

# BRAUNSTON NEWS Village

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

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How did Cross Lane get its name?

Find out on page 27

## 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 313 774

#### **Treasurer:**

Peter Hobbs

E: treasurer@allsaintsbraunston.org.uk

### **BRAUNSTON REGISTERS**

#### **Weddings**

21<sup>st</sup> December-Rebecca and Martin Taylor

#### **Confirmations**

15<sup>th</sup> December– Aaron Dunkley and Janet Shepherd

#### **Funeral**

15<sup>th</sup> January-Sarah Taylor

## Vicar's letter

### How do you solve a problem like Maria?

I wonder if you watched 'The Sound of Music' this Christmas? Often an old favourite for many families. Mother Superior is faced with the challenge of knowing how to guide a novice called Maria as she navigates her calling to become a nun and balancing the needs of the monastery and its traditions and routines. Maria doesn't quite fit and the other nuns sing that she's a '*A flibbertigibbet! A will-o'-the wisp! A clown!*'

However, when life became difficult and she faced heartbreak, Maria returned to the place she knew that she would be loved and accepted, a place where she could work through her pain and heartache: the monastery. Later on, the monastery is the place where Maria is married and the family sought refuge from the Nazis, it became like home.

But of course, it wasn't just the place, it was the people that mattered. Despite Maria being described by her fellow nuns as being, '*Unpredictable as weather, she's as flighty as a feather, she's a darling! she's a demon! She's a lamb!*' They loved and cherished her and were there for her when she needed them most.

The church too is often criticised for putting its traditions and routines first and many people don't feel they fit in. But my hope is that the church is a place that is accessible to all. And more than that, it is a place where people matter more. A place where anyone can come with their doubts, questions, heartache and find people who will offer acceptance and love in the name of Jesus. I hope that when people come, they will see how we love and care for one another and find a place where they belong. So even if you feel like you wouldn't fit in or even that you are a problem like Maria, may you know that you will be welcome!

Happy New Year!

Rev. Nat

## **Church Floodlighting**

### **Not shown in the December BVN**

25<sup>th</sup> - Remembering our wonderful mother at Christmas, Gladys Elizabeth Wood – your loving family

27<sup>th</sup> - Happy Birthday Fran (Haynes) on 27<sup>th</sup> December. Love and best wishes from Mum and Dad

### **January**

5<sup>th</sup> - \* In memory of Eileen Berry. Graham, Karen & Family

6<sup>th</sup> - Ron Clegg birthday memories. Audrey, Dave, Jane, Sharon & 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

23<sup>rd</sup> - Remembering our Daddy, James on his birthday. Autumn & Daniel.

31<sup>st</sup> - \* Sybil and Pat celebrate the 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday of their Granddaughter Lizzie

### **February's floodlighting 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

21<sup>st</sup> - Happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday to my wonderful Mum. Love Amanda, Matt, and Phoebe xx

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

25<sup>th</sup> - Happy Birthday Pete! With all our love; Val, Rachel, Pete and Mosella

26<sup>th</sup> - \* In memory of Les & Thirza Pittam

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

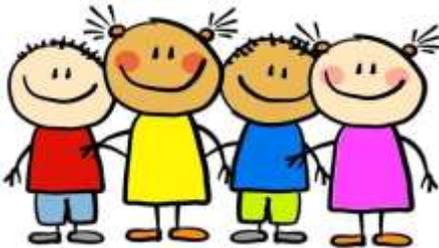
## Church Diary for February

<b>Day</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
Sun	1	11:15	Holy Communion & Junior Church
Mon	2	09:10	Morning Prayer
Tue	3	09:00	Morning prayer (Maple Close)
		09:00	Tiny Treasures (term time only)
Wed	4	12:30	Peace at lunchtime at All Saints' Church
Sat	7	12:00	Christmas Fair
Sun	2	00:00	Holy Communion & Junior Church
Mon	3	09:10	Morning Prayer
Tue	4	09:00	Morning prayer (Maple Close)
		09:00	Tiny Treasures (term time only)
Wed	5	12:30	Peace at lunchtime at All Saints' Church
Sun	9	11:15	Café Church in the village hall
Mon	10	09:10	Morning Prayer
Tue	11	09:00	Morning prayer (Maple Close)
		09:00	Tiny Treasures (term time only)
Wed	12	12:30	Peace at lunchtime at All Saints' Church
Sun	16	11:15	Holy Communion with Junior Church
		15:30	Thanksgiving service for Parish Nursing at Peterborough Cathedral
Mon	17	09:10	Morning Prayer
Tue	18	09:00	Morning prayer (Maple Close)
Wed	19	12:30	Peace at Lunchtime at All Saints Church
Sun	23	11:15	Family Communion Service
Mon	24	09:10	Morning Prayer
Tue	25	09:00	Morning prayer (Maple Close)
		09:00	Tiny Treasures (term time only)
Wed	26	12:30	Peace at Lunchtime at All Saints Church



## **Parish Nursing**

Maggie Murray, our Parish Nurse is to be commissioned by Bishop Donald at a special thanksgiving service for Parish Nurses within the Diocese. The service is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30pm followed by refreshments in Peterborough Cathedral. For more information please contact Rev Nat.



## **Tiny Treasures**

Parent / Carer Toddler group  
For pre-school age children  
Tuesdays (in term time)  
9:00-11:00 at The Rectory  
High St. Braunston  
For more details contact  
Rev Nat 01788 890298

Tiny Treasures will be meeting with Pre-School in the Village Hall on the following dates -

25<sup>th</sup> February and 24<sup>th</sup> March.

Entrance to Pre-School is round the back of the Village Hall

The session will run from 9-12pm but you are free to come and go.

There will be snack time for the children at the usual time.

Refreshments for the grown-ups as usual.

A donations pot will be available, and the proceeds will go to Pre-School.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## 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 Road, Hill Row, Old Road t: 01788 890143

Joanna Longworth, High Street from Old Plough to The Green t: 07930 263113

Lizzie Iddins, High Street from A45 to Old Plough t: 07904 061548

John Pomfret, Eastfields t: 07817 234727

Vacancy, Ashby Road t: 07956 682733

Robert Davey, Spinney Hill and Closes t: 01788 891591

Sue Harrison, Dark Lane t: 07769 589459

Sandra Stapley, Welton Road, Maple Close t: 01788 890475

Tom Sabin, Church Road, Barby Road t: 01788 891797

### **Forthcoming Meetings**

Members of the public are invited to attend meetings. Unless indicated, they are held in the Meeting Room at Braunston Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> February Full Council Meeting

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> March Full Council Meeting

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> April Full Council Meeting

Agendas and minutes are on the Braunston website:  
[www.Braunston.org.uk/bpc](http://www.Braunston.org.uk/bpc)

and on the Parish Council notice board at The Green.

## **Posts on the Village Green**

Additional wooden posts are being put around sections of the village green similar to those already in place to protect The Green from vehicle damage.

## **Speedwatch**

We have four volunteers to be part of this scheme, but for Police training and for it to go ahead we need a minimum of eight people. So four more people are needed. If you are interested in helping to make the village a safer place please volunteer by contacting Graham Newman 01788 890143.

## **Changes at the Parish Council**

After five years of service as both District and Parish Councillor, Jason Pritchard had planned to leave both roles in May to coincide with the elections for the parish and for the new West Northamptonshire Unitary Authority that will initially shadow, then take over the functions of DDC. As there were two volunteers for the Parish Councillor vacancy that occurred in 2019, Jason resigned from the PC in January so that both applicants can be co-opted to the PC. Jason will continue to attend Parish Council meetings in his role as District Councillor. More information will be given in the March edition of the BVN.

## **Parish Council Land**

We would like to remind everyone that in the interest of safety the Parish Council does not allow the flying of drones in Jettyfield or the playing field in Barby Road.

Dogs are not allowed in the playing field.

Dog owners are also asked to ensure they pick up after their dogs in all public places as well as on footpaths and bridleways across farmland and other areas. Jettyfield is an area also used by school children and pre-school children.

## **Parish Precept**

The precept for 2020/21 will increase by 3%

## Village Diary 2020

Date	Time	Event	Organisation	Venue
29-Feb	10am -2pm	Fab Feb Fair craft sale	Twinnors	Village Hall
01-Mar	11am-12	Garden Store opens	BVGA	Village Hall
04-Apr	7pm	Super Spring Quiz	Twinnors	Village Hall
07-May		Visit to Quincy Voisins	Twinnors	
09-May	10am-12	Plant Sale	BVGA	
16-May	2pm-5	Tea Party pop in for tea	WI	Village Hall
06-Jun		Summer Fete	All Saints'	On the Green
20-Jun		Puddings and Performance	Players	Village Hall
11-Jul		Coffee and Cake for Carl	Catherine	27 The Green
05-Sep	8am-10.30	Braunston Show exhibitors	BVGA	Village Hall
05-Sep	2pm-4.30	Braunston Show opens	BVGA	Village Hall

BVGA Gardens Competition - enjoy keeping your front gardens ready for this village competition this summer.

More details such as times and venues for these events will be in future BVNs.

Look out for walk dates on the Braunston Walkers page 22.

The cricket fixtures will be in each month's BVN once the season starts.

We will update the diary in the July issue. Please let us know if you have events planned.

**Could you fit this chair?**



**It would be great if you could help us out.**

We represent the many and varied organisations that use **Braunston Village Hall**. We make up the **Village Hall Committee**.

Our organisations, as well as the businesses that use the hall, work with the volunteer Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Bookings Officer to coordinate its day to day running.

**We are a friendly and welcoming group of people. We embrace change and like to look at new ways of doing things.**

This year, after many years' service, our Chair and Secretary are stepping down and we are looking for people from the village to fill their places on the committee. **We think this could be you.**

If you would like to help the Village Hall move forward into the 2020s contact one of us or come along to a meeting to find out more about the role. We would value your response to our request, whether you are a long-time resident or new to the village. **So go on, get in touch today.**

**Speak to anyone on the Village Hall committee or contact**

Liz Fraser (Bookings Officer) and Ron Hunt (Treasurer) via [villagehall@braunston.org.uk](mailto:villagehall@braunston.org.uk) or telephone 07890 072487

## Village Hall Information

We host nearly 20 regular users at our hall and many other functions, including parties and meetings.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege for us to be Chair and Secretary and we are only stepping down due to other commitments.



Please respond to the BVN advertisement, you will so much enjoy working with our superb committee to keep this great village facility at its best.

### Hall hire charges

If you want to hire our hall please visit the website. Your bookings mean that we can keep improving the hall for your enjoyment.

For all day or all evening events special reduced rates apply.

See our website: [braunstonvillagehall.org.uk](http://braunstonvillagehall.org.uk),

email [villagehall@braunston.org.uk](mailto:villagehall@braunston.org.uk)

or phone 07890 072487.

Details of special events can also be found on the website.

If your child attends Braunston Pre-School or Braunston C of E Primary School you are entitled to Braunston resident's rates even if you do not live in the village and you receive an extra 10% off hall hire charges during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

	<b>Braunston Residents</b>	<b>Non Residents</b>
Gallie Room	£11 per hour	£22 per hour
Main Hall	£11 per hour	£22 per hour
Both Halls	£20 per hour	£40 per hour
Meeting Room	£6 per hour	£12 per hour

## **Contacts for regular activities in the Village Hall**

Some clubs take a break during school holidays. Please check with the contacts.

### **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	Alan	01788 890011
	Fishing Club Bingo	8.00pm	Harry	01788 890396
	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
Thursday	Gardens Association	7.30pm	Kate	01788 890340
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



January saw the start of Braunston C.E Primary School's new community project. All children have drawn a picture that they feel represents our community of Braunston. Lilly has the difficult challenge to ensure that all the drawings come together to celebrate life in Braunston. The artwork will cover the wall outside Reception and Year 1 classrooms and will be visible from the external pathway. We will let you know when it is finished and you are very welcome to come and see it.

Our children love to engage with the local environment and are enjoying playing an active part within the local community. We have made regular visits to Peace at Lunchtime and are excited to be starting Forest Schools at the end of the month and thank the Jetty Field - Pocket Park committee for their support.

We are delighted to receive so much support from volunteer readers, help with our gardening and joining us on our visits. The lives of our children are enriched by these experiences. If you are able to offer any help, please feel free to contact us through the school office on 01788 890494.

## Clubs and groups

### **Braunston Friendly Club**

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

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

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February NO MEETING

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Film- Prompt start at 2pm please. 2pm to 4.30pm

Braunston Cinema Club are kindly showing us the film, Downton Abbey, in the Main Hall of the Village Hall. No trolley raffle.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Making mini notebooks – Laura Sturrock - 2pm to 4pm

Laura will bring examples of the notebooks she makes. She will tell us about her hobby and we will try making a notebook too. Do come along and join us. Trolley raffle.

For more information telephone

Jenny 890186 or Kate 890340

### **Fishing Club**

Braunston Fishing Club meets every Thursday at 8pm throughout the year for **Bingo** in the Village Hall. Non-members are welcome.

Harry 01788 890396

## **Learn to Crochet Group**

Beginners welcome. Do you want to learn a new skill and be able to make great handmade presents for people?

Do you feel inspired to make items for your house but don't know where to start? This is the crochet group for you.

We will start you off on a six week programme to cover the basics and then you can join the main group working on some larger projects.

Based in Braunston Village Hall Meeting Room every Tuesday 10-12pm

Cost is £3 per person per session which includes yarn, printed pattern and refreshments.

Find out more at [www.evenrobotsneedblankets.com](http://www.evenrobotsneedblankets.com) and sign up at <https://www.meetup.com/Braunston-Crocheting-Meetup-Group/>

## **Braunston Cinema Club**

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 7.30pm in the Village Hall

DOWNTON ABBEY 2019 cert: PG

Maggie Smith, Michelle Dockery, Hugh Bonneville

And others from the TV series.

The continuing story of the Crawley family, wealthy owners of a large estate in the English countryside in the early twentieth century.

Homemade refreshments are available to buy, please book tickets/food in advance to help with catering. Bring a bottle & a glass

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Film only: £4.50 members/£6.50 non-members

Some tickets may be available on the door

Tel: 01788 890508 or: [batchelors.boxtree@btinternet.com](mailto:batchelors.boxtree@btinternet.com)



# FAB FEB FAIR!

Braunston Village Hall

Saturday

29th February

From 10.00am - 2.00pm



# CRAFTS

## COFFEE + CAKES

## + our famous BACON BUTTIES!



A WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTING AND BEAUTIFULLY MADE ITEMS

ENQUIRIES: 07890 072487 OR [TWINNERS@BRAUNSTON.NET](mailto:TWINNERS@BRAUNSTON.NET)



BRAUNSTON TWINNERS



Give your brain a **SPRING CLEAN**  
at our **SUPER**

# SPRING QUIZ!

BRAUNSTON VILLAGE HALL

6.30 FOR 7.00 PM

SATURDAY 4TH APRIL

MAX 6 TO A TEAM

HOT MEAL  
INCLUDED!



£10 A HEAD

PRIZES!

**BOOK YOUR TABLE NOW !!**

email: [Quiz@Braunston.net](mailto:Quiz@Braunston.net)



BRAUNSTON TWINNERS



## Jetty Field – Braunston Pocket Park

More saplings have been ordered from the Woodland Trust. The plan is to use the saplings to develop hedging to encourage wildlife to thrive. Species include dog rose, hazel, hawthorn, crab apple and dogwood. We will be planting them on the next workday on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Other tasks planned for the workday include general tidying and weeding in the Pocket Park, continue the laying of a dead hedge in the Nature Reserve and planting wild flowers in the bog area. Please feel free to join us, tea and cake will be provided. More details in next month's BVN.

There has been some interest in individuals taking responsibility for the upkeep of particular areas of the Pocket Park. This could include keeping a small flowerbed neat and tidy and can be done at any time and not necessarily at the organised workdays. If you would like to be involved please contact Zara at [zaracorbin9@googlemail.com](mailto:zaracorbin9@googlemail.com)

There is likely to be at least one allotment plot becoming available in April. If you are interested in growing your own fruit and veg and having some exercise at the same time please contact Jenny at [jenny.tibbles@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.tibbles@gmail.com)

Some of our tree planters



## Braunston Paddox Cricket Club

Following their successful acceptance to the Northamptonshire Cricket League, the club have just been notified of their opposition for the 2020 season which starts in April. The First team have been placed in Division Nine and their nine opposition clubs will include Wollaston, Little Harrowden, Irchester, Kettering and three Northampton clubs. The Second XI will be in Division 14 and their opposition will include Kettering, Barton Seagrave, Dunchurch & Bilton and Burton Latimer.

The league is reputedly the largest County league in the country and boasts 15 divisions. It will be a challenge for the club and one we are looking

forward to. We are always on the lookout for new players.

Experience, or lack of it, is not important.

Winter nets have already started and the

attendance so far has been very encouraging.

### Braunston Cricket Winter Nets Friday 6:15pm - 7:45pm

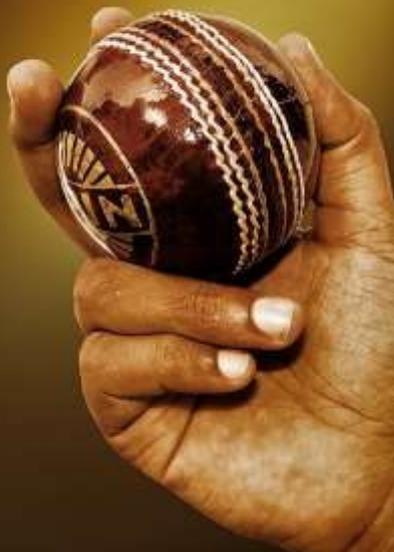
10th Jan - 27th March

Parker E-ACT - Randolph Building

Thinking about joining a club? Now is the ideal time to come along. Free Taster Session. [braunstoncc@gmail.com](mailto:braunstoncc@gmail.com)



Braunston Paddox CC



## **Braunston History Society**

Tuesday Feb 18th 7 30pm in Village Hall.

Uncovering the History of a Braunston Farmhouse

A presentation by Kate Mawer, one of our members, who will talk about her house on the High Street and how she researched its History. Look forward to seeing our members.

Guests welcome, £2 on the door

## **Braunston Women's Institute**

Tuesday 4th February in the Village Hall

As part of the "Show the Love" campaign

Kate Mawer will explain how "Beautiful things are possible when we work together"

Join us for an interesting evening

Contact Valerie 891975



## **Community Car**

COMMUNITY CAR IS FOR YOU

Available to all residents to make a short journey in or out of the village.

Visit friends, shopping, hospital, dentist, doctors, appointments, etc.

Just call 07984 412921 (24 hours notice please)

Any payment is by voluntary contribution.

Happy New Year to all our passengers whose kind donations keep the service going. Special thanks to Keren Andrews and her team who donated £84.34 raised by the Christmas card delivery.

The team would like to thank Nigel of Braunston Garage for his continuing support.

## **Braunston CAN (Climate Action Network)**

This is the name chosen by Braunston people who in December held the first meeting of a climate group. This follows the cross-party initiative of councillors at Daventry District Council to consider how the Council can reduce the environmental impact of its activities, as well as encourage others to make improvements.

We are independent of any council or group; we will lobby councils and other bodies for policies to enable us all to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

We are keen to network. We intend that this will involve connecting with other groups, businesses and councils about initiatives they are working on. We hope we can link with groups and individuals in Braunston to promote actions that will mitigate climate change. We would like to share information to make it easier to reduce Braunston's carbon footprint.

Our group consists of twelve Braunston residents and business people whose ages span six decades. If you are interested in finding out more, please email [abigailathome@gmail.com](mailto:abigailathome@gmail.com) or message 07989 421836.

## **The Alternative Book Club**

We are called The Alternative Book Club. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at The Wheatsheaf at 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome

For more details please contact Caroline on 01788 899107.

## **Community Cafe**

We are open Wednesday to Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm and Saturday 10:00am to 12:30pm. You will get a warm welcome.

Why not think about volunteering.



## Braunston Village Gardens Association

The store is open Sundays 1<sup>st</sup> March to 24<sup>th</sup> May from 11 till midday at the Village Hall and sells items listed below. Just turn up and buy.

Peatlands only cover about 3% of the world's land surface, but store at least twice as much carbon as all of Earth's forests. At least one-third of the world's organic soil carbon is in peatlands. Peatlands are "the most essential terrestrial ecosystem," says Tim Christophersen, at the UN Environment Programme. Peat extraction for commercial composts and grow bags is destroying this vital ecosystem.

We do not think we should be using a product that speeds up climate change. We hope all Braunston gardeners agree. By using peat-free compost we can all reduce our carbon footprint.

We have replaced previous products with a new brand, a 40 litre size of peat-free compost. We are selling this at £3.60 which is cheaper per litre than the poor quality product supplied last year. It makes a useful grow bag and requires less feeding. We have been unable to source John Innes composts that do not contain about 25% peat, so for this season we will continue to offer the two varieties listed.

Our 2020 price list:

Compost, multi purpose, peat-free			40 litre	£3.60
Compost, John Innes No 2			25 litre	£3.90
Compost, John Innes No 3			25 litre	£3.90
Bamboo Canes			8 feet	60p
Tomorite			1.3 litre	£4.00
Bark Chips			75 litre	£6.00
Fertiliser, FBB organic	1lb 60p	7lb £3	14lb £5	25kg £15
Fertiliser, Bonemeal organic	1lb 70p	7lb £4	14lb £6	25kg £18
Fertiliser - Growmore	1lb 90p	7lb £6	14lb £9	25kg £20
Pelleted Chicken Fertiliser	1lb 50p	7lb £3	14lb £5	20kg £11

In addition we can supply most other garden products including vermiculite, waterbutts, netting, fleece and twine. Our supplier also lists a thousand varieties of seeds which we can supply at less than shop prices.

To order these, and the 20/25kg sacks shown above, please ring 01788 890340 by the 9<sup>th</sup> February

## Braunston Walkers

Staverton 18/1/20 (9 Miles)

For our first walk of 2020 we were off to Staverton. It was a frosty, extremely sunny day, the best walking weather and a welcome change after all the rainy days we have had. Seven of us turned out today with others crying off due to promised mud. The walk took us down through Jetty Fields, along the canal and over the ladder bridge, over the River Leam and on to Wolfhamcote. We passed the church and followed the track that leads to Flecknoe. Up until then we had no mud, but after the stile in Flecknoe we were soon into some very soggy fields and woods that led across to Staverton. You need to climb quite steeply up to Staverton, but we soon reached the welcome Countryman pub where we had a great lunch.

After lunch we were off again on the bridleway back to Braunston. Normally this track is relatively dry but after all the recent rain it was very boggy. After walking behind Berryfields Farm we had to contend with Braunston Covert always muddy even in high summer. We made it through and crossed the ploughed field before dropping down onto Old Road and home for a cuppa. A great walk despite the mire.

Our next walk on the 15th of February will visit one of the Via Beata's long distance pilgrimage walk works of art. It's in the porch of the church at Leamington Hastings. Well worth seeing.

Next walks:

21<sup>st</sup> March Fawsley and Everdon (a local classic)

18<sup>th</sup> April Welford

23<sup>rd</sup> May Stow on the Wold and Longford

20<sup>th</sup> June Peak District Stanton Moor

18<sup>th</sup> July Culworth



**BRAUNSTON**  
**Village**  
**CHRISTMAS MAIL**

Many thanks once again for the Braunston Christmas cards deliveries. We delivered a record breaking 435 cards and raised in total £84.34, a record!

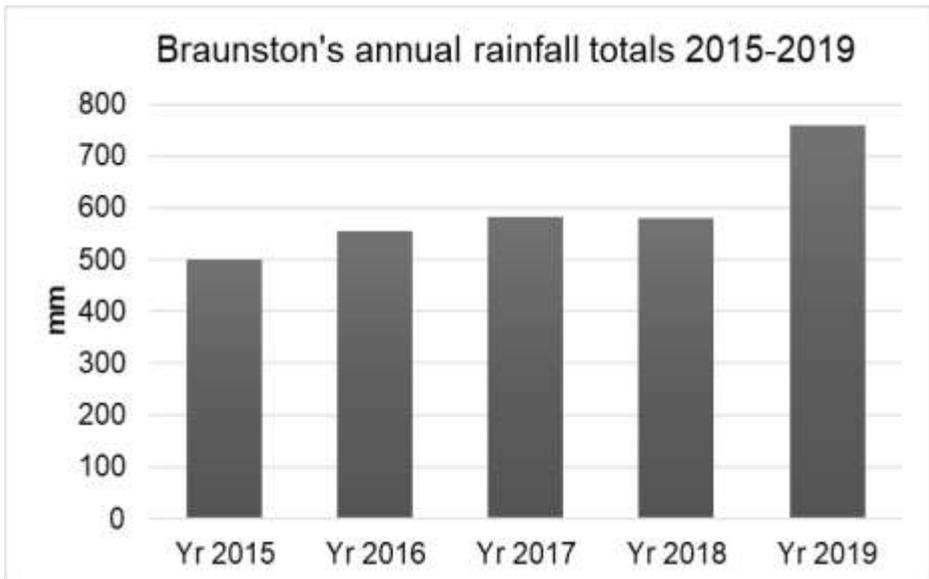
Thank you to all who used the service and donated, the volunteers who delivered the cards and the Community Café and Church for hosting the boxes.

### **Tilly**

We know she was just “a dog”  
But to us she was a friend  
She gave us all her doggy love  
Right up to the end  
When she died it broke our hearts  
The tears they fell like rain  
We know that at some later time  
We will all meet up again  
The Angels came and the Angels went  
And they took our Tilly away  
She is now with Malcom and the Lord  
And this is where she will stay  
Bill

## Rainfall

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Jan</b>	53	72	55	62	25
<b>Feb</b>	31	37	47	24	36
<b>Mar</b>	25	79	54	104	47
<b>Apr</b>	14	43	12	70	23
<b>May</b>	45	33	71	72	36
<b>Jun</b>	25	68	32	1	109
<b>Jul</b>	48	8	54	14	47
<b>Aug</b>	44	60	53	42	64
<b>Sep</b>	33	43	72	29	76
<b>Oct</b>	48	16	11	50	102
<b>Nov</b>	61	74	29	39	115
<b>Dec</b>	72	21	92	72	78
<b>Total mm</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>758</b>
<b>Total inches</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>29.8</b>



- The total 2019 rainfall was 36% greater than the average of the previous four years.
- There have been four months in the past five years where rainfall has been recorded above 100mm and 2019 had three of them.
- The cumulative rainfall for each calendar month 2015-2019 shows that November and December are the wettest months. Somewhat surprisingly perhaps is that April is the driest.

Robert Buckley who provides our rainfall information has told us how he collects it.

“One of my birthday presents years ago was a Weather Station. This provided weather information such as temperature, pressure, wind speed and of course rainfall wirelessly back to a base station display in the house.

At the time I remembered that in the past the BVN had published rainfall data and suggested to the then editor that I could give information to resume this. And so five and a half years later that’s where we are.

About a year ago the weather station became unreliable and indeed eventually failed. However in an effort to continue recording rainfall I purchased an inexpensive rain gauge. This is basically an inverted plastic funnel with mm graduations that collects rain. It is mounted on a pole and placed in an open location in my garden. It may sound a bit basic, which I guess it is, but it is accurate enough to provide interesting comparative data even if it would not qualify for Met Office analysis!”

One of these days in the not too distant future Rob would like to hand over the rain gauge to another person in the village to continue the data recording. He feels he is getting close to his rainfall measuring retirement! Is this something you would like to do? If so let us know.



Your café continues to thrive and provide grants to Braunston Village Societies, Associations and Groups

for a wide variety of projects. Since the café started 5 years ago over **£23,000** has been made available for grants and **£14440** has been paid out to **22** different groups representing **38** successful applications. On average, grants are in the region of £300 but vary from £90 to in excess of £1000. A wide variety of interests and groups have been beneficiaries from grants over the years for many different requirements.

Applications have helped the setting up of the Church Tiny Treasures; providing hammocks for the Scouts' camping trips; enabling 350 saplings to be planted by the Canal Society to improve the hedging on the towpath; buying a laptop for the editors of the BVN ; buying some table-top games for the Friendly Club's activities; contributing towards the Christmas Hamper appeal for village families in need of support; part-funding of new fencing in the Pocket Park; contributing to the set-up costs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Braunston Brownies to re-form; and funding a frame for the WI's new banner.

We have around £9000 currently available to allocate for grants. We continue to receive additional funds from the café surpluses of around £1000 a quarter. There are plenty of funds available for suitable village projects and we welcome more applications. Please submit your application using the form available on the village website. The following Braunston groups have received money.

Pocket Park (4)	Wheatsheaf Ladies Skittles Club
Playing Fields (3)	Art Group
Friendly Club (3)	Dick Herne History Society
Scouts (3)	Singers
Village Hall (3)	Youth Club
Cinema Club (2)	BVGA
Parish Council (2)	Pre-School
Paddox Cricket Club (2)	Christmas Hamper Appeal
Twinners (2)	Canal Society
Tiny Treasure (2)	Brownies
Football Club	WI

## Features

### **Dick Herne articles from past Village News**

September 1992

Tudor House is probably older than the name implies. Its structure suggests that it is part of a medieval house. The front door opens on to a through passage which was probably the 'screens passage' between the hall and the kitchen, as in many Oxford colleges. The kitchen side now forms a separate dwelling and shop which has a timber framed frontage unusual in Northants. On its western face is a wooden framework similar to a chancel screen.

The house is described in the will of Gregory Isham, wool merchant of Braunston, who died in 1558 and was buried beneath the chancel of the church. He had bought the manorial estate of Braunston from the Manners family in 1554. The will lists the contents of each room in the house including the kitchen, buttery, hall and the 'parlour' where the family could escape from the bustling life of the hall. The upstairs rooms contained a 'joyned' bed, a 'trust' bed and a 'standing' bed.

Outside behind the house was 'wool house' where Gregory kept his main stock-in-trade, raw wool for export. He also bought woven fabric on the Flanders market for sale in this country.

August 1995

Cross Lane takes its name from a monument which once stood at the junction with High Street. This is described in John Hassell's "A Tour of the Grand Junction Canal in 1819". The cross stood on a platform reached by steps on each side. The octagonal shaft eleven feet high was cut from a single block of stone. It carried on its sides four busts representing the evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. It was reputedly erected by the Convent of the nuns of Nuneaton who possessed land in the village.

The lane once extended down to the canal and gave access to many rows of small cottages housing the families of the boatmen and other canal workers.

## Try this Braunston Wordsearch

S	L	O	T	S	S	H	L	L	Y	U	C	U	U
T	L	H	E	A	I	A	N	I	O	H	H	O	P
N	L	O	K	L	M	A	C	D	U	T	U	F	A
I	A	W	C	H	O	F	T	S	R	A	R	C	R
A	H	H	I	O	G	N	S	S	C	P	C	T	I
S	E	E	R	E	F	U	X	R	A	W	H	O	S
L	G	A	C	R	A	L	O	M	F	O	R	P	H
L	A	T	X	P	L	N	A	L	E	T	O	L	N
A	L	S	O	N	N	R	E	I	P	U	A	O	U
C	L	H	D	U	I	C	Y	L	L	D	D	C	R
E	I	E	D	N	D	T	P	E	S	R	L	K	S
D	V	A	A	P	P	A	W	C	H	O	T	O	E
P	H	F	P	N	F	R	Y	E	R	F	N	S	N
I	T	I	N	Y	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	S

OLD PLOUGH  
 TOP LOCK  
 PADDOX CRICKET  
 MARINA  
 ALL SAINTS  
 NELSON  
 TINY TREASURES  
 WHEATSHEAF  
 PARISH NURSE  
 VILLAGE HALL  
 FRYER  
 YOUR CAFE  
 TOWPATH  
 CHURCH ROAD

Answers to the picture quiz in the December/January BVN can be found on the village website

Thank you to Sheila, Kenny and Rachel for sharing the story on page 29. If you have a story to share please let us know, we would love to hear from you. Email [bvn@braunstonpc.org](mailto:bvn@braunstonpc.org)

## **A life saved when tobogganing in Braunston**

As remembered by Sheila Beckett with help from Kenny Marshall and Rachel May.

In the 1950s children used to toboggan down the hill in Butcher's Close. This is the field between Nibbitt's Lane and Butcher's Bridge. The field was owned by Mr Jeffs who lived at The Green and so it was known to many in the village as Jeffs' Field. The slope here allowed the children to get up to a good pace.

One day in the early 1950s after a good snowfall, children gathered to take part or watch. The boys dared each other to speed down the hill and competed to see who could get closest to the canal before rolling off the toboggan or veering their toboggan to one side. In those days the hawthorn trees and other vegetation that has grown on that bank of the canal now, did not exist.

Kenny Marshall's toboggan was made by his father out of old radiators. It didn't turn as he hoped, and he left it too late to roll off. After a fast run down the field, he hit the concrete ledge next to the Grand Union with such force that he was catapulted head first into the canal. The water was frozen, but the ice was not thick enough to take his weight. He went through into the freezing water. He managed to get his head above the ice but slipped under without being able to get out. He surfaced again but still couldn't get out. When he went under for the third time the other children thought he would drown.

Despite not being able to swim, one of the other lads, Barry Childs, jumped in and pulled the now unconscious Kenny out. Joy Kendall, a Girl Guide, knew how to perform resuscitation. Some of the other children took turns at this while one ran off to get help.

Kenny was carried to Michael Street's house on the High Street. He remembers regaining consciousness, hanging at an angle, his life saved by the bravery of Barry Childs and the quick-thinking of the other children.

Today vegetation forms a barrier between Butcher's Close and The Grand Union Canal.



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### BVN Deadline - March 2020 Edition

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