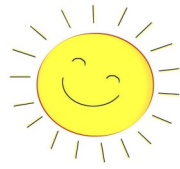




Braunston News



June 2024



Another May Fayre success

The Braunston May Fayre was blessed with record attendance, fine weather and very hard work from all the volunteers on the day, resulting in our three charities benefitting handsomely.

Music from the Uppingham Jazz and Soul Band (all 22 of them) together with the harmonious Cottesmore Military Wives Choir fuelled the festival atmosphere throughout the day (thanks Karen). The hardworking helpers in the Village Hall (thanks Clare) ensured everyone was fed and watered from before the day was open to the public until closing at 4.00pm. A full turnout for the Maypole Dancing was enhanced by the crowning of this year's May Queen - Miss Audrey Westermann, (thanks Joanne). Duck Racing (thanks Gary), Tombola (thanks Sue and Sue) and the Dog Show (thanks Catherine) all did grand work, with record receipts from the Games on the Green (thanks John and Manoli), where many hardy/patient helpers enthusiastically encouraged the children, and some adults, to test their skills as well as an introduction to the Human Fruit Machine! Local crafts-folk displayed their skills alongside the many street and craft stalls (thanks Mike and Karen).

We must also recognise the great contribution the Raffle makes to the May Fayre, adding mightily to the overall receipts, thanks to all of you that bought and sold tickets (thanks Rob and Sonia).

Finally, we can't forget, or thank enough, the lonely Car Park attendants (marshalled by birthday boy Barrie) who did sterling, if unglamorous, work in ensuring the operation in the new parking field and surrounding streets went to plan. Behind the scenes work by Kit Ellis, Jim Attack, Chris Lovelock, Jane Ritchie Smith and Simon Phillips was also a major factor in the day's success.

It's my last year as Chairmen of the May Fayre Committee, I would therefore, like to take this moment to thank everyone who has given their time and effort over the past years and say what a joy it's been working with you all for such a worthy cause.

Peter Allen

D-Day 80th anniversary

Braunston is joining the nationwide lighting of beacons to commemorate 80 years since the D-Day landings. The beacon will be lit at 9.15pm on Thurs June 6th on the same site as the previous jubilee beacon, at the top of John Turner's field next to Hebe's Wood.

We suggest walking up Wood Lane from the village to arrive at about 9pm (the footpath is out of action as the bridge is still missing). We can manage a few disabled parking spaces near the field if required - please get in touch about this. No dogs please as dogs on leads and crowds in the dark don't mix well. No plans to provide any food or drink, so bring your own supplies.

Let's hope for a fine summer's evening to remember those who took part in the operation that marled the start of the end of the war. Thanks to John Turner for allowing use of the land, and to Min Burdett - we look forward to seeing you there.

Chris Bichard



Brooke Road housing application and appeal

As you are probably aware, the Planning Inspector has now decided on the appeal for the construction of 30 houses on Brooke Rd and has ruled in favour of development, contrary to expectations, and to the wishes of the village in general. Indeed, he seems to have ridden roughshod through all our local planning policy.

Braunston Parish Council is looking at possible options to challenge this decision. They are in contact with both our ward councillors, the planning department at RCC, and our MP Alicia Kearns. They are also pursuing independent legal advice to ascertain whether there is a case to challenge this decision in the courts. Any further action has to be lodged within six weeks of the Inspector's decision, so time is short.

Braunston Parish Council hopes to have some guidance from its planning lawyers at the beginning of June, then a decision can be made on the best course of action to take. We should also have an indication by then of what Rutland County Council are going to do, and whether CPRE (Council for the Protection of Rural England) can offer any assistance, We will update you as soon as there is anything to report, thank you all for your support and the many kind words I have received.

Chris Bichard, Chair of Parish Council

This month's church services

Sunday 2nd June 11am	Holy Communion	Sunday 23rd June 11am	Sunday Worship
Sunday 9th June 11am	Sunday Worship	Sunday 30th June 10.30am	Holy Communion , Langham
Sunday 16th June 11am	Holy Communion	3pm	Evensong, Brooke

Biodiversity in the church yard

Plans to manage the churchyard in ways which increase biodiversity are underway. You will see lots of long grass in the churchyard and this is to let the plants grow and see what's already in the soil. This is designed to be in areas that are not regularly visited. Other areas will continue to be mown regularly - if there are any access issues do let us know.

Monitoring what is emerging in the Flora and Fauna will be done by a survey, and we are looking to do this in June. Dates are still being finalised and we will send them out on the village WhatsApp when confirmed. All are most welcome.

The next major event with the grass will be its cutting which we are planning to do with scythes in August. We will be looking for volunteers to help with this so please let us know if interested.

Looking forward, jobs in planning are: summer pruning on named trees, extension of the reflective area around the bench in cremations area, relocation of waste bins, and creation of a compost area.

More details to follow. Any feedback please do get in touch.

Jill Martin



Church Repairs Update

We are almost finished on the tower repairs, the final piece of replacement stone arrived from the quarry but sadly it was cut to the wrong dimensions so didn't fit, and we await the imminent arrival of a new piece.

Better news on the replacement tower ladder, the manufacturers have confirmed that it's made and we hope to see it installed in June!

Rob Anderson

Storm water solutions

In the January newsletter I explained the value of installing slow release water butts to slow down the flow of storm water that might otherwise cause over-topping of the Braunston sewage works, with the inevitable resulting Gwash pollution.

Several folk gave me details of their soakaways or their direct discharge into the Gwash, which was helpful in calculating how many water butts we might need to make a real difference. The answer is not that many.

I'm sure that there are other houses, along with Hanbury Gardens and Churchgate Court, where water does not flow into the combined sewer, and would like to know when this is the case.

Over the next few weeks members of Friends of the Gwash (FOG) will be trying to discover more from the owners of the 30 biggest roofs in the village. Once identified, we can work with the owners to procure and install water butts which fill up during a rain storm and gently release the water into the drains after the rain; once empty (or part full) they are ready for the next storm and will prevent storm water from flowing directly into the sewer. Simple!

Jim Atack

New Yoga Flow classes at the village hall

We're excited to announce that Victoria Louch, a qualified yoga teacher from Oakham, will be starting yoga classes in the village hall on Monday evenings, starting 10th June from 7pm - 8pm. Cost will be £8.00.

For more info, contact Victoria on 07941 019270. Everyone is welcome, beginner friendly, just bring a mat. Please let your friends and family know, and if there is demand, then a day class will also be considered.

Karen Allen



Regular Events

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: Thursdays 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
- Yoga: Monday 7-8pm. Contact Victoria Louch 07941 019270

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 July edition to braunston.newsletter@gmail.com by June 22nd. 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.