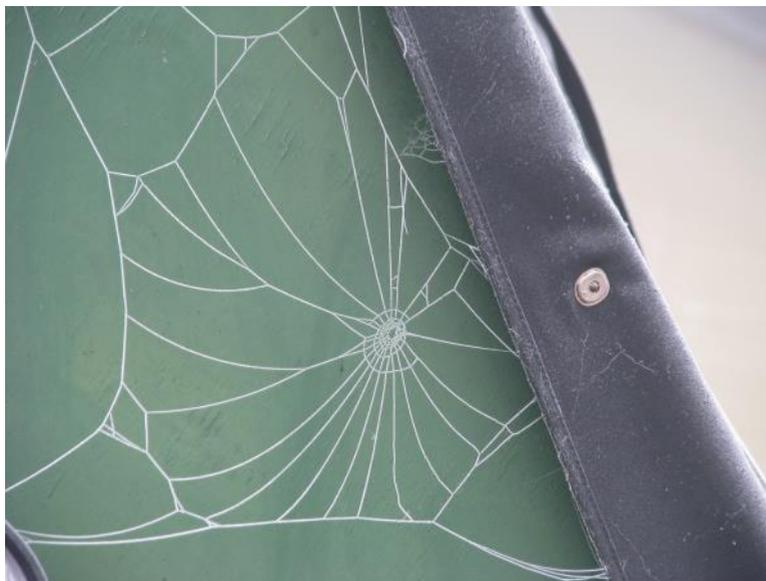


# BRAUNSTON NEWS Village

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

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A frosted spider's web adorns a narrow boat in Braunston Marina, formerly the site of community ice skating, See page 30.

## 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](http://www.allsaintsbraunston.org.uk)



AllSaintsBraunston

#### **Churchwardens:**

Pat Milner

E: warden2@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 01788 899 157

Mariann Holloway

E: warden1@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 07761 136 307

#### **Secretary:**

Fergus McCloghry

E: secretary@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

T: 01788 890 747

#### **Treasurer:**

Peter Hobbs

E: treasurer@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

### **BRAUNSTON REGISTERS**

There were no weddings or Baptisms in December and January.

#### **Funerals:**

2<sup>nd</sup> December - Fred Hall, cremation service at Rainsbrook Crematorium

21<sup>st</sup> December - Fred Trathan, graveside funeral in Braunston cemetery

29<sup>th</sup> December - Ruth Nelson, Funeral service at Rainsbrook Crematorium

30<sup>th</sup> December - Barbara Bunn

21<sup>st</sup> January - Tony Lintern, Graveside Funeral in Braunston cemetery

## **All Saints' Church**

As we venture into this new year, sadly the corona virus pandemic has got worse and we are back in full lockdown. Although it is possible for churches to open, the churchwardens and Rev Nat agree that it is not safe or possible for us to do so, and so our church remains closed. We believe this is the right action even though it is disappointing for us all.

The church building may be closed but the church community is very much alive!

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.

Before Christmas we made a short film of good news stories from our church. If you haven't seen it on the YouTube channel, please do watch it. If you can't access YouTube and please contact me and we'll try and get a copy to you on DVD instead.

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 join. You do not need the internet to join in and can join 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.

## **Vicar's letter**

### Light in the darkness

After the tragedy of the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017, I remember the vicar of the local church telling the story of how he was woken in the early hours by the noise. He got up, went to the church, opened the doors and put the lights on. Before long, it became the centre of an operation to feed and care for emergency workers and the local community. He said, 'sometimes in a crisis, the only thing you can do is open the doors and put the light on'.

In the current crisis, we've had to do the opposite – the church doors are closed, and the lights are off (at least the ones inside!). This is not what we wanted to do but something amazing seems to have happened instead. It's as if in place of the lights in the church building, lots of smaller lights have been lit in homes across our village. Lights that represent open doors and open hearts as we have reached out and cared for one another, lights of new friendships formed, lights of compassion and acts of kindness, lights of sharing our time and resources to help one another.

January is often known as 'Blue January' and this year we have more reasons than ever to feel blue or sad. But there is always hope and light in the darkness. The 2<sup>nd</sup> February is a little-known Christian festival called 'Candlemas'; it celebrates the presentation of baby Jesus in the Temple but in church tradition it was a time when people brought candles to the church to be blessed for use at home, reminding us that Jesus is the light of the world.

This light was never meant to be kept in a church building but be spread out amongst us. This has certainly happened with the church community as we have found new ways to worship, to care for one another and the village community. My hope is that the light of Christ will continue to shine in our homes and lives throughout this year.

God Bless you,

Rev Nat

## **Candlemas lights of hope**

During the first week of February there will be a simple display of light in the church porch for those who want to take time to reflect and pray.

## Parish Nurse

Hi. So glad to hear many of you have had your Covid--19 vaccine which, although still a way to go marks a turning point in this pandemic.



**Mrs Maggie Murray**  
Parish Nurse  
BA, RGN

Mob: 07495 873565  
[parishnurse@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk](mailto:parishnurse@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk)



Parish Nursing  
Ministries UK

We are still being urged to stay at home as far as possible to protect ourselves and others. We are fortunate to have good support in the village should we need practical help with shopping etc.

I want to be there to support you in any way I can, so please get in contact with any issues you would like to have a chat about or pass my number on to anyone in the village you think may benefit.

I'm available 2 days per week, usually Wednesdays and Thursdays but You can leave a message by phone or email below anytime, and I will reply when I am back at my desk.

Many of you will be feeling anxious. The 'Every Mind Matters' website is a resource which I have mentioned before and found beneficial. I would encourage you to take the little 5-point quiz, from Public Health England, which generates a personal mind plan with different options to choose.

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/your-mind-plan-quiz/>

As usual if you have any medical concerns, contact your GP or 111 if out of hours and 999 if an emergency.

If you think you may have coronavirus symptoms such as high temperature, new continuous cough, loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, please contact the NHS coronavirus website <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/> If you don't have access to the website, telephone 111.

Email: [parishnurse@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk](mailto:parishnurse@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk)

Tel: 07495873565



## **Church Floodlighting**

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

These are the floodlighting requests received before the BVN deadline, 18<sup>th</sup> January.

The fee to light All Saints' is £7 per evening, although you can give more, and we ask that you try to keep the length of the dedication to not more than 12 words. The completed message with the donation can then be left at the Rectory or at the village Post Office. Please mark the envelope 'Church Floodlighting'.

Please submit your request before the BVN closing date, 18<sup>th</sup> February.

## **December's list updated**

3<sup>rd</sup> - \* In Loving Memory of Our Mum

5<sup>th</sup> - \* Remembering with love my darling wife Thelma on her birthday – Bob

6<sup>th</sup> - Joy Pittam's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, love from all the family

6<sup>th</sup> - In memory of Judith Old.

7<sup>th</sup> - In memory of Sheila

9<sup>th</sup> - Remembering Alan Cope on his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday. Love Jacqueline, Amanda, Phoebe and Matt.

19<sup>th</sup> - In Remembrance of the Lees family, R.I.P. , Love Brian xx

24<sup>th</sup> - Carl Grant 60<sup>th</sup> birthday memories – Thinking of you always, Sharon, Kyle, Siann and families

25<sup>th</sup> - Happy 75<sup>th</sup> birthday Christine Wells. Love from Barbara, Robert and family.

25<sup>th</sup> - Treasured memories at Christmas of Alan Cope. Love Jacqueline, Amanda, Phoebe, and Matt.

25<sup>th</sup> - Averil and John Bartley sadly missed this Christmas. Love from all the family.

27<sup>th</sup> - \* In memory of Philip Hutchinson

30<sup>th</sup> - \* Peter & Chris Grossart's Wedding Anniversary

30<sup>th</sup> - In loving memory of Barbara Bunn. A wonderful wife, mum and Grandma

## January

6<sup>th</sup> - Ron Clegg 90th birthday memories – Thinking of you always, Audrey, Dave, Jane, Sharon and families

8<sup>th</sup> - \* Lit by Bryan & Janet Stuart, to commemorate our son Jonathan

13<sup>th</sup> - \* In memory of Peter Wenham, friend & ringer

17<sup>th</sup> - A very happy 80th Birthday Charles! With much love from all the family

20<sup>th</sup> - \* Happy Birthday Martin. Love Debbie

23<sup>rd</sup> - In memory of Beryl Sampson from all the family.

23<sup>rd</sup> - In memory of James Smith from his children Autumn and Danny

## February's so far

10<sup>th</sup> - \* In memory of Mansel Davies

12<sup>th</sup> - \* Gordon & Helena Lane Anniversary

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

23<sup>rd</sup> - \* Happy birthday Zoe. Love, Mum

## Sharing the story of Christmas - The Nativity trail

Thank you to all those who helped to make the Nativity trail on the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> December such a success:

- those who made displays for their windows and front gardens,
- Jenni, Chris and Pete for organising the event,
- Fran for her amazing angels,
- Chris and Jenni's nativity figures,
- Anne's lambs,
- Mick's star and angels
- and to Sean for making the incredible stable outside the church.

It was a real community effort. I hope you enjoyed the trail and hearing about the Christmas story.

Rev Nat



## Food Share

Many thanks to all those who have donated so generously to the Food Share especially over the Christmas period. We were able to provide gifts and Christmas treats to over 20 families and 12 other households from Welton and Braunston as well as remaining open over the Christmas period to support those who needed it.

The Food Share remains busy and we have seen an increase in those now using it. Please do keep your donations coming, they really do make a huge difference and helps us to support as many people as we can at this very difficult time.



FOR ANYONE IN NEED OF FOOD ITEMS AND TOILETRIES  
DURING THE LOCKDOWN

# BRAUNSTON FOOD SHARE & CARE

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

## Parish Council Information and News

**Clerk:** Steve Rolt

c/o 82 Greenway, Braunston, NN11 7JT

07956 682733 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 held via Zoom. Members of the public are invited to attend. Please send your email address to the clerk if you wish to attend.

1<sup>st</sup> February                      Full Council Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> March                            Full Council Meeting

Agendas and minutes are available on the Braunston Website and on the Parish Council noticeboard at The Green

## **Internal audit**

Geoff Waghorn has decided to retire from this role. The council is moving to use the NCALC, Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils, service at a cost of £282.00 per annum.

## **Risk assessment**

The council has made changes to its Risk Assessment. The document is published on the website.

## **Braunston to Daventry cycleway**

District Councillor Jason Pritchard reported to the Parish Council that the District Council has agreed that the cycleway will go ahead. It is hoped that work will start in February with completion scheduled for June.

The costs of construction, £730 000 will be taken from the funds of the Community Infrastructure Levy paid by developers in Daventry to improve local facilities.

## **County Council Finance**

County Councillor Malcolm Longley reported that the council's budget will balance this year and that there will be a surplus. Borrowings will be reduced and the reserves will increase.

## **Christmas tree**

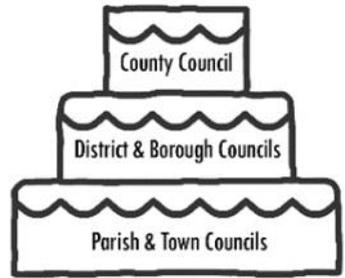
The council was pleased with the positive comments about the tree on The Green and agreed to repeat this next year. Thanks were paid to the volunteers who helped organise it and put the tree up.

## **Police liaison**

Councillor Graham Newman liaises with the police for the Parish Council. Information on how to report a crime is on page 20.

## Local Government Reorganisation

The existing councils, which have been in place since the 1970s, are like a three-tier cake. Braunston Parish Council is the most local layer. Daventry District Council is in the middle responsible for services including planning, housing and refuse collection. Northamptonshire County Council covers the whole county and is responsible for things like social services, education, and highways.



**West  
Northamptonshire  
Council**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April the top two layers are being replaced with one layer, consisting of two unitary councils. Our area will be covered by West Northamptonshire Council. It will be responsible for all the services

currently being provided by DDC and NCC. The Parish Council will remain as it is.

The main reason for replacing the district, borough and county councils with unitary councils is to save money. Northamptonshire County Council had well-publicised financial issues in 2017 and 2018, which led to a government inspection of the council. The inspector's report recommended that creating unitary councils was the best solution.

From 2021 we will see three lines on our council tax bill. We will pay an amount for the Parish Council to spend on the village, an amount for Northamptonshire Police and an amount for West Northamptonshire Council for all the council services it will provide. The amount we pay to each body is set by that body.

West Northamptonshire Council will have 93 councillors, who will be chosen at the local elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May. Anyone over 18 and living in West Northamptonshire can put themselves forward to be a councillor. The councillors elected in 2021 will serve a four-year term of office and may seek re-election in 2025.

Council meetings are held in public, and all the information and reports, for the meetings are published on the council's website. Councils are open and democratic bodies and are accountable to the people they serve.

## 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](mailto:braunstonpreschool@googlemail.com)

## Braunston C of E School



Happy New Year. Staff returned to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January rested and anticipating the return of the children in our care on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>. However, as you are now all aware at 8pm on the Monday our plans for a safe return to school under another national lockdown had to change!

Staff worked tirelessly to communicate to parents what the direction meant to the children and their families. By Wednesday morning, vulnerable children and those whose parents were critical to the COVID response, were in school. The remaining children were safely at home linking into live lessons with staff juggling teaching those children at home and those in the classroom too.

Teaching and learning resources are loaded onto our learning platform and we continue to evolve and refine our provision. Staff continue to work hard at school contacting families, making sure food is available where needed and laptops loaned out to families who do not have their own access.

We continue to be thankful for the support from the local and school community. All this is happening during the continuation of a global pandemic, at a time where we are trying to ensure every child has access to teaching and learning, is fed and coping during challenging circumstances and that staff remain well in order to provide this. We hope that you remain well and that the roll out of the vaccination brings this isolation of lockdown to an end when it is safe to do so.

Meanwhile, if you are concerned about a child's safety or welfare, please note the following:

**Emergencies:**

If a child is in immediate danger, left alone or missing, contact the police and/or ambulance service directly on 999.

If there is no immediate danger or if you need advice, contact the Northamptonshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub:

Telephone: 0300 126 1000;

Email: [MASH@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:MASH@northamptonshire.gov.uk).

## Clubs and groups

### Braunston Heart

It has been an interesting start to the year; we had hoped for more normal times. Braunston Heart, the Church and other community groups are here to help us through. As well as collecting medication, shopping, walking your dog or any general errands, Heart is good to contact if you would like to chat or would like other help.

We can make a referral for assistance with your fuel or food costs. There are other grants available; without knowing what people want it is difficult to apply, so please make contact and ask. Suggestions are welcome.

Things are difficult for people who normally would not be struggling. Braunston is good at supporting the community; various groups provide assistance.

Everyone should have received a Christmas card and Braunston Heart fridge magnet which I hope you will find useful. The cards were designed by children at Braunston Primary School. We had some great competition entries and it was difficult to choose our winners. Ava, Sam, Chloe and Jacob all did a marvellous job and it was lovely to read the happy comments on The Bugle.

We were delighted to help with the village Christmas card deliveries this year. 311 cards were delivered and £61.40 was received in donations.

As I write this, ten elves have gone missing in the village whilst on holiday. There is a competition to locate them by solving the clues set by



**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**

cub leader, David Coleman. Hopefully they will all be located before they end up in trouble on The Bugle ☺. Misty Raffell, with a little help from her mum, Emma, designed and painted the elves for us. Bragborough Hall helped with printing the quiz and route sheets.

We are regularly asked about making a donation. A new page has been set up at gofundme, under Braunston Heart, where online donations can be made. If you wish to donate using any other means then please make contact. Cheques are made out to Braunston Parish Council. As a Good Neighbour Scheme, we are responsible for raising our own funds. We are very fortunate to receive help from our Parish Council to support with running costs but donations will enable us to do more.

Jo Glover

Braunston Heart, Kindness and Compassion.

### **Braunston Paddox Cricket Club**

The cricket club held their first Zoom AGM on Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. Officers elected were:

Chairman - Adam O'Connor

Secretary - Tom Sabin

Treasurer - Kurt Shingler

Assistant Treasurer - Rohan Patel

Team selector - Jordan Shingler

Welfare Officers - Adam Treen and Adam Sargisson

Commercial lead - Tom Sabin

1st XI captain - Ryan Haynes, Vice captain - Tom Sabin

2nd XI captain - Colin Scott, Vice captain - Rohan Patel

Wednesday captain - James Goodwin

Sunday captain - Chris Eyles

Club Chairman, Adam O'Connor, is raising money for Prostate Cancer through a series of runs throughout January. So far he has raised very nearly £400.

The League season should start at the end of April, but this will not be confirmed until we hear what the Government's Covid rules are at that time. We will also be playing a lot more Sunday friendly fixtures in 2021.

For more details contact Tom at braunstoncc@gmail.com

## Braunston Village Gardens Association

This year we will continue with measures to make the garden store COVID-19 secure. There are a range of ways to make a purchase which means that you do not need to go inside a shop to get products for your gardening.

- Please order by phone or email (see contact details). We can deliver to you or you can collect your purchases at an arranged time between 11 and 12 on a Sunday morning (28<sup>th</sup> Feb - 23<sup>rd</sup> May) when they will be labelled and put on the low wall by the community herb garden outside the garden store at the Ashby Road side of the Village Hall.
- You can pay by BACS or leave cash or a cheque (payable to BVGA) at a pre-arranged place for when we deliver or you can drop it in our payment box if collecting from the Village Hall. Our BACS details are Sort code: 09 01 54 Account number: 88898501 Reference: Please use your surname.
- Depending on government guidelines at the time, you may be able to come to the store between 11 and 12 on Sunday mornings (28<sup>th</sup> Feb - 23<sup>rd</sup> May) and buy without ordering but please ring by 10am to arrange a time. Please wear a face covering, wait away from others and do not enter the store. To keep households separate, one volunteer will be working in the store to take out what you purchase and another will be outside to record purchases. Pay by BACS or put cash or a cheque in our payments box.
- You can pre-order (see contact details) any gardening products as well as the items on our price list. We can send you by email a copy of our supplier's catalogue or you can ask us, by phone or email, about products you would like that are not on our list. Our prices are the trade prices charged by our supplier (plus VAT where applicable) plus a small upward rounding that goes towards BVGA events such as the Braunston Show. There is a reduction on quoted prices for Mr Fothergill's and Johnsons packeted seeds.
- There will be two deliveries from our supplier. This will give us the opportunity to top up with items that are selling out and it means that there are two occasions when you can pre-order from the catalogue. It will also help us store the stock more easily. The deadline dates for pre-orders are:

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March

- Remember that orders from our list can be placed at any time during our season. Pre-orders from the full catalogue can be placed by 17<sup>th</sup> Feb or 31<sup>st</sup> Mar. We estimate that the deliveries will be on the mornings of Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April. A volunteer will sort and label the pre-orders and phone you when yours is ready for collection.
- Full details of our COVID-19 security measures are on the BVGA page of the village website.
- Contact details:

Richard: [rmstapley@talk21.com](mailto:rmstapley@talk21.com) or ring 01788 890475.

Alan: [a.mawer@virgin.net](mailto:a.mawer@virgin.net) or ring 01788 890340

This year we have removed John Innes formula composts from our stock so that all the products on our list are free of peat. Monty Don said continued use of peat in compost was “an act of environmental vandalism”, and “There is no garden that justifies the scale of environmental damage ... that peat use causes.”

Peatlands are a natural environment that trap carbon, soak up water controlling flooding and provide homes for a big range of wildlife.

The 40 litre multi-purpose compost listed below is the Clover brand which proved to be very popular in 2020. It can also be used as a grow bag when it requires less feeding than traditional grow bags.

Our 2021 price list:

Compost, multi purpose, peat-free, also works as a growing bag.	40 litre	£4			
Bamboo Canes	8 feet	60p			
Tomorite	1 litre	£4			
Bark Chips	75 litre	£6			
	FBB organic	1lb 60p	7lb £3	14lb £5	25kg £15
Fertilisers	Bonemeal organic	1lb 70p	7lb £4	14lb £6	25kg £18
	Growmore	1lb 90p	7lb £6	14lb £9	25kg £20
	Pelleted Chicken manure	1lb 50p	7lb £3	14lb £5	20kg £12

## Braunston Canal Society

For the only task party between the lockdowns we split into two groups. The first concentrated on tidying up the junction water point and bin compound. A rebranded information sign was fitted. The second group made a start on their 'twin bridges' project by removing vegetation from the bridge structure at the junction.



On instruction from CRT after due diligence the saplings on the island were removed. Working with Braunston Climate Action Network, BCS hope to replace these with wildflowers. The hedge overhanging the bridge abutment will be cut back when BCS have the means to dispose of the copious amount of arisings that will be produced.

Having failed to locate the missing  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  mileposts on the flight, BCS put in a request to Canal and River Trust to search their maintenance yards for possible replacements. Luckily two were found at Gayton yard. Unfortunately they were both  $\frac{1}{4}$  mileposts. Undaunted, with the generous help of Union Canal Carriers, we modified them to the required mileage. After being painted and the necessary permissions obtained they will be reinstated when COVID restrictions allow.



The Society is always keen to welcome new volunteers so if you would like to come along and have some fun you can email me at [braunstoncanalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:braunstoncanalsociety@gmail.com)

## Braunston CAN (Climate Action Network)

The Green Homes Grant has been extended to 2022 for grants of up to £10,000 towards the cost of making a home more energy efficient. Apply by using this website - <https://www.gov.uk/apply-green-homes-grant>

Two of our group held a virtual meeting with Lee Taylor, newly appointed Environmental Improvement Officer for DDC. Lee can empower bigger projects, for example there is an electric vehicle charging point budget. He can liaise with non-governmental organisations that may be able to

provide finance and can arrange bulk buying for items such as solar panels for installation across a number of parishes.

He is keen to move Daventry forward to be a leader in sustainability. West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) is looking to be more sustainable.

We are a group of about twenty Braunston residents working to reduce the carbon emissions of the village and beyond. If you are interested in joining us, please message 07989 421836 or 07554 264742. Please let us know if you would like to receive our email updates.

## **Braunston Walkers**

19<sup>th</sup> December 2020. This was our Christmas walk, normally a time of celebrations and a get together, but this was more low key. We were in tier 2. We had three groups of 6 or fewer and three leaders.

We gave a warm welcome to Philip who was walking again and set off through Jetty Field to pick up the footpath to Nibbitts Lane then downhill to the canal. We splashed along the towpath to join the track to Wolfhampcote.

The weather was fine as we continued along an increasingly wet track to Sawbridge. At the road we turned left passing several large houses and joined another wet track aiming for Nethercote. On the recce we had crossed several fields in thick cloying mud to reach this point, but revised our plans as the group would not have thanked us for it!

After passing under the old railway and over the canal, we climbed uphill to Nethercote. From here there were superb views over the Warwickshire Plain despite the looming clouds in the southwest.

We stuck to relatively dry roads to rejoin the track at Wolfhampcote. There was a passing shower but nothing too heavy as we returned to the village.

Sadly, we could not use the pub in groups and we missed our annual singsong with Roz and Simon. Under current circumstances, there are no walks planned. Let's hope it's not too long before we can start again.

Happy and healthy New Year

Ray Scrivens 01788 891384 rayscrivens@btinternet.com

## **Braunston Community Car**

The car is available for hospital and doctor appointments.

Only members of one household may travel together. All passengers need to sit in the back.

All passengers are required to wear a mask and use the hand sanitiser provided.

For our part, the driver will wear a mask and the car door handles will be sanitised after each trip.

Some journeys are provided in volunteers' own cars.

To request a journey call 07984 412921

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Many thanks to the family and friends for their kind donations in memory of Ruth Nelson (page 23), which totalled in excess of £700. This will make a significant difference to the car fund after a quiet year owing to the Covid restrictions.

## **Braunston Neighbourhood Watch**

How to report crime or anti-social behaviour

The website of Northamptonshire Police, [www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk) has a report tab where you can report a crime, anti-social behaviour, fraud, a lost or stolen vehicle, a road traffic incident, a missing person or a civil dispute. This is the force's preferred method of contact.

If you would prefer to contact them by phone you can use the non-emergency number, 101. Dial 999 if it is an emergency.

If you wish to be kept informed of issues relating to the police or Neighbourhood Watch, you can sign up at Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Alert which is a free messaging service.

Julie Jarrett coordinates information for our local group.

Tel: 01788 890121 or 07952 858418

Craig is our local PCSO Tel: 07557 778055

## Other News

### Upgrade to electricity main

Through all of January a contractor was working on Butlin's Hill, Church Road and part of Greenway to install an upgraded electricity main.



Digging the trench



Resurfacing the pavement in Church Road

### Bin collections

Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Food and Recycling
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Food and Garden Waste
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Food, Recycling and Waste
Wednesday	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Food and Garden Waste

## **Ruth Nelson 1925-2020**

Ruth, who died aged 95 in December, lived in Braunston for nearly 90 years and had many friends here. We pay tribute to a longstanding and well-known member of our community by including parts of the description Ruth wrote of her life.

*I was born at Willoughby, the first born to Tom and Emma Quinney. My parents were hoping for a boy; I hope I wasn't a disappointment as the name Raymond was written on a picture over the bed, but I am sure that they loved me. Dad was an Auxiliary Postman supplementing his money by helping on the farm. Mum made all our clothes; she was a very good needlewoman as well as knitting and crocheting. She was a good cook making our meals on a very limited income.*

*I left school at 14 to work at BTH as an Office Girl. We had to take the cylinders round the offices for the men to dictate letters into and then collect them back for the girls in the Ediphone Department to type. The next step was to go to an office as the office girl; I went to Transformer Sales, doing filing and running errands. I was very shy then.*

*I met my husband Bob at a dance in Braunston Village Hall during the war. He was stationed at Daventry. We became engaged and married on 31<sup>st</sup> March 1945 and I wore a dusky pink suit and my bouquet was of pink carnations and pink tulips. I had been a member of the Church Choir and they sang at our wedding at All Saints'.*

*After the war Bob went to Palestine with the Peace Keeping Force until 1947. We were on a waiting list for a council house and after a while we were allocated a three bedroomed semi in Cross Lane with a big garden where we lived until we moved to Church Road in 1974.*

*John was born in 1950 followed by Janet in 1954; we settled to family life enjoying our garden and walks by the canal on Sunday afternoons.*

*I started working as a dinner lady in the village school and served dinners which were brought by van from the central kitchens in Daventry. After the school moved to Barby Road the dinners were cooked on site and eventually I became the Cook which I really enjoyed, especially working with my friend Edna Wartier.*

*After John and Janet had married and left home Bob and I loved to dance and joined in with the dancing in the village hall or Barby Village Hall. We used to travel round seeing new places and after Bob retired we would enjoy a ride out in the car on a summer's afternoon or walking through the fields and along the canal.*

*We were lucky to celebrate our Golden Wedding and our Diamond Wedding too when our family had organised a surprise party.*

*Sadly Bob died in 2009 and I had two choices – stay at home and be sad or join in with others which I gladly did. My friend Iris and I would go for walks most days and with other friends we used to go on day trips run by DACT to garden centres or places where there were nice gardens. I joined the Peace Lunch at church which I really enjoyed, chatting to others and having a time for quiet reflection. I joined the Friendly Club and went every fortnight where we had interesting speakers or played bingo or a quiz.*

*My good friend Iris would come to see me in an afternoon and we would watch television or just sit and chat. Judith would come and bring me a newspaper and my lottery ticket. I kept buying it in the hope that my numbers would come up with a big win but they never did. I relied a lot on the Community Car to take me to the Peace Lunch or to get my hair done with Amelia giving me some time away from my own four walls. I enjoyed afternoons watching a DVD with my friends Mavis and Alan.*

In memory of Ruth a collection was made for the Community Car as reported in their entry on page 20.

## **The Winter Aconite, a Braunston poem**

A BVN reader saw bright yellow winter aconites flowering in the garden and sent us this poem. A plant of the forest floor, it takes advantage of winter light before the trees come into leaf and bring shade.

Soon it will be white again, where snow has melted with the rain,

Nothing cold about this white, jewels sparkling ..

Making light of all the dull of winter's days, and shimmering in the low sun's rays

This white will be as satin gowns, swirling through winter's dusky browns

This white will be my snowdrop bed, flowering when other flowers are dead,

And as to shine on them, a light, will glow the winter Aconite.

## The Braunston Community Orchard is begun

Prior to the pandemic Braunston Climate Action Network had started to survey the village to identify locations where additional trees could be planted to help absorb the greenhouse gas CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere. In discussion with Mike Gunn we agreed that it would add interest to Jetty Field if we planted a batch of apple trees to expand the community orchard.

Abigail Campbell contacted Andy Howard of Heritage Fruit Tree Co Ltd for advice on local varieties of apple and plum trees and an initial six trees were selected, collected and planted. The varieties have such exotic names as: Warwickshire Drooper, Wyken Pippin, Leathercoat, Aynho Scarlet, Thorpes Peach, and Eady Magnum. No Pink Lady here, just a scarlet one! There could be a future competition to name each tree e.g Percy the Drooper. A seventh tree, the Braunston Pippin, was donated by Dennis Bancroft for planting in March.

A further batch of 4/5 trees, a mixture of apples and pears, was ordered from Heritage which included two pears, a Black Worcester and a Durondeau. It was planned to plant these in January but because of the latest Coronavirus travel restrictions this is being delayed.

There is no truth in the rumour that the Royal Gardener will be planting the Braunston Pippin. All being well with the trees, it is expected that the first fruit will be available for residents to pick in 2 to 3 years' time.

Tony Renshaw



## Weather report for December

I bought myself an early Christmas present in November, a new weather station. It is approximately 4 metres above the ground and as such ground temperatures will probably be a couple of degrees lower.

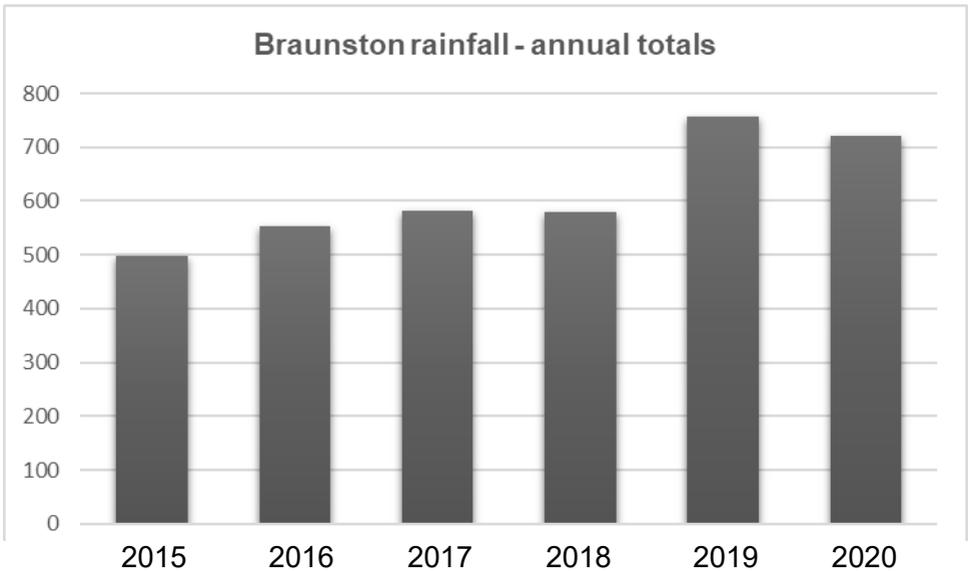
We had a relatively warm day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> when it reached 12°C. On Christmas Day at 5:30am it was only -1.9°C, so pretty frosty. That day the barometer reached a high of 1021.5hpa. It dropped to a low of 958.8hpa on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

The wettest day was the 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec when 31.2mm was recorded. The total rain for December amounted to 113.8mm, the wettest since our local records began in 2015.

It was again quite windy reaching an average high of 20.6mph on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and a gust of 32.0mph on the 27<sup>th</sup> Dec.

The brightest period of the month was the 20th when we received 210.2 watts of solar radiation per m<sup>2</sup>. This is good news for those with solar panels on the roof. Unfortunately I have not.

Adrian Pell



## Features

### Defibrillators in Braunston



The BVN has been asked by a Braunston resident to give some information about the two defibrillators in the village.

The defibrillator at 50 High Street on the front wall of the shop was funded by the Parish Council and the British Heart Foundation. The one at the vehicle entrance to Braunston School,

Barby Road, was funded by the school and the Parish Council.

Both defibrillators have clear instructions on them. The number is not required as both are registered on the national database.

The following advice is provided by the British Heart Foundation:

Defibrillators are very easy to use. Although they don't all look the same, they all function in broadly the same way.

You don't need training to use one. The machine gives clear spoken instructions – all you have to do is follow them - and it won't shock someone unless they need it.

If you come across someone who is unconscious, unresponsive, not breathing or not breathing normally, they're in cardiac arrest. The most important thing is to call 999 and start CPR to keep the blood flowing to the brain and around the body.

After a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces someone's chance of survival by 10 per cent.

If you're on your own, don't interrupt the CPR to go and get a defibrillator. If it's possible, send someone else to find one.

To use a defibrillator, follow these simple steps:

Step 1: Turn the defibrillator on by pressing the green button and follow its instructions.

Step 2: Peel off the sticky pads and attach them to the patient's skin, one on each side of the chest, as shown in the picture on the defibrillator.

Step 3: Once the pads have been attached, stop CPR and don't touch the patient. The defibrillator will then analyse the patient's heart rhythm.

Step 4: The defibrillator will assess whether a shock is needed. Both Braunston defibrillators are fully automatic and will shock the patient without prompt. Do not touch the patient while they are being shocked. (Some defibrillators in other places will tell you to press the shock button.)

Step 5: The defibrillator will tell you when the shock has been delivered and whether you need to continue CPR.

Step 6: Continue with chest compressions and rescue breaths until the patient shows signs of life or the defibrillator tells you to stop so it can analyse the heartbeat again.

Remember:

First priority - call 999 and start CPR

Second priority - send someone to get a defibrillator

Defibrillator next to the gate at Braunston School



## Getting to know Pete Worrall

Pete and his wife, Val, have recently marked fifty years of living in Braunston.

How long have you been in the village and what do you like about it?

*We moved into the village in December 1970 and have lived in the same house in the High Street ever since. We previously lived in Coventry, where I was born. Val was born in Devon.*

*The reason for us coming to live here was because I was employed in Daventry at the Herbert/Ingersoll Machine Tool plant, which is now Cummins, and Val, a teacher, took up a post at the Grange Infant School.*

*Braunston is a lovely place in which to live and in particular the High Street. The various buildings in the High Street are like those of a small town, which is quite rare for a village.*

*Other than being an avid cricketer, playing in the Coventry Works League for teams such as Jaguar Motors, Standard Motor Company and the Reynold Chain, for many years, I also played cricket for the Willoughby Cricket Club.*

*My sporting interest now is playing golf and I have been a member of Northampton Golf Club since the mid-eighties.*

*The canal is another important feature of Braunston and for many years we owned a Braunston-built, Barney boat called 'Rachel'. The boat was named after our daughter. Incidentally, this was the only boat that the late Ron Hough ever cruised on.*

*Although famous for painting boats throughout the whole of the UK, Ron and his wife, Yvonne, only came on trips with us and together we spent many a happy Sunday having lunch somewhere either sitting on the boat or on the towpath.*

What's your favourite music?

*My taste in music is varied, but I do have a passion for jazz, particularly Big Band music. I'm an ardent fan of Benny Goodman,*

*Ted Heath, Count Basie and Duke Ellington I also enjoy the music of Dizzie Gillespie, Miles Davies, Dave Brubeck the MJQ and many more.*

*I listen to Jazz Request at 4pm every Sunday on Radio 3.*

*I well remember the Coventry jazz clubs of the 1950s, mainly in pubs. It cost 5 bob to go in. One had a piano with some of the keys missing but a good pianist could still play good jazz avoiding the dead keys.*

*The Coventry Theatre had a Big Band concert every Sunday. This theatre has been demolished now. In its time it was one of the largest theatre outside London. It's the site where the Transport Museum is now.*

*We saw Ella Fitzgerald at the De Montford Hall in Leicester.*

*Our daughter Rachel developed her music skills and has had a career in music. We took her to clarinet lessons and piano lessons. She got the highest grades. Then she took up the saxophone, studied for three years at the Royal Marines School of Music in Deal, Kent, and became a saxophonist with the Royal Marines. She played in their concerts at the Royal Albert Hall which we attended.*

*What's your favourite book? .*

*Val and I both enjoy reading. For me, it is mainly fiction, biographies of political figures and sportsman. I like spy and true adventure stories.*

*As I have often said, to live here in Braunston, is a real bonus and hopefully we will do so for many more years to come.*



## Ice skating in Braunston

Over 60 years ago lots of Braunston people used to go ice skating. What is now Braunston Marina was then two reservoirs separated by the path from Butchers Bridge to the Railway Station. There was no channel joining the two areas of water so there was no footbridge as there is now.

It was taken for granted that the reservoirs would freeze for part of each winter, but 1947 is remembered for being particularly severe. The nearest weather station to Braunston with complete data is at Oxford where 54 days of air frost in 3 months were recorded. Average temperatures in the 1940s and 50s were lower than now and, although we can still get a severe winter, they occur less often. This era also saw a reduction in canal use with commercial freight-carrying declining and leisure boating not yet being taken up in large numbers. The still water of the reservoirs froze quickly and stayed solid for some time. One year, during a prolonged frost, someone drove a car on to one of the reservoirs.

Many families in Braunston kept ice skates for the winter season. Some were purpose-made and others had skates that could be clipped on to their shoes. Others even made their own improvised skates. It was a communal village activity enjoyed by many with some becoming quite proficient. Roger Beckett was noted for being a good skater.



These are the ice skates used by Sheila and Roger Beckett's grandfather, Walter Nurser, on the reservoirs in the 1890s.

## Directory of local businesses



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6.30pm - 7.15pm

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Grade 2 Ballet (11 yrs+)

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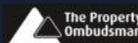
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**BVN Deadline - March 2021 Edition**

The next newsletter will be published on 1<sup>st</sup>.March Please submit to [bvn@braunstonpc.org](mailto:bvn@braunstonpc.org) or the Post Office by noon on **18<sup>th</sup> February**