

BRAUNSTON NEWS

Published and funded jointly by Braunston Parish Council and All Saints' Church

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Braunston Parish Councillors and Clerk install the new bench on The Green uncovering a paved base.

Bench kindly donated by The Village Cafe

Cloudy2Clear, A Local Family Service, Saving You Money.

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When talking to Trevor & Wendy Skidmore the owners of Cloudy2Clear Northampton & Oxford it became clear that these values have been held for over 16 years. Since buying the local franchise in 2006 they have remained true to their core values of supporting the local community whilst introducing their 2 sons Lloyd & Ross & daughter-in-law Lori into the family business along with Dan, Tom & Jo as demand for their service has grown. The Cloudy2Clear service only requires the glass to be replaced and not the whole window once the unit has failed. Trevor commented "Cloudy2Clear were able to assist our community

through the last financial crisis in 2008 due to the savings that can be made in using our service. Unfortunately we might be going through something similar again soon and the public can rest assured that we will be there to help once again".

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All Saints' Church Information



Rector: Rev Kathryn Evans

Team rector for Braunston, Ashby and Welton

T: 01788 726912

E: revkathryn@outlook.com

The Rectory, 71 High St, Braunston NN11 7HS

All Saints' Church, Braunston



www.allsaintsbraunston.org.uk



AllSaintsBraunston

Churchwardens:

Pat Milner

E: warden2@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 01788 899157

Mariann Holloway

E: warden1@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 07761 136307

Secretary:

Fergus McCloghry

E: secretary@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 07495 3890747

Treasurer:

Peter Hobbs

E: treasurer@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

Sunday Service Pattern

Braunston: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

Ashby: 2nd Sunday of the month

Welton: 4th Sunday of the month

Mid Week Services

Wednesday: Evening Prayer @ 6.30pm—Ashby St Ledgers

Thursday: Morning Prayer @ 9.30am—Welton

Saturday: Celtic Morning Prayer @ 10am—Braunston

Rector's letter

Dear Friends

As the days begin to lengthen and we leave February behind us, I begin to think about March and what we might celebrate along with the flowers and additional daylight - St Patrick of course!

I must begin by greeting our actual Irish neighbours here in Braunston – thank you for allowing the rest of us to hijack your feast day! I also wonder how many of us have a little bit of Irish in us – either genetically or metaphorically. Like a lot of Australians, I have ancestors who made a very large voyage by sea from the Emerald Isle many years ago – voluntarily in my case! Australia owes much of its sense of humour to the Irish too, along, perhaps, with its drinking habits! So I'm quite happy to celebrate St Patrick, Ireland, and Irishness, with a little bit of a reflection on the life of the great man himself (with a little help from Wikipedia).

Patrick was born in the 4th Century, near the end of Roman rule in Britain. He described his life with some modesty in his *Confessio*, written towards the end of his life. In it, we learn that at the age of 16, he was captured and taken into slavery in Ireland. As traumatic as his experience was, he became aware that God was with him and recalls that.

“He guarded me before I knew him, and before I came to wisdom and could distinguish between good and evil. He protected me and consoled me as a father does his son.”

He eventually escaped back to Britain, and to his family, where he became a cleric. He then felt called on to return to the very place of his captivity to share his faith in the good news of a loving, forgiving God. He said:

“I cannot be silent ... about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity. This is how we can repay such blessings when our lives change and we come to know God, to praise and bear witness to his great wonders.”

Famously, he used the shamrock to illustrate that God is at once a Father who cares, a Son who walks with us, and a Spirit who guides



our steps.

Patrick was someone who, with God’s help, was able to use the difficulties he experienced and, with humility and creativity, turn them to good. He didn’t have an easy life, but he had a good one. He had purpose, and he was aware of the presence of God’s Spirit within him. Reflecting at the end of his life, he knew he was as human as the rest of us, but he was able to say this:

“So I want to give thanks to God without ceasing. He frequently forgave my lack of wisdom and my negligence ... I was not quick to accept what he showed me, and so the Spirit prompted me. The Lord was merciful to me a thousand thousand times.”

I’ll definitely be raising a glass of something to Patrick on the 17th. And I might just have a little think about what he still has to teach us roughly 1700 years later.

Sláinte!

BRAUNSTON REGISTER

Funeral

16th February

Alison Milner

2024 Tiny Treasures

Parent /Carer and toddler group for pre school children. Tuesday mornings during term time 9.00am to 11.00am



We meet in the Parish Room All Saints’ Church Braunston. The Church door will be open. Just come on in. Come along and enjoy playtime, stories, craft time and singing.

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be included to receive a copy of the prayer chain or receive prayer for yourself, please contact either suejennens21@gmail.com or your church warden. The list is updated each month (first names only).

The Friends of All Saints'

The Friends are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the church building and its contents. We play no part in funding the clergy, staff, or religious activities. We were formed when the building's future was threatened through lack of maintenance. We remain committed to preserving one of the village's most iconic buildings.

Membership costs £2 a month, or £20 a year (minimum subscription). All members are entitled to have the spire floodlit at no extra charge on a date of their choosing. To subscribe, please contact the treasurer, Ralph Maltby, at 8 Mill Close, Braunston.

John Foster, Secretary, secretary.foasb@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk.

Braunston Community Larder

This is a valuable resource for the village and visitors. It is on the left as you go into the church at the back. Donations can be left and those in need are welcome to access it as needed.



Floodlighting 2024

The complete list for **February**



10th - * In memory of Mansel Davies

12th - * Gordon & Helena Lane Anniversary

16th - * Keren Andrews - on your birthday

19th - * In loving memory of my brother Rowan on his birthday. Miss you loads. Duncan x

23rd - * Happy birthday Zoe. Love, Mum

The **March** list so far...

15th - * In memory of Ada Littlemore - boat woman

15th - * Happy Birthday Debbie. Love Martin

19th - In loving memory of Judith Old

26th - * Wedding Anniversary for Judith & Nigel Sykes

27th - * Pat and Alison's Wedding Anniversary

28th - * Remembering Brian on our wedding anniversary, my love always. Jean

28th - Happy 60th Anniversary Julie and Ray Capell. Love Gary, Caroline, Kieran & Foxie x

* = Friends of All Saints – **A huge Thank You**

Please take note: - These are all the floodlighting requests received

before the BVN Deadline – **18th February 2024**

The current floodlighting fee to light All Saints' is £7 per evening, although you can give more, and we ask that you try to keep the length of the dedication for inclusion in the BVN to not more than 12 words. The completed message with the donation can be left at the Post Office, but note that requests are only collected from the Post Office on the 18th of each month. Please mark the envelope "Church Floodlighting".

THE SHEAF
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**Sheaf Street Health Store,
20 Sheaf Street, Daventry, NN11 4AB
01327 312037**

 @sheafstreethealthstore  @sheafstreethealthstore

Parish Council Information and News



Clerk: Steve Rolt

c/o Braunston Village Hall, The Green,
Braunston, NN11 7HW

t: 0800 002 9783 (Freephone)

Chair: David Cary, Vice-Chair: Graham Newman

This list shows which councillor to contact for the area you live in:

Archer Avenue and Cross Lane	Alan Mawer	01788 890340
Ashby Road	Gordon Kemp	07753 210625
Church Road and Barby Road	Pete Morgan	07805 677559
Dark Lane	Sue Harrison	07769 589459
Eastfields	Jo Glover	07973 278052
The Green	Graham Newman	07710 290265
Greenway and Closes		0800 0029783
High St (Old Plough to The Green)	Caroline Gibbons	01788 899107
High St (A45 to Old Plough)	David Cary	07775 514840
London Rd, Hill Row, Old Rd, Marina	John Pomfret	07817 234727
Spinney Hill and Closes	Carrie-Ann Biggs	07796 712408
Welton Rd, School Cl, Maple Cl		0800 002 9783

Councillors can also be contacted by email. Addresses are councillors' names separated by a full stop and followed by @braunstonpc.org for example alan.mawer@braunstonpc.org

Forthcoming Meetings

Members of the public are invited to attend the following meetings at Braunston Village Hall.

4 th March	7.30pm	Full Council Meeting
8 th April	7.30pm	Full Council Meeting

Agendas and minutes are available on the Braunston website at:

<https://www.braunston.org.uk/org.aspx?n=Braunston-Parish-Council>

Parish Councillor Jo Glover

June 2019 was the month I moved to the village, not knowing Braunston, the area or indeed anyone residing within it. The only time I had ever been to Daventry was to go Ceroc dancing at the leisure centre on freestyle evenings. That seems a long time ago now.

I moved in with Poppy my cockerpoo and fat cat Fergus. As we know, lockdown happened six months later and Braunston Heart was conceived and became a great team of volunteers serving the community. BH is now a Good Neighbour scheme and incorporates the Twinkle Team. My youngest son moved in with me, peace and quiet was over!

I enjoy being social, going to the Alternative bookclub, eating cake, taking part in the community play – and now an upcoming show in the Braunston Players (that Kate has a lot to answer for). I have another dog, Raven and have recently set up my business, Herbal Blessings, as a herbalist in the marina. It is fair to say, I keep busy and now know many people!

Having always worked for the government or local authorities in some capacity, I became a Parish Councillor in 2020,

thinking it would be a good thing to do and another way to help my community. I hope I am approachable and welcome the contact of residents. I have particular responsibility for Eastfields.



Jo

Parish Council News

Parish Council vacancies - The Parish Council currently has two vacancies. This is an opportunity for people with or without experience that live or work within the Braunston Parish to engage with the community and support it in various ways. The Parish Council works alongside others to serve the residents and ensure that Braunston remains a safe environment, provides services and responds to the changing needs of the village in challenging times. If you are interested contact the clerk and arrange to come along to one of our meetings.

Air Quality Monitoring – The Parish Council are working towards drawing up a draft monitoring policy to ensure that Braunston village air quality is known and that appropriate actions are able to be taken for maintaining it so we enjoy the benefits of a rural village. We will consult and work alongside appropriate bodies.

The blue bricks on the High Street – The Parish Council have responded to residents' concerns and observation of the Councillors of this path becoming slippery when wet and/or icy. We are asking Highways to propose any solutions to keep this well trafficked path safe for residents.

Parish Litter Picker – The Parish Council are seeking a Litter Picker Volunteer co-ordinator. Please contact the clerk for details.

Braunston Parish Council Surgeries

The March Parish Council Surgery where members of the public can discuss any concerns with Parish Councillors will be held in the Village Hall on Monday March 18th 17.30 to 18.30.



Facing issues with your laptop or tech?

I can get your devices back up and running in no time. My name is Tim Banks, and I am an IT support specialist based in Kilsby. With 30 years of experience in this industry, I have the expertise and knowledge to offer IT set-up and solutions for your homes or business. I offer my services in Rugby, Daventry and surrounding villages. I accept payments through BACS, PayPal, cheque and cash. Whatever your IT requirements or problems are, I am here to help. After an initial phone consultation, home visits can be arranged or I can connect remotely to solve simple problems.

- Computer set-up and networking issues
- PC/computer/laptop/tablet/mobile device advice
- MacBook set-up
- Home and business technology set-up
- Printer and scanner set-up
- iPad, email, image transfer and storage training
- Internet network security
- Wi-Fi troubleshooting
- Hardware installation and more



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www.TheAntiVirusGuy.co.uk



Village Hall Information



To hire the hall please visit the website: braunstonvillagehall.org.uk

Contacts for Village Hall activities

Please check with contacts listed below for information about holidays and breaks.

Pre-School Monday - Friday 01788 891891

braunstonpreschool@googlemail.com

Pop Mobility	Lorraine	01788 890846	Tues 2.30-3.30
The Hive	Valerie	01788 891975	1 st Weds 2.15-4
Art Group	Alan	01788 890526	Wed 2-4
Yoga	Sheila	01788 891831	Wed 7-8
Short Mat Bowls	Bill	01788 891145	Thurs 2-4
	David	01788 891183	
Brownies	Clare	07544 936589	Thurs 5.30-7
Friendly Club	Jenny	01788 890186	2 nd and 4 th Mon 2-4
Learn to Crochet	Gill	07711 742575	1 st and 3 rd Tues 10-12
History Society	Jenny	07943 792977	3 rd Tues 7.30-9
	Liz	07890 072487	
Climate Action	Abigail	07989 421836	1 st Weds 7.30-9
Braunston Quilters	Laura	01788 890102	4 th Thurs 9.45-1
Gardens Ass'n	Gill	07963 821052	2 nd Thurs 7.30-9
	David	07775514840	
Cinema Club	Arthur	01788 890508	Last Sat 7-10

Braunston C of E School

Term dates

For pupils the last day of term is Thursday 28th March.

The next term starts on Monday 15th April.

Tel: 01788 890494

Email: bursar@braunston.pdet.org.uk



Weddings & Special Events

SPECIAL RATES FOR
BRAUNSTON RESIDENTS

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HOME FARM EVENTS

Home Farm, Braunston, Northants, NN11 7HJ

Tel: Sue Harrison: 07769 589 459

www.homefarmevents.co.uk

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Braunston Twinners

**OUR FRENCH FRIENDS HAVE INVITED US OVER
ON EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY MAY 3 - 6**



If you would like to come along and join us or would just like more details just drop an email to:

twinners@braunston.net

or ring Liz: 07890 072487

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BRAUNSTON TWINNERS





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ST DAVID'S DAY

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH

ST PATRICK'S DAY

MON 18TH MARCH



EASTER WEEK

MON 25TH - SAT 30TH MARCH

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The Village Cafe

Drop into your community cafe any day of the week and sample our ever changing food offerings: a great range of coffees and teas, homemade cakes by Catherine, Connie & Dee and, of course, our famous bacon rolls and sausage baps, and all at extremely reasonable prices. We also have our regular panini and sandwiches, homemade soups and a specials board.

Look out especially for our themed days when we will have a menu to complement the occasion. There are a number of these coming up in March, such as St David's Day and St Patrick's Day and not forgetting Easter, and who knows what we might do during the Olympics!



We are here to serve the village and welcome grant applications from local groups for many and varied projects. If you would like to apply, just call into our café (Mon – Fri 10.30 – 2.30 or Sat 10.30 – 12.30) and ask for a form.

Unlike our predecessors 'Your Cafe', with whom we should not be confused, we have no intention of winding up at the end of 2024. We are most definitely remaining open and you are always assured of the warmest of welcomes from all our volunteers.

We look forward to seeing you!



BRAUNSTON HISTORY SOCIETY

7.30 pm in the Village Hall, 3rd Tuesday in the month unless specified. No meetings July and August.

2024

Tuesday March 19th A talk by Matt Armitage on the history of Tooley's Boatyard in Banbury.

Saturday April 20th 12 noon. Visit to the Jeyes Museum at Earls Barton with a guided tour and talk, followed by lunch. Possible visit to the church beforehand at 1130 am.

Tuesday May 21st The History of Braunston Boat Rallies.
Speaker: Tim Coghlan

Tuesday 18th June 6.30pm. A village walk, starting from the Marina Car Park (opposite the Marina Shop), across the field past Braunstonbury and Wolfhampcote lost villages to St Peter's Church, then back on the towpath along Puddle Banks, over the aqueduct, to Braunston Turn and a drink in the Boathouse.

Braunston Community Car

The Community Car is for you, available for all residents' journeys for hospital, doctors and other medical appointments, shopping and local trips to friends.

Any payment is by voluntary contribution. To request a journey call Community Car: 07984 412921 (24 hours notice where possible please).

As always our grateful thanks to Zak of Vinetree Automotive, Staverton for his continued support.



BRAUNSTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Tuesday March 19th 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

“Tooley’s Boatyard, Banbury”

The boatyard has been in continuous use since 1778 and has one of the oldest working dry docks on the Inland Waterways. It was immortalised in Tom Rolt’s 1944 book, Narrow Boat.

Matt Armitage took over Tooley’s Boatyard in 2002 and helped secure this important and historical place with a 150 year lease.

Apart from his day to day work of boat maintenance, Matt has explored the history of the yard and the fascinating characters who have worked there.

We look forward to a fascinating insight into the history and the people who worked there over the years.

We look forward to seeing you all.

Members Free, Guests £4



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Braunston Village Gardens Association

Dates for your diaries:

Saturday 11th May – Plant sale

9.30 to 12.00, in the village hall car park. Come and pick up a bargain from a variety of annuals, perennials, shrubs and vegetable plants and much more.

If you have any plants to donate, please bring them along on the day at 9.00. Cash accepted and card payments over £10.00.

Sunday 9th June – Bragborough Hall open garden day.

Saturday 7th September – The Village Show

During the summer, on a secret date, the annual village garden competition will be judged, results will be announced at the Village Show.

For more information contact David - 07775 514840 or Gill – 07963 821052

Braunston Gardens Community Shop

We have expanded the range. There are various types of compost to choose from whether you are sowing seeds, potting plants or conditioning the soil.

We sell a range of fertilisers to help your plants grow and water retaining gel to keep them happy. The shop also has canes, twine, garden lime and volcanic rock dust to restore soil nutrients at competitive prices.

Two ways to buy in the village:

Visit the community shop at the Village Hall on Sunday mornings from 11 to 12.

Or contact us and arrange a time to come to the shop or arrange for us to deliver if you are unable to get your requirements home.

Alan: a.mawer@virgin.net or ring 01788 890340

Richard: rmstapley@talk21.com or ring 01788 890475

Roger: rbull82@hotmail.com

BRAUNSTON CINEMA CLUB

Saturday March 23rd 7.30pm in Village Hall

**Please note change of day as last Saturday is in the middle
of the Easter Bank Holiday.**

Irving Berlin's

“EASTER PARADE”

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Fabulous Fred Astaire and Joyous Judy Garland.

Dancing and singing to Irving Berlin's music

**A song and dance man hires a naive chorus girl to become
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love with her and realises he has to let her grow into her
own kind of dancer.**

**You are welcome to bring your own picnic and your favour-
ite drink & a glass**

Tickets £4.50 members/£6.50 non-members

**Please book in advance or tickets may be available on the
door**

Tel: 01788 890508 or: braunstoncinema@gmail.com

Braunston Canal Society

It was a cold, early start for the crew of 10 that took Skippy up the flight in early January. Some offside/onside cutting was required near the tunnel portal. On the way, a team of three were dropped off at lock 5 to repair some minor towpath damage caused by the recent rains. On completion, they rejoined the cutting team to attack some hawthorn overhanging the towpath while the rest of the team utilised Skippy to clear the offside at the tunnel entrance. Some of the arisings were chipped, the rest of the hawthorn being transported to the offside where it was 'eco' stacked.





The second scheduled task party saw a crew of 8 continued the on-side cutting, clearing the bank and revealing the slope of the original towpath. At the end of the day the chippings were exchanged for a small donation to BCS funds.



The Society is always keen to welcome new volunteers so if you would like to come along and have some fun you can email us at braunstoncanalsociety@gmail.com or phone/text us on 07817 435911. If you would like to see our previous activities check out our website at www.braunston.org.uk/bcs.

The Hive – A Club for ladies living in and local to Braunston

WEDNESDAY. MARCH 6TH, 2.15 pm., in the Village Hall



This is our AGM, when we review our second year and look forward to coming events.

We shall also celebrate the coming of Easter, with bonnets and flowers, and tea, (a bit early we know, but our April meeting will have missed it!)

At that meeting, Nick Lake will tell us about NB Raymond.

If you're available for a couple of hours on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month, why not join the happy ladies who buzz round in THE HIVE ? Membership is just £25 per year.

Those of us who enjoy crafts also meet each Monday morning in the church. We are already working towards our charity fundraiser in October.

The Autumn Quiz was won by Paul and Mitch, relatives who were staying in the village over Christmas. Thank you to all who took part.

Contact Valerie 891975



Braunston Village Charity

The Trustees have developed a webpage for the Charity which is hosted on the Village Website -

<https://www.braunston.org.uk/org.aspx?n=Braunston-Village-Charity>

This gives details on how to apply to the Charity using the Application Form and more details on the type of help that can be given. To be eligible, recipients must live in the village and the grant or gift cannot be to provide something that should be provided by the state.





Jo Glover Naturopathic Herbalist

Herbal Blessings

Naturopathic principle 2 Identify & Treat the Causes: The naturopathic practitioner seeks to identify & remove the underlying causes of illness rather than to merely eliminate or suppress symptoms.

For further information and events:

joglover@herbalblessings.co.uk or phone 07359 110339

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Junior Ballerinas 1 (3-5 yrs) 10pm - 4.30pm	Street Dance & Modern (8 yrs+) 5.15pm - 6.15pm
Junior Ballerinas 2 (3-5 yrs) 30pm - 5.00pm	Grade 3 Ballet (13 yrs+) 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Intro to Ballet (5-6 yrs) 10.00pm - 5.45pm	
Primary Ballet (7-8 yrs) 4.45pm - 6.30pm	
Primary Ballet (8 yrs+) 3.30pm - 7.15pm	
Grade 1 Ballet (9 yrs+) 1.15pm - 7.45pm	
Grade 2 Ballet (11 yrs+) 1.15pm - 8.30pm	

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Braunston CAN (Climate Action Network)

Hedge planting

There will be a delivery of more native hedge plants this month. They will be planted by an enthusiastic gang of volunteers at the field between Nibbits Lane and Butchers Bridge. The canes and tree-guards show how far was covered in the first stage. In this second stage on 16th March the line of hedging will be continued up to the junction of paths and will continue around the corner to start a new hedge next to the path that leads to Cross Lane. We are grateful to Liz and Phil for rehabilitating this field and improving habitats there.

Rainfall and water quality in Braunston

We are planning to look at data to find out about the effect of climate change on rainfall in Braunston. This is appropriate in parts of the country where floods have led to water pollution as the sewage treatment plants become overwhelmed. In our February meeting John Pomfret passed on information about sources of data to investigate this.

Spring mowing

It is planned that the verge at Butlin's Hill will be mown this month. The cuttings will be removed so that they do not fertilise the soil. This will gradually weaken the grass and allow more colour, interest and biodiversity to develop.

What can we do about climate change?

We are a group of Braunston people who are promoting policies and taking local action about climate change. We have a busy and evolving project list including EV charging points, active travel, the tree trail and many more. We discuss projects and members choose to help with those that interest them and that they are able to support.

You would be very welcome to join us. Please message 07989 421836 or 07554 264742 or use the contact information under climate emergency on the Braunston website.

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6th March in the Village Hall.

Braunston Short-Mat Bowls Club

The club runs at the Village Hall from 14:00 to 16:00 on Thursdays.

We have some space for new members, so if you're interested, contact Bill Adams on 01788 891145 to come along and join in a meeting.

Stamps wanted

Stamps old of any age or new, any coins or notes English and foreign gladly accepted to raise money for animal charities. Total raised so far for 2024 for charity is £543.75. Please keep sending to Val Ward, 51 High Street. 01788 890200

**Steve
Roberts**

**Chimney
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Braunston Friendly Club

We meet in **The Gallie Room at the Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm. Throughout 2024 we will be celebrating our 60th birthday.** We are a growing village group and enjoy meeting new friends, so do visit us on any of the dates shown below.

We enjoy tea, cake, fruit and a variety of activities that are organised through the year. Come along and find out more about what we do. We have extra cups, cake, chat and a cheery smile ready for visitors arriving at their first meeting.

Monday 11th March – Musical entertainment with Nick - 2pm to 4pm – Gallie Room.

We are delighted that Nick, one of our members, has offered to play and sing for us this week.

Monday 25th March – 1960s TV programmes - 2pm to 4pm – Gallie Room.

To celebrate our 60th year we are going back to the 1960s for this memory jogger activity. What were your favourite TV programmes then? Can you recognise any of the theme tunes?

REMINDER – During March members will be enjoying a Village Café Afternoon Tea on either Monday 4^h March 3pm to 4.30pm or Monday 18th March 3pm to 4.30pm.

This event is open to members only. Please come along to the Village Café on the day you have booked with Kate.

THANK YOU – We would like to send a special thank you message to Kirsty, Chris and Pippa at the Wheatsheaf Pub for hosting us in February, and to the Village Café volunteers. We are very fortunate to have been offered new opportunities for the club by both businesses in this our birthday year.

For more information telephone **Kate 01788 890340** or email mawerk@hotmail.co.uk.

For Jenny telephone **01788 890186**.

Braunston Walkers

Saturday 17/2/24 Kilsby (9 miles)

Eighteen of us met up on a thankfully dry day for a romp over to Kilsby. I tried to avoid any real mud by sticking to road walking. It was good to meet two new members, Alison and Megan, who joined the group. They are very welcome and certainly brought down the average age. We set off up the Barby Road and had to take to the verges several times as cars came along. It is a really steep climb, surprisingly easy in a car but hard work on foot. On the field at the top we spotted lots of new born lambs bleating for their mums, a great sight and a real sign of Spring. We paused at the top to enjoy sweets for a boost of energy and then joined the footpath on concrete railway sleepers at Chapel Farm. These sleepers took us all the way to Ashby Home Wood before we had to cross a field where the cattle had left huge holes in the mud, now full of water. Quicksand conditions! We reached the Ridgeway and I decided we should stick to the road to avoid losing any more members in the deep mud. The road led us all the way to Kilsby but it was a little early for the pub so we had a look in the old church which was very interesting and is approached through two ancient cob walls. After a short delay admiring the model of the railway tunnel in a garden of a house once lived in by Robert Stephenson when he was building the real thing which passes near the village, we arrived at the pub. The Red Lion is just superb and they unlocked the door just as we had taken off our boots. Lunch was soon served, no mean feat, given the number of people, now up to 23. as we were joined by some other members. We were treated to good food, value for money in nice surroundings. It became a bit noisy as we caught up with one another.

Our walk back was along the road to Barby, up through the village and back down the Barby Road. So much easier coming down back to Braunston.

Our next walk is March 16th probably around Newnham.

rayscrivens@btinternet.com

SCOUTS do Taskmaster

Braunston Village Scouts inspired by the ever popular TV programme staged their own 'Taskmaster' night. Competing to score points in a variety of (mostly silly) tasks such as Moving Smarties with a straw, hat making and cat walking from junk material, longest spinning object, quiz questions etc. Below some of the scouts Moving Smarties with a straw:



2nd Braunston Scout Group

<https://www.braunstonscouts.co.uk/>

david@braunstonscouts.co.uk



Brownies

If you know a girl aged 7-10 who would like to join our unit please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and find the 'join us' links.

We meet 5:30-7:00pm on Thursdays during term time in the Village Hall



Braunston Heart

In Memoriam

Alison Milner was a valued and longstanding member of our team. She was a call handler who echoed the values of Braunston Heart – that of kindness and compassion. Alison was someone who was one of the first people who welcomed me to the village and I can recall chatting to her and her husband Pat at one of the events in the village hall. What lovely people I thought and this was borne out as I got to know her more. She will be very much missed. Our love and best wishes go out to Pat and his family.

Braunston Heart are here when you are unable to collect your shopping, medication, change light bulbs or even to walk your dog. We will try to help with most things and will signpost where we cannot. Phone 0800 002 9066 and please leave a message. Someone will get back to you.

Jo Glover

Kindness and Compassion

Braunston Paddox Cricket Club

With the forthcoming season less than two months away the club is getting prepared. The mowers have been serviced, grass seed and fertilizer bought and already groundsman, Terry Isom, is keeping his beady eye open on the weather so that he can start his pitch preparations by rolling and mowing the square.

The Northants League fixtures have been published and we are awaiting the final version of the Rugby and District midweek league fixtures. Those that have been confirmed can be found online on

Braunston Paddox PlayCricket, as can previous years results, statistics, photos and other information about the club.

Practice net sessions have gone well, with an average of about 15 attending each week. Let us hope that the players can transfer their fine indoor form to the game situation when the season commences in April.

A new venture is a quiz night to be held in the village hall on April 19th. Please see the attached poster for more details.





**Braunston Paddox
CC**



Presents our fundraising

QUIZ
Night

Friday 19th April 2024

7.30pm start

Braunston Village Hall

£5pp in advance / £6pp on the door

Max 6 per team

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Contact Adam to book your place

07454873172 adam_treen@hotmail.com

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Terry Isom, Tony Coburn (Club Captain), Alex Goddard and Noah Eyles looking forward to repeating their magic on a dry pitch in the sun!



Features

Canons Ashby, National Trust Property

Spring is coming (I promise), and although it may be a bit hit and miss with the weather, we have the lovely carpet of snowdrops in the gardens, just in time for re-opening for the season.

The doors to the main house have been closed since Christmas, but it's been a hive of activity behind them. Although conservation is a 365 days of the year job, the early start to the year allows for a much deeper clean of the spaces and collection.

Each showroom in the house consists of ceiling to floor vacuuming of ceilings, walls and floors and the cleaning and condition checks of all the furniture, textiles, and objects. Rugs are also vacuumed both front and back, both sides of the underlay and the floor beneath the underlay (this helps control carpet beetle). The floorboards are waxed and buffed and the stone floors given a gentle wet clean, all carried out on hands and knees, thank goodness the team have knee pads!

In the Great Kitchen the mobile scaffold goes up so that the higher levels can be reached. The space is covered with an array of working lights, trestle tables, dust sheets, many different brushes, various vacuums, and other housekeeping tools which make up the National Trust cleaning kit. Most objects are removed to the trestle tables and furniture is moved as the full round the room clean is completed.

At Canons Ashby we have Conservation Volunteers which really makes all the difference in getting through hundreds of objects and numerous rooms!

The deep clean went well this year, and the only mini drama to disrupt was a little toad hiding in a dark, damp corner behind a table. He was put outside and crawled off; perhaps he was a good omen for the year ahead!

For all we have coming up over the next few months, see over (Sometimes last-minute changes are made, so please do check the website for the latest

information) - <https://>

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/leicestershire-northamptonshire/canons-ashby



23 March – 14 April	10-4pm	Easter Ad- ventures Trail	<p>This spring, treat the whole family to an outdoor adventure at Canons Ashby on an Easter trail.</p> <p>Includes a trail map, pencil and a special treat at the end for the little ones.</p> <p>Normal admission applies and £3 per trail.</p>
Friday 3 May	10-1pm	Spring For- aging Walk with Tellus Mater	<p>Join expert forager Lizzy, who will take you on a wander to seek hedgerow and woodland edibles that are full of surprising Spring flavours! We will be looking for wild fruits, herbs, mushrooms and plants that are all around us and teaching you key identification features/ preferred habitats to give a good introduction to foraging for your own wild food journey going forwards.</p> <p>£35 per person, pre-booking essential. Suitable for adults or children over 12 years old. Booking on our website or here http://tinyurl.com/mkwxb9n4</p>

Left: Image of contents from Great Kitchen in the Great Hall ready to be cleaned – National Trust Images

Right: Image of toad – National Trust Images



Other news

Bin Collections

Wednesday	6 th March	Food, Garden and Waste
Wednesday	13 th March	Food and Recycling
Wednesday	20 th March	Food and Garden
Wednesday	27 th March	Food Recycling and Waste

Small electrical items and batteries can be recycled by putting them in a carrier bag and leaving on the lid of the black waste bin.

The full calendar is on the village website.

Delivering the BVN

Please contact Deb Hope if you would like a little exercise delivering the BVN in the village. There may be a regular round available or you can be a 'temp' for when someone is away or ill.

deb21low@gmail.com



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BVN Deadline - April 2024 Edition

The next newsletter will be published on **1st April**. Please submit to bvn@braunstonpc.org or the Post Office by noon on **18th March**.