

# Braunston Village News

Issue No: 336

February 2000

This issue published jointly by All Saints' Church and the Braunston Parish Council for every home in Braunston

## Hazardous A45

Many months of pressure on the Highways Agency by the Parish Council culminated in a meeting in July last year, when the Agency accepted that improvements to the A45 could be made to increase safety standards. It was agreed that they would come back to the Parish Council with a programme of improvements. A plan has now been received showing the Agency's proposals. These are listed in full below.

- Upgrade the existing double bend warning signs with 'REDUCED SPEED NOW' plates and yellow backing boards.
- Upgrade the existing chevron boards at the A45/High Street bend with yellow backing boards.
- Provide new 'junction on bend' warning signs with yellow backing boards on both approaches to the High Street bend.
- Provide new staggered junction warning signs with yellow backing boards on both approaches to the Old Road / Braunston Marina junctions.
- Relocate the 'Road Narrows' warning sign that currently obscures the direction sign opposite Braunston Marina
- Provide 'SLOW' road markings, with a red surface treatment background, to the bend and junction warning signs.
- Upgrade the existing village name signs. The Agency will discuss various options with the Parish Council. They also recommended that the village name sign south of Braunston be relocated 90m south-east to improve forward visibility of the sign.

In addition, they thought that safety at the A45/Old Road and Braunston Marina staggered junction might be improved by relocating the bus stop that is now on the south side of the A45.

Two options were put forward for re-locating this bus stop:-

- Relocation to a point 65m south-east; opposite Station Cottages, where a length of carriageway that appears to be narrow-width layby is currently hatched out.
- The second point is some 40m north west of the current location, to a point opposite the bus stop situated on the other side of the road.

Any relocation of the Bus Stop would need agreement from all interested parties and would be subject to a Safety Audit given the likely changes in traffic and pedestrian patterns.

The Parish Council will be having another meeting with the Highways Agency to look at the merits of painting an 'island' on the A45 at the Old Road junction.

The important issue of providing better signage and a speed reduction to the East (Daventry side) of Old Road, for the safety of residents and road users, has not been addressed and the Parish Council will be making further strong representations to the Highways Agency.

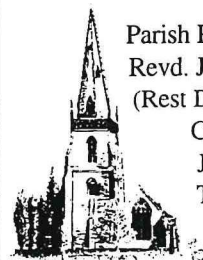
If you would like to see the proposed improvement scheme, the Plan is on display in the Old Library at the Village Centre.

### Editorial

Many thanks for the supportive comments on the style of our last issue. With continuing financial help from the Parish Council we are able to repeat the same format this month but in the long term we will need more advertising income and sponsorship. We would also welcome news stories from people who may not have contributed in the past. We need your help to make the BVN more interesting!

Geoff Waghorn (890698) and Owen Davies (890076) - Joint Editors

### ALL SAINTS' CHURCH



Parish Priest :  
Rev. James Watson 890235  
(Rest Day - Tuesdays)  
Churchwardens:  
John Caunt 890776  
Trevor Minett 890908

### CHURCH SERVICES

#### Wednesday 2nd February

7.30 pm Candlemass at  
St. Martin's, Welton

#### Sunday 6th February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist and  
Baptism  
6.30 pm Evensong

#### Sunday 13th February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Family Service led by  
Braunston beavers, cubs and scouts.

#### Monday 14th February

2.15 pm The Little Fishers

#### Sunday 20th February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist  
6.30 pm Team Choral Evensong  
at Holy Cross, Daventry

#### Sunday 27th February

8.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist

#### Monday 28th February

2.15 pm The Little Fishers

#### Every Wednesday

10.30 am Holy Communion

Closing date for March Edition is  
Wednesday 23rd February.  
Leave your copy at the Post Office  
or e-mail jrwwb@globalnet.co.uk

## Quincy-Voisins

Some of us will have been disappointed that the weather around Christmas was not more traditional with snow and frost. Others will have been very grateful that conditions were on the whole mild and trouble free. Sadly many areas of Europe were caught in horrific storms which claimed many lives and caused immense structural damage.

Braunston's French twin Quincy-Voisins was badly affected with three hundred houses suffering structural damage. More serious is the fact that the deputy mayor was killed by a fire engine while helping to clear up storm debris.

The Parish Council has written to Quincy's mayor expressing sympathy. There may be very little of a practical nature which we can do but knowing of our concern must be of some comfort.

### Watch Out .....

There's an epidemic about and it's costing you money. There appears to be a 'litter bug' in the village at the moment. The Parish pays for 10 hours of litter picking a week. This with extra cleaning provided by the District Council should be more than enough to keep our village tidy but recently we appear to have been overwhelmed by litter. Perhaps some people still do not realise that it is an offence to drop litter in a public place. We are lucky enough to live in a lovely village, lets make it even nicer by keeping it clean and tidy.

### Police Matters

In the period 1 April 1999 to 5 December 1999 24 crimes were committed in the village which were reported to the police. Of these 5 have been solved.

The types of case were: -

Burglary (dwellings and others)	12
Criminal damage (including to vehicles)	7
Theft (including from vehicles)	4
Wounding	1

The areas affected were: -

Spinney Hill/Welton Rd/	9
Ashby Rd/School Close area	
High St/Church Rd/Greenway area	6
London Road	6
Canal/Little Braunston	3

PC Bob Dunn our Community Beat Officer asks that any incident even a minor one should be reported to the police as this may help to establish a pattern which might help to solve crime.

PC Dunn is responsible for eighteen villages, six in this area and twelve in the Weedon area. Inevitably this means a different style of policing from the days of the 'village bobby'. In spite of this it is surprising how much PC Dunn knows about what is going on!

### Members of the Parish Council

During the past year there have been several changes of membership of the Parish Council. Below is a list of all current council members.

- Janet McCarthy 01788 890336  
(Chairman)
- Lynne Whyte 01788 890865  
(Vice Chairman)
- Cindy Brewster 01788 891511
- Sue Burge 01788 890310
- Terry Fuller 01788 890883
- Pat Herlihy 01788 890590
- Mick Isom 01788 890866
- Chris Miller 01788 891938
- Michael Robinson 01788 891268
- Sara Tokley 01788 891206
- Terry Waddleton 01788 890128
- Wendy Wilson 01788 890348

### Dog Waste Bins

The Parish Council is in the process of applying to the County Council for permission to place two additional red dog waste bins in the village. This move in addition to the free Whoopsie Bag scheme illustrates the council's intent to keep the village as clear as possible of dog faeces.

Although the Parish Council will pay for the bins the County Council has to give its permission as they will be sited on the public highway. The proposed sites are the top of Ashby Road and the path from Church Road to Ashway.

## Important Notice

By now every Household should have received a copy of the **Ward Action Service Plan questionnaire** from the District Council. Since July 1998, when the first Village Improvement Scheme questionnaire was received and following two well attended public meetings, it has been clear that the majority of villagers support the proposed improvements. If Braunston is to receive the funding for this important scheme it is **essential** that you once again show your support by **completing your questionnaire and returning it to the District Council before February 18<sup>th</sup>**.

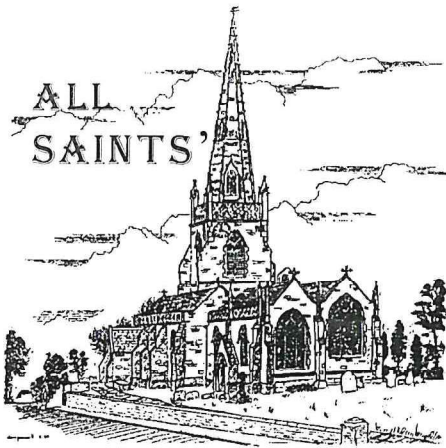
If you haven't already done so, please help by returning it now. If you have lost your Questionnaire, please contact Janet McCarthy (890336) or Geoff Waghorn (890698).

### Are you paying the correct water charges?

It came to light recently that some residents were paying too much for their water. Charging for water is quite complicated which makes checking bills difficult. Put simply, we in Braunston should pay for water received at Anglian Water rates and for sewerage and surface water drainage at Severn Trent rates. If anyone thinks that they may be paying incorrectly or wants to check, the Parish Council has prepared an information sheet which can be obtained from either Janet McCarthy (890336) or Geoff Waghorn (890698).

There is a choice of how to pay for surface water drainage if you have a meter. Payment may either be based on rateable value or property type the customer choosing whichever is the most beneficial. Broadly, it is worth considering property type charging rates if rateable value is above the levels below.

Flats/Terrace	£98
Semi-detached	£196
Detached	£293



### Vicar's Letter

Dear Parishioners,

Did you know that All Saints' Braunston gives 10% of its income to charity every year? The reason for this comes from the Bible (Leviticus 27:30) and it is a principle that most churches keep to. But in the first instance the commandment applied to everyone - not just churches. In other words, we are all expected to give to charity. For some it might mean giving less than 10% - obviously family circumstances will differ - but the essential message remains the same - God wants us to be generous in what we give. This is particularly the case now that the National Lottery exists since traditional charities have suffered as a result of people buying lottery tickets. We all budget to pay for our electricity and oil and weekly shopping - why not put in a figure for how much we are going to give to charity? If God has been generous to us - in giving us his Son - ought we not to reflect his loving generosity by helping others in need.

This year, the church gave **£1,880** to the following charities:

Hope and Homes .....	£300
Intermediate Technology .....	£100
Mary and Martha Society .....	£100
Tools for Self- Reliance .....	£150
Church Missionary Society .....	£150
Crosslinks .....	£130
Church Urban Fund .....	£150
Family Care .....	£150
C of E Pensions Board .....	£100
V.I.P. ....	£100
St. Christopher's .....	£150
988 Club .....	£100
National Children's Homes .....	£100
C of E Housing Trust .....	£100

Yours sincerely,

*Rev. James Watson*

**150 years of All Saints' Braunston.** We have a **photographic record** of all the high point of last year, including Mothering Sunday, Easter, BBC Songs of Praise, the summer fete, All Saints' Day (with visiting clergy). Remembrance Day, the Christmas Fair, the Christingle, and of course, the **FLOWER FESTIVAL**. Also featured are the bellringers, the choir and the Fishers. The photographs are on display before and after every Sunday 10.30 am service in February. If you wish to have reprints of any, Cedric Wasser will take your order then.

### Notices...

#### HOPE AND HOMES FOR CHILDREN.

Our target to raise £10,000 looms ever closer. We have now passed the £9,000 mark. It looks as though we shall comfortably break through our target much sooner than expected. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way towards making it possible to build a home for orphaned children.

The next fundraising event in aid of **HOPE AND HOMES** is at the table-top sale in aid of the new Village Centre on the morning of **Saturday February 5th**. We shall be holding a bric-a-brac stall on the day, so please dig out your unwanted gifts and other items and either leave them at the back of the church or arrange to leave them with:-

Beryl Wilkinson, 22 The Green, Braunston, tel: 890814.

#### Church Floodlighting:

4th December	In memory of a very special person, Mark Sherress, from Kerry Whitlow
8th December	Remembering Phyllis Cullinane on her birthday - from all the family
10th December	In memory of Spencer Lee, from Joan
14th December	Wedding Anniversary of Terry and Annette Iles
15th December	Birth of grandson, Gregory Nielson, from Cynthia Curtis
15th December	In remembrance for Malcolm (died 8th Dec.) who moored near the church for two winters.
18th December	For Jacob Wright's 2nd Birthday from Gillian Owen
23rd December	On my grandfather's birthday, from Peter Chaplin
23rd December	In memory of Pamela Thompson on her birthday, from her husband Harold, and Sally and Roger
28th December	Bob and June Arrowsmith's Ruby Wedding Anniversary - Boxing Day
<b>2000</b>	
9th January	William Kendall, birthday memories from the family
11th January	Birthday of Christopher Atkins
12th January	On Kelly Brewster's 13th birthday, lots of love from Mum, Nan and Pap
19th January	50th birthday of David Knibbs
19th January	Birthday of Richard George
20th January	Birthday of Peggie Weston
22nd January	Gladys Horwood, in memory and birthday memories for 26th January from Ray, Julie and Gary
21st January	In memory of Brian Thomas
22nd January	In memory of Gladys Horwood
23rd January	On the 80th birthday of Auntie Joyce from Bournemouth
26th January	In memory of Gladys Horwood on her birthday
30th January	In memory of Peter Green

Are you of pre-school age and get a bit fidgety on Monday afternoons? Then why not get you mum or dad or minder to bring you to the **LITTLE FISHERS**.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month during term-time. We sing a little, play a little, learn a little and make a little something to take away with us when we go home. All children are welcome!

#### From the registers...

##### Holy Baptism

5th December Lily Beth Smith and Harry James Thomas

*It is with great pleasure that we welcome these two children into the Lord's family*

##### Holy Matrimony

4th Dec Gemma Beasley and Jay Hewitt

*We pray that they may enjoy every blessing in their married lives together*

##### Funerals

12th January Blanche GREEN

13th January Denise THOMPSON

27th January Rhoda RUSHALL

*May they rest in peace and let light perpetual shine upon them*

**ALL SAINTS' ALIGHT!!** Who won the bidding to have the spire lit up on Millennium Eve? The Answer is **Peter Andrews** of Brindley Court whose bid of £250 was not trumped. Thank you to all who contributed to make the auction possible. All proceeds went to **HOPE AND HOMES FOR CHILDREN**.

But who switched the lights on for Millennium Eve? The answer is Richard Jaremijenko of 14 Countryside.

## Braunston Friendly Club

Welcomes all Pensioners in the Village.  
Meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Monday 14th Feb. Valentine's Day.  
Romantic cards, keepsakes or poetry would be most welcome. A tea will be provided by the family of Peggy Farrington, in her memory. Peggy used to live in Braunston but had been living in Watford with her family until she passed away late last year. She is sorely missed.

Monday 28th Feb. Sue Dickenson, the "Care and Repair" officer for Daventry Council will come to talk to us about grants and the help available for household repairs.

*This meeting is open to all pensioners and not just members. Grants are available for privately owned property as well as council houses.*

### THE BRAUNSTON SCHOOL OF DANCE

Mrs Julia Beattie  
Fully registered I.S.T.D. teacher  
**DANCE CLASSES AT  
BRAUNSTON**  
Enquiries **Tel. RUGBY 890488**

### Keep healthy the Chinese Way!

Classes started on 24th January  
Mondays 6.30 - 8 pm  
in the Village Hall

Various exercises will be taught including Tai Chi Chuan. These systems are particularly relevant to current hectic lifestyles in providing peace, calm and relaxation. No special equipment is needed just wear loose comfortable clothing and soft shoes. Beginners as well as those with experience are welcome but the course is not suitable for children. For details please contact the teacher, John Harford on 01327-705807

## Braunston Directory

Thanks to all those who have notified amendments to their entry or who have asked for to be listed for the first time. The Parish Council has decided that the next edition should be published in May/June 2000 as this will allow for an up to date list of Parish Councillors after the elections in May 2000.



• To Ken & Phyl French. For delivering the BVN to Church Road for many years. Much appreciated.

• Clair Clegg, Lucy Morgan and Becky Penhall would like to thank the people of Church Road who gave very generously on Wednesday 22nd Dec. when the girls went carol singing. A total of £35.74 was raised and given to the Hope and Homes appeal run by the Church.



### Braunston & District Royal British Legion

Thanks everyone who contributed to the Poppy Appeal. £1689.60 was collected.

### Braunston Twinning Association

Next meeting:-

Wednesday 9th February at 8pm  
in the Old Library, Village Hall

### DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!!

The Barn Dance this year will be on  
Saturday 4th March at 8 pm  
in the School Hall.

Tickets - £5 including supper.  
Available from the Post Office or from  
Elizabeth Gwynne (891331)

## Village Hall News

Our first fund raising event for new hall project is:-

**TABLE TOP SALE at BRAUNSTON  
VILLAGE HALL, SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 5TH. OPEN AT 9.00  
UNTIL MIDDAY. FREE ADMITTANCE.  
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE.**

If you want to book a table, telephone 890865, or just turn up on the day. £5.00 per table, or car boot pitch in car park.

Please come and support our efforts to raise money for the New Hall Project.

### Braunston Parish Council

Next Meeting:-  
Monday 7 February 2000.  
7-30pm.  
Village Hall Library.

*Don't forget to look at the Braunston  
Website*

[www.braunston.net](http://www.braunston.net)



## BRAUNSTON SCHOOL of MOTORING

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AD, I AM

**01788 890751**

*Did you hear about the Alpha Course?*

*Here is a personal viewpoint from someone who attended*

Like perhaps a few other people in Braunston, I really didn't know what the Alpha course was about? I was a bit sceptical about such a course. I certainly did not want my own doubts and opinions confronted by others I didn't know very well! But I was to be pleasantly surprised. I did in fact find the course very interesting and in fact good fun. As the course progressed I began to understand some of the myths and mysteries that make up Christian beliefs. The issues covered on the course were fascinating and extremely relevant, even in this day and age. I do, however, remain sceptical about some of these issues! But then that is what Alpha is all about! The format of the course lets you to sit quietly with your own thoughts, doubts and opinions, or if you wish, you can openly question and discuss any of the points covered with the others on the course. On reflection, I was grateful to have the opportunity to be able to look into the basis of Christian belief, especially as there was no obligation or any expected commitment. I would guess there are many other people who may think that Christianity is somewhat boring, perhaps untrue and even irrelevant. I mean how could an event which happened 2000 years ago and 2500 miles away from Braunston have any possible relevance to our lives today. Well, the 'Alpha' course bravely attempts to answer these types of key questions, which are at the very heart of the Christian faith. If you do have any questions or are curious about what makes Christianity tick - then why not join the *next Alpha course (starting in May)*

*You will find it good fun.*