred with an operation. The hospital allowed him home for a day to celebrate his 50th birthday recently, which was marked with a card signed by many of Chambers' regular customers. Although Keith has now been discharged, he has to return to hospital at the end of August for further surgery. If all goes well, Keith expects to be back behind his counter in October. John, Derek and Liz are continuing to manage the shop meanwhile. We wish Keith a speedy recovery.

## The show had to go on

Watching one of Shakespeare's light comedies in the ideal setting of Brixworth Country Park should have been a highlight of this Summer. Heartbreak Productions said that whatever the weather, its production of "Much Ado About Nothing" on 22 June would go on, and about sixty people turned up to brave the elements in pullovers, hats, scarves and waterproofs. The presentation of a play within a play staged at the end of World War II provided a welcome excuse for a singalong of many wartime favourite hits, warming us as a high wind howled through the amplifiers, despite the circumstances.

## Merry Tom Folk returns

The Merry Tom Folk Festival, which took place in Brixworth Country Park in 2011, will return on 12 and 13 July 2013. The George pub will continue to help showcase the bands that have or will play at the festival.

For more information on the festival, visit [www.merrytom.co.uk](http://www.merrytom.co.uk) or follow it on Facebook.

charities including the Brixworth Scouts, Brixworth Youth Club and the Parish Nurses.

Families arrived with their picnics and chairs and enjoyed a very relaxed atmosphere. The programme included performances from local musicians Charlie Howitt, Jessica Meadows, Alice Dabell, Lewis Robinson and M62. For some performers, it was their first experience of playing to a live audience, others were more seasoned hands.

A row of pitched tents tucked away at the back even suggested this event could become a future Glastonbury. Fortunately, on this occasion, there was no mud.

Rosemary Tuckley, the venue's hosts, said: "Our biggest thanks go to the visitors for coming and making it worthwhile, and for being so tidy – we wouldn't know you had been. Huge thanks, too, to the many local Brixworth companies who were so generous with their support. Particular thanks go to our neighbours for being so understanding and accommodating". - jf



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## where are they?

Brixworth has two allotments sites. The Glebe site (*pictured, left*) is located over an old ironstone quarry on diocesan land behind the church, towards Creaton. No longer as large as at its creation eighty years ago, it still covers 4 ½ acres and houses 70 plots. It boasts a number of different microclimates as its plots are at different levels.

The other site at the edge of the village on Northampton Road has about twenty plots, although in the past it also encompassed more of the neighbouring field. This land is protected and rented from Teeton Lodge farm. If Barrett Homes succeed in their planning application, it will be surrounded by new houses but the developers have offered to expand it and improve its facilities.

## more than a hobby

It's easy to see why allotments are now so popular. Many allotment owners are passionate about growing their own food, knowing it is free from pesticides. Others say it gives them exercise and a chance to enjoy the outdoors regularly. It is a therapeutic hobby which is relaxing and grounding, providing an antidote to the stress that often prevails at work and in family life. It is also recession-proof – an allotment can provide a family with a low-cost supply of fruit and vegetables the whole year round, and the rent is remarkably low. Of course, the Brixworth allotments offer the added attraction of spectacular views over the surrounding countryside.

Michelle Hancock, an allotment user at the Glebe site, says: "It's definitely worth having. It's hard work, but worth it in the end. You pick your own veg and go home and cook it. It's peaceful and quiet and it's nice to come and sit here for an hour or so and get away from home".

## not just for Christmas

However, just as a dog is for life and not just for Christmas, an allotment requires a regular commitment that stretches beyond initial enthusiasm. As a rule of thumb, a plot of twenty poles (most are between five and ten poles) needs one hour's work per day during Spring and Summer months. This is probably why allotments are popular with the older generation who have time to tend them. The dedication needed also explains why there are a number of neglected plots at both sites, which are not only an eyesore but waste produce and cause weeds and seeds to spread.

For Brenda "Supergardener" Whiting, who also has a plot behind the Church, an allotment is a very important part of her life. Her parents always kept a vegetable patch, but she says some people fall in love with the idea without knowing what's involved. To those who are interested in taking it up, she says "Be prepared to put some time in".

The rewards may be considerable. A previous incumbent at Northampton Road was a successful prize-winner who once grew a five pound onion!

For further information about allotments in Brixworth contact:  
Glebe Allotments (behind church) - Nigel Toseland: 01604 889447  
Northampton Road allotments - Frank Letts 01604 881229.

# Grow your own

Jennifer Fitzgerald explores the allotments

Over the past decade, keeping an allotment has become one of the fastest growing leisure pursuits. Introduced in the nineteenth century for rural folk moving into urban areas, and promoted during the government's "Dig for Victory" campaign during the second world war, allotments declined in popularity when the number of supermarkets grew and provided easier ways of accessing food. They are now very much back in vogue, as shown by the constant demand for allotments in Brixworth.



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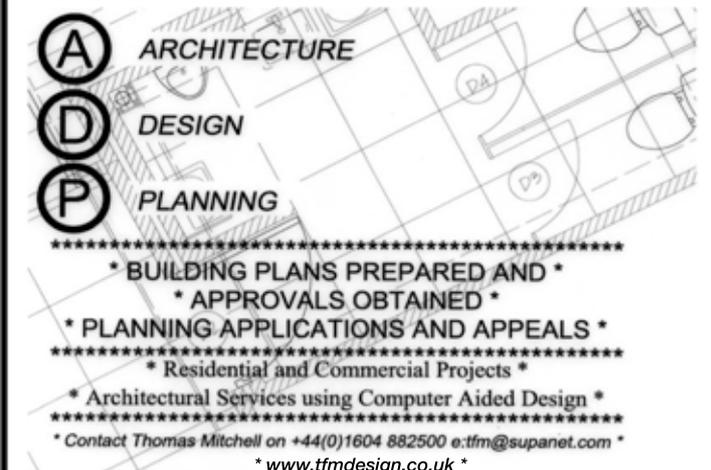
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I have recently been away from home for a couple of weeks, so I arranged with my son-in-law to feed the birds whilst I was away. I have no doubt that he did so, but he is a working man so he would only be able to replenish the feeders at most once or twice daily. I am at home and therefore able to feed them almost on demand, and demanding they most certainly are. My neighbour tells me that even she noticed that, during my absence, birds were flying around anxiously, evidently on the lookout for the next handout. On my return things seem overnight to have returned to normal, except that they have perhaps become even more demanding. It is no exaggeration to say that if you maintain a well-stocked feeding station within your garden, fifty or more birds may become dependent upon you for food, and the absence of it may easily lead to many deaths, especially in hard times.

But this series of events set me to wondering. It must be the case that even the most trivial of acts on our part are likely to have consequences for the wildlife that shares our world with us. The mere act of thrusting a spade into the soil, for example, and turning over a sod, disrupts the lives of billions of living things. Inevitably some will die, others will continue their lives as if nothing has happened. The gardener who is out digging will welcome the 'friendly' company of the local robin. Yet it is not there out of friendship, but for the sake of the small animal goodies that are revealed.

Some of these will be grubs or chrysalids of insects that we regard as pests, but equally they may be of others, like ladybirds and worms, that we think of as welcome allies. Experts tell us that even a cubic inch of soil may contain huge numbers of living plants and animals, including some that are completely unknown to science. A sobering thought indeed when we are apt to think we know it all. Our human psyche demands that our knowledge be complete, yet we are hardly beginners in this respect.

Soil organisms, microbes as we call them, are essential to the existence of all life on earth, including, indeed especially, our own. Without our own complement of microbes on and within our bodies, we would cease to exist. These tiny organisms are in the end responsible for every mouthful of food that we eat. We are utterly dependent upon them. Yet most of the time we treat them, and our own environment, with what amounts to total disregard.

Despite this we go crashing about, laying waste to huge swathes of this earth in our quest for the 'essential' minerals and elements with which to sustain our lifestyles. Some of us say that we do so at our peril, and that that mother earth, the environment, the natural world, call it what you will, can only sustain so much abuse. That there will come a time when we venture beyond a point of no return, and apocalypse will be the result.

It was only a few millions of years ago, a mere second or two when measured on the scale of earth time, that our ancestors first stood upright, having emerged from the primeval forest, and set us on the path to the present day. And only in the past few centuries has our impact on the planet been of more than minor significance. Before humankind wildlife had evolved, new species had emerged, flourished for a time before fading from the fossil record.

Now that word 'record' needs a pause for thought. It has only been since the appearance of modern man that events in the world were recorded. Yet nature seemed to have managed very well without us for countless aeons of time. And the most sobering thought of all? If we managed somehow to wipe ourselves from the face of the planet, all the evidence points to the fact that life on earth would continue much as before. – *Brian Webster*

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# Great Wall of China Charity Challenge

Two Brixworth men are taking on an epic journey and trekking along The Great Wall of China, which stretches from Xinjiang in the far west to the border with North Korea. Aside from its obvious awe-inspiring, aesthetic qualities, the wall is also a potent and visible reminder of China's turbulent history.

Darren Edwards and Paul Simpson, both 46, will endure the challenge of a lifetime, conquering the twists, turns, steps and slopes of this formidable fortification whilst sleeping in the wilderness all in aid of charity.

Darren is supporting Help for Heroes which provides direct, practical support to those wounded, sick or injured in the line of duty since 9/11. Darren's father received fantastic support from the South Staffs regiment and supporting charities before he died in 2008.

To sponsor Darren please visit [www.bmycharity.com/darrenrun2china2012](http://www.bmycharity.com/darrenrun2china2012)

Paul is trying to raise awareness as well as much needed funds for Prostate Cancer UK which aims to reach everyone affected by prostate cancer through support and information services. Paul also has a personal interest as his grandfather after a long and colourful life succumbed to the disease.

To sponsor Paul please visit [www.justgiving.com/paulschinatrek2012](http://www.justgiving.com/paulschinatrek2012)

You may have recently seen the guys raffling Courtney Lawes Rugby World Cup shirt at the Brixworth Primary School Fete and a special thanks goes out to all those who supported their causes on the day.

Other challenges have been a little more energetic helping to build their fitness towards the Great Wall plus raising valuable donations along the way. Darren's son Ben joined the challenges which included:

- Loughborough Half Marathon - March
- British London 10k run - June
- Charity Golf Day - June



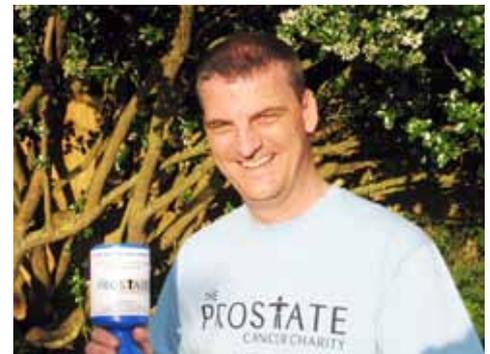
Darren Edwards supports Help for Heroes

## Still to come

Darren and Paul have raised over £4,000 so far towards their target of £6,000. More is planned in September so please join them and help get over the magic £6,000.

**Saxon Family Fun Day** - September  
(Thanks to Wellingborough Saxons FC)

**Quiz Night** - Saturday 29 September  
Teams of all sizes welcome to pitch your wits on all those important things in life; sport, TV soaps, music etc. Join us at Brixworth Village Hall for fun, wine & song. For tickets, contact



Paul Simpson is raising funds for Prostate Cancer UK

Darren at [darren.edwards25@o2.co.uk](mailto:darren.edwards25@o2.co.uk) or Paul on [paulsimpson854@btinternet.com](mailto:paulsimpson854@btinternet.com)

**Golf Day** - Wednesday 12 September  
Following the success of the first golf day in June we're running a second in September. Breakfast is followed by 27 holes of golf including lunch at the excellent Weald Park golf club Brentwood Essex. For more details please contact Darren as above.

- The "Tough Mudder", a 13 mile run through mud and other crazy challenges - November

- Darren Edwards & Paul Simpson

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# Police Report

I have recently taken over from PS Mike Grady as the safety community sergeant for the area. I am well aware that PS Grady along with PCSO Glyn Lewis will be sadly missed for their outstanding contribution to the community over the years.

During my first few weeks on the sector I accompanied both Mike and Glyn on patrol and was introduced to numerous people, their knowledge of the area and its problems was outstanding.

I have 22 years' experience as a police officer, which has been very varied but the majority of my career has been spent as a front line officer. I have spent the last 18 months as a supervisor on an immediate response team covering both South Northants and the Daventry area, so I am reasonably familiar with the area and rural life and its subsequent issues.

During the short period at Brixworth I have found my whole team to be enthusiastic in their role, they are constantly thinking up new ideas to keep the community both reassured and safe.

I see this as a long term posting which will enable me to pick and continue with the excellent work that PS Mike Grady has done.

I look forward to meeting you all in the near future. – Pat Anstead



## Vote for your Police and Crime Commissioner

Northamptonshire's Police Authority will be replaced by an elected role – the new Police and Crime Commissioner. All eligible voters in Northamptonshire will be able to cast their vote on 15 November.

The role of the PCC places much emphasis on involving people's views and taking into account their concerns when making decisions on issues such as identifying funding priorities for Northamptonshire Police and their partners.

Ahead of the vote, members of a voluntary organisation are invited to 'Have your Say' on your views on the priorities for police and community safety partners by taking part in the survey on [www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk). This will help inform the new Policing Plan for 2013/2014, which will be constructed by the new Police and Crime Commissioner.

The survey must be completed by 2 October to be entered into a prize draw.

### Volunteering At Brixworth Library & Community Centre

After the successful opening of the Information Point in April, the recruitment of new volunteers has meant that the opening hours can now be extended. The office is open now on Tuesdays from 10.am to 4.00pm as well as Thursdays and Fridays for the same hours. More volunteers could mean a further extension of opening times.

If we look at the numbers of volunteers currently running the Olive Branch Coffee Shop six days a week, add in the Friends of the Library, include the ones that run Rhyme Time and Olive Shoots and the like, we have over 50 local people volunteering their time for the community each week. Not bad for just one building in Brixworth!

If you would like to join in - come and talk to Jill Barber (Library) or Mike Nice (Community Centre).

### Interested in archaeology?

If you are – particularly in relation to the history of the church – then note Wednesday 5 December in your diary.

On that day, Dr David Parsons is due to present a lecture on "Forty Years of Brixworth Church Archaeological Research" in the meeting room of The Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. The lecture starts at 5pm, teas are served from 4.30pm onwards.

All are welcome to attend, it's free of charge.

If there is sufficient interest, the Friends of All Saints Church will organise a coach from Brixworth. For further information, or to reserve your place on the coach, please contact Kate Knight on 881810 and phone through your reservations (by 1 November please).

### Youth Club Craft and Gift Fair

Brixworth Youth Club's Craft and Gift Fair takes place at the Village Hall on Sunday 21 October, 10am – 4pm. Come and get the Christmas shopping done early – hope to see you there!

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## Hanging Houghton Report

Despite the dreadful weather on the Queens Diamond Jubilee on 5 June, a good time was had by all who attended the village party. Luckily the organisers had made contingency plans, and we re-located from the (soggy) village green to the barn on Manor Farm.



Many thanks go to farmer Tom Saunders for cleaning up the barn and for letting us use it at very short notice. The event was attended by over 60 local residents and their families, our best attended BBQ to date, and I hope that future events will be as well supported.

Now that the 30 MPH signs have been erected in Hanging Houghton, there have been some comments from the locals on the abundance of signage on the entrance to the village. Most of you will hopefully recall that the Parish Council sent round a questionnaire prior to agreeing to the signs being installed asking for a yes/no vote on the proposal. The vast majority of votes were in favour of the proposal, therefore the signs are here to stay. - *Mike Philpott*

# Know your history

You may have lived in Brixworth for many years and know a great deal about the village (if so, we would be pleased to hear from you!).

You may be a newcomer to the village and would like to know more about the long history of Brixworth. You would be very welcome at our meetings in the Village Hall.

We always have entertaining speakers at our monthly meetings indoors and varied local trips of historical interest throughout the year.

From May to the end of September the History Society has a display from the archives in the Heritage Centre on the green below the church. The Heritage Centre is open on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2.30 pm to 5 pm during the summer months and light refreshments are available.

Our programme also includes an annual five-day trip to the continent and a number of our members have recently returned from a visit to Holland. We were based in The Hague, the centre for the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court. The group members soon discovered that the city had a wide variety of eating and drinking establishments to suit all tastes. An interesting and unusually quiet city, as cars are actively discouraged from the city, and most residents travel by bicycle and the local tram system.

As we had a coach available to us throughout the tour we were able to access the places of interest on the itinerary very easily. The main highlights included the Peace Palace and parliament buildings in The Hague, a cruise on the famous Amsterdam canals, the Royal Palace of Het Loo and a visit to Ostend on the journey back home.

The Society is considering organising a visit to the World War I battle sites in 2013 so if you are interested in coming along (regardless whether you're a member or not) please contact Pauline Kirton on 880033 or Heather Parr on 07817 006364.



Our 2012 programme continues in the Village Hall in Holcot Road as follows:

- Thursday 20 September: Bill Davies - On and Off the Footplate
- Thursday 18 October: William Walford – St. Peter's Church, Marefair, Northampton
- Thursday 8 November: Members' Night and a display from our archives. Please note change of date from published programme.
- Thursday 13 December: Christmas Social Evening

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# Draughton News



## Another Royal celebration, another patriotic car

Last year it was a Ford Mondeo which on the occasion of the Royal Wedding got decked out in more Union Jacks than anyone could count. This year's Diamond Jubilee gave the car modifiers – chiefly Darryl Tidd, Steve Cochrane, Pete Manning and other regulars at the Coach and Horses pub – an opportunity to go one better. The team produce a Union Jack-e-fied Transit van complete with red carpet modified to fit well over a dozen revelers at a squash.

Lee at Lovell's Hardware donated all the material to decorate the van – after last year's patriotic wallpaper this year's vehicle was wrapped in plastic Union Jack tablecloth. "We've visited all the villages around and had a great reception," says Tidd.

As for whether there'll be another car next year, nobody's quite sure yet – it may depend whether there's another Royal occasion to get the nationalistic creative juices flowing.

Draughton, at the time of writing this, should be vibrating to its very foundations with passing combines, tractors, loaded trailers etc - and yet... here we are – nearly at the end of July and still waiting for lift off – with the corn still green around the gills, and the rape still standing in soggy fields!

Yes - it's been a rum Spring, and Summer has really taken its time coming, but, nothing daunted, Draughton held a hugely successful Spring Fayre in May. It raised a remarkable sum considering the freezing wind and weather. Wonderful plants from two of the village's noted gardeners, and the famous jams and jellies were sought out by the many visitors



and the little Clubroom benefitted to the tune of £700.

The Jubilee was marked in typical Draughtonian fashion – with a jolly supper outside the clubroom (the only dry night!) Fantastic food and copious amounts of Pimms were served to give a warming glow so lacking in the night air while and the impromptu Karaoke from some of her merrier subjects would have made the Queen so proud!

Last year was a big year for church fundraising and this year it's the Clubroom which demands our energies. The committee have various events planned – the next being a Quiz and Curry on 8 September. For more information call 686480 or email [rodsmeaton@aol.com](mailto:rodsmeaton@aol.com)

A Jumble Sale is planned for 22nd September (tbc) – and we'll be entreating people to turn out their cupboards for a mighty sale of Bric-a-Brac.

A space for one mat (two at a pinch) is available for our Monday night Yoga sessions in the aforementioned Clubroom which begin again in September. At £65 a term and a good night's sleep promised after each session, it's a real bargain! - Kate Calnan



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# BRIXWORTH MATTERS

[www.bcfchurch.co.uk](http://www.bcfchurch.co.uk)

What an Olympics! An amazing coming together of nations, in what proved to be a great experience. Such an event had the wow factor for so many reasons – the stadia, the crowds, the volunteers, the competitors and so much more. Such an event so well planned and executed, has for a short while captured our imagination, brought feelings of pride in our nation’s achievements and raised expectations for the future. However, very soon for the vast majority of us life will become “normal” once again, with it’s highs and lows, and sadly for many sadness, fear and worry awaits them. An amazing statistic was issued in a recent NCC report “76,467 patients aged 18+ were registered with their GP for depression. That is just about 11% of the population. This figure does not include those who do not register with their GP.”

In the lead up to the Olympics, we as a church put on a number of events with a “Journey to the Olympics” theme, to encourage Community involvement but also to share our faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that when Jesus said “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life” he really was telling the truth and that He is the answer to the meaning of life giving purpose and hope.

You would be most welcome to join us for any of our services, or just for a chat with one of us in the Olive Branch, contact numbers are below.

May God richly bless you in the coming days

Phil Walter (Revd)  
**Contact: Phil on 882040**



## Journey to the Olympics

### Childrens Holiday Club

- 90 Children
- 3 Mornings
- Lots of noise, fun and laughter
- Wow Factor: 10/10



### Celebration of Love

- 3 course meal with a loved one
- Live music
- Love poems recited
- Wow Factor: Great food and a reminder of true love



### Mens Breakfast

- Sunday morning in the Olive Branch
- Full English Breakfast and more!
- Free event!
- Wow Factor: Great food and friendship

### Golf Day

- All skill levels
- A fun experience including lunch!
- Worthy winner
- Wow Factor: A really great day out

### Barn Dance

- 180 attended and danced!
- Great music and calling
- Young and old alike
- Wow Factor: great time had by all!

### Family Fun Day

- 200 or so attended
- Free BBQ
- Free Bouncy Castle
- Free Face Painting and much more
- Wow factor: Sun shone & so did faces!



### Quiz Night

- 14 teams of 4 competed
- All teams survived the night!
- A gold medal winning team
- Wow Factor: Instant technology showing how badly you were doing!



### Open Air Songs of Praise

- Sunny afternoon in the open air
- Salvation Army band leading singing
- Amazing sketch by members of Drama Group (with a little help from BCF)
- Wow Factor: An opportunity to worship God together!



### Ladies Pamper Evening

- Approx 50 ladies
- Nails, hair, make up and general pamper!
- Food!
- Wow Factor: Brilliant according to those who came!



### Answers to Difficult Questions

- Room at the George
- 6 difficult questions concerning Christianity
- Small gathering but intimate!
- Wow Factor: We don't have all the answers but faith comes into it

As a result of the success of the Journey to the Olympics we have decided to repeat parts of it during the next year as well as considering launching a new "Sunday Club" for children based on a similar style to the children's club, a "Christianity Explored" course for those looking to find out more about the Christian faith and other possibilities arising out of those two weeks.

We should mention the help we had from a church from Mississippi whom we linked with. Thirteen of the folk from the church there came across and helped us out with the events as well as involving themselves with practical work in the community. We hope they will return next year.



### COFFEE SHOP

More than just a Coffee Shop, the Olive Branch is the place to meet, be kept informed of Village life and receive a warm welcome.

Pensioners lunch on a Wednesday at 12 noon

(need to book on 889030 or in person)

If you have never tasted the fine coffee and food – why not try it!

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

For more information phone The Olive Branch on 889030

Run by volunteers this non-profit making venture has a welcoming atmosphere.

## BCF Weekly events

<b>Sunday:</b>	09:45 – 10:30	Informal gathering
	11:15 – 12:30	Main Service of Worship (including Junior Church and Creche)
<b>Monday:</b>	20:00 – 21:30	Prayer Meeting in the Olive Branch
<b>Tuesday:</b>	19:30 – 21:00	TNT – for Teenagers*
<b>Wednesday:</b>	20:00 – 21:30	Home study Groups
<b>Thursday:</b>	10:00 – 11:30	Olive Shoots – a Mums & Tots group*
<b>Friday:</b>	17:00 – 18:00	Dynamites Children's Club – age 5-7 years*
	18:15 – 19:15	Dynamites Children's Club – age 8-11* (*held at the Library & Community Centre)

Well that's a bit about us.

If you would like to know more about anything in this leaflet or to know more about the Christian faith, then phone Phil on 882040 or go online at [www.bcfchurch.co.uk](http://www.bcfchurch.co.uk)

# Brixworth Parish Council Newsletter

16th Edition  
Autumn 2012



## Chairman Report



It is with regret that I find I have to report the resignation of Richard Monk from the Parish Council. Richard has been Chairman of the PC Finance Committee for many years and as a community we owe him a debt of gratitude for his service in managing our finances so well for so long.

Richard's leaving serves to underline the fact that we are now four councillors short of our full number and I would really like to encourage everybody's interest in the Parish Council and what we do. You may not feel that you are able to do much or you may feel unsuited, but you may also be surprised to find that you really can contribute to the Parish Council and, more importantly, to the village in which we live. So, whatever your expertise, why not check it out?

Talking of village life, it really does seem that we are at a crossroads. Two developers are currently seeking to build 150 houses to the South of the village. One had planning permission refused and they have gone to appeal which has led to an inquiry being held in mid-September, the other expects to have their application heard by Daventry District Council in August, sometime, and although the Parish Council strongly opposed this application; it is hard to know what the outcome will be as the planning system is in a state of flux. New rules are being introduced alongside the old rules and it is not always easy to say which has the greater significance.

As a result of all of this we are reminded of the provisions for local people to have a say in planning policy via a Neighbourhood Development Plan. In the coming weeks and months we hope to introduce a draft Neighbourhood Development Plan that will seek to manage any future development of Brixworth and we will be asking for input from everyone within our community. Subject to the outcome of a referendum, this document would become primary planning policy.

## Brixworth First Aid Responders—new equipment

The Brixworth First Aid Responders (Gary, Phil, Kath, Lynne, Sandra, Alex and Sue) are showing off their new equipment purchased with a grant received from the parish council, which include a training annie and chocking patient simulator (worn by Sandra).



The equipment has already been put to use in the groups monthly meetings and will ensure the group can stay up to date with their training so that they are always ready to respond to 999 emergencies in the Brixworth area.

As always new members are welcome. Volunteers need to be over 18 and have a years driving experience. East Midlands Ambulance Service provide full training so no first aid experience in necessary. Anyone interested should contact Phil Elvidge at CFR.brixworth@hotmail.co.uk or phone on 07964162918

## Parish Council fly the flag

With this typical British summer it's not likely we are looking skywards very often – there's not much inspiring about dank grey clouds shutting out the sunshine!



But there is a chance you may have noticed the commemorative flag flying outside the Library/Community Centre. Thanks to flag flyer Mike Nice, the village does fly the flag, especially on important occasions. But a flag with a message is a new one for us! We flew the Armed Forces Day flag to mark our respect for the work of the men and women of our armed forces.

It's a small gesture but one we hope is appreciated.

For more information or to contact your Parish Councillors go to our website at [www.brixworthpc.org.uk](http://www.brixworthpc.org.uk) or contact the Clerk to the Council Mrs Jane Macken on 881243 or email [clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk)

## Millennium Garden Update

Do you know where the Millennium garden is? Between the Church car park and Brixworth Centre is an oasis of tranquillity, which demands a visit when we need a bit of peace and quiet (and don't we all with the school holidays upon us!)



It was set up by a committee of volunteers as a lasting memorial to mark the turn of the century in 2000 and is a wonderful asset for the village but probably under-used.

For years, volunteers undertook all the maintenance and its appearance was a credit to them. But time moves on, and as we all know, looking after a garden gets harder work as trees grow and bushes thicken out. There came a time when the Parish Council took over responsibility and paid the rent and a donation to volunteers from outside the village to look after it.

But it needs more than that. We have tried so hard to find enough volunteers to keep it going, but with very limited success. So we have decided to employ a contractor to keep it tidy and as a tribute to the years of voluntary work carried out on it by villagers



So why not make a visit? Take a picnic (or perhaps your swimsuit with the weather we're having!), and visit the Church and make an afternoon of it!

## Dates of meetings

## Sept.—Nov.

Parish Cllr Surgery  
 Planning  
 Full Council  
 Planning  
 Recreation & Amenity  
 Highways & Environment  
 Parish Cllr Surgery  
 Finance  
 Planning  
 Full Council  
 Parish Cllr Surgery  
 Planning  
 Grants/Finance  
 Full Council  
 Planning  
 Recreation & Amenity

Saturday 1 Sept  
 Monday 3 Sept  
 Tuesday 18 Sept  
 Monday 24 Sept  
 Tuesday 25 Sept  
 Tuesday 2 Oct  
 Saturday 6 Oct  
 Tuesday 9 Oct  
 Monday 15 Oct  
 Tuesday 16 Oct  
 Saturday 3 Nov  
 Monday 5 Nov  
 Tuesday 13 Nov  
 Tuesday 20 Nov  
 Monday 26 Nov  
 Tuesday 27 Nov

Agendas will be displayed on the notice boards and on the website at least four days before the meeting, please check for any changes to meetings. All meetings are held in the Community Centre, Spratton Road and start at 7.30pm except the Full Council which starts at 7.15pm.

Cllr Surgeries are from 10.00—12.00pm

## New baby swing - Ashway Playing Field

A new cradle swing has been installed on the Ashway playing field, for the younger members of our community. We thank a member of the public for suggesting this and are glad to take on this idea. If you have an idea to improve our village, please let our Clerk know.



## Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Recent months seem to be full of exciting events – the Olympics, Wimbledon (thank goodness for the roof!), the European Cup (perhaps not so exciting!), and to cap it all the Royal Jubilee. It was heartening to see the successful efforts put on around the village to mark this latter event. The community celebrations at the church were especially well organised and successful. The Parish Council would like to commend all those who organised and took part in any way in these celebrations. It was a great example of the community coming together and enjoying themselves in the name of a good cause. Well done to all!

## Brixworth Parish Council Contact Details

### Parish Councillors

Mike Lacey (Chairman)  
 Ian Barratt  
 Colin Bament  
 Frank Wiig  
 Sandra Moxon

### Email Address

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 smoxon@brixworthpc.org.uk

### Parish Councillors

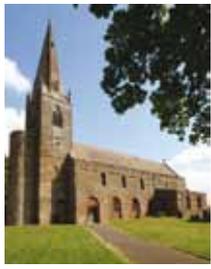
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 Bob Chattaway

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 kparker@brixworthpc.org.uk  
 bchattaway@brixworthpc.org.uk

Clerk to the Council, Jane Macken

Email. clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk or Tel. No. 01604 881243



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Vicar: A new appointment awaited

Churchwardens: Mrs S. Woodhead, 8 Brackenborough 01604 880158

Mr M. Lewis, 8 Breach Close 01604 881836

## CALENDAR Sept, Oct, Nov. & Dec. 2012 Services & Principal Events

SEPT	2	Sunday	Trinity XIII	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	9	Sunday	Trinity XIV	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	16	Sunday	Trinity XV	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	23	Sunday	Trinity XVI	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	30	Sunday	Trinity XVII	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
OCT	7	Sunday	Trinity XVIII / Feast of Dedication	Solemn Eucharist 10.15 a.m. with the Bishop of Brixworth as celebrant; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	14	Sunday	Trinity XIX / Harvest Festival	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Festival Evensong at Holcot 6.00 p.m. with Archdeacon Christine Allsopp
	21	Sunday	Trinity XX	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	28	Sunday	Trinity XXI	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
NOV	4	Sunday	Feast of All Saints/Patronal Festival	Solemn Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	5	Monday	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day*)	Holy Eucharist 6.00 p.m.;
	11	Sunday	Remembrance Sunday	Holy Eucharist 9.30 a.m.; Service of Remembrance 10.30 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	18	Sunday	Trinity XXIV	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m. Evensong 6.00 p.m.
	25	Sunday	Feast of Christ the King	Solemn Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.
DEC	2	Sunday	Advent Sunday	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Advent Procession 6.00 p.m.
	9	Sunday	Advent II	Holy Eucharist 10.15 a.m.; Evensong 6.00 p.m.

\* Names of the departed to be included in prayers on All Souls' Day should be given to one of the churchwardens before the service.

**PRINCIPAL EVENTS: Saturday 8th September** – Ride and Stride – sponsored walk and cycle ride to raise funds for the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust. Are there any cyclists who might be willing to take part in this event? Please let the churchwardens have your name. **Saturday 13th October** – Harvest Supper in the Brixworth Centre. Watch out for notices around the village for timings or contact the churchwardens nearer the time.

### FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY BURIAL	12 June	Cynthia June Malin (nee Sharp)	of Northampton, formerly of Brixworth
	12 June	Doreen Pamela Newman (nee Hinton)	of Clipston, formerly of Brixworth
HOLY MATRIMONY	14 July	Chloe Rose Caroline Turpin	formerly of Brixworth & Thomas David Robinson
HOLY BAPTISM	20 May	Amelia Poppy Harvey	
	10 June	Freya Mae Wagg	
	15 June	Finley Marsh	

### HOW NEAR ARE WE IN APPOINTING A NEW VICAR? UPDATE

Over the past few months the Archdeacon's Mission and Pastoral Committee has been meeting to discuss the future organisation of parishes within the deanery. It is likely that in the near future some parishes adjoining the village will merge with Brixworth to form a larger benefice with a resident incumbent and assistant priest. In order to enable these plans to come into effect, the Bishop has suspended presentation of a new incumbent, but rather to appoint a priest-in-charge. For all intents and purposes this priest-in-charge would effectively become the Vicar of Brixworth and may even assume the role of incumbent if and when re-organisation is completed.

Whilst this has been happening, the PCC has been working on the parish profile. This document, mentioned in the last Bulletin, sets out our vision for the future as well as describing in detail the particulars of the village, the church and the current and future forms of worship. The profile forms part of the advertisement for the new priest-in-charge and has, amongst its requirements, for someone to develop forms of worship that are more family orientated and to take the church into the school and wider community. The resolutions that have been in place barring women from becoming a vicar or from presiding at the Eucharist have also now been rescinded.

As Brixworth is joined with Holcot as a benefice, the next step will be for the PCC's of both Brixworth and Holcot to agree on shared aims for the future and then the position can be advertised. It is highly likely that by the time you are reading this, the advertisement will have been published and we will be well on the way, hopefully, to appointing the next vicar. The post of Vicar of Brixworth is seen as a strategic one by the diocese and this should ensure that the current interregnum doesn't last for longer than is necessary.

# WI passes the Baton

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee Year, Northamptonshire WIs have passed a Baton around all the County's WIs. Brixworth WI was very lucky to have the Baton during the weekend of the Royal Jubilee.

## Long Buckby to Brixworth, Saturday 2 June



Long Buckby WI members arrived on a cold, wet, rainy morning to hand the Baton on to Brixworth WI. Despite the elements everyone dressed for the occasion. The handover ceremony was held on the Pound in Brixworth. We enjoyed meeting our fellow WI members from Long Buckby. Due to the early start (the

handover was at 9.30am) bacon rolls and fruit juice were welcomed by all. At 10.30am Long Buckby left to rousing cheers from Brixworth.

## Brixworth to Moulton, Sunday 3 June

It poured!! But it did not deter Brixworth Running Club who RAN all the way to Moulton carrying the Baton. After the Baton handover everyone enjoyed the first class hospitality of Moulton WI. As Brixworth WI members returned to Brixworth, their thanks went to the Runners running back to Brixworth – in the rain!



## Brixworth Primary School fete

The children of Brixworth Primary School celebrated the nearing of the end of term (and the – sadly futile – hope that they'd get a great summer) with the annual summer fete.

The event, which took place on 23 June, attracted some 2,000 visitors of all ages. They got treated to a huge range of activities, from bouncy castles to Go-Kart racing to Hook-a-Duck, not to forget plenty of bric-a-brac stalls, burgers and musical entertainment.

A particular highlight for the parents was the dance around the Maypole, which the children clearly enjoyed!

### THE TWINS GIFT COMPANY

The Twins Gift Company was launched in September 2011 by Karen Davidson and Lindsey Civil who are identical twins based in Sywell Northamptonshire.

Karen and Lindsey are both volunteers for The Department of Twin Research and it was on a trip to St Thomas's Hospital that the idea of a Gift Company specifically for twins and multiples was born. Karen gave Lindsey a 'Two Pearls in a Pod' necklace signifying twins, Lindsey was thrilled with the gift and the rest as they say is history.

The aim of The Twins Gift Company is to provide gifts and cards for all occasions for twins, multiples, Mothers of Twins & Multiples and their families. We have worked alongside some fantastic designers and artists to come up with our unique collection of gifts.

[www.twinsgiftcompany.co.uk](http://www.twinsgiftcompany.co.uk)

01604 930063

karen@twinsgiftcompany.co.uk

lindsey@twinsgiftcompany.co.uk

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# WESTMINSTER REPORT

## Stillbirth: we can and should do more

A few years ago, my best friends were joyfully awaiting the birth of their second child. When the baby was full term, the mother had some intense pain in her stomach and decided to head to the hospital. Rather than being admitted, she was sent home. When she returned a day or so later, she was told that the baby she was carrying had died.

Who knows what might have been different, had the circumstances been different? That matters little now, but what happened then made up my mind that, should I ever be elected to the House of Commons, I would do my best to ensure that, in future, no parents would have to suffer the same fate.

Unfortunately, due to staffing problems, my friends were sent home on that day, with the deceased baby still inside the mother. They were asked to return after the weekend for the delivery of their son.

Clearly, that is not an acceptable or humane way to treat someone who has received the worst of all news. It was, and still is, impossible for any of us here to know what my friends were feeling at that time, and what so many parents like them go through each day.

Stillbirth is a painful subject that has a lasting effect on thousands of people each year. I am not convinced that enough is being done to support the families of stillborn children and I'm concerned that the UK seems to be failing to reduce the number of stillbirths that we have each year.

It is not a small number of families who go through this. Recent research shows that 11 babies are stillborn every day in the UK – that is one in every 200 babies born, or 4,100 babies a year.

Approximately 30% of stillbirths remain unexplained and various factors play into the deaths of the remaining 70% of those babies.

Alas, according to a study in The Lancet last year, the UK has one of the worst records for stillbirths, ranking 33rd out of 35 high-income nations. While it is important to acknowledge that all women are vulnerable, we need to work out why the women in our nation may be at a higher risk of stillbirth, and what we can do to change that fact.

There are some troubling regional differences in the percentage rates of stillbirth across the UK. How can we explain the 33% difference between the South-West, which has the lowest rate, and the East Midlands including Daventry, which has the highest rate?

Some parents I have spoken to have had only the nicest things to say about how they were treated following the stillbirth of their child. Others have stories that are not so good, which is why I am campaigning on this issue.

I want to get the government to do a number of things:

- To spread best practise across the NHS. There is some great work already being done - indeed, Sands, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity, has developed comprehensive guidelines for professionals
- To invest a little more in research as to why so many stillbirths occur and try and learn why we have such dramatic regional variations across the UK
- To be more flexible and allow parents to receive both birth and death certificates for their child, rather than the certificate of stillbirth that is currently issued. Anything that helps parents start to get over such a traumatic episode must be a good thing. Currently the only reason government can give me as to why stillbirth certificates are issued is that they help with internal bureaucracy.

Since I gave voice to this issue in the House of Commons I've been contacted and offered support by hundreds of people from across the UK who have gone through this terrible experience. This campaign means a great deal to a lot of people.

No campaign will ever be able to eliminate stillbirths, but hopefully we can reduce the number of stillbirths in the UK and help those couples that go through this devastating experience to move on, whilst respectfully remembering those few moments they had with their baby.

*Chris*

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www.makinghumanrightswork.org.uk  
www.heatonharris.com

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# Brix and Mortar

*Marketing to suit you and your home*

People sell a home for many different reasons. Some will be looking to move up or down the property ladder, some will be relocating for work purposes and others may be selling a home on behalf of a family member.

Because people's reasons for selling can be very different, a good estate agent should consider all methods of sale in order to get a client the best price in the right timescale.

## asking price

The traditional method and most common way houses are sold in England is by an estate agent placing an asking price on a property and then trying to achieve an offer as close as possible to this figure. Although most homes are sold in this way it can be time consuming and stressful for the vendors. If you reside at the property, you may have to entertain quite a number of viewings at times that may often be inconvenient until you have an acceptable offer. Once a sale is agreed, subject to contract, it will normally take another eight weeks until exchange.

## informal tender

In some cases, a better way of gaining interest in a property which also often results in achieving a higher sale price may be by informal tender. This method means the agent sets a guide price and then encourages potential purchasers to place an offer, in writing, by a pre-set closing date. Viewings can be done in 'open house' style, which means that at set times multiple buyers

will look around with an estate agent. This method of sale has many advantages, as it encourages more offers. All buyers need to verify their finances and normally only cash buyers or people free from chains will offer. The vendor remains under no obligation to accept any of the offers on the closing date and is still at liberty to sell in the traditional way if they don't get an acceptable price.

## auction

Finally we have the auction. Tried and tested over hundreds of years, the auction is the only sure-fire way to sell a property (or 'lot' as it is called) knowing that you will have reached the best price on the day. It will also alleviate the worry of the deal falling through as contracts are literally exchanged at the fall of the hammer. An auction will cost you some upfront money, such as a contribution

towards the catalogue and legal pack (this would still be a cost in other sale methods but later in the transaction). The auction works well if you set your guide price at around 75% of what similar homes are being marketed for. The thing to remember is that the more attractive the guide price is, the more people will come and bid and the more people that bid, the better chances of reaching a good sale price. The auction does have a safety mechanism in that you will, with the estate agent and auctioneer, have set a reserve price. This figure is kept privately and if the bids do not reach it the auctioneer will not sell the house.

So, next time you ask an estate agent out to value a property ensure they have access to all means necessary in order to achieve the best possible price for you. – *Stuart Little*

# the george



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- + Quiz Night every Wednesday 8pm followed by Higher and Lower
- + Live music through the summer - see website for details  
Sat 8<sup>th</sup> September - The Vibe  
Sat 29<sup>th</sup> September - Mick Ridgways Mojo Hand  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> October - Ann Duggan Band  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> November - Back in Time
- + Regular Guest Real Ales
- + Christmas bookings now being taken

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# Drama



# Group

The Drama Group put on two comedies to full houses and receptive audiences on Thursday Friday and Saturday 21-23 June.

## Slim Chance

The first, Slim Chance, written by Peter Gordon, features a group of ladies attending a slimming club run by Jean (Caroline Monk), who takes her role very seriously, having to keep a rather wayward group in order. She also keeps them in order in the drama, being centre stage throughout, while the rest of the ladies get cameos to show their different (or in one cases, non-existent) reasons for being in the group at all.

They arrive in dribs and drabs, first the widow Betty (Elaine Musgrove), pining for the looks of her youth, feisty Irene (Sue McAspurn), who finds attending slimming and non-smoking classes together a trial, and Anne (Amanda Pilgrim) still smarting from the loss of her husband to a slimmer model. Then Debbie (Yvonne Keller) who just wants her clothes to fit...

Martinet Jean is eager to get the class going but pub-going dawdlers Marjorie (a welcome return for Ange Coles) and sidekick Edna (Heather Pool) will not be rushed, winding Jean up with continuous food consumption.

At first sight a rather dysfunctional bunch, but the giggles and comments from the audience reveal then as a typical slimming club. Then we get the exercises, followed by a rebellion from Irene and Debbie who want something more energetic than neck pivots, then the dreaded weighing. But before that the super-timid Louise (Eileen Truby) appears, for whom the issue is less about weight loss and more about her bullying husband. As the

group consider this, they begin to question their motivation. This adds a more thoughtful element to an otherwise straightforward and well-performed comedy, directed by Jean McDonnell.

## Brenton versus Brenton

David Tristrams' Brenton versus Brenton was possibly the most adult item featured by the group and audiences seemed to lap it up.

Ensemble was not the word to use about the Brenton family, a well-imagined Dallas-style feuding menagerie with habits unsuited to wholesome family entertainment. Deke Brenton (played with a convincing over-the-top accent by Mike Culverhouse) and wife Lana, played with 4-foot shoulder pads by the superb Sue l'Anson, fight over the family advertising agency. They also fight over incompetent copywriter Brett (Ben Richards). Deke loses control and seeks revenge by buying a caravan (sorry, hiring a hitman), advised by Lana's coffee-stealing lawyer brother Matt (Dennis Coles). Then there is the dysfunctional daughter Foxy, of course, and Deke's first wife Blanche, a very natural performance from newcomer Kirsten Lund. But it is Hannah Saxton as daughter Foxy who catches the eye with a clever acting performance.

It's all nonsense but every line is a cracker, and the cast got to grips with the comic timing, even when the lines are absurd.

Finally, the family gets reconciled in true Soapland style as Brett turns out to be the long-lost son and gets the girl as well, as fortunately for him the beautiful but very dippy Foxy turns out not to be no relation after all.

As well as acting in one, Eileen Truby pulled off the difficult job of directing at the same time, and produced an excellent result. Well done indeed to both teams.

Before during and after, Andy Knight Les Evans and Linda Twohey provided musical entertainment for the appreciative audiences. Karen Sharman and Jo Runiewicz ran lights and sound without a hitch. As usual the village hall was laid out cabaret style and Caroline found enough time away from her slimming group to organise front of house, and our thanks go to all who helped us out.

## come and join us

It can't have escaped the notice of regular audience members that the somewhat skewed demographics of the group lead to difficulties in selecting material, in this case an eight-handed all-female cast. The group has said hello goodbye to its pantomime heroines for years, but seriously, does need younger members of both sexes to keep the group going after 25 years. We are a friendly and inclusive lot, with a social as well as drama programme, and we would love to hear from anyone in the village with an interest not only in acting, but also in production, direction, staging, or any of the support roles.

The next winter production inevitably is a pantomime, Snow White, possibly accompanied by individuals of various heights, and maybe even the odd short person or two. The following summer production will be "Murdered to Death", a Christie-style spoof written by Peter Gordon. If you're interested in taking part or helping with the production, please contact Sue l'Anson on 880238. - Robin Pool



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# Farewell David Hymas



I came to live in Brixworth, when I retired in 1993 after 36 years with Lucas Industries, an international engineering company headquartered in Birmingham (now non-existent after being taken

over and sold off piecemeal). As a chartered accountant, I was for 19 years Financial Director of one of the larger businesses, and later Chief Financial Officer of the North American operations, which had me based near Washington DC.

I was very impressed with the Lucas Industries business ethos, laid down by its Quaker founders, who valued fairness, loyalty and integrity, with employees treated as the most important asset. While this paternal ethos may have been regarded as out-of-date towards the end, it was a great motivator for community involvement.

Before retiring, I attended a typical American introduction to retirement, which amongst many other things stressed how one's skills and experience could make a difference in the local community, and the opportunity for broadening one's horizons by travelling. It was a sort of payback for all those years spent in the single-minded objective of making the business you were in successful.

I took this retirement advice very seriously. Apart from travelling, I got involved in the community. The main events I was involved in was as organiser of much of the Millennium Celebrations chaired by Sheila Jowers in July 2000. I obtained the lottery grants for the Millennium Beacon in the church car park and ever since have been in charge of lighting it at national events and at New Year's Eve. In the late nineties I ran for some years with Joan Scott the "Drop-in-Centre" for village teenagers. More recently I was the chairman

of the committee organising the June 4 Diamond Jubilee Celebration and raising the funds to pay for it.

For many years I was the treasurer and member of the Brixworth Bugle [to those who moved to the village more recently – that's what the Brixworth Bulletin used to be known as, and to many indeed still is...] editorial team under the leadership of Paddy Fox. As such I produced a series of award-winning "Welcome Packs" during the nineties expansion of the village. Due to my interest in the Saxon Church, I was for a time a member of the Parochial Church Council and a sideman, and latterly as a "Friend of the Church" a trustee.

Other less demanding activities included Meals on Wheels organised by Jean Burdett, a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator chaired by John Haywood, for a time chairman of the Community Panel in support of PCSO Jo Hillery, and a room steward at Lamport Hall. I also supported the Brixworth Historical Society, Friends of Delapre Abbey in Northampton and the Northampton and Lamport Railway.

As an accountant I have never been short of work doing tax returns and advising mainly elderly people on their financial affairs, particularly when they have been badly advised by independent financial advisors. Due to my interest in the technical aspects of pensions, I am also on the council of the Lucas/TRW Pensioners Association as a founder member.

Finally on a more personal note I do not think I have ever had the privilege of working with such a more motivated and pleasant group of people. They are an inspiration for their dedication in helping others and making Brixworth such a great place to live. Above all if I was asked why I got involved, it is more because of them and the team spirit that came from it. I am certainly going to miss the friendships I have made in my community activities. I can strongly recommend to others, that if they want to get personal satisfaction from helping others, then Brixworth is the place to be. -David Hymas

## Letters to the Editor

### Brixfest or Brix-din?

I cannot remember a time I have enjoyed living in our house less than on Saturday 28 July with an unabated din from the Brixfest music festival from midday to 11.25 pm. I'm sure that the cause was worthwhile and that the attendants enjoyed themselves. But to nearby residents, reading a book or watching TV was nearly impossible. Perhaps I'm an old curmudgeon, but such an event should surely not take place in the middle of a residential area – somewhere like the Country Park or the cricket ground would have been more appropriate.

George Hammerschmidt

### Update on Connie

Just wanted to let everybody know that Connie is at Footsteps at the moment as paid for by the *Bulletin* and we are thrilled with her progress.

Most importantly, she is really enjoying herself and taking it in her stride! The therapists haven't seen her since Easter and have noticed lots of difference, she is now able to walk to and from the therapy rooms from the waiting room independently.

She is now steadier still on her feet, is able to stoop down to pick things off the floor and is just starting to stand herself up without using anything to pull up on.

Rebecca Allen

### Betty Alcock

I'd like to pay tribute to my friend Betty Alcock of Harborough Road, Brixworth, who has done so much to raise money for charity over the years. Every year without fail Betty will open her house for a Bring & Buy, tombola and raffle, complete with tea, coffee and her home-made biscuits. This year alone she raised £750 for Marie Curie Cancer Care, which Barclay's will double. It's a fantastic effort and should not go unrecognised!

Bertha Chapman

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## Support your Church!

The Friends of Brixworth Church are a local charity based in the village and dedicated to the upkeep of the Grade One-listed building that is the local parish church. One of the oldest churches in the country, All Saints Church in Brixworth has been used as a place of worship for over 1,300 years.

The Friends will be holding their very popular Harvest Supper again this year on Saturday 13 October in the Centre, Church Street starting at 7.30pm. As previously, a hot meal will be served and there will be live music and a bar. Tickets remain at £10 each so be sure to buy early before they all go.

The Annual Friends Lecture on Saturday 27 October will be a special one this year. It is the 30th Annual Lecture and we are honoured to have an overseas visitor, Faith Wallis from McGill University, Canada. She will talk on "Visualising Time & Nature in Anglo-Saxon England".

For more information on both these events or to join the Friends, please contact Bev King on 01604 880951 or visit [www.friendsofbrixworthchurch.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbrixworthchurch.org.uk)

# Should we buy our child an electric toothbrush?

To ensure strong healthy teeth and to develop good life long dental habits it is important to brush your child's teeth as soon as they appear in their mouth.

Electric toothbrushes are not suitable for babies and very small children, ie under the age of three. To ensure that they receive the best possible oral care you should brush with a specially designed toothbrush, which has a rounded head and soft bristles, with a tiny amount of toothpaste.

For babies of three months and over it may also be beneficial to use teeth wipes to prevent 'baby bottle tooth decay'.

For older children, manufacturers have developed a range of child-friendly electric brushes, easy for small hands to hold, a smaller head and a choice of appealing characters. These brushes can be beneficial as they help children, who have less manual dexterity than adults, clean hard to reach places such as the backs of their teeth.

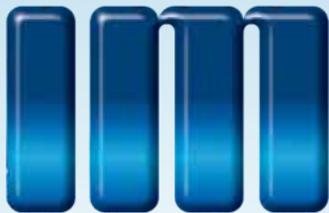
Whether using a manual or electric brush, it is recommended that until the age of seven you should help your children brush their teeth in order to develop good technique and ensure a thorough clean. Watch tasks such as your child tying their shoelaces to measure their level of dexterity.

Children under ten should be supervised when using an electric toothbrush. Ensure that they avoid mashing the tufts against their teeth in an effort to clean them; light force and slow movements are all that is needed and allow the electric bristle action to do its job.

Many brushes also have built-in timers to ensure that they brush for the recommended two minutes and musical tones and pictures which make brushing fun. The novelty of using an electric toothbrush can be better for children as they may be more inclined to brush regularly.

The key is to always use a children's power brush for younger children.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email Brixworth Village Dental practice at [info@bvdental.co.uk](mailto:info@bvdental.co.uk) or drop by the practice for a chat or call us on 880293



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# Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts:

## Long-term ambitions

In spite of the weather, Brixworth and Scaldwell Scouts have been out and about this term.

### Beavers

The Beavers got the older generation involved when they invited dads, brothers, uncles and granddads to help them with an exciting outdoor games night – and the rain held off! They followed this with rugby and football sessions and a scavenger hunt. The Brampton Valley Way Walk was not so lucky with the weather, but like all good Scouts the Beavers came prepared and managed to complete it. To finish it all off they had a lovely picnic.

### Cubs

The Cubs have also been trying to make the most of the weather with a bit of an Olympic theme as they worked towards their fitness challenge badge. Plus they had a go at orienteering and cooking at Overstone, Bell Boating at Pitsford and visited Cineworld where they got to see the projection room and learn how popcorn is made. Like the Beavers they invited the family along for an evening of games as well.

### Scouts

As reported in the previous Bulletin, the Scouts took on the Scouting organisation's 'Our Sporting Challenge', and have done brilliantly. In total 1,408 teams of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been taking part in this challenge nationwide. In the overall table, The Insane Bolters Of Brixworth have finished fifth, and in the table of Scout groups they came second, ie in the silver medal position! An amazing feat for all the Scouts and their leaders, and a very big well done! To mark there phenomenal effort and well-deserved success all Scouts were presented with a special Olympic badge and necker with a silver woggle.

### Explorers

The Explorers have continued with their adventures. These have included cooking outdoors, night hiking (in torrential rain), ice-skating, circus skills, cycling and pioneering – I am exhausted just writing it!

It is not only the young people that have been widening their skill base. Four of our intrepid leaders have recently gained their Bell Boating BCU Helm qualification – well done to them.

Brixworth & Scaldwell Scout Group had a wonderful time at the family camp at Beaudesert near Cannock in the West Midlands. The weather was a little wet, but

all who took part soldiered on, enjoying the opportunity to take on lots of new challenges and managed to win a few of them.

### Recruitment

A great big thank you to all the people that came forward and volunteered to join us as leaders. I am sure they will have a great deal of fun with all our young people and together they will all learn a whole host of new and amazing skills. I am looking forward to working with them and getting to know them better.

However, our recruitment drive is not over yet! We need an effective executive committee with a strong focus on fundraising for the Scout Group. You don't have to have a child in Scouts, you could be retired or semi-retired, or currently unemployed and looking for something to occupy a few hours a week. Unless we can start the fundraising ball rolling in earnest, we will struggle to help the young people who are dedicated to Scouts get involved in some of the most fantastic events. Please come and join us and help get our young people meeting other young people from around the world – let's broaden their horizons!

Some of the events we would like to aim for include the Scouts and Explorers participating in the GNAWJAM 2013– Great Northamptonshire Activity Week Jamboree. This is a fabulous international opportunity (on our doorstep) for all our young people as the Beavers and Cubs will be able to attend an open day. We could set our sights even

higher and aim to get some of our Explorers to the 2014 Summer Camp in Kandersteg Switzerland then in 2015 there is a World Jamoboree in Japan – who knows where we could end up!

There are other things closer to home that we also need to be able to fund – like new camping equipment for the group (a Teepee, a mess tent, pots and pans, perhaps and fridge and generator as well). Not to forget all the normal activities we like to get our young people involved in.

Then come October we will need a quartermaster to look after all our kit and equipment and help us make sure everything is ready for when we take the young people on their next adventure. Again, this might suit someone who is retired or semi-retired and who is quite handy in terms of repairing tents and other various bits of equipment.

And talking about kit, it would be nice if we could manage to put it all together in one place – currently it is spread around a number of leaders' homes and other places. I don't suppose that anyone has a lock-up garage or space with easy access for vehicles that they would be willing to let the Scout Group use at a nominal rent? Just asking!

To find out more about Scouts in general please visit <http://scouts.org.uk/>. To find out more about Brixworth and Scaldwell Scout Group, contact Scout leader Kim Phillips on 07815 070878 or [info@armarketing.co.uk](mailto:info@armarketing.co.uk)

- Kim Phillips



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# Brixworth Library

**Summer Reading Challenge** for children aged 4-12 years continues in the library until Saturday 15 September.

Various other **craft activities** are also going on through the summer holidays – come in and visit the library to find out more!

**Rhymetimes** will commence again from Friday 7 September – free to all under fives and their parents/carers from 9.50 to 10.20am Friday mornings term-time. We would also welcome volunteers to help run this activity, especially during the school holidays.

We are now **open every day of the week**: Mondays to Fridays 10am to 6pm, Saturdays 9am to 1pm and Sundays 1pm to 4pm. Family activities take place every Sunday – so come and visit!

## Art Exhibitions upstairs

**Open Studios Art Exhibition** starts Saturday 1 September until Sunday 30 September – Belinda Collett, Cath Evans, Alison Bull, Eddie Cockram, Rae Flack and Liz Sharpe.

**John Sutton Art Exhibition** and **Brixworth Drama Group Exhibition** take place in October.

**Windsor Morris Art Exhibition** throughout November.

## Other events

**Scrapbooking & Crafts Club** meets one Saturday a month from 10am to 12 noon – ask at the library for next date, new members always welcome.

**Book Club** meets first Tuesday of the month from 2:30 – 3:30pm; new members always welcome.

**Folk Night** with live music: Friday 7 September, 7.30pm

In addition, the general knowledge **Quiz Night** for teams of up to four members is now a regular event, next on Friday 21 September at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £2.50 each and are available from the library.

Finally, we're planning a **Table Top Sale** – date to be confirmed.

## Get involved

The **Friends of Brixworth Library** are currently buying some new furniture for the children's library and would love new supporters with new fundraising ideas. The Friends meet once a month - ask at the library for the next date!

**Volunteering opportunities:** There are many ways to help, such as helping with Rhymetimes, delivering books to people who may not be able to get to a library, Super Sunday volunteers, stock assistants and library greeters.

To find out, call us on 0300 126 1000 (option 5, then option 1); email [brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk) or simply pop in! – *Jill Barber*



## How not to fly the Union Jack

In the past, flying the national flag seemed to be more of a Continental pastime, but it seems to be catching. Indeed 2012, thanks to the combination of Olympics, Euro 2012, the Diamond Jubilee and even the Eurovision Song Contest. Brixworth is no exception, the Cricket Club leading the way with a grand curving line of Union Flags.

But there is a recurring problem which frequently gives your correspondent acute attacks of vexillological distemper. Our Union Flag (commonly dubbed the Union Jack) was curiously designed back in 1801 as a combination of the national flags of England (St George), Scotland (St Andrew) & Ireland (St Patrick). Whoever designed it, however, made it so that it does not have reflection symmetry. As a result there is a right way and a wrong way to fly it. During the Diamond Jubilee celebrations there were at least two Union Flags in Brixworth flying upside down, traditionally recognised as a discreet distress signal. (In view of our result in the Eurovision Song Contest, this may not be inappropriate!).

So, for the generation that did not enjoy the benefits of National Service, here is the rule: the broad portion of the white cross of St Andrew should be above the red band of St Patrick on the side of the flag next to the flag-pole (see above, left) - not the other way round as on the right. Here's to the next Jubilee, Eurovision, international football or just a bit of patriotism. - *George Hammerschmidt*



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# What's on?

24 Aug -15 Sep	Bully Boy	Royal
1-30 Sept	Open Studios & Art Exhibition	Brixworth Library
1 Sep - 7 Oct	Storytelling by Vasco Araujo	Abington Park Museum
7 Sep	Alternative Therapy Taster Day	Guilborough Surgery
7 Sep	Folk Night - Live Music	Brixworth Library
8 Sep	Find out about your shoe's ancestors	N'pton Museum & Art Gallery
8 Sep	Shoe Store Tour	N'pton Museum & Art Gallery
9 Sep	Farmers Market	Kelmarsh Hall
11 Sep	Wildlife in North-amptonshire	Village Hall
12 Sep	Gardens down the Ages	Lampport Hall
13 Sep	We are Fiction	Roadmender
13 Sep	Storytelling for Adults	Kelmarsh Hall
14 Sep	Richard Street (The Temptations)	Derngate
18-22 Sep	Radio Times	Royal
19-29 Sep	The Crucible	Abington Park Museum
19 Sep	Bonham's Valuations	Kelmarsh Hall
20 Sep	History Soc: On and Off the Footplate	Village Hall
21 Sep	Quiz Night	Brixw'th Library
21 Sep	ABBA Mania	Derngate
22 Sep	Drawing & Painting Autumn Landscape	Lampport Hall
22 Sep	Aiden Grimshaw	Roadmender
22 Sep	Showaddywaddy	Derngate
22 Sep	Jumble Sale	Draughton
22-28 Sep	World of Dance	Abington Park Museum
23 Sep	Wedding Experience	Kelmarsh Hall
23 Sep	Cycle for Cynthia	Althorp House
22-23 Sept	Railways at War	Northampton & Lampport Railway
23 Sep	Jack Liebeck plays Sibelius	Derngate
28 Sep	Saxon Spires Bingo Night	Ravensthorpe Village Hall
29 Sep	Hoedown	Derngate
30 Sep	Cottesbrooke Village Fete (Rescheduled)	Cottesbrooke Hall
2 Oct	Piff the Magic Dragon	Royal
3 Oct	Blofeld & Baxter	Royal
4 Oct	Marcus Brigstocke	Royal
5 Oct	The Moons	Roadmender
5 Oct	Barb Jungr sings Bob Dylan	Royal

6 Oct	Johnny Cash Road-show	Derngate
6 Oct	Farm Boy	Royal
7 Oct	Masque Theatre	Royal
9 Oct	WI: AGM	Village Hall
9-13 Oct	The Woman in Black	Royal
9-13 Oct	Daddy Cool	Derngate
13 Oct	Saxon Spires Quiz Night	Naseby Village Hall
13 Oct	Harvest Supper	Brixw'th Centre
13-14 Oct	Art & Craft Fair	Lampport Hall
14 Oct	Level 42	Derngate
16-17 Oct	Richard Alston Dance Co	Derngate
17 Oct	Plants for Free	Lampport Hall
17 Oct	Bonham's Valuations	Kelmarsh Hall
18 Oct	Julian Clary	Derngate
18 Oct	History Soc: St Peters Church	Village Hall
19 Oct - 10 Nov	God of Carnage	Royal
20 Oct	Handa's Surprise	Corby Cube
20 Oct	Bay City Rollers' Story	Corby Cube
20-21 Oct	Malcolm Arnold Festival	Derngate
21 Oct	Youth Club Gift Fair	Village Hall
22 Oct	Paul Carrack	Derngate
23 Oct	Talon - Best of The Eagles	Derngate
24 Oct	Kevin Bridges	Derngate
25 Oct	A Kind of Queen	Derngate
25 Oct	Ralph McTell	Corby Cube
25 Oct	Lenny Henry	Corby Cube
26-27 Oct	Wuthering Heights	Underground
27 Oct	Danny Bhoj	Corby Cube
27 Oct	Lecture: Visualising Time & Nature	All Saints Church, Brixw'th
27 Oct	Black Dyke Band	Derngate
28 Oct	Vampires Rock	Derngate
30 Oct	Jimmy Carr	Derngate
30 Oct - 1 Nov	Blown Away	Underground
31 Oct	Dara O Briain	Derngate
1 Nov	A Night of Dirty Dancing	Derngate
2 Nov	Spirit of the Dance	Derngate
2 Nov	Dingus Khan	Roadmender
3 Nov	Random Concept Drum and Bass	Roadmender
4 Nov	Julian Bliss plays Mozard	Derngate
6 Nov	The Manfreds	Derngate
7 Nov	Joan Armatrading	Derngate
7 Nov	Jazz Morley	Roadmender
8 Nov	10cc	Derngate

8 Nov	History Soc: Members Night	Village Hall
8 Nov	Mark Thomas	Corby Cube
9 Nov	Kate Rusby	Derngate
10 Nov	Whole Lotta LED	Roadmender
10 Nov	Russell Kane	Derngate
11 Nov	Youth in Concert	Derngate
13 Nov	WI: Gift Wrapping	Village Hall
13 Nov	Paco Pena: Quimeras	Derngate
13-17 Nov	Steptoe And Son	Royal
14 Nov	Mad Dog McRae	Roadmender
14 Nov	Marty Wilde's Rock'n'Roll Party	Derngate
15 Nov	Jason Byrne	Derngate
16 Nov	One Night with Elvis	Derngate
17 Nov	The Stylistics	Derngate
18 Nov	Glenn Miller Orchestra	Derngate
19 Nov	Greg Davies	Derngate
20 Nov	Ross Noble	Derngate
22 Nov	Stiff Little Fingers	Roadmender
23 Nov	The Hairy Bikers	Derngate
24 Nov	Strictly Northampton	Derngate
25 Nov	An Evening with Pam Ayres	Derngate
26 Nov	The Vagina Monologues	Derngate
27 Nov	Handel by Candlelight	Derngate
28 Nov-6 Jan	A Christmas Carol	Royal
28 Nov	Stewart Francis	Derngate
29 Nov	Alan Davies	Derngate
30 Nov	Christmas Big Sing	Derngate
1 Dec	The Beat	Roadmender
1 Dec	That'll be the Day (Christmas Show)	Derngate
2 Dec	Canterbury	Roadmender
4-9 Dec	The Night before Christmas	Corby Cube
6 Dec	The Rifles	Roadmender
6 Dec	Christmas Floral Magic	Lampport Hall
7 Dec - 6 Jan	Cinderella	Derngate
8 Dec	Band of Skulls	Roadmender
11 Dec	WI Christmas Party	Village Hall
11 Dec - 13 Jan	Humbug!	Underground
12-16 Dec	Grisly Tales from Tumblewater	Corby Cube
13 Dec	History Soc: Social Evening	Village Hall
15-16 Dec	Afternoon Tea in the Picture Gallery	Althorp House
27-30 Dec	Aladdin	Corby Cube
10 Jan	Motown's Greatest Hits	Derngate
11 Jan	Beyond the Barricade	Derngate
12 Jan	The Burlesque Show	Royal

# Brixworth & District U3A



Our local U3A branch continues to thrive, and we look forward to celebrating our fifth anniversary in October. In 2007 the Brixworth Bulletin reported on our launch on 16 October with 32 participants. Numbers have increased steadily and meetings transferred from the Community Centre to the Village Hall several years ago to accommodate upwards of 80 people who attend monthly meetings. Actual membership now stands at 160. At the meetings we enjoy a wide variety of talks and future meetings will feature a presentation on the John Lewis Partnership, the myths and legends surrounding Halloween and a look at the origins of the Victorian Music Hall.

We now have twenty sub-groups which members can attend and there is something to suit every taste. For the more active, there is table tennis at Pitsford and a badminton group meets at Old. Walking is extremely popular with up to 40 people turning up each month.

The ramblers cover some four miles and the distance for the strolling group is about 1½ miles. The groups are conveniently timed to arrive together at a local hostelry for lunch. Recent locations have been Little Brington and West Haddon.

If you prefer something a little less energetic there is still plenty of choice. The table top game group enjoy playing scrabble and canasta and bridge is proving very popular. Six of our own players recently took part in a charity bridge drive at Old Village Hall and were well-placed in the competition which raised £280.

Another choice might be the gardening group which meets for talks and indoor activities in winter and garden visits in summer, or try craft if you enjoy needlework or quilting, or poetry if you would like a light-hearted look at verse.

The lunch club continues to meet at different venues throughout the county and is another group which attracts up to 40 people. Evening dining has now become a regular three-monthly fixture. An old favourite, The Three Swans at Market Harborough, was visited in August and The Griffin at Pitsford is on the timetable for

November.

Outdoor activities have included a trip to Stamford Open Air Theatre with the theatre group and visits to Kirby Hall and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Northampton with the architecture group. Then there was the annual trip to Pitsford sailing club where lunch and afternoon tea were served as well as an opportunity to sail and also partake in a light-hearted quiz.

Another annual fixture is the U3A holiday which this year will be at Falmouth. Twenty-three U3A members are scheduled to travel there at the end of September.

The list of activities is almost endless and full details of all the groups are on our website at [www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth)

- Christine Pratt

## Planning update

<b>DA/2012/0050   Froghall</b> Demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of one bed roomed ancillary guest accommodation and garden store	20.2.12 PC No Objection 23.3.12 DDC Approved
<b>DA/2012/0043 Highways Depot, Harborough Road</b> Construction of 2.5m high green-coated palisade fence	20.2.12 PC No Objection 15.6.12 DDC Approved
<b>DA/2012/0150 20 Northampton Road</b> Single storey rear extension	12.3.12 PC No Objection 23.4.12 DDC Approved
<b>DA/2012/0184 36A The Knoll</b> Loft conversion internal alterations and new first floor window in southern elevation	2.4.12 PC No objection 14.5.12 DDC Approved



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# The difference between life and death

Alex Campbell speaks with John Trenfield, volunteer doctor with the emergency service EMICS

When you think about emergency ambulance services, you normally think of ambulance crews, working for the NHS treating the sick and injured and taking them to hospital. However, the time it takes for an ambulance to arrive at an emergency situation can mean the difference between life and death for some very critical conditions. In most cases, it is the Air Ambulance service that gets the publicity for providing additional support, but there is a small group of volunteers who often arrive first and administer effective and lifesaving treatment, who are severely overlooked. EMICS (East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme) consists of 18 volunteer doctors across the East Midlands who support the Ambulance Services in more difficult cases. I interviewed Dr John Trenfield, who lives in the village and is one of the doctors in EMICS.

## What is EMICS?

EMICS covers the East Midlands, the same area covered by the East Midlands Ambulance Service. We support the ambulance service with the more difficult cases as they don't employ any operational doctors. We are all volunteers, and our services are provided in our own time and at our own expense. There are four of us in Northamptonshire, spaced out over the county, and we usually respond from our own home. EMICS doctors get automatically notified of all serious calls to the ambulance service local to where they live, additionally



we are phoned about serious trauma over a much wider area. The majority of our work is with such trauma cases.

## Have you assisted at any recent emergencies in the area?

I assisted at the Hollowell Steam Rally incident earlier this year, where five people were trampled by a horse, but others I have attended in Brixworth include critically ill children, teenagers and road traffic collisions. As there aren't many of us, I have to cover a 20-mile radius (up to Lutterworth and Leicestershire, and down to Milton Keynes). One of the more notable jobs that I attended was the incident at the Lava and Ignite nightclub incident in Northampton, where

several people were crushed in a sudden rush for the exit. I was called up at around 4 am in the morning and got back home at around 7 am, and then had to go to work the same day. All of the 18 doctors who are with EMICS also have their own day jobs.

## What is your 'day-job'?

I work as an A&E Consultant at Northampton General Hospital, although the majority of my EMICS colleagues are GPs.

## Do you have much equipment?

I carry most of the emergency resuscitation equipment that an ambulance has, things like a heart rate monitor, defibrillator etc. Additionally, I had my own car modified with emergency warning systems, and also take the ambulance driving course enabling me to get to emergencies as quickly as possible.

## How much does all this cost?

It's around £25,000 per doctor, which is why EMICS is a charity, and the majority of the equipment is paid for by charitable donations. However, things like emergency vehicle insurance and diesel come out of my own pocket.

If you want to donate to EMICS or find out more about the charity, then visit the website [www.emics.org.uk](http://www.emics.org.uk)

## Brixworth Juniors footballers smell success

Brixworth Juniors Under 12s football team had an excellent season finishing runners up in the C-League. The team played 16 league games winning 12, drawing two and losing two. By the Christmas break the team were unbeaten and looked to be on course to win the title winning seven out of eight games. However injuries and illness to two key players (Ronan and Oliver) took its toll and two defeats meant the team just missed out on the title. The main goal scorers were Jay with 33, Charlie with 8 and Ellis and Matt with seven a piece. All the squad played their part though and should be proud of their achievements this season.

Player awards for the year were:  
Most improved: William Mobbs  
Clubman: Ross Thomas  
Parents' player: Jay O'Leary  
Players' player: Laurie Brocklehurst  
Manager's player: Harry Chick

Also well done to the Brixworth Under 14s team who won the B-league in some style. Both teams received their medals at Sixfields stadium in May. Below is a picture of the Under 12s team with their medals on the pitch. Here's to more success for Brixworth Juniors next season!

Back row: Laurie Brocklehurst, Ethan Lewis-Gunnet, Oliver Elmaz, Harry Chick, Jack Pryor, Jay O'Leary, Kalen Bransby, Ellis Russell, Matthew Donnelly. Front row: Tom Devine, Sam Flower, Ronan Goodger, Charlie Collins, Ross Thomas, William Mobbs, Ryan Anscorb.



# Brixworth Invitation XI v Lashings International XI

Played at Dallas Burston Cricket Ground, Brixworth, Friday 21 July 2012



Ian Harvey of Lashings (and Australia) in full flow. He went on to score 169 Not Out!

It rained on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and the groundsmen kept mopping it up. When we woke up to more rain on Friday they still kept mopping up and at 4pm we started to play cricket. They do say never give up...

The cars bringing the corporate guests and the teams started to arrive at 11.30am and soon the car parks were filling up. By lunchtime 240 people were assembled and we still didn't know if the game would take place. The food was great, the wine flowed. Speeches were heard, Henry Olonga sang Nessun Dorma and the rain stopped. Scott Charlton got the auction under way and the sun came out.

By 4pm, about 250 people lined the

boundary as the Brixworth XI took the field to bowl to the Lashings XI. The Lashings openers were Ian Harvey and Lou Vincent facing an opening attack of John Walter and Steve Jennings. Vincent didn't stay for long and he was soon joined by Imran Nazir (recently recalled to the Pakistan one day squad), both dismissed before 20 were on the board. This enabled Wasim Jaffer to join Harvey, who by now had decided Mark Wolstenholme's medium pace was to his liking and the boundaries started to flow. They added almost 100 before Wasim was bowled by Jennings, which enabled the icon who was Gordon Greenidge to join Ian Harvey and share an unbroken 4th wicket stand which took the total to 219-3 after the 20 overs. We had more rain but this time it was sixes

raining off the bat of Ian Harvey with the cars in the distant car park bearing a charmed life, despite the gloomy prognosis of the commentators Henry and Scott. A total of 12 \*6's and 17 \*4's were struck in his 169 from 74 balls. The partnership raised over 100 and Gordon Greenidge scored just 7!

The Brixworth XI opened with James Lucas and George Arblaster with Marcus Stoinis and Callum Berrill to follow – but the top four were all out before the total reached 50. It looked like a mis-match, no fun for the spectators.

Tom Worthington joined Juanre Van Wyck and found they were facing the combined talents of Saqlain Mustaq and John Lever – both former test players both if not quite in their first flush of youth. Reputations meant nothing to the pair from Brixworth and Rushden and they made it clear that sixes were not the prerogative of Harvey and Co. The rate that had been approaching 12 per over was reducing dramatically as the Lashings bowlers tried to stem the flow. Ian Butler tried as did Mohammad Akram but nothing could stop the inspired pair.

It was raining again but the batsman carried on whilst spectators, scorers and commentators scurried for cover. With two overs to go the target was 20 and only 7 were needed off the final over. This was bowled by Butler, despite the accuracy of Brixworth president Devon Malcolm, but it only required four balls to secure the runs that produced an inspired victory. Van Wyck had scored 117 off 41 balls (twelve sixes and five fours) and Worthington 59 (five fours and one six) off 40 balls. The pair had put on 180 and the Brixworth XI had won by six wickets.

What a fantastic day!

In other news, the Brixworth cricketers also reached finals day of the County Twenty20 knockout cup - in itself a fantastic achievement – and came very close to winning the whole tournament; a fantastic effort and a great credit to all the players involved. Brixworth beat Northampton Saints convincingly in the semi final to set up a final against a strong Oundle side who just sneaked home in a rain-affected finish that allowed them to win on a marginally better run rate.

Attention now turns back to league cricket where the 1st XI are in a strong position just above mid-table in the Northants Premier League and both 2nd and 3rd teams are vying for promotion from their respective league.

– Ray Foster and Chris Timm

## Lashings Scorecard

Ian Harvey	169 not out
Lou Vincent	4
Imran Nazir	7
Wasim Jaffer	23
Gordon Greenidge	7 not out
Total	219-3

### Bowling

Steve Jennings	1-49
John Walter	0-54
Mark Wolstenholme	0-63
Andy Oram	1-21
Colin Sibley	0-47

## Brixworth Scorecard

James Lucas	2
George Arblaster	12
Callum Berrill	14
Marcus Stoinis	13
Tom Worthington	59 not out
Juanre Van Wyck	117 not out
Total	219-4

### Lashings bowling

Devon Malcolm	3-15
Mohammad Akram	0-30
Saqlain Mustaq	0-57
John Lever	0-49
Ian Butler	0-49
Brian Paine	1-24