

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 17 – WINTER 2018



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

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AUTUMN - Published 31st August 2019

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BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY		01536 373428
BRIGSTOCK WI		01536 373672 (373987)
BRIGSTOCK FILM NIGHTS		01536 373028
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BRIGSTOCK ST ANDREWS		01536 373410
BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL		01536 373059
BRIGSTOCK SUNNYSIDERS		01536 373383
BRIGSTOCK KURLING		01536 373367.

Front Cover Photo - See the article on Pages 3 and 4

PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 1 URC Christmas Coffee Morning
- 1 PFA Panto, Jack and the Beanstalk, 2pm
- 2 Neighbourhood Plan Open Meeting, WI Hall, 3-5pm
- 5 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 5 Brigstock School, Afternoon Tea Party, 5-15pm
- 6 Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Village Hall 7am to 10pm
- 6 BINGO, Harpers Court, 7pm
- 7 Playgroup Wreath Making, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 8 St Andrews Christmas Tree Festival 10am till 15th
- 8 Carols in the Park, Country Park 6pm
- 9 Christmas Tree Light up 6pm Hall Hill
- 10 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 11 WI Christmas Party, WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 13 Playgroup Open Meeting, Village Hall 10 to 11-30am
- 15 Cricket Club Quiz, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 23 URC Carol Service 3pm
- 24 St Andrews Christingle Service, 3 and 6pm

JANUARY 2019

- 7 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am, then every 2 weeks
- 8 WI, "The Many faces of Fiction", WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 9 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 17 BINGO, Harpers Crt, 7-30pm
- 18 Film Night, "Dirty Rotten Scoundrel" VH 7-45pm
- 20 Theatre Group auditions, Village Hall, 3pm
- 21 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 21 Ladies Leisure Group, Games Afternoon, June Small Room, 1-30
- 23 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 23 Historical Society "John Claire" Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 26 Village Hall Quiz, 7-30pm

FEBRUARY

- 4 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 6 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 9 PFA Curry Night, Village Hall
- 12 WI, "Lotions, Potions and Dubious Cures", WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 15 Film Night, "The Happy Prince", Village Hall, 7-45pm
- 18 Ladies Leisure Group, June Small Room, 1-30pm
- 20 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 21 BINGO Harpers Court, 7-30pm
- 26 WI Quiz. Green Dragon PH, 7-30pm
- 27 Historical Society, "Travels with the Police", Village Hall, 7-30pm

Knit and Natter Club

A COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER – The Knit & Natter group have been completely overwhelmed with everyone who has knitted, crocheted, donated wool, money and their time to help us achieve this wonderful display for the 100th Anniversary of the end of WW1. We have covered the War Memorial and decorated several seats around the village with all the handmade Poppies.

The photo on the front cover shows our work and was the proud centerpiece for the service on Remembrance Sunday.



A cheque for £1292.50 was presented to Liz Harries, Corby representative of The Royal British Legion on Mon 12th Nov where all those involved were invited to attend.

The amount includes £786 from poppy tickets and generous donations, £300 from Olde Three Cocks quiz and £206.50 from Chapel tea and cake after the memorial service.

The Final Brigstock total is £1,634.20, which includes £21 from the school and collection boxes from the Co-op, Chapel and Olde Three Cocks.

We are now beavering away knitting for our Advent Window display on 1st December and our contribution to St. Andrew's Tree Festival from 8th to 15th December (do go and support all the entries).

Our group meets every Wednesday at The Olde Three Cocks (hosted by Margareta and Paul) from 10am to 12 noon. If you want to learn to knit or crochet, or you already knit come and join our friendly group.

Glenda Stephen

THE UNVEILING OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

1920

On Saturday 22nd May 1920 a solemn procession, led by six members of Kettering Town Band marched through Brigstock for the opening of the War Memorial. At the head of the procession was carried the furred banner of the N. U. Oddfellows lodge followed by Brigstock ex-servicemen, members of three friendly societies, two Oddfellows groups and the Rechabites, the cricket and football clubs and other individuals many carrying wreaths.

Gathered round the memorial were hundreds of Brigstock people, the majority of the village, including several female relatives of the fallen, dressed in mourning and also carrying wreaths. The vicar of St Andrew's Church, the Rev. A. C. Hooper along with members of the choir had walked up from the church and several local dignitaries had arrived by car, including Sir Arthur de Capell Brooke of Great Oakley Hall who had been invited to unveil the memorial.

Sir Arthur paid tribute to the fallen, expressing his regret that such a sacrifice had been necessary and extending heartfelt sympathy to those nearest and



dearest to them. The memorial would be a daily reminder to friends and neighbours of the great sacrifice made.

The memorial cost £130 and the whole of this sum was raised by the people of the village in a house to house appeal.

Copies of the commemoration edition of Bygone Brigstock giving full details of all the men named on the cross as well as other interesting articles can still be obtained from the Historical Society (price £4).

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

Brigstock News is produced on behalf of the Village Hall committee to further the aims of the Hall and to provide a service for the community.

The Village Hall is 20 years old this year and has been a great facility to the village over that time. We have seen some changes and improvements over the years with a new kitchen, more efficient lighting and heating and the solar panels on the roof. All of these have been funded by grants sourced by the committee.

We are now hoping to improve the building further by constructing extra storage on the side of the building to keep the tables and chairs that presently live in the annex room off the hall. This will give us a much tidier area for use. We have several applications in for grants and are awaiting the outcome of these. Hopefully we will be successful and be able to start work in the New Year.

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.

If you would like to help with the Village Hall or be on the committee, please contact the Chair, Sally Wilks

WHY NOT BOOK THE HALL FOR YOUR PRIVATE FUNCTION OR IF YOU WANT TO RUN A COURSE?

The Village Hall has great facilities to cater for most needs with

- two meeting rooms holding 12 and 30 respectively
- A main hall for weddings or parties and can hold around 150 people.

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

Village Hall Quiz 26th January at 7.30pm

Teams of 6 Max.

Tickets £5

Ploughman's Supper - Bar

Tickets from Chris Allen, Steph Beckett, Sally Wilks

01536 373059

All profits to village hall improvements.

Collectors Corner

Do you collect any items for charity? We will have a column in future newsletters on things that are being collected for charity and where you can take them.

- Bras (Smalls for All African Charity.)
Please give to any WI member to take to meeting on second Tuesday. (Starting January)
- Stamps
Claudette 16 Hall Hill collects stamps for Macmillan Nurses and Hearing Dogs
- Jewellery. It does not matter if damaged or broken.
Steph, 13 Swan Avenue for Alzheimer Society.
- Christmas Cards
46 Lyveden Road for Isebrook School
- Used Batteries
Take to the COOP and their battery box.

BRIGSTOCK'S GOT TALENT

Well we are now certain that there is plenty of talent in Brigstock. We had a great evening in the Village Hall being entertained by a stream of superb acts. There was a capacity audience in the Hall to see the acts that included the WI singing through their century's achievements, jokes from local children, the Theatre Groups rendition of musical numbers and Terry and John's Green Room (don't forget the glasses next time, John).

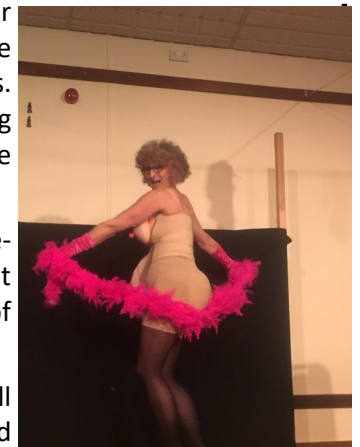


Steph, Glenda, Sally and Julia added great sketches, with Julia also supplying musical accompaniment to Diane and Sophie's wonderful singing.



The biggest cheers were saved for Pete, Peter and Graham as Hill Billies giving us great songs to sing along to, as well as a little make up to improve their appearances.

The star of the show was definitely Patricia the Stripper, hot from her successful tour of the world night spots. Cathie was stunning with such flexible legs!!



If you missed it, hopefully this will be back maybe next year. So get your tickets early next time, or start to think of your act.

All monies raised went towards the Village Hall and thanks must go to all the participants and Steph and Sally for organising. and all others who helped in any way.

BRIGSTOCK BONFIRE NIGHT

We had a fabulous 2018 bonfire and fireworks event. Thank you to all of those who supported by attending and creating such a lovely atmosphere. As ever, we had a large team of volunteers from across many village organisations as well as some individuals. They worked hard to source and transport wood, organise the fireworks, build and clear up the bonfire, act as first aid and fire marshals and buy and sell glowsticks, tickets, sausages and beverages. It's great to have another event where we work across the village groups and welcome in new volunteers.

We especially appreciated the help of some of the younger members of our community, the teenagers who sold tickets and glow sticks on the night and those who made guys and the one 'gal' for the bonfire. Brigstock Playgroup always enter a guy in the competition and this year's entry was a strapping great guy! The rest of this year's fireworks report comes from the youngest but possibly most enthusiastic pyrotechnic reporters: the Playgroup attendees. The children at playgroup shared some of their memories of the fireworks including Charlie who was certain they were good and Freddie B and Isla remembered the bangs in the black sky. Mason's description included 'they were loud ... bang, bang!'. Abi told us that 'fireworks go BOOM!' and Freddie E that they 'say pop and go in the sky like a rocket ship'. Blake described lots of colours and Poppy and Genevieve added they look like a rainbow. Add in some hand actions and clapping and you could almost be back there!

We have already booked the fireworks for 3 Nov 2019. If you'd like to be involved in the organisation of next year's event or on the night, please let Sally Wilks, Rosie Briggs, Chris Allen or Paula Addison-Pettit know.

THE GALLERIES

Located in the old Newsagents on High Street

The Galleries is a new venture by Jim, our local artist, and is open Friday's and Saturday mornings to start with. Although he may be working at his easel in the gallery sporadically at anytime during the week, in which case he is then open. Its been a long road transforming the space into a gallery and he has done this on his own whilst spinning other plates. Jim can be contact via phone or email on:

gallery3436@outlook.com or mobile 07971400954

Brigstock Theatre Group

It has been a very successful year for the BTG so far, with a performance at the fantastic Brigstock Beer Festival that was met with a super positive response.

The hilarious, Brigstock's Got Talent was a wonderful evening, organised by Steph Beckett and Sally Wilks. We really enjoyed performing our music medley and hope you enjoyed it as well.

Our next performance will be part of the Living Advent Calendar. This year it will be Frozen, again at the Old forge, High Street, on the 22nd December. After last years success, there will be two performances this year, at 6.30 and 8.15 and we would really love to see you there.

Moving on to next year, we have secured the rights for

The Sound of Music.

We will be holding open auditions for this and would love as many of you as possible to get involved. There are so many aspects to a show like this and whether you would like to be back stage, front of house, in costume or part of the dance troupe come to the meeting on Sunday 20th of January 2019 @ 3pm in the Village Hall. The meeting is designed so everybody can get a feel for the Theatre group and allow an opportunity to ask questions and sign yourself up to be part of the show in whatever way you can.

We thank your for your continued support and are excited to expand your Theatre group. With your help and involvement, the production team are looking forward to another successful show in July 2019.

Wishing everybody a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Sophie, Peter and Helen.

BRIGSTOCK SCHOOL PFA

We're back at school - well, the children and the teachers are - and the magically expensive time of year that is Christmas is rolling ever closer. So, for some excellent value family entertainment (Oh no it isn't. Oh yes it is!), book yourselves into the panto on December 1, 2pm in the Village Hall. It's with the excellent Looking Glass Theatre and tickets are £5/7 children/adults. Given that it's theatre brought to your doorstep, it's great value and lasts in our little one's cultural reference cortex several times longer than a Happy Meal or game of Fortnite.

The School Christmas Window is the 5th December outside the front gates of the School. There is a tea party theme, which is "Welcoming the Soldiers home for Christmas" and starts from 4.45pm. The PFA will be on hand to mull both on the possibility of a white Christmas, and also some wine.

Then it's Christmaaaaaaaaaaas, with all that entails. For Noddy Holder, it means his mortgage is paid for another year, which reminds us...

The School has signed up to be a beneficiary of The Giving Machine. This is an online link which generates commission for charities, and anyone can sign up. Basically, every time you buy something from an online store that's linked to The Giving Machine, a small amount is paid to the school. For those who want reassurance that it isn't just a way of paying more for your normal shopping and gifts, every large website runs 'affiliate' programmes which pay a small commission for leads from other websites which bring them business - it's automated and set up on thousands of sites. If it's the Giving Machine website bring in the sales, then they get that small fee.

Search for 'The Giving Machine' sign up, follow the instructions and use it! It only generates a little each time - unless you're buying young Croesus his new Christmas helicopter - but it does truly add up. Amazon, John Lewis, supermarkets and other regular online destinations are all aboard.

The next date for your diary is the Curry Club, on Saturday 9th February in the Village Hall. Truly wonderful food, the crowning of the Curry Queen or King by the reigning monarch, Jen Parton, and the auction. Anyone who wishes to cook a curry is most welcome - please let Richard Fincher or any member of the PFA committee know you're interested. Curry makers get free entry. It is always a fantastic night - please can anyone with interesting auction prizes also let the team know.

That'll do for the moment!. The Brigstock Latham School PFA.



Make Christmas Dinner a recipe for free donations for your chosen cause

See how much your Christmas Shopping can raise for the causes close to your heart when you shop via www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

Shopping	Cost	Retailer	Donation	Raised (up to)
Food	180.00		£20.00	£20.00
Wine & Champagne	130.00		4.90%	£6.37
Table centrepiece	30.00		16.10%	£4.83
Dinnerwear Set	52.00		2.10%	£1.09
Personalised Christmas Crackers	30.00		3.50%	£1.05
After Dinner Chocolates	23.50		4.90%	£1.15
Beat the Parents Family Board Game	16.99		2%	£0.34

Total Raised £34.83



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.

Brigstock Historical Society Programme 2018-19		
23/01/19	John Clare Northamptonshire Poet Carry Ackroyd	<i>John Clare 1793-1864 became known for his celebration of the English countryside and is now seen as one of the most important poets of the 19th Century. Local artist Carry Ackroyd has long been inspired by his work.</i>
27/02/19	Travels with the Police Bob Thorough- good	<i>When Bob Thoroughgood joined the police he never expected to travel much further afield than Corby but it didn't work out like that</i>
27/03/19	Shackleton "By Endurance we Conquer" Graham Bell	<i>An illustrated talk on the amazing true story of Ernest Shackleton's attempt to be the first to cross the Antarctic on foot in 1914.</i>
24/04/19	The Northampton Suffragettes and Suffragists John Buckell	<i>After 100 years of women getting the vote, this talk is about those opponents of suffrage in Northampton. Who were the suffragists and suffragettes, and what were the differences between them?</i>



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VISIT THE FISH AND CHIP VAN
EVERY TUESDAY

4-30PM TO 7 PM

ON SUDBOROUGH ROAD, BRIGSTOCK

Brigstock Cricket Club 2018

Another Super summer at the Meadow. Summer seems a distant memory but our village cricket club can look back on another successful year. Many folk put a lot of work into our club to make it a welcoming place for cricket lovers as well as those, not quite so enthused by our sport but still appreciative of what we offer.

Helen, our Chair, brought fresh ideas and initiatives including the promotion of friendly yet very competitive women and girls tournaments. Great for youngsters to see their Mums etc take on our sport with so much ability and enthusiasm

Our young cricketers had a generally successful season including our Under 13's finishing as runners up in their age group cup competition. Our coaching team, Alan Bamford, Simon Goodson, Matt Howell, Maggie Dupree, Nigel Connellan, Ian Kidd, Andy Bull and John Udall put so much time and effort into coaxing, coaching and developing the youngsters of the village. Thanks you guys. Not all will be regulars in our adult teams though Jamie Mills, Joe Goodson, Matt Howell and Dan de Choisy have established themselves already, but hopefully all those who have turned up on Friday evenings will have gained good skills and seen what support, effort and application can achieve, wherever their interests take them.

As for the adult teams, it was the first year for our first team in the top Premier division...our young team taking on and more than surviving against established Prem teams like Peterborough Town and Oundle. A great achievement. And so was the success of our second team, in coming second and gaining promotion.

The Club thrives on a mixture of youth and experience (OK, older players who so love the game that their brain tells them that, for a few hours every Saturday in summer, they are twenty or so years younger than they really are). Well done Brigstock C.C again.

Come and join us at the annual Cricket Club Christmas Cheese and Wine Quiz night, 7:30 for 8:00pm, Saturday 15th December, Village Hall. Team tables max 6 people, £7 per head. Raffle and bar. Prestigious trophy to be won! To book a table or join up with others please contact Peter Hedges peterhedge@aol.com 07702425363

Brushstrokes of History

with David Price.

An unusual look at history through great paintings, covering great historical events but also simpler, more everyday aspects of contemporary society. We will also look at the the backgrounds and motives of the artists.

Beginning 17th January 2019 at 14:00
9 sessions. Each class is 1.5 hours.

Course fee: £52.00
If you receive certain benefits you may be entitled to a free course.

To enrol please quote the course reference **C2340021** either online at **wea.org.uk** or by ringing **0300 303 3464**

Supported by



The WEA is a charity registered in England and Wales (no. 1112775) and in Scotland (no. SC039239)

Location:

Brigstock Village Hall
8 Bridge Street
Brigstock
Kettering
NN14 3ET



Brigstock United Reformed Church

There is always a lot going on in Brigstock and as a church we really enjoy being part of it. The beer festival is always popular and this year we had a change from our usual tombola stall but still managed to add over £500 to our funds. Paula and the Young Church excelled at making piñatas which proved to be a very popular attraction and fitted in perfectly with the Mexican theme. We were also happy to be part of the commemoration of the Centenary of the end of WW1, and the ladies from the Open Door organised cake and coffee to follow the 11am service on Hall Hill, with donations totalling £206.50 going to the Poppy Appeal. The response to all the commemorations this year in Brigstock has been amazing; this village is very generous and we are glad to be part of it.

Our visit to the Greenbelt festival was rather soggy, but we sat in the drizzle and took part in a Communion service which was based on the experiences of the Windrush generation. The Communion bread and wine was shared in small groups and it was a good way to meet people who attended from all over the country. It was definitely different from our normal services but good to experience something new.

As this item goes to print, we are busy preparing for Christmas which seems to come round more quickly every year. Our annual Christmas coffee morning is on December 1st and there will be plenty to spend your money on! Do join us for mince pies, a hot drink and a good chat. The following week we shall be busy preparing our entry for St. Andrew's Christmas tree festival. We have chosen the theme of "charity" and have recently made a list of charities we have supported over recent years, both local and international. So far 15 charities are on the list but we may well remember more. Not bad for a small church.

Our annual Carol Service will be on December 23rd at 3pm, and on Christmas Day there will be a short, informal service in the June Small room at 10.30 am. The following Sunday we invite you all to come to our regular post-Christmas carol sing-a-long. We don't get many opportunities to sing our favourite carols so this is your chance to enjoy them again.

The Travelling Knitted Nativity set is in need of a major overhaul and its journey this year will be very limited, but we aim to have it back for Christmas 2019. Meanwhile, may we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year, from everyone at the URC.

Ladies Leisure Group

We have had a busy few months and a good variety of things to do at our meetings. In September Sheila Wise showed us how to do simple, but effective Chinese paintings. I'm not sure that all the results were as good as hers but we enjoyed trying it out!

Our October meeting was a new venture-we went to the cinema in the June Small room and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it, especially as we also had popcorn, snacks and ice creams.

Our November meeting takes place after this newsletter goes to print, but we are looking forward to making Christmas decorations which somehow involves old T-shirts.

If you like the sound of what we do, why not join us on the third Monday in every month? Our first meeting in 2019, on January 21st, will be a Games afternoon - a quiz, Beetle and more!

All meetings are in the June Small room at the URC, Mill Lane at 1.30pm.

More details from Sharon-373832 or Sheila 373225

Looking Glass Theatre

presents

Jack and the Beanstalk

Saturday 1st December at 2pm

Village Hall.

Tickets - Adults £7, Child £5, or family of 4 £20.

Tickets from Rosie 373579, Sarah 373191,

or Suzy 07811392017

Raffle and Refreshments

Brigstock United Reformed Church : Early Days

Brigstock United Reformed Church was built in 1797, over 220 years ago, but non-conformists, those who did not agree with the practices of the Church of England and wished to worship in their own way, were active in the village for more than a hundred years before that. A licence for a Congregational Meeting House was first granted to Edward Brooke in 1672. The building was situated in the grounds of the present Mill House and for many years this meeting house continued to serve the spiritual needs of the small but growing number of Dissenters in the village. But on 27th August 1758 a disaster literally struck during a Sunday service. This was reported in the Northampton Mercury as follows:

We hear from Brigstock in this County that on Sunday 27th of last month (August) in the afternoon during the time of Divine service they had a dreadful storm of rain, thunder and lightning. The lightning set the meeting house on fire which was burnt to the ground along with an adjacent building. One woman was killed in the Meeting House by the flash and three more were hurt.

Present at the Service during this terrible event was the Reverend John Smith and he wrote an account of the incident in the Oundle Church diary and his report gives more details than the newspaper :-

While I was preaching and as Mr Hill was speaking his choice experiences it was dreadfully tempestuous as to thunder and lightning and rain and at that time the Meeting House at Brigstock was burnt down; a ball of fire striking (it was thought) on a chimney adjoining to the Meeting house with a report louder and smarter than that of a cannon and flashes of fire and most sulphurous smelling . In a moment the whole Meeting House was on fire, over the heads of Rev. Mr Ward of Spaldwick then preaching and of the congregation struck down ten persons for dead, one of which was a young married woman who never breathed more, whose name was Eate and one John Smith (a fine young man who had been in the army) lay for weeks of ten as helpless as an infant as though all the bones in his body were dislocated but recovered it, and one Leverit of Kettering (as well as the said Smith) lay for dead for the space of two hours before it be known that the said Leverit was dead or not.

Brigstock United Reformed Church : Early Days Cont'd

Undeterred by this tragedy the congregation continued to meet in rented premises and their numbers continued to increase. By 1797 they decided that a new chapel should be built and a house and yard were purchased on the site of the present United Reformed Church. Work was started on the building but unfortunately, as so often happens with building projects, they ran into financial difficulties. The cost for completion was £300 but the members had only managed to raise £100. What could be done? A small group of the leading members, including George Leigh, Thomas Viccars, Thomas Bellamy and John Bellamy sent a letter to the Congregational Board in London asking for financial assistance. In the letter they stated that there were 200 Congregational members in Brigstock who needed a place of worship and that they had already "built a shell and walls of stone and covered with slate". The letter was not only signed by the Brigstock members but underwritten and supported by many leading local Dissenters, including Thomas Toller and Andrew Fuller. The application was successful and funds were provided to complete the building of the church, which was officially registered as a place of worship for Protestant Dissenters in January 1799. The building has been in continuous use up to the present day as a Congregational Chapel and later as Brigstock United Reformed Church and has been not only a place of worship but an important part of the life of the village.

Provided by Bill Simon



Would you like to learn how to ring the church bells?



Carl Hector and his band of bell ringers are looking for new members.

Following last months open evening, they now have some new members and have started ringing. They meet on Monday nights at 7 p.m. in St Andrew's Church for about an hour. Just come along - the door will be open.

Brigstock Living Advent Calendar

The village will be presenting a Living Advent Calendar once again!

Each household participating will be hosting a seasonal display or event at the listed property.

The unveils or events are at 6.45pm each evening unless stated.

1	Saturday	The Old Three Cocks	Knit & Natter
2	Sunday	Co-op, high Street	
3	Monday	55 Lyveden Road	Playgroup
4	Tuesday	30 High Street	
5	Wednesday	Brigstock Latham's School	Brigstock School
6	Thursday	25, High Street	
7	Friday	4 Bridge street	
8	Saturday	7 Park Walk	
9	Sunday	12, Hall Hill (will coincide with Christmas tree lighting and special visitor)	
10	Monday	12 Latham Street	
11	Tuesday	Hill Farm House, Park Walk	
12	Wednesday	15 High Street	
13	Thursday	Hall Hill	
14	Friday	Green Dragon, Hall Hill	
15	Saturday	2 Church Street	
16	Sunday	Benefield Road, (paddock past the allotments)	
17	Monday	Mill Lodge, Mill Lane	
18	Tuesday	Brigstock WI Hall, Park Walk	WI
19	Wednesday	6 Park Walk	
20	Thursday	Brigstock Surgery, Bridge Street	Crochet Group
21	Friday	30 Back Lane	
22	Saturday	*The Old Forge, High Street	The Old Forge Theatre group
23	Sunday	21 Benefield Road	
24	Sunday	**Parish Church	

Brigstock Living Advent Calendar Cont'd

* Saturday 22nd - there will be two performances. one at 6.30pm and one at 8.15pm. Numbers will be limited due to space and tickets will be available at the nightly unveils from 1st December. (No charge but a donation for the chosen charity will be appreciated.)

**Monday 24th - The window will be unveiled at the Christingle service. Ticket info and timings to be confirmed

The Living Advent Calendar is about **community and creativity** but we do make a bucket collection nightly which will be donated to a **local** cause. (yet to be confirmed)

Look out for updates on the Brigstock Living Advent Facebook page.

Please wear light or high viz clothing and take responsibility for children if attending.

The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

will take place

SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER

At 6 p.m. on Hall Hill

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



THOUGHTS FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Some latest scams to be aware of:

1. It looks like the communication has come from TV licensing and says you are due a refund of £??? and if you give them your bank details they will refund you. The email has a link to take you to the page for you to add your details in. Please do not follow the link or give them any bank details.

2. A letter from East Northants Council says you have underpaid your Council Tax and could you send a cheque for the specified amount to the specified address. If you receive one of these letters then please check with East Northants Council before sending any money.

3. If you have organised for a utility company, builder or any engineer to come to your property or not, check their credentials or a badge on their arrival before letting anyone into your property. If you are unsure don't let them in until you have checked with the company they say they represent.

Tips to keep your vehicle safe:

1. Ensure all doors, windows and sunroofs are closed and locked when leaving your vehicle unattended. Don't simply rely on your key fob, as some thieves use 'jammers' to intercept the signal between the fob and the car, leaving the vehicle unlocked and vulnerable to theft.

2. Don't leave your keys lying around visible on a windowsill at home or near a front door, where they could be hooked through the letterbox.

3. Never leave valuables in your vehicle and keep any other possessions out of sight. Remove your sat nav and its holder and wipe away any window suction marks as these could indicate a sat nav is stored in your vehicle.

4. If you use a vehicle for maintenance purposes, it is advisable not to leave tools or other working materials in a vehicle unoccupied or overnight, as works vehicles such as vans are commonly targeted by criminals. (See notice on page 5)

5. Never leave vehicle documents in your car, as this would make it easy for a thief to sell your car or provide a cover story if stopped by the police.

6. Consider having anti-theft screws fitted to your number plates to prevent them from being stolen and used on another vehicle.

Darker nights – crime-prevention: During the long winter nights, take a fresh look at your home security. Keep front and back doors locked at all times and keep keys and valuables out of sight and reach from cat flaps, letterboxes and downstairs doors and windows. If you are out in the evening, leave a light on and draw the curtains. Use timer switches to turn on energy saving light. Leaving a radio on could potentially deter a burglar when you are out. Don't leave spare keys outside, burglars know all the usual hiding places.

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 winter months. For more information please call 01536 373383.

BINGO

Christmas Bingo is on Thursday December 6th and then on the following dates

January 17th February 21st March 21st

New players welcome. We meet monthly in Harpers Court Lounge on a Thursday at 7pm. 50p entry to include tea.

There is an optional raffle. After that you pay as few or as many games as you wish to play. A cheap evening out with lots of fun and you may win!



An advertisement for 'THE LLAMA EXPERIENCE' at 'THE HILL FARM HOUSE'. The text includes: '• ESCAPE THE DRAMA WITH A LLAMA •', 'MEET • GROOM • WALK • LOUNGE', 'MORNING COFFEE EXPERIENCE £45 PER PERSON', 'LUNCH EXPERIENCE £55 PER PERSON', 'AFTERNOON TEA EXPERIENCE £45 PER PERSON', 'THE HILL FARM HOUSE, PARK WALK, BRIGSTOCK NN14 3HH', and 'LLAMAEXPERIENCE.CO.UK • 07962 324551'. There is a circular badge that says 'GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE'. The background features silhouettes of llamas.

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	

There are many things to celebrate in this edition of our village newsletter.

We had another very successful village bonfire night. Thanks so much to all of you who gave your time and support to this popular event. A fabulous display was enjoyed by all present and over £1500 was raised to fund future displays and village organisations.

Everyone agrees that the war memorial looked amazing with its display of poppies, and a fitting tribute to those who gave their lives in WW1. Congratulations to members of the Knit and Natter group who organized the poppies and all of you who knitted them. Many of us enjoyed some very welcome refreshment provided by the URC after the commemoration on Hall Hill on Sunday 11th. In the afternoon it was a treat to hear the bells being rung as part of the celebrations of the end of the war in 1918. The final count was £1634.20 raised by this village for the British Legion. A magnificent achievement.

Our Neighbourhood Plan for Brigstock is now completed and you should have received your voting cards. I urge you to **vote on the 6th December at the referendum.**

PARISH COUNCIL

Thank you very much to chair Chris Allen and everyone on the committee who attended more than 50 meetings over the past three years. I think that works out at about the equivalent of 5 full days of time to the project. There's dedication!

Sally Wilks Chair

Fantastic MUGA News

(Multi Use Games Area)

We have been awarded a grant by WREN's FCC Community Action Fund to cover the cost of providing a MUGA for the village. WREN is a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, biodiversity and heritage projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund.

The MUGA will be installed by Wicksteed Ltd in the area of rough scrub near the cricket nets and will offer a new sports facility for all the village to use. It is a Championship Ball-court – approx. 18m x 10m with 2 football goals and 2 basketball hoops with backboards and has 3m high surrounding fencing to reduce the risk from flying balls.



It is being manufactured at the moment and will be installed early in the new year.

Margaret Smith, Parish Councillor

Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan has had its formal examination and is now reaching the referendum stage. We have the final plan which has changed only slightly from that you were consulted on. You should have received through your door a résumé of the Examiner's comments and the changes to the Plan. The Examiner was very complimentary on the way our Plan had been developed and with the standard of the consultation. The changes he made are listed in the résumé. See www.brigstockcouncil.org.uk

Copies of the Referendum Plan are available from the Parish Clerk at 7 Church St, Brigstock Surgery, Green Dragon PH, and 3 Cocks PH, the Church and also the Parish Council website.

To help you see the plan and talk to the NP Committee over any concerns or queries that you have, we are holding a

DROP IN SESSION TO DISCUSS THE REFERENDUM PLAN

THE WI HALL, PARK WALK SUNDAY 2ND DEC, 3 – 5 P.M.

When the Neighbourhood Plan proceeds to local referendum and achieves more than half of votes cast in favour, then the Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made' by East Northamptonshire Council. If 'made' the Neighbourhood Plan will come into force as part of the Development Plan for the neighbourhood area, and subsequently be used in the determination of planning applications and decisions on planning appeals in the plan area. The Housing and Planning Act is very clear that where a planning application conflicts with a neighbourhood plan that has been brought into force, planning permission should not normally be granted.

If it does not get approved, then we will not have any Plan to control development in Brigstock.

**THE REFERENDUM ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER, 7 am – 10 pm at VILLAGE HALL
Do vote to have your say.**

If you are away on that day, contact East Northants Council Elections for a postal vote or a Proxy vote. Make sure you are registered to vote in all elections.

For more information, contact Nigel Searle 373672 or Chris Allen 373059.

St Andrews Church

It has been a difficult few months in our church life due to Captain Alan Lowe having a very serious accident whilst he was at work. Heather was at his bedside constantly whilst he was being cared for in the trauma unit of Coventry hospital. However it is wonderful to be able to say that Alan is now at home continuing his recovery, a slow but very positive process that will hopefully see them both back with us full time in the near future. We have been extremely grateful to the clergy that have supported us during this time and allowed 'normal service' to continue. If ever there was a time for us to trust in Gods healing this has been one of them.

We are continuing to work hard to reach out to the community and to help make 'Church' feel less daunting to those who have yet to join us. Our next event will be the St Andrews Christmas Tree Festival -

Come along and see a variety of decorated trees provided by village groups and organisations. They will be on display from 10 a.m. on Saturday 8th December when there will be homemade crafts, gifts and refreshments available to purchase until 1 p.m. There will also be raffle tickets and a quiz sheet on sale all week.

The festival will conclude on Saturday 15th December when the raffle will be drawn and at 4 p.m. there will be an All Age Christmas service with carols, everyone welcome.

The church will be open to visitors each day from Saturday the 8th December until Saturday 15th December between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Our regular Holy Communion Services will be at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday 9th December and 10.00 a.m. on Thursday 13th December, you will be very welcome to attend either of the services before viewing the trees on these days.

As in previous years one of the highlights of Christmas will be our Christingle services on Christmas Eve. There will be two services one at 3.00 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 from the beginning of December (free of charge) from Barbara Platt 4 Bridge Street 01536 373240, Jean Caswell 10 Woodlands Close 01536 373517 or Allison Porter 5 Stable Hill 07933 804432. Our advent window will be unveiled at 7 p.m. after the 6 p.m. service.

If you want a service on Christmas day you have the choice of two, 9.30 a.m. at All Saints Church Sudborough or 10.00 a.m. at St Peters Lowick.

St Andrews Church Cont'd

	Brigstock
Saturday 8th December to Saturday 15th December	Christmas Tree festival Saturday 8 th – Start at 10.00 a.m. with Christmas Fair Saturday 15 th – 4.00 p.m. End of festival All Age service.
Wednesday 19th December	9.30 a.m. Brigstock School Carol Service in church.
Thursday 20th December	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd December	9.30.a.m. Holy Communion
Monday 24th December	3.00 p.m. Christingle 6.00 p.m. Christingle 7.00 p.m. Unveiling of Advent Window 11.00 p.m. First Mass of Christmas (Midnight Mass)
Tuesday 25th December	Christmas Day services will be at All Saints Sudborough at 9.30 a.m. and St
Thursday 27th December	No Holy Communion Service
Sunday 30th December	10.00 a.m. Benefice service

Letter from the Rector Rev'd Heather Lowe and Captain Alan Lowe.

"You may have heard that towards the end of September Alan had a serious fall from a ceiling space. A long stay at Coventry hospital trauma unit followed due to a collapsed lung, several broken ribs, a head injury causing bleeding in his head and four spinal fractures as well as a pulmonary embolism for good measure! Eight weeks later we have been back home for two weeks and are trying to work out what our "new normal" is. Through all the ups and downs, of which there have been many we have been sustained through people's kindness, care, support, prayers and the presence of God; all of which we are incredibly grateful for.

St Andrews Church cont'd

Letter from the Rector Rev'd Heather Lowe— Cont'd

Knowing that God was with us through all we have been through has enabled us and keeps enabling us to move forward.

We apologise that Messy Church had to be cancelled and we were unable to be at Harvest, Belcanto and the Remembrance service but we are hugely looking forward to the Christmas Tree Festival and Christingles and it would be lovely to see you there.

I was thinking the other day how Christmas is rapidly approaching and what that means to us as Christians. Obviously at Christmas Christians remember and celebrate the birth of Christ but more than that we celebrate God sending His Son, Jesus to be with us. To be with us on that first Christmas eve in the flesh as well as the following 33years; but also to be with us now through the Holy Spirit. Christ being present with us has brought much comfort and strength over the past couple of months to both Alan and I and continues to do so.

I hope you find yourself in better health than my husband as you read this but whether you are or not, please know that this Christmas and every day God is with us and longs to know us better. We would love you to join us for any of our services. As I write today I am reminded of this hymn that we used to sing years ago and the appropriateness of it's words, "What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry. Everything to God in prayer! (Charles Crozat Converse and Joseph Scriven).

We pray for you that you may know the presence and love of God this Christmas time and every day. Heather and Alan.



Fresh farm eggs available £1.25 for ½ dozen. Can be collected at Harley Way or delivered into Brigstock.

This season grass fed lamb available by Joints / half or whole. Can be butchered to how you like, plus some pork later in the year.

Please ring/ text Alex on 07946350079 or Facebook cabinview.

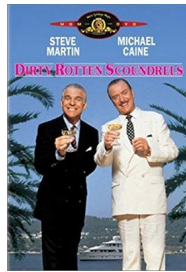


Brigstock Film Night 2018/19 Season

Brigstock Film Night continues its' season of films for your Friday night entertainment at the Village Hall after the Christmas and New Year break. 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.

Friday 18th January 2019 – Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (PG)

This is an oldie (1988) but a goodie, so join us for a laugh in the depths of gloomy January. There will be plenty of comedic jousting resulting from a winning chemistry between Michael Caine and Steve Martin, who play two international con artists plying their trade on gullible wealthy women up and down the Riviera.



Friday 15th February 2019 – The Happy Prince (15)



In this more serious and recent film (2018) Rupert Everett vividly evokes the last days of Oscar Wilde -- and the ghosts that haunted them – in his directorial debut. Everett embodies the literary genius as he lives out his last days in exile in Europe, where he survives by falling back on the flamboyant irony and brilliant wit that defined him. The cast includes Colin Firth, Colin Morgan, Emily Watson and Anna Chancellor.

Tickets: £5 per person on the door – advance booking not required.

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 grateful 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, then please contact: Alison Millen on 373028 or Emma Poole on 370142.

CAN YOU SAVE A LIFE?

Over 140 villagers have attended CPR/Defibrillator training over recent months in the village hall.

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.

Want to help create a village of life-savers?

These one and a half hour 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.

Additional training session dates can be scheduled if sufficient numbers are interested.

To register your interest, contact Sam Read on 07766 573400 or email sam@theswallowsrest.co.uk

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

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



BRIGSTOCK LATHAM'S
SCHOOL

Brigstock Latham's Church of England Primary School

We have had a very busy start to the new year. It has been wonderful to see the new reception children settle in so quickly and enjoy school life as well as welcoming back our current years.

The children have been hard at work already with lots of exciting and creative lessons taking place. Our Day 10 topic this term relates to the centenary of the end of WW1 and is called 'Brigstock Remembers'. We have been working alongside the Historical society, Titchmarsh school and Bishop Stopford School to create some wonderful memories. Our Beryl Simon award will be for a creative piece of writing about WW1 as suggested by the Historical society. On the 7th November a group of our children will be going to Bishop Stopford, along with some children from Titchmarsh school, to present an assembly to the Year 7's about the role of the poppy. All the children have created a poppy in school and have attached a leaf with a personal memory. These are displayed on the bank of our school, please feel free to take a quiet moment to read the leaves and remember.

On the 1st October the school council organised and ran a very successful Macmillan coffee morning. Lots of parents came for tea and cake and we managed to raise £139.44.

Our thanks go out to everyone who contributed to our harvest assembly either by donating or by attending. The children shared harvest songs and prayers and our visitors wrote on Autumn leaves expressing what they were thankful for. The children then took the harvest contributions around the village.

Many of our children enjoyed the Premier sports club which ran at our school over the half term. Mr Marshall, who is a familiar face in our school, provided a number of sports such as dodgeball, archery and netball to name but a few. Within school the children will continue to work with Mr Marshall in their games and PE lessons. Many of these lessons are building up to sporting competitions in football and netball.

Brigstock Latham's Primary School—cont'd

On the 3rd December the Year 5 and 6 children will be heading off to Stibington dressed as evacuees. They will arrive at the train station and walk through the village as evacuees. During the day they will sample school life during WW2, evacuate to an Anderson shelter and sing war time songs.

On the 5th of December at 5.15pm we will be hosting a tea party welcoming the soldiers back from war. There will be drinks, cakes and biscuits and the children will sing war time songs and dance, all are welcome. The tea party will be followed by the opening of the school's advent window. This is always a wonderful occasion and embraces the spirit of our school. Our very generous PFA will be providing refreshments and we look forward to seeing many of you there. Vicky Bull and Sandy Ettridge

The Post Office is back!!

The Post Office will be coming to Brigstock every Friday from 2 until 4 in the old newsagents shop/art studio. Please support this if you want it to continue

BRIGSTOCK MEN'S CLUB

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

We intend to have some speakers coming in to talk to us on interesting subjects and to arrange some local trips out.

The next meetings will be on Monday 10th December, 7th January, 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

WI Hall, Park Walk, Brigstock

By the time this goes to print our WI will be nearing the end of its centenary year. It has been a very, very special year indeed for old and new members alike with plenty of special memories.

A great relief to the ladies who organised our first Horticultural Show was well supported. At the planning stage, it was thought to be a one-off. It was a learning curve, so with some changes and a bit of tweaking, we will be repeating the show again in 2019.

We had lots of fun and laughter whilst planning our entry for Brigstock's Got Talent. Phew – the phrase "it turned out okay on the night" springs to mind – if you don't agree, you should have seen the final rehearsal!!

We are ending our Centenary year with our entry for St. Andrew's Christmas Tree Festival and our members Christmas Party on 11th. Our final event for 2018 on 18th December is our contribution to Brigstock's Living Advent Window (organised by Jane Jones); however this year we will have an outside display at the WI Hall instead of the barn at Church Street and the hall will be open for nibbles and a winter warmer.

Since January we have had 10 new members bringing us up to full capacity, so we must be doing something right. With our AGM behind us, we welcome our three new Committee Members – Ann Stuart, Jill Pettigrew and Lesley French. Our programme for 2019 is almost ready to run off the press with lots of interesting speakers and trips planned for members.

Brigstock WI wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.

Glenda Stephen

Brigstock WI What's On

Tuesday 11th December 2018:

WI Members Christmas Party at 7.30 with bring-and-share supper.

BRIGSTOCK WI—cont'd

Tuesday 8th January 2019

Brigstock WI Meeting at 7.30pm, WI Hall. Jane Isaac presents "The Many Faces of Fiction" (local author shares her journey through the publishing world). Competition: Design a book cover for our 100th year.

Tuesday 22nd January 2019:

Brigstock WI social night at 7.30pm. Open to members and non-members. Come along for a chat and refreshments and meet members at WI Hall, Park Walk.

Tuesday 12th February 2019:

Brigstock WI meeting at 7.30pm at WI Hall, Park Walk. Susan Copperwheat presents "Lotions, Potions and Dubious Cures." Competition: An unusual remedy passed down your family.

Tuesday 26th February:

WI Quiz at The Green Dragon – Tickets will be available for sale from 373201 / 373987 / 373478

For more information about Brigstock WI call 01536 373672

For HALL HIRE contact 01536 373710 or 373560

A THANK YOU FROM JANET SHARP

Since Cliffs accident, his stay in hospital, a home and sadly his death, we have had much support and kindness shown to the family from the people of Brigstock.

Thank you for all the cards, kind messages of sympathy and donations for Kettering Hospital Special Baby Care unit and also to those who attended the funeral.

Thank you,
Janet Sharp

The Olde Three Cocks PH

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR**

WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU THAT EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH, WE WILL BE HAVING A QUIZ NIGHT WITH LOTS OF PRIZES TO BE WON !!!

ON FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER - WE HAVE LIVE MUSIC - SOUL AND MOTOWN WITH TRISH

CHRISTMAS EVE - WE ARE HAVING A DISCO PARTY

BOXING DAY - WE ARE GOING TO BE OPEN FOR BREAKFAST BUFFET FROM 9 AM TILL 11.00 AM

ALSO ON BOXING DAY - WE ARE HAVING 7 HOURS OF LIVE MUSIC, STARTING FROM 3.00 PM WITH MR IRIE WHITE, AMAZING RAGGAE ARTIST. AND THEN, MS JESS STEVENS, LEGEND OF SOUL AND MOTOWN.

NEW YEARS EVE - WE WILL BE HAVING A DISCO PARTY

TO CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR, ON FRIDAY THE 4TH OF JANUARY, WE ARE GIVING YOU AN AMAZING PASTA NIGHT WHERE YOU HELP YOURSELF FROM A SELECTION OF PASTA DISHES FROM THE BUFFET FOR JUST £5.00 PER PERSON. BOOKING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED !!!!

FROM TUESDAY 15 JANUARY, WE WILL HAVE A SET OF FRESH MEALS AT 2 FOR £10.00, AVAILABLE FROM 12.00 NOON TILL 2.30 PM, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAYS. THIS OFFER WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF APRIL

WATCH YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTS - BT AND SKY SPORTS

FOR BOOKINGS, PLEASE CALL US ON 01536 373476

WWW.OLDTHREECOCKSBRIGSTOCK.CO.UK, pulseafood@gmail.com

**THE OLDE THREE COCKS FAMILY PUB. THE PLACE WHERE YOU CAN EAT
FRESH FOOD AND DRINK WITHOUT EMPTYING YOUR POCKETS !!!!**

THE VIEW FROM MY KITCHEN WINDOW, HARPERS COURT

Every day when I look out of my kitchen window, I see something new. It can be the rooks flying around making a din, or the Blackbirds looking for a tasty morsel. On many occasions it can be the Heron looking to get himself a tasty fish from the brook. Earlier in the year we had a number of Egrets with their stark white plumage, the leg that agitates the brook bed to see what surfaces. I never know what I am going to see.

On an almost daily occurrence I see the Kingfisher in all its colourful splendour speeding up and down the brook. Other times I only hear its distinctive whistle.

We have plenty of ducks that frequent the Brook and if we are lucky we get to see them with their ducklings. This year we had 4 survive and a 3 and a 2. Unfortunately last year we lost them all. It has been wonderful to see two lots of Moorhens raise a chick each – a delightful furry ball of fluff and very long legs.

The sparrows have decided that the hedge by the Church allotment are their place and seem to be thriving there. Even at night it is busy out of my kitchen window. There are two hedgehogs that have a ritual of passing under my window, sniffing along their merry way. The fox comes along the pathway the opposite and if he spies me at the window he will stop and stare, then stroll along to carry on his night time journey. There are many owls in the trees that let their presence be known as they talk to each other, and the bats that fly over the brook, who if they are lucky will have a tasty moth to keep their hunger away.

For the artists amongst you, whether it's with pencil, paints or camera, there is nothing nicer than to sit the brook, catch the water tumbling over the stones in the shallow spots, or the deeper pools that are shadowed by the wonderful trees, or the way the water flows through the bridges at either end of the pathway. The view of the church through the trees and bushes - it is all on your doorstep.

So next time you decide to take a stroll, try the footpath at the back of Harpers Court, stop, wait, and see what you might see. It is all around you - you just need to take the time to enjoy it.

Mrs Katie Stephens.

BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL 2018



First of all I would like to thank everyone who came along and supported this year Beer Fiesta weekend. We cannot do it without you.

The good news is that this year the Beer Festival made over £4000 for us and the local groups from all the stalls. This means that we have around £3000 to go to charities in the village and our main charity Corby Night Light.

The Fiesta theme proved a winner with all organisations joining in, fully, to bring a slice of Mexico and Brazil to Brigstock. We also had the weather Gods looking after us once again.

The film society kicked us off on Thursday night with a showing of The Mexican and Friday comedy night was another complete sell out with the best comedians to date!!!

The Fiesta beat ran throughout Saturday from the Brazilian drummers, Mariachi UK, our resident band Mothy and a Salsa evening to top off a great day.

The food and beer completed the theme with a great range of Tex Mex burgers and sausages and yet another brilliant beer and cider selection' Notably the Champion Beer came via our very own Luke Hillier Smith and the Weldon Brewery crew - a mojito based beer called "Senor Mojo". So well done to Weldon.

The committee are already busy planning 2019 so watch this space to find out what to expect next year.

Finally thanks to all our stall holders, exhibitors and last but not least the Brigstock Beer Festival Committee.



CHERRY ORCHARD BED AND BREAKFAST

The Cherry Orchard is a charming Bed & Breakfast offering a little bit of luxury in a relaxing setting. Their beautiful rooms can accommodate families and business people, with comfortable king size beds, spotlessly clean bathrooms, TV and Wifi.

After a refreshing night's sleep, go downstairs to a home cooked breakfast and a proper cup of coffee! They use locally sourced ingredients and offer freshly baked croissants with a continental breakfast option too.

The Goodsons look forward to welcoming you to The Cherry Orchard sometime soon!

Contact Mair Goodson on 07976 555275

BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

The dates for the Kurling Group meetings over the Winter will be December 5th, January 9th and 23rd, and February 6th and 20th, all weather permitting. Please note that the January dates are the second and fourth Wednesdays, rather than the normal first and third, as we didn't think anyone would want to play on January 2nd! As usual, we will meet in the Village Hall from 2 to 4 p.m., and it will cost you £2, including tea or coffee and biscuits, and we provide all the equipment you will need.

By the time you read this, we will be getting ready to decorate a tree for the Christmas Tree festival at St. Andrew's, and either looking forward to, or having been on, our annual trip to the ice rink at Beckworth's garden centre to have a go at the real game of curling, not the "new age" version we play here.

Please ring Judith Beeby on 373367 for more details, or just turn up

Brigstock Pre-school Playgroup

invite you to an Open Morning

Thursday 13th December— 10-11.30am.

Village Hall, Brigstock.



All welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

Spaces available for children aged 2-5 years.

Rated Good by Ofsted

It doesn't feel like we have been back at Playgroup for 7 weeks already and thinking about Christmas.

We were disappointed that only 2 parents attended the AGM. But this is the committee for this year Sarah Dema, Natalie Emery, Jayne Cunningham, Emma Mitchell and Liz Searle. If you want to join us come and talk to one of us. We would welcome another person at least.

If you know of anyone who could take on the role of voluntary treasurer, please contact us, as Natalie has more work-related commitments so feels she needs to step back. If we have no treasurer we may have to close as this is a requirement to run playgroup.

On a happier note the children are really enjoying the activities the staff have planned and hope the parents are as well. Although we have a small number of children this allows the staff to really work with the children. We would welcome more under fives so if you have a child between 2 and 5 please come and see us in the village hall every morning between 9.15am and 12.15pm.

We have been busy joining in village activities at the moment such as with School with their Remembrance display on the grass outside school, making poppies; have got a Christmas tree in the Church Festival; opening an Advent window at 55 Lyveden Road on December 3rd, as well as our own activities. Wreath night on Friday 7th (most tickets are now sold), Navitty on Tuesday 18th December and the party on 19th December before we break up for a well-earned rest over Christmas.

Brigstock Pre-school Play - Cont'd

Brigstock Pre- School Playgroup needs your help. Although we have been running for over 40 years we are short of children and funds. We only have 11 children at the moment, so if you have children aged 2-5, we have plenty of space in the village hall for them.

Also our safety surface out the back of the village hall needs some repairs. We need to raise about £5,000 quickly for safety reasons, and applying to outside funders takes time. If you could give a donation to help us out we would be really grateful. Any donations can be made to Brigstock Pre-School Playgroup and handed to me or Sarah during the morning sessions. Hoping you can help us.

Contact Playgroup on brigstock-playgroup@outlook.com, mobile 07708977714 during term times.

Many thanks

Elizabeth Searle Secretary



The Green Dragon at Brigstock, 1 Hall Hill, Brigstock NN14 3EZ t: (01536) 373870 e: info@greendragonbrigstock.co.uk w: www.greendragonbrigstock.co.uk

Fermyn Woods Country Park

We are well into autumn now with winter just round the corner. I have already seen winter migrants in the park in the form of Fieldfares and Redwings but they are much earlier than last year (The first Fieldfare seen this year was on the 4th October where as last year it was 9th November, the first flock of Redwings seen this year was 8th October where last year it was 22nd October) We are now undertaking our winter task of reducing and thinning trees around the park, including up in the Great Thicket for the rare Black Hairstreak butterflies but any tree work we do is beneficial to the fauna and flora found in the park. We are also doing the end of season cuts in certain places round the park of the grass/flowers and putting into grass piles for small mammals and snakes. The county dragonfly recorder has been monitoring round the park and has found the rare Willow Emerald Damselfly and evidence of it laying eggs. We have also had Froglife in who have improved the ditch leading into Reedy pond and have also improved Refuge and Long pond which where slowly being taken over by Reed Mace.

Our volunteers have been busy repairing the sand pit in the Toddler play area and picnic tables and benches round the park.

It is a brilliant time of year to come down to the park for a nice Autumn/Winter walk and see what you can find round the park and in the woods. Why not stop off in the Skylark Café afterwards for a tea or coffee and slice of homemade cake.

Carols in the Park Saturday 8th Dec.

5.45pm for 6.00pm start. £1 per person with all proceeds going to the Friends of Fermyn Woods. For further details call 0300 126 5933

Winter times for café and over Christmas

Café winter opening times

11am-3pm (week days)

10.30-4pm (Weekends)

The café will be closed from 2pm on 24th December until it reopens at 11am on 3rd January 2019

Hilary and Dan, The Rangers

Wild & Woody Forest School

Nature Tots

Join a parent group with a difference for tots aged 2-4 years, come and explore nature through the seasons. Take an Education Ranger led themed walk followed by a craft activity. The picture shows Tots planting bulbs in the new flower beds by the Education Shelter.



Sessions are held the 2nd Thursday of the month at the park during term time.

10am-11:30 am. £3.50 per child. Booking essential.

Tel 07703 160878 or 0300 126 5933

or email Fermyn@northamptonshire.gov.uk

For more details please contact jothompson@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Brigstock Lunch Club at The Green Dragon

Every Thursday from 12.30pm to 2pm for senior citizens

Why cook on Thursday when you can join our friendly group of ladies and gents for a two-course meal for just £7!!! Our hosts, The Green Dragon, set a menu of 3 mains and 3 puddings for members to choose from a week in advance.

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 (with prizes of course) 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.

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WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

By now groups in the village will have received letters asking if they could keep the war memorial site tidy in 2019. Thank you in advance for this.

Month	Organisation
January 2019	St Andrew Church
February 2019	Village Hall
March 2019	Parish Council
April 2019	Cricket Club
May 2019	Playgroup
June 2019	PFA
July 2019	Historical
August 2019	Knit and Natter
September 2019	Ladies Leisure
October 2019	Men's Club
November 2019	WI
December 2019	URC

I am sure you really admired the Knit and Natter Group's focus for Remembrance Day. Thank you to all the people in the village who helped in anyway to make that fantastic display.

Regards, Liz Searle

CHRISTMAS JOKES

- ◆ What happens to elves when they misbehave? Santa gives them the sack.
- ◆ Why didn't the skeleton go to the Christmas Party? He had no-body to go with.
- ◆ What is Santa's dogs name? Santa Paws

HO HO HO and Merry Christmas to you.

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Steven.rainbow@yahoo.co.uk



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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°fan/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. Simmer 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. Serve warm or cold, sliced into wedges, with a dollop of crème fraiche.