

# BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 27 – AUTUMN 2021



## 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](mailto:chrisallen043@gmail.com) or sent to 9 Woodyard Close, Brigstock, NN14 3LZ

2021 WINTER Published 27th November copy by 13th November

2022 SPRING Published 26th February 2022

2022 SUMMER Published 3 June 2022

### CONTACT DETAILS FOR LOCAL GROUPS

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS	<a href="mailto:rosybbriggs@btinternet.com">rosybbriggs@btinternet.com</a>	373579
BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL SECRETARY		01536 373059
BRIGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL (CLERK)		01536 373672
BRIGSTOCK CRICKET CLUB		01536 373478
BRIGSTOCK PFA		01536 373353
BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY		01536 373428
BRIGSTOCK WI		01536 373672 (373987)
BRIGSTOCK FILM NIGHTS		01536 373028
BRIGSTOCK URC		01536 373225
BRIGSTOCK ST ANDREWS		01536 373410
BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL		01536 373059
BRIGSTOCK SUNNYSIDERS		01536 373383
BRIGSTOCK KURLING		01536 373367.
HARPERS COURT BINGO. Eileen Coles.		01536 373168

**Front Cover Photo - Lyveden New Bield**

See article inside

**PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - September

- 1 Curling. Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 4 Village Hall Tea and Cakes 2—4 pm. Open to all.
- 6 Scrabble, June Small Room URC, 10.30 **and also on 20th**
- 11 Ride and Stride - all the churches.
- 13 Mens Club June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 14 WI meeting, WI Hall, 7.30pm, "Cransley Hospice"
- 15 Curling. Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 17 Beer Festival Comedy Night
- 18 Beer Festival All day entertainment from 1pm, Village Hall
- 18 Horticultural Show, The Meadow, from 1pm
- 20 Ladies Leisure Group, June Small Room, 1-30pm
- 22 Historical Society, Village Hall, "That Woman" 7-30
- 27 Mens Club June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 28 WI AGM, WI Hall, 7.30pm

### October

- 1 Film Night Village Hall 7-45pm "Jojo Rabbit"
- 3 Harvest Home, Village Hall, 11.30
- 4 Scrabble, June Small Room URC, 10.30 **Also on 18th**
- 5 Sunnysiders
- 6 Curling. Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 10 Community Land Space meeting, St Andrews, 4pm
- 11 Mens Club June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 15 Barn Dance - URC at the Village Hall
- 16 Car Boot Sale, Meadow for St Andrews Church
- 20 Curling. Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 24 Guy in the Garden
- 25 Mens Club June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 26 Historical Society, Village Hall, "True Romanies"

### November

- 1 Scrabble, June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 2 Sunnysiders
- 3 Curling. Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 5 Film Night Village Hall 7-45pm
- 7 Bonfire Night from 6pm, The Meadow
- 8 Mens Club June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 12 Carl Hector's Brigstock history, Village Hall 7pm
- 15 Scrabble, June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 17 Curling. Village Hall, 2-4pm
- 22 Mens Club June Small Room URC, 10.30
- 26 Country Park Quiz Night, Village Hall
- 27 Craft stalls, Village Hall, Knit and Natter

## BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

### REBUILD UPDATE;

Work has been continuing apace during the summer months following the repair work.

The rear area which used to be the Play-group area has now been resurfaced with paviours and a timber shelter erected. The hedge has been lowered to let in more light, but still gives a good private feeling. There will soon be picnic benches there as well. This area can be used by those booking the hall. We also have better disabled access to the hall and patio with new slopes between the different levels. This work has been possible due to a grant from FCC Community Action Fund



### FLOOD PROTECTION

We now have flood boards for all the doors to the building. The frames are fixed permanently around the doors and the plastic boards can be rapidly fixed in place if we get flood warnings or we know there is likely to be heavy rain.

We also have covers for the air bricks and the gas heater vents to prevent ingress of water from these places.

This work was funded by grants for the Lottery Fund, The Countryside Trust and Market Harborough Building Society, to whom we are really grateful.

Hopefully these should prevent water ingress into the building but does depend on structural integrity below ground level which we cannot check. At least we are much better prepared for any future flood risk now.



## VILLAGE HALL TEA AND CAKES FOR ALL

To celebrate the completion and reopening of the hall, we would like to invite you all for tea and cakes on Saturday 4th September from 2 to 4pm.

Please come along to see our refurbished hall and look at the possibilities for the future.

Free entry, and raffle available

### THE VILLAGE HALL USERS:

The Hall has some regular classes now being held. Below are some details of the groups that are available.

First Monday of month 10-3pm **CRAFTERS**— Join our adult only craft Group, For crafters of all ability and any craft. Aimed at those who want to create for their own enjoyment or for a little extra pocket money. Why not come along, meet up, and craft. Share your tips or learn new tricks relax and socialize and make new friends. *Commencing 6th September 2021, Cost is £5.00 per Adult* . Contact Tracey for further information 07887 793839 .

Every Monday, **Yoga** 7.15-8.45 Both beginners and seasoned yogis are welcome to join us for yoga. If you'd like to work on your flexibility and strength, join us in stretching, breathing and relaxation, please come along with your mat and water, £8 per session, drop-ins welcome. Kim Ward

#### Tuesday

**10-12 Singing, Dancing and Fun** for 0—4 year olds.

Musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com . Booking necessary.

**5-9pm Love to dance? Brigstock dance classes** held on Tuesday evenings at Brigstock Village Hall, currently have spaces available for new pupils.

Ballet & Tap classes for all ages and experience from 3 to 103. Progression via examinations with the NATD. For further information please contact Miss Dena [dena.stuart@sky.com](mailto:dena.stuart@sky.com) mobile 07855503470.

## THE VILLAGE HALL USERS: cont'd

Wednesday

9.30 -10.30 Pilates - Feel Good Pilates with Jane....helping you feel better, look better, move better [jane.fletcher001@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.fletcher001@btinternet.com)

PILATES at 5.30-6.20pm. Pilates is a great form of exercise for all abilities and aims to strengthen, improve flexibility and relax the mind. Everyone welcome. Please contact Hayley on 07794974542

7-9pm Dance [neil.paris@deeproostalltrees.org](mailto:neil.paris@deeproostalltrees.org)

Thursday

10.30-12.30 Sing and sign There will be 2 classes - Sing and Sign Babes (for babies from birth to 6 months) and Stage 1 (for babies from 6 to 16 months).

Sing and Sign is Britain's original, longest running, and best loved baby signing programme offering a unique combination of music and baby signing which stimulates a baby's language development. There will be 2 classes available depending on the age of your baby. [sarahsilsby@singandsign.co.uk](mailto:sarahsilsby@singandsign.co.uk)

2-3pm JANET'S MOVEMENT TO MUSIC Held every Thursday at 2pm in the Village hall, 40 minutes moving to music. Contact Janet Oldham on 07931 712056

### BOOKING THE VILLAGE HALL

We are now fully open and operational following our refit and Covid.

Perhaps you would like to hire the hall for a future event or new classes. We have spare times available now, so give Rosie a call to see what we can offer you.

Lots of opportunities available.

# Brigstock Beer Festival 2021



Preparations for Brigstock's 16th Beer Festival (BBF) on the 17 & 18th September 2021 are progressing really well. The comedy night in the village hall on the Friday evening, as fore-warned, has already sold-out.

On the Saturday the festival will commence at 1pm in the village hall and neighbouring meadow. The entertainment will include live bands, fair-ground rides, zorbs, bouncy castle, model aeroplanes and stalls.

In addition there will obviously be the usual fine array of beer and cider, as well as a gin bar and vodka cocktails from our local vodka distillery in Weldon. Non-alcoholic beverages and a big BBQ will also be available to make sure that everyone can stay suitably refreshed.

We have a fantastic rockabilly band HOT ROD 55 playing in the evening and no ticket is required so if you missed Friday why not make a night of it on Saturday.

This year we are aiming to go cashless where possible, This makes it easier for all users, but we will still be taking cash where necessary.

The Jordan's Weeones with Jane Steward will be running a Horticultural Show with a variety of classes in a marquee on the Meadow,. So if you have grown any perfectly-formed produce or conversely some large and/or oddly shaped vegetables, please make sure you get these entered. See the advert elsewhere in the Newsletter.

All money raised form the event goes back to local charities. This year the main charity that we are supporting is the local Riding for the Disabled who urgently need funds to continue. They will be present on the day, so go talk and see how you could help them.

Helping run the event is a lot of fun, so if anybody would like to become involved please contact Justin Mumford on (07977) 560198. If you haven't already got a ticket for the comedy night, then volunteering to help over the week-end might be a solution.

Yours

Justin Mumford, Chairman

The poster is yellow with a blue circular graphic containing the text 'BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL' and an illustration of a dog with sunglasses holding a beer. A red stamp says '16th'. To the right, text reads 'It's Back! Friday 17th and Saturday 18th September Village Hall & Meadow Friday Night Comedy 7:30pm - late'. A red stamp says 'SOLD OUT!'. Below, it lists 'Great Selection of Local Beers & Ciders', 'Cashless Bar' (with Mastercard and Visa logos), and 'Supporting Local Charities' (with RDA logo). The 'Family Fun Day' section for Saturday 1pm-11pm lists: Live Music Acts, Sat Night with Hot Rod 55!, Street Performers, Fairground Rides, Stalls, Gin Bar & Vodka Tasting, BBQ, and Flower and Produce Show. It ends with 'Free Admission!' and social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

**BRIGSTOCK**  
16<sup>th</sup>  
**BEER FESTIVAL**

**It's Back!**  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>  
September  
Village Hall & Meadow

**Friday Night Comedy**  
7:30pm - late

**SOLD OUT!**

• Live Music Acts  
• Complete  
• Road

**Great Selection of Local Beers & Ciders**

**Cashless Bar**

Supporting Local Charities  
RDA

**Family Fun Day**  
Saturday 1pm - 11pm

- Live Music Acts
- Sat Night with Hot Rod 55!
- Street Performers
- Fairground Rides
- Stalls
- Gin Bar & Vodka Tasting
- BBQ
- Flower and Produce Show

**Free Admission!**

Follow us and look out for announcements on social media

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#)

## Mums meet Mums!

The Green Dragon, Hall Hill, Brigstock, 9.15am - 11am (term time)

10am - 11.30am (school holidays), £2 per family

Are you a parent or carer of a pre-school child? Would you like to meet others living nearby in a similar situation?

Come to 'Mums meet Mums'! We are an informal group of friendly people who meet at the pub (pre-opening hours!) most Thursday mornings to chat and allow our babies and toddlers to socialise. We have toys and books to keep the children entertained, baby changing facilities, and can provide tea and coffee and possibly even a bacon sandwich if you fancy one.

It doesn't matter whether you're 20 or 50, whether you've lived in Brigstock all your life or moved here last week (or don't live in Brigstock at all! ☺), whether you're a brand new parent or a seasoned sixth-timer - everyone is **very welcome**.

Contact Rachel on 07745 510500 or [rachel\\_jane\\_smith@hotmail.com](mailto:rachel_jane_smith@hotmail.com) for more info.

## MENS CLUB

We are starting up again with our fortnightly morning meetings. We will meet on Monday morning 13th September at 10-30 till 12 noon. We will start with a general discussion and hope to have some talks on a relevant subject soon. We will be meeting with coffee and biscuits.

Please pass this on to anyone who you think might be interested. All men are welcome with no age limit.

Contact Robin Phillips 01536 370144 or Terry Bowen 01536 373807 for more details.

## The Scrabble group

If you fancy a game of Scrabble against like minded people, come along to our group. It will be held on the **first and third Mondays** in the month, from 10-midday, starting on September 6<sup>th</sup> at the United Reform Church hall.

Please contact Josie on 373592 for details of this group, as the day may possibly change depending on people's preferences and hall availability.

## Ride and Stride

The Annual Historic Churches Ride and Stride will take place on Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>. This is a sponsored event with half the money going to St Andrews Church and the other to Historic Churches Trust. The trust then allocates the profits this to worthwhile church projects. If you are interested in taking part further details can be obtained from Steph Beckett. [sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk)

You can cycle or walk a route of your choice around local churches which open their doors to welcome you.

A list of churches participating can be found on Historic Church's web site.

## Collectors Corner

The following people collect items for various charities



1. Claudette Black, Hall Hill Used stamps
2. Steph Beckett, 13 Swan Avenue. Jewellery (does not matter if broken)



3. Sally Wilks 7 Park Walk, Computer cartridges
4. Steph Beckett, 13 Swan Avenue. Bras
5. Kerry Wills, 48 Lyveden Road. Drinks cans.



Please do not crush. This is a new collection and the money made from the cans goes towards funding Air Ambulance services.

6. Co-op Car Park and Three Cocks PH Car Park - Clothing
7. Co-op shop. Batteries.

## Brigstock Post Office

This is held every Monday from 10 until 12 in the village hall. Starting from September there will be also be a stall selling various crafts made by Brigstock people so you can buy a card and then call at the Post Office for the stamp. We need to use the PO to keep it here.



### DADS JOKES

What do you call a dog that can do magic? A Labracabrado

What do you call a fake noodle? An impasta

Did you hear about the restaurant on the moon? Great food, no atmosphere!

**Bletsoes** EST. 1881 **Celebrating 140 Years**

Flying the nest or putting down new roots?  
Bletsoes estate agents are here to help.

01832 732188  
estateagents@bletsoes.co.uk

49-51 High Street, Thrapston, Northamptonshire, NN14 4JJ

## SUNNYSIDERS— MEMBERS ONLY

3 dates for your diary for lunch catered for by Gloria. The venue has not yet been decided on and Maureen will be in touch with menus.

Here we go - Tuesday, 5th October 2021

Tuesday 2nd November 2021

Tuesday, 7th December 2021

We look forward to meeting up again for these lunches and our usual meetings will probably re-start in the New Year.

## Brigstock Film Night

### 2021/22 Season



Film Nights will be starting again on Friday 1st October and then every month on the first Friday of the month. So 5th November and 3rd December will follow.

So with this in mind we shall show

**Jojo Rabbit' (12a) on 1st October.**

Hitler Youth cadet Jojo Betzler firmly believes in the ideals of Nazism manifested by his imaginary friend, Adolf Hitler. However, his foundations are shaken when he finds a Jewish girl in his house.

Written and directed by Taika Waititi

Starring Scarlett Johansson, Sam Rockwell

Tickets £5 on the door

Show starts at 7.45pm

Refreshments to be served

## Jordans Weeones

The books and bric a brac continue to tick over nicely, thank you to all who buy and donate to this.

The next event was the Garage Sale where we had 22 garages and several tables in Nicola Newbury's Paddock, unfortunately several people with tables couldn't come due to being pinged and having to self isolate. Nonetheless it was a beautiful day, hot and sunny. So many people came to our Garage Sale from all over the area, I hope everyone had a good day we certainly did.

The total raised for Jordans Weeones was £635.69 which includes £278.00 on the raffle! (Still a bit of outstanding money to be collected and added to final total) We are very grateful to Nicola Newbery who generously donated our raffle prize and Jenny Willis who did a great job selling tickets. The prize of Afternoon tea at The Llama Experience was won by Hazel Blowfield.

The History night unfortunately was postponed until November when we felt people would be happier to sit in an enclosed room, COVID allowing and so the next event will be the Horticultural Show on 18th September in the Meadow by kind permission of the Beer Festival Committee so you will all be able to enjoy both events. There are lots of classes for all ages not just veg some fun classes too. Details are on Brigstock Jordans Weeones information fb page as well as other fb pages.

The total raised so far this year is £5677. Thank you for your continued support.

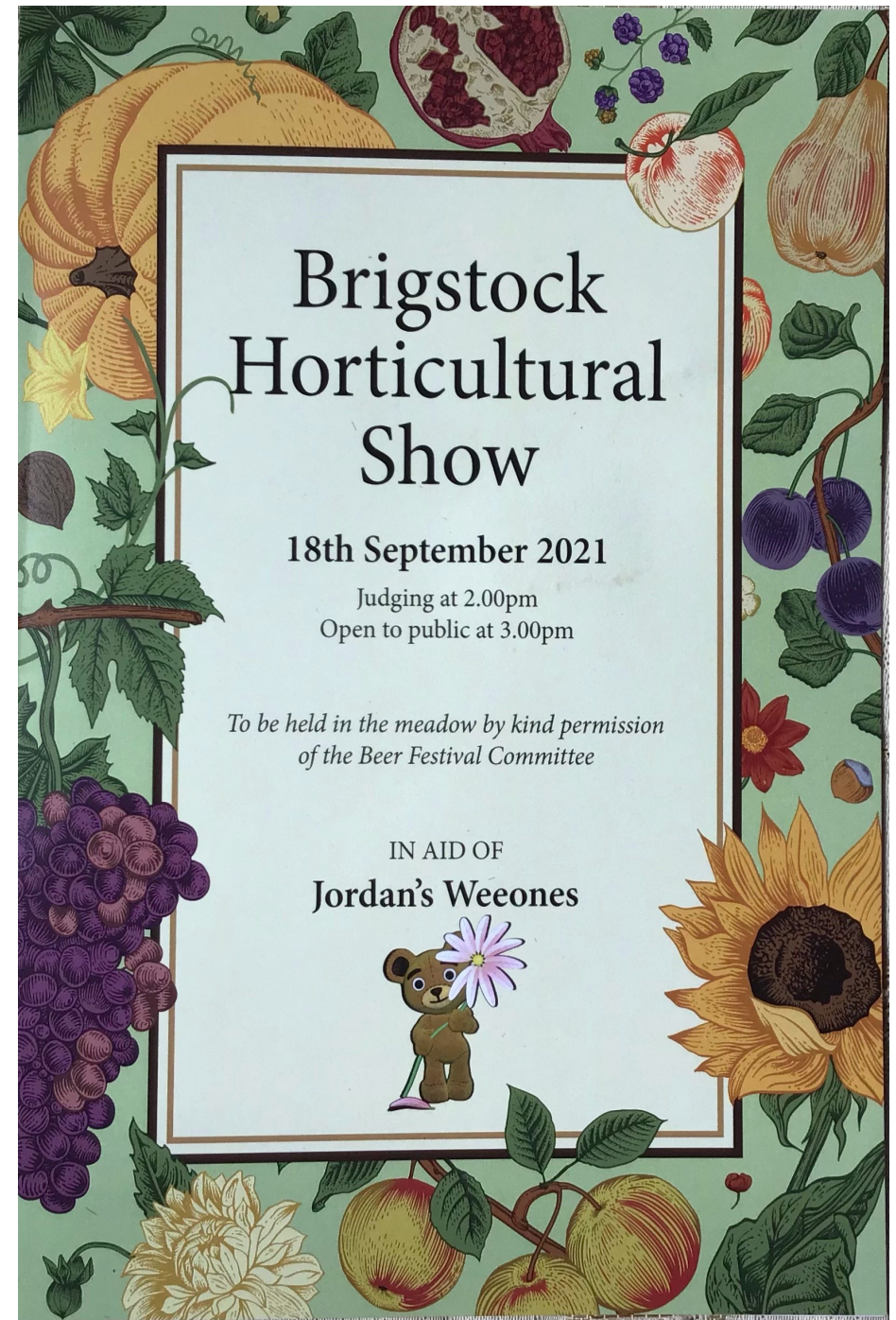
## Brigstock History Slide Show with Carl Hector

Another chance to hear Carl reminisce about life in Brigstock when he was a lad!! Hear the tales and gossip from his childhood and perhaps you can add to the stories.

Proceeds to be split between JWO's and a charity of Carl's choice. Friday 12th November 7pm there will also be a bar before and after the show. Buffet snacks available after the show.

There is a new fb page Brigstock Jordans Weeones information where you can keep up to date with what's going on.

Jane Steward





**National  
Trust**

## LYVEDEN MANOR HOUSE AND NEW BIELD

Lyveden has reopened with new visitor facilities at the Manor House. You can now explore the historic landscape and journey to the garden lodge in the manner originally designed by Sir Thomas Tresham in the 1590s.

Whether you're looking for a cuppa in the new café, to stretch your legs and enjoy the peaceful Northamptonshire countryside, or you want to get the kids out in the fresh air – you'll find it all at Lyveden this autumn.

Why not try a tasty treat in the café made from fruit grown in the Elizabethan orchard, or ask about booking a festive meal this winter? For further details on Christmas meals contact [lyveden@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:lyveden@nationaltrust.org.uk).

We're open Friday to Monday during autumn and winter. We recommend booking your entry in advance via our online booking system to avoid disappointment. A mobility vehicle is also available for booking. For more information on booking, opening hours, facilities and access please visit [nationaltrust.org.uk/lyveden](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/lyveden).

Situated in East Northamptonshire, Lyveden New Bield dates from the late 1500s, and consists of a Garden Lodge and a Moated Garden. The property was built and developed under the instructions of Sir Thomas Tresham. Both the building and the garden were still under construction when, in 1605, Sir Thomas died and work on the project ceased.

Over the following centuries, ownership changed a number of times, and although it is believed that some plans were under consideration to continue work on the Lodge, there is no evidence of any further work actually being undertaken. However, in the late 17th century, a cottage was constructed, probably using the stonework already on site for completing the Lodge. Eventually, that cottage became the home for the custodian, and in 2013, tea room and offices. This has now reverted to a private residence.

Sir Thomas Tresham's Lyveden estate had been carved out of the vast Rockingham forest, to become an oasis of peace surrounded by woodland. Remarkably, apart from the removal of floor timbers, the incomplete Garden Lodge survived the ravages of time to remain almost as it had been when work stopped. The Elizabethan Garden had not fared so well.

## LYVEDEN MANOR HOUSE AND NEW BIELD cont'd

A lack of interest by the various owners meant that little had been done to preserve the garden, parts of which reverted to scrub. Undisturbed, the garden was generally left to the forces of nature.

In 1920, the property was bought by public subscription, and in 1922, was donated to the National Trust. The area included the Garden Lodge, the nearby cottage, and the main garden features.

The Trust was able to draw on the historic evidence provided by aerial photographs, these photographs having recently been discovered.

Some of those aerial photographs were taken by a Colonel Brown, who also carried out a survey of the property in the 1930s. These, together with a 1979 survey by Brown & Taylor (not the same Brown), helped to confirm the extent of the garden and some of its design features. Compared to what could be seen on the ground in 1995, they also demonstrate how much of the paths and garden design to the north of the lodge has been lost to ploughing.

It was much later (in the late 1990s) that an aerial photograph (originally believed to have been a Luftwaffe reconnaissance image) came to light. This image taken in 1944 (now believed to be an RAF image, but continues to be known as the 'Luftwaffe photograph') has proved to be an invaluable confirmation of the existence and location of certain garden features. In particular, at that time, the Labyrinth and Parterre were clearly visible from the air.

Work on restoring the gardens took place from 1996 to 2001 to reveal the areas as now seen.

**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**



## BRIGSTOCK LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR 2021

It seems to be very premature to be mentioning Advent but the year is flying by and it will soon be December!

It is extremely difficult to plan any winter events as we cannot be sure of the path that Covid-19 is going to take in terms of gatherings. In the light of this, I do not think it is appropriate to have nightly gathering but possibly have some sort of drinks and nibbles during the planned Christmas Tree festival in the church.

My initial thoughts are to plan that there are decorated windows in the village, with at least one new window or installation illuminated each evening and hopefully a map of the location of seasonal windows. We will upload pictures and a short write up as we know the event is enjoyed from those outside the village.

If you would like to join in by decorating a window or making a garden feature, please send me an email or call me and let me have your preferred date before FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Email: [brigstockadvent@hotmail.com](mailto:brigstockadvent@hotmail.com)

text/WhatsApp 07771766433 or send a message through the Facebook page

<https://m.facebook.com/BrigstockAdvent/>

## BINGO



Harpers Court Bingo. We are hopeful of getting back together at some time during the autumn or early winter. However we are unsure of the venue. We have asked Longhurst about their terms of use of the newly refurbished community room at Harpers Court but as yet they have not come back to us. Our current thinking is, that in the short term the room is too small to continue as we were pre-pandemic. On a more positive note we have booked the village hall for a Christmas bingo session with seasonal refreshments for

Thursday 9 the December. Eyes down at 19.30 everyone welcome. More details in the next edition

## Knit & Natter Group

Knit and Natter group are all beavering away making items for Wilma's Dementia UK stall in November. Please put the date in your diary where you can buy handmade Christmas decorations, Christmas toys and wreaths and much, much more.



### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November at the Village Hall

The stalls will consist of.....

**Wilma Rennie** and the Knit and Natter ladies - Christmas items for **Dementia UK**.

**Lesley French** - Christmas cakes (and individual ones) as well as her popular Chocolate Bombs, chutneys, jams and marmalade for **Cransley Hospice**.

**Tracey Widdall** - Christmas crafts for **PTSD UK**, which is the only charity in the UK dedicated to raising awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder, no matter the trauma that caused it.

Wilma joined our group 5 years ago. She was a complete beginner and learnt to knit with the help of the Knit and Natter group and now creates beautiful knitted items, not just for her chosen charity Dementia UK, items for our advent window and Christmas yarn bombing, but endless items for her grandchildren. So come along to our group and you too could be knitting like a pro.

The Knit & Natter group have moved to a new location at the Village Hall. Our friendly group meet every Wednesday at 10am. If the weather is nice, you can find us outside on the patio area around the side of the village hall.

If you want to join our friendly group, please call either Steph on 373422 or Glenda on 373987, you will be made very welcome.

If you want to learn to knit but might be put off because you are left-handed, never fear as we have a left-handed knitter who will be able to help you get started . **August 2021**



# BRIGSTOCK

## **YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

Margaret Smith	Chair
Sally Wilks	Vice Chair
Julie Lemmy	Councillor
Max Marsden	Councillor
Faye Perkins	Councillor
Elizabeth Searle	Councillor
Sue Doolan	Councillor
Simon Brown	Councillor
Suzanne Sharp	Councillor
Terry Towns	Councillor
Ken Motion	Chair Planning
Nigel Searle	Clerk 01535 373672

### **Flood Activity**

A representative from the Environment Agency met with residents whose property had been affected by the recent floods. Although sympathetic discussions were had, further outcomes are still to be decided upon by the Agency. At the July Parish Council meeting it was agreed that another visit to Brigstock is required, in particular to discuss the management of the divided flow of the brook around the Village Hall. We feel there needs to be a holistic approach to the water flow through our parish and Brigstock's part in the entire management of water in the Harpers Brook Valley.

### **Church Walk Footbridge**

Northamptonshire Highways have appointed a contractor to begin repair work towards the end of October. There may be some preparatory work before they begin the reconstruction.

### **Health and Safety**

A survey of the cemetery by the Health and Safety committee has identified the need to address the grave stones that have are beginning to lean over. We will be putting in place a rolling programme of restoration work to be completed over the next few years.

# PARISH COUNCIL

## **Joint Action Group (JAG) Meeting**

An online meeting was held with local council representatives and local police to discuss issues that are concerning local parishes. To establish the focus for these meetings there is a survey that all parishioners can fill in to register their personal concerns (A link can be found on the parish council website.) The two most mentioned concerns become the priority for the next quarter.

This quarter the priorities are Drugs and related crimes and Road Traffic Safety. The police were particularly pleased with an operation that has removed a very active organiser of drug distribution in the East Northants area which should have an effect on local activities.

## **Church Clock**

We were pleased to contribute a sum of £500.00 on behalf of the parish pounds towards the cost of repair to the church clock and look forward to hearing it chime the hours once again.

## **Broad Band services**

Many of the properties outside of the village are struggling with decent broadband speeds Which has become particularly apparent during lockdown with zoom / teams meetings / remote working and learning / school children and university students working online, extremes of weather upsetting the connections.

BT Community Broadband have begun to investigate the most viable ways to pull the fibre out of the central village with government funding available through voucher schemes.

The whole of the village may be eligible for government funding through a voucher scheme with £1,500 per resident and £3,500 per small business (sole trader / partnership / limited company) Speeds of 80 to up to 1500 meg would be achievable for as little as £25 per month. As a community, the more who join in the more beneficial it would be to whole village.

If there is any interest, please contact the clerk at [Brigstockcouncil@aol.com](mailto:Brigstockcouncil@aol.com)

Margaret Smith Chair Brigstock Parish Council

# FLOOD WARDEN WANTED!

Following the devastating floods in December last year it would be very helpful to have a flood warden for the village.

We realise that it should not be someone whose home is likely to be flooded as they will have their time taken up with protecting their property.

Could you volunteer? We hope that your services will not be needed very often. Duties include:

Managing the flood store on the allotments.

Attending a course.

Liaising with the emergency co-ordinator at North Northants Council and volunteers in the village.

Organising the distribution of equipment.

Being the point of contact for emergency services.

The job is quite physically demanding in the event of a flood but very rewarding.

If you are interested, please contact Nigel Searle, the clerk.

# BRIGSTOCK EMERGENCY PLAN

Following our experience coping with the Covid pandemic and the December 2020 floods in the village, the Parish Council wants to build on the useful connections made and the effective communication system set up to produce a formal emergency plan for the village.

We are hoping to compile a list of people with useful skills who we can call upon in an emergency. If you have any skills to offer and are willing to be included on the list please get in touch via Nigel Searle our clerk. Suggestions are: paramedics, doctors, nurses, firemen, electricians, plumbers, builders, 4X4 owners, chainsaw operators. The list will not be made available to the general public.

More information will be available in future newsletters.

Let us transform the quality of your lawn!

Aeration, Scarification, Overseeding & More

Our specially tailored treatment programme will ensure your lawn is in excellent condition all year round

Weed Free ■ Lush Green ■ Moss Controlled

**Greensleeves**  
Lawn Treatment Experts

**FREE Lawn Analysis Call: 01767 651 639**

Email: [hunts@greensleeves-uk.com](mailto:hunts@greensleeves-uk.com) or visit us at: [www.greensleeves-uk.com](http://www.greensleeves-uk.com)

34-36 High Street  
Brigstock  
NN14 3HA

Independent coffee shop with fresh bread, cakes and savouries

Call: 01536 373601

**BAKE & BREW**  
... BREAD & DRINKS ...

Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday  
9am – 4pm

Saturday  
9am – 3pm

Sunday  
10am – 3pm

**f @BAKEANDBREWBRIGSTOCK**

## Brigstock United Reformed Church

It was a real pleasure to see so many people turn up for our Midsummer Fair at the end of June. We were delighted with the turnout and were only sorry that the restrictions in place then meant that we couldn't serve refreshments. We did manage to make £948 that afternoon; an amazing amount, and we are really grateful for all the support we receive from the village. We also held a stall at the garage sale and sold some more bric-a-brac. It's good to see a semblance of normality returning at last.

The chapel has been open for Sunday worship since Easter, and we are still being careful with hand sanitising, social distancing and wearing masks, although some of these measures may ease soon depending on the local and national situation. We have started singing again, but with masks on which, we discovered, is not that easy! We held a Songs of Praise, with excerpts from 13 hymns of our own choice to get through in an hour- quite a feat, but we made it, despite being rather hoarse when we had finished. All being well, we hope to be able to have our coffee and chat after the services very soon, but we will take things gradually.

The June Small room has been closed to the groups that normally hire it, mainly because of the difficulty in maintaining the strict cleaning measures between uses. However, all being well, we are planning to open up the room to the groups from September 1<sup>st</sup>. Some groups have changed their day of meeting to avoid clashes with other village events, so please check carefully.

**The Open Door**, which has been held on a Wednesday for over 30 years, is moving to **Tuesdays**, at least until Christmas, from 9.30am-11.30, starting on September 14<sup>th</sup>. More details from Sharon on 373832.

**The Men's group** will be on the **second and fourth Mondays** every month, from 10-midday, starting on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Details from Robin on 370144.

**The Scrabble group** will move to the **first and third Mondays** in the month, from 10-midday, starting on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Josie on 373592 for details of this group, as the day may possibly change depending on people's preferences and hall availability.

**The Art group** will be meeting every **Friday** morning, starting on September 17<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in joining this group, please phone Sue on 370144.

## Brigstock United Reformed Church cont'd

The first meeting of the **Ladies Leisure group** will be on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm. Please see the separate item for this group with more details.

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back!

We have booked the village hall for a Barn Dance in October 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be posters about this early in September, when tickets will also be on sale. We hope to see you at our tombola stall at the Beer Festival in September, and again at the Christmas coffee morning on December 4<sup>th</sup>-there is a lot to look forward to again. We hope and pray that, at last, the worst of the pandemic is over and we can meet together again with confidence.

## BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We are pleased to be able to plan ahead for our programme of talks starting in September, Covid permitting of course.

£12 membership or £3 per visit.

Talks take place at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall unless otherwise indicated

<b>22/09/21</b>	<b>"That Woman!" The Life of Wallis Simpson and the Constitutional Crisis of 1936. Roy Smart</b>	Wallis Simpson was an American socialite who had been married twice when she met Edward, the Prince of Wales, and which ultimately led to the "abdication crisis".
<b>27/10/21</b>	<b>The History of the True Romanies Peter and Gloria Wright</b>	The origins of the Romany people go back to A.D. 400 in India. Peter and Gloria trace their travels westward through the centuries to the present day.
<b>25/11/21</b>	<b>Duke John and the Africans Crispin Powell</b>	Crispin will talk about Duke John's interest in people of other ethnicities including Ignatius Sancho the most famous black person associated with the family.

## St Andrews Church Rise and Shine!

Hopefully, as you read this, we will still be in a position to be opening our beautiful church building in Brigstock. Unless some restrictions are re-imposed, we have Harvest Celebrations (see below) and Remembrance Reflections to look forward to. And we hope and pray that in the next couple of years we can develop an even better space, with toilets and a servery blending in with the ancient beauty.

Autumn is now upon us, and outside our windows we see the changes it brings. Greens turn to browns, and yellows and the lawns begin their slumbers. We do indeed live in an ever-changing world. However, it is good to have things which we can trust in and hang on to. In the New Testament of the Bible, we find some of the words of what must be one of the earliest Christian hymns.

'Wake up, sleeper,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.'



We use the words in some of our services and they are as appropriate now as when they were quilled! Change can catch us unawares sometimes as the Pandemic has shown, giving us a real wake up call. In late October the Global Climate Change Conference will happen in Glasgow this year. Reliable scientific reports recently released look as if they might give us another loud wake-up call, as time is running out very fast! We are all capable of doing our little bit for the environment (see below)

The words of that early hymn shine hope into all the changes around us. This is God's creation in which our calling is to tend it with care, just as we do our Autumnal gardens. As a church our main mission is to provide the spiritual support throughout life's changes by shining the light of the Gospel in-to all areas of life. So, go well this Autumn and join us as you are able. One thing never changes and that is the love of God for everyone, including you.

Revd. Heather and Captain Alan Lowe

## St Andrews Church cont'd



A car boot sale will be held in Brigstock Meadow on Saturday 16th October from 10 until 2. This is to raise funds for a servery and toilet to be built in the church having lost the Rectory room. Do try and have a boot or come along for some refreshments and visit the St Andrews stall. Further details from

373285 can be found in our weekly News Letter which is published on the church website or on the village noticeboards.

### COMMUNITY LAND SPACE

We would like to start developing a piece of Church land next to the Paddock and Allotments as a church community area. If you have ideas we would love to hear from you. If you can help us clear and develop the space, we would value your input and support.

If you are interested join us in meeting outside the Church main door on **Sunday 10th October @ 4pm**. We will view the site and discuss what is possible (indoors if necessary)

### HARVEST HOME UNITED

Celebrating Harvest together with our other local churches.

**Venue:** Brigstock Village Hall

**When:** Sunday October 3rd @ 11.30am

An informal All Age friendly service followed by a bring and share lunch

**ALL WELCOME** (whether you are a church member or not!)

### CHURCH CLOCK REPAIR FUND

A substantial amount of money has been donated by two village residents and the Parish Council, allowing the repair to be done by the Cumbria Clock Co in the near future. A Faculty required for this repair has been granted by Peterborough Diocese. I have contacted the clock company, but unfortunately they have been held up for spare parts from another company but they will get the clock back in service as soon as parts arrive.

Carl Hector

## St Andrews Church cont'd

It seems like another lifetime since we had anything positive to report but as I write this we are celebrating being able to open our churches again albeit with safety still very much at the forefront. Beside monthly Sunday services (subject to review) we are opening the church each Thursday for a Holy Communion service at 10.00 a.m. and it will remain open during the day until the following Monday (closed Tuesday and Wednesday). We had our first two re-scheduled weddings in July both had wonderful weather and the bells rang out, they were joyful events that raised a smile and did the heart good.

We are looking to ramp up our fundraising events again and are already preparing for a 'pick a box' stall at the beer festival.

**Benefice website** <https://www.harpersbrookanglicans.org.uk>

Bi-weekly on line services will continue for the time being, the videos for recent weeks are available to back view, follow the link below and click SUBSCRIBE, you can view them and others to come at your leisure.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSF7745DRm8eiwpdh0TDEAQ?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSF7745DRm8eiwpdh0TDEAQ?view_as=subscriber)

### **Contact Us:**

**Rector:** The Reverend Heather Lowe [heatherlowe020@btinternet.com](mailto:heatherlowe020@btinternet.com)

**Benefice Administrator & Safeguarding Officer** – Allison Porter email: [beneficeoffice5@btinternet.com](mailto:beneficeoffice5@btinternet.com)

## Friends of the Country Park Put the date in your diary Quiz on Friday 26 November

The Village Hall

Tickets will be available from Pete Burdett, (Ace Quiz Master) and other committee members.

## Brigstock Project Group

### Brigstock Beer Festival Fundraising Stall.

With restrictions easing we are finally able to start some fundraising. All of our previous projects have been funded by grants and the generosity of villagers. We need some more top soil for village hall planters and winter plants for the hanging baskets. Once the four village planters have finished their summer blooming we will need Spring bulbs for those too.

You will find us at the Beer Festival with a Brigstock map for you to find some hidden treasure, so do visit the stall. A prize too!!



### Protect Yourself From Scams! Information Evening At The Village Hall.

The latest update on our social media and banking scams is that an information evening is scheduled for September. Date to be confirmed but it will be on posters and on Brigstock Information Face book page.

### Planters.

Thank you everybody for your support. Some people were concerned that our Sweet William plants in the Grafton Road planter had shot up and obscured the street name. Apologies for that and we will plant carefully for Autumn (Actually it wasn't us but a very kind villager who donated them and planted them)

A big thank you to villagers who have helped with watering during the very dry spell.

Steph Beckett/Glenda Stephen

### **Litter pick**

Many thanks to all the volunteers who regularly litter pick on their walks or clean certain areas and , report fly tipping. It all helps to keep our village looking good. I know there are several villagers who do pick but can't name in case I miss some one off. Just know we appreciate your hard work. It is a shame the NNC has put stickers on the litter bins discouraging bags to be left by the bins.

**Guy in the Garden**  
**Oct 24th-31st**  
**Open to little Guys and big**  
**Guys to register and go on**  
**the map call 373486**  
**Closing date Oct 18th. Maps**  
**£1 from B & B in aid of RDA.**

*Prizes for the best three*

**K M SURVEYS Ltd**

For Land Surveys and  
 Construction Setting Out

20 Park Walk, Brigstock,  
 Kettering, Northants, NN14 3HH  
 Tel: 01536 373598  
 Mob: 07958 657378  
 Email: [kmsurveys@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kmsurveys@hotmail.co.uk)

## **BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk**

Although it is only a short time since the last letter the WI seems to be up and running again. We have held a member's BBQ, although it had to be moved to the village hall at the last minute due to threatening rain. Our thanks to the husbands who did the cooking for us.

The September meeting is hopefully going to be in the WI Hall if restrictions allow and the speaker is from Cransley Hospice.

The AGM is currently scheduled for 28th September. A brand new committee will be elected as all the current committee are not standing for re-election. I wish to thank the present committee for all their hard work over the last year and the new committee all well.

I know I announced that The 200 Club would be starting again in September but due to circumstances it will be restarting in the new year with the first draw in January. Janet will be contacting people on her list nearer the time but if you would like to buy a ticket please look out for more details.

Liz Searle (President)

As usual the ducks will be racing at the Brigstock Beer Festival. Not sure of their swimming ability having missed a year!!!!

As usual there will be several cash prizes. Tickets available on the day but WI members we will be out and about in the village selling tickets in September.

Thank you, Steph Beckett



## Ladies Leisure Group

Well, ladies, we can at last start meeting again! Now that the June Small room is opening from Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, we are planning our first meeting on Monday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm.

We haven't planned a speaker or craft afternoon for the first meeting; we thought it would be nice just to meet up, talk about what we want to do in the next few months, and enjoy tea, cake and a good chat together, maybe with a quiz thrown in too.

All ladies are welcome to join us. If you would like any more details, please contact Val on 373456, Sheila on 373225 or Sharon on 373832.

# Fermyn Woods Country Park

At the time of writing this article the school holidays are in full swing and the park is full of families enjoying a day out, when the sun makes an appearance but at the moment it is raining.

The Skylark café is now offering limited indoor seating but only when they are at full staffing level, when this is not able they are offering takeaway only.

Our volunteers have been busy over the summer helping us with tasks round the park, this has included topping up the sand pits in the play areas, cutting back vegetation over paths around the park, installing bollards, replacing vandalised trail posts, repairing vandalised benches and litter picking to name but a few of the tasks they have helped us with.

It has been a good year this year for the wildflowers round the park, all areas that are left for pollinators and butterflies around the park have had a good show of flowers, whilst out litter picking during July I counted over 40 different species of flowers. There are too many to list in full here so I will just include a few that can be seen during the summer at the park, these are: - yellow Melilot, Knapweed, Ox eye daisy, birds foot trefoil, Saint John's wort and Meadow Sweet. It has also been a good year for the orchids we get in the park which are Bee Orchid, Common Spotted Orchid and Pyramidal Orchid, all of these species have been seen in areas in the park they have not been recorded in before.

We have had a lot of butterflies around as well, some species have not been seen as much as usual but it is too early to tell what sort of season it has been. The main ones seen during the summer have been Marbled White, Ringlelet, Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown, Small Skipper and Silver Washed Fritillary to name but a small fraction of species we get here at Fermyn. The Purple Emperor was spotted up in Fermyn woods and Lady's wood but was a bit later this year and did not emerge till the beginning of July and had a short season here compared to other locations around the country.

I wish to finish by thanking our friends group who have kindly funded equipment for our survival skills play scheme run by our Education Rangers.

The Rangers

## Fermyn Woods Country Park

Monday afternoon Health Walks at Fermyn.



Want to get more active?

Then we're here to help!

Walking is a great way to get fit, explore what's on your doorstep and make new friends.

Join our FREE and friendly group for a 60 minute Ranger led walk around the beautiful

**FERMYN WOODS COUNTRY PARK**  
**Every Monday**  
(term-time only)

Meet outside the Skylark Café at  
**1.30pm**

This walk is perfect for those just starting their fitness journey or wanting to get back into regular exercise.

The route is on mixed surfaces on a slight incline, with places to rest and the opportunity for you to adjust the distance to suit you. The route can get muddy, wellies or walking boots recommended.

For further details or to book a place  
email [educationrangers.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:educationrangers.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk)  
or go to [www.northamptonshireparks.co.uk](http://www.northamptonshireparks.co.uk)

Please note, Covid-19 Safety Guidelines will be adhered to, with social distancing required at all times and a maximum attendance of 30.

Usual car parking charges apply

CountryParks  
Northamptonshire



## FRIENDS OF FERMYN WOODS COUNTRY PARK

A note for your diary .....

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 is our AGM which will be held as an 'on-line' meeting via 'Zoom' at 7.30pm. This event will be followed by a Committee Meeting. We hope that everyone who has an interest in our Park - or use it - will be able to join this meeting.

The Agenda for the AGM is fairly brief – to receive the Minutes for last year's AGM, to receive a summary of the Accounts and to elect the officers. Anyone wishing to join the Committee should contact the Secretary, John Leech using e-mail [e4johnl@btinternet.com](mailto:e4johnl@btinternet.com).

## THE CONSOLIDATED CHARITY

Has the Covid 19 pandemic affected you or are you struggling to manage your finances? The charity is here to provide help for anyone suffering financial hardship. We don't mean test but any information you can provide that helps us to understand your circumstances is welcome. All applications are dealt with in complete confidence.

If you would like to apply for help please contact any of the trustees or myself.

We are still looking for local residents to act as trustees.

Sally Wilks, Secretary and Treasurer, 01536 373428

## WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

Thank you to the groups who have kept the war memorial tidy even social distanced, it looks good at the moment. The following months and groups are :-

**September** Village Hall Committee

**October** Cricket Club

**November** WI

**December** Any volunteers as the space is free.

## BRIGSTOCK ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Methodical excavation of two test-pits has continued across much of the Summer with some interesting finds and useful lessons for members. We set out hoping to hone our digging skills on a site more likely to yield some sort of archaeological feature, and in this respect, we've certainly achieved our aims.

Our first morning revealed a well-preserved surface of large, heavy stone flags where old maps of Brigstock suggested a building once stood in the grounds of the former wheelwright's barn in the High Street. To try to establish if this represented an inside floor, we opened an adjacent test-pit. But instead of a recognisable wall foundation, the next few weeks slowly revealed a more complex picture of possibly multi-phase features.

Most intriguing of all was a circular hole neatly cut into the limestone, offering the tantalising possibility that this represented something significantly older, such as a well. Intriguing artefacts are sometimes found buried in the silt of such features, as evident from the Roman finds that will be on display when Northant's fantastic new Archaeological Research Centre (ARC) opens right by Rushden Lakes later this year.

The sequencing of the features and finds is key to understanding what our windows into the past have uncovered, so we've been carefully working in 10cm layers, recording, double-sieving, sorting and cleaning what amounts of hundreds of artefacts. It's amazing to see how much there is to find in two test-pits each measuring just one metre square.

Among personal artefacts such as a buckle, inkwell, pen nib and possible walking stick handle, several curiously-shaped, -sized or -coloured brick fragments have been teasing our research with enticing possibilities as to what may have stood on this site until early in the last century. Processing and interpreting all this will take time, but this in turn offers further opportunities for useful lessons in archaeology.

In the meanwhile, you don't need to have a Facebook account to read about our progress on our FB page or visit our website at [www.brigstockarchaeologicalgroup.co.uk](http://www.brigstockarchaeologicalgroup.co.uk).

As this newsletter went to press, we're still excavating. Once complete and we've gone through the substantial volumes of finds, including metalwork, ceramics, glass and bone, we'd like to report back in a public meeting. We hope to open it up to anyone from the village who might be interested.

## BENEFIELD ROAD ALLOTMENTS

After the short dry spell in April, we have had enough rain to keep the plants growing. Everyone now seems to be getting a good harvest. Potatoes are being dug up and put into storage ready for winter use. Beans and courgettes are never ending and we are looking for good homes for the spare ones!

Already small areas of the plots are being cleared and early digging taking place. The seasons never slow down.

Unfortunately we do not have any spare allotments yet as they are all being well cultivated. We will let you know when any come available, or ask Sally Wilks to put you on a waiting list.

## BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

Since the last Newsletter, we have been meeting in the village hall on our regular dates, and are now able to have refreshments during the interval between games. Some players have made use of the indoor bowling set, which makes for an interesting afternoon, with the two kurling sets in use as well - we are so fortunate to have such a large hall.

The dates for the next few months are: September 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> and possibly 15<sup>th</sup>. As usual, we will meet from 2-4 p.m., and if anyone would like more details please ring me on 01536 373367.

Judith Beeby

## Brigstock Bell Ringers

August 2021

We are now back to full ringing practices on Tuesday evenings from 7pm and Sunday services.

Our sessions are split between Brigstock, Stanion and Sudborough and our growing band of ringers hope everyone is enjoying the team's efforts.

If anyone is interested in watching or having a go, please contact Stephen Todd on 01536 373373.

## WI Recipe for Cheese, Spinach and Potato Pie

### From Jenny Willis

Serves 6-8, Prep time 45 minutes, Cooking time 45 minutes

35g butter plus extra for greasing

2 x 375g packs of ready-rolled puff pastry

1 egg lightly beaten, Salt and Black Pepper

Plain flour for dusting the rolling pin

1 large onion peeled and finely sliced

2 medium potatoes peeled and sliced thinly

250g spinach, 225g Mature Cheddar sliced thinly

1. Preheat the oven to 190C/375F or gas mark 5. Lightly grease a rectangular baking sheet.
2. Unroll the sheets of pastry and lay them flat. Place one on the baking sheet as the base of the pie. Brush the outside edges with the beaten egg. Using a lightly floured rolling pin, roll out the second sheet of pastry until it is about 1cm bigger all round than the first sheet, then set it aside.
3. Melt 25g butter in a large frying pan on a low heat and add the sliced onion and potatoes. Cover and cook gently for 8-10 minutes until softened, stirring occasionally. Set aside to cool.
4. Melt the remaining 10g of butter in a saucepan with a sprinkle of black pepper, add the spinach and wilt it over a low heat. Drain and gently squeeze excess moisture.
5. Arrange the cooked onion and potatoes over the bottom sheet of the pastry leaving the egg washed border clear. Season to taste with salt and black pepper. Arrange the spinach on the top, scatter the cheese over.
6. Loosely roll the remaining pastry sheet on to a floured rolling pin and unravel it carefully over the pie. Gently press the edges down on to the egg washed edges of the bottom layer so that the contents are fully sealed inside. Brush the top of the pastry generously with the remaining beaten egg. Place in the oven for 35-40 minutes by which time the pie should be golden brown.
7. Cool for 15 minutes before serving. Cut in to large squares and serve with a green salad.