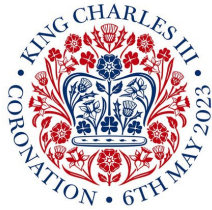


Braunston News

May 2023



Coronation Street Party

Just a few days to go before the Coronation weekend, culminating in the most important event which is, of course, the Braunston Coronation Street Party. We're expecting over 200 people so it's going to be a big Braunston do. Bring your tables and chairs to Cedar St for a 1pm start - hot barbecue from the ~~Revers Return~~ Blue Ball followed by ice cream for all those who have their tickets, accompanied by your own side dishes and drinks. If you missed out on the barbecue tickets, come on down anyway, just bring your own mains.

There will be live entertainment, and prizes for the best decorated table, the best crown and the best-dressed person. Let your imaginations have free reign !

The traditional Maypole dancing will also take place near the pub during the afternoon, along with the crowning of this year's May Queen.

Elections on May 4th



The upcoming election will be for two seats for our county council ward, Braunston and Martinshorpe. There are three candidates: Edward Baines (Con), Giles Clifton (Con) and Andrew Johnson (LibDem).

The village hall will be open from 7am to 10pm for voting, and remember that you will need to bring approved photo id with you - for full details of this see www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id

May Fayre 2024 - All systems Go! Volunteers needed

Last month's well attended May Fayre meeting unanimously agreed to proceed with the 2024 May Fayre. Thanks go to Peter Allen who volunteered to chair the Fayre committee for 2024 and to Simon Phillips who will work with Peter with a view to taking over for 2025. A number of people kindly volunteered to takeover leading specific areas of the Fayre from some long serving organisers, so the "refresh" of the committee is underway. A few lead roles still remain to be filled.



Our big need now is for volunteers for "the day". Volunteering a couple of hours for the May Fayre is a great opportunity to meet people across the village and to do something rewarding and beneficial for the village and our community. Whilst May Day Monday 6th May 2024 is a long way off, the Coronation Big Help Out Day coincides with our Coronation Street Party, so we would like everyone attending the street party to consider volunteering a couple of hours to help out at the 2024 May Fayre. Sign up sheets will be circulating before and at the street party; there are lots of possible roles to suit all capabilities. Please consider helping out.

Rob Anderson

New Zumba class at the village hall

Thursday evenings see the welcome return of Zumba classes to the village. Join Kayleigh from 6pm to 7pm (except for the Gardening Club weeks, when it will be 5pm to 6pm), no experience necessary, two left feet welcome, just bring your workout kit, some water, and lots of energy. Classes are £7, either in cash on the night, or by bank transfer beforehand - contact Kayleigh on 07954 287002 for more info.



Stop press - the first session took place last Thursday and was voted a great success 👍

Cakes and teas at Braunston Open Gardens

A huge thank you to Caroline Lomas for allowing us to sell teas and cake at her open garden afternoon on Sunday 23rd April, in aid of the church restoration fund. We raised a huge £473.50 and would like to thank all of our wonderful bakers for the beautiful cakes and also to those who gave a donation. We couldn't have done it without you.

Sue Bichard

This month's church services

Sunday 7th May	11am	Coronation Celebration Service
Sunday 14th May	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st May	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 28th May	11am	Sunday Worship, Pentecost



On Sunday 7th May there will be a special Community Coronation Service at 11am in church. It will be an informal occasion to celebrate and give thanks to God for the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla, and to pray for them and all the Royal Family and ourselves as we enter into this new era. Everyone is welcome. Gail Rudge

Update on the River Gwash



Many Braunston residents have noticed a marked deterioration in the health of the Gwash and its ability to support aquatic life. Longer term residents may well remember a river with fish and even the rare appearance of a kingfisher. Sadly the Gwash seems to have become a conduit for both visible, and not so visible, pollution.

The good news is that a new group - 'Friends of the Gwash' - has been formed to tackle this. The mission is to restore the river to a good ecological condition and revive its aquatic life and 'Friends of the Gwash' has begun to link up with like-minded groups in the area to pool our knowledge and resources. It is important we recognise the river as a valuable village asset to Braunston and we need a long term initiative to protect it as much as we can before its health deteriorates any further. This will involve regular testing of the river as well as planning for longer term projects to improve the water course. A number of villagers have expressed an interest to become involved in the project and a meeting is to be convened in May. Invitations will go out shortly to form a core group of eight people to steer the initiative and to expand the project to more residents, as well as reporting back in detail about the progress of the work.

The initial founding members Peter Allen, Carl, Stuart Oldham, Simon Phillips can be contacted for further information at friendsofthegwash@gmail.com

Gwash Advisory

Alongside the Friends of the Gwash, the Parish Council recently wrote to a number of residences in Braunston reminding the owners of their obligations under the Environment Agency Binding Rules. The regulations for Septic Tanks and Sewage Treatment Systems are very clear, namely:



- Septic Tanks must not discharge directly into a water course.
- Septic Tanks must discharge into an approved drainage field.
- If properly maintained, Sewage Treatment Systems may discharge into a water course.
- Septic Tanks and Treatment Systems must be emptied and serviced annually.

Co-operation in following these regulations will help in the ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of the Gwash. The Welland River Trust has produced a particularly informative booklet on septic systems and improving our rivers.

I have copies if anyone would like one - contact peter.allen@consultselect.com
Peter Allen

Annual Parish Meeting

Braunston's Annual Parish Meeting took place on the 13th April. Minutes from the meeting, and the officers' reports can be seen on the Parish Council website at

www.braunstoninrutlandpc.org.uk

Regular Events

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

Village Hall

- Indoor Bowls: Alternate Fridays at 7:30 pm. Contact: Sandra Lickman 722536
- Quilting & Patchwork Group: Weds 09:45 - 15:45. Contact: Elaine 01780 756004

- Table Tennis: Weds at 7:30 pm. Contact: David Smart 01664 474354

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

- Tea Party: last Tuesday of month at 2:30 pm Contact Angela 01572 720351

- Gardening Club: 3rd Thursday of month at 7.30pm. Contact Mary Milner 720387

- The Wool Group: 1st Weds of the month, 2pm. Contact Jill 07967 650361

- Zumba: Thurs at 7pm (6pm on 3rd Thurs in month). Contact Kayleigh 07954 287002

Church Events

- Bell ringing practice: Weds eve 7.30pm to 9pm. Contact Richard 07976 622130

Braunston News is published at the end of the month by Braunston Parish Council and does not necessarily represent the views of the Parish Council or any Parish Councillors. Items for inclusion are always welcome - please send items for the June edition to braunston.newsletter@gmail.com by May 21st. If you currently receive a printed copy and would like to receive an emailed version instead, then please let us know your name, street address, and email address.