

Braunston News

June 2017

May Fayre Raises Impressive £7,900

June Highlights

- Thurs 8th June, 07.00 - 22.00, General Election, vote in Village Hall
- Sat 24th June, 19.00 - Midsummer Ceilidh, 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 4th June, 11.00
- Holy Communion & Baptism
- Sun 11th June, 11.00
- Sunday Worship
- Sun 18th June, 11.00
- Holy Communion
- Sun 25th June, 18.00
- Team Service (Oakham)

In the end the weather gods rolled their dice and Braunston came up trumps: which is a bit of a mixed metaphor way of saying that it was sunny after a slightly monsoon-esque start on May 1st for the annual Braunston May Fayre. This rather pleasant surprise for anyone who had been glumly tracking the forecasts beforehand, coupled with a lot of very hard work by a lot of very dedicated people, made it a vintage year.

After costs were taken into consideration, the Fayre itself raised an impressive £6,600. When added to the £1,300 pre-Event held at the Blue Ball, that makes a grand total for the 2017 event of £7,900.

Proceeds are, of course, split between the Village Hall and the Church, with an additional amount going to a nominated charity. This year the beneficiary was [Dove Cottage](#), the newly founded day care hospice located on the road towards Ridlington, who received a cheque for £1600.

All in all, following a rough counting of the cars parked in the field and a bit of mathematical guesswork, it is estimated that around 1500 to 1600 people turned up on the day. Certainly, the numbers picked up nicely as the day went on and the morning's rain drifted away.

Stalls were busy—indeed, cakes were sold out, the tombola prizes were all claimed, and one food stall started packing up after selling all his wares by 2pm—and by the time we got round to the crowning of the May Queen, an excellent Emily Burniston, some people were watching perched up amongst the gravestones in the churchyard to

get a vantage point.

Kudos to Fiona Willets for organising the May Pole dancers so well, and a huge amount of thanks to everyone else who gave freely of their time and expertise to make this year's Fayre such a wonderful success.

There are too many to thank here, but a special mention to Nick and Nicky Brake at Chestnut Farm for hosting the Dog Show, and Peter Allen & Arnie Breen for running the Duck Race all day. Both were significant money-spinners for the event, and watching Arnie shepherd the ducks in the Quack National along the stream with a leaf blower was probably one of the day's main highlights.



Pic: A Bradshaw

Things to look at for next year include better traffic management, especially in the area down by the Gwash where the crowds and ducks collide, and trying to entice more stallholders to the event. Following the success of some of the innovations this year, such as the Laser Skeet shooting, various other ideas are being mullied over too.

Continued over...

@ The Pubs

- Tues 30th May, 9.30-15.30 - Antiques Valuation Day, Blue Ball
- Sun 11th June 12.00 - Jazz at The Blue Ball
- Thurs 22nd June, 19.30, Quiz Night, Plough

Don't Forget to Vote

Unless you have been on a very lean media diet or holidaying on Mars, you will be more than familiar with the fact that we have a general election coming up on June 8th. The polling station in the Village Hall will be open from 07.00 to 22.00. Postal vote applications are now closed, so please do make the effort to get down there if you can. At the last election more than 34% of registered voters didn't vote, more than the percentage that supported either of the two biggest political parties. And while in Rutland and Melton that number fell to 31.5%, that still means 25,100 people didn't vote in this constituency alone. Make sure your voice is heard.

Midsummer Ceilidh

Don't forget, this year's Midsummer Ceilidh, featuring the James Joyce Band, takes place on 24 June with tickets (including a hot supper) costing £12. Doors open 19.00 and there is also a licensed bar too. The band is the same one that called the sell out event held in the winter of last year, and their reputation must be firmly cemented in Braunston already as tickets are selling swiftly. So, don't delay on this one: if you want to dance the roof off the Village Hall and hopefully spill out into the garden as well, call Janet (759556) or Rob & Pat (774388). No experience necessary!

Flower Show Entries

Once more, don't forget the 2017 Flower Show and Fête is planned for Sat 12th August in the Village Hall. For more information ring Sue 756694 or Mary 723047.

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

Protecting the Dog & Duck

Sadly not a new pop-up micro-brewery in the village, but an email in from Mike Hammond at Chapter Farm, whose ducks have been attacked on four separate occasions now by dogs.

Here's what he says:

"Sadly we have had 4 separate attacks on our Ducks, caused by people not controlling their dogs, both along Wood Lane and also along the footpaths across Chapter Farm. Mostly the ducks are attacked by the dogs running into our garden."

"Please can we remind everyone, in the spirit of umgangsam [see last issue - Ed.] that it is the duty of the dog owner to control the dogs and if this is in doubt that they HAVE to put them on a lead."

We now have new born lambs in the fields and it would be a shame if a dog's

life was lost due to it attacking another animal."

There are few hard and fast statistics in this area, but, if you cross-reference with another area of great rural concern, SheepwatchUK figures suggest that anything up to 15,000 sheep per year are killed by dogs in the UK (and 49 dogs are shot or destroyed as a result).

It's not just dogs being walked that are a problem either, with a significant number of attacks being recorded by solo animals that in all likelihood have escaped from gardens.

The main message from Sheepwatch is to make sure your garden is secure and if you have any doubts about your dog's behaviour, keep it on a lead.

The Chapter Farm ducks would agree.

Safari Time Again

The next date for the village series of Safari Suppers will be Saturday 17th June. As normal, people have to supply a course at their home for up to 8 people max and they get to eat the other courses with a variety of people

at different homes. A limited number of spaces are available for non-cookers with donations to the Village Hall/ Church funds.

Please contact Tracy on 759799 or tracyandnickw@yahoo.co.uk with any questions or to book your place on the night.

Replacing the Queen's Tree

Anyone walking in the churchyard will have noticed that the ginkgo tree planted by the Gardening Club in 2012 to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee seems to have suddenly grown several feet!

Sadly, that's not the case; the club

simply decided that the original had lingered too long without doing much in the way of thriving, and have replaced it with a healthier specimen.

Many thanks to Peter Wright for his hard work in digging up the old and planting the new.

May Fayre continued...

In other words, a bit like painting the Forth Bridge, once you've finished it and it's all over, it's not long at all till you have to start thinking of doing it all over again.

Special thanks though to Mike & Tamsin Fagan who chaired the May Fayre committee this year and very swiftly found themselves on a learning curve so steep they needed crampons.

There are 101 things that can go

wrong in an event like this, but all issues were dealt with swiftly, efficiently and—like the puncture on the car due to carry the May Queen—most people never even noticed. Respect!

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