

BRAUNSTON NEWS Village

Published jointly by All Saints' Church and Braunston Parish Council

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Chris, Andy and John, three Braunston men in a boat. Read about them on page 24 and find out how you can help

All Saints' Church Information



Parish Priest: Rev Nat White

Team vicar for Braunston, Ashby & Welton

T: 01788 890 298

E: revnatwhite@gmail.com

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BRAUNSTON

 www.allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

 AllSaintsBraunston

Churchwardens:

Pat Milner

E: warden2@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

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E: warden1@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

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Fergus McCloghry

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T: 01788 890 747

Treasurer:

Peter Hobbs

E: treasurer@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

BRAUNSTON REGISTERS

There were no weddings, funerals or baptisms in March.

Advance Notice – All Saints' Church Vestry meeting

We have been given permission to hold the Vestry and Annual Meeting via zoom this year as this is the safest option at this time. You can join the zoom meeting by video or by phone.

The Vestry meeting will be held on –

Monday 17 May at 7.30pm via Zoom

Zoom meeting details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81312835081>

Meeting ID: 813 1283 5081

Join us by phone - by dialling this number below

Telephone number – 02039017895

Continued on page 3

Vicar's letter

It's Friday but Sunday's a-coming!

I once heard an enthusiastic preacher say this as he told the Easter story. He described the awful events of Good Friday, the day of Jesus crucifixion, and after each description he would shout, 'it's Friday ... but Sunday's a-coming' with increasing volume and enthusiasm. It has stayed in my memory as a wonderful description of Easter.

But he also portrayed current events in our world and experiences in our lives when the sky turns black, when loved ones die, when all feels wrong with the world. Times like how the last year has been for many as the Corona virus has wreaked havoc on our lives: It's been Friday for a very long time.

But the good news is that Sunday's coming! Sunday, the day of resurrection when Jesus came back to life, when love defeated hate, and life conquered death. This is the meaning of Easter and it seems more relevant and important than ever. We see signs of new life all around us, in the spring flowers growing out of the cold, dark earth and leaves appearing on what looked like dead trees; this is the way creation works, this is the way love works.

So, in this season of Easter, whether the virus is under control or still disrupting, whether you are rejoicing or grieving, you will know that love always wins.

God Bless,

Rev Nat

.....
From page 2:

All Saints' Church Vestry meeting

When prompted put in the meeting ID number 813 1283 5081 followed by the hash key (#)

The Vestry Meeting can be attended by anyone who lives in the parish and this meeting is held to elect the church wardens. The Annual meeting will be held afterwards for those on the Electoral Roll.

Parish Nurse

I hope the coming of spring and all that a new season brings is encouraging you to hold on in there.

I am so encouraged and amazed about how many of you have continued to persevere with such a positive attitude in very difficult circumstances.

Seeing some of you face to face during garden visits has really given me a boost. It's good to keep in contact by phone but doesn't compare with seeing your lovely faces.

We recently discussed a book at my annual Parish Nursing Symposium, where parish nurses from all around the UK come together to connect, learn and be re-envisioned. It was by Zoom this year but I always come away encouraged and inspired.

The book was written by Lord Nigel Crisp who now sits in the House of Lords and was formerly Chief Executive of NHS England. It's titled 'Health Is Made At Home, Hospitals Are For Repairs: Building A Healthy And Health-Creating Society'.

This really encouraged me to focus on helping those of you who desire to create a healthy way of life as we come out of lockdown, which many of you have already done.

However we are all individuals and have specific needs and perhaps need some guidance or support. So, please do get in touch if you would like to discuss.

Best wishes

Maggie.

Tel. 07495 873565

parishnurse@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk.

All Saints' Church Braunston

'The Cathedral of the Canals'

www.allsaintsbraunston.org.uk



Mrs Maggie Murray

Parish Nurse

BA, RGN



Mob: 07495 873565

parishnurse@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk



Parish Nursing
Ministries UK

 The Diocese of
Peterborough



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

All Saints' Church

The PCC have decided that the church building will remain closed throughout April as we wait to see what happens with the government roadmap and the spread of the virus.

The services will continue to be recorded each week and can be accessed via our YouTube channel – All the Saints Online Church – go to playlists, Sunday services.

Rev Nat will continue to send out the service booklets.

The zoom coffee time will take place each Sunday at 11.30am. This is a really good time to connect with others from across the 3 churches, so please do give it a go. This has been a really valuable support for many, and it would be good to see more people joining in. You do not need the internet; you can join in on the phone. **Please ask Rev Nat for the phone number or the Zoom link.**

The Mid-week Communion service will take place on Wednesdays at 7pm via Zoom. Please let Rev Nat know if you would like to join and she will send you the link. You can **access this via phone** as well.

If you are affected in anyway by the current lockdown, needing practical help or someone to talk to, please give Rev Nat a call 01788 890298.

Food Share

Many thanks for your donations. Please do keep them coming, they make a huge difference and help us to support as many people as we can at this difficult time.



REV NAT'S GARAGE, THE RECTORY, 71 HIGH STREET
Every Monday 10 – 1pm Wednesday 5 – 8pm Thursday 2– 5pm

Church Floodlighting

The dedications received before the BVN deadline, 18th March, are listed on page 6.

The fee to light All Saints' is £7 per evening, you can give more. We ask that you keep the length of the dedication to not more than 12 words.

Continued on page 6

The completed message with the donation can then be left at the Rectory or 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'.

March

1st - Lit for Emily's 4th Birthday

13th - * In memory of Chris Woods, friend & ringer

15th - * In memory of Ada Littlemore, Boatwoman

15th - * Happy Birthday Debbie. Love Martin

25th - Eva Davies is 90 on March 25th, one time Head Mistress of our School in Braunston, lovely friend to many people.

26th - * Wedding Anniversary for Judith & Nigel Sykes

27th - * Pat and Alison's Wedding Anniversary

28th - * Our Wedding Anniversary. Jean & Brian Branch

30th - Remembering Pat Edwards on her 75th birthday with much love, Dave and family xx

April so far ...

1st - Janet and John Caunt's Diamond Wedding Anniversary – with love from all the family

1st - * Janet & John's 60th Wedding Anniversary

1st - Happy special birthday Chris. Love from all the family

3rd - * Happy Birthday Pat

5th - * Love to all the family, from Geoff & Jean

9th - * Rosemary - always in my thoughts

19th (Primrose Day) - * In loving memory of my wonderful parents, Alan and Nancy Matthews, on this their 77th Wedding Anniversary. Rest in Peace, together again.

25th - In loving memory of Josh Cooper, until we meet again.

26th - * Julie's Birthday

* = Friends of All Saints – A huge Thank You

For the May BVN please submit your request by the 18th April.

Parish Council Information and News



Clerk: Steve Rolt
c/o 82 Greenway, Braunston, NN11 7JT
t: 0800 002 9783 (Freephone)
e: clerk@braunstonpc.org

Parish Councillors and areas of responsibility:

Alan Mawer, Archer Avenue and Cross Lane	t: 01788 890340
Chris Johnson (Chair), Greenway and Closes	t: 01788 891597
Graham Newman (Vice Chair), Marina, London Rd, Hill Row, Old Road	t: 07710 290265
Pete Morgan, The Green	t: 07805 677559
Jo Glover, High St from Old Plough to The Green incl Chapel Court	t: 07973 278052
David Cary, High Street from A45 to Old Plough	t: 07775 514840
John Pomfret, Eastfields	t: 07817 234727
Peter Hawksworth, Ashby Road	t: 01788 891900
Robert Davey, Spinney Hill and closes	t: 01788 891591
Sue Harrison, Dark Lane	t: 07769 589459
Sandra Stapley, Welton Rd, School Cl, Maple Cl	t: 01788 890475
Tom Sabin, Church Road, Barby Road	t: 01788 891797

Forthcoming Meetings

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are currently held via Zoom. Members of the public are invited to attend. Please send your email address to the clerk if you wish to attend.

12 th April	Full Council Meeting
10 th May	Full Council Meeting

Agendas and minutes are available on the Braunston website.

Council Tax 2021/22 - Parish Council Portion

The Parish Council did not increase the amount of money it requested as its precept (£55,244) from that requested in 2020/21, however due to the way that the council tax is calculated (number of occupied properties and makeup of those households), the tax has risen slightly in 2021/22.

Addresses at The Green

A resident has asked if the street signs can indicate where the numbered addresses are in order to help with deliveries. The council will make Highways aware of the request. It was also noted that the street labeling on Google Maps and Streetview is wrong. We will try to get this corrected.

Rights of Way

Braunston Walkers and another volunteer in the village have agreed to report any issues with public footpaths and bridleways to the Parish Council. If any issues arise the council will discuss them with the landowner and seek to resolve them without involving Highways.

Dog bins

There has been a report of dog faeces in plastic bags thrown in vegetation next to the pavement in Welton Road. The council is aware of similar problems occurring elsewhere in the village. Following a request for more bins on Welton Road it was noted that Daventry District will not empty any more bins. It was therefore suggested that we find the least used one and move it to Welton Road.

Neighbourhood Plan

A sub-group of the council has completed monitoring of the Neighbourhood Plan. This involves monitoring the plan policies against recent changes. The council agreed to submit the resulting document to Daventry District Council. It is also uploaded to the Neighbourhood Plan page of the village website.

Annual Parish Meeting

In 2020 emergency legislation permitted not holding this public meeting. This does not apply in 2021. The law requires the council to hold a meeting between the start of March and the end of May. 7.30pm on Monday 24th May was set as a provisional time and time. The council will investigate holding this as a physical meeting with the option of those who wish to joining by Zoom.

Archer Avenue

Following comments about the poor state of verges and kerbs, the council is consulting residents about changes that could be submitted to Highways for consideration.

Community assets

It was agreed that the council will investigate the regulations regarding Assets of Community Value.

Welton Road Play Area

The fence on one side needs repairing. It was agreed to replace the posts with concrete ones, which although more expensive, will save money in the longer term. Expenditure of £2300 was agreed.

Playing Field

A swing was repaired at a cost of £150.

Planning

There was discussion about the application for work to the new cycle and walking route from Farnborough Drive (Middlemore) to the track above the canal tunnel portal. The council supported the application and will raise, with Daventry District, the potential issues described to the Parish Council by some residents.

Applications for work to trees at two properties in the Conservation Area were supported as was that for signs on the new Cummins warehouse at the Heartlands Business Park in Daventry.

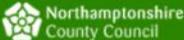
Village mowing

The mowing season started towards the end of March. As announced in the November 2020 BVN, mowing of 'amenity' areas, including The Green is reduced to every three weeks. This cuts carbon emissions, allows some flowers to appear in the verges to the benefit of bees and reduces costs. The 'wildlife friendly grasslands' such as at Butlin's Hill will be mown once or twice a year to allow more native flowers to establish and bloom.

Pot holes and road repairs

We are aware of the large number of pot holes on local roads. You can report any issues to the Parish Council and we will report them to Highways. Please be as specific as possible about the location. We try to pass on to you the resulting messages from Highways.

Alternatively, you can report the issues to Highways and they will respond directly to you. To do this search for fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk and follow the instructions.

Report a problem Sign in All reports Local alerts

Find and report road or street problems

(like potholes, blocked drains, or obstructions)

Enter a Northamptonshire postcode, street name and area, or check an existing report number:

e.g. 'NN1 1NS' or 'Bridge Street'

Go

[... or use my location](#)

How to report a problem

- 1 Enter a Northamptonshire postcode, street name and area, or check an existing report number
- 2 Locate the problem on a map of the area

Recently reported problems

- Very large and deep pot hole
12:35 today, last updated 12:35 today
- Hole pots reported
11:19 today, last updated 11:20 today



Village Hall Information

Contacts for regular activities in the Village Hall

Currently, groups may not be meeting in the Village Hall. Contact numbers are provided in case you wanted to find out about any alternative arrangements.

Weekly

Monday	Pilates	7.30pm	Sam	07593 913686
Tuesday	Learn to Crochet	10.00am	Gill	07711 742575
	Pop Mobility	2.00pm	Lorraine	01788 890846
Wednesday	Braunston Art Group	2.00pm	Alan	01788 890164
	Yoga	7.00pm	Sheila	01788 891831
Thursday	Short Mat Bowls	1.45pm	Bill	01788 891145
			David	01788 891183
	Fishing Club Bingo	8.00pm	Julie	01788 890720
	Brownies	5:30pm	Clare	

Fortnightly

Monday	Friendly Club	2.00pm	Jenny	01788 890186
Friday	Youth Club	7.00pm	Leah	01788 891833

Monthly

Tuesday	History Society	7.00pm	Annie	01788 891179
	Women's Institute	7.30pm	Valerie	01788 891975
Thursday	Linus Group	10.00am	Laura	01788 890102
	Gardens Association	7.30pm	Kate	01788 890340
	Climate Action Network	7.30pm	Abigail	07989 421836
Saturday	Cinema Club	7.30pm	Arthur	01788 890508

Pre-School Monday-Friday - 01788 891891
braunstonpreschool@googlemail.com

Braunston C of E School



On 8th March, we welcomed our pupils back and have been delighted with their attitudes and learning. Friendships are important; it was fantastic to see the smiles and enjoyment as the children played together.

Showing that 'We Care' is at the centre of all that we do. Whilst we are keen to support the

children's social, emotional and mental health, we are also committed to support them in catching up with learning and identify gaps that need to be addressed in order to move on to the next step of learning. This journey has already begun.

Children are working hard to demonstrate positive behaviours and are showing that they are **READY** to learn, **RESPECTFUL** of everyone and **SAFE** in their behaviour choices. Many children have been awarded a token for their house which is placed in the House Token Box. During Celebration Assembly on Friday, children find out which house has the most tokens and their colours are displayed on our new house cup. Each term, the house that has the most tokens is given a day when they can come to school in non-school uniform. We would like to emphasise a sense of belonging and competition through our houses and when COVID restrictions have been lifted, we will run inter-house sports competitions.



We continue to think of others around us who are not as fortunate as ourselves. We have shown our support for Comic Relief by wearing an item of red clothing and by donating some money. We are also aware of the needs closer to home and are working in partnership with the church to produce a weekly wellbeing support programme. This signposts local and national help and guidance for anyone needing support during challenging times.

Our Forest School has restarted to the delight of our Year 2 children. This amazing opportunity is open to all children led by Sue Barnwell and Sue Allinson who work tirelessly to ensure that the children learn

through the outdoor experiences offered to them. This week the children have been sowing seeds and looking for life hiding around the area with their minibeast finders.



Braunston Primary School - Community Governor

A dedicated Academy Governance Committee supports Braunston School. We are looking to recruit a Community Governor.

Braunston Primary School urgently needs another Community Governor to be part of its Governing Body.

The role of a Community Governor is to help develop and monitor the school's engagement with the whole school community and with the local community. In particular we are looking for someone who can explore ways of strengthening links between the school and the village such as helping the school to participate in local community projects and initiatives. Anyone with experience of resourcing grants or supporting provision in other ways would be very welcome.

An additional role of the Community Governor is to help promote the school in finding ways to attract pupils to the school to ensure future sustainability of the school in the community, so we would be equally happy to have someone with experience in HR and/or marketing.

Governors meet 6 times a year in the evenings, so the commitment is not overly burdensome, but nonetheless very worthwhile. If anyone is interested in this role or would like further information please contact Chris Spriggs, the Chair of Governors at CSpriggs@braunston.northants.sch.uk

Spring is definitely on our doorsteps and as we see the lambs gambolling across the fields we are looking forward to embracing summer and the positives it will bring us all.

Lianna Willis
Headteacher

Clubs and groups

Braunston Heart

It has been a year since our lives were turned upside down. I am sure virtually everyone has experienced a range of emotions during this time, I certainly have. I want to focus on the positive and give thanks. I am going to use lots of adjectives like amazing, fabulous because, well, the volunteers are.

Braunston Heart was mooted as an idea on the 15th March 2020, from there a meeting was held at The Grange on the 18th – where those



Braunston Heart

Caring for our Community
Freephone 0800 0029066 anytime

Loneliness Shopping Medication Dog walking Getting online
Scared General errands Signposting We will try and help

Braunston Heart has a team of call handlers and volunteers just waiting to help **ALL** people in Braunston who may be in need of any kind of assistance.

Just telephone us with your problem on
FREephone 0800 0029066

If you get a recorded message just state your name and telephone number and we'll get back to you very quickly

Alternatively 

 you can email us at
heart@braunston.org.uk

representing the community attended. Great suggestions and offers of help were proffered. Over 120 fabulous volunteers joined within the first couple of days, it was truly, truly amazing. With the much appreciated assistance of the Parish Council, leaflets were printed, a freephone was set up and Heart was operational from the start of the lockdown, the 23rd March. Phew.

Amazingly, we have dealt with over 430 calls, these do not include the regular tasks that volunteers do too – such as walking a dog three times a week or the making of a phone call to someone isolating. Some of those calls were for multiple things. We try and aid everyone and if we cannot, point in the right direction.

I want to give my thanks to those who have given additional help and support. To all other volunteers, please know I am deeply grateful to you and the amazing assistance you have given - I am sure I will be told off by my team for failing to mention someone! For initial help and support, Susie, Claire, Paul, Steve, Kirsty, Jenni and Janine. Taking part in the radio show and an unearthly start in the morning – James, Pete, Emma. All who delivered leaflets – several times! The Christmas card deliverers many of whom also do the BVN round. Not forgetting those who stuffed the Heart envelopes! Pauline, Alison, Sandra and Chris. David for being Elf coordinator. Laura on her bicycle delivering very many prescriptions. Trines who reminds me monthly for the BVN and has been responsible for posters etc. Wendy for that two hour wait.... Last but certainly not least, the amazingly fabulous team who take care of you when you call the freephone number: Jac, Jacqui, Janet, Jenny, Alison and Liz.

Some comments received:

From a self-isolating volunteer who has made phone calls to others “she is always happy to talk to me as she is on her own mostly.....and I have been in contact with others who have been struggling”. She then went on to say “This also means that I feel part of the community which has helped me”.

From James, a volunteer “I have found being a volunteer both rewarding and humbling. It has brought home to me just how reliant on ‘the system’ working normally, some people are.....I was amazed at how many of our village have ailments and conditions that prevent them from usual mobility and in the pandemic make them exceptionally vulnerable... Volunteer support was desperately needed. It also hit home how

Continued on page 16

important the simple things in life are to people and how we should never take things for granted – such as a cup of tea and a slice of toast. We all reach a time in our lives where the simple things are more difficult to make sense of. Having someone you trust to talk to, help and support with these little moments cannot be overestimated and it was a pleasure to be of service during this unprecedented time. I for one will always make myself available to support the village, work and other commitments permitting. I am also sure that in the years to come I would be very grateful for the same support Heart was able to provide”.

Jac spoke to Norman and his wife and said they are “really keen that it is understood how grateful they are for the help from Heart”. They have learned how to use online shopping and have not contacted Heart so much recently, “we don’t like to bother Heart unless we really need to but wouldn’t like it to disappear because it isn’t being used”.

Tina said “volunteering with Braunston Heart has made me appreciate how lucky I am to live in such a caring community and also made me realise how much the small things in life are so important. Just making time to chat to someone can make a world of difference and I love every minute. I feel privileged to have met some amazing people, both that we’ve helped, and other volunteers”.

“Braunston Heart has been a lifeline for me as I have long Covid. The army of volunteers have collected prescriptions, food shopping and ensured my dog has been walked. Passing acquaintances have become true friends, particularly my dog’s walking buddies. Thank you”.

“As a first time volunteer, I did not really know what to expect, other than helping people in the community. As a call handler, it has given me a great sense of fulfilment. I now feel part of the community and have made new friends, some of whom I have never met in person and may never do so, but have enjoyed chatting to. The kindness and compassion shown by the volunteers has been truly wonderful”. Janet

There are many such stories I am sure within our community – and I would love to hear them. I have made many connections during this last year. They are valued. I am very proud of all of you in Braunston Heart and very happy to be a part of this great community.

Jo Glover, Braunston Heart, Kindness and Compassion.

Braunston Community Car

The Community Car is for you.

Available for all residents for journeys for hospital, doctors and other medical appointments and also shopping and local trips to visit friends when Covid restrictions allow.

Any payment is by voluntary contribution. Some journeys are provided in volunteers' own cars.

To request a journey call 07984 412921 (24 hrs notice where possible please) .

Special thanks this month to Mr & Mrs Herlihy for their generous extra donation of £200 which is much appreciated.

Jetty Field - Braunston's Pocket Park

Spring has arrived and the Jetty Field committee have been meeting via Zoom throughout the winter in preparation. Our next work morning will be on Saturday April 3rd. We will meet by the gate to the garden at 9am. Please feel free to join us. As on previous occasions we will be working to Covid rules, spread out in small groups. Please bring your own spade, trowel etc. if you have them. If not, they can be supplied.

The May work morning has been put back a week to Saturday 15th May to fall in line with the Garden Association. Again, please feel free to join us, either to get your hands dirty or just see what we are doing.

Items on the 'to do' list are

- Erect the bird and bat boxes.
- Work on the water source which flows through the allotments into the wild area.
- Plant wildflowers in the bog garden.
- Plant the hedging whips from the Canal and River Trust.
- General tidying and maintenance work.

Braunston Canal Society

During the lockdown the Canal and River Trust allowed BCS to assist with essential maintenance involving small crews following COVID-19 guidelines.

braunstoncanalsociety@gmail

THE ALTERNATIVE BOOK CLUB

EASTER FUN!



Join our Egg Hunt

WIN a prize!

Easter Saturday 11am - 1pm

The Green, Braunston

supported by



FOR DETAILS please read
accompanying article or go to

www.facebook.com/thealternativebookclub

The Alternative Book Club – Easter Fun!

We are holding two activities at Easter, entry is free and you are all invited to take part.

Our Egg Hunt is on Easter Saturday in and around the centre of Braunston, open to children and grown-ups alike. It shouldn't take you very long and there will be a prize of an age-appropriate book (and perhaps some other treats if you are lucky!) for everyone who hands in a completed questionnaire. Just come along to the village green (with a pen or pencil!) to register between 11am and 1pm and enjoy yourselves!

For full details go to: www.facebook.com/thealternativebookclub.

As previously advertised we are also holding an Easter egg decorating competition but the closing date for entries has now passed! Winners will be declared over the Easter week-end..

For those who don't know, we in The Alternative Book Club are a motley crew who like to read books. We take turns in setting a book for all to read and we meet monthly to tell each other exactly what we thought of it! On a different night each month we gather to read poems on a given theme and to have a light-hearted quiz.

We usually meet in The Wheatsheaf over a drink or two or, in the summer, perhaps in someone's garden (more drinks!) but during Covid restrictions we have been getting together on Zoom. Our meetings are informal and light-hearted and we usually end up chatting about all and everything under the sun!

Why not come and join us? You'll be very welcome. Just drop an email to Laura at thealternativebookclub@braunston.org.uk for more details.

Braunston Neighbourhood Watch

Julie Jarrett coordinates information for Braunston.

Tel: 01788 890121 or 07952 858418

Craig is our local PCSO Tel: 07557 778055

The Friends of All Saints

Zooming into Action

Like many other organisations, The Friends of All Saints has been in enforced hibernation for the past year because of the pandemic.

But now that spring is in the air and Lockdown could soon be easing, the Friends are rising from their slumbers, pushing back the curtains and planning to leap into the twenty-first century with a meeting on Zoom.

Last year's AGM was postponed...and put on hold...and postponed again as ever more restrictions were announced. To make sure that that does not happen again, this year's AGM will be on Zoom at 4.00pm on Wednesday 28th April.

If you are a member of the Friends, you just need to drop an email to the secretary at secretary.foasb@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk to say that you wish to take part. You will then receive further details and a copy of the agenda.

Sadly, the only thing you will not receive is the complimentary glass of wine with which members have been greeted at previous AGMs. But the committee are determined that normal service will be resumed as soon as possible, with physical meetings taking place as soon as regulations allow.



Braunston Bakes

We are looking forward to our next bake which will be on Saturday 15th May. Please look out for details in the May BVN.

braunstonbakes@gmail.com



Braunston Village Gardens Association

Dates for the diary

The BVGA looks forward to meeting you through the year at our gardening events, when government restrictions allow. We have listed our plans and will of course update you with changes.

The BVGA publishes its Covid secure policies ahead of events on our pages of the Braunston website.

- Garden Store – OPEN on Sundays 11am to 12 noon - Village Hall. Please book ahead – see March BVN or website for information.
- Pop along to the Braunston pop ups!

Saturday 15th May 10am to 12 noon BVGA Plant Sale

Find us in the Village Hall car park for this socially distanced sale.

Selling perennials, vegetable plants, shrubs, a few annuals as well as garden store items to support the BVGA events and activities. Once again, we are delighted to be linking up with other village organisations.

Come along on Saturday 15th May and you will be able to join in with the Jetty Field work morning and buy from Braunston Bakes.

See pages 17 & 20 and further details in the May edition of the BVN.

- Open Gardens – Sunday 4th July 11am to 6pm

Every other year we organise this event primarily to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We are a friendly village event with about 15 gardens of all different shapes, styles and sizes opening throughout the village.

If you would like to find out more about what is involved or if you already know that you would like to open your garden this year, but have not yet mentioned this to Kate or Fran, please get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

- Braunston Show – Saturday 4th September

More information will be published in future months. If you have questions now then contact Kate.

For more information about the BVGA or our events please contact Kate Mawer mawerk@hotmail.co.uk. 01788 890340

Braunston Walkers

2020 What a year!

I am glad that one is over and look forward to some great walks in 2021 once restrictions are lifted.

Looking back to January last year we started with a romp over to Staverton and an excellent lunch at the Countryman. In February, still blissfully unaware of the pandemic we walked from Leamington Hastings in the extreme wet! It was that village's Snowdrop Festival and the village was resplendent with the white flowers. We got drenched and finally ended up, gently steaming, with a great lunch at The Bridge Inn Birdingbury where we decided to give up! That was a first but we were a bit wet! Then we were locked down and unable to get together till July when we managed a local walk and used the Plough for lunch

In August we did Bragborough with a guided walk with the owner. It was great to walk locally somewhere where most of us had never walked before.

In September we managed to get away for our annual weekend and this time we went to Patterdale in the splendid Lake District. Our hotel, the Patterdale, was fantastic and we did three walks. A soggy walk around Brothers Water, an epic walk the full length of the eastern shore of beautiful Ullswater and crossing the bridge at Pooley Bridge which had been only opened for the first time in years that day. How lucky are we? On the Sunday we walked along the Grizedale Valley behind the hotel and underneath Helvellyn. A great weekend in a super place.

We walked to Barby in October in groups of six using Walkie Talkies to keep in touch. Our final walk again in groups of six in December followed the track to Sawbridge then Nethercote and back but sadly no pub stop!

Our next walk is planned for 17th April in groups of six and we will probably walk over to Middlemore. Let's hope we can get back to proper walks and pubs soon.

Ray Scrivens 01788 891384 rayscrivens@btinternet.com

Braunston CAN (Climate Action Network)

In April 2020 we undertook a survey to identify aspects of the parish that impact on the climate emergency. As part of this participants could put forward their suggestions on aspects of village life which they considered may help in tackling climate change.

One such suggestion was for a 20 mph speed limit. In places 20 mph speed zones have been introduced as a safety measure as slower speeds reduce accidents and make those that do occur less serious. However, with the increased awareness of emissions contributing to climate change, and of particulate matter affecting health, there is an increased focus on the output of car exhausts, the speed cars travel, and the amount of stop and start they make in built up areas.

Some studies have shown that reducing speed to 20 mph can increase slightly the output of gases and particulates from exhausts. However, this can be offset as slower vehicles are having to brake and change speeds less to negotiate road conditions such as the busy part of Braunston High street and the junctions at The Green. Less braking means less particulate matter is emitted from brake pads and tyres.

The problem of exhaust gases will reduce as electric powered vehicles become more popular. It is predicted that electric vehicles will outsell combustion engine cars by 2025 and by the time UK government's ban on the sale of diesel and petrol powered cars comes into effect in 2030 electric powered vehicles will be the majority on the road. However, electric vehicles will not address the problem of particulate matter generated from brakes and tyres, and may even increase the problem as current designs of batteries can make vehicles heavier.

One of Braunston CAN's aims is to mitigate the effects of climate change, and one action is to acquire an air pollution monitor to enable current levels of pollution in different areas of the parish to be monitored. These findings might be useful when it comes to future decision-making about traffic calming and speed limits.

We are very pleased to have been awarded a grant from DDC to pay for an Air Quality Monitor as well as hedging tools for volunteers to improve the hedges in Jetty Field so that they will store more carbon and a soil test kit to assist with the planting of wildflower verges.

If you're interested in finding out more and getting involved please message 07989 421836 or 07554 264742.

Other News

MacMillan Fundraising Run to Liverpool

Chris Edge and Andy Canning are running approximately 150 miles from Braunston to Anfield, home of Liverpool FC to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support.

Their friend, John Andrews was diagnosed with incurable and inoperable stage four bowel cancer in 2019 aged 48. Chris and Andy have decided that it would be a great idea to run (and walk) approximately 150 miles from The Admiral Nelson in Braunston, to the home of his beloved football team.

Leaving on Easter Monday 2021, Andy and Chris will run/walk the entire way, mainly along the canal. John hopes to join them for the last mile to Anfield.

They are aiming to arrive on Saturday the 10th of April, the same day Aston Villa are due to play Liverpool there.

John has asked that any money raised goes to Macmillan Cancer Support who have provided such amazing help to him and so many other people affected by cancer, especially during the Covid crisis.

<https://justgiving.com/team/YNWAJohn>

For more details please contact:

Chris Edge – Telephone: 07484 110206.

Email: chrisedge21@btinternet.com

Andy Canning – Telephone: 07306 314377

Email: andy.canning1@gmail.com

The logo for Macmillan Cancer Support, featuring the words "MACMILLAN" and "CANCER SUPPORT" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically on a solid green rectangular background.

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Weather report for February

At 11pm on the 10th of February the temperature fall to -3.8°C. We had a warm day on the 24th when it reached 16.5°C.

The barometer reached a high of 1042.3hpa on the 27th at 11.32 and had dropped to a low of 991.7hpa on the 2nd at 7.43. Hectopascal Pressure Unit (hpa) this is equivalent to millibars. Most new barometers now read in hpa.

The wettest day was the 2nd of February when we had 9mm. The total for the month was 32.5mm which is about average since Braunston records began in 2015.

February was not so windy, only reaching 20.6mph on the 12th at about 11.15pm.

Weather Report continues on page 26

Braunston Rainfall data

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan		53	72	55	62	25	67	87
Feb		31	37	47	24	36	103	32
Mar		25	79	54	104	47	22	
Apr		14	43	12	70	23	33	
May		45	33	71	72	36	3	
Jun		25	68	32	1	109	68	
Jul		48	8	54	14	47	55	
Aug		44	60	53	42	64	98	
Sep		33	43	72	29	76	30	
Oct		48	16	11	50	102	80	
Nov		61	74	29	39	115	47	
Dec		72	21	92	72	78	114	
Total	mm	499	554	582	579	758	720	
	in.	19.6	21.8	22.9	22.8	29.8	28.3	

We had one or two quite sunny days with the Solar Radiation reaching 545.2 W/m^2 on the 24th and also a UVI rating of 5 at this time which is quite high for this time of year. 545.2 W/m^2 is the amount of energy from the Sun in the form of Electromagnetic Radiation (Solar Irradiance). 1000 W/m^2 is the value on a clear day in the summer at noon, so be prepared and get the sun cream ready for the next time or at least dig out your sun hat.

Adrian Pell

A Heart Felt Thank You

I have often said how lucky we are to live in the friendly village of Braunston with its church, school, shops, clubs, charities, volunteer groups, the Parish Nurse and a very active Parish Council.

What a success Braunston Heart has been. I had never previously met my three volunteers. Zoe did my weekly shopping, Laura looked after my prescriptions and Lyndsay rang me regularly for a chat.

A big thank you to all, and to Jay, Chris and their staff for the local store and butchers looking after us all so well in very difficult circumstances.

Colin White

Bin collections

Wednesday	7 th April	Food and Garden Waste
Wednesday	14 th April	Food and
Wednesday	21 st April	Food, Garden Waste and Waste
Wednesday	28 th April	Food and Recycling

Bus times

Now that most students have returned to schools and colleges, bus times have reverted to those that operated before Christmas.

Frosty's Country Notes - Rare visitors on the wing

Looking skyward last summer, I saw some curious visitors. Over the village I saw a young raptor. It was a bit of a puzzle, but I reckoned it might be a young osprey. I didn't say too much about it to birder friends, fearing one of those embarrassing mis-identifications that produced a long-lasting argumentative storyline in the Archers.

Then I heard on the feathered grapevine that ospreys had bred on Fawsley Lake less than nine miles from Braunston – no distance at all for a young osprey brought up in a health club and spa. I don't know if the bird I saw really had that posh address but I can't wait to see my first osprey plucking a fishy dinner from Braunston's canal waters.

Another one-time rarity, but now often seen family of birds, is the tall white heron shaped egret. Actually there are three different egrets that have reached our neck of the woods.

The cattle egret is exactly the same bird you see on African wildlife films perched on the back of a water buffalo picking off the ticks. We also have more and more local sightings of the little egret and the great white egret and even rarer the closely related spoonbill. The big and little egrets aren't too easy to size unless you see both together. Sightings of all these elegant white herons fishing in shallow water are getting closer and commoner every season.

In summer 2020 we had some even rarer, vaguely heron shaped birds, getting close to Braunston. A pair of Cranes, Britain's tallest, and one of its rarest birds, flew close by as did a couple of white storks seen over Long Buckby heading our way.

The storks may have been introduced birds from Surrey exploring the country for new homes to deliver babies. The cranes, are probably a spin off benefit of the successful reintroduction in the Broads National Park. Keep your eyes open and your binoculars handy, you never know what you are going to see.

Peter Frost

Directory of local businesses

The businesses whose advertisements appear on these pages have contributed to the printing costs of the BVN.



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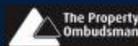
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BVN Deadline - May 2021 Edition

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