BRIGSTOCK

NEWS

EDITION 35 - AUTUMN 2023



PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

Journal of Brigstock Village Hall Association

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

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

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

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Front Cover Photo -

Red Admiral Butterfly. Taken in Fermyn Woods by Andy Homan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- 1 Beer Festival Comedy Night, Village Hall 7pm
- 2 Beer Festival 12 noon till 11pm, Village Hall and Meadow
- 4 Coffee Morning Village Hall 10 12
- 4 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 6 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 9 Ride and Stride St Andrews Church
- 11 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 11 Coffee Morning Village Hall 10 12
- 13 Friends of Country Park AGM 7.30pm
- 14 Bingo, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 20 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 22 Film Night "Elvis" 7.45pm Village Hall
- 23 Wellbeing Day, Village Hall, 10—3
- 24 Car Boot Sale, St Andrews, The Meadow, 10am
- 25 Mens Club. June Small Room 10.30am
- 25 Coffee Morning Village Hall 10 12
- 25 Ladies Leisure Group 1-30pm June Small Room
- 27 Historical Society, "Brigstock Characters" 7.30pm Village Hall

October

- 1 URC Harvest Festival
- 2 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 4 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 7 Jordans Weeones Autumn Fair, Village Hall10—2
- 9 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 15 St Andrews Pudding Club, Village Hall
- 16 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 16 Ladies Leisure Group 1-30pm June Small Room
- 18 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 20 Film Night "ARGO" 7.45pm Village Hall
- 23 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 25 Historical Society, "Northamptonshire Curiosities" 7.30pm Village Hall
- 30 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am

November

- 1 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 3 Country Park Autumn Quiz, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 6 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 10 Voice Aloud Choir, Village Hall, 7,30pm
- 13 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS—cont'd

November

- 15 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 17 Film Night "A Man Called Otto", Village Hall 7.45pm
- 20 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 20 Ladies Leisure Group 1-30pm June Small Room
- Historical Society, "Northamptonshire Railways" 7.30pm Village Hall
- 25 St Andrews Autumn Fair
- 27 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 29 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall

December

- 1 Living Advent Calendar starts, 6.45pm
- 1 Village Hall Quiz Night 7-30pm
- 4 Mens Club June Small Room 10.30am
- 9 URC Christmas Coffee Morning
- 11 Scrabble, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 13 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is becoming quite busy again with regular classes and meetings

THE VILLAGE HALL REGULAR USERS:

Post Office Mondays 10-12

Crafters Meet Second Monday of the month 10.30 to 2pm

Yoga Mondays 7pm

Music Makers Tuesdays 10.45am

Kurling First and Third Wednesdays 2pm

Ballet Tuesdays 5— 9pm

Knit and Natter Wednesday 10-12

Pilates Wednesday 5.30-6.30pm (6 week course)

Parish Council Third Wednesday, 7-30pm

Historical Society Fourth Wednesday, 7.30pm

COFFEE MORNINGS AT VILLAGE HALL.

COME ALONG FOR COFFEE AND BISCUITS.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH, 11TH AND 25TH 10—12

THE POST OFFICE WILL BE IN ATTANDANCE AT THIS TIME

AND OCCASIONAL CHARITY STALLS.

IF ANYBODY ELSE WANTS TO BRING THEIR STALL AT THIS TIME PLEASE CONTACT STEPH BECKETT

sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk

OCTOBER DATES TO BE ON BRIGSTOCK INFORMATION

VILLAGE HALL QUIZ NIGHT FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER VILLAGE HALL 7-30PM START

Teams of up to 6 to win.

BAR PROVIDED

Tickets £5-00 from committee members

Doors open 7pm, Start 7-30pm

Enquiries 07471 502952

BOOKING THE VILLAGE HALL

Perhaps you would like to hire the hall for a future event or new classes. Have you thought of using the hall for children's parties, weddings, anniversaries? We have all the facilities that you might need.

We have spare times available now, so give Rosie a call to see what we can offer you.

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS rosybbriggs@btinternet.com 373579

BRIGSTOCK



SATURDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 10 – 3 VILLAGE HALL

Come along and see what the village has to offer to get you through the winter months this year.

Historical activities, movement to music, yoga, art group, kurling, Scrabble, Men's Group, Ladies Leisure, Book Group, Crafting, Knit and Natter, sports, gardening and more.

How's your fitness? The County Health and Wellbeing Officer will be on hand to give advice.

Want to set up a group? Come and find out how to do it. Do you have a few spare hours? Volunteers needed for various activities.

Want to meet some new people? Come and have a cup of tea and a chat. Acre's Rural Communities Officer will be pleased to see you.

Refreshments available.

More information - phone 373428

Brigstock Film Night, Village Hall: 2023/24 Season

After the success of the film choices last season, the Film Club is back at the village hall this autumn with an extended set of six films for your diary:

Friday 22 September: Elvis (12a) (2022)

Explore the life and music of Elvis Presley (Austin Butler), seen through the prism of his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker (Tom Hanks). Fascinating true to life story.

Friday 20 October: Argo (15) (2012)

As the Iranian Revolution takes over the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, six Americans escape. Now only one man can get them out from behind enemy lines. Ben Affleck directs and stars in an unbelievable true story. The cast includes Bryan Cranston, John Goodman and Alan Arkin.

Friday 17 November: A Man Called Otto (15) (2023)

We love a Tom Hanks movie and here's a new one based on a comical and moving no. 1 New York Times bestseller. This story tells of Otto Anderson, a grumpy widower who is very set in his ways.

Friday 19 January: The Angel's Share (15) (2012)

A nod to Burns Night! Robbie is given one final chance to stay out of prison and the community work he's sentenced to leads him to concoct a brilliant swindle that will change his family's life.

Friday 16 February: The World's Fastest Indian (15) (2005)

In the late 1960s, Burt sets off from New Zealand to clock his bike at the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah, culminating in an unlikely conclusion and remains legendary within the motorcycle community to this day. Stars Anthony Hopkins in this true story.

Friday 22 March: The Lost King (12) (2022)

This is the life-affirming true story of a woman who initiated the search to find King Richard III's remains under a car park in Leicester, who refused to be ignored and took on the country's most eminent historians.

6

Cont'd

Brigstock Film Night: 2023/24 Season Cont'd Here's what to expect if you've never been – come along!

- A friendly and social atmosphere come alone, with a partner, or with friends/family, you'll be made to feel welcome and included
- A bar! We serve wine, beer, soft drinks and tea/coffee, and icecreams in the interval
- An interesting choice of films often quirky or understated films, some based on true stories, often a comedy, romance and/or drama, frequently starring well-known actors
- Doors open at 7:15pm, films start at 7:45pm
- Tickets £5.00pp on the door.
- Proceeds go to the Village Hall

Enquiries: Emma Poole on 370142

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Musical Showtime

FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 2023 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

Kettering's Peoples Choir, Voices Aloud, and their Musical Director Hughie James are excited to announce that they will be performing a 'Showtime Extravaganza' of music featuring Broadway musical classics, Les Miserables and a number of well known favourites.

8

- Cabaret style tables
- Bar and Snacks
- Raffle



ONLY 120 TICKETS
AVAILABLE SO
BOOK EARLY I

Ticket Line:

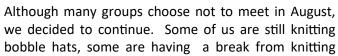
Sally Wilks 01536373428
Peter Hedges 07702425363
Pete Burdett 01536373478

Knit & Natter Group

Well, July has been a bit of a washout for everyone hasn't it! Here's hoping that the weather improves in August allowing us to sit outside during our knitting sessions!

Bobble Hat Project:

We have been quite overwhelmed with the amount of support we have had from you lovely ladies who have knitted for our Bobble Hat project. We wish to thank you all. We will be revealing all in November!





and crocheting for ourselves and some have been making things for Christmas Child boxes.

If you want to join our friendly group (Knitters and Crocheters)

We meet every Wednesday at Brigstock Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon. Cost is just £2 per person, which includes coffee, biscuits and hall hire.

For more information, please call Glenda on 01536 373987 or Steph on 01536 373422



St Andrews Church Car Boot Sale

SUNDAY SEPT 24TH Brigstock Cricket Field

CARS £7.00 VANS £8.00

Gates open 8am for sellers and 10am for buyers

9

Tel 373285 for more information - no need to book

Brigstock Beer Festival 2023

FRIDAY 1ST AND SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

BEER FESTIVAL

The Brigstock Beer Festival is entering its 18th year and as we roll through the spring and summer months, the team have been hard at work to prepare for this year's Festival with new beers, great food and some fabulous new music and entertainment.

The Festival is an annual charity fund-raising event, open to all village groups to contribute and raise funds for their local projects. In addition, the Beer Festival committee supports a main charity and other local causes. To date we have raised a quite magnificent £103,000 which has helped amongst others Lakelands Hospice, the Kettering General Hospital Childrens Unit, our local Air Ambulance, the Brigstock Latham Primary School, the Bladder and Bowel Foundation, Corby Nightlight and Headway. We have also provided funds to help build the bridge between the Village Hall and the meadow, the MUGA sports area, seating and signage around the village.

Last year's Festival was a great success in the sunshine with the addition of music on the meadow, so we hope everyone enjoyed themselves. A huge amount of hard work went on behind the scenes and the new committee members (you know who you are) contributed massively towards a fresh look for the event. The changes were very well received and we would like to thank everyone who attended, the village and external organisations who help us make it all possible.

The Festival kicks off at 1pm on Saturday 2nd September.

A variety of food stalls will offer something for everyone, including Tacos, Punjabi food, fish and chips, burgers, ice cream, cakes and coffee.

A music stage will be situated on the meadow next to the Village Hall and provide an afternoon of quality folk/acoustic acts. There will also be a number of attractions on the meadow for adults and children of all ages including a bouncy castle, penalty competition, archery, fairground rides, face painting, a toy stall, a jewellery stall and a bird of prey display.

Brigstock Beer Festival 2023 cont'd

The festival then rolls into the evening with childrens disco, followed by a live DJ and 'Hope and Glory', a great local 7-piece Ska and Two-Tone tribute band, covering the greatest hits of Madness, the Specials, the Beat and Bad Manners.



Throughout the event you will find a great selection of beers in keg and cask, including our own festival beer. Speciality Ciders will be available throughout the festival, along with the usual lager, Prosecco and wine.

The aim of the Festival has always been to entertain visitors while raising money for local charities and worthy causes, and this year there are two main charities being supported. Cransley Hospice is a well-known fantastic local charity that provides a number of services for patients requiring management of difficult symptoms or end of life care. Corby Foodbank, organised by the Church of Corby, helps local individuals and families in crisis through the provision of food supplies and offers links to supporting services.

The entire Festival is run as a not-for-profit charity fund-raiser, so please add the dates to your diaries and make your way to Brigstock to enjoy this wonderful village event, donate generously, drink responsibly and have a great day with family and friends in the late summer sunshine.

WWW.BRIGSTOCKBEERFESTIVAL.COM

BRIGSTOCK BELL RINGERS

The Brigstock bell team welcomed more learners this summer and so is ever expanding. This means we can regularly ring our full 8 bells and practice more complicated pieces.

Ringing practices at Brigstock, Stanion, Sudborough and Lowick on Wednesday nights on rotation and ringing for Sunday services.

Listen out and lend your support by simply adding comments to your village Facebook page. Any support is gratefully received.

As always, if you're interested in learning more, contact Steve Todd on 01536 373373.

Brigstock Living Advent Calendar

Greetings to one and all. Here we are nine months through the year and I am sure you have Christmas on your minds!! What a splendid turn out there was for Jane Jones' final Living Advent Calendar in December 2022. I am sure you will have thanked her for the time and commitment she has given to this amazing event over the last nine years.

I am fairly new to Brigstock, having moved her in November 2021 and was sad to read that 2022 might be the last 'outing' for the Living Advent Calendar, so thought I would step forward to carry on this fabulous tradition....but I can only do this with your help of course!

I am grateful for all Jane has done so far as well as the offers of help from other stalwarts of the event, but will obviously need some offers from you goodly "Brigstockians" to create your own windows (or garden display) for December 2023.

If you would like to join in this year and create a window/outdoor display, please let me know as soon as possible which date you might like, on Brigstockadventcalendar@gmail.com or message the Facebook page:https://www.facebook.com/BrigstockAdvent

For new villagers and to remind everyone: from the 1st December, using the map kindly printed for free by Typestart, we gather for the reveal and switch on of lights at a new address each evening at 6.45 pm. There is usually a countdown and anticipation grows as the reveal and switch-on happens!

Whilst there is no obligation for hospitality, warming drinks have been greatly appreciated on cold winter's evenings, so thank you to everyone who has been able to do this.

By the time we reach Christmas Eve, we will have a trail around the village leading to the finale in St. Andrew's Church on 24th December. (Hopefully lights will continue to be lit each evening til at least the 27th December, or if you are able to leave them up for the New Year it spreads the joy for longer.)

Your choice of display can be anything Christmassy, religious or secular, or your own 'take' on a theme. Do have a look at the last few years on the FB page to get some ideas!

Brigstock Living Advent Calendar cont'd

We were thrilled to have a group singing carols, as well as musical instruments played and great fun in a marvellous quiz. There are other festivals going on in December - so maybe one of those will fall on the evening you choose - it will be super to have surprises each evening!



Whilst the main event is to light up our lovely village, bringing joy to many, I am hoping that as everyone is so generous of their time and

money here in Brigstock, we will do some fundraising once again and I would love to hear your thoughts. I do have a few ideas in the pipeline....but happy to discuss more!

Thank you and apologies for mentioning the Christmas word so early...!

Karen

BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

It seems strange to be thinking about dates for the Autumn meetings heading towards Christmas when we don't seem to have had much of a Summer (yet!), but we will meet on the following dates over the next four months: September 6th and 20th, October 4th and 18th, November 1st, 15th and also the 29th, and then just on the 13th in December. Please note the last two dates are slightly unusual, but it is to avoid meeting in the week leading up to Christmas.

As always, we will play at the Village Hall from 2-4 pm, with refreshments at half time, and it will cost you just £2. If you would like any more details, please ring me on 373367, or just turn up at the hall on any of the above dates. All ages and abilities welcome, we have pushers to use if you can't bend very well, and finally, a big thank you to everyone who helps out in any way at any of the meetings, or steps in when I'm not available.

Judith Beeby



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Mrs José Davison S.A.C. Dip.FHP - Registration Number S299314









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Brigstock United Reformed Church

This summer we have been giving our chapel a much-needed tidy-up, and we decided to be guite ruthless about what to keep. Consequently, we now have a very tidy shed, and a lot of good quality bric-a-brac and books have been taken to local charity shops. We have also kept some to sell at the car boot sale in September. As well as a tidy-up, the chapel has been in need of fresh paint and new front doors for a long time, and we are delighted that a benefactor has come forward and offered to cover a large part of the cost. It's a really generous offer and we are very grateful. Along with money we have previously been given from the Beer Festival profits, it will hopefully mean that the chapel will look fresh and clean, with new doors, by Christmas.

We are organising a tombola stall at the Beer Festival in September, and we have some excellent prizes. We are also going to have a stall of top-quality bric-a-brac and crystal ornaments, so please do come and find us on the meadow and have a browse.

Leading up to Christmas, we will be celebrating Harvest on October1st at 10.30, and then we shall be preparing to start the Warm Space again before Christmas, please see the separate item about this. In December we shall be holding our ever-popular Christmas Coffee morning, so do look out for the posters and come and join us on Dec.9th.

Recently there have been several requests on the village Facebook page for a wheelchair to borrow. We have a very good one at the chapel and it is there for anyone who needs to borrow it; just contact Sheila on 373225.

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE INFORMATION FACE BOOK PAGE

This is a resource for the residents of Brigstock to share information and to promote local events. If you want to stay in touch with the village join this site and following the wide range of posts.



Brigstock Warm Space

Last January members of the United Reformed church and St. Andrews' started the Warm Space for anyone wishing to have somewhere to meet friends, make new friends and enjoy warmth and some hot food during the winter months. This was part of a national effort to support anyone struggling with rising costs or feeling lonely. With the help of a lot of volunteers and generous donations from the Parish Council and the Beer Festival, we were able to provide coffee and tea, home-made soup with cheese and rolls, and some sweet treats too. The idea is that anyone is welcome, especially if winter fuel bills mean you are not warm at home or you don't want to cook, and there is no charge.

We opened on Thursdays and changed the original times of opening to suit what people wanted, finally settling on 11.30-2.30pm.

We do rely on a lot of volunteers to either make soup, help on the day or both. If you would like to be a volunteer, please look out for notices on the village noticeboards or on the village Facebook page, as we will be holding a planning meeting in the next couple of months and aiming to start in November. We will organise a rota so that people can choose the dates that suit them best for helping, and the more, the merrier! Please contact Sheila on 373225or Barbara on 373240 for any more information.

BINGO—

Thank you to everyone for their continuing support for our Bingo Group. Our next Bingo Session is on Thursday 14th September in Brigstock Village Hall. Doors open 7.0pm for Eyes Down 7.30pm.



There will be the usual Raffle with some really nice Prizes. Tea and Coffee will be served but please feel free to bring your own Refreshments.

Always good to see Old and New members but sadly due to regulations all players must be over 18.

Looking forward to seeing you all on September 14th. Eileen, Chris and Steph.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH BRIGSTOCK CHARITY EVENT CLASSIC CAR/BIKE SHOW SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2023



In conjunction with

BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL AT THE VILLAGE HALL/ MEADOW

If you own an interesting or classic car or bike and would like to join the new venture and display your "Pride and Joy" Please contact
Tony on anntonygough Dbtinternet.com

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BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk



The last few months have seen us enjoy a selection of speakers and events and have a great deal of fun.

At our June meeting we arrived in hats, fascinators, and tea dresses, we folded our napkins, held our teacups and saucers and listened to the Baroness Bolsover's instructions on the do's and don'ts

of afternoon tea etiquette. The Baroness had time travelled from the Victorian era in a spectacular hat and gown with bustle, corsetry and gloves and gave a thoroughly entertaining talk. Who knew you should stir the sugar in by quietly pushing the spoon forwards and backwards or that you should gently nibble your cakes holding them with only two fingers? But should the milk go in before or after the tea, that's the question?!

Our entry in St Andrews Umbrella Festival supported the WI's national campaign for clean water, with our ducks taking a starring role. More information on the clean water resolution and how you can help can be found here Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife | National Federation of Women's Institutes (thewi.org.uk)

The annual WI BBQ for members, partners and friends took place at the end of June and was a great success.

At the July meeting we welcomed Ian from Gandersgoats in Cottingham who gave a very informative talk about the development of his goat's milk ice cream and soap business. We were all lucky enough to sample his gooseberry and elderflower ice cream and were given the opportunity to buy hand wrapped soaps and to delve into his freezer to buy tubs of awardwinning ice cream.

We finished July with a very hospitable, relaxed cheese and fizz evening which was enjoyed by all who attended. The fizz went down very well and members went on to raid the shelves at Lidl for its highly recommended crémant!

At the beginning of August we rounded off activities with our annual Village Walk. This year we returned to Barnwell, 6 teams completed the walk but competition was fierce. Congratulations to the Dream Team who continued their winning streak.

BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk—Cont'd



Afterwards we all enjoyed a delicious meal at The Montague Arms and were entertained by an impromptu Irish band rehearsal.

The Committee would like to thank all the members who organise and participate in our planned meetings and social activities. Without your help

and support the Brigstock WI would not be the success it is today – a huge thank you.

During the coming months we will welcome speakers who will talk about Madam Tussauds, Blood Bikers & Babies and Eric Morcombe, enjoy more social events and look forward to our Advent Window and Christmas Party.

But before then we will running the annual Duck Race at the Brigstock Beer Festival on Saturday 2nd September, so if you haven't already bought your tickets, look out for our stall in the meadow and choose your lucky numbers. £1 a duck but be quick they are selling fast.



As our members enjoy the summer we thought we would offer some cheap ideas to keep the young ones busy during the holidays.

Make a treasure map by crinkling up a sheet of paper and soaking in tea. Once soaked pull off random parts of the edges to give it that aged look. Once dry, get to work hiding the treasure, making a map for someone to find.

Make hand and home-made butter. Fill a container that has a tight lid, fill halfway with a double or whipping cream. Then start shaking. The contents will go through several stages the first being whipped cream then onto buttermilk as the butter becomes solid. You can keep the buttermilk for cooking. Take the solid butter out and rinse in cold water then add salt to taste. You can also add herbs or garlic. Enjoy.

Pooh sticks. With several bridges in the village you might be able to follow your sticks from one bridge to another.

BRIGSTOCK

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Margaret Smith Chair

Sally Wilks Vice Chair Julie Lemmy Councillor **Faye Perkins** Councillor Councillor Elizabeth Searle Councillor Sue Doolan Simon Brown Councillor Councillor Suzanne Sharp **Terry Towns** Councillor

Ken Motion Chair Planning

Sophie Cullinan Clerk 07923 441873

News

Since the various national celebrations and the current holiday season, Parish life has settled-down into a steady pattern. The Jubilee Bench is now on order and, subject to approval by North Northamptonshire Council (NNC), it will be placed on the site of the old phone box on Stanion Road adjacent to the current post box.

Grace Homes

As doubtless you will have seen, construction of the new houses is developing at pace on the Stanion Road site. Following much consultation with the village and wider Parish, this location was identified in the Neighbourhood Plan as Brigstock's area for development. In turn, this met the requirements of necessary housing by East Northamptonshire District Council (ENC), which is now controlled by NNC, as part of their housing allocation as laid down by central government. The Neighbourhood Plan offers protection from predatory development as you will recall was the case of the 130 or so homes proposed earlier by Gladman Developments. Their plans encouraged strong opposition in the Parish resulting in a public enquiry to resolve this contentious issue in favour of the village.

PARISH COUNCIL

Sawmill – Lorry Park

Permission has been denied for this site to continue as a lorry park. We are actively encouraging NNC to enforce this decision and await progress in this matter which is otherwise out of our hands.

For up to date information concerning the Parish Council please read the minutes of our meetings and action diary that are available on the Parish Council website together with the notice board outside the village hall. Be assured we are actively pursuing the many issues that arise in the village though many matters are under the control of NNC where, unfortunately, responses have been less than immediate.

Litter Picking

The Parish Council would like to thank all the volunteers who pick up the litter when out for a walk. Any piece picked up helps to keep the village looking good. If anyone wants to tackle an area on their own, there is equipment available from the Parish Council.

Please contact Liz Searle 373672Litter Picking

There is currently a vacancy for a councillor. If you would like to put your name forward please contact our clerk.

Margaret Smith, Chair Brigstock Parish Council brigstockcouncil@aol.co.uk

WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

Thank you to the groups who have kept the War memorial tidy over the last few months. The following groups have said they would help over the next few months so thank you in advance as Autumn is always a untidy season

September Brigstock Latham School October The Men's Group

November URC December St Andrew's Church

Liz Searle

BRIGSTOCK WI DUCK RACE AT BRIGSTOCK BEER FESTIVAL



SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER £1 ENTRY

4 GREAT CASH PRIZES £50, £25, £15, £10

BRIGSTOCK ART GROUP

The Brigstock Art Group meets on Fridays between 10 and 12 o'clock in the



June Small Room at the URC chapel in Mill Lane. Members work in watercolour, acrylic, pen and ink, collage, and anything else we fancy having a go with. We welcome new members and warmly welcome anyone interested in joining us, you may not have picked up a pencil or a paintbrush for

some time but sur-

prise yourself and refresh a skill or try something new and enjoy the pleasure of creating. If you feel this could be of interest to you do come along on Friday, September 9th from 10 to 12 for a cup of coffee/tea and see some of our work.

Susan Phillips

BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We have had to increase the membership fee for 2023/24 to £15 for the year, otherwise £4 per visit. We hope you agree that this still represents great value for money for the programme of 9 talks up to June next year. Talks usually take place at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

This year we are hoping to organise a visit to the archaeology unit at Chester Farm near Wellingborough and the records office in Northampton. If you would like to go on our mailing list please let us know. We look forward to welcoming you

27/9/23	Brigstock Characters Bill Simon and Sally Wilks	See and hear about some of the interesting character who have lived in the village during the past 200 years.
25/10/23	Northamptonshire Curiosities Helen Crabtree	Helen will introduce us to some special people and buildings from our
22/11/23	Northamptonshire Rail- ways John Pomfret	There were railways all over the county. What happened to them? Come along and find out

SUNNYSIDERS

Sunnysiders continue to meet in the June Small room in United Reform Chapel every Tuesday afternoon from 2.00 - 4.00 pm. It is alway a pleasant afternoon to meet with friends for a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits. Over the last three months we have enjoyed some interesting speakers and played various games including kurling, card games etc.

New Members would be very welcome and if there is anyone in the village who could spare a little time to help in making the tea/coffee it would be very much appreciated. Contact Maureen Druce on phone number 373383.

BRIGSTOCK CRICKET CLUB

By the time you read this article we will be saying goodbye to a relatively wet summer, especially July, and hello to autumn, with just a few games left to play in September.

As I type this update, Brigstock First X1 are currently sitting top of the Northants Premier League with just six games left to play, two away and four at home including their last game of the season against Old Northamptonians on Saturday 16th September. It has been and incredible achievement thus far by the whole squad of players. Two standout wins worthy of mention, away to Peterborough Town and more recently at home against the champions Finedon. To quote Winston S Churchill "We are still masters of our fate". Keep on winning and you never know what might happen on the 16th September. The second X1 have had a mixed season to date in division 7, unbeatable at the start of the season have struggled of late mainly due unavailability as a result of injuries and work commitments. I'm absolutely sure that if they had continued as they started and availability hadn't been an issue they would have been pushing for promotion. Thank you to all of the players for their effort and commitment.

For the first time Brigtsock CC entered an Ull's girls team into a local competition, which featured teams from Kettering, Weldon, and Oundle. This competition is played with a softball and ran from May through to mid July and proved to be a great success in bringing the girls together, learning about cricket and teamwork. Thanks must go to coaches George Groenland and Millie Tadman, the parents and of course all of the girls for participating. The ECB Allstars (5-8) and Dynamos (8-11) programs were really well attended this year and the coaches, Noodles, Satnam and Henry did a fantastic job and must all have the patience of a saint. Trust me, it is not easy controlling so many young children with a such a limited concentration span. Anyway we thank all of the parents for their support and we look forward to seeing you next spring. In addition to the Allstars/Dynamos age groups we will also be starting a mixed U11 hardball team next season, if your children or indeed friends, work colleagues children want to play then please let anyone connected with the club know.

With the rugby world cup only a matter of weeks away, we will be showing some of the games, on the large screen in the pavilion so keep an eye on the village Facebook page for further details.

BRIGSTOCK CRICKET CLUB, Contd

Finally, another thank you, this time from everyone at the club to all our sponsors, helpers and customers who have visited us over the last few months. It is appreciated and we look forward to see you soon.

Simon Andrews - BCC Chairman

Brigstock Project Group

Last Summer's heatwave kept us very busy with watering and deadheading with planters spread out at either end of village.

This year we cut down on bedding plants and had mainly geraniums and cosmos.

What happened! No heatwave and a lot less watering because the weather performed for us!. Soon be bulb planting time.

We keep putting new slate chippings at the village hall but they slowly disappear. Where do they go?

Our noticeboard at the Co-op needs a bit of maintenance if anybody would like to do it. The doors have loosened and it blows open. At present it is held with an elastic band! We would be very grateful if the woodwork fairy appeared.

Not sure what we have next on the agenda as Our very tiny group has shrunk to two. We would love a couple more people who fancy a project. It doesn't have to be gardening!!

Glenda/Steph

Brigstock Post Office

This is held every Monday from 10 until 12 in the village hall subject to availability. Some people come and sell craft items in the foyer, including cards. This is to ensure a good footfall so we don't lose the post office facility.



If anybody else would like to do so, please contact Steph Beckett (sbeckett13@yahoo.co.uk)

BRIGSTOCK LATHAM SCHOOL PFA

Well another school year has passed and we have lost one year up to their next school. next year. But his means we have a new set of children and parents coming into the school. Hopefully some of you will want to join our committee to help with our future events such as the next Curry Night after Christmas.

As always, we welcome new members and ideas for fund raising. Please get in contact with me.

Thank you

Leanne Cloono <leabee27@me.com>

Household hints and tips with Mrs O

- 1 If your family trample mud onto the carpet, sprinkle on Bicarbonate of Soda or baking powder, leave to dry and then simply hoover up.
- 2 Sprinkle Bicarbonate of Soda onto cracks or gaps in your driveway to help keep weeds down.
- 3 Keep a small dish of Bicarbonate of Soda in your fridge. It will prevent food smells.
- 4 Plastic food containers can get discoloured after keeping pasta sauce or curries in them. Sprinkle Bicarbonate of Soda onto a clean sponge and scrub the container to get it looking as good as new.
- 5 Sprinkle Bicarbonate of Soda into stinky trainers to minimise the smell but remember to tap it out before you use them again.
- 6 Keen gardeners can minimise soil under the nails by rubbing a bar of soap across your nails beforehand. It creates a convenient barrier to mud and makes your nails easier to clean afterwards.
- 7 Banana skins are full of great nutrients such as potassium, calcium and sulphur. Put them in a blender with a little water, blend the mixture up and pour around roses or tomatoes for a cost-effective nutrient boost.
- 8 If you have some seeds left over that you didn't get round to planting, store them in an airtight container with some silica gel sachets (those little things that come with handbags, shoes or electrical goods that we usually throw away). The silica will absorb any moisture and stop seeds germinating or rotting.

BRIGSTOCK ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Excavation is destructive. We can't undo a test-pit, for example. It's neither necessary nor practical to keep every stone nor piece of modern rubbish we find. We do, however, 'preserve' our findings by record. Sharing these findings is a critical part of any archaeological endeavour. For BAG, that means once we've completed our test-pitting programme, all the evidence from our first few years of excavation will be compiled into a single document for submission to Northants' Historic Environment Record (HER). Every county's HER is accessible for anyone with an interest in the past to access digitally (take a look at https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/). That way, future residents wherever they live can access evidence from any past archaeological activities if they so choose. If the past is a shared heritage, it must be shareable, right?

Compiling findings for such reports means keeping detailed records of what we do as we do it. This task was made easier for BAG this Summer by largerthan-usual numbers of willing hands on and off site enhanced by a raft of enthusiastic new members. That up to 15 people at a time were engaged with digging, sifting, cleaning and sorting finds, and recording every layer every week across the Summer is a fair indicator of the work involved in digging even a single 1x1m test-pit. Squeezing all this into a site barely large enough to turn a lawnmower was something of an achievement in its own right! Below some very diverse finds - from medieval ceramic, to a 1960s lolly wrapper – we uncovered what may turn out to be that welcome perennial of British archaeology: a posthole. The feature's semi-circular profile would be unusual and throws up interesting possibilities. As this newsletter went to press, we were continuing to excavate to - literally - get to the bottom of our mystery. That so many people kept gathering around a small hole for so long to find out more is surely testament to the past's power to captivate us.

By this Autumn we should have switched to fieldwalking activities ahead of some Winter talks. Oxford Archaeology's extremely engaging archaeologist, Paddy Lambert, is already penned in for a return talk about more of Prior's Hall Roman site – probably in December. If you've yet to try archaeology and would like to get involved or to become a member, please mail us at brigstockarchaeologicalgroup@gmail.com or visit our website at www.brigstockarchaeologicalgroup.co.uk. Alternatively, we can add your mobile number to our increasingly lively WhatsApp group.

Fermyn Woods Country Park

At the time of writing this there is still no signs of summer, so far it has been rain and below average temperatures for the time of year. Because of this it has been a difficult year for our butterflies, the early emerging species had to contend with a wet and cold spring. Then when the weather did become favourable for the later emerging ones it was very changeable, but we have still had a lot of butterflies around the park, especially now with the Red Admiral which migrates over from the continent, the warm weather they have had over there has really helped them and according to surveys their numbers are up this year, they have really been enjoying the Buddleia that grows outside the café along with many other species of butterfly. It has also been a good year for Black Hairstreak and Purple Hairstreak. Unfortunately, due to the heatwave and drought last summer Purple Emperor numbers were down this year, this is due to the Laval food plant of Salix (willow) which suffered last summer. This is just to name a few of the species you can find here at the park, there are too many to mention in this article.

We have had a good display of wildflowers around the park this year all of them extremely good for all the pollinators, especially Knapweed as this has really started to spread around the park and colonize areas it has not been seen before, this is a very good native species for pollinators, and you will often find bees and butterflies on them as you walk past.

With help from our team of volunteers we have been able to do many estate jobs round the park. They have helped with repairing a stretch of fence along the red route, reinstating a culvert fence at the start of the purple route, installing trail posts round the woods and at the moment we are repairing and redesigning the refuge viewpoint and also cutting back overhanging vegetation and litter picking around the park and the woods. This is just a few of the tasks they have helped the Ranger team with.

The school holidays are in full swing at the moment, and I am already starting to look ahead to autumn and winter and plan the habitat work we will be doing this season.

If you are out for a walk around the park, why not stop off at the Skylark café for tea or coffee and a nice piece of homemade cake.

The Ranger Team

FERMYN WOODS COUNTRY PARK EDUCATION

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BOOK NOW! NEW TERM, NEW ADVENTURES...

64646464646

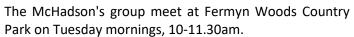
We are now taking bookings for our regular nature groups starting this September 2023.

2WILD n WOODY2.

Wild n Woody, for 2-5 year olds, meet on Mondays, 10am -12pm, in our private Wild Zone area at Fermyn Woods Country Park. Each session is linked to the seasons and children can free play across a range of activities and nature crafts; mud kitchen, den building, bug hunting, basic tool use, camp fire and much more!

2McHADSON's2

McHadson's School for the Inquisitive and Wild is a weekly held group for home educated children. Each session is linked to the KS2 curriculum but delivered in such a way that younger children are able to access too and all have fun, learning with nature.



2NATURE TOTS2.

Our Fermyn Woods Nature Tots, for pre-schoolers, meet every 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 10-11.30am, to explore the park through the seasons. Each session includes a ranger led nature walk and seasonal craft activity.



For more information or to book your child's place, please email: educationrangers.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk

For more information on any of our regular nature groups, visit our website: https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/country-parks/events-country-parks

FRIENDS OF FERMYN WOODS COUNTRY PARK

AUTUMN QUIZ

FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 7.30PM START VILLAGE HALL

Teams: 6 Max to win
Tickets in advance please from Jenny 373486
or Pete 373478

Bring your own food and drink ONLY £4

FRIENDS OF FERMYN WOODS COUNTRY PARK

1. **Our AGM** will be on Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7.30pm. On this occasion we have been invited to have the meeting at No. 3 Woodland Mews, Brigstock (The home of Jenny Lund). We hope that everyone who has an interest in our Park - or use it - will be able to join this meeting.

An Agenda will be available before the meeting - anyone wishing to receive a copy should contact the Secretary, John Leech using e-mail e4johnl@btinternet.com.

2. **Support the BBF** and local charities on Saturday 2nd September 2023 - we plan to have a 'Test your Skills' stall (have fun to test skills - physical or mental abilities before or after a drink). So come to enjoy and support this annual event.

THE PURPLE EMPEROR BUTTERFLY

The Purple Emperor is probably the most iconic of British butterflies, the one that almost every butterfly lover wants to see. It is also one of the largest butterflies in the UK, smaller only than the Swallowtail. It spends most of its time in and around the tops of oak trees, only occasionally coming down to feed. Fermyn Woods is one of teh best places in the country to find this butterfly. This mainly due to Denys Watkins-Pitchford (aka 'BB') 1905-1990. One of BB's most ardent passions was the conservation of the Purple Emperor a large woodland butterfly that has iridescent purplish-black wings with white markings. To quote him

"The gradual disappearance of our native butterflies, as well as some birds and plants, is one of the most worrying things today. A certain south country forest I know, where the Purple Emperor still occurs, is now under threat. When I last journeyed there I found that the sallows bordering the rides were being cut down. I am now doing what I can to remedy the situation".

BB set about these early attempts at butterfly conservation to which he gave such energy and dedication. He huntied for the precious eggs in his Northamptonshire woodlands and the subsequent rearing of the larvae and chrysalises under muslin netting at his home in Sudborough.

It always gave him enormous pleasure to take the newly hatched butterflies back to his favourite woodland haunts and then release them to fly high into the oak branches above and it is to his lasting credit that this marvellous creature can still be found deep in rural England to this day.



ST ANDREWS CHURCH

I was watching TV recently, or was I listening to the radio – who knows! Anyway I was shocked to hear some statistics about our churches. Apparently the number of churches open and being used for worship in the UK has fallen from around 42,000 to 39,800 in the last ten years, a reduction of 2200. The research was by The National Churches Trust, which shows how churches have been and are being sold, demolished or converted into housing. It explains that the restrictions of Covid resulted in reduced funding and fewer worshippers; this has made the future uncertain for many of our beautiful historic buildings. Churches are the beating heart of villages, towns and cities but they are also often the only places that are open in some communities where the village pub, shop and library have gone. This made me

think about what Brigstock would be like if our church was closed and boarded up, maybe with graffiti on the historic walls, a shudder went up my spine and brought to mind the phrase 'use it or lose it.' Of course we would love to see more people at our services and always feel honoured to be chosen to cele-



brate baptisms and marriages and remember those who have passed away at their funeral or memorial service. We are looking at different ways of delivering worship to attract new people or those who might have lapsed. A good example is a recent service of Songs of Praise held at Fermyn Woods Country Park followed by a picnic lunch which people from across the benefice attended. If you prefer a more traditional service do come along on the second Sunday of the month at 10.00 a.m. or to our Communion service on a Thursday morning at 10.00 a.m. You will always be given a very warm welcome.

It is a sad fact that as well as people we need money and this is why our determined and dedicated fund raising committee continue to work so hard to bring new and varied events to the community. Your support is invaluable and always very much appreciated so please come along and enjoy our future fund raising events.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH cont'd

Here are some fund raising event dates for your diary:

2nd September at the Beer festival – Pick a Box stall where everyone gets a prize and Vintage car and bike display.

24th September Car Boot sale on the meadow.

15th October Pudding Club in the village hall.

25th November Autumn Fair in church

Further details will be advertised on the village Facebook page, village notice boards and the weekly News Letter that can be found on the benefice website www.harperbrookanglicans.org.uk

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride Saturday 9th September

I have been the local rep of the above for many years. Over the years we have raised considerable sums with sponsored cycling or walking. I even used to cycle myself but now just do the admin and provide refreshments!

We now have hardly any participants and it would be nice to find a few more.

Why? Well half the money goes to St Andrews Church and half to Historic Churches Trust BUT when applying to Historic Churches for a grant priority is given to those churches who over time have contributed to the pot.

Contact me for details. Remember you don't have to cycle. You can stride or even amble. Just find some sponsors to spur you on Steph Beckett

SUMMER DADS JOKES

- Q Why do scuba divers fall backwards to enter the ocean?
- A If they fell forwards, they would just fall into the boat.
- Q What do you call a Labrador at the beach in August?
- A A hot dog.
- Q What is the difference between a piano and a fish?
- A You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish.

THE SCRABBLE GROUP

We have continued to meet every fortnight, alternating with the Men's Group on Monday mornings, and it has been good to welcome back some previous players. With no more Bank Holidays on the horizon before Christmas, the meetings have been simpler to arrange for the next three months, and will take place on the following dates: 4th and 18th September, 2nd, 16th and 30th October, 13th and 27th November, and the last one of this year will be on 11th December.

As always, we will be in the June Small Room at the U.R.C. in Mill Lane, starting at 10.30 am with tea/coffee and biscuits. If you would like any more details, please contact me on 373367, or just call in on any of the above dates, some more players would be very welcome.

Judith Beeby

ALLOMENT NEWS

After the dry spring which slowed many of the plants, the wetter summer has meant that most vegetables finally grew and produced a good crop. The plots are now being cleared and prepared for winter. Doesn't it all go round quickly.

Nearly all the allotments have been let now and there is a short waiting list. If you are interested in getting on the list, please email

info@brigstockcc.co.uk.

MENS CLUB

Our fortnightly morning meetings are now progressing and we meet on Monday morning at 10-30 till 12 noon at the June Small Room at the United Reformed Church in Mill Lane. 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. 11^{th} and 25^{th} September, 9th, 23^{rd} October, 6^{th} and 20^{th} November, and 4^{th} and 18th December.

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



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Ladies Leisure Group

Our last two meetings before the summer break centred firmly around food! In June 24 of us descended on Geddington to enjoy afternoon tea. It was one of those really hot afternoons that are now a distant memory, and everyone enjoyed the sunshine and the cream tea. Then, in July, we had planned a picnic outside the chapel, but this time the weather wasn't kind and we all ate inside. It was still a very enjoyable meeting, although we sadly had to say goodbye to one of our long-standing members, Val, as she is moving away from Brigstock in the near future. Val has been our treasurer and has also given quite a few craft demonstrations, making cards and decorations for various events. She also has a wealth of quizzes and they usually stretched our brains quite considerably. We shall miss her and all she does for the group, and we wish her well in her new home in York.

We are looking forward to the next meeting in September, which will be on **September 25**th-not our usual third Monday in the month. Make a note of the date! We will be having a Silent Auction hosted by Jenny, and we are asking all those attending to bring a new item-it doesn't have to be big or expensive- that can be auctioned. All the details will be explained on the day! October's meeting is to be confirmed, and in November we shall be doing some Christmas craftwork. In December we shall have our usual Christmas party.

Ladies, we look forward to seeing you at 1.30pm on September 25th in the June Small room, Mill Lane!

Any questions? Contact Sharon-373832 or Sheila-373225.

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North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC)

You may see it once, twice if you are lucky!

Comet 12P/Pons–Brooks is coming towards us, don't panic, it's an old friend in the sky.

12P is a periodic comet with an orbital period of 71 years. It fits the classical definition of a Halley-type comet with 20 years to 200 year orbit, and is also one of the brightest known periodic comets, reach-



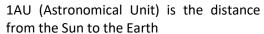
ing an absolute visual magnitude ~5 which is visible to the naked eye. Magnitude 6 is the limit of the human eye.

The next perihelion (closest to the Sun) passage will be 21 April 2024, with closest approach to Earth being 232 million km on 2 June 2024. It is a telescope/ binocular object for now, but if you have a little patience, you might spot it with the naked eye in April 2024.

Comet Pons-Brooks was discovered at the Marseilles Observatory in July 1812 by Jean-Louis Pons, and then later recovered in 1883 by William Robert Brooks.

12P/Pons–Brooks is possibly the parent body of the December κ-Draconids meteor shower.

The 12P's steeply-tilted orbit is inclined 74° to the plane of the solar system, and takes it nearly to Neptune (30AU) before cycling back toward the sun.



12P is a cryovolcanic or cold volcano comet. Like all other comets, the icy object is made up of a solid nucleus, filled with a mix of ice, dust and gas, and is surrounded by a fuzzy cloud of gas called a coma, which leaks out of

38

the comet's interior. Unlike most other comets, the gas and ice inside the 12P's nucleus build up so much that it can violently explode, shooting out its frosty contents, known as cryomagma, through large cracks in the nucleus's shell. This gives it a shape similar to the Star War's Millennium Falcon spacecraft piloted by Hans Solo.



North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC) - Cont'd

Hopefully 12P will be visible in the night sky from Brigstock during Autumn for 6 months.

This image from Stellarium shows 12P for the 1st November at 8pm in the western sky.

Stellarium.org is a free planetarium software/ app.

We meet on the 1st Friday of the month at 8pm in the Upstairs large meeting room. We have no membership fee and all are welcome.

NOTE— There will not be a meeting in September as this clashes with the Beer Festival. Hope to see you in October.

Paul Smith, North Northants Astronomy Club

NNastronomy@hotmail.com https://nnastro.club/

Jordans Weeones

AUTUMN FAIR

SATURDAY OCTOBER 7TH 10 AM TILL 2PM BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

Bookings for tables now being taken please contact Jane Steward by email j@janesteward.co.uk