

Braunston News

March 2017



March Highlights

- Sat 4th March, 7.30pm - The King Lear, Village Hall.
- Fri 24th March, 6.45pm - Village Quiz, Village Hall.

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, 07747 637070
- 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
- Tai Chi: Thursdays 19.00 - 20.30. Contact Jim Ward www.taichiforhealth.co.uk
- Pilates: Fridays 09.00 - 10.00. Contact Alison Sentance on 07496 814825

Church Events

- Sun 5th March, 11.00 - Holy Communion
 - Sun 12th March, 11.00 - Sunday Worship
 - Sun 19th March, 11.00 - Holy Communion
 - Sun 26th March, 15.30 - Mothering Sunday Tea Party
- The Mothering Sunday Tea Party is going to be a great way to finish off this special day. Lots of fun and games are promised followed by a short Thanksgiving Service for our mums and families, then Afternoon Tea and Simnel Cake.

Bats in the Belfry

Braunston's Church has been unveiled as one of the three trial sites of a new initiative that aims to ease the tensions between those that maintain church buildings and the established colonies of bats that tend to like living in them.

Indeed, at least 60% of pre-16th Century churches are estimated to contain bat roosts, and at least 8 species are known to use churches.

Bats have been a protected species since the Wildlife and Countryside Act was passed in 1981.

The five-year Bats in Churches partnership between Natural England, the Church of England, Bat Conservation Trust, Historic England and the Churches Conservation Trust is

therefore set to trial new techniques to enable bats and church congregations to live together more harmoniously with the aid of £3.8m National Lottery funding.

Braunston will be in the forefront of investigating better ways for humans and bats to coexist in ancient churches, and the findings from us and the other pilot projects will then be rolled out nationwide in later phases of the project.

A special thank you must go to Sue Willetts who has spent much time pursuing options to improve our coexistence with bats and who secured Braunston's participation in this scheme. Watch out for more information and activity as the scheme takes flight.

Blokes on the Biltong

BBC's biggest ever event took place on Sunday 19th February at Chestnut Farm where Nick and Nicky Brake showcased [Rutland Charcuterie's](#) award winning products. We were all blown away by their new range of prosciutto and guanciale.

Forty five Braunston blokes and

ladies enjoyed Nick's tour around the Artisan food preparation facilities followed by a tasting of brilliant charcuterie matched with specialist wines. Did you know you can buy Braunston Breakfast Bacon here in the village?

A big thanks to Nick & Nicky and if you want to learn more about what

Rutland Charcuterie produces and sells here in Braunston, follow the link to their website www.rutland-charcuterie.co.uk.



+++ May Fayre needs help with publicity. Contact Mike or Tamsin: miketamsin@btinternet.com +++

@ The Pubs

- Sun 5th March, 12.00 - Jazz at [The Blue Ball](#)
- Thurs 16th March, 19.30 - Quiz Night at [The Old Plough](#)
- Sun 19th March, 19.30 - Braunston Bloke's Club Brain Teasing Quiz, Blue Ball
- Tue 21st March, 15.30 - Free Antiques Valuations at the Blue Ball
- Sun 26th March, Mother's Day specials, both pubs

Quiz Reminder

The increasingly infamous Village Hall quiz will be held on Friday 24th March. Your quizmeisters once more are Nick and Tracy, there will be a licensed bar from 18.45, and there will be a supper halfway through the evening. It was a sell out last time, so keep an eye out for tickets. www.braunstonvillagehall.co.uk for updates.

The King Shall Come

Your final reminder that Shifting Sands Theatre's 'The King Lear' is appearing at the Village Hall on Saturday 4th March. Tickets are £10 for adults, £7 for under 16s, and it's billed as suitable for anyone 11+. Available from The Blue Ball or Cheryl on 07956 308808.

Calendar Raises £1900

"I am very happy to report that the Braunston historical calendar has raised a magnificent sum in excess of £1900!" writes Lynn Cooper. "As a result the local Air Ambulance will receive £500, and Braunston Church and the Village Hall will each receive just over £700. May I thank everyone who supported the project in any way, and the generosity of all the sponsors. A great result and worth all those sleepless nights! I will be arranging a presentation of cheques in due course."

Braunston Web Links

Parish Council website:

www.braunstoninrutlandpc.org.uk

Braunston Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/braunston

To receive this newsletter via email, drop a line to: braunston.newsletter@gmail.com

+++ Stop Press: Work to start imminently on The Old Plough's new Yakiniku Korean Barbeque dining experience. More soon... +++

Village Hall AGM on 13 March

The AGM for [Braunston and Brooke Village Hall](#) will be held on 13 March at 20.00 in the small hall. We welcome all villagers to attend and would very much like to hear your ideas and feedback regarding the village hall and its uses. There is an opening to join Committee this year, so if you would like to get involved, please come to the meeting and let us know at hammondtp@aol.com, jim.atak@gmail.com, or rogerson.cheryl@gmail.com.

As in previous years, our aim has been to ensure sufficient funds are generated through private events, plays and fund raising events such as the May Fayre and the Quiz Night. These not only cover the running and maintenance costs of the Hall, but also

enable us to make the Hall available at subsidised rates for community activities and villagers.

The Village Hall has been busier than ever this year with a wide range of clubs and activities during the week and it has been wonderful to see that it is so widely used.

However, raising sufficient funds to covers its costs is a continual challenge every year.

One easy way to help the Hall is to use the easy fund portal (<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel/>) when you shop online. Each time you shop the seller gives a small amount to the Village Hall fund. We urge villagers to try and support the village hall this way, as it has proven to be a great help.

- Caroline Hammond

May Fayre Prequel

A fund-raising pre-Fayre event is taking place again this year. Scheduled for Easter Sunday (16 April)

in the Blue Ball, it will be the traditional band night with food. Tickets £10, under 12s free, available from the pub and usual sources in the Village.

Planting Crew for New Church Hedge

Many thanks to all who have helped to remove the overgrown Leylandi hedge between the Church and Village Hall. Suddenly there is a wholly new view!

The plan now is to plant a new yew hedge which will be limited in ultimate height to no more than 8ft or 2.5m - using small bare root saplings. It is hoped that this will happen sometime in March depending on weather

and completing some further ground preparations.

The hedge will be jointly funded and maintained by the Church and Village Hall.

We need volunteers to help with final raking, digging hedge planting sometime in March - a morning's work by several hands should see the job done.

If you would like to help please contact Rob Anderson at robander961@hotmail.co.uk or 774388 or Jim Atack at jim.atak@gmail.com or 759556 and we will be in touch when the ground is ready for the work to be commenced.

Braunston Maypole Dancing

Dancers Needed Boys & Girls between 5 and 11 years of age

Required Every Sunday leading up to May Day with the final performance at Braunston May Fayre on 1 May

Rehearsals Take place at Braunston

Village Hall, Sunday mornings, 9.30am (apart from Mother's Day and Easter Sunday)

More info Contact Fiona Willetts on 0751 809 2388 or fcwilletts@gmail.com.

[com](http://www.com).

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