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Riley Withall as Freddie on stage at Rugby Theatre - page 34



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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 Mariann Holloway

E: warden2@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk E: warden1@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 01788 899157 T: 07761 136307

Secretary: Treasurer: Fergus McCloghry Peter Hobbs

E: secretary@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk E: treasurer@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 07495389077

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JULY

2 nd	Braunston	Service with Holy Communion	10.30
9 th	Ashby	Service with Holy Communion	10.30
16 th	Braunston	BCP Holy Communion	09.00
16 th	Braunston	Family Service	10.30
23 rd	Welton	Holy Communion	09:30
30 th	Ashby	TBA	

Rector's letter

Dear friends,

As I think about our village, I am very conscious of how much loss people have suffered recently. As a community, we have lost many of our neighbours and friends. I think in particular of those of you closest to those who have died locally, and those who've lost others close to you who lived elsewhere.

Of course, some of our bereavements may not have been so recent, but the passing of time is not, as we're told, healing the wounds that are left by a loved one's absence. There are no easy answers or quick fixes. We don't "get over" bereavement, but somehow we must learn to live with it.

Those of you who have lost someone you lived with find that your daily routine is completely altered. When you're used to being part of a couple, and now must work out how to do things on your own, it is extra hard. Your heart is broken, and your brain is also having to work so hard to figure things out. It can be completely overwhelming.

Some of our losses have been expected, and some have been unexpected. Whatever the circumstances, we need time to process our loss. Time doesn't necessarily heal all wounds, but we do need time to reflect, to talk, and to be allowed to sit with our loss.

There are no easy answers or quick fixes, but you're not alone. So we'd like to offer our support and a simple way of providing a place where you can come. On Wednesday 5th July, 2:30 pm, the kettle will be on at the back of the church for anyone who would like to be with people who understand a little of what you're going through because they're going through it too. It's something that is beginning to happen more often these days, a Bereavement Café as it's often called. It doesn't matter how long ago you experienced bereavement, if it's something you're struggling with, and you would like a place to talk about it, then do come along.

Support is also on offer with the process of putting a memorial stone in the churchyard or interment plot. As if grief weren't enough to be dealing with, there are all sorts of things to get your head around with marking a grave. We are subject to something rather like planning permission in the churchyard, so I'm very happy to meet with you to explain the process. This includes what I'm allowed to sign off on for you, and what would have to go off for external approval etc. I know it's not ideal, which is why I want to make it as painless as possible.

Please know that you continue to be in my prayers and that, as your church, we are here for you whatever your face.

Every blessing, Kathryn



Tiny Treasures

Parent /carer and toddler group for preschool 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.

BRAUNSTON REGISTERS				
Wed 31 st May	Funeral	Aileen Sanders		
Tues 16 th June	Burial of ashes	Joy Pittam		
Thurs 29 th June	Funeral	Yvonne Hough		

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).

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



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Church Floodlighting

The complete June list

3rd - For Gez's Birthday

7th - Our Wedding Day - Mr and Mrs Burton

12th - * With love to the Morgan girls and their families

13th - * Patsy & Colin wish to send love to all Friends & Family

18th - Remembering my wonderful Dad on Father's Day. Love you always, Amanda xx

24th - * Happy Wedding Anniversary Trevor & Angela

The July list so far...

8th - * Jeff & Tracy's Wedding Anniversary

14th - For John

19th - In loving memory of Peggie Beale on her Birthday. Love, the Beale's

* = Friends of All Saints - A huge Thank You

These are all the floodlighting requests received before the BVN Deadline - 18th June

The fee to light All Saints' is £7 per evening, although you can give more. 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'.

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.



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





@sheafstreethealthstore
 @sheafstreethealthstore

Parish Council Information and News



Clerk: Steve Rolt

c/o 82 Greenway, Braunston, NN11 7JT

t: 0800 002 9783 (Freephone)

e: clerk@braunstonpc.org

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	0800 0	02 9783
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	Adrian Honeybill	07787	556078
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 0	02 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.

Forthcoming meetings:

10th July Full Council Meeting 7th August 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 Sandra Stapley

Sandra has been a councillor for many years and has served as Chair for the last two. Her calm and consistent leadership ensured our meetings were focused and effective. Her dedication to voluntary work with the council, more widely in the parish and as a resource to its people has been extremely valuable and much appreciated.

Sandra recently resigned from the council as she recovers from a bout of ill health as she explains on page 38.

We thank her for her invaluable contribution whilst respecting her decision and wish her well for a full recovery.

Parish Council vacancies

The council voted to co-opt Caroline Gibbons and Gordon Kemp. One vacancy remains. Please contact the clerk or speak to a parish councillor if you are interested.

Parish Mowing

The previous contractor has resigned. The council voted to appoint a replacement company that was able to make an immediate start. The contract runs until the end of the current mowing season.

Report from WNC Councillor Rosie Humphries

West Northants Draft Local Plan

The draft Plan should be published in November with preferred sites selected from the potential sites which were included in the Spatial Options Consultation during the public consultation at the end of 2021.

I recently visited Jetty Field and have sent a photo to WNC, asking for the viewpoint of the surrounding countryside rising up from the canal to be taken into account when considering whether to include the 90 hectare potential employment site (2b). If there are any other views the Parish Council believes might be affected by a major warehouse development on this site, given the local topography, please take photos to send to WNC.

Planning Committee restructure

The Planning Committee North has replaced the Daventry Area Planning Committee. A misconduct hearing regarding the behaviour of a substitute committee member of Daventry Area Planning Committee at a meeting last year took place recently. This was following a complaint I had submitted to the Council's Legal Officer. The Democracy and

Standards Panel agreed with the findings of an independent investigator that the councillor had breached the WNC code of conduct regarding predetermination of a planning application. The councillor has been suspended as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee (which he chairs) and the Planning Policy Committee for three months.

School Transport charges

The consultation on Home to School Transport which closed at the end of May proposes up to 60% increases in school bus fares to £1,000 per year. The increases are necessary as the price has not been raised since first set 10 years ago and operating costs and demand have risen. Free transport will only be provided to the nearest school, which will impact several villages. These proposals are very worrying for local families and I am awaiting further information from WNC on the details.

Parish Councillor Adrian Honeybill

Greetings. I moved to Braunston with my wife, Dee, over 3 years ago. We had spent nearly a year looking around villages and towns in Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Leicestershire and our research always brought us back to Braunston. Reading the Braunston Village News convinced us that Braunston is a lively, engaging community - this strength of purpose was paramount to our move.



I am an active Canal and River Trust volunteer and part of the Braunston Canal Society leadership team (Trust/BCS liaison and heritage advisor).

Now retired, my working life started in civil engineering before entering the world of information technology. During this period, I qualified as a Government approved project manager. I completed my working life with the Trust, working as a Senior Project Manager in the London and SE region. This final move completed the career cycle, coming back to the world of civil engineering, however this time with a significant historical element.

We fitted out all aspects of our 50ft narrowboat in 2016 which we own and cruise around the Midlands. Living at the centre of the canal network in Braunston, volunteering with the BCS and local Trust operations team, as well as carrying out weekly reservoir inspections, keeps me in contact with one of the important parts of our community, the canals that make Braunston the beating heart of the English canal system.

Village Hall Information

Wi-fi is available in the Village Hall. The network name and password are shown on the notice boards in the entrance corridor and the library.

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

Contacts for Village Hall activities

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

Braunston Preschool - Monday to Friday 01788 891891 braunstonpreschool@googlemail.com

Pop Mobility	Lorraine	01788 890846	Tues 2.30-3.30
The Hive	Valerie	01788 891975	1 st Weds 2-4
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 Tues10-12
History Cosisty	Jenny	07943 792977	3 rd Tues 7.30-9
History Society	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	Kate	01788 890340	2 nd Thurs 7.30-9
Cinema Club	Arthur	01788 890508	Last Sat 7-10

Braunston Village Hall - Notice of AGM

Braunston Village Hall is run for the benefit of the inhabitants of Braunston and its neighbourhood by the Braunston Memorial Hall Foundation, a Charitable Trust regulated by the Charity Commission. Trustees are all unpaid volunteers who together look after the hall, taking care of bookings, finances and maintenance and making sure that legal requirements are met.

The Annual General Meeting of the Braunston Memorial Hall Foundation will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 25th July 2023 in the Old Library at the Village Hall, with the following agenda.

- 1. Approval of minutes of the last AGM
- 2. Matters arising
- 3. Chairman's annual report
- 4. Treasurer's report and presentation of annual accounts
- 5. Booking Officer's annual report
- 6. Appointment of Elected Trustees (maximum 6)
- 7. Statement of Representative Trustees nominated by user organisations
- 8. Any other business
- 9. Date of next AGM

The AGM is open to all inhabitants of the Braunston area and those over 18 may participate in any votes.

If you are interested in putting yourself forward for election as a Trustee and are willing to take on the responsibilities of a Trustee and to volunteer your time to help in the running of the hall, please let me know in advance by sending an email to

braunstonmemorialhall@gmail.com or telephoning on 07890 072487.

Liz Fraser Secretary to the Trustees

Braunston C of E School

It has come to that time of day, when I spend a few minutes in quiet contemplation. As I close my eyes I can feel the warmth of the sun on my face and as it embraces me, it reminds me of our local community. The community of Braunston embraces the school in its life with warmth and support. I would like nothing more than to see members of the local community more often inside school whether it be to support the grounds or to support the children directly. If you have a few hours available and you feel that you would like to play a direct part in school life, then please contact me for a volunteer pack.

As I continue to close my eyes, I can hear life around me. I especially enjoy listening to the children in the swimming pool with their laughter and learning. The noise of this, the warmth of the sun and the splashing of the water almost leads me to believe that I am somewhere abroad on holiday. This quiet moment often ends abruptly with a knock on the door and a string of children who proudly love to show me their learning. At these moments I truly believe that there is no better job.

June has seen whole school sports day on the field. You may have seen us walking down to the field, full of excitement in the bright colours of our houses, ready to compete against each other. If you did not see us, you certainly would have heard our shouts of support for

each other!
Mrs Morris











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Clubs and Groups

The BVN needs YOU!

Having co-edited the BVN for five years, Alan and Sandra have decided it is time for them to stand down and will do so at the end of 2023. I'm sure the village will agree with me that they have done an excellent job and thank them for all the time and commitment they have brought to the role.

The Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council have agreed to bring together a small group to identify a new editor or editors and to review how best to take the BVN forward. For example, should it stay a monthly publication, go to bi-monthly, stay as a paper publication or go on-line?

As we have just 6 months to make arrangements to cover Alan and Sandra's departure, we plan to hold the group's first meeting at the Village Hall on July 3rd at 19.30 in the Old Library but will welcome new members after that date.

If you are interested in joining the group, either to find out what becoming an editor or proof-reader would entail, or have a particular view on how the BVN should develop, please contact me: pete.morgan@braunstonpc.org or by phone – 07805 677559.

The BVN is an important part of village life, please help secure its future.

Braunston Walkers

Saturday 17/6/23

Stanton Moor Meander. (7.5 miles)

For this walk we drove to the Peak District on a fine, dry day passing though Matlock and parking in the ancient village of Winster.

We took a small lane alongside the village store. It was a bit overcast but dry and nowhere near as hot as previous days, thankfully! We romped over fields with flagstones showing the route. We strolled down a valley and had to climb steeply uphill the other side.

Passing by a campsite we were greeted by several peacocks but none displaying their tail feathers as they had on the recce. Reaching the road we turned right and then entered Stanton Moor, a bit of Dark Peak gritstone country in the midst of the White Peak. It is a magical place bedecked with flowering rhododendrons in full blousy pink amidst the ferns and heather

At a stoney outcrop covered in carved graffiti from the late 19th century we were overlooking Matlock with fabulous views all around.

We reached the Bronze Age standing stones called Nine Ladies Circle. Probably in anticipation of Midsummers day there were lots of people camping in the surrounding clearings. Some had fires going, a bit irresponsible given the tinder dry conditions.

We continued around the Moor and then reached a standing outcrop of weather-beaten rock called the Cork Stone. A perfect name as it resembles a giant cork. It has footholds and even rungs so that the more adventurous people can climb it.

We strolled down through Birchover to our lunch stop at the Druids Inn. We enjoyed the food and local ale. It had warmed up but was still comfortable as we passed by the Rowter Rocks, another outcrop used by Druids as a meeting place and took paths leading us back to the car for the drive home. A magnificent walk through stunning scenery.

Our next walk will be July 15th probably Ravensthorpe.

Ray Scrivens (rayscrivens@btinternet.com)



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.

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- · Wi-Fi troubleshooting
- · Hardware installation and more



Call me on 01788 823 759 or 07977 019147

tim.banks@rienzo.co.uk

rienzo.co.uk

Braunston Friendly Club

We meet in The Gallie Room at the Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm.

Members enjoy tea, cake, fruit and a variety of activities that are organised through the year. Please come along and join us to find out more about what we do. We have extra cups, cake and chat all ready for people looking to come along to their first meeting.

Monday 10th July – School Performance Dress Rehearsal – 1.15pm at Braunston School

A fabulous opportunity for members to see this joint Braunston School/ Alarum Productions performance. Arrive for 1.15pm. Performance will finish at 2.30pm and then refreshments and an opportunity to chat will be provided.

Monday 24th July – Quiz and £2 Raffle- 2pm to 4pm.

We are delighted that one of our members, David, is running a quiz for us to enjoy together. This will be followed by the £2 raffle. Each member buys one ticket and winners will be able to choose from a selection of prizes.

Jenny 01788 890186 or Kate 01788 890340

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

We are having our summer break and our next meeting will be on September 19th in the village hall.

Our best wishes to you all for a lovely, peaceful and sunny summer.

See you all in September.

Braunston Village Charity

Christmas Gifts

In the last year, the Charity's expenditure on gifts and grants was just in excess of its income; this was by a small amount but the level of hardship in the village



has been increasing with the impact of both Covid-19 and now the costof-living crisis. Last Christmas, the Charity also distributed slightly more gifts than in 2021.

As part of ensuring its limited resources are targeted where they can be most effective, the Trustees have reviewed the eligibility criteria for a Christmas Gift from the Charity. At their recent meeting, they agreed to use the following eligibility criteria:

All recipients must be permanent residents of Braunston at Christmas as defined in the Constitution, though they may be away, i.e. in hospital or visiting relatives or friends, over the Christmas period.

All recipients must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- be 90 years old or more
- be children under the age of 18 with a physical, sensory or learning disability or other vulnerability
- have a life-threatening/terminal/long-term illness
- be in hardship emotional and/or financial.

Gifts can be either in the form of a hamper, a specific item or a voucher for use in most village shops or businesses.

The value of the gift will be agreed at the meeting of the Trustees prior to each Christmas.

The Trustees are aware that a small number of villagers who have received a Christmas Gift in the past will no longer do so, but hope that they understand why the Trustees feel the need to amend the criteria. The Trustees are also aware that some of the criteria are open to interpretation and will exercise that responsibility as sensitively as possible.

If you are aware of someone you think meets the above criteria, please let the Trustees know, either via the Charity's page on the Village website or using a copy of the Application Form available from Kim Donald in the Village Shop.

Community Theatre Production - Alarum update

A big thank you to those of you who came to say hello at the Church Fete Saturday 17th June. And for villagers who came to see our new production Rats, Ropes and Revolution which was part of the Historic Boat Rally 24th/25th June. It's been great to meet more people through the drama workshops as well.

Drama Workshops

There are two drama workshops left - Monday 3rd July (Scout Hut) and Monday 10th July (Village Hall). If you haven't been to one yet then why not give it a go. Each one has a different theme so you will be very welcome to just join in. You can sign up by using this QR code (scan using your phone) or via the contact details below.

Braunston School Production

We are in the run up to the school production of The Day the Boats Stopped. This is the show we have written with the children with performances on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th July. Thanks to all the parents who have found costumes and helped with props etc. We are looking forward to Friendly Club members joining us for the final dress rehearsal.

We will be at the School Fete on 7th July so hopefully will be able to say hello to some parents then.

Sunday 16th July – signing up for Community Production Interested in the Braunston community theatre production in October 2023? Do you want to help shape the show and create a world premier here in Northamptonshire?

The show will be written specially for Braunston drawing on work by local writers, the devising workshops and local archives. It will be about the village in the 1920s, including the strike by boatmen fighting a pay cut. It will look at events in the village from the point of view of people alive at the time, as well as at what it means to campaign and take action today.

We are looking for performers (actors and musicians), back stage crew, costume support and front of house. At this workshop we will explore the themes of the show using local archive material about real people who lived and worked in Braunston. It will be led by professional theatre director Andy Routledge. Everyone is welcome aged 12



plus. Sign up now using the QR code or use contacts on the next page.

The event is free and the venue is accessible. No experience necessary, just enthusiasm. And there are no auditions to get a part. You don't even have to live in Braunston – so do share this with friends, family and colleagues.

Can't make the event? - that's no problem. If you are interested in taking part but can't get there on Sunday 16th then do get in touch and we can keep you up to date.

Timings - 10.30am to 12.30pm, Lunch break, 1.15 to 4pm.

What happens next?

The script will be produced over the summer and roles assigned to actors. Everybody who wants to take part will be able to in some way. Rehearsals are weekly but you won't' have to come to all rehearsals.

Monday and Tuesday evenings from Monday 28th August, and Sunday afternoons from 3rd September.

Dress rehearsals - Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 12th October

Performance dates - evening Thursday - Saturday 13th-15th October with a performance Saturday afternoon too.

Access - Everybody who wants to take part will be able to. You may have access requirements e.g. a large print script, extra support with hearing or to know that the space is wheelchair accessible. Let us know what you need and we will support you.

Sign up - use QR code or log on www.eventbrite.co.uk and search 'Community Theatre' in Braunston.

Getting hold of us - hello@alarumproductions.org.uk 07976 818959

The Hive

Hive members were delighted to welcome a good crowd to our Church on a fine May evening for the visit of Rugby Male Voice Choir. A super assortment of items from opera to Flanders and Swann had something for everyone. Look out for a return visit next year?



The meeting on July 5th is a Garden Meeting at 18, Church Road at 2.15 pm. We hope the sun will still be shining!

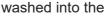
Braunston Canal Society

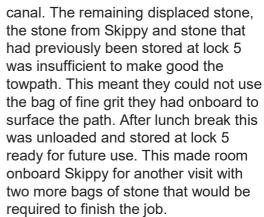
Events overtook BCS plans for the task parties in May.



The day prior to the Thursday task party a torrential downpour and subsequent flood had gouged out the towpath below lock 5. Luckily, the planned restoration task meant BCS had some stone already loaded aboard 'Skippy'. After repairing some towpath damage below lock 3 the crew proceeded to lock 5 where, after a coffee break, they started to fill in the gouge.







The Saturday crew of 6 finished the repair by laying more stone topped off with grit and wackering to consolidate.

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.







Saturday July 29th 7.30pm in Village Hall

BEST IN SHOW

'Some pets deserve a little more respect than others' 2000 PG Rating

At the prestigious Mayflower Dog Show, a "documentary film crew" captures the excitement and tension displayed by the eccentric participants in the outrageously hilarious satire 'Best In Show'. This biting send-up exposes the wondrously diverse dog owners who travel from all over America to showcase their four-legged contenders. Mild-mannered salesman Gerry Fleck and his vivacious wife, Cookie, happily prepare their Norwich Terrier, while shop owner Harlan Pepper hopes his Bloodhound wins top prize. As two upwardly mobile attorneys anxiously ready their neurotic Weimaraner and an ecstatically happy gay couple dote on their tiny Shih Tzu, inept commentator Buck Laughlin vainly attempts to provide colourful titbits about each breed.

You are welcome to bring your own picnic and your favourite drink & a glass

Tickets £4.50 members/£6.50 non-members

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

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Open fires, log burners & stoves swept

Braunston CAN (Climate Action Network)

When two of our members moved to Braunston, the field they own between Nibbits Lane and Butcher's Bridge was neglected. For our June meeting Liz and Phil took us round the field to discuss proposals to renovate it. As a principal entrance from the canal to the village with rights of way running through it was felt that it should look good. A plan has been drawn up that will see improvements made in stages over the next few years.



The photo shows the public footpath running up the hill from Butcher's Bridge with the field on the right. The broken post and wire fence which is currently submerged in vegetation will be replaced. A gap will be

left where there is a broken stile at the bottom to allow access to the other public footpath that goes right diagonally across the field. Depending on availability, a kissing gate may be put in the gap. A traditional hedge will be planted inside the fence. Braunston Canal Society has volunteered to cut back vegetation close to the tarmac path.

The public footpath that links Nibbits Lane with Cross Lane shown in this photo will be treated in the same way with a new fence and hedge and access to replace the overgrown stile shown below.



We think it will take three planting seasons for this to be completed. The work will renovate the field, keep views over the canal and valley and maintain access



to the public rights of way running across private land.

The plan will also see improvements to biodiversity and wildlife habitats. It is planned to mow the field

twice a year with cuttings removed so that fertility is reduced to allow native flowering plants to flourish improving habitats for insects and birds. The traditionally maintained hedges will provide food, nesting opportunities and cover for birds. Some native trees will be planted towards the west side of the field to balance the small spinney on the opposite side. We will investigate to see what trees could be planted to fill any species gaps in the Braunston Tree Trail.

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th July. You are welcome to join us. Further information about B-CAN projects can be found in the 'Village Info' section of the village website under 'Climate Emergency' and on Facebook at 'Braunston Climate Action Network' (BCAN). If you are interested in joining us, please message 07989 421836 or 07554 264742 or use the contact information on the website.



Braunston Heart

Remember that we are here for you to contact 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. 0800 0029066 heart@braunston.org.uk

hearttwinkleteam@gmail.com Jo Glover, Kindness and Compassion





We are your community café, staffed entirely by volunteers and open six days a week for villagers and visitors to enjoy inexpensive, quality refreshments and friendly conversation. Do drop in - you will be very welcome!

Our donations to local causes

One of our aims is to make donations available to charitable causes in Braunston and we are delighted to report we have, in the last month, been able to assist our Community Car, the Scouts and the volunteers who work in the cemetery

If your organisation is charitable and would like some financial help with a project or activity then just pop into our café and ask for an application form.

Volunteers

We have a great band of volunteers who find the duties enjoyable and entertaining. We can always do with a few extra members to better cope with holidays and illnesses. If you are interested, even if you may only be available one or two days a month, do get in touch by ringing:

Dee on 07774 754511

Open 10.30 - 2.30 except Saturdays 10.30 - 12.30 Closed Sundays

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Braunston Ex-forces Breakfast Club

Open invitation to any ex-forces or current forces personnel, who need a time to reminisce. Banter and friendly service inter-rivalry always on the agenda. Come along, soak up the nonsense and enjoy a few hours with like-minded comrades.

Bacon and sausage buns with a few mugs of hot drinks. Maybe stay for a cold one as well. We meet at the Wheatsheaf Inn Braunston second Thursday at 10.30am every month. So, see you there....

Meeting dates:

July 13th September 14th November 9th

August 10th October 12th December 14th

If you would like to enjoy a few hours with old comrades and new friends: phone George on 07512 707239 or email: geosue1@gmail.com



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www.braunstonpreschool.org.uk

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Braunston Village Gardens Association

A huge thank you to all the Braunston folk who so generously opened their gardens on Sunday 11th June, and to everyone who visited them.

Despite the challenges that the gardening year has brought, including 'the storm of Braunston', we were delighted that 18 gardens were open. The hard work of all the gardeners was evident as the delights and surprises seen in each one unfolded. It was heartening to see so many people walking around the village, despite the searing heat, enjoying the huge variety that the gardens had to offer.

There was a steady stream of folk all day, including many visitors to the village. As well as the gardens, there were delicious refreshments in the Village Hall – several trips were needed to Jay's to replenish squash supplies! Fortunately, the cake didn't run out!

The event was a fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support with all monies raised going to the charity. We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped on the day at the Village Hall, those who donated items and/or ran fund raising stalls and to the Church and Gongoozler's Rest for joining us on the day.

We are delighted to announce that Open Gardens raised £2932.10, and together with a donation of £67.90 from the BVGA, a cheque for £3000 has been presented to the Daventry branch of Macmillan Cancer Support. This is a marvellous amount, and reflects the supportive and generous nature of Braunston residents, their families, friends and village visitors who love gardens, enjoy sharing gardening ideas, and who wish to donate to such a worthwhile cause. Thank you.

If you would like to join us and open your garden in the future, please contact Catherine via email (catherine.eastaff4@hotmail.co.uk).

Braunston Village Show – Saturday 2nd September in the Village Hall.

The 2023 show schedule is available on the BVGA Show pages of the Braunston website. You can enter online and please note the deadline for entries is August 30th. Look out for a paper copy to be delivered to you by our volunteers any day! There is something for everyone, so do have a go.

Calling all children to age 14, including grandchildren of residents - during your summer break make a collage of a garden bird, grow a sunflower, draw a picture of your favourite toy, think about making a dessert pizza or make a robot from only recycled materials. There are other challenges with prizes to be won so why not encourage your friends to do something too! Make sure the date is on your calendar to come and see what

talented people live in Braunston and have an opportunity to buy produce in the auction at the end of the day. There will be refreshments available on the day, a tombola and raffle.

For more information about the show please contact the Show Secretary, Gill Astley via the email contact on the BVGA pages of the Braunston website or by phone 01788 890340.



Please come along on Saturday 8th July from 10 – 5pm

to

Coffee & Cake for Carl

at

27 The Green Braunston NN11 7HW

There will be a raffle

If you would like to support the event but are unable to attend you can donate via the website: <u>carllewisfoundation.org</u>

I look forward to seeing you on the 8th Catherine

2nd Braunston Brownies



During May we joined the Cubs twice and celebrated the coronation at the playing field making crowns and decorating biscuits. We had a boat trip (see other article).

In our unit meetings we are working towards our 'take action' theme. This includes topics and activities like campaigning, volunteering, fundraising, reducing waste and speaking out. Our girls are getting ready to change the world!

We also had a giraffe theme night where we learnt about giraffes, built tall structures and the girls put themselves into height order without speaking.

If you know a girl aged 7-10 who would like to join us please go to www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the links to find out more. Or email secondbraunstonbrownies@hotmail.com

We meet 5:30pm - 7pm during Term time on Thursday nights in the Village Hall.

2nd Braunston Scout Group

Cubs & Brownies Cruise Canal with LNBP

On 17th May, 2nd Braunston Cub Pack and 2nd Braunston Brownies accepted a generous invitation from LNBP (The London Narrow Boat Project) to go on a short trip on their two boats



'Lancelot' and 'Guinevere' which are based at Braunston.

The lucky Cubs and Brownies who were able to go took turns at the helm, and were able to look at their local canal with a different perspective. A good time was had by all, and is hopefully something

that can be arranged again in the future

Please visit our website www.braunstonscouts.co.uk or email Jason@braunstonscouts.co.uk for further information.

For information about Cubs please contact:

david@braunstonscouts.co.uk

Contact us at: gsl@braunstonscouts.co.uk



Braunston Cubs at County Cub Camp

18 Braunston Cubs took part in the Northants County Cub camp. The weather was VERY hot but our Cubs cooled off with a water fight, ice lollies and gallons of cold drinks whilst they did archery, tug of war, apothecary, spells, lots of crafts, field games, open fire cooking and of course a campfire.

The last County Cub camp was in 2018 so it was a welcome return for nearly 400 Cubs taking part on the Boughton Hall estate. For many it

was their first taste of camping or even staying away from home. Not much sleep first night but plenty on second!

David Coleman Akela 2nd Braunston Cub Pack



david@braunstonscouts.co.uk

Website: www.braunstonscouts.co.uk

Jetty Field

Following a wet March, we have experienced a very dry Spring and early Summer which has partially delayed plant growth, especially in the allotments. A number of the plots have bare patches where seeds have failed to germinate or plants have either withered or are looking very sorry for themselves due to a lack of water. When we have had rain it has been tumultuous and has done more harm than good, washing away valuable topsoil and damaging many of the more delicate plants. Most damage was done when the village was struck by the amazing hailstorm when a river quickly formed running the length of the allotments washing away everything in its wake. The large ash tree in the centre was hit by lightning. Specialist help is being sought to determine the tree's health but there is a huge gash where the bark has been burnt off running virtually from the top to the bottom of the tree.

The field, however, is flourishing and various meadow plants have been spotted in abundance. Bird's foot trefoil, cranesbill, red clover and goat's



beard plus a number of yet unidentified species have been noted and there are bound to be others as the summer progresses.

The committee and other volunteers have continued to maintain the pocket park. Recently they have enhanced the paths through the wooded area with chippings from the felled poplar trees, started to renovate the fence around the allotments and cut back some of the invading cow parsley. Yet again, a big thank you to the various other villagers who have taken it upon themselves to tidy up small sections, particularly in the garden, and often very early in the morning!

Last month Year 6 of Braunston School spent a morning in Jetty Field with some of the committee. They did various activities in the park, investigating uses of different sections and how they are maintained, then moving on to tree identification and how the area has changed over the centuries.

The next committee meeting will be on Tuesday 4th July in the Wheatsheaf at 7.30 and the next work morning on Saturday 8th July at 9am. Please feel free to join us if you would like to be involved with this important part of our village.

Braunston Paddox Cricket Club

The cricket club have had a mixed start to the season with some excellent wins alongside some disappointing defeats.

The first XI are currently placed 5th in their division of the County League with wins against Weldon, Long Buckby and Bugbrooke and defeats to Carrib United and Brixworth. Having played the four teams ahead of them in the table the team is confident of progressing to the top 3 and the promotion zone.

The second XI started the season strongly, including a 10 wicket victory over Spencer Bruerne, who we dismissed for just 23, our best ever bowling performance. A run of poor results followed against Abington Phoenix and Kettering but we rebounded last week with a comfortable victory over Weldon. The team remain in a mid table position in their division. As there is an odd number of teams in the division and we do not play every team twice, it is difficult to assess how we really lie at this stage in the season.

The midweek team again started well with a couple of early league wins and a cup victory. A couple of defeats has seen the team drop into the bottom half of division 2.

Features

Riley Withall on stage at Rugby Theatre

Riley from Braunston is 11 years old and in August 2021, he joined Beatbox Music tuition in Rugby and began drum lessons with his tutor Nathan. In October 2022, Nathan told Riley that he had received an email from the Rugby Theatre, saying that auditions for Andrew Lloyd Webber's stage adaptation of School of Rock were taking place and he felt Riley should audition for the role of Freddie, the drummer.

Unfortunately, this meant that Riley only had 4 days to prepare for the audition, whereas everyone else had had weeks. He turned up, explained that he hadn't had time to learn 'Teachers Pet', one of the numbers from the musical, but told them he would love to play something else for them and then performed 'Song 2' by Blur.

A few weeks went past before we had the call from Kenny, the show's director, who told us that Riley was the perfect fit for the younger of the two teams they were casting and he was offered the part without a call back!

Rehearsals began in December 2022 and were in full swing by April 2023. The cast were on stage for dress rehearsals only one week

before the show's opening night on the 9th of June. I joined the cast later on, filling a couple of roles that they were struggling to cast, after not being on the stage since senior school.

Riley has made a lot of friendships on his journey with Rugby Theatre, but one child in particular, Zach, who he met at the audition has become his very close friend, and they are trying now to form a band called 'HayWire' and are recruiting for other members to join them.

He wants to become a rock star when he is older but has told me that "being a music teacher would be cool too".



He has also decided to continue auditioning for roles in the theatre in the future and wants to continue with acting and singing, as well as his drumming.

Gwen Withall

Riley, centre, on stage with other cast members.



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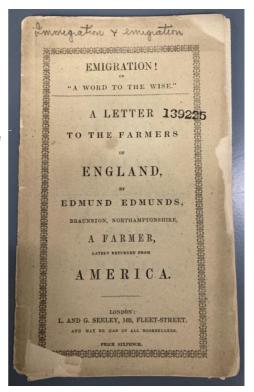
The Workshop. Bottom Lock. Dark Lane. Braunston. NN11 7HJ vintage diesels@btconnect.com

Emigration! or "A word to the wise."

A letter to the farmers of England by Edmund Edmunds

When researching family and house histories I like to fill in the ten years between the census information. It is so easy to describe people's lives in decades and lose touch with the detail of the intervening years.

Over the years I have added to the story of 65 High Street through a number of chance finds. I squirrel away useful bits of information, 'to be studied in more detail on a rainy day'. In January, with a few minutes to spare, I followed up one such snippet about Edmund Edmunds, the step brother of Elizabeth Reeve, the grazier who lived in our house during the 1800s. I found Edmund's pamphlet, Emigration! Or "A word to the wise."



In the mid 1800s Edmund was

tempted by the opportunities of low taxes and large amounts of land being available to him in America having, 'felt quite lost on a little property (*in Braunston*) of only 5 acres.' He set sail from Liverpool on 28th March 1839.

I wonder what Elizabeth, recently widowed, thought about her younger brother's plans. Edmund writes, 'It was a beautiful morning when I first viewed the country of which I had read, and heard, and talked so much.' His wife and daughter, who had travelled with him, missed England and in particular not having enough to 'occupy their minds and fill up their time.' They urged Edmund to get a farm so they could set up a dairy as they had known in Braunston.

Edmund went to find the man who had left Braunston and written home about his prosperity, but, discovered him 'as poor as when he was the village Cobler of Braunston.' Edmund continued to look for a farm. He acknowledged the land was fertile, but he had not expected the frequency of blight affecting the wheat crop or the impact of excessive heat on the wheat yields. After considering a variety of crops and livestock he concludes America to be a country, 'in which neither man nor beast can thrive, for there is very little enjoyment of either. Every living creature must feel more or less the close *sultry* heat of an American Summer and the *piercing* cold of an American Winter... Whether you talk with an Englishman, or a Dutchman, or a German, it matters not – they will *all* tell you, to a man, that they "dislike America", and that their ardent hope is to leave it, and get back each to his own land.'

And return he did. After just six months Edmund returned to Braunston with his wife and daughter in October 1839. Six months later, May 1840, he had his 24 page pamphlet published.

On his return he and his family moved to Willoughby Lodge Spa, one of two places named in that village with good natural springs. This of course takes me in another new direction of research.

Kate Mawer - mawerk@hotmail.co.uk

Other news

Bin Collections for July

Wed 5th Food and Recycling

Wed 12th Food and Garden

Wed 19th Food, Recycling and Waste

Wed 26th Food and Garden

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.

Wanted - Used stamps postcards and old coins

Any stamps old or new any age, any coins old English and foreign or notes. All accepted to raise money for animal charities.

Total raised so far in 2023 - £1857 05 - Thank you

Please keep sending to Val Ward at 51 High Street Braunston.



A thankyou from Sandra Stapley

I am sure that many of you will be aware that I suffered a major heart attack in early February, which resulted in me spending a month in Critical Care and a further five weeks in cardiac wards in UCH, Coventry, followed by six weeks in the Central England Rehabilitation Unit in Leamington. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who sent me cards, messages and gifts both during my stay and on discharge. In particular, I would like to thank all those who took time to pray for my recovery. I am sure that it made a difference. The videos and handmade cards from Tiny Treasures certainly cheered me up and gave me a purpose which was a great help in my recovery.

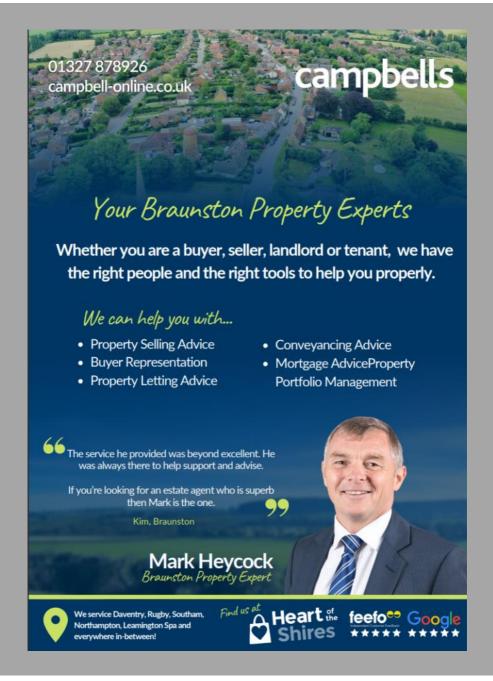
I would also like to thank those who stepped in at very short notice to cover me by editing and delivering the BVN as well as helping out with Tiny Treasures. Perhaps this cloud's silver lining has brought forward more volunteers to help out with other village activities. Also, a special mention to the Food Fairies who ensured that Richard was well fed by leaving food parcels in the porch!

I am taking the advice/orders given to me by the medics, family and friends to take things more easily. My progress, particularly during my stay in CERU, has been excellent, but I get tired very quickly and there are still a number of cognitive issues, which may not be obvious at first sight, but are still a cause for concern. Only time will tell.

I was very lucky. When I had my arrest there was someone nearby, who knew how to perform CPR, albeit only on a dummy, and had the presence of mind to do what he could before the Paramedics arrived with their defibrillators and expertise. Both of the ambulances and the emergency car arrived within about 20 minutes. This was a vital part of my recovery.

We have five defibrillators in the village. Do you, or possibly more importantly, your family and friends, know where they are? Please refer to the article in last month's BVN on the defibrillators if you are not sure. Have you or any of your family had training in CPR? It really could make the difference.





BVN Deadline - August 2023 Edition

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