

Co-op loading bay goes to consultation

The demolition of the Red Lion pub, to be replaced with a new Co-op store, may have been (controversially) agreed. But discussions about the site's amenities are ongoing, specifically regarding the location and restrictions around the store's loading bay. A consultation about the proposed location of the bay will open on 2 September and run for three weeks.

The Co-op is proposing to locate the loading bay to the side of the new shop on Northampton Road. As the site itself sits in a bend, the proposal is to have the bay to the east of the shop, from where it would have good access to the utility yard at the back of the Co-op.

The plans would site the bay outside of the existing shops and takeaways – China Garden takeaway, the Bulldog & Bear barber shop, and the florist Wilder Floral. The proposal asks for the space to be reserved for Co-op deliveries between 7am and 5pm every day.

Several of the shop owners are worried about the impact that this arrangement might have on their shops – they fear that losing the



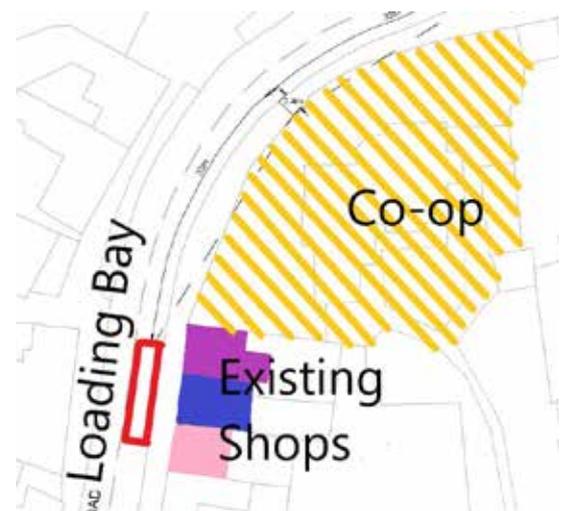
The proposed site for the loading bay outside the shops – quiet first thing in the morning, but shop owners worry that later in the day the loss of parking space would cause problems. Photo by Ian Topham

kerbside parking directly outside their sites is going to impact their own deliveries as well as customers wanting to visit the shop. They are also concerned that if any delivery HGVs were to remain parked in the bay for any length of time, they would obscure the shop fronts and with that likely reduce the footfall in the shops.

However, a decision on the loading bay will not affect the underlying decision to grant planning permission for the demolition of the pub and the building of the new Co-op. If no agreement is reached on the loading bay, the new shop could be built without any provision for a loading bay. This would result in deliveries being unloaded wherever the HGV might find space, potentially even double parked.

Anyone who has views on the issue of the loading bay is welcome to submit them through the consultation, which will remain open until 23 September. Details on how to submit your views will be available locally near the site.

The results of the consultation will be shared with the developers, who may modify their proposal to take into account some of the views and suggestions provided. The final decision on the loading bay will be taken by Northants Highways. – Claudia Flavell-White



It's good to be back



Bob Emmerson, 88, taking part in his 401st Park Run at Brixworth Country Park on Saturday 31st July 2021.

Photo: Ian Topham

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Climate Action - West Northants (CA-WN)

A few editions ago, I wrote mentioning the intention to create a group within the Brixworth ward who had an interest and desire to tackle the climate emergency. Several people expressed an interest, but since then things have marched forward. We've discovered and joined forces with the Climate Action – West Northants Group.

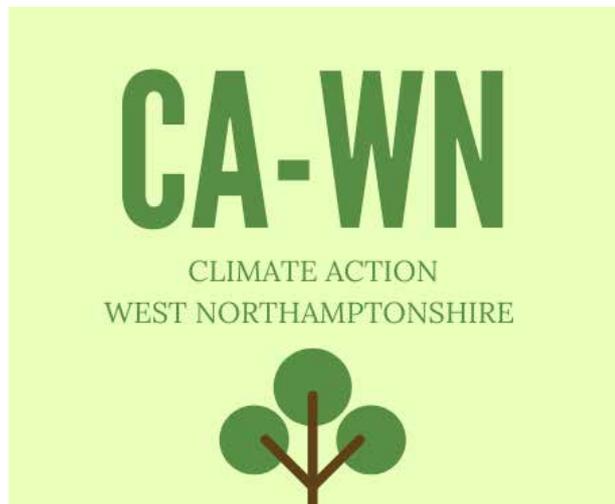
The group has grown rapidly in numbers over the last six months and is now longing to establish itself in a more formal way by creating an unincorporated association.

Over the last month or so, we have seen on our TV's almost every day, news reports on the often-tragic effects of extreme weather which the majority of experts now believe is directly linked to climate change.

The group exists to drive a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable West Northamptonshire for its residents.

The group's primary objectives are to:

- champion actions that reduce the production of greenhouse gasses that are the primary drivers of climate change



- build community resilience to the destructive effect of extreme weather events
- promote biodiversity and a healthy environment including improving air quality, water quality and reducing litter
- raise public awareness of environmental breakdown (climate emergency and biodiversity loss)
- provide influence, challenge and guidance to West Northants Council

There are three main areas of focus for the group – mitigating the climate emergency, increasing biodiversity, and reducing pollution.

To make progress with these issues, a number of working groups have been set up to develop specific plans and approaches as well as working to provide specific advice and information for residents.

West Northamptonshire Council recently redeclared its commitment of working to tackle the climate crisis in our area, but we want it to go further and sign up to UK100 Net Zero Pledge.

There is much to do, and we need as many people as possible to join us.

If you are interested and want to know more, please get in touch with either Jane Wood (jane@ca-wn.org) or myself (jonathanharrislibdem@icloud.com).

– Jonathan Harris

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Ride of Respect for Falklands soldier

Members of the South Atlantic Medal Association (SAMA) visited Brixworth on 7 August as part of their 2021 Ride of Respect.

The riders, all former members of the Parachute Regiment, spent two weeks in August touring the UK by motorbike to visit the gravesites and memorials of men of who lost their lives in the Falklands war in 1982. Covering 2600 miles in 15 days, they visited over 80 graves and memorials of the Falklands war.



Paying their respects: the riders, with for of Gerald's siblings – Tony, Dan, Myra and Annie.

Photos by Ian Topham

June 1982, just two days before the conflict ended.

Now, almost 40 years later, his former

comrades, friends, family and villagers remember him, along with his fellow men who passed away during this conflict.

The memorial event was attended by many in the village, including four of Gerald's siblings - brothers Tony and Dan, and sisters Myra and Annie.

The SAMA riders were greeted in Brixworth by members of the Royal Naval Association (RNA), who acted as marshalls for the visit, and members of the community who had come to pay their respects.

The Ride of Respect aims to demonstrate that those who lost their lives in the Falklands are not forgotten, to pay respects to each one and their families, and to raise funds for the South Atlantic Medal Association who continue to support veterans of the Falklands war and most importantly, the families who have lost loved ones. – *Claudia Flavell-While*



One of the stops on their journey was the cemetery at All Saints Church in Brixworth, which is the final resting place of Private Gerald Bull, who served with the 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment (3 PARA). Gerald was born on 11th November 1963, the fourth child of Amos and Rosalie. Both his parents are buried in the same churchyard, close by Gerald.

As a young man of 18 he boarded the SS Canberra to serve his Queen and Country. On 11th of June 1982, while fighting on Mount Longdon, Gerald was seriously wounded and died from his injuries on 12th

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Northants Wombles scoop local award



Northants Wombles have won the Best Charity/Community Project at this year's NL Awards. The NL Awards are given every year in a range of categories by the local business and activities website Northants Live.

"Brixworth Wombles are very proud to belong to the Northants Wombles Group and are overwhelmed by the support from the local community for our efforts to keep our little part of Northamptonshire clean and tidy," said Peter Duffy. "Brixworth is such a beautiful village. To get an award is fantastic but the support of the local community really has been incredible and rewarding in itself. We really do thank every resident for the support that has been shown."

Community Centre back in action



Brixworth is blessed with three reasonably sized community facilities that are all registered charities and run by volunteers. All three have found life challenging during the past months but are now back taking bookings.

The Community Centre (part of the Library and Community Centre on Spratton Road) has, once again, a programme of activities for all ages and interests. The Art Group, meeting on Monday mornings, re-starts on 27th September. Two different Yoga groups are now meeting, and pilates can be enjoyed three times a week! The Centre also offers a knitting circle, Rainbows, the Olive Shoots mums and tots group, church-run youth groups catering from ages 5 to 11 as well as a teenagers group, plus Saturday morning Dance Academy.

Details of dates, times and who to contact are displayed in the foyer of the Library and Community Centre.

For bookings and further details contact Centre Manager Mike Nice on 880086.

Marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Following on the enforced cancellation of the village's V. E. Day Anniversary events due to Covid, plans are afoot to make the next national celebration one to remember!

After a two-day special Bank Holiday next summer, Sunday 5th June 2022 is the day for communities to come together to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

If you would like to help plan and organise Brixworth's event, now is the time to get involved. Please contact Mike Nice on 880086 (mike.nice100@googlemail.com). We are looking for both individuals and village groups to support the day. Brixworth Parish Council has already pledged its financial support. – Mike Nice

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Brixworth Community Food Share

Once again, Brixworth residents have pulled together to try to help out any families that might struggle to buy food over the summer holidays.

On Monday mornings over July and August, a group of volunteers packed and delivered food to Brixworth residents.

The food was provided by several generous people in the village who shopped and baked to help to create a box of lunchtime ideas including ham rolls, tuna pasta salad, tortilla "pizzas" and jacket potatoes.

Money was also granted by the Parish Council, Brixworth Community Church and raised through a burger and sausage sale at the end of the school term.

Thank you so much to everyone who took

part and thank you to the Olive Branch for allowing us to use their premises.

If you would like to get involved in future projects, please get in touch via our Facebook page. – *Mike Nice and Elaine Coe on behalf of Brixworth Community Food Share*



Co-op installs Soft Plastic Recycling Bin

As part of the Sustainable Summer initiative, the Co-op has installed a soft plastic recycling bin in our Brixworth store. The bin can be found at the front of the store, between the ice creams and sandwiches. Soft plastics are lightweight plastics that often can't be recycled at home such as crisp packets, ready meal and biscuit wrappers. If you're not sure, a simple test is to scrunch it up and if it pings back, it's a useful indicator it's soft plastic.



The bin can be found between the ice cream and sandwich fridges near the entrance. – Photo: Ian Topham

The recycling bin was opened by two of the Brixworth Wombles who donated soft plastics to the recycling bin. In return, the Co-op donated plastic bags and bottles of water to support the Brixworth Wombles in their efforts.

The Co-op are looking for more ways in which they can support the local community. Currently, the Co-op donates 1p of every £1 a member spends to local community groups and another 1p from every £1 goes to wider community organisations. To get involved, sign up to become a member online then choose

the community group that you would like to raise money for.

If you have any suggestions for new ways in which the store can support the local community, please contact me at jasmine.kovacs@coop.co.uk. – *Jasmine Kovacs*

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Mobile food takeaways conquer Brixworth

The Covid lockdown has posed a huge challenge to the hospitality industry, with many pubs and restaurants struggling to survive. But change also brings opportunity – one embraced by the many mobile food outlets that have blossomed over the last year and a half.

When people couldn't eat out indoors, mobile food takeaways – many trading out of a van or trailer – stepped into the breach. Brixworth is now host to several who are doing fantastic business with many loyal fans. We wanted to give them an opportunity to introduce themselves.

Santina's Wood Fired Pizza Co.

Santina's was born early last year to help the local community when food was hard to find on the supermarket shelves. What started out as a small idea to help the community has grown into a hugely successful family run business after being made redundant in August 2020.

We have been nominated for a number of local awards and have just been awarded a Muddy Stiletto Award for best Covid start up business.

We pride ourselves on making the best traditional wood-fired Neapolitan pizza in the area. We are a genuine Neapolitan family business and pride ourselves on making everything fresh every day and using only the finest ingredients from Italy as well as locally sourced produce.

You can find out where we will be each week on our social media pages. We can be found in Brixworth every fortnight on Tuesdays outside of the Workhouse. – *Oliver Nesbitt*



Above: Setting up the tent in the middle of Brixworth

Left: Oliver and Santina Nesbitt, the mother-and-son team behind Santina's Pizza.

Below: Santina's pizzas are baked in a wood-fired oven



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Orange and Black Coffee Co

Orange and Black Coffee Co was conceived a couple of years ago from my own frustration. In my professional career (I was involved in the London railway station retail concessions) I have travelled extensively and I got fed up with not being able to find decent food on the go. After various spontaneous conversations with some amazing local businesses people who helped, it was amazing to see it become a reality.

Over the course of a year, I built the first trailer and brought it into Ferro fields industrial estate next to the hand car wash.

The idea was simple, to provide gourmet country kitchen style food with the quality and food comforts of home on the go. Additionally, I wanted all ingredients to be locally sourced where possible. We have simplified are offering to provide the best quality barista style coffee available at any time of the year, sweet freshly squeezed orange juice, high quality home-baked cakes, pastries, savouries, gourmet thick-

stacked toasties, baked potatoes, soups, cakes, confectionary and much more. Most importantly to me, all is provided and served with love. From our initially trailer and seating area at Ferro Fields in Brixworth, we recently branched out with a second trailer at the Diamond hand carwash on Wellingborough Road, Weston Favell. Both sites are open 7 days a week.

I am just as passionate about the environment as I am about good food, and I am involved in some local community tree planting

projects – supported by an extraordinary special team of talented young people in the area. Whether they help plant trees or work on the trailers, they are helping us to grow and are a real credit to the people of Brixworth.

Having been brought up on a hill farm in Scotland, nature and care for the environment has become a central part of my life. I want to engage and inspire the community as much as possible and give a bit back by organising and funding tree planting days whenever I can. I got fed up thinking all of the issues were too big for me to do anything about. So I went out one day and planted a tree. The rest, as they say.....All details are updated regularly on the environmental page of our website. www.orangeandblackcoffee.co.uk

I myself like so many others have been through an immense amount of personal and family trauma in the last year. After moving here at



the beginning of the year I found that the residents of Brixworth have a degree of kindness, generosity and love I have rarely come across. Love and kindness are the most powerful healers we are ever likely to receive. I know I have been lucky by being embraced by a very special community, you probably saved my life. I can never repay you enough. Thank you. – *Iain Walters*



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The Flavour Trailer



The Flavour Trailer is the best burger in town, you said that not us! Since bringing their bespoke gourmet food truck to Brixworth in

2019, The Flavour Trailer have gone on to win Northampton's best lockdown takeaway. But don't worry, The Flavour Trailer aren't going anywhere and have made Brixworth their permanent home.

Forget pretentious restaurants and forget style over substance, The Flavour Trailer are about one thing and one thing only... flavour!

Take one bite of these beautifully crafted burgers and you will be transported to food heaven. Locally sourced aged beef, hand prepared garnishes and delicious Flavour combinations. A combination of innovation and indulgence, these burgers can satisfy the most seasoned foodie or anyone searching for a culinary adventure.

You can find the truck every Friday and Saturday from 4:30pm - 9:00pm at 3 Staveley Way, Brixworth Industrial, NN6 9EU

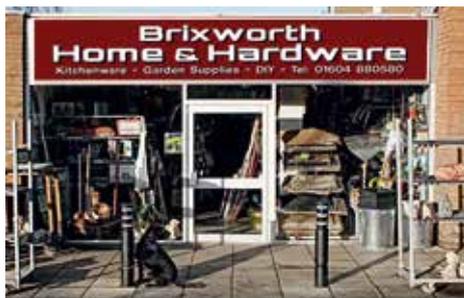
They have a few brilliant things planned for Brixworth which is all top secret and to keep up to date head to their Instagram page and hit the follow button.

To view the menu, weekly specials, other locations and to place an order please head to www.theflavourtrailer.com

– Charley Cummings



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Joey with the Sweets

For the last couple of months it has been wonderful to meet so many lovely people from Brixworth and the surrounding villages after starting my new business, Joey With The Sweets: a pop up traditional sweet shop. I sell a large range of both modern and retro pick 'n' mix confectionary, including watermelon slices, giant snakes and crocodiles, and fizzy strawberry rolls, and everyone's classic favourites of kola cubes, flying saucers and pear drops to name just a few. I cater for a wide range of dietary needs, including vegan, vegetarian, halal and sugar free. I pop up with my stall in various local places, mostly being found in my front garden on Northampton Road near the Holcot crossroad, where all my opening times there are announced on my blackboard. You can find all the details of my other pop-up locations on my 'Joey With The Sweets' Facebook page, which is also the location of my online delivery service - a free to use service for all Brixworth residents featuring many more products that I struggle to fit on my table! On top of this, I can provide sweets for weddings, birthday parties, functions or whatever other occasion you would like a sugary treat, with party bags, gifts and bulk orders. I am here to help with all your sweet needs, whatever they may be.

For those of you who I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet, I have been lucky enough to have lived in Brixworth my whole life so far. I started my business after finishing my A levels as an enjoyable way to earn money in my spare time in the hope that I will be able to go travelling in the last few months of my gap year before I go to university in September next year. As well as my passion for sweets, I also enjoy filming and producing short films of all of my travelling adventures. You could say I am using one great passion to fund another, by providing a fun, quirky and much-loved service for our fabulous community whilst getting to meet and know many more folk who make this an amazing place to live. I hope and look forward to seeing you all soon, be it at my stall or on your doorstep with a big bundle of sweets! – *Joey Gwinn*



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Parish Councils and their work – as illustrated by a stalwart

Who hasn't heard of Jackie Weaver – the cool clerk who hosted a meeting of Handforth Parish Council in which councillors lost their cool and traded insults, leading to her kick the chairman, and others, off the Zoom call? A clip of the 10 December 2020 meeting has now been viewed over 5.7 million times on Twitter alone.

The work of that Parish Council was totally overshadowed by some hideous behaviour and, it seems, a total inability to get things done which, apparently, was why Ms Weaver was there. So – what is a Parish Council for and what, exactly, does it do?

The definition of a Parish Council can be read as follows:

A parish council is a civil local authority found in England and is the lowest tier of local government. They are elected corporate bodies, have variable tax raising powers, and are responsible for areas known as civil parishes.

Locally we have Brixworth Parish Council, Cottesbrooke Parish Council, Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council, Lamport and Hanging Houghton Parish Council and Scaldwell Parish Council (and that's just for the readership of the Brixworth Bulletin!) and it's easy to forget that the role of parish Councillor is an unpaid, voluntary position, albeit councillors have to be elected – but what, exactly, do they do?

One of the best placed people to explain the role is Mary Sanders-Hewett who served, for 37 years, on the Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council – and who has, just this summer, stepped down. She worked for 27 of those years with her colleague Sarah Paybody – who has also stepped down after a long commitment. Between them they totalled an extraordinary and truly laudable 64 years of service.

I spoke to Mary about her time as a councillor from the very beginning when her

then next door neighbour asked the mere 34 year old if she'd care to take on the role of Parish Clerk. It was not quite in the Jackie Weaver mould as Mary's duties comprised taking minutes (handwritten in those days of course!) and building the ledger for the annual accounts. Mary had no qualifications – just an understanding that if you live in a village it's important to contribute. She had grown up in a village so understood how it worked. She also saw it as a way to meet people of all ages. After ten years in the role she became a councillor and, in 1985, Sarah Paybody was appointed clerk; Sarah also subsequently became a councillor.

The council meets one evening every other month at the Loder Hall in Maidwell or the Draughton Clubroom unless urgent business requires an additional meeting. During the pandemic meetings were held on Zoom.

For many the summary of Parish Council duties is summed up in the maxim "Street Lights and Dog poo" (and there is probably more than a grain of truth in that!) but issues that involved the Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council in Mary and Sarah's time have included: land behind the Loder Hall being gifted to the council for recreational use; the A14 and parish council discussions about wildlife allowances in its construction; a possible windfarm; overflowing drains on the A508; data protection law; speeding traffic through the village; fly-tipping; creation of the neighbourhood plan; new street lighting; countless planning applications to review and the protection of footpaths and the Brampton Valley Way .

High points for Mary included the arrival of the quarry (now gone) and taking a class of children from the primary school and finding ammonites. Low spots include the realisation (too late) that village projects could have



Sarah Paybody (left) and Mary Sanders-Hewett with their leaving gifts from a grateful community.

benefitted far more from that same quarry.

Mary stresses that one of the biggest and more unpalatable changes over the years has been the increasing amount of compliance paperwork which, by its sheer volume, detracts from the time available for the 'local' business. The assumption must be that this isn't about to change anytime soon and so current councillors have to continue to shoulder that burden while still getting through the agendas! Luckily the Northants County Association of Local Councils (known as NCALC) provides excellent training and support for our parish councils.

It seems that councillors need endless patience but fundamentally must want to benefit the community. In order to meet the inevitable problems and issues that arrive with a business-like attitude, councils also need a variety of skills that can help oil the wheels, such as practical know-how, business acumen and specialised expertise.

Thirty-seven years is a huge commitment for anyone, but for Mary it's brought an increased love of the village and enjoyment of the community. She admits to a natural 'curiosity', which is surely a vital need for anyone wishing to become a councillor.

Next time you see a notice about Parish Council elections consider just what it entails and give them your support at the ballot – or, better still, consider standing yourself.

– Kate Calnan

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Village florist named 'Best Florist in Northamptonshire 2021'

Brixworth florist Charlotte Franklin, of Wilder Floral on Northampton Road, can now officially call herself 'The best florist in Northamptonshire' after winning the accolade in an annual competition run by online media business Muddy Stiletto.

Charlotte has no idea who originally nominated her for the award as she only found out about it once she'd reached the final five. She is certain, however, that her award is down to the support from the residents of Brixworth who must have voted for her in an online poll. Charlotte grew up in Brixworth and is delighted to be back here running her own business in such a thriving, friendly village.

Whilst still at school, a work experience placement at a local florist first ignited Charlotte's interest in this line of work and she went on to study floristry at Moulton College. Circumstances then led her away from floristry and into the business world, but '... after years of staring at a computer screen day after day,' the call of the 'wilder' was too strong to resist and she returned to floristry; when the shop unit in Brixworth became available, it seemed like too good an opportunity to miss. Unfortunately for Charlotte, she opened the shop in February 2020, '... after being open only a month, I was then closed for nearly a year'.

Although her new business came to a halt during the first lockdown, Charlotte was not to be deterred; with the help of social media and



Brixworth Let Us Know, she started to let people know that she was open for online orders with free delivery within the village. The business gradually grew again and when the shop opened briefly last December, it was a very busy time for Wilder Floral. January 2021, however, saw another forced closure and long lockdown, but since shops

have opened-up again, Charlotte has been surprised and delighted by how much walk-in business she has had, which she believes may be partly due to the number of people now working from home and the newfound desire to support local businesses. Charlotte clearly enjoys being part of the growth of independent businesses in Brixworth and has made a concerted effort to become part of the community. On Lockdown Valentine's Day, people were invited to post messages of love on the shop's windows and on



Mother's Day, after fulfilling all her orders, any surplus flowers were left outside the shop for villagers to take home. The shop also supports local artists by selling their greetings cards and prints alongside the blooms.

Wonderful natural scents greet you as you enter Wilder Floral, and the beautiful hand-tied bouquets look as though someone has just stepped out into a local meadow to pick them. There is clearly an accent on natural products throughout, as plastic and cellophane are eschewed in favour of brown paper and twine, giving the shop a unique contemporary feel. Charlotte tries to use British blooms whenever possible but, at certain times of the year, she also has to rely on imports from countries like the Netherlands and, like many other florists, she has had problems with the post Brexit supply chain.

At the time of writing, Charlotte and her assistant at Wilder Floral were busy with summer weddings, but going forward, they hope to offer flower arranging workshops in the autumn and Christmas wreath making in December. Throughout the interview, Charlotte reiterated how grateful she is to the people of Brixworth for their support of her fledgling business and we wish her continued success for the future.

Wilder Floral Design can be followed on Instagram and Facebook or visit the website www.wilderfloral.co.uk – or better still, pop into the shop and be assured of a warm and fragrant welcome.

– Tracey Calnan

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New Northampton Museum and Art Gallery finally opens

On one of the hottest evenings of the year, Monday 19th July 2021, the official opening of the newly expanded and refurbished Northampton Museum and Art Gallery finally took place. Invited guests included local dignitaries, councillors, many of those involved in bringing the project to fruition – and yours truly!



Edmond Calnan, Project Manager, toasting the museum's future from his Pingdemic Prison at home.

As some of you may recall from a previous Bulletin article, ('Through fire, flood and plague' Sept. 2020) two pivotal members of the museum project team were Brixworth residents - Tom Jagger, the Project Architect, and Edmond Calnan, the overall Project Manager. Tom and his wife Amy attended the opening but, unfortunately, Edmond fell victim to the NHS App 'pingdemic' and was,



Tom Jagger, Project Architect, and his wife Amy celebrating the opening on the new terrace.

therefore, unable to attend and celebrate the culmination of years of hard work on this project.

As guests entered the new atrium area to the sound of a youth jazz band, it certainly made quite an impression – a large, light and airy space, cleverly combining elements of new and old, now housing the new café/restaurant with its outside terrace. The formalities took place in the Central Hall, a newly designed space with enhanced audio-visual capabilities including 360-degree projection around the walls. After being entertained by a troupe of young ballroom dancers, we listened to speeches given by Nick Gordon, the Head of Cultural Services and Jonathan Nunn, Head of the newly formed West Northamptonshire Council, formerly of Northampton Borough Council. Both men were clearly immensely proud of the town's history, particularly its shoe industry, but also optimistic for its future in Culture and the Arts.

At the start of his speech, Nick Gordon reminded everyone 'it has been a long journey' but after closing the museum on Sunday February 19th 2017, 'four years, four months, 21 days and one major pandemic later, we opened to the public on July 10th' - a statement greeted by great cheers from the audience. When interviewed for the *Bulletin* last year, Tom and Edmond both mentioned some of the challenges they had had to face during the project, so both were as delighted as Nick that this day had finally arrived.



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A 'very proud and excited' Councillor Nunn also alluded to it being 'quite a journey'. He then made a point of thanking Tom's company, GSS Architects, 'whose inspirational work is absolutely tremendous' and can be seen all around the building. He also went on to give special thanks to Edmond, 'who unfortunately couldn't be here tonight because he's been pinged,' but who day in day out 'kept every single penny allotted to this project on track' and got the job done.

Formalities over, guests were invited to explore the rest of the museum, in particular the new basement gallery housing the extensive shoe collection. Fellow Brixworth resident, Felicity Slater-Holroyd, found it 'really interesting' the way that the museum had incorporated some of the cells of the former women's prison into the display area and she was looking forward to returning on a 'cooler, less crowded' day to explore further.

There is no doubt that the new museum will be a tremendous asset to the town's burgeoning Culture Quarter, with exciting temporary exhibitions and events planned; but also, as a place to drop in for a coffee/lunch or to entertain the children during the school holidays. Tom has already visited with his own young family who enjoyed the space and hands on activities on offer. Although the museum is clearly

a 'celebration of Northampton's history and culture', if any of you visit anytime soon, as you wander around, remember the not insignificant contribution of two of our own Brixworth residents. – Tracey Calnan

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Brixworth Music Festival back for next May

After two years enforced break we are delighted to announce that the Brixworth Music Festival will be taking place once more from 5th to 8th May 2022.

A varied programme will be on offer – chamber ensembles, organ and piano recitals, as well as the ever popular “Evening of Poetry and Song”. Planned for the latter are readings of winning entries from a new “Children’s Poetry Competition”, so please watch out for announcements about this competition.

The beautiful Church of All Saints will once more be hosting the festival and we are also planning a Festival Evensong on the 8th May. The Brixworth Church Choir is looking for more singers – particularly men! - so if you love to sing and can read music, please get in touch with the organist, Robert Wakefield (rawakefield@btinternet.com).

If you’d like to get involved, why not join us at our AGM on 11th Sept. at 4.30 pm in Brixworth Village Hall? In any case, we’re looking forward to seeing you in May!

– Vivienne Olive, Joint Artistic Director

u3a returning face to face

As life struggles to get back to normal so Brixworth u3a is beginning to resurface. As previously mentioned all through lockdown we endeavoured to keep contact with all our members by email, Newsletters and Zoom meetings. The Zoom meetings proved invaluable and enabled us to have our monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. Not ideal talking to our friends in confined little boxes on a screen, but the important thing was that it kept us in touch with each other.

If you would like to have a look at some of our really interesting Newsletters then please go to our website (u3asites.org.uk/brixworth). You will also find details of all our groups and if you have any questions or want more information please use the pigeon icon and send us an email. You can also email us directly on brixworthu3a@yahoo.com.

We have a wide variety of groups to suit all interests and all would welcome new members.

Our groups are beginning to get back to meeting face to face, especially groups such as cycling and badminton. The badminton group met for the first time since the lockdowns on Monday 19th July in Old village



hall. The next meeting will be 2nd August. Our choir met for the first time on 20th July and enjoyed finding our voices once more. The garden group held a gathering on a beautiful garden allotment in Scaldwell and as you will see from the photos we had a lovely sunny day and we were spoilt with a cream tea and a flower related quiz. Many thanks to the hard work of the members who organised it all.

We hope that soon we will be having our monthly meetings back in Brixworth Village Hall and will be such a pleasure to see old and new friends. – Judy Smith

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Grants for young people in Brixworth and Scaldwell

Many families have found things challenging during the Covid 19 pandemic. A small cash grant for educational purposes may help those in need during this difficult time.

The Foundation of Thomas Roe provides small cash grants for people under 25 who live in the parishes of Brixworth or Scaldwell.

Grants have previously been provided to support young people with purchase of school uniform; books and course materials; musical instruments; computer equipment; and travel expenses linked to education, including school trips.

Application forms can be downloaded from Brixworth and Scaldwell Parish Council web sites or from the Clerk at thomasroefoundation@gmail.com

Completed application forms must be returned to the Clerk, preferably by email and in Word format, by midnight on 6 October 2021 for consideration at the charity’s next meeting on 13 October.

– Richard Monk

Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts are back

Hello Brixworth! After over 12 months since our last meeting Brixworth Scouts were able to resume face-to-face scout meetings for part of the summer term, which was brilliant.

Of course, safety was paramount with guidance on using indoor spaces, so we focused on outdoor activities. All the sections embraced this enthusiastically and we managed hikes along Brampton Valley Way with the traditional reward of chips from Brixworth Fish Bar, cycle rides around Pitsford Water, campfires & backwoods cooking at Overstone, wide games in Brixworth Country park and litter picking around The Ashway. Explorers even invented a bacon & sausage "all day breakfast bap" cooked on a disposable barbecue. We look forward to replicating that when we can, going camping again.

Over the term we were able to celebrate leader five-year service awards for Steve, Darren, Fiona and Paula, ten-year service award for Bob and we presented Jonathan and Steve with their wood beads for completing their leader training. Well done everyone for your hard work and dedication.

Thank you to Doug and Rose, who have stepped down as Explorer leaders after 18 years with Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts. They have been central to so much in Brixworth scouts and contributed a wealth of scouting experience across all the sections. They will hopefully maintain a presence in scouting in Brixworth as they will be running Network, helping young people stay connected to the scouting movement beyond Explorers.

We have stopped for the summer but we look forward to welcoming our Scouts back to full face-to-face scouting in September.

Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts needs YOU!

Brixworth & Scaldwell Scouts is a large, popular group and several leaders have stepped down during the closed period so we need your support more than ever. The group numbers are determined by the amount of leaders and parent helpers we have, so your support is important!

We are really pleased to welcome two new people as leaders, and this is what they say:

James Petri: "I had always had fond memories of scouting and so when my son joined Beavers it seemed the ideal opportunity to give something back! It's great fun and fantastic to see the children having such a great time!"

Sally Mitchell: "I got involved with scouting in St Albans six years ago when my daughter started Scouts and I loved it – especially

seeing all the young people engaging in new activities and challenges plus being part of the team of leaders! Fast forward to now and when I recently moved to Brixworth I knew I still wanted to be involved. You don't have to have kids taking part to join in!"

But we still need you! Parent helpers and leaders run the sessions but without them, we are not able to run the activities each week.

We are also currently in need of a treasurer who sits on the Executive board and is an integral part of the operation.

So why not try something different? If you would like to be involved as a leader, assistant, parent helper or admin support then please get in touch, we'll help you to find a role that you'll enjoy and that will really make a difference to the young people in our village. Commitment is flexible around the amount of time that each volunteer is willing



to give.

To see more about what we're getting up to, follow BrixworthScalwellScouts on Facebook or contact the Group Scout Leader at gsl@brixworthscouts.org.uk. To find out more about Scouting in general, visit <http://scouts.org.uk>.

If you would like to put your young person (boy or girl) on the waiting list for Beaver, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers please send their details to enquiries@brixworthscouts.org.uk.

– Bob Pickles, Brixworth Group Scout Leader

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Country Eye

Climate Breakdown = Covid X 100

In the two previous issues of the Bulletin I have tried to describe the valley that holds Pitsford Reservoir, first as a quiet little-visited combe tucked away where three narrow country lanes met. This was in the 1940's before the dam and works were built. More than twenty years later the rising water had left the area under many feet of water. Ever quick to colonise, wild nature had adapted to create the gem of a wetland that is the reservoir we know today.

In both cases we were blessed with a hugely varied landscape teeming with natural life. Sadly human-led changes on such a scale have rarely been so benign. All too often we have blundered in, armed with the tools that modern engineering gave us, to rip the earth apart. Powered first by coal-fired steam and then overwhelmingly by oil, we gave ourselves the ability to permanently alter whole landscapes. All this without regard for wild nature, it is if all of humanity was sitting on a tree branch while those in power were busily cutting us off from the trunk.

When I look back and realise the catalogue of assaults we have made on the landscape, just within the Brixworth area, it seems I have been dragged into a different land entirely. Seventy years ago quarrying for ironstone to feed the giant maw of Corby Steelworks



was still in full swing. I recall a clanking aerial ropeway which carried buckets bursting with ore from Scaldwell over the A508 down to the railway (today's Brampton Valley Way!), there to be loaded on to wagons hauled by steam locos to the works. A huge landfill site and the present industrial estates were all built on these former quarry workings.

The number of houses built within and grafted uneasily on to the village has more than doubled its size. My house on the Froxhill Estate was built in the 1970s, and

all the houses to the south appeared much more recently. The bypass road brought much-needed relief from some, though sadly not all, of the pressure from heavy vehicles. Even the wider countryside around us has been drastically altered by intensive industrial farming. Uniform bland crops stretch from horizon to horizon, drenched with a near continuous spray regime of chemical fertilisers, pesticides, growth inhibitors, the list goes on and on. The residues of these toxic contaminants run into our rivers and thence into the oceans creating problems wherever they go. Only tiny scraps of 'unused' land where the huge agricultural machines cannot reach are left for wildlife to cling on to.

The net result of all these and more changes to our countryside may seem of little matter to us. Yet it is becoming more evident they clearly do. In fact their survival is our survival and the longer we continue to behave as if this were not so, the greater our peril becomes; and the harder the way back towards a climate-friendly future will be. There is no other way than to be guided by nature. A major, perhaps our only hope lies with the rising generation of young people. They are only too aware that as a consequence of our denial for so long they could face a bleak future. So it is no accident their voices are among the loudest calling for immediate action. They are ready, brimming with the new ideas that only fresh young minds can bring. And I welcome this.

If we can find a way to bring all of this, combine it with the necessary wisdom of indigenous communities worldwide, and the best of modern science and technology, guided overall by nature, and all our problems can be solved. Not a big ask, but a gigantic one. Many say that the upcoming COP26 conference of world powers, to be held in Glasgow just a few weeks from now in November is our last best chance. Get it right and there can be a great future for us and the fellow human and other than human beings who share this fragile planet with us.

– Brian Webster

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Four reasons not to fear stamp duty changes

After the recent changes to the stamp duty holiday, what's the outlook for buyer demand?

Here are four reasons why the property market won't run out of steam in 2021.

1. The property market is still busy despite stamp duty changes

Demand may have moderated slightly from the highs of April. However, it's clear from Zoopla's latest House Price Index Report that the market remains busy. In fact, when Zoopla compare current levels to before the pandemic, buyer demand continues to run 55% above that recorded in 2019. Meanwhile, house price growth in many regions is at a ten-year high. And although the prospect of larger stamp duty savings was off the table for many homemovers as we edged towards 30th June, sales continued to move at pace throughout May. The market is currently moving at its fastest in at least five years. This underpins Zoopla's forecast that 2021 will be one of the busiest years for the housing market since the global financial crisis. They anticipate 1.5 million residential transactions will take place this year.

2. The 'search for space' and post-lockdown lifestyle changes continue to fuel demand

As COVID-19 restrictions continue to ease, many companies have given office-based workers guidance on how they'll operate when fully re-open. And with many businesses now more open to flexible working, some workers will have the certainty they need to move for additional space, or to a different location. Brixworth is the type of village, with its mix of amenities and country living that many families are now looking for. It's because of this that we're confident that this once-in-a-lifetime 'reassessment of home' will continue to support sales activity through the second half of 2021.

3. Some buyers can still benefit from stamp duty savings

An increasing number of first-time buyers, who thought owning their own home was out of their grasp, have been able to enter the market. This is largely due to the fact many have been able to use the past year to save for a deposit. Also, the growing number of mortgages on offer to them – such as the new 5% deposit mortgage scheme – have helped. We expect demand from first-time buyers to continue, as those eligible will still be able to benefit from stamp duty savings on the first £300,000 of their home purchase (on homes worth up to £500,000). That's regardless of any changes to stamp duty beyond June or September.

4. UK economic outlook looks good

The feel good factor of a good economy and low job vacancies in many sectors always gives the housing market a boost. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has predicted that UK GDP will rise by 7.2% in 2021, the fastest growth since 1941, after a 9.8% contraction in 2020 – the worst in almost 300 years. That would outpace other advanced economies, including the US. Back in March, the OECD had forecast UK growth of 5.1% this year. For 2022, growth has been revised significantly higher, too – to 5.5%, from 4.7% three months ago. – *Stuart Little, Horts*



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Foundation awards to community projects

Since April, Northamptonshire Community Foundation has awarded £371,367.85 in grant awards on behalf of its donors to groups, charities and community projects across the county. This follows up its distribution of £2.5 million across Northamptonshire during 2020 where it awarded emergency funds to support vulnerable local residents during the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Recently funded projects include activities and services to help support the pandemic recovery and local residents wellbeing including Broughton Playing Fields and Village Hall to put on a village show and fun day, Spring Boroughs Voice putting on a day of festival activities for local residents, Rushton Pocket Park to make improvements for the enjoyment and wellbeing of residents and the Outside In Theatre to create new arts experiences for older people and their carers.

The Foundation is the leading, independent grant-making charity in the county, working with a network of fund holders and donors to ensure projects make a sustainable impact on local need.

This year has seen the launch of several new funds on behalf of national and local donors and partners including the Family Food Aid Fund helping families experiencing financial hardship and the MBS #ClubsInCrisis supporting sustainable sports activity for young people.

Following on from a series of community conversations it has also launched The Constance Travis – Global Goals Fund which aims to fund a broad range of projects. Northamptonshire Community Foundation has adopted the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) into its charitable activity. The organisation wants to help promote the global goals locally to show how local action contributes to global good. The UN SDGS are 17 goals that the United Nations has set to help improve quality of life and wellbeing for all by 2030 and include tackling poverty, hunger, access to quality education and health and wellbeing.

Rachel McGrath, Deputy CEO at Northamptonshire Community Foundation, said: "We have hit the ground running to ensure funds are available to local community groups and charities as we continue to recover from the impact of the pandemic. We are committed to being a fair and flexible place-based funder and have a number of rolling programmes so that local organisations can apply at any time. We cannot thank our generous donors enough. By strengthening the local voluntary and community sector, we can ensure there's a sustainable safety net ready to support the most vulnerable locally at all times."

For more information on the work of Northamptonshire Community Foundation, visit www.ncf.uk.com

History Society back in action

At last a "Baker's dozen" History Group members were able to meet up for the first time since February 2020, with an outdoors guided tour of Abington Park, by Ruth Thomas. This was followed by 15 people enjoying a successful walking tour of Cottesbrooke village.

Future meetings should, Covid willing, now take place again in the Village Hall.

Upcoming meetings

- September 16th The Great Fire of Northampton
- October 21st Keeping Faith at the Front in WW 1
- November 16th Harlestone Park
- December 16th Christmas Social.

Dates from history

Some more random dates from the past for July and August

- 7th July 1937 Sino-Japanese War breaks out
- 21st July 356 BC One of the seven wonders of the world, The Temple of Artemis is burnt to the ground by an arsonist
- 9th August 378 The Goths slaughter the Eastern Roman Emperor, Valens, heralding the demise of the Roman Empire
- 17th August 1945 George Orwell's book Animal Farm reaches the bookshelves
- 22nd August 1914 was the bloodiest day of WW1, when 27,000 French troops including cavalry died in a futile attack against German barbed wire and machine guns.

There must be some good news out there! - *Chris Knowles, Secretary*

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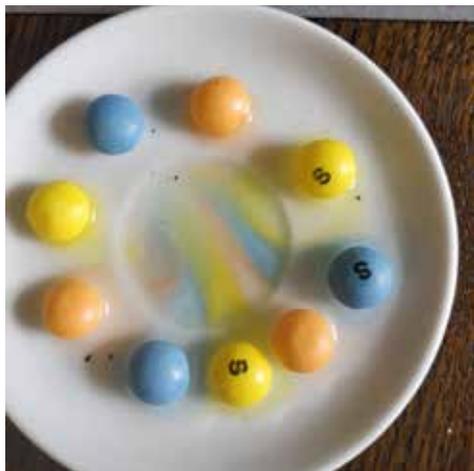
1st Brixworth Rainbows

1st Brixworth Rainbows have continued to meet all year virtually and were finally able to have some face-to-face meetings at the end of term outside.

We collected natural rainbows around the village and created beautiful pictures with salt and even sweets (some sweets may have been eaten in the making of this art.)

Face-to-face we went bird watching and built shelters, making the most of the natural resources and facilities around Brixworth.

I can't wait to meet more of our new Rainbows in September. If anyone would like to join us on our adventures in Girlguiding please log on to Girlguiding.org to see how you can get involved in Rainbows, Brownies and Guides as a leader. It would be great to keep this going in the village. – Elaine Coe



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Northampton and Lamport Railway

Since Northampton and Lamport Railway re-opened to the public on Sunday 23rd May 2021 we've had a slow but steady number of visitors each weekend. However, with our steam loco ('Swanscombe No.4') expected to be passed as ready to return to action at the time of writing, the rest of the Summer was looking very promising.

August Bank Holiday Weekend saw the return of our annual Summer Gala, with a visiting steam loco, an action-packed mix of steam and diesel locos pulling both passenger trains and demonstration freight trains, and a 'Kids for a Quid' day on the Saturday.

If you've not been down to sample our newly refurbished buffet and the improved food offer available, why not come and give it a try? You don't have to pay to ride on the train, just call in any Sunday (10am-3:30pm) for a quick bite to eat or a relaxing drink and snack while you watch the trains go by.

Away from the action, there has been some significant progress around the railway. The new station at Boughton has come on leaps and bounds in the last six months or so. The platform walls are all now finished and the final bits of trackwork are being installed. There are just a few other jobs to then finish before we're hopefully ready for the grand opening, either later this year or early next.



If you'd like to get involved by volunteering at our friendly local railway then just call in and speak to one of our team. There are roles to suit all interests and capabilities. You only need give what time you wish, but it's a great way of meeting new people, learning new skills and feeling part of something rewarding.

For full information, details of up-coming event and online tickets, please visit the Railway's website at www.nlr.org.uk or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (@nlr railway)

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Christmas Portrait Sessions

Brixworth Photographic Society are pleased to announce that the ever popular Christmas Portrait Sessions will be taking place this year.

The venue will be upstairs in the Community Centre, Spratton Road on Saturday/Sunday 20/21 November, starting at 4:00 p.m. both days.

Contact Ian Topham, ian@tophams.net for further details or to book a session.

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5 Sep	Cream Tea Specials	N'ton & Lampport Railway
6 Sep	Brixworth PC Planning	Brixw. Community Centre
7 Sep	Austentatious - Improvised Jane Austen	Royal
8 Sep	Stephen K. Amos	Royal
9 Sep	RUSH - A Joyous Jamaican Journey	Royal
10 Sep	Tom Stade: You Aint Seen Nothing Yet	Royal
11/9	Phil Wang	Royal
12 Sep	Normal Operating Day (Steam)	N'ton & Lampport Railway
16 Sep	History Society - The Great Fire of Northampton	Brixworth Village Hall
19/9	Cycle for Cynthia	Lampport Hall
21/9	Milton Jones	Derngate
21/9	Hansons Valuations	Kelmarsh Hall
22 Sep	Scott Bradlees Post-modern Jukebox	Derngate
23/9	AJ and Curtis	Derngate
24/9	Simon Amstell	Derngate
25/9	Chris Ramsey	Derngate
27 Sep	Brixworth PC Planning	Brixw. Community Centre
27/9	David Baddiel	Derngate
28/9	Geoff Norcott	Derngate
30 Sep	Gardening for Wildlife Tours	Lampport Hall
30 Sep	Parish Council Meeting	Brixw. Community Centre
30/9	Joe Brown	Derngate
1 Oct	Jonathan Pie	Derngate
2 Oct	Sixties Gold	Derngate
4 Oct	Tea Party	Draughton Village Hall
9 Oct	An Introduction to Portraiture	Lampport Hall
10/10	Fascinating Aida	Derngate
12/10	Big Girls Dont Cry	Derngate
13 Oct	Tribute to Neil Diamond	Derngate
14/10	Lost in Music	Derngate
16-17 Oct	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Lampport Hall
18 Oct	Brixworth PC Planning	Brixw. Community Centre

19/10	Frank Skinner	Derngate
21/10	Al Stewart	Derngate
21 Oct	History Society - Faith at The Front (WW1)	Brixworth Village Hall
22/10	Rob Beckett	Derngate
23 Oct	Unmarried Women of the Country Estate	Lampport Hall
28 Oct	Parish Council Meeting	Brixw. Community Centre
30 Oct	Jane Austen at Home	Lampport Hall
31 Oct	Childrens Halloween Party	Draughton Village Hall
7/11	Jools Holland	Derngate
8 Nov	Brixworth PC Planning	Brixw. Community Centre
8 Nov	Boyzlife	Derngate
9 Nov	The Horne Section	Derngate
10/11	Ross Noble	Derngate
11/11	Sarah Millican	Derngate
12/11	Strictly Northampton	Derngate
13/11	Jason Manford	Derngate
15/11	James Haskell Show	Derngate
16/11	Hansons Valuations	Kelmarsh Hall
16/11	Tommy Tiernan	Derngate
17/11	The Meat Loaf Story	Derngate
18/11	Sarah Millican	Derngate

18 Nov	History Society - Harlestone Park	Brixworth Village Hall
19/11	The Overtones	Derngate
20/11	Henning Wehn	Derngate
21/11	Sarah Millican:	Derngate
22/11	Sir Ranulph Fiennes	Derngate
23/ Nov	Roy Wood Rock & Roll Band	Derngate
24 Nov	That'll Be The Day - Christmas Show	Derngate
25 Nov	Parish Council Meeting	Brixw. Community Centre
25/11	Jason Donovan	Derngate
26/11	Jimmy Carr:	Derngate
27 Nov	A Cheesemonger's History of the British Isles	Lampport Hall
27/11	Northants Sings Out	Derngate
28 Nov	Tim Peake - My Journey To Space	Derngate
29 Nov	Brixworth PC Planning	Brixw. Community Centre
29/11	Marti Pellow	Derngate
30/11	Jimmy Carr	Derngate
2/12	Joel Dommett	Derngate
4-5 Dec	Christmas Market	Lampport Hall

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News from the library

The library is open again as normal. Opening times are Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and Saturday 10am-2pm.

A library card gives you access to all 15 Northamptonshire Libraries, the 21 new Community Managed Libraries (CMLs), and all our online services, including free eBooks, eAudiobooks and subscriptions. You can join at any age and any time and there is no need to bring ID with you (unless you would like to use a Hublet tablet).

Additionally, the library is open 24/7 online. You can renew and reserve books via the catalogue: www.librarycatalogue.northamptonshire.gov.uk or on our app "Northamptonshire Libraries."

You can also borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks from "BorrowBox" or "Libby," or read newspapers and magazines via PressReader, all for free. Just download the apps and use your library card and PIN to sign-in. For more information (including how to access these resources in a browser) visit: www.westnorthants.gov.uk/libraries/e-reads-and-audio.

Library to You

If you, or someone you know, struggles to visit us because of age or disability we can

bring the library to you. We have volunteers who will hand-pick items based on your tastes, deliver them to you in your own home and all for free! If you are interested in this service or would like more information, please call us on 0300 126 7000 [ask for Brixworth Library].

Blue Badges and Bus Passes

The easiest way to apply for or renew Blue Badge or a Bus Pass is online. Visit www.westnorthants.gov.uk and search for "Blue Badge" or "Bus Pass."

We can help with Bus Passes at any time but for Blue Badges you will need to book an appointment. Please remember to bring with you; proof of date of birth, separate proof of address, and (for Blue Badges and disabled bus passes) proof of eligibility.

IT Buddy

Our friendly volunteer Ian is once again offering free, one-to-one help with your IT issues. Want to learn to email, shop online or listen to music on your phone? Ian can help. Bring your own device or use one of our computers or Hublet tablets. Just pop in to make an appointment.

MyHermes ParcelShop

Our MyHermes ParcelShop is back up and running! We are here to send, collect and return your parcels.

No printer? No problem! We even have a Print In-Store device – not only can you print your parcel label in the shop (if you've already booked online or with the Hermes app), but you can also use the device to book and pay too. You just need to bring your parcel with you.

Library Contact Details

- Email: brixworth.libraryplus@westnorthants.gov.uk

- Phone: 0300 126 7000 [ask for Brixworth Library] (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm) Facebook: @BrixworthLibrary
- Website: www.westnorthants.gov.uk/libraries

Business and IP Centre

Libraries are not just full of books. They are full of ideas. This autumn the BIPC Northamptonshire are encouraging locals to start, run and grow their business and join a thriving entrepreneurial community at your local library.

The BIPC Northamptonshire provides entrepreneurs and SMEs across the UK with free access to databases, market research, journals, directories and reports worth thousands of pounds. There is also a programme of free events and workshops on a range of topics including business planning, marketing and intellectual property.

Libraries act as engines for economic growth through helping businesses to start, run, innovate and grow. As part of the British Library Business & IP Centre National Network we help establish enterprises, create new jobs, increase turnover and boost our local economies. For every £1 invested in the BIPC Network, £6.95 is put back into the economy, which we believe represents a fantastic return on investment.

So, if you would like one-to-one business advice, access to market research databases, webinars or intellectual property advice, all for free... then visit your local library to find out more.

Business Centre Contact Details

- Website: www.bipcnorthamptonshire.co.uk
- Email: bipc@westnorthants.gov.uk

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Planning update

DA/2021/0149 14, Eastfield Road, Brixworth Demolition of existing conservatory. Construction of single storey rear extension.	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0138 30, Shelleycotes Road, Brixworth Single storey side extension and conversion of garage to habitable space with front porch	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0124 101, Northampton Road, Brixworth Removal of tree within a conservation area	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0120 57, Hornbeam Row, Brixworth Single storey rear extension and new windows to gable end of existing dwelling	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0067 11, High Street, Brixworth Remove tree within a conservation area	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0065 3, Pytchley Close, Brixworth Works to a tree subject to Tree Preservation Order DA 8	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2018/1046 Victors Barn, Northampton Road, Brixworth Outline application for the provision of 60 bed nursing home, 25 Close Care Cottages	BPC objected WNC approved
WND/2021/0012 14, Newlands, Brixworth Works to a tree within a conservation area	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0284 58, Northampton Road, Brixworth Single storey rear extension	BPC supported WNC approved

DA/2021/0255 14, Pytchley Way, Brixworth Conversion of garage to form habitable space. Replacement of flat garage roof to hipped roof.	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2021/0167 114, Northampton Road, Brixworth Replacement of front door	BPC objected WNC refused
DA/2021/0145 4, The Ridings, Brixworth Construction of garden gazebo	BPC supported WNC withdrawn
DA/2021/0117 11, Woodsfield, Brixworth First floor side and front extension and two storey and single storey rear extension	BPC supported WNC approved
DA/2020/1098 Land Off Pitsford Road, Chapel Brampton Formation of agricultural track; provision of hard surface to existing agricultural track.	BPC objected WNC approved
DA/2020/1084 88A, Northampton Road, Brixworth Construction of shed for storage and fence	BPC supported WNC approved

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Following Jesus Together

BRIXWORTH MATTERS

www.brixworthcommunitychurch.org

(Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1188559)

Since the first lockdown, we as a Church have provided services, home groups and other activities online through Zoom and a Church YouTube channel.

Although this will never be as good as meeting live and in person, it has still provided a great source of strength and encouragement for many in the village and further afield. For all those involved in putting these remote ministries together and helping with expertise, providing technology and equipment, we are extremely grateful.

Over the warmer months, we made the transition to live services (alongside live streaming), held on the patio and grass area outside the Olive Branch Coffee Shop at the back of Brixworth Library. It was great to be able to meet in person, sing and share our lives, all safely and in accordance with government guidelines. This, again, has been a great source of blessing and support. Thank you to all those who have helped with this.

In the Bible, it says 'There is a time for everything...' (Ecclesiastes 3 verse 1) and with that in mind, we are pleased to announce that in accordance with government guidelines, and conversations with the Primary School, the time has come for us to return to the school for our Sunday morning services. Hooray!! Praise God!!

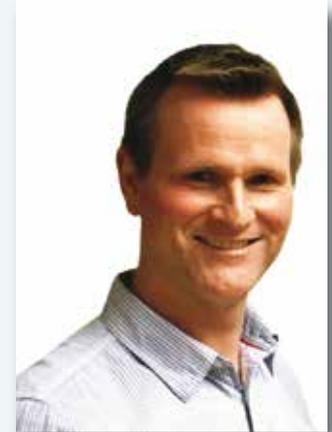
As things stand, our first service back, as per the advert below, will be the 19th September at 10.30am. You, yes you reading this article are very much invited. We would love to see you join with us for a short family service to give thanks to God for His protection and care, pray for his continued help and to hear an encouraging thought from the Bible. Of course, we will continue to do these things safely and sensitively.

We may not have ever seen you before or for a while but please do not worry, it has been a strange old time for us all and you would be very welcome.

So check out the advert below and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Take Care and God bless.

Andy



Contact Andy Lloyd-Williams on 07958 604961



- Praise
- Pray
- Ponder

Welcome Back Service

When:- 19th September 2021 • **Where:-** Brixworth Primary School • **What Time:-** 10.30am



Scarlett Valentine

TNT

I started attending a Brixworth Community Church (BCC) youth group at age 11 after being invited by a friend, and it has changed my life for the better over the past 8 years. Over lockdown I have been involved with setting up this youth group (Truth & Teenagers-TNT) online. Normally, we would meet every Tuesday (term time only) at 7:30 above the library, but during the pandemic that wasn't an option. We shifted to online. The young people were actively involved within our zoom sessions through discussions on various topics, as well as different games such as scavenger hunts, bingo and uno. This enabled young people to socialise while learning about God in an engaging way.

I have also been involved with making BCC's youtube channel for the younger children. When I attended TNT as a young person I was invited to a young leader course with NAYC. On these weekends away, I learned valuable leadership skills which I have since carried over into my work

as a youth development apprentice for NAYC. Now that my apprenticeship is coming to a close I'm looking into university to study 'Youth and community work' and become a professional youth worker, none of which I would've ever considered if I hadn't started attending the youth group at age 11.



On the 15th July Olive Shoots mums and tots group held our annual Teddy Bears picnic on the grass at the back of the Olive Branch and Library. This was a fun time where mums/carers were encouraged to bring a sandwich and a Teddy for their tots to enjoy outside on picnic blankets. We had a story, the mums favourite miracle Jesus turns water into wine and then we sang some songs. Big thanks again to our team of volunteers, you are very much appreciated. We are hoping to re-open in September, please watch out for our posters.

The Olive Branch

September will soon be upon us and marks the start of the new school year in our community. For us at the Olive Branch Coffee Shop, we move into the Autumn season and fully opening our Church and Community Coffee Shop service.

We say a huge thank you to all our regular customers - and new visitors - for their support over the last months.

By "fully" opening we will be considering during August the restarting of Wednesday Pensioners Lunch in September, and the possibility of holding Pensioners Christmas Dinner once again. Look out for further information as the weeks progress - and if the Government allows.

All our volunteers and staff have been working hard to keep The Olive Branch open to the public as we all fit in holidays once allowed, and deal with unrelated periods of illness during this time.

A warm welcome awaits you all as and when you choose to visit us, a full menu is available including our All day Brixworth Breakfast, fresh cakes, scones and snacks available as takeaway if required.

Food Share



Every Monday morning through the school summer holidays has seen an early start at the Olive Branch with volunteers from the church and wider community coming together to make up Foodshare Boxes for those in need in our village.

We have had welcome support from the Co-op, Troops, the greengrocers and the Parish Council. A great example of the village

The Olive Branch

Brixworth Community Church Coffee Shop.

Our village Community Coffee Shop and the place to meet, be kept informed of village life and be sure of a warm welcome. Home of the All Day Brixworth Breakfast!

Mon - Thur 10-3.00, Fri 9.30-2.30,
Saturday 9.30-1.00

Pensioners Lunch currently postponed until September.

**The Olive Branch,
Library & Community Centre,
Spratton Road, Tel 889030**

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





Chairman's Chat

Introducing our new Chairman: Sandra Moxon

New Tommies

The latest addition to the village before Armistice Day commemorations

Bees and Trees

What your Council is doing to improve our environment

New Councillors

Introducing our new Councillors

Domestic Violence

Who to call if you need help



Chairman's Chat

Hi – my name is Sandra Moxon and I am delighted that I have been accepted as the new Chairman of Brixworth Parish Council as my esteemed colleague Stephen James retires from the Council after giving seven years to the Council and the community.

For the first time in many years we have a full complement of Councillors in Brixworth and I can say that each and every one of them has a skill set that will contribute to the well-being of the residents of Brixworth. They will make a formidable team at the Council. As a team we will be tackling everything from assets to environmental issues to planning and finance as well as annual community projects that I hope will bring cheer to you all.

I would encourage residents to keep in touch with the Council and our activities via our social media platforms; Facebook and Twitter. Our website is also full of information including dates of our full council and planning meetings which you are all welcome to attend.

So as we all bring in a new era let me take this opportunity to thank my fellow councillors for having the confidence in me to lead Brixworth Parish Council for the next year.

British Legion Tommies

The British Legion was formed on 15 May 1921, bringing together four national organisations of ex-Servicemen that had established themselves after the First World War. To mark this Centenary and also VE Day, the Parish Council arranged to have two wall-mounted "Tommies" on the Community Centre and Library Building. The Parish Council has also used red, white and blue flowers in its planters and is funding the installation of the 'poppies on lamp posts' initiative which is being organised locally by Eddie Edmunds. The Parish Council is pleased to work in partnership with the British Legion as it remains committed to providing the help in ensuring that their historic contribution is never forgotten.

PARISH COUNCIL



Bees and Trees

You may have spotted changes on the roadside verges of Brixworth. New Parish Councilor, Christine Ware, tells us more about what's going on.

Since 1930, 97% of our ancient wildflower meadows have been destroyed and today verges represent an important opportunity to enrich our environment. Wildflowers and wildflower-rich habitats provide a vital refuge for many insects, birds and small mammals.

Many of our favourite fruits, vegetables and nuts rely on insect pollination and insects do this job for free! However, if the UK doesn't have a large enough insect population, we may need to develop artificial pollination methods, which will take a lot of time and be expensive. Just as importantly, wildflowers are beautiful and provide us with habitats that buzz with life.



What's been happening in the village?

Several sites have been planted with wildflowers. There's a small patch on Holcot Road near the Village Hall and two larger sites on Northampton Road, near the Doctors' Surgery. If this pilot scheme is successful, we will be considering other sites for future planting.

Aren't the verges difficult to manage?

Probably the opposite! Once you have them established then they pretty much 'do their own thing'. The idea is to cut the wildflowers once a year after the flowers have seeded, and then clear away the cuttings.

But if we don't cut the verges, won't they be a problem?

We have tried to avoid locations where verges may provide obstacles to line of sight for road users. The area closest to the road is cut for safety reasons but the rest of the verge is left to the flowers.

Many people say they look untidy.

Wildflowers improve with age. The first two or three years may be sparse or a bit scruffy but with an appropriate mowing and clearing plan, nature will do its thing.

How can I get involved?

If you'd like more information about the wildflower verges or to plant your own, please check the Parish Council website or alternatively, if you don't have internet access, please visit the information point in the library building.

What other planting initiatives can you tell us about?

Earlier this year, Brixworth was a recipient of 10 cherry trees donated by the Sakora Project, a Japanese 'friendship' initiative. The trees were planted in the park on Spratton Road on either side of the play equipment. Further trees are expected later in the year and will be planted elsewhere in the village. Next year's big project is to plant for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. I will be leading a project team to determine the most suitable location and the best type of tree or trees.



Welcome to our new Councillors

Barbara Lunnon

Hello, I'm Barbara Lunnon and I'm originally from Wiltshire but have lived in Oxford, Manchester, and rural Suffolk before moving to Brixworth 17 years ago. I grew up in a large village with a population around half that of Brixworth. I remember, as a teenager, thinking there could be nothing duller than living in the countryside so I'm particularly interested in what we can do to provide interesting activities for the village's young people.

I've worked most of my professional life in marketing roles, especially in the food industry, but despite moving to an area rich in food production, I have spent most of my 17 years in Brixworth working a long way from home. I'm happy to finally have put weekly commutes and long journeys behind me, and to have time to get more involved in the village. I enjoy reading, gardening, photography and travel. My husband and I have three cats – one of whom is quite a celebrity in our part of the village – but we're more likely to be seen out walking a red Cockerpool called Ralph, who we 'borrow' from our lovely neighbours.

Christine Ware

I've lived in Brixworth for 22 years and am originally from Sheffield.

Along with my husband, Jonathan, I run a small leadership development business - my satisfaction comes from helping others succeed. I want the chance to use my business and people development skills to give something back to our community. I think we are lucky to live in one of the most beautiful counties in the country.

My spare time is often spent with our dogs, we have three Italian Spinone - and a good vacuum cleaner! I love cooking - I've not eaten meat since 1984 and I'm really happy chopping vegetables or baking. I love the theatre and film, and have a wide taste in music.

I have a particular interest and concern linked to the climate emergency and preservation of our environment for the good of all! I'm keen to develop wildflower planting in the village to help our pollinators and increase biodiversity.

Tony Nixon

I have been resident in Northamptonshire since 1985, and very happily living with my wife in Brixworth since 2006. I am now retired from a career in local Government property management and keen to use my time and experience to give back something to the Brixworth community.

I stood for election at the recent West Northamptonshire Unitary Authority elections as a Liberal Democrat. Even though I was unsuccessful on this occasion, in the process I did engage very closely with residents in Brixworth, and gained an understanding of what matters locally.

I am very keen to address the green agenda locally – everything from looking after our local green spaces to ensuring we have adequate public transport, and that development in the village respects the neighbourhood plan.

My interests include gardening, looking after our three cats and playing bridge.

Domestic Abuse

While crime has been generally lower in Brixworth recently, more incidents of domestic abuse have been reported.



What is domestic abuse?

Domestic abuse is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over, who are or who have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can include psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse.

One case of domestic abuse is reported every minute in the U.K.

Useful Contacts

If you are in immediate danger call 999

Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (NDAS)

0300 0120154

<https://ndas.co/>

Daventry Police Station - Northamptonshire Police

New Street, Daventry

101

Women's Aid

24 hour helpline 0808 2000 247

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk>

Sunflower Centre – Support for high risk victims of Domestic Abuse

01604 888211

<http://voicenorthants.org/victims/about-voice-northants/sunflower-centre>

Full Council (Thursdays): 30 September, 28 October, 25 November

Media & Comms (Wednesdays): 8 September, 13 October, 10 November

Planning (Mondays): 6 September, 27 September, 18 October, 8 November, 29 November

Surgery (Saturdays): 4 September, 2 October, 6 November

Please check website and noticeboards to confirm dates and times.

Note: All meetings are held in the Community Centre and Library
For further information please contact the Clerk.

Contact the Parish Clerk:

Peter Rowbotham, 10 Shelland Close, Market Harborough, LE16 7XU

E-mail: parish.clerk@brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk Telephone: 07983 141786



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Sandra Moxon

Chairman



Jackie Bird

Vice-Chairman



Tom Mitchell

Chairman, Planning



Elaine Coe

Chairman, Media & Communications



Barbara Lunnon



Christine Ware



Frances Peacock



Gary Spratt



Ian Barrett



James Collyer



Kevin Parker



Lynn Compton



Neal Brown



Tony Nixon



Peter Rowbotham

Parish Clerk





All Saints', Brixworth

"Good News for our Community"

www.brixworthchurch.org

TRY US OUT...

It has never been easier to see what church is like. You might be pleasantly surprised. Why not check us out? **Search YouTube for 'Brixworth and Holcot Churches' ...or just come along any Sunday, at 10:30am.**

Still to come in 2021...

FREE ENTRY: 'Summer' Fete

We couldn't hold our Summer Fete at the normal time (June), so we've moved it to Autumn.

As usual, we will have a Grand Draw, 9-hole crazy golf, a coconut shy, cake stall, book stall, plant stall, toy stall, skittles, hook-a-duck, vintage vehicles, guess the number of sweets, refreshments...and much more!

...or come to throw wet sponges at the vicar in the stocks!

**Sunday 12th
September
(2-4pm)**

**Sunday 14th
November**

Remembrance Sunday

Assuming we are allowed to do so, we will be remembering those who have fallen in conflicts around the world, as well as those they have left behind.

See our website for further details

Christmas at All Saints' Church

- 11th-12th (4-6pm)Christmas Tree Festival
- 12th (6pm) Christingle Service
- 14th (6-8pm) ... Carol Singing around the Village
- 16th (7-8pm) ... Carol Singing around the Beacon
- 19th (10:30am) Instant Nativity Service
- 19th (7:30pm) Carols by Candlelight
- 24th (11:15pm) Midnight Communion
- 25th (10:30am) All-Age Christmas Service



**December
2021**

New Courts, New Clubhouse – who's ready for Tennis?

There have been quite a few changes happening during the lockdown. The new Brixworth Tennis Club (BTC) club house opened this summer and club members were enjoying playing on our newly transformed courts – with assistance from Northants LTA grant fund we have been able to have the courts cleaned and repainted.

The club house has been fitted out with a new kitchen, toilet and changing room and we will be hosting an inauguration for the opening of this fabulous facility on the 4th September with a club BBQ evening. Come along and enjoy some food and drink and have a look around



If you'd like to have a look around the club and meet some players please contact us for an appointment, we will be hosting an open day session in September with our coach

for you to have a go and see if you would like to join our social, friendly and fun club. – Beverley Hill, BTC Club Secretary (secretary@brixworthtennisclub.org.uk; 07597 963122).



The club is also doing very well with their competitive teams both Men's and Women's and Mixed teams playing in the Northants leagues. We also offer social tennis and internal leagues and ladders. This summer there will be many younger players profiting from our summer courses offered by our LTA registered coaches.

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Calling all Hockey Heroes

Northampton Hockey Club based at Moulton College is running its third annual Hockey Heroes programme. Hockey Heroes is a fun and welcoming programme aimed at children aged four to seven that aims to develop both their physical and character 'superpowers', unlocking the hero inside them!

More specifically, Hockey Heroes is an eight-week hockey programme aimed at beginners that not only focuses on helping children develop some physical hockey superpowers such as dribbling, passing and goal scoring, but also places as much emphasis on character development superpowers including teamwork, communication, perseverance, and respect.

Our aim is for children to have lots of fun, experience lots of success, and feel like a hero! This will boost their confidence and ensure a positive experience of physical activity and sport that will have a beneficial effect in the rest of their life.

Most Heroes complete a few courses and then move on to our U8/U10 groups having acquired a great grasp of the basic of playing Hockey.

For new Heroes it costs £40 for a minimum of ten for their first term, then £32 and then £25 for term three. You get a minimum ten weeks of sessions, two sticks, a ball and a personalised t-shirt. (You pay for eight weeks but we are keeping an extra two to cope with bad weather).

At Northampton Hockey Club we are running our Hockey Heroes courses and taster sessions on the following dates. Please visit our website for booking details.

- 2nd October - Booking Term 1 - 2nd Oct to 18th Dec - Taster sessions on September 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th.
- 21st January - Booking Term 2 - 21st Jan to 2nd Apr - Taster sessions on January 8th and 15th.
- 3rd May - Booking Term 3 - 3rd May to July 2nd - Taster sessions on Apr 23rd and 30th.

For more information and to book on please visit our Hockey Heroes Page http://www.saintshockey.org.uk/hockey_heroes_for_4__7_year_olds

Northampton Sailing Club celebrates home-grown Olympic 49er success



Gold in the 49er class at the Tokyo Olympics went down to the wire with NSC's own Dylan Fletcher, and Stuart Bithell winning by mere centimetres in the final race! In total Team GB won a very impressive three gold, two silver and one bronze medal in some very exciting racing.

Dylan sailed on Pitsford reservoir as a youngster and in 2005, Dylan and Nick Hollis, both aged 18 and members of Northampton Sailing Club competed in the World Championships for the 29er class, finishing fifth.

Youth potential at NSC continues to develop on a weekly basis with our very own Pitsford Pirates invading the lake each Wednesday evening to sail, windsurf or walk

the plank when the wind drops off!

In July, the Pirates enjoyed our annual week-long summer camp. A record 36 young sailors took part, camping over, sailing, windsurfing and taking part in their very own paddle board Olympics! Gymnastics, long jump, and equestrian on a paddle board make for highly entertaining events but with inevitably wet results!

Pitsford Pirates teaches children aged 8-16 to sail, windsurf, be confident on the water, race and make friends at the same time. Dylan Fletcher started sailing at the age of 11, and started racing at 13, so who knows where some of our Pirates will be in a few years' time?

Northampton Sailing Club has produced

multiple sailing and windsurfing National and World Champions over the years. As well as sailing and windsurfing, wingfoiling, paddleboarding and kayaking are very popular with members. NSC is a club run by volunteers who are passionate about watersports and all they have to offer. It is open to anyone of any age who is interested in water sports, from complete beginners to experienced paddle boarders, windsurfers and sailors. Taster sessions and courses in sailing, windsurfing and paddle boarding are all available for those who want to give something new a try.

For more information visit www.northamptonclub.org or email info@northamptonclub.org

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