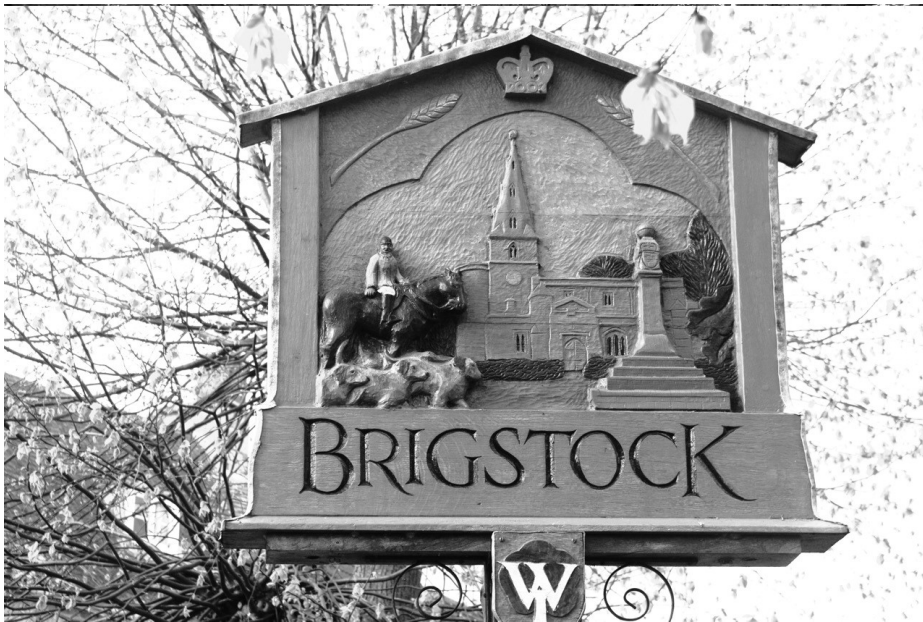


BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 13 – WINTER 2017



PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

Journal of Brigstock Village Hall Association

Brigstock News is produced by the Village Hall Association on behalf of the village and uses articles produced by local groups or individuals.

The articles need to reflect your thoughts and wishes. So the Committee welcomes contributions on subjects of local interest but reserves the right to edit or omit articles without notice at their discretion. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Committee and advertisements published in 'Brigstock News' are subject to individual agreements between advertisers and readers and the Association cannot be held responsible for the quality of goods or services supplied.

Articles for inclusion in 'Brigstock News' should be emailed to

chrisallen043@gmail.com or sent to 9 Woodyard Close, Brigstock, NN14 3LZ

SPRING - Published 3rd March 2018— **Copy by 16th February**

SUMMER - Published 2nd June 2018

AUTUMN - Published 1st September 2018

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LOCAL GROUPS

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS	01536 373579
BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL SECRETARY	01536 373059
BRIGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL (CLERK)	01536 373672
BRIGSTOCK CRICKET CLUB	01536 373478
BRIGSTOCK PFA	01536 373353
BRIGSTOCK PLAYGROUP ENQUIRIES	07580 115380
BRIGSTOCK PLAYGROUP FUNDRAISING EVENTS	07766 573400
BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY	01536 373428
BRIGSTOCK WI	01536 373672
BRIGSTOCK FILM NIGHTS	01536 373028
BRIGSTOCK URC	01536 373225
BRIGSTOCK ST ANDREWS	01536 373410
BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL	01536 373059
BRIGSTOCK SUNNYSIDERS	01536 373383

Front Cover Photo - Brigstock Village Sign - see separate article by the Historical Society

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 2 St Andrews Christmas Fair, St Andrews Church
- 2 PANTO Village Hall 2pm
- 6 Kurling, Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 9 URC Christmas Coffee Morning, 10am, Chapel
- 9 Mobile Library, 2pm, Barnards Way
- 10 Christmas Tree Lighting, Hall Hill, 6pm
- 11 Mens Club, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 12 WI Christmas Party, WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 14 Historical Society, Christmas Meeting, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 16 Carols in the Park, Country Park, 6-15pm
- 16 Cricket Club, Quiz Night, Village Hall
- 17 URC Carol Service, 3pm
- 18 Ladies Leisure Christmas Lunch, June Small room 12-30pm
- 24 Christingle Service, St Andrews Church, 3-30 and 6pm
- 26 Woodland Pytchley Hounds meet on Hall Hill, 11am
- 26 Cricket Club, The Meadow, Fun and Games with bar

JANUARY

- 9 WI "Turning Magazines into Something Useful", WI Hall 7-30pm
- 10 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 13 Mobile Library 2pm Barnards Way
- 13 WI Murder Mystery Night
- 15 Ladies Leisure Group, Card Games, June Small Room, 1-30pm
- 19 Film Night, "Whisky Galore", Village Hall, 7-45pm
- 23 WI Social Night
- 24 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 24 Historical Society, "Brigstock to Van Diemens Land and Bermuda"

FEBRUARY

- 3 Race Night for St Andrews Church at Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 10 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 10 Mobile Library 2pm Barnards Way
- 13 WI, "One man, a bike and Mongolian Steepes", WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 16 Film Night, "Lion", Village Hall, 7-45pm
- 19 Ladies Leisure Group, "Disco Days", June Small Room, 1-30pm
- 20 WI Quiz Night, Green Dragon
- 21 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 22 Historical Society, "Local Maps", Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 25 PFA Curry Night, Village Hall
- 27 WI Social Night

Brigstock United Reformed Church



Sold out' has been the pattern of recent events with the URC. Despite the not so dry weather at this year's Beer Festival, we thoroughly enjoyed being part of this weekend once again and joining many others within the community of Brigstock. And the rain didn't prevent us clearing the Tombola table as we navigated around the hall with tickets and prizes. A great spirit and some good laughs as we served food at the Comedy Night.

A couple of weeks later and we were back at the Village Hall for the annual Barn Dance. With all tickets sold the great turn out made for a packed dance floor and much do-si-doing. There was some very impressive dancing from the children that came along – May Day training has really paid off. Our most recent sell out event was a Beetle Drive held in the June Small Room at the Chapel in Mill Lane.

Sell-out events demonstrate the strong community spirit that we are privileged to be part of and we very much appreciate everyone's support.

Coming up we have our **Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 9th December** at the Chapel. Join us between 10 and 12 noon for coffee and mince pies. Our **Carol Service takes place on Sunday 17th December** at 3.00pm and we will be celebrating together with a short service at 10.00am on Christmas Day. All are welcome.

In the New Year we will be starting up a Bible Book Club. Each month we will choose a different book from the Bible to read in our own time, with the opportunity to come together to share our thoughts and reflections on what we have read. Look out for the 'book of the month' and join us in your own way.

"Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can." John Wesley

BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP £10 per year otherwise £3 per visit

Talks usually take place at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

14/12/17	Christmas Meeting	Our usual Christmas get-together with entertainment.
24/01/18	<i>From Brigstock to Van Diemen's Land and Bermuda- the transportation of the Birds of Brigstock to lands beyond the Sea</i> <i>Michael Britton</i>	<i>Many people were transported to Australia and Tasmania for relatively minor crimes. This is the story of one man's journey from Brigstock to the other side of the world. Following further research Michael has unearthed information about what happened to other members of the Bird family.</i>
22/02/18	<i>Local Maps</i> <i>Carl, Bill and Sally</i>	<i>Following trips to Hatfield House and Boughton House Carl, Bill and Sally present some interesting local information through maps of Brigstock and the surrounding area.</i>
28/03/18	<i>The History of Apethorpe Palace</i> <i>Peter and Gloria Wright</i>	<i>From the first 15th century hunting lodge and occupants Peter and Gloria trace all the personalities through to the Brassey family in the 20th century, then the chequered history through neglect, and finally plans for the future.</i>

We now have a number of history books available to borrow from our library. If you are interested in having a list please let me know.

Sally Wilks 373428.

DO YOU WANT AN ADVERT HERE?

If you want to advertise in this Newsletter which comes out quarterly and is delivered to 600 houses throughout Brigstock, please contact the editor on chrisallen043@gmail.com or 01536 373059

BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY—Cont'd

THE HISTORY OF VILLAGE SIGNS

You may think that village signs date back hundreds of years but, in fact, they first sprang up in Norfolk in the early years of the 20th century, when the then Prince of Wales (later to become King Edward VII) commissioned the Princess Alexandra School of Carving to make four signs for villages on the Sandringham Estate as a means of fostering community spirit and identity and to aid motorists. King George V also championed the trend, erecting a further three on the estate.

The spread of interest beyond Norfolk can be attributed to Prince Albert, Duke of York (later George VI) who gave a speech to the Royal Academy in 1920 promoting the wider use of village signs. This prompted the Daily Mail to run a nationwide village sign competition. The prize fund exceeded £2,000 and ten awards were made. The winning designs were exhibited at Australia House, London in October 1920. The village sign at Biddenden, Kent, featuring the two Biddenden Maids, was one of the successful Daily Mail competition entries as well as the sign at Bromley, Kent. There are now more than 3000 signs in Britain. There is even a Village Sign Society whose aims are to promote the enjoyment and appreciation of village signs in Great Britain and record for posterity all known signs.

Our own sign was carved by Glyn Mould who is now based at Sacrewell Mill where he runs woodcarving courses. He has even carved a village sign for Ambridge to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the radio programme.

EVENING TELEGRAPH

Should you wish to advertise your organisation in the Evening Telegraph newspaper please contact Steph Beckett on 373422 or sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk

Items should be sent by the Thursday of the preceding week for the Thursday publication .

BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY—Cont'd



Our market cross may well date back to the Medieval period although the shaft you see today was erected by a local landowner in 1586 apparently after Queen Elizabeth I passed through. The steps were rebuilt in the early 20th C. The cobbles are thought to form part of the original market surface. Brigstock was an important farming village and records indicate that the success of the market came from the decline of the one in neighbouring Geddington. However, Brigstock Market declined in the 17th century due to competition from Kettering, Oundle, and Thrapston. It no longer existed by the 18th century. Crosses in market places were thought to help validate transactions and were used as important gathering points. We are lucky to have retained ours in what is thought to be the original location as fewer than 2000 now survive.

DEFIBRILLATOR AT THE COOP

Well it finally arrived. Not been used and like insurance you hope it won't be!. They are simple to use and the Coop have organised a demonstration in November. If however you do need to use it, do not panic just follow the instructions on the machine.

Fundraising Event

Nicki Newberry would like to thank everybody who contributed in any way to her fundraising day. She held an afternoon tea and a strawberry and Prosecco evening. it was attended by many villagers who feasted on cake and strawberries.

An amazing £535 was raised which has been sent to the Red Cross for the Grenfell fire disaster. Many thanks

**FOR FRESH
TASTY FISH
AND CHIPS IN
BRIGSTOCK
VISIT THE FISH
AND CHIP VAN
EVERY TUESDAY
4-30PM TO 7 PM
ON SUDBOROUGH
ROAD, BRIGSTOCK**

Pre-school Playgroup

Playgroup has extended its opening hours and we are now open Monday 9:15-12:15 and 12:15-3:15 Tuesday 9:15-12:15 and 12:15-3:15 Wednesday 9:15-12:15 Thursday 9:15-12:15 and 12:15-3:15 Friday 9:15-12:15. We are very happy to accommodate parents wherever possible. You can have a morning session, an afternoon session or all day wherever possible.



Brigstock Pre-school Playgroup are really looking forward to the festive season. We have the ever popular **wreath night on the 1st of December** as well as the children's nativity on the 15th of December which all parents and carers are invited to. Playgroup is always looking for volunteers to read to the children or teach them something new.

If you would like to be involved or require any more information, please contact Sarah on 07708 977714 who will be happy to help.

St Andrews Church

Letter from the Rector and Associate Minister.

Dear Reader,

Alan and I moved into the Benefice in Stanion in August and were inducted and licensed in September. We would like to thank everyone who came to the service to welcome us and all those who enabled the service and the celebration tea afterwards to run so smoothly. We have been very warmly welcomed by both the church and wider community, thank you. I know there are many more of you that we haven't met yet so please be patient and feel free to introduce yourselves to us if you see us around anywhere, I do like a chat!

As you can imagine it has been a very busy time for us as well as a time of great change. I imagine our being here is a big change for some of you also. Change is frequently disliked because it means we have to deal with the unknown and we like the safety of knowing what's happening and what the expectations are. I guess many of us are, "creatures of habit". So it's great to know that whatever changes are going on around us, God stays the same and is always loving and faithful, wanting good things for us. Actually, generally speaking I quite like change, it may bring challenges but it also often brings new opportunities and experiences.

As we rapidly approach the Christmas season I am reminded that God sent a tiny baby into the world who was to change it forever. The God who is love came as our Lord and Saviour, and as Andrew Lloyd Webber reminds us, "love changes everything".

This Christmas, we invite you to engage with the God who is love either afresh, or perhaps for the first time. He will not leave you when the tinsel comes down. He will stay as long as he is welcome and his presence can transform 2018 for each one of us.

You are all most welcome to attend any of the services which are listed in the Benefice lists at any time.

With love in Christ,

Rev'd Heather Lowe and Captain Alan Lowe.

St Andrews Church— cont'd

It has been an eventful few months in our church life, most significantly we have welcomed The Reverend Heather Lowe as our new Rector and Captain Alan Lowe as our Associate Minister. It is wonderful to have them both leading us in the mission of our four churches. Whilst some of you will have already met Heather and Alan there will be ample opportunity for others to meet them over the coming months and Christmas period. There are some exciting times ahead of us that will further develop the relationship between the church and wider community. Contact details for our Rector and Associate Minister are: The Reverend Heather Lowe and Captain Alan Lowe, 14 Willow Lane, Stanion, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN14 1DT, telephone 01536 263550.

We are continuing to work hard to keep the fundraising momentum going. Our next event will be the Christmas Fair on the 2nd December in the church between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. There will be stalls with festive treats, cakes, tombola and more. Father Christmas will be dropping by, taking a couple hours out of his busy schedule, so bring the children along to meet him. You can also enjoy a hot drink with a mince pie. We are looking at some varied events for 2018 including the always-popular race night; this will be on the 3rd February in the village hall. We are also planning a quiz night in the village hall on the 20th April. Please look out for posters and come along, enjoy and support the church. All of the money raised will go to help us to maintain the church and install a servery and disabled toilet. These are essential to make our church fit for the 21st century and meet the needs of all. We have a small committee who are driving this project but we are very keen to enlist the help and expertise of anyone who can give some of their time to help us. If you think you can help in any way please contact our Churchwarden, Carl Hector, 01536 373410.

As we approach the festive season, plans are in full swing for the Christmas services, and details can be found on the next page. As in previous years, one of the highlights will be our Christingle service on Christmas Eve. There will be two services - one at 3.30 p.m. and one at 6 p.m. For safety reasons, numbers will be restricted to 200 per service. Admission will be by way of tickets, which can be obtained (free of charge) from Carl Hector, 16 Sandlands Avenue 01536 373410, Barbara Platt 4 Bridge Street 01536 373240 or Allison Porter 5 Stable Hill 07933 804432.

St Andrews Church— cont'd

Our advent window will be unveiled at 7 p.m. after the 6 p.m. Christingle service and refreshments will be available.

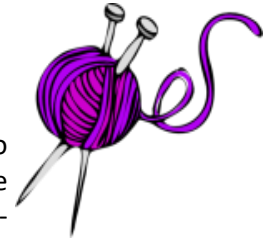
If you want to attend a service on Christmas day you have the choice of two, one at 9.30 a.m. at All Saints Church, Sudborough and one at 11.00 a.m. at St Peters, Lowick.

Thursday 14th December	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Wednesday 20th December	9.30 a.m. Brigstock School Carol Service
Thursday	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Sunday 24th December 	3.30 p.m. Christingle 6.00 p.m. Christingle 11.00 p.m. First Mass of Christmas (Midnight Mass)
Thursday	No Holy Communion Service
Sunday 31st December 2017	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion Service for the four churches in the Benefice at St Andrews Brigstock

Calling all those who are musically inclined!

Is anyone interested in resurrecting and leading the hand-bell group? It is an easy and fun way to create music and take part in a social activity. There is no real age restriction as long as you can hold a bell, read numbers and have a laugh. No prior knowledge of ringing or reading music required. If you are interested please contact Allison Porter 01536 373509 or Carl Hector 01536 373410.

Knit and Natter



At the time of writing, Knit and Natter club seem to be doing a lot less nattering and shockingly more knitting!!!! What is this unusual activity we ask ourselves? Could Christmas be around the corner?

Our knitting needles are click clicking away to complete our Living Advent Window on 1st December, at 6.30 at The Olde Three Cocks, and hope you won't be disappointed.

We welcome our new member Gill, who has braved our friendly group and hope she enjoys it as much as we do.

We'd like to thank Margareta and Paul, at The Olde Three Cocks, who host our group every Wednesday from 10am to 12 noon, also for allowing us to display our Living Advent Window. If you want to learn to knit and join our friendly group, pop along and meet us all.

K M SURVEYS Ltd

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Tel: 01536 373598
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BRIGSTOCK WI – WI HALL, PARK WALK

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE

Visitors to Members Meetings - Come along and meet other WI members. Visitors can come for 3 months to see if they like it before becoming a member.

Visitors to Social Meetings: Brigstock WI also meet once a month socially. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings and you don't have to be a member to join in.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS *(all at WI Hall unless otherwise stated):*

Tuesday 12th December:

WI Members Christmas Party with our double act entertainment. Bring and share supper and don't forget to bring your glass, plate, dish and spoon ladies.

Tuesday 19th December:

WI Living Advent Window at the Barn, 7 Church Street at 6.30pm.

Tuesday 9th January:

Elizabeth Clark presents "Turning magazines into something useful". **Competition** is an object made from recycled food container.

Saturday 13th January:

Murder Mystery Night. (limited numbers ladies).

Tuesday 23rd January:

WI Social Night – themed social night . Open to anyone who wants to come along and find about our WI and meet our members.

The WI Cont'd:

Tuesday 13th February:

Jimmy Hyland presents "Story of one man, a bike and the Mongolian Steppe. **Competition** is a photo of you in the most remote place you have visited

Tuesday 20th February:

WI Quiz at The Green Dragon at 7pm with our now famous quiz master and two lovely helpers. Tickets (£5) will be available in January and will include a light supper. Watch out for posters.

Tuesday 27th February:

WI Social Night – themed social night . Open to anyone who wants to come along and find about our WI and meet our members.

Interested in joining or any of the events, please call Liz on 373672 or Glenda on 373987

INTERESTED IN HIRING A SMALL HALL: WI HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR £5 per hour OR £40 per day. For Hire enquiries, call 01536 370015 or 373201

VILLAGE EVENT (Including Stanion, Sudborough and Lowick)

ADVANCE WARNING TO PLAN AHEAD

The Alternative Horticultural Show on

Sat 8th September 2018,

Brigstock WI will be 100 years old and to mark this occasion we will be organising an "Alternative Horticultural Show" adults and children can enter various categories, such as crafts (knitting, crochet, needlework), produce (both home grown and home made), photography and a "whoops what went wrong" section. So get your thinking caps on to prepare during in the long winter months ahead of us.

More information, details of how you can enter and full category information will be in the next News Letter.

BRIGSTOCK WI NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE

To help WI celebrate 100 years I am trying to put together the names of any member since WI started in 1918. So far I have over 200 names but are there more?

If any past member could make a list of any members they remember from their meetings and put through my door (7 Church Street), I can check against my list which will be displayed at an exhibition in April.

Also if you have any old photographs, which we can copy and give back to you, or old minute books lurking around in cupboards or event the loft.

So if were you a member, or your mother, aunt, grandmother, next door neighbour or someone you knew, let me know please.

Thank you, Liz Searle – President of Brigstock WI

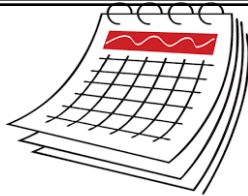
NEWSLETTER

DELIVERY

Thank you to all those people who deliver this newsletter. We do try and get it to everybody, but spare copies are in the Genevieve's Tea Shop .

If you know of anyone in the village that does not get a copy, please let us know.

If you have any articles or comments



Brigstock in Words and Pictures

An attractive slimline calendar featuring art work and poetry about our village created by village residents.

A perfect Christmas or New Year gift!

The calendar will be available at various events at a price of £4.00 (proceeds to charity and the Art Group and Book Group)

Or, if you would like a to order a copy, please contact : sophierobinson@gmail.com / 07768 876708

Limited numbers, so don't delay!

BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL



Thanks to everyone who came along to the 13th Brigstock beer festival over the 15th and 16th of September and helping us make it a great success.

The weekend got off to a good start with a sell out comedy night and some of the funniest acts we have had to date.

Saturday was also a winner, and despite the rain, we had a fabulous day with everyone getting into the spirit of Oktoberfest, especially the WI!

The highlight of the afternoon was seeing the hall full to the rafters being entertained by Men in Shorts and our circus performer Mark.

The German beer and cask ales all went well along with the German sausages which gives us beer and food for thought about themes going forward.

So once again thank you to all organisations, committee members and individuals who took part and making my first festival as chairman one to be proud of.

Our AGM is on Thurs 30th of November so please let me know via email leaning1962@yahoo.co.uk if your organisation has any requests from our charity pot and more importantly if you would be interested in joining the beer festival team

We are already planning for next year's event, and have learnt a lot from this year. If you have any ideas for themes, entertainment or food, do let us know.

Put the dates in your diary to ensure you are not out of the village:

14th and 15th September 2018

Rob Leaning BBF Chair

www.brigstockbeerfestival.com and on Facebook



Brigstock Film Night 2017/18 Season

Brigstock Film Night returns for a short season of films for your Friday night entertainment at the Village Hall. We welcome and encourage all villagers and your family & friends to come along – it's an easy and sociable night, with drinks and refreshments available before the film and during a short interval.

Doors open at 7:15pm. Films start at 7:45pm and finish by around 9:30pm.

Tickets: £4 on the door – advance booking not required.

Our October film, "Hidden Figures", drew one of our largest audiences and was widely enjoyed by all; at time of writing we are hoping for the same response for the November film "Florence Foster Jenkins".

Friday 19 January 2017 – Whisky Galore (cert PG)

Filmed on the northern coast of Aberdeenshire and starring Eddie Izzard, this is the 2016 remake of the 1949 Ealing comedy. A ship runs aground on a fictional Hebridean island during the Second World War and the locals do their best to liberate some of the thousands of whisky bottles in its cargo.

Light-hearted fun for the winter and our nod to Burns Night. Whisky may be available at the bar during the interval!



Friday 16 February 2017 – Lion (cert PG) (runtime: 2hrs)

Starring Dev Patel (of Slumdog and Marigold Hotel fame) and Nicole Kidman. Five year old Saroo gets lost on a train which takes him thousands of miles across India, away from home and family. Saroo must learn to survive alone in Kolkata, before ultimately being adopted by an Australian couple.

Twenty-five years later, armed with only a handful of memories, his unwavering determination, and a revolutionary technology known as Google Earth, he sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home. Bring tissues!



Are you interested in film and technology?

The small crew that organise these events are looking for extra pairs of hands to help with the set-up and running of the DVD system for each film night. If you're 16 or over, have a moderate interest/ability with technology, and would like to help then please contact Alison Millen on 373028 or Emma Poole on 370142.

BRIGSTOCK CRICKET CLUB 2017

A momentous season for the club as the first team secured promotion to the NCL premier league for the first time. A marvellous effort by Sat Singh and his team building on years of hard work on and off the field which kicked off long ago as 2003 when we moved into our new pavilion and started our organised coaching effort; players who started then are now in our first team. Going into the last match, 3 teams could secure promotion and it was a tense day as weather was circling the 3 grounds at Overstone, Wel-lingborough and Burton. In the event we secured a win (and Tashwin again took 7 wickets) and the other 2 matches were incomplete draws.

The ET carried a report and a great photo' of the team and fans celebrating after the game. The club's report can be found via this link and I think I'm now on cloud 7.

<http://brigstock.play-cricket.com/website/results/2937486>

Play cricket (try searching Brigstock play cricket) is a marvellous resource to view scorecards, statistics and match reports.

For other teams its worth recording that the Wednesday evening side led by Duncan Croker won Division 1 of the GML. The seconds finished comfortably mid table of their division. The highlight for the youth section was the under 11 squad coached by Andy Bull reaching the finals day for that age group.

BCC FORTHCOMING EVENTS

16 December Quiz Night in the Village Hall, compered by Peter Hedges. See members for tickets.

26 December The pavilion will be open on Boxing day as normal with some silly games and frolics for those so inclined.

Alan Bamford for Brigstock CC



Brigstock Latham's Church of England Primary School

We have all been extremely busy in school over the past three months. The children returned from their summer break looking very smart and eager to learn. We have a new staff member as well as a new and exciting Headship. As always communication is important to us so regular newsletters continue as well as a new website. This will prove to be easier to navigate and as a school we can update news and photographs quickly.

School Trips

Our Year 5/6 children were lucky enough to spend a week in Norfolk on their residential trip. They were very excited as they boarded the coach ready for their adventure. The trip was led and organised by our Miss Kirby with Mrs Bull and Mrs Hill supporting. We are all so proud of the children as they demonstrated skills such as perseverance, problem solving and resilience. After a long 5 days, they returned to school looking rather tired and happy to see their families. The children got to share their memories with parents the following week in a special assembly.

Sport

Sport is important to our children and we encourage this in and out of school. KS2 recently took part in the TATA 'Kids of Steel' triathlon. The children all did so well, showing dedication, determination and above all team spirit. Thank you to the many parents who came to support and Mrs Griggs for organising such events. As is tradition at Brigstock, KS2 competed in cross country running against many other schools, we had a number of successes from this event.

Remembrance Service

On Friday the 10th November the children took part in a very special remembrance service beginning at the church and ending at the war memorial in the village square. Many of our children worked hard to write prayers and share the reasons why we must never forget. It was a moving service and the children were wonderful. We had a minute silence at 11 o'clock and laid poppy stones to remember the fallen. Heather and Alan Lowe were also part of this service and we thank them for their enthusiasm and partnership with our school.

Brigstock Latham's Church of England Primary School—cont'd

Advent window

On the 6th December we will be unveiling the Brigstock Primary School Advent Window. Mrs Ettridge and her Art Club have been busy creating a wonderful masterpiece. Before this event, on the same evening, the school will be holding a Kindness tea party which is linked to our current Day 10 project of values. We are hoping that many of you will join us for this very special evening.

We are now busy preparing for our Christmas Nativity and Young Voices Concert in Birmingham. The fun never stops at Brigstock Primary School.

Mrs Victoria Bull and Mrs Sandy Ettridge

Head Teachers

Looking Glass Theatre presents

'Beauty and the Beast'

Saturday 2nd December at 2pm
Village Hall.

Cost per ticket £5 or family of 5 £20.
Tickets from school office, post office
or on the door.

Raffle and Refreshments

Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan

Our neighbourhood Plan has completed its 6 weeks formal consultation and the responses are now being considered. Where relevant we will make amendments made to the plan if felt appropriate.

We hope that you had a good chance to review the plan and as we did not receive too many adverse comments. All comments received and the actions we will take will be recorded in the next Plan.

The revised Plan will be re-submitted to the Parish Council for approval and then submitted to East Northants Planning for their approval. It then has to be reviewed by an Independent Planning Inspector before the village has its final say on it with a Parish Referendum. If the referendum gets a majority, the planning document becomes a formal planning document to see us forward for the next 15 years.

Thanks for all your support

Chris Allen,

Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee

P Vincent Plumbing and Heating

01536 373250 / 07838 191617

All types of plumbing and gas work undertaken

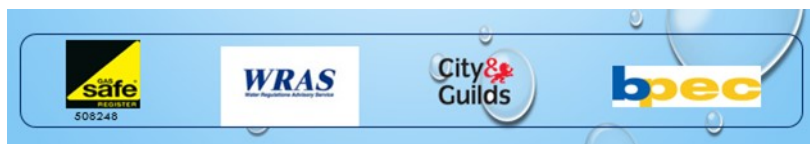
Inc. boiler services and landlord certificates

Brigstock based; no call-out charges for locals

All work insured, guaranteed and delivered with care

Gas Safe registered, WRAS, C&G and BPEC qualifications

Recommendations available



Ladies Leisure Group

With the winter drawing closer every day, and the dark evenings when it is harder to make yourself get up and go out to meet friends, why not take the opportunity to spend an hour or two at Ladies Leisure Group on the third Monday afternoon of every month in the June Small room, Mill Lane. We have enjoyed a varied programme this year, with our most recent meetings being a talk about women during the war, a spider drive and a visit to Lyveden New Bield for lunch. In December we will have a bring 'n share Christmas lunch on 18th at 12.30pm and in January we have a card expert who is going to teach us all various card games. February's meeting will be called "Disco Days"-not dancing, but a former DJ reminiscing about his experiences in the world of pop stardom! We don't have a committee or set out to make a profit, we just organise ourselves and always enjoy tea and cakes, whatever else is on the programme.

Meeting dates are as follows:

December 18th Christmas Lunch 12.30pm

January 15th Card games 1.30pm

February 19th Disco Days 1.30pm

For more information contact Sharon on 373832 or Sheila on 373225.

BRIGSTOCK MEN'S CLUB

The above continues to progress well and meets on Mondays every two weeks at 10-30am in the restaurant at the Olde Three Cocks Public House where members are well received by hosts Paul and Margarita. Tea, coffee and biscuits are served and new members are made most welcome.

The next meetings will be on 27th November and then 11th December at the 3 Cocks PH. Do check over the Christmas Period and the New Year. New men are welcome to come along to any of the meetings

Des Robinson 01536 373090

BRIGSTOCK

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL		
Mrs Sally Wilks	Chair	01536 373428
Mr William Millen	Vice Chair	01536 373028
Mr Nigel Searle	Clerk	01536 373672
Mrs Dorothy Solesbury	Councillor	01536 373574
Mrs Margaret Smith	Councillor	01536 373209
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Mr Stuart Malcolm	Councillor	01536 373384
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Mrs Jill Schofield	Councillor	01536 373907
Mrs Terry Towns	Councillor	01536 373861
Mr Ken Motion	Councillor , Planning Chair	01536 373598
Ms Julie Lemmy	Councillor	

FIREWORKS

A huge thank you to all those involved in another successful not to mention record-breaking Brigstock Bonfire night. It requires a great deal of organisation from getting posters and tickets printed to building the bonfire, collecting money, being a fire marshall or first-aider and clearing up afterwards. As usual any profits will go into the Firework Fund and village organisations can bid for financial help with any projects they are undertaking.

If you are willing to get involved with any of the village events please let Nigel Searle our clerk know and he will put you on our “willing helpers” list.

MULTI-USE GAMES AREA

For a number of years the Parish Council has had funds put aside for a skateboard facility in the village. However, we could not fund this without significant additional external grant money which has proved impossible to source to date. We are therefore actively

PARISH COUNCIL

looking at ways to fund the installation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) on the Meadow. A MUGA has an all weather surface and can be used all year round by the whole community including the school so is more appealing to grant providers as it can be used by a much larger proportion of the village population. It would be situated in the far corner of the Meadow and would support a range of different activities such as basketball and football. We would be particularly interested in hearing from any young people in the village about the idea as there are various different layouts to consider. Get in touch with any of your councillors listed opposite.

FOOTPATHS

Thank you to all those of you who signed up to our “Adopt a Footpath” scheme. This has meant that we have been able to cover all the footpaths in and around the village. Volunteers report back any problems which are then reported to county for attention. Some of you even take a pair of secateurs to snip away overhanging brambles and branches!

BULB PLANTING

500 daffodil bulbs are being planted around the village, mostly Narcissi Pseudo Lobularis, the wild daffodil, which parish councils are being encouraged to plant as they look more natural. Look forward to a lovely display in the years to come.

Please continue to be vigilant regarding suspicious activity and anti-social behaviour. Don’t leave anything of value in your car even when parked outside your house. Report anything you are worried about by alerting your Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator or phoning 101.



SUNNYSIDERS CLUB

We continue to meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons in Harpers Court Lounge from 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm. when some form of entertainment is pre-arranged. We always welcome new members so do come along and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat. We do occasionally enjoy going out for a meal or bus trip especially during the Summer months.

LUNCH CLUB at The Olde Three Cocks

Every Thursday from 12.30pm to 2pm for senior citizens

Brigstock Lunch Club welcomes our two new members, Pat and Lynne making 23 members. Our hosts at The Olde Three Cocks, Paul and Margareta, set a menu of main and pudding for members to choose from each week at a cost of £7 per person, including tea/coffee.

After lunch we either have a quiz, bingo or beetle drive. On 1st Thursday of each month each member brings an item to the value of just £1 for our monthly raffle.

The group is run by Mary and Jim, in association with Age UK, Northamptonshire.

If you are interested in joining our friendly group, please contact Jim on 373717 for further details.

BINGO

Bingo sessions will be held once a month on a Thursday on the following dates: Dec 7th, Jan 11th, February 15th, March 22nd.

Great prizes every time!

Meet at 7.30pm in Harpers Court Lounge. New players welcome. If you do not have transport we may be able to assist. Please ring 373422.



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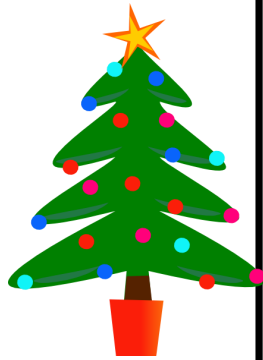
Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm Fri 8am-4pm

The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place

**SUNDAY 10th
DECEMBER**

At 6 p.m. on Hall Hill

Please join us for music around the tree, mince pies and mulled wine and a visit from a special guest!



Brigstock Kurling Group

Kurling dates for the next three months will be: Wednesdays 6th December, 10th and 24th January and 7th and 21st February, all from 2-4 p.m. in the Village Hall, weather permitting. You don't need any special equipment and it will cost you £2, including tea, coffee and biscuits. You don't need to book, just turn up on any of the above dates if you would like to give it a go - we can always do with a few more players, or if you are a short mat bowler, we have that equipment as well, but you would need to bring your own bowls.

At the time of writing this, we may still have places left for our annual visit to the ice rink at Beckworth's Garden Centre, to try to play the real game better than we did last year - which won't be difficult! They provide grippers to wear over your shoes, so no need to worry about being on skates, and it would cost you about £10. We have got the two curling lanes booked from 1.30-2.50 p.m. on Friday, 1st December, so if you are interested, give me a ring as soon as possible on 373367, to see if there are any places left.
Judith Beeby

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

ULTIMATE BLUES BROTHERS

This is the ultimate tribute to the music from the cult hit film. Everything is there - the hats, the shades, the suits, the dance moves, the zany comedy and of course, the music.

Everybody - and I mean 'EVERYBODY' will love this high-energy, rousing, fun-filled tribute show all in aid of the Sunnysiders Club.

Venue: Village Hall, Bridge Street, Brigstock

Date: FRIDAY 6TH APRIL 2018 Time: Doors open at 7p.m.

Ticket price: £8 each but Family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £20.

Drinks and food will be available to purchase courtesy of Paul from The Old Three Cocks.

More information later about where to book your tickets.

BRIGSTOCK TREE SERVICES

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The Angel Inn

*30, High Street, Brigstock , Northamptonshire NN14 3HA
Innkeeper 1881: Mark Fisher 1834-1890
[the author's 2nd cousin removed x4].*

Mark Fisher junior was born in 1834 to his farm labourer father Mark senior and his wife Jane née Line. He was the fifth of nine children, the two youngest - Elizabeth and Jane - being twins. The family lived in Hanthorpe, a small hamlet, which today, with the neighbouring village of Morton, forms the civil parish of Morton and Hanthorpe, just two miles north of Bourne, in south Lincolnshire. In 1857, Mark married Mary Booth, a girl from Hacconby, a village a couple of miles further to the north-east, and it appears from the following two censuses that they continued to live there. Hacconby - sometimes Hacconby or Hackenby - is a small village. According to Whites Directory of 1856, the year before the Fishers married and made their home there, the population was only 454, but there were two pubs, the *Red Lion and the Royal Oak*.

Like his father, Mark was a farm labourer, but by 1877 when aged 43, he had left the village and, according to Kelly's directory of that year, had established himself as landlord at 'The Angel', a substantial premises in High Street, Brigstock, a large village in Northamptonshire. It is a matter of curiosity that this couple embraced a life-changing experience by moving from farm labouring to victualling [whether self-employed or as a brewery tenant is not known], whilst also displacing themselves some 35 miles distant. And unlike his second cousins in Tongue End, a village about 8 miles away, Mark had taken on a moderately sized inn and not a small rural beerhouse. Sadly, Mark and Mary ran the Angel for only a relatively short time as they both died before the census in 1891. Mary passed away first in 1889 aged around 55 [her year of birth has not been satisfactorily established]. Almost exactly a year later, on 15 January, 1890, the publican's curse struck. Mark was four years younger than his second cousin William, the other Fisher pub landlord who suffered an early death; Mark was about the same age as his late wife Mary, and succumbed to cancer. It appears the couple had no children. By 1891, the landlady was a widow, Sarah Hayes.

The period street photograph is circa. late 1800's/early 1900's and shows 'The Angel' - only just! - with Hanging sign and a lady [Sarah Hayes?] standing outside.

The Angel Inn - cont'd

The gabled house on the opposite side of the street still exists as well. The large doors in the building are suggestive of a former entrance to an inner courtyard, where coaches would have arrived, and the horses attended to and changed: a hint of the long-gone era of the coaching inn.

Whilst the actual date the pub closed is not known, the last time it appeared in Kelly's Directory was 1906, so this may or may not be a clue as to when. The building is now a private dwelling, and there has also been a butcher's shop here since pub closure.

"The former Angel premises on a misty 25 September, 2017. The doorway of the former butcher's shop, now bricked up, is visible just above the parked car. [© copyright the author]"



What a difference a century makes...Brigstock High Street a hundred-odd years later viewed from pretty much the same spot. Chimneys remain little



changed, although the Angel's one has vanished; telephone and electricity infrastructure clutters the scene, and nowadays of course, there are vehicles. [© copyright the author]'



*This article is abridged from **Pubs in South Holland (and Elsewhere) and the families who ran them** by Andrew Clark and first published in 2016. [Available from the author for £12.99 + p&p]*

If any reader has any story, anecdote or information about the Angel Inn, do please e-mail Andy on andy@ajc4.me.uk. The author would be especially pleased to hear when the pub actually closed, and if a tied house, to which brewery. And are there any period images out there?

The Olde Three Cocks PH Brigstock

Great food, ales and fine wines along with Gluten free beer

There will be lots of live entertainment coming up - see the posters

Come in to see the live sports on BT and Sky Sports
for all the major matches.

We open every day from 12 noon till late. Lunch and dinner is served
from Tuesday to Saturday

Every Sunday we lay on our famous carvery with gluten free dishes.
You can even try our gluten free fish and chips or Pizza

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT

Christmas Eve with our DJ - Free entry.

Boxing Day - Live Music at 3-30pm

New Years Eve - Join us for our big welcome to 2018 with
a free buffet and best music with our DJ. Free entry.

Festive menu available for large groups - please book

Join us at the Village Hall on Christmas Day for a 5 course
lunch including live entertainment for only £34.95

PAUL, MARGARITA AND THE TEAM WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR
FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

AND A VERY PROSPECT NEW YEAR IN 2018.

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MOBILE LIBRARY DATES AND TIMES - Dec – March 2018

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STOP	VILLAGE/ TOWN	STOP ADDRESS	ARRIVE	LEAVE
1	Geddington	Star Inn, Bridge St	10.50	11.10
2	Weldon	The Green	11.30	12.00
3	Sud- borough	Village Hall	12.30	13.00
4	Brigstock	Barnards Way	14.00	14.45

War Memorial Tidy Rota.

Brigstock Parish Council would like to thank all the groups who have kept
the War memorial spic and span over the year. The Historical Society have
the last tidy for 2017 and then we have a new group starting in January,
The newly formed Men's Club who meet fortnightly have said they are
willing to go on the rota. This makes 10 groups now, so only a couple have
to keep the Memorial tidy twice next year and the months move on for
each group so not the same group have the same month. The groups have
had the year's rota but here are the first four as a reminder.

December 2017	Historical Soc	Sally Wilks
January 2018	Mens Club	Des Robinson
February 2018	WI	Liz Searle
March 2018	URC	Sheila Smith

BRIGSTOCK LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

The Brigstock Living Advent Calendar will once again be opening nightly 'windows' through out December.

Each evening, generally at 6.45pm a seasonal display will be unveiled at houses around the village. The themes are very varied and a surprise until the evening of the unveil. The list of addresses is on the next page.

There are some variations to the times but will be confirmed on the maps available ready from the end of November. These can be downloaded from the Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BrigstockAdvent/> (where the event will be covered on a nightly basis) or can be collected from Genivieves on the High Street.

The nightly gatherings are very sociable and often involve a little tippie and seasonal nibbles. Do come along and support those involved and who make such a fantastic effort.

We will be making nightly collections for a local charity but the event is primarily about getting together and enjoying the amazing artistry of the village residents.

Thank you

Jane Jones 28 High Street 373129 jane.jones3@btinternet.com



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LOCATION OF ADVENT WINDOWS

DATE	DAY AND TIME	LOCATION
1	Friday	The Old Three Cocks
2	Saturday	Co-op High Street
3	Sunday	20 High Street
4	Monday	56 High Street
5	Tuesday	7 Park walk
6	Wednesday 6pm then 7pm	School then Green Dragon
7	Thursday	Church Street
8	Friday	2 Hall Hill
9	Saturday	2 Church Street
10	Sunday	12 Hall Hill
11	Monday	25 High Street
12	Tuesday	6 Park Walk
13	Wednesday	8 Church Street
14	Thursday	Mill Lodge, Mill Lane
15	Friday	13 Kennel Hill
16	Saturday 6.15pm	Country park with Carols
17	Sunday	24 Bridge Street
18	Monday	The Tea Rooms/Post office
19	Tuesday	7 Church Street Barn
20	Wednesday	33 Mauntley Avenue
21	Thursday	1 Bridge Street
22	Friday	68 High Street
23	Saturday	23 Benefield Road then Old Forge High Street
24	Sunday	Parish Church after second Christingle Service 7pm



Shall we dance?

The history of dancing

Dance has a rich history, both as a social activity and in the theatre as performance dance. Following both strands we explore the history of dance.

A 9 week course with tutor Andrew Mikolajski

Thursdays 2-3.30 pm - Starts 18th January 2018

Brigstock Village Hall, 8 Bridge St, Brigstock, Kettering NN14 3ET

Fee: £52 for 9 weeks or FREE if on benefits or low income (please ask)

Online enrolment www.wea.org.uk or tel 0300 303 3464

Or ring 01536 370117 for more information or to book a place.

Brigstock

weaeastmidlands.org



Workers'
Educational
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Education & Skills
Funding Agency

The Workers' Educational Association
is a charity registered in England No. 1042910
www.wea.org.uk

Fermyn Woods Country Park

All the summer migrants have now left Fermyn Woods for warmer weather and are being replaced with the winter migrants. Flocks of Redwings and Fieldfares have been seen round the park, a lot of the birds have now flocked together for safety and to find food which is easier to do with more eyes on the lookout. Jays and Squirrels have been going around burying nuts, there has also been signs of Fallow Deer in the park and males have been heard calling in Royal Coppice in the woods.

Now that the trees are dormant our winter programme begins where we remove areas of Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Alder from different sections of the park to allow grasses and wildflowers to grow and create areas for butterflies in the spring/summer. We are clearing sections in Great Thicket for the rare Black Hairstreak Butterfly, clearing banks near the landslip and behind the fishing pond for other butterflies such as the Dingy and Grizzled Skippers. We then either burn the cut down trees or where possible create habitat rows for wildlife to use as shelter or to avoid being detected by predators. We have also removed Hawthorn and Alder that was starting to encroach on the Plateau, if left to their own devices they would recolonise the Plateau and turn it from a grassland to a woodland!

Dan Hurst - Ranger

Carols in the Park - Saturday 16th December

This year the Friends of Fermyn Woods Country Park, will be holding their annual Carols in the Park, a candle lit procession through the park, led by Brigstock Parish Priest Heather Lowe. We will also be unveiling our Advent Window as part of Brigstock Advent Living Calendar at 6.15pm with Carols commencing at 6.30pm.

We will be meeting outside the café from 6pm. Please wear warm clothes and stout foot wear. We don't charge for this event, but donations will be gratefully received. For further information please phone 0300 126 5933.

Skylark Café

The Café is open over the winter months for hot food and drink. Open hours are 11am to 3pm on weekdays, and 10.30am to 4pm at weekends.

The Café is closed from 25th to 29th December. Do come along and support us and enjoy a bracing walk followed by a snack and drink.

Brigstock Village Hall - How it started!

Evening Telegraph, Tuesday May 8 1990

Village Hall Plan

Robert Leacroft, chairman of Brigstock Village Hall Committee was able to report some progress towards a new village hall at the annual meeting. The next step will be to apply for outline planning permission, followed by negotiations for the sale of a piece of land and an application for a grant aid to East Northamptonshire District Council. Discussions had taken place in London with the Charity Commission.

Elected to the Village Hall Committee were Mr H. Winrow, Mr P. Cox, Mrs M. Cox, Mr J. Panter and Mr R. Cholerton. Also on the committee are the five trustees, Mr R. Leacroft, the Rev R. Howe, Mr B. Tiney, Mrs M. Druce and Mrs D. Windsor, together with representatives from village organisations, Mrs K. Leacroft (PTA), Mrs L. Murray (Womens' Institute), Mr B. Mayes (Football Club), Mr P. Burdett (St Andrew's Youth Club), Mr P Dodwell (Parish Council) and Mrs J Osborne (Mother and Toddler Club)

A brief meeting of the new committee was held at which Mr R. Leacroft was elected chairman, Mrs J. Osborne, secretary, Mrs K. Leacroft, treasurer and Mr P. Cox, NRCC representative. Mrs S. Panter was also co-opted on to the committee.

Evening Telegraph, Friday, March 12, 1993

A Moment Frozen in Time

A time capsule was buried underneath Brigstock's new village hall yesterday – and may not be seen again for decades. The capsule contains items depicting life in 1993, including an electoral register, maps, school work, till receipts and clothes. Village hall chairman, Robert Leacroft looked on as an eight-inch thick concrete seal was poured over the capsule. He said "The boxes are buried just underneath the floor in the foyer. The top class of Brigstock School came to watch the ceremony. Every time they walk into the hall they will know they are walking over work they have done. The capsule may not be seen again until our new village hall is eventually demolished."

Evening Telegraph, Tuesday, June 29, 1993

Designed by architect, Terence Hodgkins, of Aldwinckle, the new two-storey hall faces out on to the meadow and brook and has a patio. Built with bricks and slate to match the neighbouring doctor's surgery, it blends in with the

VILLAGE HALL - Cont'd

surroundings. It features a large hall, with a sprung beech dance floor and an annexe, which can be used for a buffet and bar or which can be closed off and used as a separate function room. On the first floor there are two meeting rooms and also a large kitchen and storeroom.

Regular bookings ensure the hall will be put to good use. There will be sessions by a dancing school, playgroup, aerobics group and youth club. The hall is also a superb venue for dances, wedding receptions and private parties as well as fund-raising events.

Villagers joy as new hall opens

A splendid new village hall has opened its doors for years of events at Brigstock. The £174,000 hall, built by Peacock and Horgan of Ringstead, has been welcomed by villagers as a vast improvement on the 43 year old hall it replaces, which was demolished last October.

On its opening weekend, a giant car boot sale was held in the meadow, with refreshments being served in the spacious new hall. A champagne supper dance was held in celebration, with the Johnny Harris Big Band, and was attended by villagers who helped to raise funds for the project.



MAKING HISTORY... the time capsule is put in place by village hall chairman Robert Leacroft and fundraising committee member Harry Winrow. Looking on at the back are committee members Mary Cox, Ena Winrow and Peter Cox ET picture: MR2675

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL—TODAY

Brigstock is very lucky to have a great asset in its Village Hall. There are several groups that use the building regularly, so there is sure to be something that you or your family can join in:

Every Weekday - playgroup have up to 25 children attending.

Weekly we have Ballet, Pilates, jive dance, and a WEA course,

Fort nightly Curling takes place

Monthly , Historical Society, dances, tea dances, film nights as well being used for Village Hall committee meeting and Parish Council meetings.

It is also regularly used for fund raising events—mainly at weekends. Check the posters around the village or elsewhere in this newsletter.

The committee is hoping to build a small extension soon so that the chairs and tables can be safely stored making more room in the Annex. We are waiting to see if we can get a grant for this work.

If you want to book the hall or either of the two meeting rooms, please contact Rosie Briggs on 01536 373579

BRIGSTOCK CONSOLIDATED CHARITY

The Charity consists of a number of small endowments made in the past chiefly for the benefit of the Church and the poor of Brigstock. When these endowments became “consolidated” and updated, it was clearly laid down in law who could benefit. After certain expenses, one quarter on the income goes to St Andrew’s Church. The rest of the income is for the relief of need, hardship or distress, either generally or individually, of the people resident in Brigstock. Each case is considered on its own merits which means taking into account the particular circumstances of the individual. **All cases are dealt with in the strictest confidence.**

After the needs of those in financial distress have been considered, the trustees have the opportunity to give grants to village organisations which benefit village residents. If you wish to make an application for yourself or on behalf of someone else, please contact the secretary Mrs Sally Wilks or one of the trustees whose names can be found on the noticeboard in the church porch.

St Andrews Church

Present

A SUPPER and HORSE RACING EVENING

SATURDAY 3rd February

Brigstock Village Hall

Entry 7-30pm - First Race 8pm

Tickets from Carl Hector, 16 Sandlands Avenue 01536 373410, Barbara Platt 4 Bridge Street 01536 373240 or Allison Porter 5 Stable Hill 07933 804432.

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BRIGSTOCK SCHOOL PFA

The Parents and Friends are two meetings into the year and some key events are shaping up. The pantomime this year is Sleeping Beauty, by the excellent Looking Glass Theatre based in Northampton (who do great kids workshops over the holidays - tested and approved!) and will be at the village hall at 2pm on December 2nd.

Tickets from Sarah Owen.

Next up is the Curry Club, on 25 February in the village hall. This is the event where the village curry fiends create their finest spicy delights and then the rest of us eat it. We're not saying that the village has good curry makers, but several folk came up for thirds...

We are after a few more curry volunteers - you don't have to serve but if you would like to contribute a veggie or meat curry, please contact Richard Fincher on 373353 or at 2 Hall Hill and he can let you know more. All contributors get free entry! There's a bar and auction to raise money, and it's been a sell out for a couple of years so look out for details about tickets and save the date.

Fundraising this year is focussed on re-drawing the playground - eg putting hopscotch lines on and other games. We're also looking to buy the school iPads to allow the children to use more of the online learning that's available. One iPad isn't too expensive, but we need more than one for a class of 30...

Thanks indeed for your support to date and please get stuck into the events.

Richard Fincher 373353

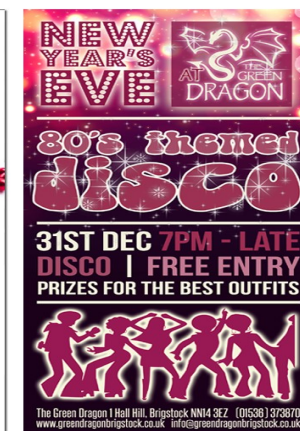
DEMENTIA AWARENESS

Following a talk on Dementia held recently by the WI, I am collecting unwanted jewellery which the Alzheimers Society recycles, repairs or remodels for funds. If you have any jewellery, including costume, beads, watches or cufflinks.

I can be contacted on 373422 or sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk or dropped off at 13 Swan Avenue. Yours, Steph Beckett



Check out the new days for each of our weekly promotions...



Some events in Oundle for you:

Christmas Concert performed by the Salvation Army Band and supporting cast — 1st Dec, St Peters Church, Oundle

Songs from Home - Saturday 9th December

Back by popular demand from an excellent show last year, this fantastic show bringing together the best in Irish music and dance. www.oundlegands.org

60th Anniversary Show - Three Little Works

26 February to 3 March 2018 www.oundlegands.org

Brigstock WI Recipe Page

A truly scrummy Gin and Tonic cake for a Christmas centrepiece.

For the cake (you will need to buy 4 limes)

250g salted butter 200g golden caster sugar
4 eggs 250g self-raising flour
75g natural yogurt Juice of 1 lime (*keep lime skin for zest*).
50 ml gin

For the Syrup:

125g golden caster sugar 150ml tonic water
1 tsp juniper berries, lightly crushed Juice of 1 lime (*keep lime skin for zest*)

For the buttercream icing

200g softened butter 400g icing sugar
2 tablespoons of milk
Zest **only** of 3 limes (*using up those you've already juiced above*)

To decorate

Lime zest 1 tablespoon of granulated sugar
Lemon sherbets The zested lime cut into thin wedges to decorate
¼ cucumber, peeled into ribbons

For the Cake:

- 1 Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas mark 4.
- 2 Grease and line 2 x 20cm cake tins.
- 3 In a freestanding electric mixer, or using an electric whisk, beat together butter, sugar until pale and fluffy, for around 5 mins.
- 4 Add the eggs one by one, making sure they are fully incorporated, before adding the next one.
- 5 If the mixture looks like it might split, add a tablespoon of your flour.
- 6 Fold in the rest of the flour
- 7 Mix the natural yogurt with the juice of one of the limes and 50ml of gin, then add this to the cake mixture to make a thick and silky mixture.
- 8 Split the mixture between the cake tins and bake for 35 mins until a skewer comes out clean.

Meanwhile, make the syrup.

To make the syrup

- 1 Put 125 golden caster sugar, tonic water, juniper berries and juice of one lime into a saucepan over medium heat.
- 2 Once the sugar has dissolved, bring to the boil and cook for 5-7 mins, until it's a thick syrup.
- 3 Cool for 5 mins, strain then pour in the remaining gin and set aside.
- 4 Once the cake is out of the oven, allow to cool for 5 mins, then prick all over with a skewer, then liberally spoon the syrup mix over both of the cakes. Allow to cool completely in the tin.

To make the buttercream:

- 1 Beat the butter until soft
- 2 Add the icing sugar, a little at a time to avoid a sugar cloud!
- 3 Once fully incorporated, add the milk and the zest of the limes.

To assemble:

- 1 Place one of the cake layers on a cake board and cover with **1/3** of the buttercream
- 2 Sit the second cake layer on top of the first. Cover this with just a **thin** coat of icing
- 3 Put the cake in the fridge for 30 mins to firm up – this will make it easier to get the rest of the icing on smoothly.
- 4 Use the remaining buttercream to cover the top and sides of the cake.

To decorate

Mix the lime zest with the sugar and sprinkle this over the cake and finish with lemon sherbets, lime slices, cucumber ribbons, party straws and any other gin & tonic paraphernalia you fancy.

WI Member: Wilma Rennie

Tried and tested by Knit & Natter group

