

BRAUNSTON NEWS Village

Published jointly by All Saints' Church and Braunston Parish Council

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Cubs get prizes for their gardening from the BVGA. See page 26

All Saints' Church Information



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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BRAUNSTON

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BRAUNSTON REGISTERS

There were no weddings, funerals or baptisms in April

14th May Burial of ashes - Evelyn Archer

Vicar's letter

Courage and Resilience

Throughout the pandemic I have been producing videos for the school to support their collective worship services. During the past few weeks I have returned to the school to deliver the services in person with a year group at a time. Over the past year I have considered various topics based on the school values to help the children in these very challenging times.

This term we are considering the topic of courage and resilience and I have used characters from the Bible, sports people, actors and singers to help us learn to face our fears, be courageous, and become more resilient as a result.

I thought it might be helpful for all of us to consider this topic especially after the year we've had and the challenges that lie ahead.

The psychologist Stephen A. Diamond suggests that 'courage is a kind of strength, power or resolve to respond to a frightening, disturbing or challenging situation soberly and directly rather than running from or avoiding it.'

Jesus knew what it was like to be afraid, but he also knew that he was not alone, that God was with him. Just as God is with us. 'Do not fear for I am with you. Do not be worried I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my strong right hand' (Isaiah 41).

We're all afraid of something. I know for many the Covid virus and the easing of lockdown is causing many to be fearful and need courage just to leave home.

Diamond suggests that it can be a courageous and deeply encouraging act to confess our vulnerability, sensitivities, anxieties and despair to someone else. I'm afraid of dogs, the dark, and standing up to speak in front of people (not what you'd expect from a vicar!). I have learned that when I face my fears great things can happen. I have become more resilient, and it has given me courage to face new challenges.

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I encourage the children to find someone they can talk to – it might be their teacher, friend, parents, and they can also pray and talk to God.

I wonder what you are afraid of. I hope you have someone you can talk to and know that you can talk to God as well. If I, or members of the church can help please get in touch. I pray that you can discover the courage to face those fears and find freedom to face new challenges.

God bless.

Rev Nat

Advance Notice – All Saints’ Church Vestry meeting

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

The Vestry meeting will be held on –

Monday 17 May at 7.30pm via Zoom

Zoom meeting details:

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

Meeting ID: 813 1283 5081

Join us by phone - by dialing this number below

Telephone number – 02039017895

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

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

All Saints' Church

The PCC have agreed to keep the church open for private prayer only. The church will be open each day from 10:00am to 6:00pm. The plan is for the first service to be held on May 23rd at Braunston but this is dependent on the Government's roadmap outcomes.

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

Rev Nat will continue to send out the service booklets.

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

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

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

Food Share

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



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

Church Floodlighting

April

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

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

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

3rd - * Happy Birthday Pat

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

9th - * Rosemary - always in my thoughts

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

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

26th - * Julie's Birthday

27th - In loving memory of our beautiful great granddaughter Ava-May on her 11th birthday. Always in our hearts. Barbara and Tony.

May's floodlighting so far ...

5th - * Rowena & Mark's Wedding Anniversary

24th - In memory of Mary, much loved twin sister and sister-in-law. Liz and Bruce

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

Please note these are the floodlighting requests received prior to the BVN deadline of the 18th April

Floodlighting

The current 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 for inclusion in the BVN to not more than 12 words. The completed message with the donation can then be left at the Rectory or the Post Office, but note that requests are only collected from the Post Office on the 18th of each month. Please mark the envelope 'Church Floodlighting'.

Parish Council Information and News



Clerk: Steve Rolt

c/o 82 Greenway, Braunston, NN11 7JT

t: 0800 002 9783 (Freephone)

e: clerk@braunstonpc.org

Parish Councillors and areas of responsibility:

Alan Mawer, Archer Avenue and Cross Lane t: 01788 890340

Chris Johnson (Chair), Greenway and Closes t: 01788 891597

Vacancy Marina, London Rd, Hill Row, Old Road

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

Vacancy Spinney Hill and closes

Sue Harrison, Dark Lane t: 07769 589459

Sandra Stapley, Welton Rd, School Cl, Maple Cl t: 01788 890475

Vacancy Church Road, Barby Road

Forthcoming Meetings

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

10th May Full Council Meeting

7th June Full Council Meeting

Agendas and minutes are available on the Braunston website.

Planning

The planning application to create a new cycle and walking route from Middlemore to the track above the canal tunnel portal was approved by Daventry District Council. However, conditions were put on the approval to address safety issues as follows:

Condition 6. Before the path is first brought into use, barriers, gates and or stiles are to be installed at the northern end of the path where it terminates at the canal access track and thereafter retained and maintained. They must not be removed or replaced without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

This is to prevent unfettered access to the canal access track and towpath along the canal from the western end of the Braunston Tunnel because in its present condition it is felt to be unsuitable for all users of the new path and not fit for purpose as a shared cycleway/pedestrian link. This can be reviewed should circumstances change in the future.

Condition 7. Before the path is first brought into use signs shall be installed with details to be submitted to and agreed in writing with the LPA. This signage scheme shall provide advance notice of the barriers referred to in condition 6 above and direction to alternative local footpath and bridleway routes. The signage scheme shall be retained and shall not be removed without the prior written consent of the LPA.

This is to ensure that users of the path are made aware in advance that unfettered access to the canal access track and towpath beyond will not be possible and to advise them of alternative routes they may wish to follow.

WI Bench

Approval was given for the WI to put a centenary bench opposite the bench in the garden at the corner of Cross Lane and High Street.

Parking on the High Street

Please do not obstruct the steps along the High Street. Parking in front of them makes it very difficult for pedestrians to access the raised pavement.

Annual Parish Meeting

In 2020 emergency legislation permitted not holding this public meeting. This does not apply in 2021. The law requires the council to hold a meeting between the start of March and the end of May. The meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 24th May. We will post the venue once everything has been confirmed. There may be the option of joining by zoom.

Archer Avenue

In March the Parish Council distributed a document to all households following complaints about the state of verges and kerbs. Thank you for your responses which have provided the council with further ideas about improvements that might be considered.

Matters regarding highways were previously the responsibility of Northamptonshire County Council and now come under West Northamptonshire Council. The Parish Council is working on a document that shows the problems and includes the residents' views. We will present this to West Northamptonshire Council and ask for their views on what, in practice, is possible and whether the budget for road improvements could include such schemes.

We will keep you informed in this section of the BVN.

Parish Council Applications

There will be no election in May for the Parish Council as there were only 9 people who were nominated.

Our thanks go to the three Councillors who are no longer standing as Parish Councillors, Graham, Tom and Robert who have given their time and have worked hard on behalf of the Council.

The Parish Council has twelve places so we need three new people to join the Council and would love to hear from you if you are interested. Contact Steve Rolt or speak to any one of the Councillors listed on page 7.

Braunston C of E School



Following the warm weather at the start of the Easter break, you could be forgiven for thinking we had gone backwards with our seasons and that the snow flurries heralded the return of the dark winter season. However, in the fields surrounding us we can see the lambs playing and plants battling to thrive despite the coldness. We are still looking forward to embracing summer and the positives it will bring us all.



Another reminder of new life came to school with the arrival of our eggs which have hatched. The children have been fascinated by the chicks and their growth. The antics of the chicks have inspired the children in their writing and their artwork.

Our school swimming pool has begun its journey to readiness for our children to return to it following more than a year of absence. During the school Easter break, a band of volunteers came and started to brighten it up by sanding down and repainting it. This will be complimented by some coloured stripes and some new steps to gain access to the pool.

The children will start their swimming lessons from the week beginning 26th April. I am sure that you will hear their enjoyment echoing round the village!



School still needs to be very mindful of Covid 19 and the impact that it brings to our community. We continue to follow our risk assessments to ensure our community remains safe. As a result, sadly, our summer fayre has been cancelled due to the need for social distancing.

We have started a limited number of extra curricular clubs and have ensured that we remain within our class bubbles for these. You may see some of us out running during lunchtimes as part of our cross country club. If you give us a wave and we spot you then I am sure we will wave back!

A date for your diary:

We are taking part in Braunston's open gardens on July 4th. Please come and visit us and have a tour around the school grounds and really feel part of our school community. You may even manage a peek at the swimming pool too!

Break the Rules Day

1. Wear school uniform
 2. Bring a healthy snack
 3. Have neat & tidy hair
 4. No face paints
 5. No nail varnish
 6. Wear school shoes only
 7. Fill your water bottle with only water
 8. No hats
- 50p each. Total enclosed.....

Our next big fundraiser will be a 'Break the Rules Day'! The children will be able to donate a small amount to break one of the school rules on 30th April. We are looking forward to seeing which of the eight rules the children will break!



Braunston C.E. Primary School

**RECEPTION PLACES AVAILABLE
SEPTEMBER 2021**

A caring, happy and nurturing school set in the heart of Braunston village.

01788 890494 | office@braunston.northants.sch.uk
braunstonprimary.org.uk

WRAP AROUND CARE

*Breakfast & Afterschool
clubs*

EXTRA- CURRICULAR

*Dance, Sport, Music,
Languages & more*

FOREST SCHOOL

*Proud to be a Forest
School*

Lianna Willis

Headteacher

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

Clubs and groups

Braunston Community Car

The Community Car is for you.

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

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

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

MANY THANKS for the kind donation of £200 made anonymously at the end of March



Braunston Bakes

We are looking forward to our next bake which will be on Saturday 15th May. We will be holding the event on/around the village green.

braunstonbakes@gmail.com



Braunston CAN (Climate Action Network)

The new mowing arrangements have started. The amenity grass areas including The Green and verges in residential areas will be mown every three weeks. This interval will keep the grass short enough for walking across and playing on but long enough to allow some low-growing plants such as clover to flower and provide a habitat for pollinating insects.

Some other areas where wildflowers such as ox-eye daisies and knapweed have been planted will next be mown in August. The spring mowing of the Butlin's Hill verge was cancelled to allow the daffodils to flower. More wildflower planting in these areas including the verge on the south side of Welton Road near Spinney Hill and a small part of the Churchyard will continue. In addition, the verge to the rear of the Wheatsheaf in Church Road is being planted with wildflowers by a local resident. The fringes of these areas will be mown regularly to maintain a neat appearance.

We are working with the Parish Council to make the maintenance of these areas more sustainable, reducing the mowing budget by £3000 and cutting carbon emissions by about 50%. The mowing intervals might vary a little depending on the weather and the availability of the contractor's staff.

Braunston CAN applied for an Action on Climate Change Grant from Daventry District Council. We were pleased to be awarded £895.60. This money will pay for a soil testing kit to help with wildflower and tree planting and for tools to be used to improve the hedges in Jetty Field so that they provide better habitat and store more carbon. It will also go towards the cost of an air quality monitor that we plan to use in the parish and for us to offer for work with school groups and other parishes.

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. Let us know if you would like to receive our email updates.

Braunston Heart

Life is gradually beginning to look and feel more normal. The weather is improving, shops are open and we can see our friends outside. I am sure those in the hospitality industry with outside space have been doing sun dances.

At Braunston Heart, we will be reverting to voicemail from May. Let me reassure you that as soon as you ring, an email is sent to all of the team and your call will be responded to as quickly as we can. We are not going anywhere, as a Good Neighbour Scheme we are here, in your community, for as long as we are wanted.

We receive donations of all sizes, all are appreciated. One of the very first donations made to us was from **Desert Engineering**, a local company. This was for the incredibly generous amount of £1,000. I have not previously said anything but after last month appreciating the volunteers, it feels right to thank them this month – and of course to all of those who have also donated. Thank you.

To make a donation, we now use the Gofundme site. Either search for Braunston Heart or the link gf.me/u/y9apwj will take you there. If you wish to donate using cheques or cash then please make contact.

Jo Glover

Braunston Heart

Kindness and Compassion.

Your Café

The Steering Group of Your Café will be meeting on Tuesday 25th May to review the current situation and

Government regulations. The café needs a manager to be able to restart and if you are interested we would love to hear from you.

Contact the secretary Sandra Stapley at sandra.stapley100@gmail.com

Chris and Claire have kindly offered in the interim to host Coffee Club at the Wheatsheaf once people are allowed inside. We will post further information once we know the details.



Braunston Walkers 17/4/21 Middlemore

Following lock down rules we set off in groups of six or less. We had 17 out on what turned out to be the finest of days, dry and very sunny with a slight breeze. It was great to get together again on such a fine day. Walking through Jetty Fields and the adjoining field to Dark Lane and past the Admiral Nelson we stayed on the track up to Top Lock where we joined the towpath to the gaping entrance of the dark, damp tunnel. We climbed the steps and set off uphill to Middlemore. Three of our members turned to walk up the field that will become the cycle route to have a shorter walk. The hill up to Middlemore seems never ending as you pass the vent towers of the tunnel but the horses that would have taken this route probably didn't complain.

At Middlemore we turned right to walk along the grass strip leading behind the houses to get to the old railway bridge and once across headed towards the huge warehouses that can be seen from the village. Mature trees planted to hide them are still very immature! The footpath around the units takes you to a gate onto the A45. On the other side of the road is the entrance to Kentle Woods. Created in 2000 as part of the Woodland Trust's 'Woods on your doorstep' projects, the trees have grown well and they disguise the factories behind.

We dropped downhill and through a very picturesque dry valley with distant views to Shuckborough and Napton. The path then took us past Berry Fields farm and down to a surprisingly dry Braunston Covert. From here we continued on the Jurassic Way up through a recently tilled but thankfully dry field and then turned left towards Old Road. This had been the main road until Thomas Telford changed the route for safety. The last climb was up from the Marina to Nibbits Lane, a sting in the tail at the end of a walk which was eased by calling in to the Old Plough for refreshments outside, spread out in the sunshine and many others were taking the same opportunity in the lovely weather.

Everyone had an enjoyable walk.

Our next walk will be Saturday 15/5/21

Ray Scrivens

rayscrivens@btinternet.com

Braunston Paddock Cricket Club

The past few weeks have seen club members busily preparing the ground prior to the first home game, a friendly against Haddon CC on Saturday April 24th.

Continuing from work started last September, the pitch has been extensively rolled and treated with lawn feed, the practice nets have been repaired following damage done in the winter and mowers have been prepared ready for the new season.

The club is now the proud owner of a new piece of kit. Thanks to the generosity of KES Landscapes who paid a large part of the cost, we now have our own scarifier. Now we will be able to scarify the pitch when appropriate and not have to hire a machine at considerable cost. It is expected that the new machine will pay for itself in three to four years.



Club secretary Tom Sabin and Karl Shingler from KES Landscapes with the new scarifier.

Covid restrictions meant that we could not net indoors during the winter, but practice sessions are now allowed and are held on Tuesday and Friday evenings at the ground. Please feel free to join us.

Our first game, a pre- season friendly away at Willoughby was unfortunately a one- sided affair as the two clubs appeared to have had different views as to what constitutes a friendly. A very strong Willoughby team comfortably beat us although there were promising debuts from Chris Eyles and Louis Phipps and an excellent spell of bowling by eleven years old Oliver Jones.

May fixtures:

Saturdays Northamptonshire League, Wednesdays Rugby Midweek League, Sunday Friendlies.

Saturday May 1st 1stXI v Abington (A).

2nd XI v Pytchlie (H)

Wednesday May 5th Willoughby (H)

Saturday May 8th 1stXI Irchester (H).

2ndXI v Brixworth (A)

Sunday May 9th Farthingstone Nomads (H)

Wednesday May 12th Dunchurch and Bilton (A)

Saturday May 15th 1st XI v Kislingbury (A).

2nd XI v Horton House (H)

Wednesday May 20th Old Laurentians (H)

Saturday May 22nd 1st XI v Finedon Dolben (H.)

2nd XI v Dunchurch and Bilton (A)

Wednesday May 26th Round 2 Cup

Saturday May 29th 1st XI v Kettering (A).

2nd XI v Thrapston (H)

Sunday May 30th Marton (A)

Braunston Friendly Club

Braunston Friendly Club likes to look forward, while appreciating our many friends.

We have continued to take each day as it comes by enjoying opportunities to chat on the phone, receive some treats via our Easter delivery and now, as the weather improves, we are looking forward to a few more face to face chats outdoors.

We have been very grateful to the NHS for the efficient way in which we have received our vaccinations and in particular to Braunston Community Car drivers for getting us to the centres. What would we have done without you, John?

As Joyce said The Friendly Club is like this brooch. The members are represented by the ribbon, and we have been fortunate to have Kate and the other organisers as the stone keeping us all together in the last year.



The sun is shining, the shops are open and the buses are running. We have so much to look forward to as we meet up with family and friends over the summer. We have put Monday 9th August in our diaries so we have our fingers crossed that all will be safe for the Friendly Club to meet on that day in the Village Hall at 2pm for tea, cake and a chat together.

If you would like to know more about Braunston Friendly Club contact Kate 01788 890340 or mawerk@hotmail.co.uk We have plenty of cups!



*Kindness &
Compassion*

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

We are here to help everyone in Braunston.

Telephone us with your problem on

FREEPHONE 0800 0029066

If you get a recorded message, just leave your name and number and we'll be right back.

Alternatively

you can email us at



heart@braunston.org.uk

Good
Neighbours



gofundme

www.gofund.me/3be1e80f

Braunston Village Gardens Association

Plant Sale update

We look forward to seeing you on **Saturday 15th May** at our socially distanced * **Pop-Up Plant Sale** in the **Village Hall car park** between 10am and 12 noon.

A great variety of **annuals, perennials, vegetables and shrubs** to enhance your garden will be available, priced at £1, £2 and £5.

All proceeds go to support **BVGA** events.

While you're there, why not visit the **Garden Store** which will be open for **composts, canes and fertilizers**.

If you would like to donate any plants to the sale, please label the plants clearly and bring them along on the day from **9.45am**.

* Details of the BVGA Covid secure policies can be found at www.braunston.org.uk

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

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

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

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

Braunston Show – Saturday 4th September

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

BVGA Garden Store

Garden Store – Thank you for your support so far. During March we sold out of almost all items and placed a second order for canes, compost, fertilizers and bark from our suppliers. These will be available at the plant sale on Saturday 15th May 10am to 12 noon in the Village Hall car park. We will also continue with our regular Sunday store opening from 11 to 12 at the Village Hall. Please contact Richard or Alan:

Richard: rmstapley@talk21.com or ring 01788 890475.

Alan: a.mawer@virgin.net or ring 01788 890340

The store raises money for public gardening projects and events in the village.

THE ALTERNATIVE BOOK CLUB



These are just some of the more than 110 children who turned up with their parents on The Green on Easter Saturday for our Easter Egg Hunt.

They all enjoyed themselves immensely and each happily went back home with a nice book of their choice and a

miniature choccy egg!

We hope to have another event for children during the summer so do keep your eyes peeled!

Any adults interested in joining our club please go to www.facebook.com/thealternativebookclub

Jetty Field

April's work morning saw eleven volunteers, including Sophie who is working towards her Duke of Edinburgh Award, work on several activities in the Jetty Field area.

In the Spinney eight bird and bat boxes were erected on the larger trees. Others planted damp loving plants in the bog garden and sowed wildflower seeds in the garden. A third group planted about 130 dogrose and hazel hedging whips in the wild area. General weeding and tidying up tasks also took place.

The area was extremely busy throughout the morning as along with the usual dog walkers and those taking their daily exercise, there were lots of families taking part in the Alternative Book Club's Easter Hunt. It is good to see so many making use of the facility.

The next work morning will be on Saturday May 15th in conjunction with the BVGA plant sales event. We will be meeting by the allotments at 9am. Come along and join in. Jobs to be done include planting more hedging whips, tidying up the bottom wall and orchard and possibly working on the water source to the wild area.



Braunston Canal Society

With the end of the lockdown in sight BCS is preparing to resume business as usual. A final task, prior to the opening of the canal system for leisure use, was an opportunity to start our lock painting schedule early. A warm, dry spell created the necessary conditions at the end of March. Painting three of the six locks each year means the locks are painted every two years. To keep the locks looking reasonable until they are painted again BCS has decided, in the intervening year, to paint only the tops of the beams. This is where the paintwork takes the most punishment from the weather and users. Taking advantage of the lack of boat traffic this was achieved quite easily as was shown during an adhoc task party when a crew of 4 completed this task on locks 1,2 & 3.



Braunston Cub Gardeners awarded prizes by BVGA

The Braunston Village Gardeners Association learnt how during lockdown several Cubs took up an interest in gardening and 3 in particular were inspired to go on to complete the gardening badge, they were:

Mckenzie who won the sunflower growing contest but his garden was all about food and finding how amazing a pea picked straight from a pod can taste or a strawberry still warm from ripening in the sun.

Clayton who majored on supporting wildlife with several bug hotels made from both natural and recycled materials - like the others he chose to grow food in his garden

Joe's food garden delivered an impressive bowl of radishes as well as soft fruits and veg. A keen artist, instead of written labels he painted rocks with pictures of what was planted

All 3 were awarded prizes and congratulated in person (socially distanced of course) by Kate Mawer from the BVGA and Cub Leader David Coleman



The Cub pack will be re-planting its Garden in front of its meeting place and entering it in Open Gardens



2nd Braunston Cubs & Beavers enjoy 'face to face' scouting fun

On Sunday 11th April, in 3 separate sessions of small socially distanced groups, 18 young people in total from 2nd Braunston Cub pack and Beaver colony leapt at the chance to get back to some face to face scouting fun via 3 outdoor rocket themed activity sessions at the local Pocket Park. They all got the chance to launch at least 2 bottle rockets and dozens of stomp rockets as well as try their gloved hands at: frisbees, lawn darts, quoits and 'sticky ball pads'. Bottle rocket launching was the clear highlight.



Photos left Christoph and Logan are 'powering up' a launch (ref proximity they share the same school year 'bubble')

Photo right the moment George, releases his rocket. The sun came out.



It was a fun relaxed session. Akela David Coleman said it was great to see Cubs in person again and having so much fun. A good confidence builder in return to face to face scouting for all taking part.

Other News

Weather report for March

March temperature fluctuation ranged from -1.8°C at 3am on the 6th to a barmy afternoon of 23°C at 3pm on March 31st.

The barometer reached a high of 1035.6hpa on the 6th at 8am, with a low of 983.9hpa on the 11th at 5am.

With torrents of rain at the beginning of the month it then dried up with the last rain on the 26th. Leaving a total of 36.8mm for the month, drier than the village average of 55mm. Total rainfall so far this year is 156mm, the village 6 years' average is 157mm for the same period.

It was a gusty month with a single gust at 2.30am of 41.2mph on the 11th. It was a pickup the dustbins in the morning here, as they had taken a ride down the garden!

The sun did shine the brightest on the 25th at 10.50am 888.7w/m^2 . The UV index was also the highest at 8 that day.

Hopefully by the time you read this you will have walked off your excess from eating all your Easter eggs.

Adrian

Braunston Rainfall data is on page 29

Bin Collections

Wednesday	5 th May	Food and Garden Waste
Wednesday	12 th May	Food, Recycling and Waste
Wednesday	19 th May	Food and Garden Waste
Wednesday	26 th May	Food and Recycling

Rainfall data

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

Braunston Village News Summary of Accounts 2020

Our total income (all from advertising) £2,465.81

Our total expenditure (all for printing) £3199.00

Difference to be funded £733.19

The Parish Council fund $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{rds} of the difference and the Church $\frac{1}{3}$ rd.

Braunston Parochial Church Council share £244.40

Braunston Parish Council share £488.79

Per copy this works out at approximately 5^{1/2} pence on average per Council Tax household.

Frosty's Country Notes

Finding poems in the fields

'I found the poems in the fields, and only wrote them down.' Wrote John Clare, Northamptonshire's finest, and most modest poet. He was certainly a simple man, a farm labourer who wrote like a carved angel in a country church. Read his poems and you will soon realise the words he weaves weren't just picked up on the miles and miles he walked across our county and much more widely. They were oh so carefully chosen, honed and woven into his fantastic verses. Clare started farm work while still a young child. At the same time he got some education at Glinton church. In his early adult years, Clare became a potboy in a local pub the Blue Boy. His first love was a rich farmer's daughter named Mary Joyce. Mary's father forbade her to meet him. He did all kinds of work, a gardener, a militia man, a lime burner and along the way travelled with gypsies. His poor diet from birth meant he never grew to more than five foot and may have been the main factor behind his poor health in later life.

Lockdowns may have shut pubs, churches, cinemas, restaurants and much else but they haven't shut down the chance to walk in the countryside on the fringes of our beautiful village. Whether you chose to strike out on a footpath across the fields or explore Braunston's boot-wearer's bonus - the canal towpath - you'll find that the virus has had hardly any real effect on the splendid views or our resilient yet ever changing wildlife. This present pandemic has made us all consider our own mortality. Life is too good to waste even a minute, or to have any regrets so I'll leave the last word to John Clare. He had a full and amazing life, but still he wrote "*If life had a second edition, how I would correct the proofs.*"

Peter Frost

Getting the BVN to your letterbox

Ever wondered how the BVN gets produced and delivered to you?

The deadline for items to be included in each edition is the 18th of the previous month. Leading up to that date regular contributors from village clubs and groups, the church, school, Parish Council and individual parishioners will be busy writing their pieces and sending them in to the BVN or dropping items off to the Post Office. We have at least 22 different organisations throughout a normal year who send items in.

Editors Alan and Sandra take it in turn to produce the BVN. From the 18th we work on putting together all the content using Publisher, a software programme. We receive things in several styles, some handwritten that need typing up, various fonts, font size, colour and formats. We convert them to a standard font of Arial size 11, line and paragraph spacing and alignment. We do this to get an overall style to the publication and for items to fit A5 page size. This can take quite a while to complete and it's sometimes a challenge fitting things into the space we have. Advertisements are an essential part of the content as they help fund the cost of the BVN and Peter Hobbs deals with all the financial side of things.

We also look for articles to put in as features. If you have any suggestions for the Features section do let us know. We are grateful for all the suggestions people have given us and for Peter's Country Notes.

Once everything is complete it goes to the other editor for proof reading. Mistakes are then corrected (we might miss some!) and it is converted into a format to send to the printers.

Our deadline for getting the final version to the printers is the 22nd of the month, to give time for printing and collating.

Once ready the printers contact Deb Hope who collects them from the printers in Norton and then divides them up by each delivery round to deliver to the homes of all the wonderful volunteers (over 20) who bring them to your door come rain, sunshine or snow.

The editors then put the month's issue onto Issuu online and the village website and Trines kindly puts a notice on the Bugle.

Directory of local businesses

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



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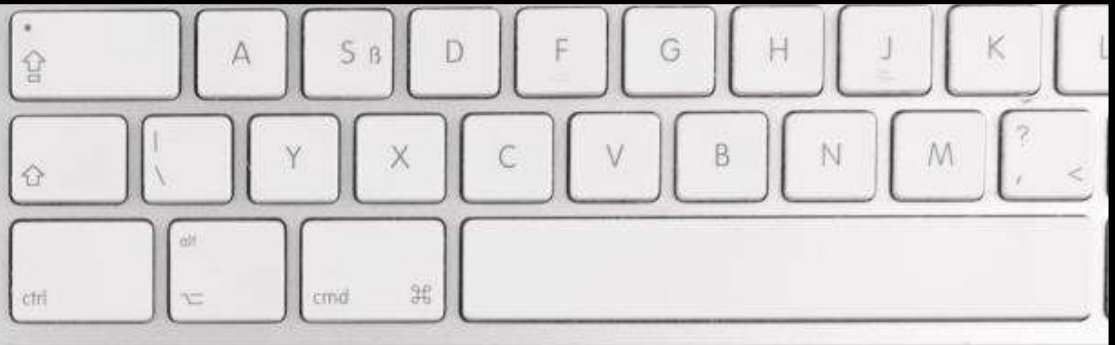
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Intro to Ballet (5-6 yrs) 5.00pm - 5.45pm	
Pre Primary Ballet (7-8 yrs) 5.45pm - 6.30pm	
Primary Ballet (8 yrs+) 6.30pm - 7.15pm	
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The image shows a man in a dark suit and blue striped tie, smiling. Behind him is a map of Braunston, with a red location pin. In the foreground, there are two 'campbells' estate agent signs. The top sign is dark blue with 'campbells' in white, the phone number '01327 878926', and the website 'www.campbell-online.co.uk'. Below it is a white sign with 'I'm Sold' in red. The bottom sign is similar but with 'I'm let and managed' in orange. The background map shows streets like 'High Cross Ln' and 'Dark Ln', and landmarks like 'Saints' Braunston' and 'Cakes'.







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BVN Deadline - June 2021 Edition

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