

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 15 – SUMMER 2018



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

AUTUMN - Published 1st September 2018 **Copy by 18th August**

WINTER - Published 30th November 2018

SPRING - Published 2nd March 2019 -

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LOCAL GROUPS

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS | rosybbriggs@btinternet.com | 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 | | 07708 977714 |
| BRIGSTOCK PLAYGROUP FUNDRAISING EVENTS | | 01536 373197 |
| BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY | | 01536 373428 |
| BRIGSTOCK WI | | 01536 373672 (373987) |
| BRIGSTOCK FILM NIGHTS | | 01536 373028 |
| BRIGSTOCK URC | | 01536 373225 |
| BRIGSTOCK ST ANDREWS | | 01536 373410 |
| BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL | | 01536 373059 |
| BRIGSTOCK SUNNYSIDERS | | 01536 373383 |
| BRIGSTOCK KURLING | | 01536 373367. |

Front Cover Photo - Old cottages on Bridge St near the school entrance with Jessie and Doris Crosby (Later Blades). Cottages demolished in the 50s?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

- 4 Mens Club 3 Cocks PH 10-30am
- 6 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 10 Neighbourhood Watch Teddy Bears Picnic, Barnwell CP 1pm
- 12 WI, "History of Rutland Bakery", WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 14 Janet's Movement to Music, WI Hall, 2pm
- 16 Playgroup Table Top Sale, Village Hall, 10am
- 18 Mens Club 3 Cocks PH 10-30am
- 18 Ladies Leisure Group, Cream Tea at Woodford Mill
- 20 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 21 BINGO Harpers Court 7-30pm
- 26 WI Members BBQ, WI Hall, 6-30pm
- 27 Historical Soc "Saints, Sinners, Stars and Scandals", V H 7-30pm
- 27 Defibrillator Training Village Hall -7.45 Need to book
- 27 WI Social Night WI Hall 7-30pm
- 30 St Andrews and PFA Summer Fete, Rectory Paddock

JULY

- 2 Mens Club 3 Cocks PH 10-30am
- 4 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 4 Historical Soc— Visit to Delapre Abbey, 7-30pm
- 5 Defibrillator Training Village Hall -7.45 Need to book
- 7 Murder Mystery - WI Hall at 7.30pm (for Country Park)
- 14 Time for Tea. URC 2pm
- 16 Mens Club 3 Cocks PH 10-30am
- 16 Ladies Leisure Group, Picnic in the Park Brigstock CP 12-30pm
- 18 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 18 WI Visit to Drayton House

AUGUST

- 1 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 14 WI, "Mystery Village Quiz
- 15 Kurling Village Hall 2-4pm
- 17 ABBA Tribute—Village Hall, 7pm
- 21 Ladies Leisure Group, Pudding Club June Small Room 1-30pm

SEPTEMBER

- 1 WI Safari Supper
- 7 Beer Festival Comedy Night, Village Hall, 7pm
- 8 Beer Festival Fun Day, Village Hall, 1pm to 11pm
- 13 BINGO, Harpers Crt, 7-30pm
- 15 WI Alternative Horticultural Show . WI Hall
- 16 Pizza and Praise, URC, 4pm

CAN YOU SAVE A LIFE?

So far a whopping **130** villagers have been trained or booked into CPR/Defibrillator training.

Let's keep this number rising....

Following such fantastic attendance, additional dates have now been scheduled;

Wednesday 27th June

Thursday 5th July

Sessions held in village hall 7.45pm (until 9.30pm)

Feedback from attendees has been really positive, giving people the confidence to help in an emergency situation when it can make all the difference between life and death.

These sessions are **completely free** and run by Heart Start, an initiative by the British Heart Foundation to teach emergency life-saving skills to the British public. By attending one of these courses, you can help create a village of life-savers here in Brigstock.....where everyone knows how to save a life. One day, it might need to be you.



To book a place call Sam Read on 07766 573400 or email

EDITORS COMMENT

NOTE: All business inserts and flyers delivered with the Newsletter are charged for this delivery and the money raised goes towards the printing costs.

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.

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| 27/06/ 18 | <i>Saints, Sinners, Stars and Scandals</i> Derek Blunt | Derek will introduce you to some people who have lived in our county through the years from times past to the present day - famous and infamous. |
|----------------------|--|--|

Our visit this year is to Delapre Abbey which will take place on Wednesday 4th July starting at 7.30 p.m. There are 20 places available and priority will be given to members. Cost should be about £10 per head to include a guided tour. Please let Sally or Robin have your names as soon as possible if you would like to go. We will arrange to car share.

We now have quite a comprehensive collection of local history books available for borrowing from the village hall. An email list is available from Sally Wilks.

If you have anything of local interest that we can put in our archive please let us know.

Committee members are: Sally Wilks, Bill Simon, Carl Hector, Robin Phillips, Chris and Phillipa Parrish and Jean Casswell.

Sally Wilks 373428.

EVENING TELEGRAPH

I have produced the What's On column for Corby Telegraph for a number of years and was wondering if anybody else would like to take it on? You gather up the information of what is happening in Brigstock and email it to the newspaper. There is no payment for this! It is purely voluntary but a young person may find it useful for a CV or an older person with some free time. Contact me if interested.

Thank you

Steph Beckett 373422

sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Article provided by the Historical Society.



Aren't we lucky that our village school still celebrates May Day. The first record of the traditional May Day celebrations being organised by the school goes back to 1912 when the headmistress of the lower school was a Miss Mary Wright.

Here is the entry from

the school log:

May 1st 1913

School closed all day on account of May Day festivities. The crowning of the May Queen (Hilda Braybrook) took place at one o'clock in the Hall Hill. Afterwards the children gave songs and old country dances. A parade of the village was then made, a collection of £4 being taken. After the parade the children had an excellent tea in the schoolroom, after which followed games and may-pole dancing in a field kindly lent by Mr W. Beeby.

Below is a photo from around 1958 showing dancing on Hall Hill. This was provide by Theresa Ewen, (nee Blades) who is dancing on that day. Note



the damaged house behind which has been rebuilt. Were you there? Do you have similar photos or memories?

Do please share them with us.

THE GREEN DRAGON AT BRIGSTOCK
A PROPER COUNTRY PUB WITH ROOMS

GREENDRAGONBRIGSTOCK @GREENDRAGONPPC @GREENDRAGONBRIGSTOCK

What to drink when you're not drinking...?



check out our



QUIZ NIGHT

ARE YOU A WHIZZ?
AT THE QUIZ



did you know...



SPICE UP YOUR THURSDAYS!



THE GREEN DRAGON AT BRIGSTOCK, 1 HALL HILL, BRIGSTOCK NN14 3EZ T: (01536) 373870
E: INFO@GREENDRAGONBRIGSTOCK.CO.UK W: WWW.GREENDRAGONBRIGSTOCK.CO.UK

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 CO-OP.

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, please contact the editor.

Chris Allen



It is lovely to have the opportunity to write again about what Volunteer Action does in Brigstock. It is two years since my last piece so I can update you on how numbers have grown in the village.

In May 2016 we had 19 people signed up to our COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME. In May 2018, we have 51. Not just doubled – nearly trebled!!

We are delighted to be able to help so many people but we did not double our number of drivers. With just two drivers in Brigstock, they both have to work hard for us. If you do have your car and some time, please consider becoming a volunteer driver. Passengers pay 40p per mile and you give your time for free. We are flexible on your commitment to us and try to work round what suits you.

In the past couple of years, VA has seen growth of 10% each year across the whole region we support. You have to live at an address in our area to qualify for our service but you can then book drives to go anywhere – including Addenbrookes and the Leicester hospitals. We recently did a drive to Heathrow for someone and regularly take one lady down to a village in Hertfordshire to stay with her daughter.

We also offer a befriending service. I know that there is a great community spirit in Brigstock so not many people get forgotten but if you are leading a full and busy life it can be difficult to remember how long the days and weeks can seem to those who rely on friends and neighbours to ‘pop-in’. Our befrienders go with only one purpose – a chat. No need to rush. Just take the time to talk. No charge.

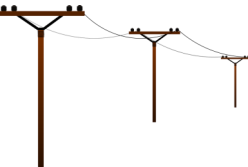
If you think the services we offer may benefit you, please call. Signing up is free for both. If you have time to offer and think you would like to help, please call. We would particularly like to recruit a new driver in the area and are currently looking for male befrienders. We can find a way for you to help, though, whoever you are.

Phone: 01832 275433

Emails: admin@volunteeractionoundle.org.uk

“Ed: Special thanks to drivers Chris Coles and Henry Gotch “

ADOPT A TELEGRAPH POLE



You may have heard about the project to adopt a telegraph pole. Villagers are adopting a pole that they are going to attempt to remove surplus staples. They will then remove posters as events finish. The long term

plan is to have 2 more notice boards so everything on in the village will be advertised in the 3 places. Everybody will know where to look. This will save searching Telegraph poles or missing events as you did not see the poster. For the time being until we have funding for the notice board posters will still be on Telegraph poles.

BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL 7 / 8 SEPT



This years Beer festival is going to be really special. We have taken the Fiesta Theme to heart and are giving you a weekend to remember, and a chance for all ages to get involved.

Friday Comedy Night tickets are now on sale as the adjacent poster. These are on sale from early June, so do get them early as we always sell out..

Saturday Fun day will have something for everybody. We open at 1pm and te afternoon will see the Carnival Drum Band playing with a chance for you to join in, followed by a Marichi band then Salsa Dancing in the evening, along with a live band, Mothy, filling in any gaps!

So something for all ages!!

There will be our usual wide range of real ales from around the country, so there is sure to be several that you have not tried before. There will also be some Mexican (or that region) beers as well.

I must mention food and wine as well which will be available.

If you want more information, want to help, have a stall, or want to sponsor us, do contact me.

Our main charity this year is Night Light of Corby who support the homeless.

Rob Leaning

BBF Chair

ALL PROFITS TO CORBY NIGHTLIGHT AND LOCAL CHARITIES

14TH ANNUAL BRIGSTOCK BEER FIESTA!

Over 30
Real Ales
& Ciders

Saturday 8th September 2018
Briestock Village Hall

Festival Family Fun Day Opens 1pm
Salsa Evening From 7pm

Free Entry!

Fun Dance Class
with Demonstrations by
Salsa Professionals

Mambo Vibes!

www.briestockbeerfestival.com

SALSA EVENING

ALL PROFITS TO CORBY NIGHTLIGHT AND LOCAL CHARITIES

14TH ANNUAL BRIGSTOCK BEER FIESTA!

Over 30
Real Ales
& Ciders

Live
Comedy
Music &
Salsa!

Friday 7th September
Comedy Night
Over 16s Ticket Only - £15
3 Top Comedians and Compere!
Food Available

Saturday 8th September
Family Fun Day
Free Entry from 1pm for all the Family
Live Mexican Mariachi Band!
Fairground and Mini Steam Engine rides
Locally Sourced Mexican-Style Food
Speciality and Gift Stalls

Salsa Evening
Fun Dance Class with Demonstrations
by Salsa Professionals
Mambo Vibes!

www.briestockbeerfestival.com

Brigstock United Reformed Church

The first half of this year has been a very busy one for the church, and the time seems to have flown by. We have enjoyed several fundraising efforts to keep our funds in the black-the Easter Coffee Morning in March was well attended and everyone enjoyed a relaxing couple of hours with the aroma of hot cross buns and lots of chatter filling the June Small room. Then we had another of our increasingly popular Beetle Drives in April-it's amazing how this old game brings out the competitive streak in some of our villagers! It was great fun and we are very grateful to everyone who attends these events or supports them in any other way-donating prizes, cakes etc. These events help to bring us together as a community and we have several more planned for this year-see the details below.

We also like to try new ways of worshipping in our church, so in March we had a Pizza and Praise service. Pizzas were on the menu, of course, plus a selection of hymns ancient and modern which were sung by a very good crowd in the June Small room. It was so successful that Helen Johnston, who organised it all, is planning another one on September 16th-make sure you save the date!

New forms of worship are great, but we also remember that, as a church, we are committed to developing as Christians and helping others in need, and so we held our annual Lent Lunch in February to raise money for charity. The lunch is intended to be frugal-soup and bread-and the donations made this year, totalling £107, were given to Oxfam. We have also just started a Bible Book Club, which works in the same way as any other book club, we just read a book from the Bible in our own time and then get together once a month to discuss it. It's open to anyone, so if you are interested in finding out more, please contact Helen on 373712 or Sheila on 373225.

Finally, the Open Door is still going strong after more than 25 years! Come to the June Small room on Wednesdays between 9.30 and 11.30 for a warm welcome, coffee and chat and a monthly game of Bingo.

Dates for your diary-Saturday, July 14th "Time for Tea"-see the accompanying poster for details.

Sunday, September 16th-Pizza and Praise 4pm

Saturday, September 22nd-our next Barn Dance

Brigstock United Reformed Church— cont'd

Service of thanksgiving and remembrance

Brigstock United Reformed Church will be holding a special service of thanksgiving and remembrance on 7 October 2018 at 3 pm for those loved ones who have who been associated with the churches and community of Brigstock but have since died.

Although the memories of those we have loved will always be with us, it can sometimes be helpful to take part in a special act of thanksgiving and remembrance where, together with others, we take time to recall those we have lost. It will also enable us to give thanks for their lives and to grieve, and hopefully be consoled.

Anyone who has lost a loved one is warmly invited to take time out to reflect and remember them. There will be an opportunity during the service to create a floral tribute, so you may wish to bring a flower in memory of your loved one.

Invite family and friends. Bring a framed photo display if you would like to...but all optional.

If you are hoping to attend, or are unable to attend but would like a candle lit, or you have a name entered in the book of remembrance please contact us

s.silungwe@yahoo.com or call 01536480916.

sheilamary_smith@hotmail.com or call 01536373225

This will ensure we can accommodate everyone.

There will be refreshments afterwards. All are welcome.

The poster features a central image of a strawberry shortcake sandwich. The text is arranged in a decorative, triangular pattern around the image. The church logo is in the top left corner.

The United Reformed Church

BRIGSTOCK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Time for Tea

Saturday 14 July
at the chapel
Mill Lane, Brigstock
2.00 – 5.00pm
Cream teas on the lawn
A sale of produce and preserves
Bric-a-brac
Cake stall Raffle

Brigstock Cricket Club 2018

What a wet start to the season; a whole week's adult matches were deferred to September and then the designated first weekend turned out tropical, mind you the meadow was too wet to cut so there was no chance of a wicket being ready. With week 1 deferred, but sunny, week 2 was a washout and we finally got going in week 3. There was a win at home for the seconds in a match that went to the last ball. With our opponents needing 3 to win Nigel Shiells took a wicket to secure the victory; a very high scoring game 213-211. I watched the first 2 hours of the first team at Rushton where they dominated the first 1/4 of the game but in the end had to settle for a draw. We've some new players in the firsts but sadly Tashwin isn't with us this year, another consequence (victim is too strong a word) of changed visa rules; quite whose job he was taking I'll never figure out. Tash' was a very good teammate and had excellent rapport with the younger players and it's a real pity he didn't get the chance to play in the Prem' with the club.

The youths were having better luck with most matches being played. Each team has secured their first win with Jamie Mills, Harry Howell and Fred Spencer in the runs for the under15's; you can see match reports of the 15's efforts on (Brigstock) play cricket and there are scorecards for all teams. Friday evenings are already proving popular (youth training and social evening) so please consider wandering down for a chat and a pint of real ale if you haven't already.

Last weekend (12 May) both adult matches were rained off at tea, a real pity for the seconds as we amassed 274. Towards the end Henry Spencer and Nigel Shiells were launching an assault on the bowlers and we were taking cover in the pavilion (at Harlestone), it's quite close to the wicket and balls were bouncing off the roof and ricocheting around the floor and waking up slumbering supporters. It was my first game of the season but I didn't get to bat I only had the pleasure of coughing up my match fee for the joy of watching.

This is my 39th season for the club as it is for Nigel, Bernie Mayes and James Steward; I'm finally seeing an improvement from all that practice. Sitting around forlornly waiting for the rain to stop gives us great opportunities to reminisce about old matches and people we played with, one of whom (yes you Carl), was 80 the other week.

Brigstock Cricket Club 2018-cont'd

The club were pleased to provide a short summary of 'where we are' at the recent open Parish Council meeting.

This has been a bit more of a personal reflection this issue, I hope to see you in the summer for a natter, some cricket, more sun and a beer. The sign is going back up at the meadow so you should be able to find us.

Best wishes

Alan Bamford

Village of Year

On Wednesday 16th May three judges from The Village of the Year competition visited the village for the morning and were very complimentary about us. They had a half hour presentation with questions and answers and then a two hour walk round. They met various groups and individuals on their way, were shown the Church, United Reformed Church, School and Playgroup as well as historical buildings. Now we have to wait until July 17th to find out how well we did against other villages. A huge thank you to Steph, Glenda and Sally who helped with the entry form and the presentation, a massive thank you to those whom they met and spoke to along the way, either managed or accidentally.

Liz Searle

WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

Thank you to the groups who have kept the War memorial tidy over the past few months especially with the cold weather, it is looking very tidy.

The next few clubs to "do their bit" are

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| June | Parish Council | July | Cricket Club |
| August | Playgroup | September | PFA |

Thank you in advance

Liz Searle

Litter Pick

Once again we collected a huge pile of rubbish on Saturday April 21st. So glad we had not chosen to carry it out in March when the official date was (the weekend it was really, really cold). The day was sunny and fine as we gathered at the village hall to collect equipment. We scattered in all directions along the road sides. Alexandra Searle had to make three journeys with her trailer to collect all the piles during the afternoon.

This year we also started to plant native plants along the meadow fence edge and will keep extending this as we can.

Thank you to the children who made posters advertising the event, I hope you found yours around the village.

Thank you to William Millen for organising the loan of equipment from ENDC, all of you who turned out, those who picked at different times, (WI also turned out on the Tuesday but didn't find much, so a good job was done on the Saturday), Alexandra for picking it all up and ENDC for removing it promptly on the Monday.



A report was sent to CPRE and they are offering a prize to the best one. We have done well on the past so perhaps we will again.

Also thank you to all those people who have “adopted telegraph poles” they are really looking good. If there is a pole you see that has not been cleaned contact Steph (373422) to see if it needs adopting or it just hasn't been sorted yet.

Liz Searle

FRIENDS OF FERMYN WOOD COUNTRY PARK
ARE HOLDING

A MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

AT THE WI HALL ON SATURDAY 7TH JULY AT 7.30PM

IN AID OF THE COUNTRY PARK.

TICKETS FROM JENNY (373201) AT £7.50 EACH

AND INCLUDES A PLOUGHMAN'S MEAL (Bring your own drinks).

THIS IS A NEW PRODUCTION TO CHALLENGE US, PRESENTED BY THE THRAPSTON AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY. CAREFULL QUESTIONING BY TEAMS OF SIX WILL ELICIT LIES AND SOME TRUTHS.

All monies raised will support the Country Park and provide improved facilities



SUNNYSIDERS CLUB

Sunnysiders Club is for men and women over 60 (or younger would be welcome). We meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons in the lounge at Harpers Court, Brigstock from 2p.m. until 4p.m. when some form of entertainment is pre-arranged. We always welcome new members so do come along and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a biscuit and a chat. We also enjoy a meal out especially during the summer months. For more information please call 01536 373383.

Recently there was a Blues Brothers concert featuring professional musicians (Justin and Chris) held in the Village Hall with the profit donated to the Sunnysiders Club which raised £517 including £200 raised by the raffle. Thanks to Ron, Joan M, Joan F and Barbara for the work involved and to Justin and Chris for an excellent concert. Thanks also to everyone who attended the concert and for their generous support.

A date to remember: Friday 17th August 2018

ABBA Tribute Act

Venue: Brigstock Village Hall (doors open at 7 p.m. Food and drink will be available to purchase.

Tickets £10 each available from Ron 01536 373455, Joan 01536 373618 and Barbara 01536 373455

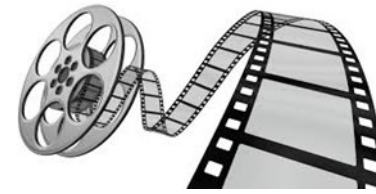
In aid of the United Reformed Church and St Andrews Church, both in Brigstock

Ultimate ABBA pay tribute to one of history's iconic bands, using dramatic state of the art lighting and authentic replica costumes.

Made up of four professional singers and musicians, you can be assured of live vocals, exciting choreography and a guarantee to transport you back to the 70's.

If experience, professionalism, high quality sound and visual production is what you are looking for – Ultimate ABBA tick all the boxes.

A prize will be given to the best 1970's costume so dig in your wardrobes and see what you can find.



Brigstock Film Night 2018/19 Season

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

Here are the dates for your diaries –

Friday 19th October 2018

Friday 16th November 2018

Friday 18th January 2019

Friday 15th February 2019

Look out for film details in future editions of the Newsletter, the Village Hall notice-boards, and the Brigstock Village Information Facebook pages.

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

As a reminder, doors open at 7:15pm and films start at 7:45pm, finishing by around 9:30pm.

Call for Volunteers: the small crew that organise these events is always looking for extra pairs of hands on each Film Night to help with things like setting up the film equipment, setting out chairs, serving refreshments, and taking entrance fees on the door. If you're 16 or over and would like to help (it could make good CV / University application material!), then please contact: Alison Millen on 373028 or Emma Poole on 370142. No commitment to all dates needed.

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

St Andrews Church

Spring has certainly sprung and all around us we see so much beauty in the flowers and greenery. Allotments and gardens are beginning to produce their bounty and there is a general feeling of well being and happiness. This is also true in the life of the church as it is the season of marriages and baptisms, joyous occasions for all of those involved. Please don't feel you have to be invited into our beautiful church it is open to all every day of the week, something that unfortunately cannot be said of many churches around the county. Even if you do not attend our services on the second and fourth Sundays at 9.30 a.m. there is much to see within the ancient walls, we welcome all visitors and are happy to have a chat if we are about.

If we can help you in any way please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Rector - The Reverend Heather Lowe 01536 263550

Churchwarden – Carl Hector 01536 373410

Benefice Administrator – Allison Porter 01536 373509

Also.....

Did you know we produce a weekly News Letter for the four churches in the benefice? It can be accessed on the Parish Council website, follow this link and you will be able to read all about what is going on. <http://www.brigstockcouncil.org.uk/st-andrews-church.html>

On a less happy note – Sadly its not only flowers and green grass that can be seen on the path to the church, after a number of months without dogs fouling the grass verges along the path, the consecrated ground outside the church and the churchyard we are experiencing problems again. Please keep your dog on a lead and ensure you clean up, there is a bin just outside of the paddock or take it home. **Please be a responsible dog owner!**

Fundraising.

We have had some excellent fundraising events recently including the Spring Fair, Quiz With a Difference and plant sale. All were very well attended and supported. All proceeds go towards the upkeep and development of the church. We thank everyone for their continued support and hope to bring you some more fun events in the near future. There has even been a whisper of a Pudding Club later in the year so watch this space!!!

St Andrews Church cont'd

Future events include:

Summer Fete -This year's joint summer fete for St Andrews Church and Brigstock Primary School will be on Saturday 30th June. This is always a well-attended event with lots of fun for the family. For further information please contact Lesley Blakeley 01536 373547.

Belcanto Female Voice Choir The choir sings a wide range of music covering all styles and periods, including classical and contemporary works, gospel and musicals, both a capella and accompanied by their pianist. The members love singing and aim to bring joy to all those who come to their concerts, always striving to uphold the tradition of Bel Canto (Italian for 'beautiful singing').

This will take place in the Autumn, and will be confirmed later

Letter from the Rector and Associate Minister

Dear Reader

Welcome to Summer! Today the sun is shining and the birds are singing, yet here I am on my laptop in my office!

But summer often does give us the chance to slow down a little, to change routines, especially those which revolve around school times and after school activities. Summer is the time of year when the sun beckons us to go outside and enjoy the beauty of nature in full bloom. A great way to engage with God is through his creation, through gazing in awe and wonder at what we see around us, not to worship creation but to worship its creator. Psalm 19 begins, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

We'll be away on our holidays soon and we hope you also manage a change of routine in some way as well. Changing our routines from the busyness of our usual day to day and having some relaxing space is a great opportunity to meet with God. Why not try asking God in the space to show you something of himself and his presence?

Happy Holidays!

Rev'd Heather and Captain Alan Lowe

Ladies Leisure Group

In the past few months we have had a very enjoyable Easter egg hunt, Ellie talking about her special visit to Hong Kong and Graham Bell showing us slides of his recent trip to Antarctica, with the history of Scott of the Antarctic. We do have some well-travelled people at our meetings! Our next few meetings have a distinctly food-related theme-see the details below.

We welcome any ladies with an hour or two to spare on the third Monday every month. We meet in the June Small room, Mill Lane unless otherwise stated, at 1.30pm. Why not come and see what we do?

June 18th: Cream Tea at Woodford Mill

July 16th: Picnic in the Park-Brigstock Country park at 12.30pm

August 20th: Our own Pudding Club

More details from Sharon-373832 or Sheila 373225

REASONS TO JOIN ROTARY



Community Diversity
Friendship *socialising* **Charity**
Business Collaboration
Leadership *Equality* *Networking*
Opportunity **Educational**



ENQUIRE NOW

Community is at the heart of everything Rotary does. Our network of clubs is making a huge difference in communities at home and abroad.

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ALLOTMENT NEWS

Despite the cold and wet spring, plants are now growing at a rapid rate. We could not get the early potatoes in on the usual St Patrick's Day as the ground was under water. But with the warmer weather all are now in and they are catching up. Hopefully the moisture will stay in the ground and give us a good crop, but we do need some rain to make things grow. This hot spring is great, but we are never happy.

June is the month when you can safely plant out the non-hardy plants as the threat of frost has passed. So its out with Courgettes, Pumpkins, french and runner beans and sweetcorn. These will provide crops right through till September and they can be stored or frozen to last you over the winter.

Tomatoes can also be planted out and it is best to remove the side shoots to stop them getting too overgrown. 4 or 5 trusses is enough for each plant to cope with. Greenhouse grown ones will ripen quicker, but outdoor ones will keep going until the first frost hits them. If you have a small garden, try pots or grow-bags.



If you are growing lettuces or other salad crops, plant a succession with a few every 2-3 weeks. This means that you will keep a ready supply ever ready for you.

It is surprising the amount of crops that you can harvest from a small area especially if you feed them well and rotate what you plant where.

If you only have a small garden and want more space, why not try an allotment. There are spare ones on the Benefield Road site. Call in and have a chat or contact the Charity Secretary, Sally Wilks . 01536 373428.

The Benefield Rd Allotment Association has been very successful in getting a grant from the National Lottery to upgrade their borehole pump to a solar powered one. This means that the old generator powered one has been replaced with a more environmentally friendly one, and much quieter, which runs automatically to keep us supplied if a source of fresh water.

Many thanks to the Lottery for this funding.

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 |
| Mrs Elizabeth Searle | Councillor | 01536 373672 |
| Mr Stuart Malcolm | Councillor | 01536 373384 |
| Mr Colin Johnson | Councillor | 01536 370003 |
| Vacancy | Councillor | |
| Mrs Terry Towns | Councillor | 01536 373861 |
| Mr Ken Motion | Councillor , Planning Chair | 01536 373598 |
| Ms Julie Lemmy | Councillor | |

This year we had an excellent turnout for the annual litterpick no doubt encouraged by the lovely posters provided by the children at the primary school. Thanks to Liz Searle for organizing the poster competition and William Millen for coordinating the litterpick. As part of the village tidy up this year we have organized an “adopt a lamppost” scheme where volunteers undertake the rewarding task of removing years and years worth of rusty staples from the village lampposts and keeping the posters tidy. Thanks to all those kind souls who put their names on the list.

Visitors to the village have remarked about how lucky we are to have such a lovely communal recreation space in the Meadow. John Croker has once again done a great job looking after the outfield so well for us on top of his maintenance of the cricket pitch. We have begun an experiment to try and introduce some wild flowers along the bank by the fence and thanks to Eileen Simpson for taking on this project.

We think the village benefits from having more grass cuts per year, however, we are also grateful to all those residents who take on the task of cutting some of the verges themselves in various parts of the village - it makes such a difference. We now have a rota for tidying the garden around the war memorial and thanks very much to Liz Searle for organizing

PARISH COUNCIL

that. It’s great that people care about the tidiness of the village and are willing to do their bit.

Since October last year we have been involved with a project called a Partnership Approach to Catchment Area Management which is to do with gaining a better understand about what makes Harper’s Brook flood and how to try and implement strategies to control the flow of water into the brook. This has been a very positive experience and, whilst we are never going to prevent flooding completely, Brigstock may not be so much a victim of the flooding incidents we have seen in the past few years. Only time will tell. If you are interested in becoming a flood warden please get in touch with our clerk for further details.

If you know of any new residents moving into the village the parish council has put together a “welcome pack” with useful information for newcomers. Please let our clerk know and we can get one delivered. A copy is available on the village website.

Sally Wilks Chair

ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION

The Parish Council applied for an Article 4 Direction because we were concerned about the loss of historic character within the designated conservation area. Specifically, the concern relates to the replacement of historic windows and doors, often with plastic, and the loss of traditional roof coverings. Such work was currently able to be undertaken under permitted development, where no planning application was required.

After consultation the Parish Council received no complaints about the proposals from those affected. **The new controls apply from June 1st 2018.**

An article 4 direction is a mechanism which allows local planning authorities to withdraw permitted development rights in certain circumstances so as to bring building works, which would otherwise be permitted development, within control. The aim of making such a direction is to ensure that the traditional details which form part of the character of an area are not removed or altered, and that development which would damage the character of an area does not go ahead.

PARISH COUNCIL Cont'd

ENC has four other conservation areas that are subject to article 4 Directions: Easton on the Hill, Collyweston, Duddington and King's Cliffe.

The effect of an article 4 direction is not that development within the particular category of permitted development cannot be carried out, but simply that it is no longer automatically permitted by Article 3 of the General Permitted Development Order 2015 and must instead be subject to a planning application. This does not necessarily mean that the Council would refuse permission for works proposed, but it does enable it to retain some control over the design and detailing of the proposed development and to grant permission subject to appropriate conditions. Such applications need to be considered against national and local policy and any other relevant material consideration, including a conservation area appraisal.

This type of application will not attract a planning fee so the additional costs will be borne by the Council in determining the application.

An article 4 direction cannot be applied retrospectively to works that have already been carried out.

The following permitted development rights are withdrawn in the case of the Brigstock Conservation Area:

☒ **The enlargement, improvement or other alteration of a dwellinghouse**
The enlargement of a dwellinghouse consisting of an addition or alteration to its roof

☒ **Any other alteration to the roof of a dwellinghouse**

☒ **The erection or construction of a porch outside any external door of a dwellinghouse**

☒ **The installation, alteration or replacement chimney, flue or soil vent pipe on a dwellinghouse**

☒ **The installation, alteration or replacement of a microwave antenna on a dwellinghouse or within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse**

☒ **The painting of the exterior of any building or work**

☒ **Any building operation consisting of the demolition of the whole or any part of any gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure.**

If you have any queries relating to the new restrictions please contact East Northants Planning Department via the village website or phone 01832 742225

MUGA News

(Multi Use Games Area)

This will be a new facility encompassing a games area with an all-weather surface available to all in the community. There will be markings for basketball and football with target panels for cricket and tennis practise within an enclosed environment.

Thanks to all the children from Latham Primary School for their contribution of exciting ideas and designs; they have been very useful in finalising our plans.

Things are at last beginning to move forward and with the agreement of the Cricket club we have identified a suitable site on the meadow. Three quotations for the work have been collected and we are now ready to seek funding from a number of different sources to add to the various amounts that have been collected from organisations in the village.

Hopefully, if all goes to plan, we shall be ready to begin building in the autumn.

Margaret Smith, Parish Councillor

Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan

ENC have now carried out their 6 weeks consultation on the Plan that we have submitted to them. Any comments received will be passed to the appointed Examiner who has to approve the document to ensure it follows all the legal needs of a Planning Document. They might recommend some changes to the Plan to make it compliant and then there will be the village referendum where all residents will get a chance to approve or reject the plan. This referendum is now expected to take place in the autumn and is the final stage. If a majority vote in favour, then the Plan is approved and will become a legal planning document in the system.

Full details of the Plan and the process we used to get there are on the Brigstock Parish Council website.

Thanks for all the committee's support and for all your input.

Chris Allen, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee

KNIT AND NATTER GROUP



What an amazing response we have had to our appeal for knitted poppies. We were delighted with the poppies we have received and generosity of everyone involved.

Many thanks to those who donated wool, donated money for wool and sundries and to those who knitted and crocheted. If you still have poppies, please give them to Steph Beckett or Glenda Stephen. We can collect if you contact us. We have enough now (total is a secret until later!) However if you are in the middle of knitting a poppy please finish it so that it can be added to the display. We are now busily attaching them to a backdrop. Information will be in the September newsletter as to how and when they will be on display.



To those of you have enjoyed being involved in a village project we have plans for Christmas to invite you to knit again!!!

Janet's Movements to Music

Thursday 14th June at 2pm at WI Hall, Park Walk

WI member Janet has organised a **FREE** Gentle Movements to Music session, during the National "Healthy Living and Wellbeing" week. The session is for all abilities, young or old, so come and join in, have some fun and finish the session with tea and cake (so you can put the calories back on!!!). If successful, Janet will hold them on a regular basis.



If you are interested in attending, please call Janet on 373560



BRIGSTOCK LATHAM'S
SCHOOL

Brigstock Latham's Church of England Primary School

We have continued to work hard at Brigstock School, and we have been working with such enthusiasm on all our exciting units of work. Our website and newsletters show just how active our children have been.

A very exciting development for us has been the design of our **new logo**. After many months of planning we have launched our logo, and it will now start to appear on correspondence, uniforms and school signs. Our children were involved in the design process at every stage and we are very proud of our logo, which we believe reflects our mission statement-

'Forward thinking and creative, valuing faith, tradition, community and achievement.'

The paintbrush shows our creativity, the dove is our Christian symbol and the tree shows how much we value our rural community. The coloured branches are the colours of our houses (and our May day ribbons!), and we have incorporated our old logo within the new.

We are very grateful to Tracey Sharp for all her help and expertise- and to everyone who has helped us along the way.

SCHOOL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

We had so many events in the run-up to **Easter**, and our children fully embraced all the traditions of our school by creating decorated eggs and Easter gardens. Our vicar judged the gardens for us, and said it was so hard to pick winners when all the children had put in so much effort. We also enjoyed a quiet Easter service in the church, led by our children.

We finished off our last **Day 10** unit, '**Loving Literacy**', with a creative writing competition. As always we were amazed by the quality of work, and the beautiful presentation of so many of the stories. Every entrant was awarded a certificate, and there were prizes in each age group. If you visit our school, you will see them on display in the school hall and in a special book in the library.

Brigstock Latham's Primary School—cont'd

We have also been involved in **World Book Day** and the **Oundle Festival** of Literature. We were so proud of all the children who took part, and this year a number of our children won or were placed in their classes. We also had award-winning writers from the festival, so we couldn't be more proud of our children. Best of all, we received a letter to the school praising our children for their commitment, effort and excellent manners throughout the festival.

We are now enjoying a new Day 10 unit called '**Our Global Community**', which has given us the chance to work with a number of families with links to other parts of the world. The children are learning so much and we have already established some positive links with other communities as well as learning about the cultural heritage of a number of other families. We will be sharing lots of the outcomes in a special assembly later on in the Summer term.

We have all been enjoying a range of exciting activities linked to our units of work. Reception and KS1 have been learning all about London, and our Year 1 and 2 children had great fun creating houses in the style of a London Street in 1666...and then recreating the **Great Fire of London** by burning them on our playground. We expect it's not often that Mr Pike is asked to start a fire in a school! It was a really memorable experience for all of our children. There are lots of photos on our school website for you to look at.

In Year 3 and 4 our children worked on a creative art project as part of the **Corby Mardi Gras**, and their work was displayed for all to see at the festival. The artist who worked with our children praised their creative approach, and was delighted with their outcomes.

Our Year 3 children have also enjoyed their **first residential experience**, staying at Newton Field Centre for two nights, and learning all about the countryside with Mrs Hand, Mrs Griggs and Mrs Leaning.

Our children have the opportunity to learn in so many different ways! There is so much more to look forward to, as well, with Theatre productions, Art Attack, May Day, school trips...and Leavers' events, of course!

We look forward to sharing more school news in the future,
Mrs Sandy Ettridge and Mrs Victoria Bull, Joint Head Teachers

BRIGSTOCK WI 100TH ANNIVERSARY



As most of you have already heard, Brigstock WI turned 100 on 5th March 2018. We started our celebrations on the actual day with a birthday dinner for members at Harrowden Hall. On Saturday 28th April we held a 100th Tea Party for members and past members. Since Brigstock WI was formed in 1918 with 46 members, there have been 23 different presidents, 12 of which were present for the tea party, which is some achievement. Today, we have 53 members. The celebration cake was cut by our president Liz Searle and our oldest member Peggy Adams.

With more events planned, it's going to be an exceptional year for us



(photographs by Barry Knott)

WI What's On (visitors always welcome):

Tuesday 12th June:

WI Hall at 7.30pm. Rob Hill from Hambleton Bakery presents "The History of the Rutland Bakery". Competition is "An old baking tin or cake stand"

Thursday 14th June:

WI Hall at 2pm. Janet's Movements to Music, followed by tea and cake. To book a place, call 373560.

Tuesday 26th June:

WI Hall at 6.30pm. Members and partners Summer BBQ. £5 per person. Bring your own glass and drink.

BRIGSTOCK WI—cont'd

Wednesday 18th July

Tour of Drayton House, Lowick - £10 per person. Tour starts at 10.30 and then on to a local pub for lunch.

Tuesday 14th August:

Mystery Village Quiz night. We never know where we are going until nearer the time. Always a fun evening, finishing off with supper somewhere.

Saturday 1st September:

Safari Supper – a different course at a different house. Always an enjoyable evening with excellent food and hosts.

Saturday 15th September

The Alternative Horticultural Show – see separate article

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(For a full copy of the rules, please contact Brigstock W.I.)

The Alternative Horticultural Show

Saturday 15th September 2018

Last Newsletter, Brigstock WI enclosed a programme and entry form for our Alternative Horticultural Show at WI Hall, Park Walk. The show is open to **Brigstock, Sudborough, Lowick, Stanion and Little Stanion**. We know some of you are already beavering away with your projects.

Please support this event. The event is not a profit making exercise, its designed to be **FUN**, with a little bit of competitiveness thrown in. Vegetables and fruit is not designed to be “show standard” so don't be put off from entering if you think they have to be twisted and groomed in a certain way.

Categories for adults:

Baking, Preserves, Flowers, Dressmaking, Woodcraft, Paper Craft, Photography, Art (painting), Vegetables, Fruit, Whoops what's gone wrong section, Garden competition, Best Hanging Basket, Best Garden Container.

Categories for Children:

Art, Photography, Paper Craft, Flowers, Whoops what's gone wrong.

Garden Category:

We hope that we will get a lot of entries, especially for the garden category. For security reasons, the public will not tour your garden. Two independent judges and an adjudicator from WI will arrange to view your garden, your container or your hanging basket (or all three if you wish to enter all three) during the first week of September. Photos will be taken of each entry. Only the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of each category will be revealed and displayed on a display board at the show.

Auction:

Exhibitors wishing to donate their items will be given a sticker and will be auctioned off at the end of the show.

To help us gauge the amount of exhibits, please post your entry forms asap, with the 20p per entry, in an envelope to either Judy at 14 Hall Hill, or Glenda at 51 Back Lane. Call 01536 373987 for extra entry forms.

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or mair.goodson@btinternet.com. or visit www.the-cherry-o.co.uk

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BINGO

Bingo is having a Summer break! The last one for this session is on Thursday June 21st

We meet at 7.30pm in the lounge at Harpers Court. We look forward to inviting regular and new members to our next session on 13th September.

Brigstock Pre-school Playgroup

I would like to start by saying a huge THANK YOU to everyone who came and supported us at the Medium night, with the support from the community we managed to raise £158.17.

The children also completed their sponsored walk we raised £227.20 which will be going towards a new tablet for playgroup.



On the **16th of June** between 10-4 pm we have a **TABLE TOP SALE** at the village hall, so why not clear out your cupboards and make space for summer or just come down for a browse ! £5 per table deposit is required upon booking please contact natalieemery37@gmail.com. Bacon baps/tea and coffee will also be available.

Spaces are available for September 2018. If you would to come and visit playgroup and have a look around please contact Sarah on 01536 373197.

Thank you for your continued support.

www.brigstockplaygroup.co.uk.

Email: contact @brigstockplaygroup.co.uk

Mobile: 07708977714

BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

Kurling will continue as usual between 2 and 4 p.m. at the Village Hall on the first and third Wednesdays of each month over the Summer, so if you would like to come along to join us on any of the following dates, you would be very welcome: 6th and 20th June, 4th and 18th July and 1st and 15th August.

It costs just £2, including tea or coffee and biscuits, and all the equipment is provided.

Ring Judith Beeby on 373367 if you need any more information.

Fermyn Woods Country Park

Well spring has finally sprung here at Fermyn and the summer migrants have arrived. So far I have heard:- Chiffchaff, Willow Warbler, Blackcap, and Cuckoo to mention a few. The Blue Tits have been busy building their nest in the café nest box and at the time of writing this are sitting on 8 eggs. Why not pop into the Skylark café to have a look and maybe a cup of tea and slice of homemade cake.

Where we have cleared along the purple route we have had a nice show of Primroses and Bluebells. It has also been a good year for Cowslips around the park. They have been seen growing where we haven't seen them before. Also where we have cleared Alder regrowth at Reedy pond, there has been a clump of Marsh Marigold growing. The Toads and Frogs have been busy also spawning in the ponds round the park. At one time you had to be careful where you was walking. There were so many Toads emerging and making their way to their breeding ponds you almost trod on them!


The butterflies have started to emerge, and the following have been spotted: - Comma, Orange Tip, Green Hairstreak, Brimstone, Peacock and Grizzled Skipper. There are still plenty to come and see that have not emerged yet. By the time this has been published the Black Hairstreak and Purple Emperor should be emerging.

Our trusty team of volunteers have rebuilt the sensory beds out the front of the café with sleepers brought by the friends group and are going to be planted with insect attracting plants and plants for the senses.


We have a wide range of activities over the summer holidays, so come along and join us and enjoy our wonderful countryside.

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Brigstock Lunch Club at The Green Dragon

Every Thursday from 12.30pm to 2pm for senior citizens

Lunch Club has well and truly settled into our new venue. Our hosts at The Green Dragon set a menu of 3 mains and 3 puddings for members to choose from a week in advance. Cost is £7 per person and new members are welcome.

On 1st Thursday of each month we hold a raffle run by Mary McDonald. Each member brings an item to the value of just £1 and money raised goes towards our funds. On 3rd Thursday of the month we have a game of bingo run by our Chairman Jim Clark.

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

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

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

Brigstock is very lucky to have a great asset in its Village Hall. It is used by many groups already, especially the Playgroup who are in every day. Do check what is available as classes range from ballet, dance to Yoga.

Remember that the hall is available for private functions and if you want to book the hall or either of the two meeting rooms, please contact Rosie Briggs on 01536 373579 or email rosybbiggs@btinternet.com.

The village hall now has a website :

www.brigstockvillagehall.co.uk

which will have all the latest information of whats on and all the booking arrangements if you want to hire the hall. Information is still being added, but do visit the site and see what we are doing.



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Oundle G&S Concert 2018

Our Summer concert will take place on the 23 & 24 June at the Stahl Theatre, West Street, Oundle PE8 4EJ. This year's theme is 'Colours' - in fact, every colour of the rainbow, as our concert is titled 'Sing a Rainbow'. Chorus numbers feature some of our old favourites :

Fields of Gold and Blue Moon, plus some new arrangements, such as The Colors of My Life and Strawberry Fields Forever. Medleys have proved very popular in the last two years so there are more of them this year, including a 'Diamonds' medley to celebrate our 60th year. Pop a date in your diary for a great evening's entertainment.

Tickets will be going on sale from the 14 May at Oundle In Stitches –

Many thanks. Jane Grant – 07712-933574

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Sunday 10th June 1pm - 4pm

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Children's Play area

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BRIGSTOCK SCHOOL PFA

Well, this will be the last note from the PFA before the end of the school term, so we should thank you all for a great year. The main investment from the PFA for the school has been in IT - iPads and the necessary gear and apps to give the classes the ability to play games and allow the teachers time to nip out for a fag. Sorry, that should say, "engage with the latest educational technology".

Coming up is the Village Fete. It's on Saturday 30 June in the Rectory Paddock as usual. The theme this year is Robin Hood - he was ambushed outside St Andrews Church by the Sheriff of Nottingham's men, according to one of many legends. So dress up suitably and there will be prizes for best dressed, furthest arrow fired randomly into the village, most original impromptu first aid dressing etc.

There will also be a pet show, slow bicycle race and plenty of stalls.

The Corby Silver Band is entertaining us, and the egg-drop off the Church Tower rules have been slightly modified - no bubble wrap or plastic packaging this year as we all move away from plastics! We expect to see a lot of bald ducks in the run up to the event...

More details on the posters and Facebook shortly. Buy raffle tickets - first prize is a barrow of booze, plus hampers, £50 cash and more - from Richard Fincher, Lesley Blakely and Rosie Briggs.

Thanks again for your support and here's to a wonderful Summer Term.

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 Monday 4th June, and then every 2 weeks at the 3 Cocks PH. New men are welcome to come along to any of the meetings.

Des Robinson 01536 373090

Brigstock WI Recipe Page

GLUTEN FREE LIME AND POLENTA CAKE

This cake was made by our member, Ann Stuart for gluten free guests at our 100th Tea Party. It is deliciously moist, freezes well and can be made in advance and stored in an airtight container for 2-3 days. Ann used dairy free spread instead of butter, but its up to you.

Ingredients:

300g (11oz) butter, softened, plus extra for greasing
300g (11oz) caster sugar
finely grated rind and juice of 2 limes
4 eggs, beaten 300g (11oz) ground almonds
150g (5oz) polenta 1 tsp baking powder.

For the Glaze:

finely grated rind and juice of 1 lime
75g (3oz) caster sugar
icing sugar, for dusting

Method:

- 1 Grease a 23cm (9") round spring-form tin
- 2 Preheat the oven to 160°C/140°F/Gas 3
- 3 Put the butter, sugar and lime rind into a large bowl and beat with an electric whisk until pale and fluffy. Gradually whisk in the eggs, then add the ground almonds, polenta, lime juice and baking powder and carefully fold in until thoroughly combined.
- 4 Spoon into the prepared tin and level the surface.
- 5 Bake in oven for about 1 hour 15 mins, or until a skewer inserted into the middle come out clean and the sponge is golden brown and springy to the touch. If top of cake is getting too brown before it's cooked, then cover with foil.
- 6 Heat the lime rind and juice, sugar and 2 tablespoons of water in a small pan. Stir over a low heat until the sugar is dissolved. Simmer for 2 to 3 mins until syrupy.
- 7 Prick the surface of the cake with a skewer, spoon the hot syrup evenly over the warm sponge and leave to cool completely in the tin.
- 8 Remove from the tin, transfer to a serving plate and dust with icing sugar.
- 9 Serve warm or cold, sliced into wedges, with a dollop of crème fraiche.