

Braunston News

January 2017

Calming the speedsters: Braunston traffic update

Christmas in Braunston

- Weds 21st Dec, 6:00pm - Carols by Candlelight
- Christmas Eve, 3.30pm Journey to Jesus (begins at Church)
- Christmas Day, 11:00am - Holy Communion

January Highlights

- Weds 11th Jan, 8:00pm - May Fayre Planning Meeting. Blue Ball
- Sun 15th Jan, 7:30pm - Braunston Bloke's Club Pub Games Night. Blue Ball

Regular Events

- Ladies Pub Night: Meets 1st Wed of month in Blue Ball from 8pm.
- WI : Meets 2nd Tues of month in Village Hall at 7:30pm. Contact: Carol Hodcroft 757477
- Indoor Bowls : Alternate Fridays in Village Hall at 7:30 pm. Contact: Sandra Lickman 722536
- Gardening Club : 3rd Thurs of month in Village Hall. Contact: Mary Brooks 723047
- Table Tennis : Tue & Wed in Village Hall at 7:30 pm. Contact: David Smart 01664 474354
- Zumba : Mon in Village Hall at 7pm (During Term Time). Contact: Mark Stokes (mark@indigonet.com)
- Parents & Toddlers : Every Thu during Term Time 10-12 in Village Hall. Contact Sue Richard 756694
- Quilting & Patchwork Group : Every Monday & Wednesday in Village Hall 09:45—15:45. Contact: Viv 771020

Following the last published meeting about the traffic situation in Braunston, and what we are told is a lot of work behind the scenes, the Parish Council has requested Rutland County Council to cost three schemes to address the problems in the village

These are a) a 40mph 'buffer zone' at each end of the village; b) speed cushions in Knossington Rd (possibly as many as three sets) and on the High St near The Old Plough; and c) doubling up the chicane at the end of Knossington Rd to make more of a physical obstacle.

Other measures, such as a 20mph limit away from the main through routes, have so far been dismissed as impractical or of little benefit.

Of the three schemes, the most urgent one seems to be making the Knossington Chicane more successful.

"Speeds in excess of 60 mph in the 30 mph zone are commonplace; the average speed is around 45 mph. The fastest I've seen is around 75 - 80 mph," states Knossington Rd resident, Nigel Bannister, who has videos which back up his claims.

He adds that while the existing road narrowing has at least eliminated an alarming overtaking problem, it has also led to an increase in aggression as drivers race to beat other vehicles through the gap.

"Speeding and aggressive driving is routine along this road," he says. "[Drivers] don't have a right to speed - but my kids have a right to travel to school, or to walk down that road, without being put in danger."

When a proposal is received back from RCC, the Council hopes to hold another public meeting. Watch this space.

2017 @ The Village Hall

As sharp-eyed observers of the events column to the left might already have noticed, we have a new group at the Village Hall to add to our ever-growing list of activities and events for village residents and beyond.

The new Quilting & Patchwork Group meet twice a week, every Monday & Wednesday, between the hours of 09:45 and 15:45.

There are also hopes to start a regular Tai Chi class on Thursdays by the end

of January. Fingers crossed we will have more details about that in the next newsletter.

The 2017 theatre season will soon be upon us too, with Shifting Sands Theatre's *The King Lear* booked for the Hall on Saturday 4th March, "a playful, accessible interpretation of this classic tragedy which will unfold using clowning, physical theatre, vibrant storytelling all linked by Shakespeare's text."

Head to www.shiftingsandstheatre.co.uk for more details

All Change

After four years in the role, Paul Rogerson has stepped down as Editor of the

Braunston News. His replacement is Church St resident Andy Stout

Thanks to Paul for all his hard work over the years and a welcome to Andy to the hot seat.

Church Events

- Sun 4th Jan, 11.00am - Holy Communion
- Sun 11th Jan, 11.00am - Morning Service
- Sun 18th Jan, 11.00 - Holy Communion
- Sun 25th Jan, 16.00 - church@4

Success for Quiz Night

There was a sellout for the village hall quiz on Nov 18th, with 76 people in 13 teams vying for glory. Thanks to all involved in the organisation; about £1000 was raised for the Church and the Village Hall.

A new date is now being set for the next one; watch out for posters round the village and other publicity soon.

Poppy Appeal Raises £172

Thank you to everyone who donated to the recent Poppy Appeal in the village. A total of £172.49 was raised from a combination of The Blue Ball, The Old Plough, and also via a door to door collection.

This will help towards enabling the British Legion to continue with its vital welfare and benevolent work.

May Fayre 2017

Kudos to Mike and Tamsin Fagan who have agreed to jointly take on the role of the May Fayre Chair as we start kicking into gear with the planning for next year's event.

The initial planning meeting for what is sure to be another successful Fayre is to be held on **Wednesday 11th Jan in the Blue Ball at 8pm**. Volunteers are always needed and there are posts to be filled for next year, so if you haven't been involved in this essential village event before please come on down and find out how you can help.

New Braunston website

The Parish Council has a new website which features information about the council and its roles and responsibilities, alongside plenty of general information about the village and what's happening in and around Braunston.

www.braunstoninrutlandpc.org.uk

And don't forget the Braunston Facebook page too:

www.facebook.com/braunston

Pub Games at the BBC



for demonstrating the art of Bell Ringing and letting us have a go in November — everyone was surprised to find that strength is not what's needed for bell ringing, it's all about developing a "feel" for the bells.

Braunston Blokes Club - Pub Games Night at the Blue Ball,

Sunday 15th Jan at 7.30pm

Trainee Bell Ringers invited

Following on from all that, if anyone is interested in learning bell ringing they will be very welcome at the practice nights which are held every three weeks at Braunston Church, typically on a Wednesday. Contact Richard Beadman on 723382 for more details.

After November's night in the Tower "learning the ropes" of bell ringing, the Braunston Blokes Club will be back at the Blue Ball for more essential skills development with a traditional pub games night in January (to include the ever popular Jenga test of a steady hand!). Meet at 7.30pm on the 15th in the Blue Ball.

A big thank you to Richard Beadman and the Braunston Bell Ringers

Hedge of Darkness

The leylandii hedge, between the Village Hall and Churchyard, is being removed in work being overseen jointly by the Church PCC and the Village Hall Committee.

So far all the work has been done by

a few volunteers and sincere thanks go to everyone who has helped in any way, particularly Mike Hammond, without whose mechanised help the work could not have been done.

Once the leylandii hedge is fully removed and the ground prepared the plan is to plant lower yew hedging in its place, which will be easier to maintain.

Time for a safari (supper)?

The next Braunston Safari Supper will be held on Saturday January 28th.

If you're not familiar with the concept of safari suppers (or progressive dinners as they're somewhat mysteriously called in the US) essentially they're a mobile dinner party with successive courses prepared and eaten at the homes of different hosts.

The Braunston variant involves hosting one course for up to 8 people and eating the rest of the dinner elsewhere in the village, and is billed as a great way of catching up with villagers you haven't seen for a while or meeting new people and making new friends.

There are also some very limited spaces available for people who want to join in but can't host a course.

If you would like to be involved in whichever way with the next Safari Supper then please contact Tracy on either 759799 or email tracyandnickw@yahoo.co.uk

More details will be unveiled nearer the date.

Braunston News is usually published in the third week of each month. Please submit details of what you would like to see included in the next issue by the 13th to: braunston.newsletter@gmail.com