BRIGSTOCK

NEWS

EDITION 33 - SPRING 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

chrisallen043@gmail.com or sent to 9 Woodyard Close, Brigstock, NN14 3LZ

2023 SUMMER Published 3rd June 2023 copy by 19th May

2022 AUTUMN Published 1st September 2023

2023 WINTER Published 25th November 2023

CONTACT DETAILS FOR LOCAL GROUPS

| BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS | rosybbriggs@btinternet.com | 373579 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL SECRETARY | 01536 373059 | |
| BRIGSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL (CLERK) | 07923 441873 | |
| BRIGSTOCK CRICKET CLUB | 01536 373478 | |
| BRIGSTOCK PFA | 01536 373353 | |
| BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY | 01536 373428 | |
| BRIGSTOCK WI | 01536 373141 | |
| 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 | |
| KNIT AND NATTER | 01536 373422 | |
| HARPERS COURT BINGO. Eileen Coles. | 01536 373168 | |

Front Cover Photo - Boxing Day Meet, Pytchley with Woodland Hunt, Brigstock

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 1 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 2 URC Warm Space, 11.30 to 2pm
- 3 Astronomy Club. Village Hall, 8—10pm
- 4 Race Evening, by St Andrews Church at Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 6 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 9 URC Warm Space, 11.30 to 2pm
- 9 BINGO, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 13 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 15 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 16 URC Warm Space, 11.30 to 2pm
- 17 Film Night, "The Dish", Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 20 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 20 Ladies Leisure Group, June Small Room, 1-30pm
- Historical Society, "Restoration of Canons Ashby", Village Hall 7-30pm
- 23 URC Warm Space, 11.30 to 2pm
- 27 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am Ladies Leisure group, 1.30pm
- 27 Rutland Big Band, 7-30pm, Village Hall
- 30 URC Warm Space, 11.30 to 2pm

April

- 1 Coffee Morning, URC, 10am
- 3 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 5 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 7 Astronomy Club. Village Hall, 8—10pm
- 15 Litter Pick, 10am Village Hall
- 17 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 17 Ladies Leisure Group, June Small Room, 1-30pm
- 19 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 22 St Andrews Church Coffee Morning 10-1pm
- 24 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am,
- 26 Historical Society, "Bassett Loake" Village Hall 7-30pm
- 29 Village Garage Sale 10-2pm for Jordans Weeones

May

- 3 Kurling, Village Hall, 2—4pm
- 5 Astronomy Club. Village Hall, 8—10pm
- 8 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 15 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 15 Ladies Leisure Group, 1.30pm
- 17 Kurling, Village Hall, 2—4pm
- Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 24 Historical Society, "Northants Film Archive" Village Hall 7.30pm

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is becoming quite busy again with regular classes and groups as well. There now a wide range of interests covered so hopefully you can find something to interest you.

To check for what or when the Village Hall is being used or is available, visit our website at **BRIGSTOCKVILLAGEHALL.CO.UK**.

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

Movement to Music Thursday 2pm

North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC) First Friday 8pm

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.

Lots of opportunities available.

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS rosybbriggs@btinternet.com 373579

VILLAGE HALL

COFFEE MORNINGS

The Village Hall committee has been hosting holding monthly coffee mornings at the village hall once a month since September. These have been reasonably well attended especially at the start, but with numbers dropping off, and people not seeming to need Warm Spaces to come long to, we have decided to stop holding these.

Therefore the February event will be the last for now. We will reconsider next autumn if we think that these are needed are wanted.

The Post Office and possible stalls will continue to attend on the Monday morning.

GRANT FUNDING

The Village Hall was privileged to be award a grant from Awards For All Lottery fund for new tables and battery backup. So we have bought 15 new tables to give us a full matching set of 20 tables which we will use for our functions and parties. This keeps up the standard of the hall and its equipment.

We have also purchased with the grant 2 back up batteries which are charged by the PV panels on the roof powered by the sun. Once charged they give free power for several hours and thus reducing our electricity running costs.



Our thanks to Awards for All for their support

TRUSTEES

The Committee is looking for new Trustees to help manage the Village Hall CIO. If you think you are interested, please contact one of the committee.

MONDAY CRAFT STALLS

Brigstock Village Hall Committee invited villagers to bring craft items etc to the village hall during the two hour Post Office session on a Monday. It was hoped that this might increase footfall for the post office ensuring we maintain the service here in Brigstock.

In addition to this the committee also serve tea and biscuits on the fourth Friday of the month. Here are comments from two of our crafters.

1 My current project started in Summer 2021, following the news that yet another member of my family had received a cancer diagnosis. This time throat cancer had targeted a cousin, the seventh member of my family to be on the receiving end of the phrase "yes, you have cancer". Feeling helpless once again I set out to raise £250 for Cancer Research UK, doing the only thing I could - knit.

We fundraised through the occasional pop up door step stall in Latham Street selling a varied collection of pocket money knits from sausage dogs to cacti and from knitted nans to bunnies and bears. Then came the generous offer from the Village Hall Committee to have a pitch alongside the Monday pop up post office. With huge thanks to my father in law, Frank, helping to run my stall at the post office over past year, the project moved up a gear.

After a break this summer, we returned in time to offer up some additional halloween and Christmas themed makes. As I write this we're preparing for Valentines Day and have plenty of calorie-free alternative gifts for Easter.

Lots of people have helped us out along the way, whether it be words of encouragement, generous donations of wool, offering an outlet for our sales or by making purchases. With huge thanks to everyone involved, I'm thrilled to report our current Cancer Research total is over £1450.

Sara Marsh

2 Since Spring 2022, I have been at the Brigstock Village Hall most Mondays, when the Post Office is open, selling my HANDMADE GREETINGS CARDS. All of my proceeds go to MARIE CURIE NURSES and to date I have been able to send £380 to this very worthwhile charity for their funds. So I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all those people in Brigstock who have supported my venture and have helped such a worthy cause.

If you enjoy craftwork but make far more items than you can use personally, why not try having a table along with the post office, and selling your goods. It is also a great way to get to know village folk!

Val Stout.

Brigstock Film Night, Village Hall

2022/23 Season Dates

We hope you've been enjoying our 'true story' themed films this season – one more to go!

Friday 17 March: The Dish (12) (2000)

This Australian comedy drama tells the story of the Parkes Observatory's role in the Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969, starring Sam Neill.

2023/2024 Season Dates

We've booked up dates for next autumn/winter – and we've added an extra bonus month, so we'll be starting in September. Here are the dates for your diary:

| 22 September 2023 | 19 January 2024 |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 20 October 2023 | 16 February 2024 |
| 17 November 2023 | 22 March 2024 |

We have an idea for a different film theme next season – more to be revealed in the Summer newsletter...

Everyone's welcome - here's what you can expect if you've never been:

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 ice-creams in the interval

An interesting choice of films – we don't usually show box office block-busters, but quirky or understated films instead, 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

6

Bar and tickets: cash only

Proceeds go to the Village Hall, Enquiries: Emma Poole on 370142

BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

We have been fortunate that we haven't had to cancel any of the meetings booked for the last three months because of bad weather, and Spring 2023 seems well on the way as I'm writing this in early February – the evenings are getting a lot lighter, and lots of bulbs are flowering, but there's still time yet for some snow and frost.

Meeting dates for the next few months are: 1st and 15th March, 5th and 19th April, 3rd and 17th May, and 7th and 21st June. March and May both have fifth Wednesdays when we won't be playing.

As usual, we will be at the Village Hall from 2-4 p.m., and it will cost you £2, refreshments included. For any more information, ring me on 373367, or just come along on any of the above dates – all ages and all levels of fitness welcome!

Judith Beeby

Sharon Spencer SAC DIP FHPT/FHPP Registered Foot Health Practitioner



Routine foot care and professional treatment in the comfort of your own home

- Corns
- Calluses & Hard Skin Removal
- Nail Trimming
- Fungal & Thickened Nails
- Cracked Heels
- In-growing Toenails
- Diabetic Foot Care
- · Athletes Foot

7





For appointments call Sharon: 07947 307276 or 01933 316824

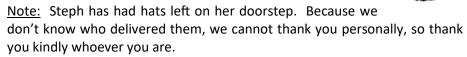
Knit & Natter Group

Here's wishing all readers a very happy and healthy New Year from Brigstock Knit and Natter Group. February already, only means we look forward to lighter evenings and hopefully warmer days.



Bobble Hat Project:

Our group are busy beavering away making bobble hats for our November 2023 project. We wish to thank villagers for helping us with the project, keep them coming please. We need a lot of bobble hats, so if you knit or crochet and would like to contribute, please contact Steph or Glenda (details below) who can provide you with a simple pattern. The hats must be any shade of green and the bobble any bright colour (but not green).



War Memorial Poppies:

The poppies on the war memorial have now been removed, dried and stored ready for this years Remembrance Sunday in November. We wish to thank all those who have shown their appreciation of the poppy display on social media and by word of mouth. Pictures have been shared in many countries around the world.

Living Advent Window:

Thank you everyone who gave us feedback on the display. We would like to thank Jane Jones for all the work she has done for organising the Living Advent Window for so many years. You deserve a rest now Jane. Thank you Karen Williams, (one of our Knit and Natter members) for taking on the task to keep this annual Christmas event alive.

We also wish to thank Chris Allen for making the superb charity collection wishing well. The generous amount collected each day was added to the Prostrate Cancer charity.

Spring Post Box Displays:

Watch out for the Easter Post box displays that will go up again this year. We know our lovely posties enjoy seeing them as do villagers and those passing through.

If you want to join our friendly group

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

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

PRINT CARTRIDGES

Do you have a printer and have used cartridges? There is now a collection box at the Village Hall to get these recycled. Please bring you old cartridges along so that money can be gained for local causes.

IDEAS FOR EASTER

We are lucky to have a great range of stately homes and visitor attractions within easy reach of us. Here is a list of some of those available and is not a complete list. Please do check their websites to confirm details and costs.

Rockingham Castle—Easter Fun on Sunday 9th and Monday 10th April

Deene Park—Easter House Opening and Easter Egg Hunt Sunday 9th and Monday 10th April

Lamport Hall—Antiques Fair Sunday 9th and Monday 10th April

Kelmarsh Hall—Spring Walk and Artisan Fair Sunday 2nd April,

- Country Fair Sunday 9th and Monday 10th April

Lyveden Easter adventures, Tuesday 4th to Thursday 13th April.

Boughton House and Gardens Opening Saturday 8th to Monday 10th April

Hope you can find something that interests you. There are many more events being advertised so enjoy yourselves.

BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

| 22/03/23 | The Restoration of the historic gardens at Canons Ashby | Susan Lees Canons Ashby is a rare surviving example of early 18th Century garden design. The gardens are being restored based on plans drawn in the 1800s by Henry Dryden evoking the character of the garden in its | |
|----------|--|--|--|
| 26/04/23 | Bassett-Lowke of North- ampton: a pastime today, a business tomorrow. Doug- las Goddard | Toy designer and manufacturer, traveller, patron of Charles Rennie Mackintosh, supporter of the arts. Douglas will tell us about this fascinating | |
| 24/05/23 | Northamptonshire Film Archives Trust | The Trust will be bringing along some more films of local interest. | |
| 28/06/23 | Brigstock Characters Bill Simon and Sally Wilks | A selection of Brigstock characters from the past. | |

MEMBERSHIP £6 for the rest of the year otherwise £3 per visit. Talks usually take place at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

We look forward to welcoming you.

I have recently come across some old video tapes of past village events that I took as a record of the Queen's Golden Jubilee. The quality isn't brilliant but they are interesting nonetheless. It got me wondering if other people in the village have old movies or videos of village events. If you have, are you willing to share them with us and let us put them in our archive? Even if they are in obsolete formats we should be able to transfer them. In May we are welcoming the Northamptonshire Film Archive Trust who will show us some more films from their archive. They are always looking for new material to add to their collection too.

Sally Wilks Chair

BRIGSTOCK LATHAM SCHOOL PFA

The PFA has a great evening at the beginning of February with our Curry Night which we jointly hosted with Village Hall committee. We had about 18 currys and a sell out of 80 tickets.. The currys covered the full range from meat, vegetarian and vegan. All the profits were shared between the two organisations and our portion will go straight to supporting the items that we wish to fund at the school.



We are looking at what events and functions we might hold next so watch out for more information.

As always, we welcome any new members.

If anyone would like more information, email me: <u>leabee27@me.com</u> Leanne Cloono

Household hints and tips with Mrs O

- 1, Try not to use the washing machine, dishwasher or tumble dryer between the hours of 4pm and 7pm. This is peak usage time when supply is at its most expensive.
- 2. When you use the tumble dryer, put a dry towel in too as this absorbs moisture and it won't take as long.
- 3, If you use bleach for cleaning, use it in cold water. It cleans just as well, and bleach in hot water will give off toxic fumes.
- 4. All you need to achieve brilliantly clean windows is a bit of washing up liquid and warm water. Work in an S shape with a squeegee and dry off with old newspaper.
- 5. When spring cleaning, work from the top of your house to the bottom. If you start at the bottom, when you clean upstairs disturbed dust will fall and settle on your freshly cleaned surfaces downstairs!
- 6. Use a tumble dryer fragrance sheet to clean skirting boards as the dust will stick to the sheet.

Brigstock United Reformed Church

This is being written on a cold but sunny day, and already the signs of Spring are obvious-aconites, snowdrops and crocuses-but it's not that long since we were celebrating Christmas and enjoying all the festivities.

Our popular Christmas coffee morning was the most successful ever, raising over £1210 for our funds-much needed with the increase in energy costs. It was a very busy, enjoyable morning and we were really pleased to see so many people enjoying it.

A week before Christmas we held our candlelight Carol Service and welcomed a good crowd to enjoy the traditional carols and readings. We always give the offering from this service to charity, and this year the money, totalling £100, was sent to Dementia UK. On Christmas day we met for a short celebration led by Helen-a great way to start off the festivities.

The June Small room is being well-used now, with the Warm Space on Thursdays and the new group for mums and babies, organised by Amy, meeting on Wednesday mornings. There is something on every day, so perhaps one of the groups listed below might appeal to you or someone you know?

We have a few events planned for this year, starting with our annual Easter Coffee morning on Saturday, April 1st. Plenty of hot cross buns will be available, plus raffle, tombola and cakes, so do join us for an hour or two.

Our Sunday services are at 10.30am, and we are holding them in the June Small room until Easter to save on energy costs and because it's warmer in there anyway! We welcome anyone who would like to attend any of our services.

Groups in the June Small room:

Monday: Men's group, Scrabble group-alternate Monday mornings

Ladies Leisure group 3rd Monday in the month 1.30-3.30pm

Tuesday: Open Door 9.30-11.30, Sunnysiders 2-4pm

Wednesday: Mums and babies, 9.10am-11am

Thursday: Warm Space 11.30-2pm- until March 30th

Friday: Art group 10-midday,

Book Club last Friday every month, 2.30-3.30pm

Brigstock Warm Space

The Warm Space-the June Small room at the chapel in Mill Lane- has now been open every Thursday since January 5th and the number of visitors coming to enjoy the soups, rolls and cheese on offer has steadily grown. There have also been some extra goodies courtesy of Morrisons!

We initially opened from 10am to 3pm, but the main demand is for the lunchtime period and we have now changed the times to 11.30-2pm. We have a willing band of volunteers who take turns to make a variety of delicious soups, serve the food and make everyone feel welcome. There are also newspapers to read as well as magazines and a few puzzles, but most people just enjoy a good chat.

This is a joint venture organised by the URC and St Andrews members, but we welcome any one who would like to help out. Our rota is sorted until March 30th, which will be our last opening for this winter, but we hope to be back in November, so if anyone would like to help in any way, look out for details on the village Facebook page or in the Autumn edition of this newsletter for details.

We are very grateful to the Parish Council and Brigstock Beer Festival committee for their generous financial support for this project, and we hope it will be something we can continue to do next winter for anyone who wants a couple of hours away from home, in a warm place with some hot food and company.

Movement to Music

My class is held on Thursday afternoons at 2pm in the Village Hall.

We are a friendly group. I choose the music carefully from all eras to make it a fun class, and we dance for 40 minutes.

Afterwards there is tea and coffee and the chance for a chat.

Contact Janet on 373560 or 07931 712056, or just turn up, it's always lovely to see a new face.

Brigstock Cricket Club

As I write this article it doesn't seem two minutes since the 2022 season finished and now winter will soon be turning into spring which means that cricket season is less than two months away. The First X1 start their 2023 Premier campaign away to Desborough on 22nd April 2023 and the following Saturday at home against Oundle. The second X1 start their season with a home fixture against Thrapston on 6th May 2023. Winter nets started in mid-January every Wednesday evening at



Oundle school from 7.00-9.00 with the first hour for juniors and the second for adults. Youth training will commence on Friday 12th May and again we will be running both the Allstars/Dynomos programs, further details will follow on social media nearer the time. Pisces Fish & Chips will be present every Friday. This season the club will be running a U11 girls' cricket team in the softball league. There are 6 girls in a team and games will be played on Sundays from May to July. If you are interested in entering your daughter into this team or would like further information then please either email me at andrewssimon29@gmail.com or george.groenland@aol.co.uk I will be approaching the village school to provide further information as well over the next few months.

For those who didn't know the First X1 finished last season in 4th place in the Northants premier league which was the highest finish in the clubs' history. Congratulations to all of the players for this fantastic achievement. Further congratulations should also go to young Charlie Parton for making the Northants County under-12 squad for this coming season, keep up the good work Charlie! There will be of course several social events over the course of the season so please keep an eye on social media for details of these planned events. Before the start of this season, we hope to upgrade some of the facilities within the pavilion.

I look forward to seeing you all soon and thank you again for your support, Simon Andrews - BCC Chairman



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

- Beverages and snacks
- Cheese and Wine
- Raffle



Tickets to be sold in advance through the usual village outlets nearer the time

14

Fermyn Woods Country Park

We certainly had more of a winter this season. There were some nice frosty mornings at the park. All the ponds had thick ice that lasted a while.

Due to the cold weather, we had a lot of migrant birds feeding around the park. These included Redwings and Fieldfares, but we did also have flocks of Siskin as well. All the resident birds were out also feeding on the berries. We have a very tame Robin that has its territory in our compound and has been joining us for lunch, waiting for us to drop food.

Now that it is warming up and the daylight hours are increasing, we are starting to see signs of Spring. The Snowdrops that are on the mound near the café gate have put on a good display and have also spread onto the meadow as well this year.

We have had two members of staff start, Claire who is the Ranger at Barn-well Country Park and Liam who works between the two. So, if you see them come and say hello.

Our on-going winter habitat work has been going well due to the help of our volunteers. This season we have been clearing a section of Little Thicket to open it up and allow in more light and also create some wildlife corridors. We have also been clearing tree regrowth in the Refuge, created some low scrub hedges around the park. Also volunteers have been clearing scrub regrowth on the verges on a section of the red route to allow it to return to grassland and wildflowers. This is just a snapshot of work we have been doing, - there has been too much work carried out to mention it all here.

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 homemade cake or soup.

The Ranger Team

Summer opening times

Café

10:30am – 4pm weekdays, 10:30am – 4.30pm weekends Hot food served until 2pm weekdays and 3pm weekends

Main car park - 24 hours Café car park and toilets - 9am - 4pm

WILD n WOODY







At Fermyn Woods Country Park on Mondays from 10am –12am

It is for Pre-School children aged 2yrs upwards. Wild n Woody offers an inspiration-

al outdoor experience for your child over a 6 week programme.

Axctivities include mud kitchen, den building, bug hunting, basic tool use, camp fire and much more. £39 per chid for 6 weeks

All sessions must be pre-booked. Block term bookings only. Spaces Limited.

Email educationrangers.ncc@northnorthants.gov.uk to book

Or find details on www.northamptonshireparks.co.uk

Usual car parking charges apply

The Kings Coronation

The Coronation will take place on Saturday 6th May at Westminster Abbey with a reduced invitation list from when the Queen was crowned. There is still time for your invitation to come. On Sunday, there will be a special concert held in the grounds of Windsor Castle. It is reported that Lionel Richie will be opening the concert. We will all be able to see this live on the BBC.

Monday is a Bank Holiday and is being themed as "The Big Help Out "day. This is to encourage the public to volunteer and support the local area. We await to get more information. Also there could be the Coronation Big Lunch. Should there be a big village lunch or just street parties??

Brigstock has a great record of celebrating coronations, Jubilees and other memorable events such as the Pied Piper anniversary.

What would you like to see on that weekend? Would you like to join in any events? If so pass your views to the Parish Council or any of the other groups who are looking at possibilities.

BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk



The Brigstock WI is fast approaching its AGM and will be starting its new program of events.

It has given us time to reflect on past events and everything we packed into the last year. Jubilee Tea Parties saw village friends reconnect, some

who hadn't seen one another since before lockdown. Duck races saw a bit of aqua aerobics at the Brigstock Beer Festival, sadly quackers is still missing perhaps well past Sudborough by now! There was much more and we wish to thank everyone who attended and supported any of the WI events, it was great to see you there.

We recently attended a meeting with other local Wl's, Thrapston, Barnwell, Islip, Ringstead to name a few. The main topic of the evening was to discuss speakers. Speakers come to the WI and chat about their specialist subject. For instance, just recently Brigstock WI members were given an interesting and informative talk from Guide Dogs for the Blind with two of the panel being Brigstock residents. Other speakers have been authors, cake decorators, florists, artists etc. The speakers meeting highlighted that on occasion non-members are welcome to attend an event for a small fee. This might be a crafting event such as wreath making or an interesting speech or demonstration. We will endeavor to advertise such events to Brigstock residents as and when we are made aware of them.

Brigstock WI members have been enjoying a pop-up themed lunch once a month with the next one celebrating St David's Day. We thought we would share a tried and tested recipe for Bara Brith (speckled bread). The traditional recipe for Bara Brith, is actually a yeasted bread, this recipe is for a lovely moist fruit cake widely served in Wales.

Ingredients

400g sultanas, raisins, currants, 300ml strong hot tea

1 tsp mixed spice or cinnamon 250g self-raising flour

100g dark brown sugar ideally muscovado

1 egg, Honey to glaze

Method on next page:

BRIGSTOCK WI Cont'd

Method

Put the fruit and sugar in a bowl and pour over the hot tea until the sugar is dissolved and leave to soak overnight.

The next day preheat the oven to 180°C /Gas 4. Line a large loaf tin with baking parchment.

Sift the flour and spice into the fruit and tea then stir in the egg. Blend well.



Bake for 1 hour and remove once the cake is risen and cooked through. Drizzle a little honey over the warm cake and leave to cool.

Some recipes will tell you to leave and eat after two days! We say make a cuppa and dig in.

For more information on the Brigstock WI or Hall Hire please contact info.brigstockwi@gmail.com

WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

Although it is cold and often raining the village groups have kept the War Memorial tidy over the winter months. Thanks to Glenda and team for the display of Poppies since November. I must admit it looks very bare now. The following groups have agreed to tidy the area for the following months

March Cricket Club

April WI

May Historical Society

Many thanks to them in advance

Liz Searle

BRIGSTOCK ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Insight and advice from professionals are invaluable to any community archaeological group. It can direct interpretation – typological analysis by a Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) has identified possible Iron Age ceramic among our High Street finds from 2021. But it can also broaden and deepen our understanding of the histor-



ic landscape around us. Recent Roman excavations at Weldon including evidence for a mausoleum and tile production offer important local context for Brigstock in its earliest historic phase.

So, we're delighted to confirm we're currently arranging for a presentation about that dig by Oxford Archaeology. Followed by a Q&A, we hope the talk will be at Brigstock's village hall in either April or May. Open to anyone interested in our shared history, there will be a small door fee to cover costs but not for paid-up members. More details to follow on the village Facebook page once confirmed.

We are also starting to plan our summer outdoor activities. These will hopefully include further trial hole excavations within the village to further our knowledge of previous occupation and field walking looking for pottery and other items to identify where possible rural farms or homes were located. If you would like to be involved in any of these, or have suggestions of places we can investigate, do contact us.

If you'd like to find out more or to become a member, please mail us at brigstockarchaeologicalgroup@gmail.com or visit our website at www.brigstockarchaeologicalgroup.co.uk.

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 BELL RINGERS

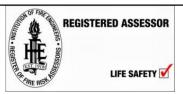
We are well into our practice sessions preparing for extended ringing in May for the King's coronation. There are also plans for open ringing so everyone can ring a bell in celebration. Look out for announcements nearer the time.

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 then contact Steve Todd on 01536 373373.

NIGEL FOX GIFireE Fire Safety Consultant Tel: 07502 102396



Email: nigel.fox28@gmail.com

Specialising in Fire Risk Assessment

A common-sense approach to fire safety

Head of Fire Safety with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service 2006 – 2016

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

BRIGSTOCK

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Margaret Smith Chair
Sally Wilks Vice Chair

Julie Lemmy Councillor Max Marsden Councillor Councillor **Fave Perkins** Councillor Elizabeth Searle Sue Doolan Councillor Councillor Simon Brown Suzanne Sharp Councillor **Terry Towns** Councillor

Ken Motion Chair Planning

Sophie Cullinan Clerk 07923 441873

Again, there has been have been many changes since the last Newsletter.

As Spring approaches we are now planning to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles 3rd. The building site on Stanion Road is well underway and we have a new clerk to the Parish council.

Sudborough Road Industrial Site

So far, despite repeatedly contacting the planning department, there is no further news. We will continue to pursue this case to gain a satisfactory conclusion.

Flooding

Although the Environment Agency has still not published the expected report they assure us that practical plans are well underway. Various meetings have been held with affected householders and more extensive plans are developing for the management of Harpers Brook. A member of the village community, funded by the Parish Council, has devised and installed an extra early flood warning near the Doctor's Surgery. There will be a network of contacts to spread the news. If you want to included in this network, please contact the Parish Council Clerk.

PARISH COUNCIL

5 Year Plan

The Cemetery continues to be a priority. An overall plan is being developed, firstly ensuring maintenance and repair are addressed then a more long term plan to sustain the quality of the cemetery for future years. The regular management of the trees and street lighting continues on a rolling programme as do other maintenance activities, not exciting but necessary!

Bridge Gate to the Meadow and other Public Notices

As happens annually, the gate to the Meadow will be closed until Easter to rest the path and let the grass recover. Please do continue to care for the Meadow by picking up after your dogs and in all other public places. Also, many thanks to the public-spirited members of our community who regularly litter pick to keep our village as attractive as it is. There will be a Parish Council led litter pick on Saturday 15th April so keep a lookout for the posters the children have designed in school.

Stanion Road Development

We can now see major construction activity on the site. It is amazing that with all the wet weather and massive earth works that they have managed to keep Stanion Road mud free. There was concern that the hedge bordering Stanion Road has been removed but as shown on the plans it will be replanted when construction is completed. The management team are keen to communicate, through the Parish Council, with village residents to ensure such concerns can be addressed.

Coronation Celebrations

The Parish Council is inviting all village organisations to get together to create a coordinated plan for the celebration of the Coronation. Notice of activities will be posted around the village. As royal events have moved so quickly over the past year there are still a few activities related the Queen's Jubilee to complete, namely, the planting of an oak tree and adding an inscription to the Market Cross.

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

Clerk to the Parish Council

We have been successful in appointing a new Clerk. The Parish Council is very pleased to welcome Sophie Cullinan to the post. Sophie lives in the village and is enthusiastic to take on the many duties involved in the role of clerk. Happily, Nigel Searle has offered to support her to ensure a smooth transition of information and processes. His extensive knowledge and experience built up over 20 years will be a great help.

Lastly, I would like to thank all members of the Parish Council for their support in the challenging task of finding and appointing a new clerk. Brigstock is fortunate to have such a group of enthusiastic and knowledgeable individuals working (without remuneration) on their behalf.

Margaret Smith, Chair Brigstock Parish Council

Litter Picking

The Annual litter pick will take place on Saturday 15th April from 10am-12 noon. Equipment will be supplied, just come along to the village hall carpark and pick it up. The school children have been asked to design some posters so watch out for them around the village.



We must remember those local resi-

dents who every week are going out to clear the roads of dropped rubbish. This Annual Litter Pick is a chance to collect even more and cover areas not usually visited.

If anyone wants to tackle an area before then, there is equipment available from the Parish Council, Please contact Liz Searle 373672

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. Thank you.

ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION

This is just a reminder that Brigstock Conservation Area is subject to an Article 4 Direction.

An article 4 direction cannot be applied retrospectively to works that have already been carried out so, for example, if you have a satellite dish installed before 2015 you will not be expected to remove it.

However, the following permitted development rights are withdrawn in the case of the Brigstock Conservation Area, and you will need to make a planning application if you want to do any of the following:

Enlarge, improve or otherwise alter a dwellinghouse

Enlarge a dwellinghouse consisting of an addition or alteration to its roof

Alter the roof of a dwellinghouse in any other way.

Erect or construct a porch outside any external door of a dwelling-house

Install, alter or replace a chimney, flue or soil vent pipe on a dwelling-house

Install, alter or replace a satellite dish on a dwellinghouse or within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse

Paint the exterior of any building or work

Demolish the whole or any part of any gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure.

The removal of a tree within the Conservation Area also needs permission. If want to remove a tree or have any work done to it please let us know.

This type of application will not necessarily attract a planning fee so the additional costs may be borne by North Northants County Council.

If you have any queries relating to these restrictions please contact North Northants Planning Department via the village website or telephone 0300 126 3000 or 01832 742148.



BINGO—

It was so good to see so many of you there in December at our very successful Christmas Bingo Session.

Our next Session will be on Thursday March 9th in our lovely Village Hall.

Doors open 7.00pm for Eyes Down at 7.30pm. Tea and coffee provided but please feel free to bring any other drinks and refreshments.



There will be the usual Raffle and this time Prizes will be Easter themed. New players are always welcome but sadly only people over 18 can be admitted. Entrance £1

Always remember if you need Transport please contact Eileen or Chris on 373168.

Look forward to seeing you All on March 9th.

Eileen, Chris and Steph.

BRIGSTOCK LIVING ADVENT CALENDER 2022

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the 2022 Advent Window event. There were some fabulous windows and wonderful creativity.

It was so good to be out and about in December, gather at the windows and socialise!

Thank you to Tracey for the map, Caroline Nall for printing the maps and to Simon & Karen for their help with write ups. Chris for making the wishing well (great idea) and Steph and everyone who helped to empty it!

Thank you to the Pytchley with Woodland Hunt for allowing a collection at the Boxing Day meet. The total raised for Prostate Cancer UK, through the 2022 event was £1400 which is a record. Thank you everyone who donated and supported.

My husband Mick, was diagnosed and treated for Prostate Cancer in 2022 along with some other members of our community. The charity is a fantastic resource and support for men living with PC or on 'active surveillance'. It also works hard to increase awareness signs and tests available.

Men - please get checked. This cancer does not necessarily have symptoms! prostatecanceruk.org

As some of you will know, I have decided this was the last year to organise the calendar. We spend increasing time in Norfolk and are also planning lots of 'retirement' trips so I feel it is time to hang up Advent hat and free my December. Karen Williams, who lives along the High Street from me has offered to take on organising a 2023 event and I am sure she will be posting for volunteers before too long!

Please get in touch if you have ideas or would like to help organise. email:brigstockadvent@hotmail.com or message through the facebook page.

Many thanks!, Jane Jones

And a big Thank You to Jane from all the village for all the hard work that you have put in over the years. It has made the village a great place over the Christmas period and has brought more people together.

Well done

THE SCRABBLE GROUP

All of our meetings have been able to go ahead on the dates given in the last newsletter. Admittedly, some have had to be shorter than others when fewer players have attended, to keep within our funds – we just have to make the little grey cells work a bit faster on those mornings!

The dates for meetings for the Spring are: 6th and 20th March, 3rd and 17th April, just the 15th in May because of all the Bank Holidays, and then we are back to normal on 5th June.

As always, we will meet from 10.30 a.m. in the June Small Room at the U.R.C. in Mill Lane, £3 including tea/coffee and biscuits. If you would like any more information, please ring me on 373367, or just call in one morning, we would be very pleased to welcome some more players.

Judith Beeby

SUNNYSIDERS

We meet in the June Small room United Reform Church on Tuesday afternoons from 2.0 - 4.0 pm. We sometimes enjoy speakers and recently enjoyed visits from the Salvation Army, the blind dogs association, a talk on animation and how it all began and various others. At other times we entertain ourselves and play curling, bingo etc. If you would like to come along to see what we do and stay for a cup of tea/biscuits and a chat you would be very welcome

Contact is Maureen on phone number Brigstock 373383.

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

Date are: 27th February, 13th and 27th March, 24th April, 8th and 22nd May.

Contact Robin Phillips 01536 370144 or Terry Bowen 01536 373807



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

Ladies Leisure Group

Our 2022 programme ended with 22 members enjoying a delicious Christmas lunch, with quizzes and an excellent raffle. Our first meeting of 2023 was very well attended and we have welcomed several new members. Claire showed us lots of her amazing brooch collection and spoke about their history.

We have planned the programme for 2023 up to the May meeting, so have a look at the events listed below and come and join us; you will be very welcome! We always have tea and cake , plus a raffle, all for £2 per meeting to cover our costs, so it's good value for an afternoon out with plenty of company. The February meeting-a Snowman Drive- will have taken place by the time you read this, but you can see that we do try to vary what we do. All meetings are at 1.30pm in the June Small room, Mill Lane unless otherwise stated.

March 20th It could only happen at a wedding - Mrs Margaret Burgon

April 17th Coronation celebration

May 15th Cream teas - venue to be decided.

More details from Val-373456, Sharon-373832 or Sheila-373225

Brigstock Project Group

Not much to report this edition as we have not added any new projects to our tasks. We are continuing to maintain the wooden planters that we have installed and the bulbs are showing their heads already. We hope to have a good display over the summer to brighten the entrances into the village and the other planters.

If you would like to help with any projects or have suggestions as to improvements you would like to see in the village, do contact Steph or Glenda.



ADVERT POSTER INVITATION OR ANYTHING ELSE DESIGN AGENCY?

We're cheaper than you might think... (...and turnaround is quick too!)

We can even deliver to Brigstock for free!

TYPESTART

01536 418181 www.typestart.co.uk

SUPPORT OFFERED TO THE COMMUNITY BY GRACE HOMES

As you're most likely aware, Grace Homes has started work at its Windmill Meadow development off Stanion Road. This small development will be a mix of two, three, four and five-bedroom homes, (including some bungalows), and it is anticipated the first homes will be released for sale towards the end of this year.

In the meantime, Grace Homes would like to hear from you.

As a business, Grace Homes has long recognised the importance of community, and wherever possible they like to forge links with the local population where they are building. They do this through their Local Foundations initiative, which offers support to causes within the local area in the form of a financial contribution, the supply of our time or materials, or through other ways, such as creating educational opportunities.

Examples of the support already provided include: helping to build and plant up some raised beds at Hallaton Primary School; supply of training and scythes to a wildlife society in Nether Broughton so they could manage an important open space; and providing funding to get the church bells repaired in Lubenham. They've also buried many time capsules within their developments, dedicated benches to local residents, and planted a community orchard.

If you are involved in a local group and believe your cause could benefit from some Local Foundations support, please send an email to sales@gracehomes.co.uk with the title "Local Foundations request". Make sure you provide your contact details, the name of the organisation, and the type of support required.

If you'd like to receive information about the new homes being built at Windmill Meadow as it becomes available, visit gracehomes.co.uk/find-a-home/brigstock and click "Register your interest".

Grace Homes looks forward to hearing from you in the near future.





BUILDING LOCAL FOUNDATIONS



COMING SOON

A small development of two to five-bedroom homes



01536 740019 | GRACEHOMES.CO.UK

St Andrews Church

As spring is on the horizon we start our planning for Easter. Services will include 'Stations of the Cross' which will be available to do in your own time whilst the church is open from Monday 3rd April to Saturday 8th April.

On Easter Day, there will be a 'dawn' Easter Morning Service at 6.00 a.m. at All Saints Sudborough Church and on Easter Sunday a Service at St Andrew's at 10.00 a.m.

Additional weekly services will be advertised in The St Andrew's Church weekly News Letter and on the Harpers book Anglican churches website. www.harperbrookanglicans.org.uk

As we continue to raise funds for the servery and toilet facilities we will be having a race night in the village hall on Saturday 4th March. Gates open at 7.30 p.m. first race at 8 p.m. There will be a bar, tickets are £8.00 and include supper. Tickets are on sale now and can be obtained from Barbara Platt 01536 373240

Also

We are excited to present the Rutland Big Band featuring Glenn Miller and other big band hits on Monday March 27th 7.30 pm

Brigstock Village Hall. A bar will be available

Tickets are £10 each and can be obtained from Barbara Platt 01536 373240

Coffee morning on Saturday April 22nd

from10 until 1

Raffle, refreshments, Tombola and other stalls.



'Brollies Galore' – **16**th – **18**th **June in church**. We are now preparing for the Umbrella Festival that was postponed in 2020. This involves groups, organisations and businesses from the village. We are asking them to create and install a display, which includes an umbrella or umbrellas, open or closed. There is no theme so the sky is literally the limit (remembering that it is to be exhibited in church!). Further details to follow



St Andrews Church

St Andrews Church Fundraising Group
We have more events planned to raise money for a toilet and servery.

Do come along and show your support.

Horse Racing Night with Supper



Brigstock Village Hall Saturday March 4th 7.30 pm
Tickets £8 to include supper. (Over 16s only)

Bar available
Tickets from Barbara 373240

The Putland Rig Rand

The Rutland Big Band

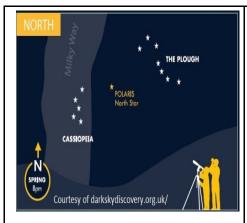
In



A Century of Big Band Hits
Featuring the music of Glenn Miller
Brigstock Village Hall Monday March 27th 7.30pm
Bar Tickets £10 from Barbara 373240 Tony 373458

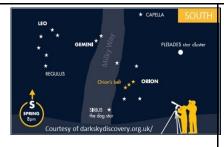
North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC)

Spring brings a change in the terrestrial landscape; we see the bulbs emerging, the trees budding and wildlife courting. We also see a change in the tapestry of the heavens above our heads for the season of Spring. In the last 3 months since winter, our planet as travelled 136 million miles in its orbit around the Sun, and our view to the south as changed to another set of heavenly bodies.



If we look north, then we see The Plough. The Plough is easily recognised by its set of stars in the northern sky that form a saucepan shape, the two stars Dubhe and Merak which are farthest away from the end of the handle always point towards Polaris, the North Celestial Pole, this is located at 52 degrees above the horizon for our location. The stars in the northern sky are the same all year round, and are circumpolar around the celestial pole.

The W-shape of the large Cassiopeia constellation can be seen to the left of Polaris.



Looking south, you can see the stars have changed for Spring.

You will see Orion the Hunter, one of the most noticeable and identifiable constellations in the night sky, the two stick figures of Gemini, the so called Seven Sisters or Pleides, and the arm of the Milky Way.

The club uses Stellarium.org, a free planetarium app for navigating the sky.

The dark sky over the village gave our club member Graham Algeo an oppurtunity to capture this image of the Milky Way arm from the terrace at the side of the hall. Using his Canon 700d digial SLR camera, and a standard 15mm lens, with a clockwork tracking arm on a tripod, and pointing north-east, he



North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC) Cont'd

captured one hour's worth of 60second exposures that he then stacked using a Deep Sky Stacker app. You can see the tops of the trees at the bottom of the stacked image.

We meet on the 1st Friday of the month from 8 till 10pm in the upstairs large meeting room. We have no membership fee and all are welcome.

Paul Smith, North Northants Astronomy Club

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

Brigstock Beer Festival 2023

FRIDAY 16TH AND SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER



Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, drank, danced and played at last year's festival. We were delighted to be able to bring the festival entertainment onto the meadow and hope to make the event even better in 2023.

Behind the scenes, we have a team of people putting the plans together for this year, but we are always looking for people to join our team. We have a range of sub-committees in finance, sponsorship, entertainment, beer(!), communications and would love for anyone in the village to come and join us, to help us continually move forward as an event.

In 2022, the festival was the largest ever in terms of the money we were able to generate, which we were able to distribute to Cransley Hospice as well as local charities; United Reform Church, Sunnysiders, Fermyn Woods Country Park, Brigstock Archaeological Society, and the Village Hall Committee.

If there are any village projects that you would like to nominate for support, are interested in becoming an event sponsor, or would like to find out more about us the please contact the Chairman, Matt Johnston, on $\underline{\text{matt@mainspring.co.uk}} \ .$

WWW.BRIGSTOCKBEERFESTIVAL.COM

36 37

LYVEDEN MANOR HOUSE AND NEW **BIELD**

Following a successful Christmas period at Lyveden we are busy preparing for the new season in March. Our first Christmas at the Manor was really well received by our visitors and we had some fantastic feedback. We invited visitors to find out about Tudor festive traditions, National and even share their own traditions on our traditions tree! If you didn't manage to visit, we will definitely be doing it again in 2023!



We're really excited to be working with Tresham College in Kettering and Corby to deliver an art exhibition in the Common Room inspired by Lyveden's story. The students are creating some really interesting and engaging pieces! Pop back from March to see what they've created. This exhibition has enabled students who haven't visited us, and wouldn't have been able to otherwise, to visit us with their families whilst completing the project. Many of them were unaware of what the National Trust was, and hadn't heard of Lyveden before.

We are introducing new volunteer led off-site walks which will take you around our local countryside. Do keep an eye out for further information on these. You can also join talks and tours at Lyveden (subject to volunteer availability).

Events 2023:

8th March – Introduction to Watercolour Workshop with Something Less Boring (booking essential)

1st -16th April – Easter Egg Trail

12th April - Introduction to Watercolour Workshop with Something Less Boring (booking essential)

27th May – 4th June – Family Activites and Half term trail

17th June – MacHamLear Outdoor Theatre

18th June – Gay Pride No Prejudice Outdoor Theatre

Please keep an eye on our website for further events.



We've been busy embracing the traditions of our school and had a wonderful time on 21st February taking part in our annual pancake race. Year 5 pupil Nell Rainbow and Year 6 pupil Charlotte Baxter, wrote the following article about the experience:

On Tuesday the 21st of February, we had our annual pancake race. As usual we had a rather smashing time! All year groups and teachers, participated and even if the teachers were forced to have a go they still had oodles of fun. We all lined up around the playground and waited for the excitement to happen. The children were given pancakes to put on their pans and some of them even took a cheeky bite! We are looking forward to the next pancake race and so are some of the little ones I am sure. Look at their little faces!



Some children came 1^{st} 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} but even if you didn't, the thing that matters is you participated in the competition and had fun. The results put Lyveden first, Fermyn and Rockingham came in joint second and Deene came third. What a great way to start the term!

We're looking forward to another packed term of learning and embracing the traditions and heritage of our school and community. Please mark 1.30pm on Friday 26th May in your calendars to join us for our May Day Celebrations on Hall Hill!

Jordans Weeones

Since the last newsletter, all eyes were on forward planning and getting ready for the Enchanted Garden, getting lights organised, making displays, collecting dolls houses and Christmas items that had been kindly donated. All hands on deck for the week prior to the reveal/opening of the garden on the 16th December. Putting up the marquee, filling it with various trees and other decorations take several days and I have to thank all my little helpers who came at short notice and help me put this together. Also thanks to Father Christmas and his elves for coming to Brigstock.

I think the highlight was the scale model of Brigstock Church made by Jordan's Uncle Colin, which was firstly displayed in the enchanted garden and then in the Church. As there couldn't really be a reveal, we started the evening with some lovely carol singing provided by members of our village choir which was really quite moving to hear them singing in the crisp clear air of the night. After the carol singing, the first of the children then went through the enchanted garden and saw Father Christmas. Over the three days that Father Christmas managed to come and visit Brigstock, 58 children came through and saw him, with all receiving a present each and some lovely chocolates

This brought an end to the years fundraising

Thinking forward, Brigstock has been an absolutely marvellous supporter of Jordan Weeones through some tough times. But now that Jordans Weeones is able to get out and about and do much more fundraising for themselves and holding other events outside of our village, I will be taking more of a backseat.

The bric-a-brac will only make occasional appearances this year but I will still be taking donations of bric-a-brac and will be continuing to attend car boot sales to help raise funds for Jordans Weeones. If you have any bric-a-brac please contact me prior to bringing any around or please just put it inside the gate. Thank you in advance for any more bric-a-brac donations.

Planting is underway so there will be lots of tomatoes, peppers, chilies, cucumbers et cetera et cetera towards April. There will also be some lovely bulbs and flowers put outside. There will also as usual be compost which can be collected or delivered within Brigstock. As I bought plenty last year it will be at last years prices, all profit from the compost goes to Jordan Weeones.

40

Jordans Weeones cont'd

You can never be too prepared so if anyone has any plastic pots or seed trays please do just drop them off outside the gate. The same goes for any Christmas items that you may come across when tidying up or perhaps if you're moving house and want to get rid of your old Christmas tree it will come in very handy for another enchanted garden.

I will be running an online auction again later in the year and the Autumn Fair.

A total roundup of all funds raised since Covid started which have enabled Jordans Weeones to continue its work with families who have children with cancer has come to an amazng £23,056.10p

I cannot thank everyone enough for all of the support and donations, thank you all.



Garage Sale in Aid of Jordans Wee Ones.

Saturday April 29th 10 until 2. Further details will be on Brigstock Facebook page and Jordans Wee Ones Facebook nearer the time.

Contact Jane Steward to book

Jane Steward

KHL Paddock Care

We offer the following services to our local area.

41

Topping & Mowing, Aeration Spraying – Weed Control, Rolling & Harrowing Hedge & Verge Cutting

07803 819564



ALLOTMENT NEWS

Spring brings a lot of work to the allotment. The last of the over wintering vegetables need to be cleared and the ground prepared for the new crops. I prefer to dig the ground to clear the area, but others like to use the "No Dig" method and just use compost or other organic material to get the worms to dig the surface.

Potatoes are one of the first crops to be planted. The potatoes are chitted by sitting them in trays to let them start to grow shoots to give them a head start so that we get an early crop.

Planning where you sow each crop also needs to be considered. Having a good rotation plan helps to reduce disease and encourages growth. Manure and compost makes the potatoes grow but can cause problems to root crops or brassicas. These are planted in the following years when the manure has been absorbed into the ground.

If you think that you would like an allotment, do check with the me or the Consolidated Charity to see what is available. At present we don't have any, but these do come free as people move on.

Chris Allen. Chairman, Allottment Association

Are you struggling financially?

Do you know of someone who is finding it hard to make ends meet?

Are you a Brigstock resident?

Brigstock Consolidated Charity may be able to help you through difficult times. You can apply in confidence on your own behalf or someone else's to any of the trustees: Rev. Heather Lowe, Liz Searle, Bill Simon, Jane Jones, Carl Hector, Abigail Marsden Findlay, James Steward, and Sally Wilks (Secretary).

If you would like to make a donation to the charity please contact Sally Wilks, 7 Park Walk, Brigstock, NN14 3HH Tel: 01536 373428

Mel Hubbard, Artist

Local artist Mel Hubbard has created a series of illustrated village maps, including Brigstock, as shown, Grafton Underwood, Geddington and Weekley. She has been keen to reflect the villages as they stand today but

has also included smaller stories on the maps to show local land marks. Using her 'artistic licence' she has made items fit into the maps where possible but sadly only a certain amount will fit onto the A2 size of paper used so apologies in advance to anyone living in the villages who can't find their home or favourite place to walk.

Mel is selling full colour A2 fine art quality prints of the maps (£75). £10 from the sale of each map is donated to the 384th Bomb Group Museum project, an ongoing project run by volunteers, which hopes to create a museum to the USAAF station 106 at Grafton Underwood".



For details or to order a map please contact Mel on 07778-160155 Or by email at hubbwebb@gmail.com. Facebook/HubbwebbArt

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.

POST

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