

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 18 - SPRING 2019



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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2019 AUTUMN - Published 31st August 2019

2019 WINTER - Published 23rd November 2019

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Front Cover Photo - Hall Hill in 1900, by C Hale.

PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

- 4 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 6 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 8 Film Night—Arcadia - Village Hall 7-30pm
- 9 Playgroup Fashion Show, Village Hall
- 12 WI, “The Pickled Village”, WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 16 Village Litter Picking, Village Hall, 10am
- 18 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 18 Ladies Leisure Group, Cinema Time, June Small Room, 1-30
- 20 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 21 BINGO, Harpers Court, 7-30pm
- 23 MUGA Opening, The Meadow, 2-pm
- 23 St Andrews Church, Race Night, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 27 Historical Society, “Shackleton”, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 30 Cricket Club, Golf Day

APRIL

- 1 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am,
- 6 St Andrews Church, Spring Fair, 10am
- 9 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 9 WI, “Lyveden—The Unfinished Dream”, WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 13 Cricket Club Clean Up, The Meadow.
- 13 URC Easter Coffee Morning June Small Room.
- 14 Playgroup, Easter Egg Hunt, Village Hall
- 15 Ladies Leisure Group, Easter Crafts, June Small Room, 1-30
- 15 Mens Group, 3 Cocks PH, 10-30am
- 17 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 24 Historical Society “Northants Suffragettes” Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 25 BINGO, Harpers Crt, 7-30pm
- 29 Mens Group, 3 cocks PH, 10-30am

MAY

- 1 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 13 Mens Group, 3 cocks PH, 10-30am
- 14 WI, “Resolution Evening”, WI Hall, 7-30pm
- 15 Kurling, Village Hall, 2pm
- 18 St Andrews Church, Silent Auction.— details to follow.
- 18 WI, “Ewe to You”, WI Hall, 10–3pm
- 18 Ladies Leisure Group, Cinema Time, June Small Room, 1-30
- 27 Mens Group, 3 cocks PH, 10-30am
- 30 BINGO, Harpers Court, 7-30pm

JUNE

- 15/16 URC Fathers Day Teas, June Small Room.

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.

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 summer

Thanks to all those who entered the Brigstocks Got Talent and those who came to support. We had a great evening with superb talent on show.

Thanks also to everyone who came to the Quiz Night and to Sally Wilks for preparing all the questions.

All the money raised will go to improvements to the hall.

The village hall now has a website :

www.brigstockvillagehall.co.uk

which will have all the latest information of whats on and 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



BINGO

Here are the dates for the next few months.

March 21st

April 25th

May 30th

New players welcome. We meet monthly in Harpers Court Lounge on a Thursday at 7.30pm. 50p entry to include tea. There is an optional raffle. After that you pay and play as few or as many games as you wish. A

cheap evening out with lots of fun and you may win some great prizes.

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.
- Used Batteries
Take to the CO-OP and their battery box.
- Textile recycling containers in the car parks of Co-op and Three Cocks
Shoes and clothes are collected and should be in plastic bags.
Three Cocks is for Planet Aid and Co- op is for Salvation Army.

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 SCHOOL PFA

Despite being barely past the start of 2019, we're now half way through the school year! The PFA has been asked to help fund an outdoor learning room. That's a room for learning which happens to be outdoors, as opposed to a room full of Ray Mears lookalikes advocating whittling and eating mushrooms, as far as we know... It's come about because the school has opened up a large amount of extra outdoor space behind the older school buildings and the opportunity to create some extra teaching space as well as expanding the outdoor area is too good an opportunity to miss. The teachers have outlined what they want, and so the PFA will get to work on the fundraising side!

Many of you will have heard about the Curry Night, held a couple of weeks ago. It's an event when the village cooks for each other, and in this case there were 14 very different curries contributed which fed just under 100 people. With a good mix of vegetarian, vegan, meat and fish there was a good choice and all agreed the standard was very high. It was also very successfully as a fund raiser, so a big thanks to those who donated raffle and auction prizes, the PFA team who pulled this together and especially the cooks.

We're looking at getting the ferrets back as the racing season gets into full furry swing. I understand they're currently in training and some favourites are delivering strong pre-season performances. The race night details will be released shortly. Make sure you come - it's hilarious!

The fete this year will be held at the school, and the date will be set so as not to clash with the Sound of Music. More details in the next Village Newsletter.

Thanks again for your support, and keep an eye on the lamposts and the modern version of the lampost - Facebook - for upcoming event details,

Richard Fincher, Brigstock Latham School PFA

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		
27/03/19	Shackleton "By Endurance we Conquer" <i>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.
24/04/19	The Northampton Suffragettes and Suffragists <i>John Buckell</i>	After 100 years of women gaining the right to vote, this talk is about those who took part in the struggle. Who were the suffragettes and suffragists, and what were the differences between them?
22/05/19	John, 2nd Duke of Montagu <i>Crispin Powell</i>	The archivist from Boughton House, Crispin Powell, tells the story of John, Duke of Montagu 1690-1749, General and Master of the Ordnance under the Duke of Marlborough and bearer of other numerous titles.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Alan Godson who was a great supporter of the Historical Society and who acted as chairman for some time. He was a familiar figure around the village and will be much missed.

BRIGSTOCK THEATRE GROUP ARE PRESENTING

"THE SOUND OF MUSIC" ON 5 AND 6TH JULY.

More information in the next edition or contact Peter Marsden Findlay at the Old Forge, High St.



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Brigstock United Reformed Church

The month of December is always so busy for many organisations as they prepare for Christmas, and we started the season with our annual, very popular, Christmas coffee morning which saw our church income boosted by over £600. Then it was time to organise our contribution to the Christmas tree festival at St Andrews and we decided to decorate our tree with symbols of charities we have supported over the past ten years or so. When we counted up, we were astounded to find we have donated to 19 charities which is an excellent record for a small church. Our latest donation, made as usual at our Carol Service, was to Brigstock Playgroup and totalled £135. At the Carol Service a new flower stand was presented to us by Barrie Tiney and dedicated to the memory of Maureen. This was bought with some of the money donated at Maureen's funeral two years ago.

The run-up to Christmas was, however, tinged with sadness for us as one of our longest serving members, Margaret Knight, died after a year in which her health deteriorated quite quickly. Her funeral at the end of December gave us the chance to remember how much she had done for the church in her 45 years as a member, being our organist, an Elder and taking on the treasurer's job at the Open Door as well as making countless cakes and pots of marmalade for our coffee mornings. We all miss her very much.

We have been looking ahead and planning events for this year. The fundraising we do is necessary to keep the chapel running but, as already mentioned, we donate to charities as well. We have already had another coffee morning in January which raised £275. So, here's a brief list of events already planned, make sure you add them to your diary or calendar! As always, there will be more details nearer the time, but please do contact us if you would like more information about any of them.

FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday, April 13th-Easter coffee morning with hot cross buns.

Saturday/Sunday June 15th/16th-Fathers Day teas, choice of savoury or cream tea.

Brigstock United Reformed Church, cont'd

Wheelchair for loan

We have been given a wheelchair in excellent condition and it is available for short-term loans; maybe a family emergency or visiting relatives or friends who would benefit from it. Just contact us on 373225 for further information.

Room for Hire

If you need a room for meetings-one-off or on a regular basis- or you want to arrange a small party, the June Small room might well be just what you are looking for. We have a fully-fitted kitchen, a small, enclosed garden area with seating, access and facilities for disabled people and there is easy parking on Hall Hill. Hire is £5 per hour. Contact Sheila on 373225 for de-

Ladies Leisure Group

By the time you read this, we will have had two meetings this year, a games afternoon and a talk about Guide Dogs for blind people. We do try to keep our programme as varied as possible and we have a good selection of meetings planned for the next few months. Why not have a look at the days already planned and if any of them interest you, come and join us in the June Small room, Mill Lane at 1.30pm. We meet for about two hours and always have tea and cake as well as time for plenty of chatting. Last October our cinema afternoon was so successful that we are going to repeat it in March, complete with snacks and ice creams. The title of the film will remain a mystery until the actual showing!

March 18th: Cinema time.

April 15th Easter crafts and competitions.

May 20th Mystery afternoon

June 17th Ascot!- the inaugural race of the Brigstock LLG Gold Cup plus cream teas; posh frocks and hats may be worn if desired.

More details from Sharon 373832 or Sheila 373225.

Brigstock Cricket Club 2018

Brigstock Cricket Club starts their second season in the Northamptonshire premier league with a home match against Desborough on Saturday 27th April 2019. Winter nets are booked at Oundle school for Saturday 2nd March, Sat 9th March, Sat 16th March, Sat 23rd March and Sat 6th April from 10.00-12.00. If anyone is interested in playing or knows someone who wants to get involved either on the playing side or socially then please make yourself known to any member of the cricket club .

We have a new committee in place this season and the intention is to make the most of the facilities we are lucky to have. So please keep an eye out on social media for forthcoming events including the youth registration/training and other social functions.

In the meantime, we are holding the annual BCC golf day at Oundle golf club on Saturday 30th March 2019, which is open to anyone and if you are interested in playing or entering a team of four then please email Peter Hedges (peterhedge@aol.com). The golf will last all day followed by an awards and a curry with the non-golfers back at the pavilion early evening. In order to get ready for the forthcoming season, we will be holding a "clean-up" day on Saturday 13th April starting at 10.00am, all are welcome.

Finally Sunday 14th July is the date for our family fun day and details will follow on social media nearer the time.

Simon Andrews

ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE:

Now is the time to start planting your allotment or vegetable plot. Early potatoes, cabbages, leeks, parsnips and peas can be sown in March. Delicate plants need to wait till after the treat of frost is gone in late May time.

If you would like an allotment to give you an opportunity to grow your own fresh vegetables, there are still some available on the Benefield Road site.

These are very reasonably priced and there are always friendly faces around to give advice, (whether wanted or not).

Interested, call chris Allen on 373059 to have a look around.

Brigstock Living Advent Calendar

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the 2018 Brigstock Living Advent Calendar!

This year surpassed the previous in terms of creativity and community. Each night a different idea and some real 'living' contributions.

The event started with frolicking snowmen at The Olde Three Cocks pub, created by the Knit and Natter group, closely followed by another regular participant, the Co-op with a "living Christmas card" and wonderful hand made papier mache creations by Carla.

The rest of the month was packed with nightly wonder- a nativity play on Lyveden Road, Llamas on Park Walk, and a fantastic celebration of 70 years of the NHS at the Doctor's Surgery. The Theatre Group produced a magnificent two performance contribution of Frozen on a home made stage at the back of the Old Forge.

We were delighted to welcome some new contributors- Sue Doolan's Three Ships (a personal favourite - am I allowed to say that?) and the very educational window in Latham Street, set in the Falklands, which in itself raised almost another £100 from the sale of the knitted penguins!

The event ended at a magical Christingle Service in the Parish Church - a gorgeous backlit scene of Children looking to the Star of Bethlehem.

If you did not see all the windows there is a record on the Brigstock Living Advent Facebook page and also Instagram Brigstock_living_advent.

The collection this year was for Corby Night Light and we raised a record breaking sum of £770 along with donations of food and dry goods to help keep the night shelter in Corby running. I visited the shelter in January (with the very generous Kerry Wills) and were welcomed by the residents and staff.

Thank you so much to everyone who created a window, Tracey Sharp of Nothing But Lovely for creating the map, Sarah Johnson for helping with write ups and of course, everyone who supported the nightly unveils.

I'm looking for help and ideas for 2019. As some of you know, I'm now retired and part time living in Norfolk, so need support and assistance if the event is to be repeated for Advent 2019. Once it's set up, it sort of runs itself but it is a nightly commitment through December. Just email me jane.jones3@btinternet.com or pop in and see me - 28 High Street.

Memories of a Brigstock War Veteran

Reginald William Vivian Shiells, known to everyone as Viv, served his country during the Second World War as an infantryman in the British Army. He fought in the campaign in North Africa and was part of the Allied Army's advance into Italy in 1944, where he was seriously wounded by a mortar bomb at Monte Cassino. As he lay wounded two medical orderlies approached carrying another soldier on their stretcher. They saw that this soldier had died so they put Viv on the stretcher instead and carried him to the field hospital. If they had not done this he probably would have died where he fell. From the field hospital he was shipped back to Liverpool and from there to Allam Hospital in West Bromwich and later to Kettering Hospital before returning home to Brigstock, where he spent the rest of his life. The following is an extract from the "Evening Telegraph" of October 29, 1997, which was part of a series of articles celebrating Kettering General Hospital's centenary year.

Angels help bring smiles to victims of war

Old soldier Reginald Shiells has vivid memories of Kettering General Hospital after being badly wounded in the Second World War.

Mr Shiells, now 85, spent a month in Buccleuch Ward after being injured by a mortar bomb in the assault on Monte Cassino in Italy in 1944. The former infantryman with the Queen's Royal Regiment suffered terrible wounds to both legs and left arm and still has shrapnel in his left hip.

Although he still walks with a stick, he has nothing but praise for the angels of mercy at KGH who looked after him after being brought back to England on a hospital ship.

"I spent some time in a hospital at West Bromwich before coming to Kettering to recuperate", said Mr Shiells of Bridge Street, Brigstock.

"There were only two or three wounded soldiers on the ward at any given time but we were treated very well. We even got an extra hot meal – a cooked supper – which made the other patients jealous but we would often share some of it out."

Mr Shiells remembers Matron Agnes Jackson's twice daily rounds and how the nurses spruced and tidied up the patients for her inspection. Night staff would also clean up the ward before going off duty.

Memories of a Brigstock War Veteran—cont'd

The day began at 5.30am when water bowls were brought round for the men to wash and shave.

"We usually had eggs for breakfast, which relatives brought in to be boiled and all the eggs were marked with the patient's name. We had dinner at midday and bread and jam for afternoon tea. The food was always brought in on a trolley and served by the nurses on the ward."

Mr Shiells said bedtime was at 8pm, which did not please some of the servicemen who were well enough to date off-duty nurses and sometimes had to sneak back to bed after lights out. "If Sister Hooper caught them there would be trouble", he laughed, "Once there was a Canadian serviceman who jumped into bed with all his clothes on. He thought he had got away with it until she spotted his boots sticking out of the bedclothes."

After the war Mr Shiells was the canteen manager at Tarmac in Geddington Road, Corby. His daughter Janice was a sister on the intensive care unit at Kettering General.

Viv died in the year 2000 at the age of 88. Janice still lives in the family cottage in Bridge Street. She has been retired for some time after spending many years caring for her patients in intensive care at KGH and is still very active in village life.



Brigstock Bellringers meet every Monday from 7 – 8pm. Learners from our last open evening are really getting into the swing of it and enjoying the challenge of learning a new skill and being part of a team activity.

Look out later in the year for our next open evening, when we will be looking to start the next set of new learners. Listening to village bells is a wonderful thing, let's keep the tradition going!

Thrapston Amateur Dramatic Society have entertained the Thrapston community with performances stretching back to 1913. Formerly known as The Corn Exchange Players, the faces and plays have changed much over the years, but their aim remains the same: to put on a good show and have fun doing it.

TADS take to the stage twice a year with their spring and autumn productions. They also offer 'Murder Evenings', which several WIs and charities have used as a means of fundraising.

TADS prides itself on its friendly atmosphere and always welcomes new, enthusiastic and dedicated members, whether you want to help backstage or tread the boards!

TADS' next production will be "Just Between Ourselves" by Alan Ayckbourn.

THRAPSTON AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY PRESENTS
JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES
A COMEDY BY ALAN AYCKBOURN

Wednesday 20th - Saturday 23rd March
7:30pm • Tickets £9 • Concessions £7 • Box Office: 07543 321219
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War Memorial

I am sure you will join me in thanking all the people who knitted the poppies that made the memorial look so good over the last couple of months of 2018. Thank you to Sally who made the laminated book about the servicemen who were named on the memorial for WW1. I know lots of people stopped, took photos and also sat and looked through the book.

Thank you to the groups who have tidied the area since the last publication. It is really looking well kept now.

Liz Searle

Litter Picking

On Thursday 7th February I went into school to launch the Litterpicking poster competition. The posters will be put around the village during half term. The event will take place on Saturday 16th March 10am-12noon. We know this is earlier than normal but we had to have a date that we could get the equipment from ENDC.

Meet again at the village hall to get your equipment and say where you are going to pick. Return the rubbish to the village Hall car park where it will be picked up during the following week.

If you are not available then but want to help, I have the Parish Council equipment which can be used anytime, just get in touch and tell me where you are picking so we don't repeat unless necessary.

Liz Searle

Northamptonshire Village Awards 2019,

The Parish Council has received the forms for entering Northamptonshire Village Awards 2019, formerly Best village competition. It is now being sponsored by CPRE Northamptonshire and will incorporate the Litter picking competition, so we need your support at the litter picking event or organise your own as will have to have a report to include in Awards write up. There will need to be a small group of people putting the application together so if you would like to be involved, email brigstockcouncil.aol.com.

Liz Searle

St Andrews Church

Here we are enjoying some brisk, crisp weather as we head towards spring and Easter with Christmas seeming to be long gone but I wanted to mention our Christmas tree festival and the church services that took place. For a whole week in December we engaged with many groups from the village to produce a superb Christmas Tree Festival that was so much better than we could have imagined. It was wonderful to work in partnership with so many groups and people. Over the week we had in excess of 170 visitors culminating in an All Age service with carols on the closing Saturday. Whilst this was not a fund raising event we did raise over £1,000, which will go towards keeping our beautiful church open. Many thanks to all those who participated, helped and visited. As always our two Christingles were really well attended. After the second Christingle service we unveiled our advent window, which depicted the wonder of children at seeing the 'guiding star'. We have worked hard all year to try and encourage the younger generation to join us in our services and celebrations and so the theme of our window seemed a fitting end to the Christian year.

Did you know we produce a weekly News Letter for the four churches in the benefice? We also have a brand new web site, which will continue to be developed over the coming weeks and months. You will be able to access our News Letter and lots of information on the four churches including details of regular services and upcoming Easter services. Please have a look and let us know if there is anything in particular you would like to see. The web address is <https://www.harpersbrookanglicans.org.uk>

****Please note that services on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at St Andrews now start at 9.15 a.m.****



At the risk of sounding like a cracked record! - Sadly the age-old problem of dogs fouling the grass verges along the path and the consecrated ground outside the church continues. Please clean up after your dog and use the bin that is by the paddock or take it home. The last thing we want to be doing before a wedding or funeral is pick up dog poo

St Andrews Church—cont'd

Fundraising.

Race Night – We are holding a race night in the village hall on Saturday 23rd March. Gates open at 7.30 p.m. first race at 8 p.m. There will be a bar, tickets are £7.50 and include supper. Tickets are on sale now and can be obtained from Carl Hector 373410, 16 Sandlands Avenue, Allison Porter 07933 804432, 5 Stable Hill or Barbara Platt 01536 373240 4 Bridge Street.



Future events include:

Spring Fair - Saturday 6th April 10.00 a.m –12 noon in church –. There will be stalls selling cakes, books, plants and hand made crafts, a tombola and raffle. Refreshments will also be available.

Silent Auction – Saturday 18th May , details to be confirmed, look out for posters.

From Captain Alan and Revd. Heather Lowe:

The months of March and April are always welcome ones as we see again the promise of new life as things begin to bud all around us. The natural world seems united in its determination to fill the world with colour again! Speaking as ones who have had a difficult Autumn and Winter following a serious accident (to Alan) Spring is even more welcome in 2019.

As this time of year brings new hope, it always strikes us how fitting it is that we celebrate the central events on which the Christian faith is founded, what we call Easter. With these things at the forefront of our minds its as though we can have body and soul refreshed. Refreshed by the work of the creator and the example of Christ.

As we write this, Brexit is still hogging the news as we seem to be going around in circles. Perhaps by the time this is read by yourselves things may have been sorted, who can tell? One thing however is certain, whatever our personal opinions, and that's the damage to our unity as a nation. It's with this in mind that the Easter message speaks ever more loudly to us all.

St Andrews Church—cont'd

The love and support of God is not for a particular, like-minded group, but for all. What happened on that first (Good) Friday advertised forever that no one is beyond Gods forgiveness when things go wrong. Alongside this what happened on that (Easter) Sunday shouted to the world that there is always hope even in difficulties. We can understand more than ever how that message of love, forgiveness and hope ought to unite us all in being as relevant today as it ever has been.



So, as you feel your spirits lifted at the sight of the daffodils everywhere; As you feel good at the sight of fresh life emerging; as your seeds begin to sprout; remember that there is an eternal promise to go with it all. The final earthly words of Christ following the first Easter events

'I am with you always, right to the end of time itself!'

We wish everyone a very Happy Spring and Easter and you are always welcome at St Andrews at any time of the year!

All the best Captain Alan and Revd. Heather Lowe

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BIRTHS AND DEATHS

It has been suggested that we could record Births and Deaths in the Newsletter each quarter to keep people informed.

We are not sure how we could get correct up to date information.

Have you any thoughts on this, or know how to find this out?

Let us know your views, Chris Allen— Editor.

BRIGSTOCK

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL		
Mrs Sally Wilks	Chair	01536 373428
Mr William Millen	Vice Chair	01536 373028
Mr Nigel Searle	Clerk	01536 373672
Mrs Dorothy Solesbury	Councillor	01536 373574
Mrs Margaret Smith	Councillor	01536 373209
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Ms Emma Bierne	Councillor	
Mrs Terry Towns	Councillor	01536 373861
Mr Ken Motion	Chair Planning	01536 373598
Ms Julie Lemmy	Councillor	

Thanks again to all of you who organised and took part in the Advent Calendar Windows and other festivities over Christmas. We certainly get into the Christmas spirit in this village!

Local Elections

We have been informed that the local elections scheduled for this year have now been postponed until at least 2020 - a knock-on effect of the local government reorganisation. If you were thinking of standing for election as a parish councillor you will have to wait another year, unless of course we have any unexpected vacancies.

Grass Cutting

Once again we have decided to spend more on grass cutting around the village over the coming year, but we do appreciate the fact that many of you keep the grass areas in front of your properties well mown and weed free. It makes such a difference.

Dog poo is still a problem, particularly in Church Walk. Please clean up after your pooch. If you are spotted allowing your dog to foul the grass or path, the Parish Council will take action.

PARISH COUNCIL

TRANSPORT SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to fill in and return the transport survey which is attached to the centre of this magazine to one of the addresses listed on the sheet. If you want to complete it online, you will find it on the parish council website - www.brigstockcouncil.org.uk.

We know that many of you have difficulty getting to where you need to go, and the more of you that fill the survey in, the more complete a picture we shall have of your transport needs.

MUGA News (Multi Use Games Area) All Systems Go

The installation of the MUGA has gone to plan and is now ready for use.

Thanks to WREN's FCC Community Action Fund for the generous grant and to Wicksteed Ltd the contractors, the job has been completed with minimum difficulty. Thanks also to members of the cricket club and Nigel Searle for opening the site every day and being available for day to day queries from the contractors.

Play can now commence and can be used by all.

Please note there will be an official opening of the MUGA on March 23rd at 2.00pm. by Ann Dickson.

Do please come and celebrate our great new facility for the whole village of all ages to enjoy.

Margaret Smith, Parish Councillor

The Meadow Bridge

The gate between the village hall car park and the Meadow will be locked from Saturday 9th March until Saturday 13th April to allow the grass to re-grow near the bridge. Please use the steps or the gate at the Meadow entrance.

Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan

East Northamptonshire Council arranged a referendum which was held on Thursday 6 December 2018. Everyone on the electoral register in Brigstock Parish was entitled to vote.

The question posed at the Referendum was “Do you want East Northamptonshire District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Brigstock Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

378 votes (88.9%) were cast in favour of YES and 47 votes (11.1%) cast in favour of NO. This was from an Electorate of 1095, with 425 Ballot Papers were issued which was a turnout of 38.8 %.

The Plan was therefore accepted by the Parishioners of Brigstock.

The Plan was “made” (adopted) by East Northamptonshire Planning Policy Committee on 21st January 2019.

It will form part of the statutory Development Plan for the area. East Northamptonshire Council will continue to be responsible for determining most planning applications, but in Brigstock parish the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, together with policies from the adopted Local Plan (consisting of the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy 2011-2031, adopted July 2016 and remaining policies from the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan, adopted July 2011) and National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), will be the basis for those decisions.

This should restrict building in the near future to the 2 sites identified in the Plan and to infill sites within the village boundary.

Thank you to all those who voted in the referendum. This was the culmination for 3 years work and many consultations with residents of Brigstock. Hopefully this will ensure that we can now control future development as detailed in our plan.

If you want any further information, please contact Nigel Searle 373672 or Chris Allen 373059 or visit the parish council website where all the Plan information is stored.



Brigstock Film Night 2018/19 Season

Showing at Brigstock Village Hall, for one night only!



Friday, 8th March 2018 at 7.30pm

'Arcadia' was nominated by the Guardian as one of the top ten documentaries of 2018.

A provocative, poetic new film exploring our relationship with the land. Directed by BAFTA winning director, Paul Wright, the film combines over 100 years of archive film with a grand, expressive new score by Adrian Utley of Portishead and Will Gregory of Goldfrapp.

Including ...

Introduction and Q & A with Crossover Labs, producers of Arcadia -

Mark Atkin and Tom Millen

Featuring ...

Introductory short by Northamptonshire Archive Film Trust

Tickets - £5 on the door

Refreshments and Hearing Loop Available

Enquiries – Alison Millen 01536 373028



BRIGSTOCK LATHAM'S
SCHOOL

Brigstock Latham's Church of England Primary School

We have been so busy and creative at our Primary School! In the run-up to Christmas we enjoyed so many exciting events and we want to thank everyone in our school and village community who supported us. We shared a wonderful tea party with the whole village to mark the end of our 'Remembering' unit. The evening ended with the opening of our Advent Window- a window of memories that the whole village enjoyed sharing with us. We want to thank the amazing art club for creating such a beautiful window, and we want to thank every child in our school who contributed a memory. We also enjoyed creating decorations for our tree in the Christmas Tree Festival, and we produced some wonderful plays and performances for everyone to enjoy.

This term there have already been some memorable experiences for our children. At the end of January, our Key Stage 2 children went to Birmingham to perform in the 'Young Voices' concert. They had spent many weeks practising their songs, and we were all impressed with their commitment and enthusiasm. There were many highlights, and the staff and parents particularly enjoyed having Tony Hadley performing with us. He had written a song especially for the concert, as well as performing some old favourites. In all, it was a great evening for everyone, and we have all enjoyed sharing our own favourite memories with each other.

We have continued to enjoy a number of trips and extra-curricular experiences. Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children had a trip to the theatre to see 'The Beauty and the Beast' on stage, and our Year 5 and 6 children have had a very interesting trip to Peterborough Cathedral, with an exciting trip to the Houses of Parliament in London coming up at the end of February. Our Year 4 children have travelled by train to Derbyshire for three days of outdoor activity (cold, but great fun!) and our Year 3 will be enjoying their residential next term. Our children are so fortunate to have such a wide range of extra experiences outside the classroom.

Brigstock Latham's Primary School—cont'd

We have continued to work hard in our classes, and to work with such creativity and commitment. We are currently enjoying creative units of work on Space, Romans and Water-and our classrooms have many useful and beautiful displays that celebrate the wonderful work of our children.

There are many events to look forward to in the coming weeks. 'Red Nose Day' will be planned by our School Council, and we hope to raise money for charity whilst having lots of fun. 'World Book Day' on March 7th will raise the profile of the importance of reading, and we will all enjoy dressing up as favourite book characters and sharing our favourite stories...and a book breakfast, of course! We also have a special week at school dedicated to Mental Health and Well-being, and we will also be doing lots of activities linked to British Science Week. As we said at the beginning, we are a very busy Primary School!

As we approach Easter, we will continue with all the traditional events that we value so highly. We will be enjoying pancake racing, egg rolling and Easter bonnets as well as a quiet service in the church to end the term.

Sandy Ettridge and Victoria Bull

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 . 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 4th March 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

With Christmas and New Year now behind us it is time to look forward to Spring and the very busy programme already planned for our WI.

Our Murder Mystery evening proved again to be a great success. However please don't call on any of the teams if you should need help with any super sleuthing as none of us were able to identify the Murderer! Many thanks to members of Thrapston Amateur Dramatic Society for making it such an enjoyable evening.

We had a visit from local author Jane Isaac at our January meeting. She shared with us her story of how she became a popular crime writer who has her books published all over the world. It was a fascinating evening and her books are highly recommended.

Brigstock WI wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2019.

Jill Pettigrew, Brigstock WI What's on

Tuesday 12th March 2019

Brigstock WI Meeting at 7.30 pm, WI Hall. Camille McLean presents The Pickled Village, Bulwick.

Competition: A sample of homemade jam or preserves.

Tuesday 9th April 2019

Brigstock WI Meeting at 7.30 pm, WI Hall. Susan Lees – Lyveden the Unfinished Dream.

Competition: Wildflower arrangement in a tankard /goblet.

Tuesday 14th May 2019

Brigstock WI Resolutions Evening at the WI Hall 7.30pm.

Looking Ahead:

1. EWE TO YOU- A DEMONSTRATION OF THE VARIOUS PROCESSES FROM RAW FLEECE THROUGH TO CRAFTS

Saturday 18th May – free entry At WI Hall, Park Walk, Brigstock 10am to 3pm, Refreshments served throughout the day

BRIGSTOCK WI—cont'd

We are looking for people that would be willing to demonstrate their wool skills, such as SPINNING, WEAVING, KNITTING, CROCHET or FELTING (wet or dry)

We are hoping people will come along and have a go at the various types of processes used.

If you would be willing to demonstrate a wool craft please call 01536 373987 for more details.

2. The Alternative Horticultural Show No.2 on Saturday 7th September 2019.

Get those crafty fingers working, those vegetables growing and your gardens looking lovely for the "best garden" category which will be judged week commencing 8th July.

Open to Brigstock, Sudborough, Lowick, Stanion and Little Stanion as well as those crafty people working in Brigstock!

AGAINST THE GRAIN

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Brigstock Lunch Club

Due to Lee (Chef & Manager) leaving to take up his post in Old, the lunch club will not meet at the Green Dragon after 21st February until a new Chef has been appointed. At present we do not know how we will be able to continue but we are looking at various options. Anyone interested in joining this friendly group can call the number below and leave your name and telephone number and you will be notified of any new arrangements. Notifications will also be announced on FaceBook. Existing members will be notified personally.

The lunch club wish Lee and Chris well in their new position. The group is run by Jim Clark and Mary McDonald, in association with Age UK, Northamptonshire.

If you are interested in more information our friendly group or have any thoughts on how we can continue, please contact Jim on 373717.

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

FOR FRESH TASTY FISH AND CHIPS IN BRIGSTOCK

VISIT THE FISH AND CHIP VAN
EVERY TUESDAY

4-30PM TO 7 PM

ON SUDBOROUGH ROAD, BRIGSTOCK

Knit and Natter Club

Well, what a year 2018 was for our Knit and Natter club – poppies coming out of our ears, Advent window, Christmas tree festival gingerbread men and to complete the year yarn bombing in the village square and postbox displays. Now that Christmas and New Year is behind us and spring is just around the corner and our little fingers have had a well deserved rest, the needles and wool are out again raring to go for new projects.

Again we thank everyone who was involved in the Poppy Display, the knitters, the crocheters, the sewers and the gents who helped put the display up and take back down again. The Royal British Legion has presented Brigstock with a certificate, which is displayed in the Village Hall. **The final total collected from Brigstock is £1,634.20**, which includes poppy sponsor tickets, Brigstock Primary school, URC coffee morning, collection boxes from the Co-op, Chapel and Olde Three Cocks.

If you want to learn to knit, or already knit and want to join our friendly group, we meet every Wednesday at The Olde Three Cocks from 10am to 12 noon. Cost is only £2 for the use of the pub, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Glenda Stephen

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GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE

The Olde Three Cocks PH

14 High Street, Brigstock, Northamptonshire, NN14 3HA

Tel: 01536 373476

Coming up at the Olde Three Cocks:

Live Music – Robert Parry. Sat 27th April 2019

Pie Tuesday's – A choice of homemade pies and a Pint (including soft drinks) for only £10. *Pie comes with Mash and Seasonal Veg. Only available Tuesday evening

Pizza Wednesday's – Choose between a 12" Margarita or Pepperoni Pizza with a drink for only £10. Available to takeaway as well. Only available Wednesday evening

Steak Thursday's – Steak and a pint or glass of wine for £15. A choice of either Rump, Ribeye or Sirloin served with chips, peas, tomatoes and onion rings. Only available Thursday evening

Quiz Night (2nd Wednesday of every month) – £1 entry with buffet included. Why not give your hand a try at the quiz where everyone is in with a chance of winning something and not just the best team. Superbly hosted by Chris, the quiz starts at 8:30pm on the 2nd second Wednesday of every month.

Restaurant Opening Hours

	Day	Evening
Monday	Closed	Closed
Tues-Sat	12 - 2:30pm	6 - 8:30pm
Sunday (Carvery)	12 - 3pm	Closed



The loss of rural bus services is ongoing and accelerating. Taxis are expensive and get booked up. How can you get to medical appointments, go shopping or visit friends and family?

Volunteer Action runs a Community Car Scheme. We drive older people and those with disabilities and chronic illnesses. We charge a minimum of £3 per drive or 40p per mile. Brigstock to Kettering General Hospital costs £8.80 and to Thrapston the cost is £5.20. More reliable than the (non-existent) bus!

Just call us on 01832 275433 and we'll register you for our service – it's free to join. We're open Monday through Friday from 09:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

We always need more drivers, so, if you've got a car and a few hours to spare we'd love to hear from you. We also offer a Befriending Scheme. If you'd like a friendly visitor or you want to be a befriender, please call. Finally, there's our Referral Service: Need pointing in the right direction to get help? We'll point!

We look forward to hearing from you.

BLETSOES

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BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL 2018



SEPTEMBER 20TH AND 21ST SEPTEMBER

Plans are now underway to deliver this years Beer Festival which will take place on the 20th and 21st of September.

This years theme will be Brigstock Beer Festival "Goes West" and will be based around an association with anything from the USA.

So be ready for anything from Country Music, Rock N Roll, Cheer Leaders, Buckin Bronco's and much more.

We will once again host a comedy night on the Friday followed by a gala day on the Saturday when we hope to finish off with a everyone coming along to a free Line Dance and band on Saturday night.

Also we would like the village groups to join us on the Saturday afternoon Fun Day with your stalls as a chance to raise funds for yourselves. We would like your stalls to have an American theme to support us.

This years main charity will be the Northants Air Ambulance.

if anybody has suitable ideas and things they would like to see please let us know

www.brigstockbeerfestival.com and on Facebook

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



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

We realised at one of our January meetings that the group has been going for 10 years now – as proved by the label on the tube the first target was delivered in. Very quickly it was decided that we would need a second set of stones and target, and they arrived in March 2009. Most of us who have been coming all that time are no better at the game now than when we started, but it was never intended to be played seriously. Our annual trip to the ice rink at Beckworths Emporium in December went very smoothly, and we were left to organise ourselves once we had managed to reassure a member of staff that we had all played on ice before and knew what we were doing, or at least what we should be doing!

Dates for kurling at the Village Hall this Spring will be: 6th and 20th March, 3rd and 17th April, and 1st and 15th May, from 2-4 p.m. as usual, all equipment and refreshments provided, and included in the £2 cost. There's no need to book, just turn up if you would like to try it out, or ring Judith Beeby on 373367 for more information.

Fermyn Woods Country Park

I can't believe we are already in the third month of 2019, so far it has been a relatively mild winter with the odd cold snap here and there. I noticed the snowdrops by the café gate where out early January compared to 2018 when they were out at the end of the month. Here at the park we attempt to survey what is seen around the park so we can get a picture of what is here and when, another name for this is phenology which is the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events and how these are influenced by the seasons, weather and climate change. The Woodland Trust have a website called nature's calendar where you can do this for yourselves and have a go at some citizen science.

Whilst out in the Great Thicket we managed to see a Woodcock, which is a shy wading bird that is very well camouflaged and tends to sit still in the undergrowth instead of flying away. But on this occasion this one decided to fly and we got a nice look at this beautiful rare bird, unfortunately they are on the RSPB's red list due to a number of factors which includes habitat loss. They are resident to the UK but in the autumn the numbers increase with birds coming in from Finland and Russia to spend the winter here as it is warmer.

The Carols in the park was well attended again despite the down pours we had just before the event. We would like to thank the friends group for helping to set up and do refreshments to Reverend Heather Lowe for leading the Carol service and for the people who braved the weather to have a walk round the park whilst having a sing song.

Volunteers from the Butterfly Conservation Trust have been out a couple of times over the last two months and have cleared the bank behind Reedy pond and the bank at North valley of Hawthorn and blackthorn which was turning valuable grassland for butterflies into woodland.

With help from our park volunteers we have cleared some more areas in the refuge of trees which are starting to crowd each other out and prevent light from getting to the ground. We have also been doing our annual thinning of trees in the Great Thicket to create more habitat for the rare Black Hairstreak butterfly.

Fermyn Woods Country Park - cont'd

Forthcoming events

From Monday 4th March the café will be going back to its summer opening times which is 10:30am – 4:45pm every day.

Feb half term until 31st March. Frog quiz. Self-led quiz about spring time in the Country Park £2 Inc prize.

Easter trail 6th April- 23rd April. Find the wooden Easter Eggs hidden around the park, includes prize.

Easter Monday Friday 22nd h April. 12noon-3pm. Chicken chucking and Easter Egg Trail.

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 Pre-school Playgroup

In the last newsletter I seemed to be spreading doom around, well I can definitely say we are alive and kicking and will continue to provide 15 hours of childcare as long as we can.



The staff have been marvellous and sorted out their hours so we have not had to make anyone redundant and can still offer activities to suit all children. We have a new treasurer Angela who is starting to get to know us well.

Our Christmas exploits were a mixed group with the wreath night being attended by over 80 people who soon put their efforts up on their doors. Next year's has been booked for Saturday 30th November so put in your diary as change of night. The Advent Opening was well attended but afterwards the lights were removed by someone and the wind blew our pictures away which was a shame so we will have to have a rethink for next year. The Nativity at Playgroup was at 9.30am which was a new time for us but it worked and School reception and older siblings were able to join us. It was lovely to see the children who had gone on to school and how grown up they were.

We have a couple of fundraisers for this term so please come along and support us or donate raffle prizes. Look out for posters for more details

Saturday 9th March at 7.30pm

Fashion Show in Village Hall in aid of Brigstock Playgroup

"Rock Those Frocks" of Towcester with local models.

Selling clothes, jewellery and accessories. (sizes 6-18 and suitable for 25-90s according to Jackie)

£5.00 entrance. Tickets available from playgroup, Sarah Dema and Emma Mitchell. Tel: 01536 373197 during playgroup hours

Sunday 14th April afternoon

Easter Egg Hunt in aid of Brigstock Playgroup. Activities in village hall and Hunt on the meadow. More details from playgroup, Sarah Dema and Emma Mitchell. Tel: 01536 373197 during playgroup hours.

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

Hope to see you all at one of the activities, Liz Searle, Secretary.

QUICK JOKE SECTION

Never trust someone with graph paper — They are always plotting something

My neighbour knocked on my door at 2am this morning and said "I can't sleep". "Well it's your lucky day," I said, "I've got party going on in here, come in."

Why did the chicken go to the séance? To get to the other side.

A policeman came to my house and asked where I was between 3 and 5. I told them preschool.

I just burned 2,000 calories. That's the last time I leave brownies in the oven while I nap.

I can't believe I forgot to go to the gym today. That's five years in a row now.

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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.

Regards, Liz Searle.

Month	Organisation
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

SUNNYSIDERS CLUB

Sunnysiders is for men and women over 60. We meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons in the lounge at Harpers Court, Bristock from 2p.m. until 4p.m. when some form of entertainment is pre-arranged. Once a month we have a fish and chip lunch. We are having a speaker in March who will be telling us something else about Brigstock that we probably don't know already. In April we have Countdown Clothing who bring a selection of underwear (no thongs!) and clothing for us to purchase.

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 try and get out for a meal once or twice through the year.

For more information please telephone Maureen on 01536 373383.

WI RECIPE PAGE

ARROZ CON POLLO

Arroz con pollo is an easy, comforting ONE pot meal that comes together in less than 75 minutes. This classic Spanish and Latin American dish is made with rice, chicken, onions, and spices.

Ingredients:

- 6 slices of streaky bacon cut into small pieces
- 1.5 tablespoons of oil
- leftover chicken chunks
- 1 onion
- ½ can of tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon of paprika
- 1 teaspoon of turmeric
- ¼ teaspoon of salt
- ½ pint of vegetable stock
- 3oz of frozen peas
- 4oz of long grain rice

Method:

- Heat the oil and fry the bacon pieces
- Pre-heat the oven to Gas 4 (350 F or 180 C)
- Fry the onion until soft
- Add the ½ can of tomatoes and juice, paprika, turmeric and water
- Bring to the boil
- Add the chicken, rice, peas and bacon

Cover and cook for 1 hour 10 mins.