



Braunston News

March 2019

Get ready for the 30th Anniversary May Fayre

This year's May Fayre promises some interesting new features designed to keep the event entertaining and relevant to the 1200 to 1500 estimated visitors that the Fayre attracts every year.

New for this year is a 'have a go' dog agility event, which knowing some of the local canines could be a hoot, and the Fayre organisers also promise a new set of carriages for refreshments, street food, and a third acting as a stage for the live music which will be on throughout the day.

Other events planned include the traditional dog show, an appearance by the Rutland Morris Men, the legendary Braunston Duck Racing, and, of course, the crowing of the May Queen and the Maypole Dancing.

Raffle tickets have already been distributed and offer some really good prizes including A Fortnum & Mason Hamper, Tea for Two at The Ritz in London, and £100 in cash. "Our three local charities need your support more than ever. The Village Hall reserves are at their lowest level for a long time due to the extensive refurbishments undertaken over the last 12 months, Braunston's ancient Church has a huge repair bill pending to maintain it watertight and safe, and Dove Cottage Day Care Hospice (Ridlington) needs ongoing funding to maintain and extend the care services it offers."

Contact Rob on robander961@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

Church: Bats & repairs

Plans are well advanced to install bat boxes on a pole in the Churchyard extension later in March & April. In early April we will also be permanently sealing access holes between the south aisle roof space and the church interior to hopefully permanently prevent bats getting inside the church.

All the work has been approved by Natural England and will be supervised by our licensed ecologist for the project. The bats will continue to live happily in the roof space and also have the option to colonise our bat boxes. All this has been made possible by a significant grant from the Heritage Lottery Funded "Bats in Churches Project".

Meanwhile, we continue to receive donations towards the Church Repairs Appeal, total funds raised including grants and gift aid are approaching £40,000 which leaves a further £14,000 to raise over the next few months. Donation forms are available in Church .

-RA

Bell ringers need recruits

Fancy learning a new skill this year? Bell ringing is a challenging and rewarding team activity that is open to everyone of any age from 12 years and upwards.

In learning to ring, you will become part of a large group of friends, start a life-long learning experience, maintain a traditional skill, and get the opportunity to visit some amazing new places!

To find out more come to a practice; Wednesdays 7.30 – 9.00 All Saints Church

Contact: Richard Beadman, 01572 723382

-RB

Mothering Sunday Breakfast

Come and share a delicious breakfast on Mothering Sunday on 31st March, which will be followed by a short informal service.

Mothering Sunday was traditionally the day when the Lenten fast was broken. Servants were given the day off to visit their mothers, and they would pick bunches of flowers on the way home as a gift.

The origin of the Simnel cake is rather obscure but one story is that it was made by Simon and Nell for their mother – maybe! So it's a really special day both for celebrating mothers and the motherly care of the Church. We all have mothers, whether they're still with us or a much-loved memory we cherish. What better way to begin such a special day than to celebrate them over a breakfast!

-GR

Come to Afternoon Tea

Winter is a time of hibernation, which sadly seems to affect humans too. To bring some jollity to these bleaker months (and the warmer ones to come) it has been suggested to bring the community together with an afternoon tea party, to be held once a month, in the Village Hall.

We aim to give people an opportunity to meet up with friends, make new ones, hear each other's stories, and spend a relaxing few hours in each other's company.

It is hoped that these afternoons will develop into what people would like them to be... this could be an opportunity to spend the afternoon playing bridge or chess, enjoying a craft activity, listening to a talk..... but for now please do just turn up for tea, sandwiches and cake and your ideas for how we could evolve.

The first tea party will be held on Tuesday 2nd April at 2pm. For further information please contact Angela on 720351 or at lashbrook@keme.co.uk

-AL

Next Quiz Night Sat 6th April

Our resident Quiz Masters, Tracy and Nick Waterman, will be in the chair once again! Bring your own team — max 6 people — or we can team you up with others. It's always such a great evening.

Doors & Bar open 6.45pm, Quiz starts 7.30pm. Tickets £9 - includes hot supper

For tickets and more info, contact Karen Allen on 01572 723913 or 07961 050077 karen.allen@consultselect.com.

-KA

It's all just repeats nowadays

We've talked about these events before, but they're worth reiterating...

Don't miss the next fun filled **B³C Wine Tasting** evening at The Blue Ball on Sunday evening 10th March - when Ann of "Ann et Vin Wine Merchants" (Castlegate, Newark) has kindly agreed to run one of her excellent wine tasting sessions.

Ann will be ably assisted by our very own Chrissie and the cost is just £15 per person which covers Ann's costs. Chrissie and David Dews are taking the lead on organising the night so please pre book your place by emailing David on dcdews@btinternet.com. We have a healthy attendance already committed so it would be helpful to know if you plan to attend. Advance payments appreciated to ensure we can cover the costs.

Interested in helping run the Village Hall and related activities? Come along to the Annual General Meeting on 25th March at 8pm in the Small Hall to hear reports on last year's activities and operations, and explore how you could get involved. For more info call Rob Anderson on 01572 774388.

And finally, the **The All Saint's** Braunston Annual Parochial Church meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 28th March in the Small Hall. All villagers resident within the parish are invited to attend and can take part in the election of Churchwardens and hear the reports on the past years activities.

- RA

Any Other Business?

You may remember a few weeks ago we sent out an alert following a break-in at some stables in the Village. Unfortunately we heard from a number of people who had had similar experiences, with sheds seeming to be a particularly popular target. As always the usual advice is to keep things secure and keep things safe.

And don't forget the clocks either go forward one hour or back several decades at the end of the month depending on how the Brexit discussions pan out.

Listings

Regular Events

■ Ladies Pub Night: Meets 1st Wed of month in Blue Ball from 8pm

■ Indoor Bowls: Alternate Fridays in Village Hall at 7:30 pm. Contact: Sandra Lickham 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

■ Oakham Sings!, Mondays, 18.45. Content Brooke Peverell, 07772 055935

■ Quilting & Patchwork Group: Every Wednesday in Village Hall 09:45—15:45. Contact: Viv 771020

■ Pilates: Fridays 09.00 - 10.00 & 10.15 - 11.15. Contact Alison Sentance on 07496 814825

■ Baking Classes: 4th Thursday of month. Contact: Leslie Gadd 07904 956825, gaddleslie@hotmail.co.uk

Church Events

■ Sunday 3rd March, 11.00am, Holy Communion

■ Sunday 10th March, 11.00am, Sunday Worship

■ Sunday 17th March, 11.00am, Holy Communion

■ Sunday 24th March, 11.00am, Sunday Worship

■ Mothering Sunday Breakfast, Village Hall, 9.30

Thanks this issue to...

Karen Allen, Rob Anderson, Angela Lashbrook, Richard Beadman, Chris Lovelock, and Gail Rudge for info and various words where indicated.