

New surgery all set to go ahead

Below: the floor plan for the new surgery. There

It's all signals go for the new doctor's surgery at Brixworth.

The new GBP1.2m building will be financed by Barratt Homes as part of the new Saxon Rise housing estate. Plans for the day-to-day financing are also in place. Daventry District Council has granted outline planning permission for the project, and Barratts are due to submit the plans for full planning approval in September.

Kathryn Baines, manager of the Saxon Spires Practice, which will run the new surgery, says: "We are very confident that the provision of a new surgery will now happen. The plans shown at the Neighbourhood Planning Group were the draft plans, there has been some tweaking of these but they remain largely the same."

The new building will be double the size of the existing one. There will be six consulting rooms for doctors and additional rooms for use by the nurses, which will mean that more doctors will be able to see more patients at any one time.

"We will not be employing any additional doctors," says Kathryn. "But we will be able to spread our resources more evenly across the practice and its two surgeries in Brixworth and Guilsborough. For example, it means that our GP registrars (doctors training to be GPs) will be able to work at Brixworth as well as Guilsborough."



The new practice will have 52 parking spaces, more than doubling the parking capacity from the current 24. The new building should also feel much more spacious than the existing one. Kathryn explains: "Having the extra space will mean that we can offer more services to our patients at Brixworth such as physiotherapy, and also to take advantage of any other opportunities that we have to host outpatient clinics in the community."

Building of the surgery is expected to start in 2016 and the new

Sustainable development

The new surgery for Brixworth is a great step forward. We all know that the existing village surgery has been struggling for space for years. Two years ago, Kathryn Baines, manager of the Saxon Spires surgery – which spans Brixworth and Guilsborough – told us that that it was very difficult to see how the 'confined and outdated' Brixworth surgery could continue operating at its existing site, certainly not until the end of its lease in 2031.

At the time, it wasn't clear how that situation could be resolved, especially with developers clamouring to build new housing. Now, it seems, it is those very same new houses that have brought the solution.

Developers increasingly realise they cannot just build housing estates, they have to contribute to the village infrastructure too. Of course they won't do this out of the goodness of their hearts – let's not kid ourselves, developers are in it for the profit, not for our benefit – but Section 106 gives councils the power to make developers help the community as well as their bottom line. The negotiations around the second phase of Barratt's Saxon Rise housing development were a great example of how to get it right.

However, this can only work when all parties get together and from the outset want to make it work. So credit to Barratt Homes who, knowing all too well how controversial their housing expansion would be, started their campaign with open day to find out what it was that residents wanted. Credit also to Saxon Spires, the Neighbourhood Steering Group, Chris Heaton-Harris MP and Chris Millar, who worked tirelessly to iron out the creases and nurture the idea into a fully formed plan.

Development is not bad in itself. We have a growing population and people have a rightful expectation to be able to find a pleasant and affordable place to live. As long as development contains measures that allow the community to sustain the development, you could rightly call this sustainable development.



Kathryn Baines
Flavell-White

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practice should be ready for handover in
October 2017. The existing surgery will be
taken over by Barratts, who are considering
the future of that site.

It has taken over a year to negotiate the
deal and to get approval from NHS England.
The NHS would only give their approval if the
cost to them was neutral, i.e. that the cost
in rent to the NHS was exactly the same as
for the current building. Given that the new
practice will be twice the size of the old one,
that was quite a challenge, Kathryn says.

During the negotiations, the new building
committee met every four to six weeks with a
full range of representation from all interested
parties. Brixworth resident Chris Millar, the
leader of Daventry District Council, chaired
the committee. The local MP, Chris Heaton
Harris, helped bring pressure on NHS England
to overcome the various objections raised to
the scheme. Other representatives were from
the Neighbourhood Planning Group, BRANE,
Daventry County Council, Barratts, Assura
(the current landlords), Nene CCG, NHS
England and the Saxon Spires practice.

Daventry District Council praised the
process of involving a stakeholder committee
and held it up as an example that other
projects like this would do well to follow.

The building is being financed through
various Section 106 monies. Section 106
agreements are obligations placed on
developers to make development acceptable
that would otherwise not be granted approval,
for example by forcing developers to
compensate for loss of open space or other

damage created by the development, or by
mitigating other negative impacts – in the
case of Brixworth, there were concerns over
the ability of the existing surgery to deal with
the increase in patients.

Once up and running, the new practice will
be financed the same way as the existing
one, with NHS England paying the rent on the
building but the practice bearing the everyday
running costs.

"The practice is very grateful to everyone
for their hard work, time and tenacity in
making this happen," says Kathryn.

– Claudia Flavell-While

Brixworth's Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering
Group is now considering comments
on the draft plan received during the
Community Consultation period which
ended on 13th July.

We received 35 responses to the draft
plan, which was featured on the front
page of the June Bulletin, in a display in the
Library foyer and in the public meeting
on 11th June. These responses are being
considered and will be acknowledged
in due course. Where necessary we will
amend the plan before it is submitted to
Daventry District Council and examined
by a Planning Inspector.

Members of the Steering Group regard
the low response rate as a positive sign
that the majority of residents are satisfied
with the Plan and the new surgery and
improved library car park it entails. There
will also be money towards sports &
leisure facilities.

Planning permission for the new surgery
will be applied for when the Reserved
Matters application for Barratts phase 2
development is submitted. The plans have
been on display in the library foyer and
are now available for inspection in the
Information Office. – Bob Chattaway

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Daisy Roots under new ownership



Good news has arrived for the staff of Daisy Roots, the manufacturer of infants' shoes located at the junction of Northampton and Holcot Roads. Word was that the factory was about to close its doors but Chris Marrum, the distributor of the children's shoe brand, Petasil, stepped in at the last minute to buy the business from Sonja and Graham Hodgson.

While it is uncertain whether Daisy Roots will continue to be based in Brixworth, the jobs of three full-time staff and its outworkers have been saved. Marrum, who himself comes from a Northamptonshire shoe company, says he has exciting plans for the Daisy Roots brand for babies to four-year-olds, which complements well the Petasil range for older children.

Daisy Roots produces a collection of soft soled baby shoes, slippers, furry boots, organic cotton tops, hats, comforters and other gifts, all of which are manufactured in Brixworth.

Marrum says: "This is really exciting news. Daisy Roots is highly regarded and we plan to continue to manufacture from the factory in Brixworth. We have exciting plans for the brand and will be adding our design know-how to bring out innovative and inspiring new lines."

- Jennifer Fitzgerald

Parish Council removes Pointer, seeks to recover costs

Brixworth Parish Council has disqualified Stephen Pointer as a councillor over his failure to attend council meetings for over six months. Pointer has been locked in an increasingly bitter dispute with the parish council since 2013 over the provision of 'reasonable adjustment' - specifically, an iPad - for Pointer's failing eyesight.

In this time, Pointer has brought two separate legal cases against the Parish

Council, first a County Court case of alleged discrimination, which was later withdrawn, and then an employment tribunal, which is ongoing.

The Parish Council is now seeking to recover costs totalling around £6,500 from the claimant, which relate to the County Court case. The Judge has dismissed the claimant's counter argument on the issue and at Bulletin press time, the Parish Council was awaiting .

Meanwhile, the pre-hearings for the ongoing employment tribunal have concluded and the hearing is expected to run over eight days at Bedford. Dates for the hearing are: 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 30 November 2015, 1 December 2015 and 6 January 2016.

The Parish Council expects to call eight witnesses. Pointer, who is representing himself, has indicated to the judge that he

does not plan to call any witnesses other than himself.

Defending the employment tribunal case is likely to cost the Parish Council over £50,000. If its defense

is successful, it is expected to also seek to recover these costs from Pointer. - cfw



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Brampton Heath Golf Centre has rapidly become Northampton's premier Pay and Play Golf Course. Two miles from Northampton town centre, the club has built up a strong membership as well as being very popular with the casual or visiting golfer. We also make a great venue for Weddings and other special occasions due to our stunning grounds.

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New owner for the Red Lion



Gary Booker, the current landlord, will be leaving the Red Lion on 14th September after fourteen years working there. His Business Manager, Paul Sharrock, is also moving on.

Several people are thought to be interested in the lease and are currently submitting their business plans to Enterprise Inns.

Gary, who was born and brought up in Brixworth, says he needs a break and to be able to spend more time with his family. He says the highlights of his time at the Red Lion have been all the good friendships he has made. As he lives in Spratton, he assures us "I'll still be around to keep in touch."

- Jennifer Fitzgerald

Church repairs underway



Peeling and discoloured paintwork, cracked and crumbling plaster – the interior of our ancient church has been looking a little tired lately but given its age was still majestic. It was time for a facelift but at a cost of over £20,000 it was going to take a lot of fundraising to achieve it.

However, with the support and generosity of some local benefactors, the scaffolding is now in place and the specialist firm of decorators are working their magic.

The Friends of Brixworth Church wish to thank all who have supported their fundraising events or sponsored our projects to assist us to maintain an important part of Brixworth's heritage for the future. We hope you will visit soon to see how bright and refreshed the church is looking. – Kate Knight

Support Brixworth First Responders

Some of you may have heard of us, hopefully very few have benefited from our services, but we are Brixworth First Responders – a local charity and group of volunteers providing life-saving and emergency care to people that need it in and around the Brixworth area.

As already said, in many ways we hope you have not benefitted from our skills. But to fill you in, we work with East Midlands Ambulance Service and are called to medical emergencies in the local area. We are an immediate resource to provide medical care to patients suffering from life-threatening conditions. Should you need to call 999, often the first call will be sent to the local responder 'on call' to attend with the back-up of paramedic and ambulance to follow. The aim is to get life-saving equipment and skills to patients as soon as possible to maximise the chances of survival.

Did you know your chances of surviving a sudden cardiac arrest reduce by 7-10% for every minute that passes? Yet when CPR and defibrillation are delivered promptly, survival rates can be as high as 75%.

Pretty scary statistics, but our aim is to bring to the area the skills and equipment to provide early CPR and defibrillation to increase people's chances of survival.

This is only the third year the group has been operating. We have 14 volunteer members and an additional four members awaiting training, but already we have been called into action nearly 70 times within a five-mile radius of Brixworth.

We currently run two teams of volunteers to hopefully provide 24 hour cover. We hope, through this article, to raise awareness and bring exposure of the group to the residents that may benefit from our skills. Please keep your eyes peeled for the new logo above!

Now for the horrible part. We also have a plea for donations to the residents and businesses in Brixworth and surrounds. Our equipment, training and ongoing costs are entirely funded by fundraising and donations, and each kit costs around £5000. Should you wish to donate, you can do so by visiting <https://localgiving.com/charity/brixworthcfr>

So now you know a little more about us,

what we do, and why. If you would like to support us – promoting our services, donation, becoming a volunteer, using us as a charitable cause for an event you are doing via our local giving page, then we would be delighted to hear from you. Contact sandra.cottrell@care4free.net, follow twitter @brixworthcfr on Twitter or like Brixworth First Responders on Facebook. – Ashley Fenn

Brixworth Community
First Responders



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Become an Organ Donor!

The Organ at All Saints' Church needs your help. Why not "transplant" some of your hard-earned cash to a good cause and sponsor a pipe?

Unfortunately, despite renovation works in 1973, the organ at All Saints' Brixworth is in need of a good overhaul, clean and possibly some replacement parts.

The first organ was built around 1864 by a local man, George Maydwell Holdich, who was born up the road in Maidwell village (which may account for the



middle name). The current organ was built by Joshua Porritt of Leicester in 1885. Porritt was a well known builder of organs, and ours is considered to be a fine example.

There are 2,272 pipes tucked away in what seems such small space. They range from eight feet to less than one foot in length and rejoice in such names as Vox Angelica, Leiblich Gedact, Dulciana and Quint.

So could you sponsor a pipe to the tune of (sorry!) £20 for a large pipe (over eight feet), £10 for a small pipe (over two feet) and £3 for a small pipe (under two feet)? Each sponsor will receive a certificate with details of their sponsored pipe. All the sponsors' names will be recorded in a book which will be placed on display in the church. There will be a special organ recital to inaugurate the refurbished organ which will be FREE to all sponsors.

This is a great opportunity to become a part of All Saints' Brixworth heritage and sponsorship may be an excellent way of marking a special birthday, anniversary or even an opportunity to give a really different and unusual Christmas present!

To sponsor your pipe, look out for special sponsorship events or contact Roger Brown on 880410 or xias@xiassociates.co.uk

And it wouldn't be All Saints' if we didn't finish on a piece of trivia. When the organ was refurbished in 1973, the manual pump was replaced with an electric version. However, the old pump handle was left in place which has proved invaluable when services were caught up in a power failure!



Music shapes a floral church tribute

When the flower ladies found out recently that the organ at All Saints' needed total restoration, the title for the proposed Flower Festival, which forms part of the church festival weekend, was obvious: 'Music'.

This gave inspiration to our small but loyal band. Local charity and re-use shops have seen plenty of visits from ladies of a certain ages asking for guitars! Musical instruments of all sorts were collected and gold spray was in abundance as this mismatched array became unified and glamorous.

Husbands were encouraged to take to their saws and help make the visions a reality. Musical bunting and flowers from music began to appear. Steven Troop and his staff

were patience personified as flowers were ordered, changed, re-ordered and delivered.

Flower creations do not just appear and a certain amount of stress and anxiety accompany these displays. Late hours were endured for a few days, and some unable to sleep completed arrangements at 3am!

However, when the two days arrive to arrange the flowers all the previous planning is forgotten and the peace and joy of the flowers takes over and calm is restored.

We do hope you came and enjoyed our beautiful and historic church bedecked and glorious over the June weekend - flowers really do say it all. - *Kate Knight*



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Draughton News

We've had a frantic summer in Draughton with a Spring Fair and a Classic Car Show both in June with the village pulling out all the stops to man stalls and bake the best cakes this side of the A14 to fund-raise for the Clubroom and St Catherine's church! Two super events – but next year to be amalgamated – watch this space! Looking ahead we are inviting entries to:



DRAUGHTON'S Great British Produce Show In aid of St. Catherine's Saturday 12th September 2016

Tea, coffee and cakes for sale and a raffle

All enquiries to fabienne@fraser-allen.co.uk, phone 686696, or Ali Vickers on alison_wilks@btconnect.com phone 686949

Entry fees: adults £1 per class, children 25p per class, or £10 to

enter all classes (including children's). Closing date for entries: September 10th. Here are a just few of the categories:

Baking

Scones, 4 uniform scones on a plate.

Sticky gingerbread.

Bread Rolls, 6 uniform white rolls on a plate.

Preserving

Jelly, a jar of jelly of any flavour. (Not pudding jelly)

Jam, a jar of 'Hedgerow' jam. (i.e. Damson, Blackberry, etc..)

Chutney, a jar of single variety chutney.

Produce

Eggs, 6 chicken eggs in a box.

Leeks, 3 uniform leeks.

Marrow, a single marrow.

Carrots, 3 carrots tied in a bunch.

Flowers

Garden arrangement in a vase. No taller than 80cm including the vase.

Blooms. 3 home grown blooms of the same type, in a vase.

Home Brew

Best Home Brewed Cider. A bottle of cider with apple variety/ies stated.

Best Home Brewed Beer. A bottle of home brewed beer.

Best Home Brewed Wine. A bottle of home brewed wine, any fruit.

Needlecraft

An appliqué wall hanging, no larger than 30cm x 60 cm.

Children's Classes

Vegetable animal. An animal made out of vegetables.

Garden on a tray. A garden made from things found in your garden, on a baking tray.

Bread Roll. The best shaped bread roll.

Loom Band. The most creative Loom band. – *Kate Calnan*

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Pet Shop Planning Appeal Update



Even on a Monday morning with the shops closed, the road was packed with parked cars

On Monday 3rd August, members of the Planning Inspectorate for the UK visited the Pet Shop at 130 Northampton Road, to conduct a site visit in response to an appeal by the owner to the rejection by Daventry District Council of his application to change the shop to a takeaway.

The application was turned down for a number of reasons associated with the status of the shop within the conservation area.

It was unfortunate that the owner of Northampton Pets, Katie Bland, was unaware of the visit by the Planning Inspectorate on Monday 3rd August. When asked when she was first aware of the Inspector's visit, Katie said, "It was only the other week when the local architect came in to the shop and asked for access to the shop as it was a Monday and he knew we were closed, but I received no notification from Mr Leung or the Planning Office".

During the Inspector's visit, Katie was asked for access to the upstairs of the property. Katie had to reply; "it was a private residence and I have no access to this". The Planning Inspector appeared surprised at this as he may not of been made aware of the residential status of the upper floor of the premises.

Despite no planning grounds being able to be named in the rejection in regards to parking in the area, this was highlighted by both residents directly to the Planning Inspectorate's website and in comments made by the Brixworth Parish Council.

At the time of the visit, even though it was a Monday morning, a time when most shops are commonly closed for business, the location was very busy with parked cars.

The inspector would not make any comment at the time, but could not have failed to notice the issue with parking.

We await the Inspector's decision in the coming months, with fingers crossed! – *Neal Brown*

Wanted: Bulletin Distributors!

The *Brixworth Bulletin* needs your help. We are currently short of volunteers to help distribute the Bulletin. Can you spare half an hour four times a year for a gentle stroll through Brixworth, delivering the latest issue to one or two streets in the village?

There's no pay, alas, but you might get to meet some lovely people as you post the newsletter through their doors. Treat it as a way to get the kids out of the house, or as a useful aid towards your 10,000 steps a day. Good weather is always requested but not always guaranteed. Our warmest thanks however come free of charge.

If you think you can help, please contact Louise Robinson on 883641 or email dist.manager@brixworthbulletin.co.uk

Armed robbery at the Co-op

The Brixworth Co-op was the scene of an armed robbery on 18 July, closing the shop for the morning. Two men entered the shop at about 5.30am, when the first staff arrive at the shop. Armed with a stun gun, they forced one of the shop assistants to take them to the safe. Fortunately, the assistant only had the key to one of the safe's compartments which had been recently cleared. This limited the amount of stolen money £700 in cash.

Police investigated the scene and a security guard was posted at the shop for the following week. The Parish Council has since written to the management of the shop to enquire if there are plans for more long-term improvements to safety. At the time of writing, no response has been received.

Crime Commissioner goes Walkabout

Adam Simmonds, Northamptonshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, has stated that it is his ambition to make the county one of the safest places in England.

Earlier in the year he contacted all Parish Councils – including Brixworth – in the county to arrange some 'Parish Walkabouts' during August, to highlight any areas of concern within the village.

The Parish Council asked residents for suggested areas of concern for the PCC, via our Facebook page and website, and during a recent Parish Council meeting the members agreed to raise the issue of speeding on Northampton Road, Spratton Road and Holcot Road, along with concerns regarding the recent robbery in the Co-op on Spratton Road.

We will expect an update on the Commissioner's visit later in the year, and we look forward to hearing about his plans to reduce crime and tackle other issues in the county.

For more information regarding the visit please contact the Clerk on 01933 682447 or clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk.



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Brixworth's culinary delight



Many of us appreciate Brixworth's delicious locally-produced paté. Last year, its excellent quality was recognised when it won the Carlsberg Local Artisan Savoury Product of the Year award.

Brixworth Paté is the creation of Stuart Bates, whose grandfather founded the

butchers shop in Northampton Road. He made it one Friday, as a seventeen year-old student at catering college, and sold it the next day in the shop. It became so popular that he has continued making it for the past forty-five years. Known at first as Pytchley Paté, it was re-christened Brixworth Paté by the Vineyard restaurant in Northampton when they first put it on their menu.

Stuart continues to be responsible for its production, which is quite a physical process - while Jane Elmore, who used to run the Co-op opposite the butchers, manages the packaging, deliveries and invoicing. The paté has been made at the same premises in Ironstone Way for the past 30 years, after Stuart moved its production out of the butchers' premises.

Most weeks, Stuart makes a batch on Mondays and Thursdays, and it is delivered the next day. At Christmas, it is made every day, with Stuart and Jane working flat-out from 5.30 am to 10 pm. Just under one tonne of the paté is made every week, and four or five times that amount in December.

It is all made by hand. The ingredients (chicken liver, pork, bacon, some sherry and brandy) are delivered by local suppliers and processed - twice - through a massive hopper and mincer. It is then measured into 1kg aluminium foil containers, cooked, blast-chilled to a temperature of less than 5 degrees, and vacuum-packed. While the cooking method has been slightly tweaked over the years, the paté still tastes very similar to the original recipe.

Every year, a little bit more paté is sold, as sales continue to grow through recommendation. Stuart does not undertake any active marketing or sales activities. It is distributed through pubs, delicatessens and agents throughout Northamptonshire and the surrounding counties. Stuart once heard that it had been found as far afield as Cornwall.

Given its resounding success, Stuart has tried on several occasions to expand this product line to include other types of paté. However, finding that this complicates production too much, he has stuck to his familiar formula.

- Jennifer Fitzgerald

To the Rescue

Brixworth Fire and Rescue station is recruiting new firefighters. The Bulletin went along to see what the job involves. We observed the local team drilling on a Monday evening, and interviewed Alan Beckett, one of Brixworth's Crew Managers.

Alan has been with the service for nine years. On the one hand, he plays it down by explaining it is not as glamorous as portrayed in the movies. "It is just like any other job", he says. On the other hand, he enthuses: "Undoubtedly, it is the best thing I have ever done".

The Brixworth station is one of twenty-two in the County. It is part of the Community Response Group West, which covers the area from Long Buckby and Guilsborough to the west, through Creaton, Spratton to Pitsford Water in the east, and from Pitsford to Kelmarsch to the north. However, the firefighters can work much further afield. Alan's last big job was in Irthlingborough and a few years ago he was called out to Chelveston.

Like 90% of the fire service, the Brixworth station runs on a retained crew who are paid to be on call, as well as an hourly rate when called out. Only a few stations in the county are manned permanently (The Mounts, Moulton, Mereway, Corby and Kettering) with a few being day stations (Daventry, Rushden).

The concept of having retained fire crew started when most people also worked in the area they lived in, so were easily on call. Today, retained firefighters must still live within a short distance of the station but most of them have other jobs elsewhere, maybe working part-time or in shifts. Retained crew receive exactly the same training as full-time firefighters, the only difference between them being the number of hours they are on duty.

Brixworth's station has a total of 14 firefighters, including two women - an average for the county. It is managed by two Watch

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Managers, Tony Reid and Ashley Tugby. In addition, to Alan, there are two other Crew Managers, Dave Townsend and Geoff Welch.

Unusually, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service falls under the control of the local authority. Many other services are unitary authorities, which are independent and funded by a central government levy.

In a typical year, Brixworth's firefighters would expect 100-150 call-outs. They are mobilised from the new control centre in Daventry, which works out which crew is closest to the incident, and the number of crew needed. As well as dialling 999, calls to the Fire Control can be made directly from the phone box outside the station.

Firefighters respond to a wide variety of incidents. Fires are far fewer these days –there has been a 50% drop over the last ten years. This is mainly due to changes in lifestyle – people are smoking less and using deep-fat fryers less, which were both major sources of household incidents. In addition, electrical standards are much higher and most new homes now have built-in smoke alarms. People are also far more aware than they used to be about fire hazards as a result of education campaigns in schools and in the media.

The fires that still occur are mainly field fires and car fires. Most of the latter are caused when cars are dumped. Nowadays, Alan and his colleagues respond to twice as many traffic accidents as fires. These are caused mainly by people speeding beyond their capability, and by alcohol, which further reduces driving capability. The recent recession resulted in a drop in traffic accidents because people were going out less and drinking less.

They are also involved in medical co-responding, using a small vehicle to support the ambulance service in calls relating to suspected heart attacks and strokes. Their objective is to keep the individual breathing and their heart beating until the paramedics arrive. Alan finds this part of his work particularly rewarding.

"Our mantra is - We are there to save saveable life and saveable property", he says. Other incidents responded to include flooding and entrapments, often supported by specialist teams. They rescue animals as well as people, although Alan says that most cats are able to get down themselves when they are stuck in trees.

Obviously, much of firefighters' work could be distressing. However, they provide each other with strong support and have online access to a psychologist. Brixworth station is also looked after by a chaplain, the Vicar of Walgrave.

Education is another important part of their role, including free home-safety visits and first aid training for the general public. Alan likes to ask people to write out in detail an escape plan from their home. "How easily could you find your door keys in a fire at night if you needed to?" he enquires.

If you are considering applying, requirements are available on www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/fire/fireandrescue. Contrary to common perception, there are no longer any height or age restrictions. You do need to be reasonably fit and numerate, but obviously, if you suffer from vertigo or are claustrophobic, the role is not for you. The recruitment process includes selection centres, where applicants take tests, and a personal interview. The personal qualities the service is looking for include a desire to serve the community, and a non prejudicial attitude – firefighters cannot make any judgments about the people they are helping.

Unfortunately, a large number of new recruits drop out, so the



Brixworth's firefighters respond to twice as many traffic accidents as fires

service has to interview 20-30 people to secure five new firefighters who stay. Many people find it difficult to commit to the ongoing training schedule, particularly in the early years, which can take up to twelve weekends a year.

The most important message Alan has for us is one we have all heard before – "There is nothing as dangerous as a fire alarm with flat batteries. Make sure you have one and that it is functioning."

He is also keen for people to come forward and apply to join the service. He says, "Don't think, like I did ten years ago, that you can't do it." – *Jennifer Fitzgerald*

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Cubs in Community Litter Pick

Scouting has a long association with community activities and this Easter Brixworth & Scaldwell Cubs continued that tradition with a village litter pick.

Armed with bin sacks, gloves, grabber sticks and hi-vis bibs our Cubs collected litter from the Ashway fields & St David's park, along The Ashway, Lesson Road and the BT building/Fire Station area of Brixworth.



The event was a great success and we collected 15 bags of rubbish - mostly things from recycling bins. We also received lots of positive comments from fellow villagers as we gathered up drinks cans and plastic milk bottles. It was great opportunity for our Cubs to participate in a valuable community activity and it counted towards their Community Challenge badge.

The Cubs also used the opportunity to support the Scout group and through sponsorship. They raised a fantastic £420.10 which we will use to purchase a light weight dome shelter for use at off site activities.

Thank you to our Cubs and the parents who helped to make our village a little tidier and a big thank you to everyone who contributed through the sponsorship. We really appreciate the support. - Akela

Worried about speeding? Join the Speed Watch!

By the time you are reading this, we will have finished the third session of speed-watch in 2015. The first session ran from 29 June to 3 July and caught 66 cars speeding in the 30mph zone. The second session ran from 11-17 July, during which time 20 cars were found to be speeding, but due to a few volunteers dropping out and others unavailable we had to cancel some days. The third session figures are not yet available at the time of writing.

Brixworth Speed Watch needs more volunteers to be able to function properly. So if you have any concerns about speeding in your area and can spare a few days a year why not come and join us and become a member. All you need is a few hours training on the speed gun with the police. Anyone interested just call 882622 or visit the Brixworth Information point in the library foyer on Thursday mornings

I would like give my thanks to the volunteers for this year's sessions. - Howard Reader, Brixworth Speed-Watch Co-ordinator

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Richard Baker

Two new awards for Primary School pupils



Among the many events and special occasions that came together as the school approached the end of the academic year was the Presentation Assembly which is attended by the whole school and the parents of pupils receiving awards. This ceremony has been part of the school tradition for many years. The school recently received an email from a resident of Perth, Australia, enquiring after the Bunt Church Trophy which had been given to the school by the writer's grandfather and presented by Alfred (Bunt) Church for the first time in about 1960.

For this year's presentation two new trophies were added. Mercedes AMG donated the Award for Excellence in Mathematics, which was presented to Alex Cowap by Mike Nash on behalf of Mercedes, while the Brixworth Bulletin Award for Excellence in Writing was received by Louisa Henry and presented by Jennifer Fitzgerald on behalf of the *Bulletin*.

The presentation assembly is an opportunity for the school to celebrate pupils' academic achievement and progress across the broad curriculum including excellence in art and sport. Furthermore, there are awards presented for personal qualities related to for example community involvement, self-motivation, leadership and attendance. Some awards are clearly objective and measurable, others are relatively subjective. The Presentation Assembly is a part of numerous events in school marking the transition to secondary education for our Leavers. This year the conundrum was that so many of our Year 6 cohort were worthy of receiving an award because the children have not only achieved highly as a group but also because they have been consistently good role models for our younger pupils. – David Boucher

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Frozen in time, he stared, mesmerized, at the rubble, dirt and memory. His mother, sprawled across the floor. His father, wearing blood as clothes. His baby sister, holding pain, not a teddy bear; he remembers it all too well. Slowly, the murderer tilted his banging head as he laughed at the dead man laying at his aching feet. Spilling out of the deceased man's mouth, crimson blood mingled with the gold sand, creating a pool of devastation. Shadowing the killer's mind, an inch of guilt crept into his throbbing brain, although the everlasting screech of the car tyres fought it out. **CREEK!** Like a bird spotting his prey, the devil licked his lips in excitement. Reluctantly strolling towards the vehicle, his wide eyes, which were hidden behind the glasses that were tinted with depression, glared inside the car hoping the driver would offer a lift. Parked on a winding hill, which was protected by weak fencing, he form of transport stopped dead and a beautiful teenager, who looked about the same age as him, climbed out of the vehicle. Trapped in a spell of love, the parentless boy stared into her eyes, which were as brown as chocolate, and watched the slight wind blow through her golden hair. He couldn't kill such an angel, how could he stop her from driving down a lane of death? Clambering into the car, the puzzled man wracked his mind for answers but his brain was as blank as a piece of paper. Cowering in a corner of confusion, the car-crashing killer echoed a many questions in his banging head. Despite being a blood-thirsty murderer, the young man couldn't kill the woman of his dreams, although his mind was programmed to embrace death. As quick as a flash, a possible solution bolted into his scarred brain. He had decided their fate... "I think I'm in love with you," the killer whispered. "Please, all I ask of you is to not look into my goggles. I can sort this out." These were the first and last words he uttered after the tragedy of his parents. There he jumped. – Louisa Henry

Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts

What a summer we have had – we have been out and about most evenings, exploring, having adventures, running about, getting wet and having fun.

There was a reasonable turn out for **St Georges Day Parade**, always a little difficult when it does not fall within one of the Terms. It is a great community event and something people within the village like to see.

All sections of the scout group had a fabulous day at **Bear In The Air**, the county activity day at Overstone. Many got to see Bear who flew in in a helicopter. A few of us actually got to meet him, took selfies with him and got him to sign neckers or anything else that was to hand. What a great Chief Scout.

The **AGM** this year was very successfully held at Overstone Scout Camp. All the young people and parents enjoyed food, drinks and games after.

The two **Beaver** colonies are now quite firmly established and running well. The leaders get together and make one plan for both groups. That way everyone get to enjoy the same activities. The first two weeks of term the Beavers said good-bye to the young people moving on to Cubs and hello to all the new starters. They played games to get to know one another and made kites. Then they went and explored the Kelmarsh Tunnels – some of them walked through without torches! The Beavers had a lovely



night playing wide games and eating Smores at Overstone. They then took part in their own sports day at Pitsford Grammar School (thanks for letting us use the grounds), played French Cricket in Ashway Park, practiced cycling skills and played water games in St David's Park (pictured, above). The Beavers also had a Dads and Lads evening at Pitsford Country park and a picnic in Scaldwell Park. With a big thank you to Morrisons, Tesco, and the Co-op, all Beavers went home with a Summer Activity Pack, to keep a diary of what they do, send a postcard from where they have been, collect money for a charity and keep a record to help them earn three more badges.

Cubs welcomed all the new ones to the pack on the first evening and enjoyed an evening of getting-to-know-each other games. Other cool stuff they have been involved in this term includes practising orienteering around the village, learning about healthy eating, becoming involved in preparing food and helping out at home getting meals ready with their family. For their community challenge, Cubs did a sponsored litter pick with their parents around the village – good job they knew their way around from the orienteering! They played wide games in Brixworth Country Park, roller-skating at Benham Sports Centre without too many bumps and scrapes, looked at planes, made paper planes and went to Sywell Airport to the Air Museum. They finished off the term with It's a Knock Out / Generation Games back at Brixworth Country Park. The scheduled bell boating was cancelled due to the weather but is planned to take place in September now.

Scouts started the summer term with some team-building exercises, had a go at fitness training and learnt about VE day. They then planned for and took part in the Beau Rocks camp. Activities included archery, air rifles, climbing & traverse walls, monkey tree, crate stacking, tree climbing and much, much more. There was also live music to enjoy all weekend. Scouts used the light warm nights to improve enjoy cycling on the Brampton Valley Way, had a go at cooking, played a few wide games at Overstone, went bell boating in the reservoir and visited the Pinnacle climbing centre in Northampton. They finished the term with a fantastic night of karting.



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From September there will be two Scout troops, one continues to meet on Wednesdays and one will start to meet on Mondays. Please come and help as an occasional helper or a leader – all are welcome.

Meanwhile the **Explorers** have had a slightly quieter term than normal, as many of their ranks were studying for their GCSE's – good luck to them all with their results, hope they get what they want. The low-key start to the term included Ultimate Frisbee, navigation skills, crossfit at Far Cotton gym, indoor games, tennis and water games (*pictured*). The navigation and crossfit were in preparation for something a bit more exciting after the exams had finished. Some of the Explorers took part in Gilwell 24, which is 24 hours of solid activities from Trapeze, mini tank driving, scuba diving and an all-night party! Two teams also took part in Dagnet Cumbria 2015. This is where small teams complete a 35-mile trek on foot in the wilds of the Lake District. The Explorers were dropped off at a 'top secret' base on Friday night and had to navigate back to base camp on Sunday morning. In the process they had to evade teams of experienced searchers who can take 'lives'. They finished 15th and 19th respectively. Exciting stuff!

Explorers are also still working hard on planning and raising funds for their trip to Kandersteg in 2016. Please support them in their endeavours. If you know of any scheme at your company that supports such causes please put our name forward or let the leaders know how they can apply.

Group Scout Leader, Pete Lennon, says: "I would like to thank all the leaders and helpers for all their hard work, over the last year. They have given up their free time in the evenings and at weekends so the young people of the village can learn new skills, experience new adventures and generally have fun. They are a great team and a pleasure to work with. I wish them a good, relaxing summer and look forward to seeing them again in the autumn."

The Scout group is still looking for alternative **storage** for their huge amount of equipment. It needs to be dry and secure with easy access at most times of the day. The group is open to suggestions – a vacant garage / barn, a storage container on a piece of land. If you can help us in this matter please contact us.

As always we continue to look for new **leaders** in all sections, particularly Cubs and Scouts. If you would like to find out more about becoming involved please come and talk to us and find out how you can join in all the fun.

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 Pete Lennon, Group Scout Leader brixworth_gsl@btopenworld.com. To put your young person (boy or girl) on the waiting list for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers please email their name, date of birth, your name, address and telephone numbers to brixworthbeavers@btinternet.co.uk - *Kim Phillips*

1st Scaldwell Guides



We've had a busy summer term enjoying a variety of activities. At the centre we have enjoyed a Ready Steady Cook evening, games night, an ice cream sundae challenge and made picture frames for Father's Day.

Outside of the centre we completed a bike ride round Pitsford Reservoir and visited the Pet Shop. Many thanks to Katie for welcoming us. The guides very much enjoyed cuddles with the rabbits, gerbils, hamsters and recently hatched chicks! Six of our guides also took their promise there.

Further afield some of the guides went to Strategy Camp, an adventure camp for guides and scouts in the Malvern hills, and in August some of the guides will be taking part in FUN 2015, an international camp with participants from across the world.

– *Jill Gunnett and Vicki Howlett*

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Hit TV series brought to life by Brixworth Drama Group



A warm Thursday evening in early July saw me sitting in the Village Hall awaiting the opening scene of the Brixworth Drama Group's production of Jeremy Lloyd and David Croft's stage version of the hit TV series 'Allo Allo'. My expectations were in keeping with the common view of amateur dramatics – wobbly stage sets, fluffed lines, false entrances etc., but overall good fun and entertainment.

Boy, did I get a pleasant surprise!

From the moment René walked through his Café to the front of the stage and spoke directly to the audience, as was customary in the TV series, it did not feel right. I had a strange feeling that I was about to be impressed and my preconceived expectations of amateur dramatics may very well be exceeded.

James Skeggs as René was fantastic, his mannerisms and accent impeccable. This was no amateur performance, but one Gordon Kaye would himself be proud of.

The story was typical 'Allo 'Allo, with its steady build up to the chaotic finale. There was the occasional twist, and the 'Really?' moments – when Helga needed to impress upon Herr Flick her desire for him, off came the uniform skirt to reveal a pair of legs that would not be out of place on a cat walk, complete with period garters.

Sue l'Anson (director and playing Helga) – you certainly know how to raise gasps from the audience (followed by whispers of admiration).

The cast of René's café were all there, Mimi, played with all the German-hating gusto we remember by Eileen Truby. Yvette, admirably played by the young Caitlin Braham Nicoll, brought a touch of "Ooooooh René" to the audience. We also had memorable moments from LeClerc, played by John Wardell in his many unconvincing

disguises. And who could forget one of the icons of the TV series, Crabtree, played by Roger Chapman? There is no doubt Crabtree's 'false French' accent is one of the most challenging to pull off, but Roger did Arthur Bostrom (the original Crabtree) proud.

I was impressed how well Ruth Cardwell brought Michelle 'Of the Resistance' Dubois to life, and her iconic phrase, "Listen very carefully, I shall say zis only once!". The first time Ruth uttered those words (the first of many occasions), I was back in my teenage sitting room and could almost hear my father's drone of 'not again!'. I did smile inside.

These 'amateurs' clearly love the opportunity to be on stage, and all gave performances that would have graced the small screen. I enjoyed all of the performances, but a few really stood out to me.

Colonel Von Strohm, played by Dennis Coles, was a delight to watch. Not a line missed or a position out of place (well, almost). When the occasional minor prop mishap occurred, he remained poised and after suitable adjustment, professionally delivered his line.

Robin Pool's performance of Captain Bertorelli had me laughing more than most. A misbehaving facial prop was no problem - without so much as a missed breath, he produced a replacement and carried on. Ok, so the backup prop also failed, but we got the message!

It has been about ten years or so since Alex Coles last took to the stage, but you would not have guessed it. Lieut. Gruber was returned to life in front of our eyes. The Brixworth Village Hall may not have been suitable for Herr Gruber's 'Little Tank', but was the perfect place for Alex Coles to explore his more feminine side. I could not quite tell if it was René who felt uncomfortable, or James Skeggs. I am sure a few days later at the cast party, all was revealed. For me, I think the feminine side could only enhance future Parish Council meetings!

Herr Flick, played by Mike Culverhouse, was comical in his attempt to be cruel. Oh and no, we hardly noticed the violin singing its tune, even though you were not quite ready to play!

But for me the performance of the evening would have to be Heather Pool's Edith. She commanded the stage like a true professional and whilst I am sure her singing voice is amazing, we definitely got Edith's ear breaking drones. Not easy to pull off so well. Each time Heather graced us, the audience was in hoots of laughter.

My expectations of amateur dramatics were well and truly torn up. Sue l'Anson should be very proud of her troupe and her direction. Yes, there were a couple minor challenges (the two hidden airman, played by Stuart Cooper and Amanda Pilgrim, popping out of the hiding hole moments before they were mentioned) and yes, there was the odd line missed, but that's to be expected for a first night. I think I might be a convert. I will keep my eye out for the next production and may even have been inspired enough to give it a go myself. God help Brixworth, as my wife would say! – Neal Brown

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Country Eye

A better year for wildlife?

A brief sortie to Oxfam; that just about sums up my tailoring and outfitting needs. Unlike me, the birds face an annual ordeal that lasts several weeks as they set about renewing their coat of feathers, to be fit for the rigours to come. After the stresses of raising their young, most are looking decidedly jaded and care-worn. New clothes are well overdue. From the finger-like feathers so essential in flight control to the sleek body-hugging contour plumes that, well-oiled, provide waterproofing; even the hidden filigree-fine down feathers that keep the body warm; all need to be replaced, several thousand in all.

If they survive this strength-sapping time, they need to prepare for the forthcoming winter. But how have our familiar birds fared so far this year? On the face of it, things have improved somewhat after several dismal years that have seen numbers of many of them plummet. In my garden, starlings and house sparrows, two red-listed 'birds of conservation concern', have increased dramatically. Up to fifty or more starlings come to my feeders at a time, a squawking, struggling, pecking blur of feathers that devour everything edible in no time. Quick to become alarmed, this free-for-all instantly organises itself into a perfectly co-ordinated flight formation as it takes to the air. So rapidly does this occur that it seems obvious to me that a high degree of communication is taking place that is beyond our understanding. A kind of bird language which bolsters my long held view that birds say more to one another than we realise.

House sparrows (pictured, right) too have had a good season. Only last year their numbers here were down to only four or five at the start of the year. After a good breeding season their numbers had increased to around twenty, and a further good year has seen around fifty or so. Not an all-time high by any means, and no comparison with the thousands that were regular a half-century ago. Look at them closely and it is surprising how they vary in what has been described as their garb of drab browns and greys. One male is particularly handsome, with a head pattern rivalling that of the reed bunting, a one-time garden visitor now sadly something of a rarity.

Blackbirds, too, have had another good season. One or two of them have become so tame that they feed unconcernedly within a foot or two of me as I sit in my garden. What a privilege it is to have a wild creature trust me to this extent! The fact that some species appear to be making a comeback should not mask the fact that over all our countryside still fares badly. The skylarks, corn buntings, tree sparrows, linnets, turtledoves, all have been swept away by industrial agribusiness.

So the decline of a vast range of species, animal and plant, continues apace. Most worrying is the plight of the pollinating insects. Not just bees but also hoverflies, butterflies, moths, and even beetles are essential pollinators of some flowers. In my conservatory among a range of plants I grow some chilli peppers. They would not bear fruit without the aid of the hoverflies that venture in for the nectar the tiny white flowers secrete. While they are feeding it is not hard to approach a hoverfly. Watch closely and you will see how the tongue, a long tube with what looks like a rubber sucker on the end, constantly probes up and down as it feeds. Like ladybirds, many of them have larvae that feed greedily on aphids, helping to free the garden of these and other unwanted insects. Unfortunately, the chemical sprays that are used against these pests also kill the hoverflies and other insects useful to us.

The future for our wildlife and wild places looks bleak indeed. Repeated attempts to moderate the onslaught have failed and I see no sign of hope for the near future. Yet in December, world leaders will gather in Paris to try and get to grips with this and other

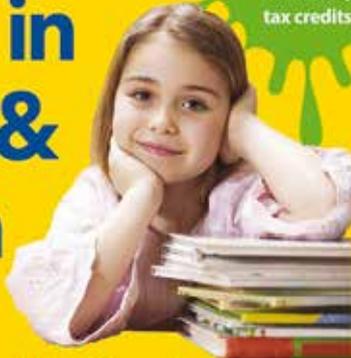


environmental problems. Will common sense triumph for once, or will big business derail the talks in favour of 'business as usual'? Make no mistake, your future and mine, not just the wildlife, depend on it.

– Brian Webster

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Supply squeeze drives up prices

Hello again neighbours and welcome to more of my thoughts on the housing market and the effects it has on Brixworth.

Since the last time I put pen to paper we have had a General Election and a budget, both making an impact on local and national house prices. In the latest Rightmove report it states that the prices of property coming to market has rebounded to an all-time high with June seeing the biggest ever rise of 3.0% (36% per annum equivalent). Tighter supply on new properties coming to the market across the UK continues to put pressure on the Government, local councils and developers to build more.

As for Brixworth and our local North Northamptonshire villages we are down to stock levels which are lower than I have seen

in all my twenty plus years in the industry. As of the time of writing this newsletter Brixworth has thirteen homes available (only eight if you discount the five brand new ones), Spratton has seven and Pitsford four. This represents about a quarter of the stock levels you would expect to find in a normal market.

So, what are my predictions? Mortgage rates are at an all-time low and lending is loosening up a bit. Job security is much better and most self-employed tradespeople I am speaking to are saying they are as busy as they have been since before the recession of 2008. These key factors are starting to really restore confidence to those looking to buy for the first time or improve on their current home. I would not expect the next

six months to change much with regards to the low level of new instructions but the New Year should see a slight movement back to normality and, in turn, a rounding effect on price increases.

We shall see. – *Stuart Little*

Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group

September will see a talk and Q&A session on 'Minor Illness in Children' by Dr Julia Railson. Dr Railson is a GP at the practice and a mother of twins. The sessions will be an informal opportunity for parents and carers to learn about common health problems in babies and children.

The talks will be held at Brixworth Library on Thursday 10th September 12noon – 1pm and Guilsborough Surgery on Tuesday 1st December 11.30am – 12.30pm. Both sessions will follow on from the health visitor's drop in clinic.

'Blood Pressure, Myths, Misunderstandings and Medical Facts' is the title of a talk from Dr Neil Menon. The talk will be held at Guilsborough Surgery on Wednesday 23rd September 7 – 8pm and again at Brixworth Surgery on Wednesday 30th September 7 - 8pm. All patients of Saxon Spires are welcome.

For more information contact secretary Barbara Hogg on 880552 or email barbara.hogg@tiscali.co.uk



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Chris Heaton-Harris MP's WESTMINSTER REPORT

My Private Members' Bill: "Access to Medical Treatment (Innovation) Bill"

With the pace of innovation in medical sciences developing new medicines and treatments all the time, many patients want to get access to promising treatments early, before they have been fully approved by the regulators.

I believe this is something we need to do something about.

In May, I entered a type of parliamentary lottery. I put my name down, along with 400 other MPs, for a chance to be one of twenty randomly selected to get a 'Private Members' Bill'.

I was the second name pulled out and therefore, I have a real chance of making a piece of law.

Between then and late June, I went about selecting the subject for my Bill. I actually had a couple of ideas and, after much deliberation, settled for the "Access to Medical Treatments (Innovation) Bill".

My Bill's first reading was a great success, as all I had to do was stand up before the Speaker of the House of Commons and say (after the Clerk of the House read out the title of the Bill) the date of the second reading of the Bill: "Friday 16th October 2015."

And that was that. Parliamentary procedure dictates that all my Bill requires for its first reading is a name, a top line (not much different to the name itself) and a date on which second reading will take place.

So currently, that is all there is to it. No text, no clauses; literally nothing.

Those who follow politics closely will recognise that the title is similar to a Bill Lord Saatchi introduced to the House of Lords, which received its third reading in their Chamber shortly before the General Election.

I followed the progress of that Bill closely, especially at third reading, and whilst I agreed with the overall direction of the Bill, I could see where those that were not comfortable with it were coming from.

At the same time I knew George Freeman MP, a Minister who's a friend of mine, was launching his "Accelerated Access Review of NHS adoption of medical innovation".

As George has said consistently: "The growing pressure from patients and medical charities for faster access to innovation, and the potential of the NHS as a world beating research 'engine' in 21st Century life and health science creates an opportunity for the UK to

deliver benefits for patients, NHS and economy."

He rightly points out that we conduct some of the most important medical research here in the UK, with amazing breakthroughs in our battles against various diseases potentially coming down the research pipeline. This then puts pressure on innovators and the NHS to give access to new drugs and procedures at an earlier (yet still safe) stage.

Lord Saatchi's "Medical Innovation Bill" highlighted some of the important issues and obstacles to the adoption of innovation in the NHS. What I hope my Bill will do is take the best elements of Lord Saatchi's work and the ambition and early findings of George Freeman's review, and knit them together.

At the same time, I want it to ensure that the genuine concerns of those who had issues with Lord Saatchi's Bill at third reading in the Lords are taken into account.

Although I know this will involve a huge amount of work, I do think it can be done. By working with everyone, if we arrive at a piece of law that results in access to innovative medical treatments for those that require them, with all the appropriate legal and medical safeguards, then I will have done my job properly and hopefully done some good.

So what now?

Well, between now and the second reading of my bill, I intend to meet, talk to and read submissions from as many people as I can with an interest in this Bill and at some point in September I will start to draft its content.

If you'd like to make a submission to me, please email me: chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk

Chris

Snail-mail The House of Commons
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA

Telephone 0207-219-7048 or
01604-859721

e-mail chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk

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Our group meets in Brixworth Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm. We have a variety of interesting speakers and time afterwards for tea and a look at all the information on interest groups and sign up.

For the July meeting of the garden group, a coach trip was organised to visit the Dorothy Clive garden which is located in the woodland quarter of Staffordshire close to both the Shropshire and Cheshire borders. There are many areas of diverse interest within this 12 acre hillside garden including a winter garden, an edible woodland, a woodland quarry with waterfall and amazing seasonal borders. It was a lovely summer day and the tearooms suited everyone!

Two members are going to London to a day Study Course organised by the Central London U3A.

The lunch club went to Latinos in Market Harborough for the July lunch (*photo above*) where everyone enjoyed a traditional Paella.

Further information on the U3A and interest groups can be found on our website www.u3asites.org.uk/brixworth. – *Judy Smith*

Lamport & Hanging Houghton parish council is currently arranging a new contractor to deal with the grass cutting of the verges in both villages. The previous arrangements were most unsatisfactory. I am hopeful that the new people will prove to be more reliable and that we will get a much improved deal.

We are still awaiting the installation of a dog waste bin on the village green in Hanging Houghton. The council has chased Daventry D.C. but we are still awaiting a date!

A young lady from the village was approached at the parking area at the end of the lane from Hanging Houghton at the junction with the Brampton Valley Way and was asked some odd questions by a motorist at the site. The incident has been reported to the police who have taken action.

On a lighter note, the village BBQ will hopefully take place on the August bank holiday – weather permitting.

Please make a note in your diary for 31st August. Villagers from Lamport are welcome to attend. The usual arrangements will be followed, ie bring your own food and drink, table and chairs, glasses, plates and eating irons. We will provide the BBQs and perhaps a free glass of prosecco courtesy of the local council. This is a good way to meet new villagers and renew old acquaintances – I look forward to seeing you there. – *Mike Philpott*

<http://lamportandhanginghoughtonparishcouncil.wordpress.com>

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Library events

Summer holidays

Challenge Day for children aged 4-12 years
Monday 24th August, 3.30pm

Messy Crafts – “Animal Magic” Theme
Wednesday 26th August, 2.30pm

“Sam’s Species” – meet Sally and her collection of snakes, lizards, tortoise, tarantulas etc
Thursday 27th August 2.30-4.30pm

Messy Crafts for children aged 4-12 years
Wednesday 1st September – 2.30pm

Last day of the Summer Reading Challenge!
Saturday 12th September

Make sure you have completed your six books & collected your stickers, certificate and medal.

Activities for children (holidays and term-time)

Rhymetime for the Under 5s & their parents/carers
Mondays 2.30pm & Fridays 10.30am

Crafts & Discovery Club for children aged 4-11 years
Mondays 3.30-4.30pm

Play & Learn for Under 5s
Tuesdays 1.30-3.00pm

Health Visitor Clinic
Thursdays 10am - 12.30pm

Weekly weigh-in clinic, followed by developmental checks. Brixworth Sure Start Children’s Centre staff available, see programme for activities details. Please note that the mezzanine floor will be closed to all other users on Thursdays whilst Under 5s activities and clinics are running.

Play & Learn for Under 1s
Thursdays 10.30-12noon

Family activities
Sundays 1-4pm

October half-term holiday

Messy Crafts for children 2-11 years
Wednesday 28th October 2.30pm

Free but please book in advance in library or email brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Other events

Brixworth Library Morning Readers Group

The Book Club meets first Tuesday of every month 10.30am - please note new time. Open to all – please ask at library or email brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Spanish Conversation for Beginners
Tuesdays 10.30am upstairs on the mezzanine.

Course run by Sarah Brooks. Charges apply, please ask at the library.

Saxon House Art Therapy Group Exhibition
Tuesday 8th September for 2 weeks.

We now have two **IT Buddies** – Robin and Nick. If you need help with IT Basics, or using a lap top, or want to get to grips with a new iPad or any other IT questions or queries, then Robin and Nick are here to help! They can give you free 1:1 help and advice at a convenient time for you at Brixworth Library. Just come in and make an appointment.

This has proved a very popular service, and we have had a lot of positive feedback from satisfied customers.

NAB Mobile Unit

Wednesday 25th November 11.30am – 12.45pm, Library & Community Centre forecourt

Help and advice on visual impairment issues.

Don’t forget the library is open to everyone and free to join. Brixworth Library is now the designated Children’s Centre for Brixworth too – Surestart staff are here on Monday and Thursday mornings. The library is open seven days a week, including Sunday afternoons. Staff are happy to help with any queries or information you may have or need during opening hours.

Get involved!

Under 5s activities helpers and leaders

If you enjoy working with young children, we currently have vacancies for volunteers to help deliver and/or prepare activities for the Under 5s. This could be an hour or so any weekday or weekends. If you could help on a regular basis, but not necessarily every week this is a great fun and flexible role. Training provided – you will need DBS check for this role and will be required to complete an online “Safeguarding” module.

Display assistant

If you would like to make the most of your creative skills making displays for the library then this is the role for you!

Super Sunday volunteer

If you have some time to spare on a regular basis from 1-4pm on a Sunday, this is a varied role. You could be greeting customers, making coffees, helping with craft activities, tidying and shelving etc.

Stock assistant

If you have a tidy mind and like shelving books, enjoy reading and socialising with customers, then this is the role for you.

We also welcome any young adults volunteering for their Duke of Edinburgh award.

For any of the above roles, or for more information on volunteering at the library, come in and speak to Jill, or view the volunteering roles and apply online at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/getinvolved.

Other services

Bus Passes – new, lost and renewals

DVD hire

Help with online Blue Badge Applications

Computer Use – free on Fridays (charge for printing)

Photocopying

Laminating

Library shop

Room Hire/Pod Hire - For more information on booking Library space, please speak to Library Staff.

Brixworth Library Opening Hours

Monday – Friday 10am to 6pm

Saturdays 9am to 1pm

Sundays 1pm to 4pm

Bank Holiday Closures: Monday 31st August, Friday 25th, Saturday 26th, Sunday 27th, and Monday 28th December 2015 plus Friday 1st January 2016.

Contact us at brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Keep up to date with all the latest activities at www.facebook.com/brixworthlibrary - Jill Barber

Obituary

Vera Hermann, born Wilkinson

25 Nov 1924 to 24th March 2015

Vera was born in Sunderland and grew up in the coal mining community. Her father, George Wilkinson was a miner. She had three sisters, Chris, Norma and Joyce, who died in her infancy.

Vera arrived in Brixworth from Sunderland in the early 1940s as an evacuee. Her mother, Mary Wilkinson was evacuated with the three daughters, Vera, Norma and Chris; Mary lived in Brixworth until she died, aged 97, in 1995. George Wilkinson spent much of his time away from the family home during the 2nd World War and some of his work was involved in building runways for military aircraft.

In the 1940's Vera worked for some of the time in the Brixworth post office which was then run by Mrs Walters. She worked on the telephone exchange. She also worked for the war effort, alongside her sister Chris, as a stores assistant at Brown Brothers in Northampton, then a munitions factory.

Vera always remembered the bombing of Coventry, which according to local historian David Hymas was on the night of Friday 14th November 1940. She said that even from Brixworth the event could be heard and the glare from the flames could be seen in the night sky.

Vera met her husband, Robert, a refugee from Czechoslovakia, probably at the Brixworth village hall at one of the dances which were attended by village people plus British, Czech and American service people.

Robert had joined the Free Czech army (Czech Motor Battalion) in England and was stationed in Brixworth Hall. Amongst other things, he drove Bren-gun carriers, and some of the manoeuvres took place in former quarry land off the Scaldwell Road.

Vera and Robert married in Brixworth district Register Office in June 1944 when Robert was 23 and Vera 19.

On 1 September 1944, Robert left for France with the Czech forces and entered the town of his birth, Plzen in Czechoslovakia, during the liberation of May 1945.

Because of the family and political situation in Czechoslovakia, Robert and Vera settled permanently in Brixworth from 1946 onwards. At first they lived in Newland, subsequently in St David's Rd and Eastfield Rd. and finally at the Ridings.

Vera worked for a time at the Co-op in Brixworth and later took in work from a leather factory in Northampton. She ended her working career at Marks and Spencer in Northampton.

When she was able to do so, Vera enjoyed knitting and other hobbies such as marquetry, scraper board work and gardening.

Before Robert died in 1998, they had acquired Jamie, a cocker spaniel. Vera walked several miles around the Brixworth countryside on most days with Jamie, who lived for over 13 years.

During this time Vera met a number of other dog owners and their families. Vera loved meeting the younger children and their birthdays and Christmas involved the purchase and distribution of a significant number of greetings cards and sweets!

Jamie was almost certainly the main reason for Vera's longevity, but after he died, Vera's health declined so much so that she needed to spend her last four years in care.

Vera leaves two sons, Michael and Peter, five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

The family requested that, instead of flowers for Vera's funeral, friends might like to consider making donations for the benefit of Brixworth Country Park. This is a superb facility for the area and one which Vera, Robert and Jamie loved.

I am pleased to say that at least £250 has been raised for this purpose and my grateful thanks are due to all contributors. The funds will be used to create and renovate bird nesting boxes at the Country Park.

The family will also purchase a bench at the Country Park in memory of Vera, Robert and Jamie. - *Michael Hermann*



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Planning update

DA/2015/0213 1 Shelleycotes Road Raise pitch of roof for loft conversion	BPC Objected DDC Approved
DA/2015/0312 The Rookery, Church St Construction of a swimming pool	BPC No Objections DDC Approved
DA/2015/0316 27 Brackenborough Two storey side extension and re-siting of boundary fence	BPC No Objections DDC Approved
DA/2015/0343 79 Froxhill Crescent Single storey front extension	BPC No Objections DDC Approved
DA/2015/0370 Northampton Sailing Club, Northampton Rd Single storey extension to clubhouse	BPC No Objections DDC Approved
DA/2015/0454 Stannard Way Two storey side and rear extension, first floor rear extension and enlargement of existing front dormer	BPC No Objections DDC Approved
DA/2014/0900 Land to East of Northampton Road Outline application for residential development of up to 90 dwellings, doctors surgery, associated public open space, landscaping and infrastructure. Revised position of plots 17, 18, 19 and 20 within Saxon Rise Phase I.	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2015/0191 (amended) The Old Posthouse, Kennel Terrace Extension and external alterations to existing restaurant and accommodation including new openings, rendering, new porch, raised parapet and balustrade to existing terrace.	BPC Objected DDC Approved



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learning in a fully inclusive manner."

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DA/2015/0023 Ilmor Engineering Formation of 6 parking spaces to front of building and extension of existing car park to provide an additional 27 spaces	BPC No Objection DDC Refused
DA/2015/0508 36 Stonehill Way First floor extension to side over existing garage and playroom	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2015/0473 37 Eastfield Road Construction of detached dwelling at land to the rear of building	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2015/0516 Beech Hill, Church St Construction of single storey dwelling	BPC No Objections DDC Approved
DA/2015/0544 Riber House, 113 Northampton Road Two storey rear extension and part garage conversion. First floor balcony at rear of building	BPC No Objection DDC Approved
DA/2015/0551 5 High Street Single storey rear extension, alterations to existing roof, new retaining and garden wall	BPC No Objection DDC Approved

Letters to the Editor

I felt I had to write to you to say how brilliant the ironstone exhibition was that was held in the library recently. A much more revealing insight into the industry that dominated the area around Brixworth. I was overjoyed to see many new photographs this time. Having been born in Brixworth in Parkfield Road, I spent a lot of my childhood walking around and through the old pits and calcine banks, listening to tales of the men who worked in them, I found the exhibition thrilling.

So I would like to appeal to residents of Brixworth, Scaldwell, Hanging Houghton etc: do you have any pictures or mementos of the ironstone industry? Did your father or grandfather work for Stavely Ironstone? Do you have any photos of the worker, the sites and the machines? In particular, I know the organisers were trying to find pictures of the flying buckets, the Scaldwell Transfer Station, and the engine sheds down between Brixworth Station and Lampport.

So if you can help with any information on Stavely Ironstone, it would be appreciated if you could contact me and chat about it. It would be nice to produce a book of all this – if there is an entrepreneur out there, let us know!

D Robinson, Holcot (01604 781685)



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BRIXWORTH MATTERS

BCF Community Church

ANNE FRANK

"Anne" Frank (12 June 1929 – February 1945) was a diarist and writer. She is one of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust. Only sixteen when she died, she wrote these words: *"Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is!"*

During the summer these words came to life as we shared with one hundred children from our Community for the three day Children's Club. We could see in all the children their great potential. Leadership skills, kindness, wonderful manners and care for others, children accomplishing more than they thought possible. Our prayer is that these children channel their gifts in a positive way, giving them a bright future.

I was taken with Anne Frank's words that we have inside us a piece of good news! As a church we believe wholeheartedly that this good news is related to the ability to have a relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ. Matthew, Mark, Luke & John known as the four "Gospels", have the meaning "Good News". Whatever our age we have the potential to receive God's love and give it out to others and as Jesus Himself said, look at the children and learn from them, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

May God bless you

Contact: Phil Walter on
01604 882040

BreaCFast@9



Sunday September 6th sees the new term start for BreaCFast@9. Meeting at the school from 09:00-10:00 this is a fun family event each week of term time. It begins with Breakfast for the whole family, and then half an hour of stories, craft, DVD's and more. Why not give it a try we are certain you will enjoy it!

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 8th November

Join us and All Saints Church in this joint Service being held at All Saints Church. 9:30 if you are processing from the Library & Community Centre with a 10:00 start at the church. This will include the two minutes silence at 11:00 to remember and give thanks for those who gave themselves for our freedom.



Olive Shoots

A Mum's & Tots Group meeting each week in the Library & Community Centre on a Thursday from 10:00. A chance to meet other Parents/Carers whilst letting your youngsters enjoy themselves with the vast array of toys available.



Dynamites

Children's Club

Wow! A chance for children to have fun and games to set themselves up for the weekend!

Friday's in term time:

17:00 – 18:00 for Key Stage 1 children

18:15 – 19:15 for Key Stage 2 children

Venue: Library & Community Centre
Starts Friday 11th September 2015



TNT for 11+'s

A youth group that meets every Tuesday at 19:30 at the Library & Community Centre.

For more information on these children/youth clubs call Mark on 882832.



Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service

Sunday 27th September

BCF Community Church invite you to bring your family, bring some non-perishable food which will be taken to the Hope Centre in Northampton and share in this Service of Thanksgiving for all the good things that we enjoy!

Family focussed and meaningful, you will find a very warm welcome at the School at 10:30 (refreshments included).

Childrens' Holiday Club

- 100 children
- 30 helpers
- Total of 12 hours of fun!
- Games, Stories, Craft, Snacks, Song & Dance and much more!
- Celebration on Saturday afternoon with the Salvation Army Band playing, medals & certificates for the children and a family BBQ to finish.
- Worn out at the end! I'm sure the children were as well!!



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For further 'info' contact Mark on 07922 644673 or Facebook BCF Community Church



The Olive Branch

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

Mon, Tue, Thur 10-3.00, Fri 9.30-2.30,
Saturday 9.30-1.00
Wed 10-11.30

Pensioners Luncheon Club Wed 12 noon*
*(membership currently full ask to be added to waiting list)

The Olive Branch,
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Run by volunteers this non-profit making venture has a welcoming atmosphere.



BCF Community Church Weekly Events

Sunday:	09:00 – 10:00	BreaCFast@9 (Brixworth School)
	10:30 – 11:45	Main Service of Worship (Brixworth School) (including Junior Church and Creche)
Monday:	20:00 – 21:30	Prayer Meeting in the Olive Branch
Tuesday:	19:30 – 21:00	TNT – for Teenagers*
Wednesday:	20:00 – 21:30	Home study Groups
Thursday:	10:00 – 11:30	Olive Shoots – a Mums & Tots group*
Friday:	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)

You will always receive a very warm welcome at any of our Services on a Sunday at 10:30. At the school. As we share together in worship, we also provide a Junior Church for children of all ages. Come and join us!

If you would like to know more about anything in Brixworth Matters or to know more about the Christian faith, then phone Phil on 882040 or go online www.bcfchurch.co.uk



Hello, and welcome to the September edition of Parish News, the Parish Council newsletter. My name is Alex Coles, and I'm the new Chairman of Brixworth Parish Council.

NEW OFFICERS

The Parish Council elects its new officers at the Annual Meeting in May, and this year there have been several changes. I have taken over from Mike Lacey, who has been the Chairman for the past four years, and was instrumental in the creation of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Neal Brown has taken over from me as Vice Chairman.

Meanwhile, the new Chairman of the Planning Committee is former Planning Vice Chairman Stephen James. He takes over from David Parnaby, who has led the Planning Committee since 2011 and will be supporting Stephen, as the new Vice Chairman of Planning.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank both Mike and David for their tireless dedication and leadership over the past four years.

NEW MEMBERS

I would also like to thank Stephen James, Neal Brown, Peter Saxton and James Hodges, who have all joined the Parish Council in the last year. Their commitment will help the Parish Council to make a positive contribution to village life.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

If you are a Brixworth resident aged 18 or over and have lived in the parish for at least 12 months, becoming a Parish Councillor is an excellent opportunity for you to get involved in the way the village is run, to have your say on the development of houses and amenities within the parish, and to contribute to the local community.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Isn't the Parish Council made up of retired old men?

Brixworth Parish Council is fortunate enough to consist of members both male and female from every generation, from early twenties through to retirement and beyond. We don't ask your age when you join, but we estimate that around 80 per cent of our members are below retirement age. This helps us to be truly representative of the community.

How much of my time will it take?

The Parish Council has one ordinary meeting per month, to which all members are summoned. There are additional working group meetings for various projects should you wish to contribute further, and local planning matters are discussed at a separate meeting every three weeks.

Okay, how do I become a Parish Councillor?

It's a good idea to attend a meeting or two, to get an idea of what's involved. Existing Parish Councillors will be happy to discuss this with you outside of meetings.

The actual joining procedure is very straightforward. When a Parish Council has advertised a vacancy for more than two weeks, there is no need for an election; the Parish Council can choose to co-opt individuals onto the council.

Email, telephone or write to the Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs Emma Baker, to advise her that you're interested in joining the Parish Council. The Clerk will ask you to submit a few details about yourself and how you feel you can contribute to the Parish Council.

At the next ordinary meeting, the council can vote to co-opt you, and you then become a Parish Councillor.

What happens once I'm co-opted?

You become a Parish Councillor immediately, although you will not be able to vote during the meeting at which you were co-opted. You will be appointed a mentor to guide you and answer your questions during the first three months; you will also be offered a place on a training course for new councillors, which will be paid for by the Parish Council.

A Traffic Calming Solution for Silver Street

THE PROBLEM

The residents of Silver Street and Brixworth Parish Council got together to discuss how inappropriate speeds on Silver Street could be tackled as well as reducing the number of drivers using Silver Street as a rat-run. One of the first things done was to contact TomTom, Mio and Garmin to update their mapping system to state that Silver Street (along with Church Street) was not suitable for HGVs. Residents have reported that this had had an immediate impact.



However, dealing with speeding motorists, the majority of whom use Silver Street as a rat-run, was to be a bigger problem to solve. Northamptonshire County Council Highways (MGSWP), Brixworth Parish Council and the residents started a consultation process which took form of a survey suggesting various options for reducing speed in the short-term, but in the long-term would deter commuters from using the narrow, one-way street as a perceived short cut to the A508.

However these proposed options for discussion, which included installing a traffic circle, bollards to narrow the street, reversing the current one-way system and creating a dead-end, also had to be cost effective as well as productive.

The majority of the residents responded positively to the survey which enabled both the County Council and Parish Council to provide the ultimate solution.

In addition to the resident survey, Parish Councillor David Parnaby and Parish and District Councillor Kevin Parker carried out an on-site survey between the hours of 07:30 and 09:15 to determine the reasons for using Silver Street. The results were interesting:

50% turned left (to the industrial estate) and 50% turned right after which 75% then turned left towards the A508 and 25% turning right into the village. We then timed how long it would take to get to the A508 by carrying along the High Street instead of turning up Silver Street. The result: it's shorter!

THE CONCLUSION

The objective to introducing traffic calming to this street was multi-fold:

- To stop people speeding in the street
- To slow all traffic down
- To reduce non-resident traffic using the street as a rat-run
- To improve the safety of residents

THE SOLUTION

In consultation with Northamptonshire Highways it was decided that introducing a narrowing feature, ie chicanes with bollards, would best serve the community. The cost of this scheme is to be met by the partnership of the County Council and the Parish Council. But it wasn't just these two groups that made this happen, both councils would like to recognise the contribution made by all the residents of Silver Street with a special thanks to Lucy Murphy, and Roger and Christi Seyd Brown.

Lucy Murphy is a Silver Street resident and mother to two young children. Her response to this collaboration was, "I am thrilled to have finally found a solution that will reduce the speeds within Silver Street and hopefully deter people from using it as a cut-through. The Highways and Parish Council have been so supportive during this process and we are so thankful!"

Whilst Roger Brown reminded us that Silver Street is the only one-way street in Brixworth and it is also one of the narrowest! Therefore, please could people slow down when coming off Church Street; it may save a life!

Hot Food Takeaway at 130 Northampton Road

Some months ago a planning application was received was received relating to the retail premises at 130 Northampton Road, Brixworth, currently used as a pet shop. The application, which was for a change of user of the premises from its current use to that a hot food takeaway, was objected to vigorously by the Parish Council and this objection was later sustained by the Planning Committee of Daventry District Council.

The Parish Council had objected to the application on grounds that use of the premises as a hot food takeaway was inappropriate since the premises are situated within Conservation Area and such user would not sit well with the street scene. Additionally, the premises are on a bend in Northampton Road where traffic visibility is poor and there is no adequate parking available other than at the roadside, much of which is required by local residents. Northampton Road is already a busy thoroughfare and traffic hazards would be bound to occur with the frequent coming and going of customers' vehicles during the evenings. Furthermore, annoyance to residents of the adjoining properties would ensue as

a result of the noise, smells, need for waste disposal and likelihood of anti-social behaviour arising from the conduct of business.

The applicant has now appealed to the Planning Inspectorate and, following a request for site visit, a Planning Inspector visited the site at 1200 on Monday 3 August 2015.

It is noteworthy that the immediately adjoining premises, 132 Northampton Road were the subject of an application by the same applicant, also for use as a hot food takeaway. This application was vigorously opposed by the Parish Council, only to be subsequently allowed by Daventry District Council Planning Committee.

Should the appeal against decision by Daventry District Council to refuse the current application for change of user in the case of 130 Northampton Road be allowed, then it would result in there being two hot food takeaways adjacent to each other in the Conservation Area at Northampton Road. Finally, and although not strictly a planning factor, we have emphasised to all parties the fact that the current pet shop provides a valued facility for the community.

Community SpeedWatch

THE FATAL FOUR AND WHAT IT HAS DONE FOR YOU

Back in January 2013, Northamptonshire Police Force and Brixworth Parish Council had decided to re-launch the Community SpeedWatch as part of its work tackling the Fatal Four, an operation which targets those motorists committing the four most common offences that can contribute to serious injury or road deaths on our roads. They are speeding, mobile phone usage, not wearing a seatbelt and drink driving.

Sites identified were Harborough Road, Holcot Road, Northampton Road, Spratton Road and Station Road. The SpeedWatch volunteers caught 64 drivers in the first week of the campaign back in March 2013. In addition to this, a databox was placed on Northampton Road where the number of vehicles processed was 33,491, of which 10,063 averaged 33 mph and 2,192 exceeded 35 mph.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE FORCE

Brixworth Parish Council and the Brixworth SpeedWatch group work very closely with the Northamptonshire Police Force and the following statement, issued by Matthew O'Connell, Safer Roads Team Leader, shows the commitment they have to tackling speeding not just in Brixworth but throughout the county.

"Northamptonshire Police and their partners are committed to reducing the number of casualties and collisions on the county's roads; and to manage speeds down. We are working with the local community to achieve this aim. Driving at an appropriate speed within the limit will reduce the severity of a collision.

"Speeding is not simply about fines and points on a licence. During 2013, 26 people were killed and over 300 people seriously injured on Northamptonshire's roads, speed was a major factor with regards to these figures.

"By driving within the limit and at a speed suitable for the environment and conditions you can play a part in helping us to reduce collisions across Northamptonshire.

"The Community Speed Watch program me is a great way for us to educate drivers and start changing behaviours, with the help of the local community."

REAL CAMERAS, REAL FINES

Whilst there continued to be a drop in cars caught speeding from the first campaign, it became evident that Station Road had the biggest problem, with 48% of speeding offences. Therefore, to combat speeding in excess of 70mph, it was decided that extra measures were needed.

SAFETY CAMERA VAN

Mobile safety camera vans are aimed at protecting communities from the blight of speeding, and the van, which is now a frequent visitor at Station Cottages, Brixworth, has seen 101 motorists caught speeding, including a vehicle travelling at 50mph.

SIGNAGE

In addition, new village sign plates, "Station Cottages" were erected as well as painting "30" carriageway road marking roundels to remind drivers that they are entering a community where 12 families and their children live. These signs were made possible by joint funding from Brixworth Parish Council, Northamptonshire County Council Highways and from County Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift's Empowerment Fund.



A BIG THANK YOU

Let us not forget that this campaign would not have been possible without the volunteers and the man charged with organising them, Howard Reader.

Parish Council Meetings September to December

Full Council Meetings

Tuesday 22 September, 7.15pm
 Tuesday 27 October, 7.15pm
 Tuesday 24 November, 7.15pm
 Tuesday 15 December, 7.15pm

Planning Committee Meetings

Monday 14 September, 7.30pm
 Monday 5 October, 7.30pm
 Monday 26 October, 7.30pm
 Monday 16 November, 7.30pm
 Monday 7 December, 7.30pm

Dog Fouling

HELP US TO SHOW IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS THAT BRIXWORTH WILL NOT TOLERATE THIS

The new initiative of education and enforcement activity specifically targeting irresponsible dog ownership follows the success of Daventry District Council's dog fouling spray paint scheme, under which volunteers from more than 30 parishes and community groups were provided with cans of brightly-coloured biodegradable paint to spray on dog mess, in order to shame irresponsible dog owners into clearing up their dogs mess.

As many of you are aware, the trial area of The Ashway playing fields and the pathways leading to it ceded incredible results, reducing dog fouling from 46 incidents to just four in four days.

In consultation with concerned residents, Brixworth Parish Council decided to extend the areas to include St David's playing field and the shopping areas on Spratton Road and Northampton Road. With the help of volunteers it seems that whilst there are persistent offenders Brixworth has become a more pleasant place to walk. Also let's not forget that dog excrement is not only unsightly but is also a health hazard that can lead to a parasitic infection known as Toxocariasis which can lead to blindness.

As a Parish Council we're committed to working with DDC and its contractors to tackle this issue.

Public Space Protection Notice (PSPO) Proposal

Daventry District Council is keen to take measures to combat this problem and is proposing to use new powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to consolidate its three existing Dog Control Orders in a single Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). It is also considering giving its enforcement officers broader powers to deal with dog owners who fail to properly control their pets in public open spaces across the district. By the time this article has gone to press DDC will have considered the views of residents and businesses which, in turn, will hopefully become a formal consultation process.

Reporting a Dog Fouling Incident

If you spot a dog walker who fails to pick up after their dog the Daventry District Council would be grateful if you record as many details as possible – description of dog and owner, time and place of fouling, etc. DDC can use this information to trace the owner so that the appropriate action may be taken. You can also do it online, by following the link on the Brixworth Parish Council website (www.brixworthpc.org.uk). Dog fouling report forms are also available at the library information centre.

Please ensure you do not put yourself in any danger by confronting dog-owners who fail to pick up after their dogs.

Failing to clean up after your dog is an offence and it will be taken seriously — as one irresponsible Brixworth dog owner discovered, when he was issued with a fine of £75.

So, thoughtless dog owners: WE'RE WATCHING YOU!

Contact Details

Clerk to the Council

Emma Baker

Email: clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk

Tel. 01933 682447

Website: www.brixworthpc.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/brixworthpc

Twitter: twitter.com/brixworthpc

Alexander Coles
Chairman



Neal Brown
Vice Chairman



Emma Baker
Clerk to the Council
clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk



Ian Barratt



Jacqueline Bird



James Hodges



Stephen James



Michael Lacey



Sandra Moxon



Kevin Parker



David Parnaby



Peter Saxton



You?



Parish Council photos by Brixworth Photographic Society

All Saints' Church, Brixworth

Dear Friends,

WHAT ARE YOU LIKE ON THE INSIDE?

I write this during the last week of the school term. At their leavers' service, the children in our village school were praised not only for their academic achievements, but also for their politeness, kindness and behaviour towards others — in other words for what they are becoming as *people*. Indeed, I think we can be very proud of our school and its staff and children.

This is echoed in Jesus' words in our gospel reading for the beginning of September: what's inside a person---within the heart, is more important than outward appearances. We all tend to worry too much about how we appear to others. What really matters is what's on the inside. And he encourages us to examine what is inside our own hearts.

Many find that following the example of Jesus Christ changes them. They begin to be transformed, and grow as people in compassion, love and care.

September, for us, sees the start of another Music Festival here in Brixworth. Music, probably more than any other art form, often affects us deep down inside, both as performers and audience, and when making music the best performance always comes from the heart. Great musicians always say that their best performances have been when their music comes from deep within the heart, and they are so involved in the music that they forget everything else. Both listening to, and making music can be a profoundly spiritual experience.

Our 2015 Festival is more ambitious than last year. It stretches over 2 weekends, and we have tried to find a greater variety of styles to suit all tastes. This year we have the privilege of welcoming a world-famous composer and Master of the Queen's Music, Judith Weir, who will talk about her music, and several of the groups will be performing her work.

We are also experimenting with a Jazz Evening, and a children's singing workshop. We welcome you all to our Festival events this year, and hope that there will be something to touch everybody's heart-strings.

Rev. Chloe

Priest-in-Charge:

Rev. Chloe Willson-Thomas
The Vicarage, Station Road
t: 01604 882014
chloe.thomas5@btinternet.com

Churchwardens:

Mrs Vanessa Crooks
5 Whaddon Field t: 01604 882058

Mr Michael Lewis
8 Breach Close t: 01604 881836

Pattern of Services

1 st Sunday of the month	10.30 am	All-Age Service
	11.45 am	Said Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Choral Evensong
2 nd Sunday	7.45 am	Said Eucharist
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
3 rd Sunday	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
	6.00 pm	Taizé service
4 th Sunday	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
5 th Sunday	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
Tuesday & Thursday	9.30 am	Holy Communion



BRIXWORTH MUSIC FESTIVAL



18th - 27th September

A variety of music for all tastes:

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And a children's workshop

Further information at:

www.brixworthmusicfestival.co.uk

ALL SAINTS' CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing?

Why not join us? We are a small group of friendly and enthusiastic singers, who meet each Thursday evening at 7.30pm at the church.

We will be singing "The Peacemakers" by Karl Jenkins on October 2nd and 3rd jointly with Rothwell Church Choir and Singing Saints

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

5th - 20th December 2015



Why not decorate a Christmas tree to put in the church and promote your group or business?

Contact Rev. Chloe for details

Tel: 01604 882014

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FUN AND FRIENDSHIP
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SINGING SAINTS CHILDREN'S CHOIR

(Years 5 and 6)



Meets on Wednesdays at 4pm - 5pm
Individual voice tuition given

From the registers	May	June
Weddings	Ricky Matthews & Stephanie Hames	
Baptisms	Jessica Isobel Marie Passchier Delilah Daisy May Constable	Benjamin Harry Rogers
Burials	Paul Court Brenda Eileen Horn	

Devon Malcolm International XI vs Brixworth CC

Brixworth Cricket Club was the picturesque scene for our annual charity match; held between the Devon Malcolm International XI and Brixworth CC. Devon left nothing to chance when selecting his side, which consisted of both current and ex-internationals, such as Monty Panesar, Andy Caddick, Andrew Hall and Rory Kleinveldt. Fortunately, the weather also left nothing to chance, providing a glorious day with temperatures in excess of 25 degrees; the crowd of over 400 were in for a true spectacle at the Caribbean themed event.

The day started with a cricket coaching session for children from local schools in and around Brixworth, with former England stars Alex Tudor and Adam Hoolioake lending their expertise to all the youngsters. This was followed by a sumptuous three course meal for the VIP marquee guests, incorporating a live, steel band, the charity auction and an overview of the three charities the game was supporting: Chance to Shine; The Lord's Taverners; Jamaican Hospitals League of Friends. As in previous years a significant sum was raised for all three charities.

Peter Caunt, the Brixworth captain, won the toss and elected to bowl first, hoping his team could restrict the bowler-heavy International XI to a reasonable total. This appeared to be a wise decision when the International XI were two down without reaching double figures, both Andrew Hall and Justin Brathwaite dismissed early in the innings. However, Rory Kleinveldt and Alex Tudor raced to a partnership of 157 off just 76 balls, Northants' Kleinveldt scoring 84 off 38 balls, including 7 fours and 6 sixes; Tudor with 72 off 38 balls, including 10 fours and 4 sixes. Things were beginning to look ominous for Brixworth as the International XI looked to be set for a score of over 250, never-the-

less, they stuck at it and all-rounder Alex Lacey picked up 3 cheap wickets (in the scheme of things) bowling his flat, right-arm off-spin. The final score for the visitors was 205-7, a good effort in the end by Brixworth who fancied their chances, due the flat wicket, fast outfield and short boundaries. The tea interval provided the scene for the live auction which saw numerous generous bids for the various prizes, including a table at both the 'You guys are history dinner' at the Oval, and the Gala Christmas dinner at The London Grange, St Paul's.

Devon Malcolm and Justin Brathwaite opened the bowling for the International XI, against Tom Worthington and Fred Newborough, the Brixworth openers. Brixworth started well, with an opening stand of 80 before Worthington was dismissed for 39. However, some tight overs of off-spin from Martin Bicknell slowed the run rate and he ended up with impressive figures of 2 for 17 from his 4 overs. The highlight of the Brixworth innings was 17 year old William Thomas' (son of former England bowler Greg Thomas) knock of 45 from just 25 balls, which included a towering 6 over mid-on off the bowling of Andy Caddick. But despite his, and the Brixworth lower order's best efforts, they finished on 190-5, a tantalizing 16 runs short of their target. So, with almost 400 runs scored, a healthy amount of money raised for the three charities, and around 60 local children benefiting from a morning of fun and games; the day was a great success for all concerned.

- Chris Timm

International Team: Andy Caddick, Adam Hoolioake, Andrew Hall, Paul Taylor, Monty Panesar, Rory Kleinveldt, Martin Bicknell, Monty, Gordon Harris, Henry Olonga, Devon Malcolm.

Brixworth Team: Peter Caunt, Tom Worthington, Alex Lacey, Fred Newborough, Tony Penberthy, Ross McLean, Ash Starmer, Will Thomas, Austin Pruthab, Toby Cowley, Colin Sibley, Henry Timm

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30-31/8	Antique and Collectors Fair	Lampport Hall
31 Aug	Hanging Houghton & Lampport Village BBQ	Village Green, Hanging Houghton
4-26/9	Brave New World	Royal
3 Sep	NT Live: The Beaux	Errol Flynn Filmhouse
5 Sep	Draughton Produce Competition	St Catherine's, Draughton
5 Sep	Gattaca	EF Filmhouse
5 Sep	Jurassic Park	EF Filmhouse
5 Sep	Medieval Banquet	All Saints, Brixworth
5-6 Sep	Mister Maker	Derngate
6 Sep	Dahlia Festival	Kelmarsh Hall
7-12/9	The Mousetrap	Derngate
8 Sep	Memorial Service for BB	L'port Church
9 Sep	Bonham's Valuation Day	Kelmarsh Hall
9 Sep	How to change the World	EF Filmhouse
11 Sep	Screaming Blue Murder	Underground
13 Sep	The Billy Fury Years	Derngate
13 Sep	Doc Brown	Royal
15 Sep	24 Hours from Tulsa	Derngate
17 Sep	Roy Orbison & Friends	Derngate
17 Sep	Abbamania	Corby Cube
18 Sep	Strictly Africa	Derngate
18 Sep	Outdoor Cinema: Dirty Dancing	Lampport Hall
18 Sep	The Battle of Britain	EF Filmhouse
19 Sep	Outdoor Cinema: An Officer and a Gentleman	Lampport Hall
19 Sep	An Evening with Aggers & Swanny	Derngate
19 Sep	Drawing and Painting Autumn Landscape	Lampport Hall
20 Sep	Outdoor Cinema: Far from the Madding Crowd	Lampport Hall
24 Sep	The ELO Experience	Derngate
25 Sep	Keith Barry	Corby Cube
25 Sep	Screaming Blue Murder	Underground

26 Sep	The Sounds of Philadelphia and Motown	Derngate
26 Sep	Hog Roast in aid of Brixworth First Responders	Dallas Burston Cricket Ground
26 Sep	Strictly Sixties	Corby Cube
27 Sep	Dahlia Festival	Kelmarsh Hall
28 Sept - 3 Oct	Hairspray	Derngate
29 Sep	Roger Waters: The Wall	EF Filmhouse
1 Oct	James Acaster	Royal
2 Oct	A Golden Age of Magic	Royal
3 Oct	Henning Wehn	Royal
4 Oct	Garden Fundraising Talk	Kelmarsh Hall
5-7 Oct	Macbeth - Blood will have Blood	Corby Cube
6 Oct	Trevor Noah	Derngate
7 Oct	Buddy Holly	Derngate
8 Oct	Paddy McGuinness	Derngate
9 Oct	Steve Hackett	Royal
9 Oct	Screaming Blue Murder	Underground
10 Oct	Dancing Queen	Derngate
10 Oct	Jason Byrne	Corby Cube
10-11 Oct	Film Northants	EF Filmhouse
10-11 Oct	Gift and Craft Fair	Lampport Hall
11 Oct	Helly Kitty	Derngate
11 Oct	Bolshoi Live: Giselle	EF Filmhouse
13 Oct	All Star 60s	Derngate
14 Oct	Bonham's Valuation Day	Kelmarsh Hall
15 Oct	NT Live: Hamlet	EF Filmhouse & Corby Cube
16 Oct	Show of Hands	Derngate
16 Oct	Gaslight	Royal
18 Oct	Jimeoin	Corby Cube
19, 20, 23, 26 & 27/9	Brixworth Music Festival	All Saints, Brixworth
20-21 Oct	Richard Alston Dance	Derngate
21 Oct	RSC Live Henry V	EF Filmhouse
22 Oct	Stewart Francis	Derngate

23 Oct	One night of Elvis	Derngate
23 Oct	Screaming Blue Murder	Underground
25 Oct	Halloween Special Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
27-31 Oct	Sister Act	Derngate
1 Nov	Astor Big Band	Derngate
1-7/11	NT Encore: Hamlet	EF Filmhouse
4-7 Nov	Last Night the DJ Saved my Life	Derngate
7 Nov	Brixworth Lecture	All Saints, Brixworth
9-14/11	Rebecca	Derngate
11 Nov	Hal Cruttenden	Royal
11 Nov	Bonham's Valuation Day	Kelmarsh Hall
12 Nov	Pam Ayres	Royal
16 Nov	Vampires Rock	Derngate
18 Nov	The Four Seasons by Candlelight	Derngate
19 Nov	Carmen	Derngate
20 Nov	Dave Gorman	Derngate
20 Nov	Screaming Blue Murder	Underground
22 Nov	An Evening with Noel Fielding	Derngate
24 Nov	Gareth Malone	Derngate
25 Nov	Jools Holland	Derngate
27 Nov	Sinatra Centenary	Derngate
25 Nov - 3 Jan	The Snow Queen	Royal
28 Nov	That'll be the Day	Derngate
29 Nov	Steeleye Span	Derngate
29 Nov	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
5-6 Dec	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
5-20 Dec	Christmas Tree Festival	All Saints, Brixworth
6 Dec	Bolshoi Live: The Lady	EF Filmhouse
12-13 Dec	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway
11 Dec - 3 Jan	Cinderella	Derngate
19-20 Dec	Santa Special Trains	N'pton & Lampport Railway

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Penalties deny Pumas the Plate

After beating Wooldale 3-1, Brixworth Pumas disappointingly were knocked out of the Cup by their local rivals, the Brixworth Panthers. However, they bounced back to beat ON Chenecks 2-1 in the semi-final of the Plate thanks to a last minute goal from Bradley Gathercole, which sent them to the final at Sixfields.

On the day, the team arrived bright and early in their suits, psyched for the day ahead. After team photos, Brixworth Pumas loaded onto the bus for Sixfields Stadium.

Upon arriving, the squad were shown to the away dressing room. This was followed by going onto the pitch for the first time and warming up, with drills tactically masterminded by manager Adam Haycock and assistant manager John Sullivan. The players began to soak up the different and lively atmosphere, and prepare for the game.

The match was very much a game of two halves, and it was Brixworth who dominated the first. Strikes from Kieran Legg, Jacob Reid, Tom Lancaster and Jack Sullivan all threatened the Woodford goal. However it was right-midfielder Scott Brooksbank who broke the deadlock, showing the persistence and determination that he's shown all season to get to the ball ahead of the opposing keeper, and brush it into the open net. Resilient defending from Josh Fitzgerald, Jacob Tuck, Finn Skuse and Aiden McCoach frustrated and successfully kept out the opposition, and Brixworth goalkeeper Jordan Worth showed safe hands when required. The engine in midfield, Ryan Coxhill, worked as hard as ever in both defending and attacking, helping to preserve this lead.

A dominant first half performance saw Brixworth go into the break a goal ahead.

However, it was Woodford United who saw most of the ball in the second half, and it was only a matter of time before they equalised. They did so from a corner, 20 minutes or so into the second half. Brixworth tried their best to get their noses in front again with substitutes Cameron Stockwell, Kieran Harvey, Jake Devine and Bradley Gathercole giving their all for the team. Alex Haycock continued to conjure his magic in the middle of the park, and Luke Richardson was effective as always in protecting the Brixworth back four. However, the men in white failed to profit for their efforts. In the nervy final stages,

it was Captain Aiden McCoach who led by example by consistently keeping out the swarm of oncoming red attack, and his superb personal performance was enough to win him Man of the Match. There was little between the sides overall, and the referee's final whistle meant the tie would be decided on penalties. To Brixworth's misfortune, it was Woodford United who kept their nerve best in the shoot-out; winning 4-2, and it was them who lifted the plate.

Although Brixworth gained no silverware to show for their efforts, it is unquestionable that each and every player put in 110% effort and should undoubtedly be proud. And despite the disappointing final result, it was an experience to remember. - *Jacob Reid*

Centre Forward knocks out Under 14s

The Under 14s, under the guidance of Martin Henry, took to the pitch at Sixfields on Sunday May 10th in a Knockout Plate Final vs EM Academy.



The first half got under way, and Brixworth showed why they had reached this final as they played some lovely flowing football. Unfortunately, after only a few minutes EM Academy's skilful centre forward struck them into a 1-0 lead. While Brixworth's team made numerous chances in the first half, the opposing keeper was having the game of his life and the team went into half time 1-0 down.

The second half saw a few changes of players, but sadly that did not improve Brixworth's fortunes. EM Academy scored two more goals as Brixworth started to chase the game and leave spaces at the back. Their centre forward was again the one on target as he hit two goals to secure his hat trick and a 3-0 win over disappointed Under 14s team.

I hope that despite the unfortunate outcome they enjoyed the day and will look to next season to try again. - *Simon Compton*



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