

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 34 – SUMMER 2023



BRIGSTOCK NEWS

Journal of Brigstock Village Hall Association

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

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

Articles for inclusion in 'Brigstock News' should be emailed to chrisallen043@gmail.com or sent to 9 Woodyard Close, Brigstock, NN14 3LZ

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2023 WINTER Published 25th November 2023
2024 SPRING Published 1st March 2024

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Front Cover Photo -

Leo McNamara ringing a bell for King Charles
3 Coronation

PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June

- 2 Astronomy Club. Village Hall, 8—10pm
- 5 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 7 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 8 BINGO, Village Hall, 7-30pm
- 12 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 17 and 18 Umbrella Festival, St Andrews Church
- 19 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 19 Ladies Leisure Group, Afternoon Tea Outing
- 20 Butterflies of Northamptonshire Talk, 7pm WI Hall
- 21 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 26 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 28 Historical Society, "Northamptonshire Film archive", VH, 7.30pm
- 30 Rock and Roll with the Dell Tones, Village Hall, 7.15pm

July

- 3 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 5 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 7 Astronomy Club. Village Hall, 8—10pm
- 8 Fashion Show for Jordans Weeones, Village Hall
- 10 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 17 Mens Club, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 17 Ladies Leisure Group, Picnic
- 19 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 24 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am

August

- 2 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 4 Astronomy Club. Village Hall, 8—10pm
- 7 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 16 Kurling, Village Hall 2—4pm
- 21 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am

September

- 1 Beer Festival Comedy Night, Village Hall 7pm
- 2 Beer Festival 12 noon till 11pm, Village Hall

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

CORONATION OF KING CHARLES 111 BRIGSTOCK'S CELEBRATIONS

It has been many years since Brigstock had a Coronation to celebrate. Many of us are too young to remember or not born or were not in the village for the last one. However the village did respond to this one and put on a good show.

On Saturday for the actual coronation, many watched it at home, but around 15 people watched the coronation in the Village Hall. This meant that people could watch it with others rather than be alone. Well done Sally and Phil for hosting this.

The Parish Council arranged for Hall Hill to be closed on Sunday for a Street party. Fortunately the weather was perfect and about 150 villagers enjoyed sharing lunch around the green. The Green Dragon PH put on a hog roast and served the villagers to early evening. The church bells were rung by 100 people during the morning—separate report in the newsletter.

We also managed to get a photo of the village children around the Market Cross to commemorate the occasion.



In comparison, we have also been given a photo of the 1953 celebrations, again with many of the local children in it. Anyone recognise themselves or relations?

Monday was wet and cold so the planned activities on the Meadow had to be cancelled. However it was memora-

ble weekend for those who took part.

Thanks to everyone who helped or attended the events. If I have missed any events, please let me know and we can include it next time

THE FRIENDS OF THE COUNTRY PARK
ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT:

BUTTERFLIES OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

ILLUSTRATED TALK BY DOUG GODDARD

Tuesday 20 June at 7.00pm

Brigstock WI Hall

Light Refreshments

Tickets Adults £3.

Children under 16 £1.

From Pete Burdett 373478



AND

ROCK AND ROLL With the DELLTONES

(and other dance / rock music!)

Back by popular demand

Brigstock Village Hall

Fri 30 June, Doors open 7-15

Bar Raffle

Proceeds to three local charities including

Friends of Country Park

Tickets £10 from 373478 and 373486

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.

Cont'd

Brigstock Film Night, Village Hall: 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 ice-creams 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

Sharon Spencer SAC DIP FHPT/FHPP Registered Foot Health Practitioner



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- Cracked Heels
- In-growing Toenails
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Athletes Foot



For appointments call Sharon: 07947 307276 or 01933 316824

A VISION TO LINK LANDSCAPE, PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE - ROCKINGHAM FOREST

Do you want to become part of this?

Get involved with creating a Nature Recovery Plan For Brigstock.

Become a volunteer. Monitor Harper's Brook as a River Warden, Survey woods to help update the Ancient Woodland Register.

Learn about the history of the Rockingham Forest.

Meet other folks on a guided walk.

Join the mailing list.

For more information visit our website: rockinghamforest.org.uk

BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

The kurling group need to say a huge thank you to the Village Hall committee and the Brigstock Consolidated Charity for enabling us to have a new set of kurling equipment. On our behalf, the Village Hall committee sold the short mat bowling set that had been given to us several years ago, to give them more space in the storage cupboard in the hall, and the Charity gave us enough money to make up the shortfall in the cost of a new set. Whether we play any better with the new set remains to be seen, but we are very grateful to both committees.

Dates for the Summer months will be 7th and 21st June, 5th and 19th July and 2nd and 16th August, and then there will be a three week gap until 6th September, because of the fifth Wednesday in August.

As always, we will be at the Village Hall from 2-4 pm, and it will cost you £2 including refreshments. If you want to know any more, please ring me on 373367, or call in at the hall on any of the above dates. Everyone welcome.

"P.S. The new stones are so fast compared to the old ones, that it has been like learning to play all over again, so I'm not sure that we played any better the first time we used them!"

Judith Beeby

RAF GRAFTON UNDERWOOD'S WW2 MEMORIES

FACEBOOK PAGE

This is a Facebook group dedicated to the WW2 memories of the air-base which was situated in the village of Grafton Underwood. The emphasis is on the USAAF 384th Heavy Bomber Group who flew the famous B-17 Flying Fortress. The 384th were among several Bomber Groups based at RAF Grafton Underwood, however their stay was the longest at approximately 2 years.



RAF Grafton Underwood's WW2 Memories >

Private group · 1.6k members

Back in the 1960's, Quentin Bland- a lifelong resident of Grafton Underwood, became the official historian and liaison officer for the 384th BG. His daughter, Sam Coleman, and her partner in this project, Paul Teal, decided that they would make every effort to carry on Quentin's legacy thus keeping alive the WW2 memories and history - otherwise they could be lost forever.



Sam and Paul are concentrating on 3 main factors:

Preserving history (original photos, paperwork, videos, etc).

Ensuring that the history is accurate via research, and, Sharing the history.



There are many more photos on the Facebook Page of local views, the planes and equipment and the air force personnel.

Sam and Paul's Facebook group, 'RAF Grafton Underwood's WW2 memories' is devoted to sharing and preserving this important local history. Please of course feel free to join their group!

VOLUNTEERING!!

Your village needs you!!

Volunteering roles are highlighted as part of the coronation celebrations that aim to reflect the sector's central role in the UK's "national story".



Love Island star Faye Winter and Dragons' Den entrepreneur Deborah Meaden are among the celebrities promoting The Big Help Out, with more than 1,500 charities involved.

The initiative is a formal part of the King's coronation, with people encouraged to either lend a helping hand on the May 8th bank holiday or arrange another opportunity to volunteer their time or skills.

What can you do in Brigstock??

Brigstock is a thriving village but there is always room for more volunteers to do things around the village or as part of the many village groups.

1. Litterpicking. There is an Annual litter pick but how about doing your street on a regular basis?
2. Weeds seem to sprout everywhere. Could you do a bit of weeding? Several village groups keep the war memorial tidy.
- 3, Maintenance of village planters. A bit of deadheading?
4. Village Hall car park gets lots of weeds and litter. There is a very small village hall committee who do try and keep on top of it. Could you help?
5. FWCP are always looking for volunteers for various jobs.
6. Can you help the fundraising group at Brigstock School?
7. Many village groups would love new people on their committees. You only need to browse the newsletter to see how many groups there are!
8. Could you deliver village newsletter? Only 4 times a year to a couple of streets as there is already a merry band!
9. Help is always needed for village bonfire!
10. What about the Beer festival in September. This event raises lots of money for local charities and village groups
11. Are you a driver? Volunteer Action in Oundle runs a car scheme to take non drivers to medical appointments etc. Brigstock has 3 drivers but a couple more would be great.
12. How about flower arranging at St Andrews Church?

VOLUNTEERING!! *Your village needs you!! Cont'd.*

13. Knitting? Knit and Natter always have projects. You don't need to join the group you can knit at home.

If any of these appeal to you speak to:

Sally Wilks (Brigstock Parish Council)

Rosy Briggs (Brigstock School)

Steph Beckett (Village Hall)

There are lots of details about village groups in Brigstock News. The next delivery is at the end of May. You may even have an idea for something not available in the village and could help get it started!!

There may be things you can do outside of the village.

Are you a blood donor?

Many charities need help. Lots of information online and in libraries.

Go on you can do it!!

Welcome Volunteering With Forestry England

Do you have a bit of time on your hands? Do you like meeting new people? If so we have just the opportunity for you. We need volunteers to meet and greet visitors to Fineshade Wood and help them with their enquiries. You could do this for a couple of hours a week on a regular basis, and do your bit to help people understand and enjoy their natural environment. You would also be selling maps, activity packs and membership, and helping them to discover the wonderful wildlife of the site, amongst other things.

No experience is necessary, though you'd need to enjoy talking to people. You would be given an induction and full training, and always have the support of site staff. You would also be given a uniform and free parking every-time you volunteered, so after your shift you could go off and enjoy the woodland for the rest of the day if you wished.

If you'd like to hear more about this opportunity, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact a member of the team at Fineshade.volunteering@forestryengland.uk or fill in an expression form on the website www.forestryengland.uk/fineshade (look for the volunteering page)



PROFESSIONAL TREATMENT OF FOOT RELATED PROBLEMS IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

Don't feel embarrassed, don't suffer in silence, I am only a phone call away!

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- ❖ ATHLETES FOOT
- ❖ CRACKED HEELS
- ❖ DRY SKIN
- ❖ NAIL CUTTING
- ❖ FUNGAL NAILS
- ❖ THICKENED NAILS
- ❖ INGROWN TOE NAILS
- ❖ CORNS
- ❖ DIABETIC TREATMENTS
- ❖ NAIL RECONSTRUCTION



Contact José on: **079 0811 8395**

jdfootcare67@yahoo.com



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

Knit & Natter Group



The lighter evenings are with us again, meaning warmer weather and more sunshine (we hope)!!!! I think more knitting gets done at home, than it does at our weekly meetings as we put the world to rights with varied discussions on last weeks happenings and discuss new projects. We do knit at the meetings, but maybe not so many rows as we would at home!

Bobble Hat Project:

Our bobble hat project is very successful, and we wish to thank villagers for helping us. So many of you have given up your time and bought wool, so thank you kindly. Keep them coming please. If you are new to the village and would like to knit some bobble hats, or even just one, then please contact Glenda or Steph (contact number below) for a simple pattern. All will be revealed in November!



Spring Post Box Toppers:

We hope you enjoyed the Spring Post Box Toppers that came out of their summer and winter storage cupboard to brighten up the village on your walks. We know our cheery posties enjoyed seeing them again. They are now safely stored away for Spring 2024.

Some of you might be disappointed that we didn't make any Coronation toppers. The reason being is that the Christmas and Spring ones can be stored away ready for their village airing, whereas a one-off Coronation topper would be used once and we are mindful of the waste involved in creating one-offs.

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, biscuits and hall hire.

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



StansProp

Based in the beautiful village of Brigstock, StansProp offer a comprehensive property maintenance and general handyman service to homeowners, landlords and business's in Kettering, Corby and surrounding villages.

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Brigstock United Reformed Church

It has been a busy year so far with the Warm Space enterprise going from strength to strength as well as continuing our usual activities, and much-needed fundraising.

The Warm Space was something we hadn't tried before, but it became very popular with a lovely group of villagers and we were grateful to the volunteers from St. Andrews church who helped organise the weekly soup sessions. We'll start it again before Christmas, so if you would like to help out with it, please let us know.

We organised our Easter coffee morning in April and were pleased to see so many friendly faces enjoying a relaxing chat over coffee and hot cross buns, as well as helping to boost our funds by £600! We do appreciate the great support we get from the village. We are a small church but we aim to be a place that is central in the community and we are always happy to be part of village activities.

We are continuing to raise funds to keep the church going, and there are always things in old buildings that need repair or replacement. The main church doors are now very warped and need to be replaced, so we are aiming to raise money to do that. We have been given a lovely collection of Swarovski crystal ornaments, some very small but others are quite big and very detailed, and these are for sale, so if anyone collects these or knows someone who does, please contact us so that you can arrange to see them.

Recently, of course, we celebrated the Coronation with a special service on the Sunday, and welcomed a lot of visitors who also enjoyed the rather special cakes we had been given to have with our coffee afterwards. We always welcome anyone who would like to attend one of our Sunday services, at 10.30 in the chapel in Mill Lane. We have a variety of visiting preachers as well as our own minister, Samuel, who is with us once a month, and sometimes we organise services ourselves.

Feel free to join us at any time!

Our next big fundraiser will be at the Beer festival in September. The Beetle Drive planned for June has been postponed because of an event clash, and we will let you know the new date as soon as possible.

Open Door

The Open Door is what it says—for anyone to pop in for coffee and a chat on Tuesday mornings. It started over 40 years ago and has been a meeting place for many people over the years. Sharon and her helpers make sure that there are plenty of biscuits to go with the coffee/tea, and often cakes appear too. Once a month there is the chance to win prizes with Bingo, and there is also a monthly raffle where everyone wins something. Several times in the year the group goes out for lunch to nearby restaurants, and there is always a special Christmas meal.

If you are at a loose end on Tuesdays between 9.30 and 11.30, or just want a change of scenery or some company, you will be very welcome to join in at the URC June Small room in Mill Lane. The only cost is £2 to cover your refreshments—a bargain these days!

More details from Sharon on 373832

KHL Paddock Care

We offer the following services to our local area.

Topping & Mowing, Aeration

Spraying – Weed Control ,

Rolling & Harrowing

Hedge & Verge Cutting

07803 819564



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)





Musical Showtime

FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 7PM TO 10PM.

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

Beverages, Snacks, Cheese and Wine, Raffle

Collectors Corner

Claudette Black would like to thank everybody who over the years have donated stamps for her fundraising. She is no longer collecting but if anybody else would like to be the collection point and do it for a charity of their choice that would be appreciated as quite a few villagers drop off their stamps

There is a collecting box at the Brigstock Village Hall for empty ink cartridges. This is organised by Sally Wilks for Parkinsons Disease charity

BINGO—

Our next Bingo Session will be held on Thursday June 8th in Brigstock Village Hall. Doors open at 7.0pm for Eyes Down 7.30pm.

There will be the usual Cash prizes and a Raffle. Tea and coffee will be served but please feel free to bring your own refreshments.

We welcome old and new members but sorry rules only permit over 18s

We can arrange transport if you need it. Please call Eileen or Chris 373168. Look forward to seeing you all there on June 8th.

Eileen, Chris and Steph



BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Talks usually take place at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall on the 4th Wednesday of each month. £3 for non-members Please note the change of programme for our last talk in June .

28/06/23	Northamptonshire Film Archive	More films from the archive featuring Northampton Hospital, Dad's Army and other gems
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The talk by Bill Simon and Sally Wilks on "Brigstock Characters" will now take place in September at the start of our new programme.

If you would like to go on our mailing list for future talks and events please telephone 370144 Or 373428.

SUMMER BIRD LIFE

It seems another strange year for our birdlife.

Swallows and House Martins used to arrive in early April, but this year they were still coming and starting to nest at the end of May. Swifts are very few in numbers over the village at the end of May when we should have 20 to 30 circling the houses. Hopefully they will turn up late and we still have them breeding before they fly south again.

The good news is that we have had a Mistle Thrush nesting in a tree. Quite a rare bird these days. Any interesting sightings to report?

NIGEL FOX

GIFireE Fire Safety Consultant

Tel: 07502 102396

Email: nigel.fox28@gmail.com

Specialising in Fire Risk Assessment

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Head of Fire Safety with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service



REGISTERED ASSESSOR

LIFE SAFETY

BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk



The March meeting was our AGM. We re-elected our new Committee and started our new WI year with an exciting program of events and speakers. Brigstock WI has been in the village for 105 years with a rich history and we are so fortunate to have our own hall on Park Walk. To celebrate our 105

years, we had a party and presented our competition winners with a trophy.

In April we were thrilled to welcome 9 new members, our largest number for quite a few years. They were immediately thrown in the deep end and invited to stand and tell the membership a bit about themselves along with some fun facts. It was fascinating to hear their stories and they are a great addition to our diverse membership. Our April Snack Stop saw us crafting crowns and decorations in preparation for the Coronation weekend which we shared with the village. The hall was decorated in red, white and blue and many members joining the rest of the village for afternoon tea in the village square on a sunny afternoon.

In the coming months we have a great programme of events lined up and some fun social activities We will be submitting an entry to the Umbrella Festival and have a sub-committee working hard crafting. Our members will also be attending our annual BBQ and the annual village walk.

Our May speaker was local resident Dr Bob Brind-Surch FRPS who gave the WI a talk about wildlife and an update on our elephants! Yes... the Brigstock WI sponsor two elephants at the Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage in Kenya. Emily born 1/10/93 and Larro born 15/3/18 are both doing well and have a great bond with their carers. As infant elephants the carers never leave their side ensuring they have the very best care and help ensure survival of the species. You can find out more at www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org or see our elephants at www.naturesphotos.co.uk/emily and www.naturesphotos.co.uk/larro

Our June speaker will entertain us with the history and etiquette of afternoon tea so what better recipes could we offer but the humble scone. Flat, chewy and hard tends to be the downfall of the humble scone so here is a fool proof recipe to ensure success every time. Remember a top tip is to keep all your ingredients cold and don't over work the mix.

BRIGSTOCK WI

HUMBLE SCONES RECIPE

50g strong white flour

5tsp baking powder

Pinch of salt

1 egg yolk for a glaze

50g caster sugar

100g butter cut into small cubes

300ml milk ideally full fat

Method

1. Preheat your oven to 200C/Fan 180C.

3. Mix the flour, sugar and baking powder, no need to sieve, add the butter with a pinch of salt. Gently using your fingertips mix until it resembles breadcrumbs. Then add the milk and mix until you have a smooth dough. Then chill in the fridge for 10 minutes.

4. Roll out and cut out using a 7cm cutter you should get 12 scones then coat with the egg wash.

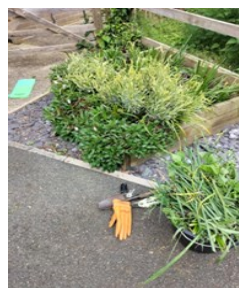
5. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, allow to cool.

Enjoy with clotted cream and your favourite jam.

Brigstock Project Group

Our hanging baskets are looking good with pansies and it will shortly be time to put in some petunias and geraniums etc. We were going to put in red .white and blue for the Coronation bit it was little early with cool nights.

Our planters have been weeded and tidied as our spring flowers died down. They will be planted with bedding plants shortly.



New slate chippings have been put down at the planter at the village hall.

We'd like to thank villagers who keep an eye on the planters. We have four plus two hanging baskets, which is quite a bit of weeding and deadheading spread across the village. Sadly our planters often get used as a rubbish bin. Please help to keep these up to standard.



BRIGSTOCK

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Margaret Smith	Chair
Sally Wilks	Vice Chair
Julie Lemmy	Councillor
Max Marsden	Councillor
Faye Perkins	Councillor
Elizabeth Searle	Councillor
Sue Doolan	Councillor
Simon Brown	Councillor
Suzanne Sharp	Councillor
Terry Towns	Councillor
Ken Motion	Chair Planning
Sophie Cullinan	Clerk 07923 441873

It has been a quiet few months with our focus being on the day to day running of the parish. For example, finding replacements for the damaged posts round the war memorial, making risk and maintenance assessments on some of the parish assets, commissioning an inscription to commemorate the late queen's jubilee.

Flooding

The Environment Agency has now published the expected report, a link to which can be found on the Parish Council website. We are planning to meet with RAIN and other various influential bodies in the near future to plan to mitigate against future flooding.

The Cemetery

To continue to create a rolling programme of maintenance and improvement for the Cemetery we are creating a Friends of Brigstock Cemetery group. If you would like to be involved with this group please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL

Coronation Celebrations

Despite the unpredictable weather the Coronation celebrations were very successful and enjoyed by many. Thank you to the various individuals and village organisations who created the opportunities for villagers to celebrate together.

Clerk to the Parish Council

Sophie Cullinan is settling well into the role of Clerk to the Parish Council and is getting to grips with the many tasks required. If you need to contact the Parish Council Sophie's contact details are provide at the end of this Newsletter.

I am pleased to have been re-elected as Chair of the Parish Council for a third year with Sally Wilkes as Vice Chair. We are always pleased to see members of the community at our monthly council meetings on the third Wednesday of the month. As we are working on your behalf to keep Brigstock well maintained and at the forefront of implementing North Northamptonshire policies it is good to have an input from the community we serve

Margaret Smith

Chair Brigstock Parish Council

brigstockcouncil@aol.co.u

WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

Thank you to the WI for making the war memorial tidy for the street party held for the Coronation of King Charles 111. The following groups have agreed to tidy the area for the following months

June: Knit and Natter

July: Ladies Leisure

August Kurling group

September Brigstock School

Many thanks to them in advance

Liz Searle

BRIGSTOCK LATHAM SCHOOL PFA

We would like to say how successful our last two events were.

The Wreath night was a sell out, everyone enjoyed themselves and went home with a selection of beautiful wreaths for their doors, we have booked Michelle from Flowers from Eden to return this year - date TBC

Also the Curry night, we joined with you guys from the VH committee and again, what a successful evening that was, thank you to all that made the night a success, we made a healthy amount and the money raised will do into outdoor projects for the children of the school, we hope to come together next year for another brilliant night!

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

Thank you

Leanne

DAD'S JOKES

Did you hear about the guy who invented the knock-knock joke? He won the "no-bell" prize

Every time I take the dog to the park, the ducks try to bite him. That's what I get for adopting a pure-bread dog.

Household hints and tips with Mrs O

- 1 Clean dusty plant leaves by wiping with a banana skin.
- 2 To remove finger marks from stainless steel put a little baby oil on a clean cloth and rub the surface.
- 3 Skin irritation such as bug bites can be treated with ordinary toothpaste to reduce itching.
- 4 Toothpaste will dry up an oily spot on your skin too.
- 5 Put toothpaste on a damp sponge to wipe crayon off painted walls.
- 6 To prevent ants coming into your house sprinkle cayenne pepper around the outside walls as ants hate the smell.

BRIGSTOCK ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Continuing our test-pit programme around Hall Hill, this Summer's dig looks set to be our first to the east. On a somewhat snigger site than of late, it has all the potential of previous years for revealing something interesting about our shared past. We've yet to finalise details, but the intention is the same as for the last couple of summers. That is, to better understand the sort of activities taking place in this central area and to continue to develop field skills among as wide a cross-section of our members as are interested. 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 WhatsApp group if you have a smart phone.



May was also a month of firsts for BAG – our first ever talk (Oxford Archaeology about Prior's Hall Roman site) and our first ever dig outside the village itself (a linear cropmark off Grafton Road). Both were thoroughly worthwhile experiences and seem likely to lead to more. A huge thank you to all involved, especially our newest members for hitting the ground running, and for all who took the time to turn out. Updates about future events will be posted on the village Facebook page. We've already begun discussions for another talk, this time about the village's most recent commercial dig, also off Grafton Road, once post-excavation analysis and report writing is complete. Preliminary findings of Iron Age and Saxon ceramic seem certain to offer some insight into pre- and early history on the south-west side of Harper's Brook only briefly outlined in Glenn Foard's urban survey c. 2000.

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.

Peter Walker, Chair.

Fermyn Woods Country Park

I have just read that March was one of the wettest on record and that April was one of the coldest, because of this it is thought that Spring 2023 is about a week late. I know here at the park the butterflies seem slow to emerge, so far, I have seen Orange-tips, speckled woods, Brimstones, Tortoiseshell, and Peacock. Looking back through the wildlife records we have for the park they are later. As I write the May butterflies are starting to emerge, Grizzled and Dingy Skippers and Green Hairstreak which are rare species we have been helping with the habitat work we carried out in the winter with Butterfly conservation volunteers. In June look out for the



Black Hairstreak in the Great Thicket and in July His imperial Majesty the Purple Emperor up in the Forestry England section of Fermyn Woods.



Here at the park, we try to do minimal mowing around the park, we have the amenity meadows cut for picnicking and the overflow car park, we then put a very small edge on the verges around the park

to stop vegetation coming over the path but the rest we leave and allow wildflowers to grow which provide valuable nectar for the many pollinators we have in the park.

The summer migrants are arriving back at the park; so far to arrive are: -

Blackcap, Willow Warbler, Chiffchaff, and I have just recently heard a White-throat and a cuckoo, have a listen as you walk round the park and see what you can hear.

Now that the winter work has ended, we are now concentrating on estate work that needs our attention round the park, none of this work can be achieved with out the help of our valuable volunteers.

So far, they have installed some steps at the fishing pond, and we are just starting to repair a section of fence on the red route.

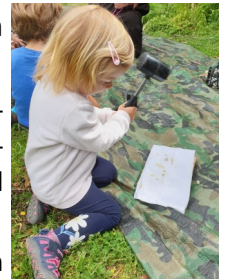
The Ranger Team

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



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

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

MINDFULNESS NOW

An opportunity for home schooled children to come and join our 4 week programme led by our certified mindfulness teacher at Fermyn Woods Country Park.

Tuesdays in June from the 6th. 1 to 2.30pm.

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

Or find details on www.northamptonshireparks.co.uk

Usual car parking charges apply

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.

Jean Shiells: A Brigstock Land Army Girl

The Women's Land Army made a valuable contribution to the war effort during the Second World War and during that period a contingent of these young women was based in Brigstock. The girls worked on the farms round the area and did a wide variety of jobs, from milking cows to driving tractors. A few of these girls stayed on after the war, got married and settled here, including Jean Shiells, who lived in the High Street with her husband Reg and was very well known in the village for many years until her death in 2018 at the age of 92.

This service to the country was not officially recognised for many years but finally in 2008 they were given an award and the presentation was reported in the Evening Telegraph on 13th November 2008 with the headline "Recognition for a forgotten army" The report describes how the Women's Land Army and Women's Timber Corps were formed

to make sure farms were kept going to provide vital food, timber and crops while the men were away at war. Made up largely of young women, the Land Army grew to 80,000 by 1944 and was finally disbanded in 1950. With a uniform of green jumpers and ties and brown slouch hats these young girls supported the war effort and helped to avoid food shortages.

The awards ceremony took place in the Willows Arts Centre in George Street, Corby and was attended by dozens of ex-Land Army girls, including Jean Shiells. The presentation was made by the local MP at that time, Phil Hope who said "I am delighted to have been asked to honour the veterans of the Women's Land Army. We owe each of them a huge debt of thanks. During the war they worked on farms to support the war effort and feed the nation and I believe it is absolutely right that we recognise their efforts by presenting them with this long-awaited veterans' badge to pay tribute to their determination, hard work and commitment to serving the country".

Jean Shiells, nee Threadgold, was originally from Wellingborough and joined the Women's Land Army in 1942.



Corby Land Army women with Brigstock's Jean Shiells on the left

Jean Shiells: A Brigstock Land Army Girl Cont'd

The 83 year-old (in 2008) said "I worked at Perkins the Printers in Wellingborough but on my 17th birthday I joined up and came to Brigstock to stay in a youth hostel. There were about 30 of us and we used to go round the farms. We did ploughing, milking, everything. I had lots of friends and there were various aerodromes around and the Yanks used to fetch us to dances. Everyone loved it because it was a social thing. I left in 1948 when I got married to my husband and we stayed in Brigstock and I have been here ever since. I am sure we were making a contribution to the war effort. It was very hard work but I'm sure that's the reason we kept so healthy and that's why we still grow our own vegetables. I've been looking forward to getting the award because it has been such a long time and it will be nice to be recognised for what we did."



Bill Simon

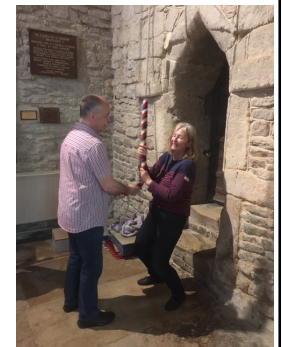
BRIGSTOCK BELL RINGERS

To celebrate the coronation, exactly 100 people came along to Ring for the King at Brigstock, raising over £75 in donations to help with church running costs. Over 350 local ringers rang across the four churches at Stanion, Brigstock, Sudborough and Lowick - raising over £400.

We are always pleased to see how everyone enjoys having a go on the historic bells. The ringing team is currently supporting another 6 new learners with a further 3 starting in the late summer. This hopefully gives us enough ringers to ring the full set of bells at each church, including the full eight bells at Brigstock.

Listen out and lend your support by 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.



Litter Picking



The Annual litter pick took place on Saturday 15th April from 10am-12 noon and although chilly was dry. The amount of litter picked up was less than other years which is good.

If anyone wants to tackle an area on their own, 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.



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 always 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.

THE SCRABBLE GROUP

Our meetings have been rather confused over the last couple of months because of the four Bank Holiday Mondays in April and May, and several times a member of the Men's group has come in, and been surprised to see women there.

However, the meetings for the next three months will be more straightforward, but contrary to what I said in the last Newsletter, we will not meet again until 12th June, and then on 26th June, 10th and 24th July, and 7th and 21st August.

As usual, we will be in the June Small Room at the U.R.C. in Mill Lane, from 10.30 am, and it will cost you £3, including tea/coffee and biscuits. If you would like any more information, please contact me on 373367, or just call in one morning, we would be very pleased to for some more players to join us.

Judith Beeby

THANK YOU, BRIGSTOCK !

Thank you everyone who has supported me over the last year enabling me to send £630 in total to Marie Curie Nurses , by buying my handmade greetings cards and by purchasing items in my recent garage sale. WELL DONE BRIGSTOCK !

Val Stout.

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:

5th and 19th June, 3rd and 17th July. Check later about August.

Contact Robin Phillips 01536 370144 or Terry Bowen 01536 373807

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Ladies Leisure Group

Our first ever Snowman Drive- and possibly the first one ever held in Brigstock- was a great success, and we have continued to enjoy a variety of meetings so far this year. A talk about weddings in March brought back a lot of memories as well as laughs at the things that often go wrong. We have also made a selection of crowns to celebrate the Coronation, aided by a glass or two of Prosecco, and our May meeting had everyone's brains given a workout at Philippa's games afternoon. After all that, we were really ready for our tea and cake!

We have planned the programme for the next few months, 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. Our meetings are in the June Small room at the chapel in Mill lane, unless otherwise stated.

June 19th Outing for afternoon tea. Those wishing to go need to contact Sheila, Sharon or Jackie (370187) by June 3rd to book their place.

July 17th Picnic -details at the June meeting

August-we're taking a break

In September and October we have a Silent Auction and a First Aid session planned, but are waiting for confirmation and details.

Sharon-373832 or Sheila-373225

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Brigstock Beer Festival 2023

**FRIDAY 1ST AND SATURDAY 2ND
SEPTEMBER**



The Brigstock Beer Festival is entering its 19th 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.

For those new to the village, 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 will commence a little earlier this year on Friday 1st September with a Comedy Evening featuring 3 of the best acts on the comedy circuit and a compere. Tickets go on sale from June 1st and can be purchased via Eventbrite, links to which will be available on the Brigstock Beer Festival website www.brigstockbeerfestival.com and Facebook page. A selection of beers, wines, soft drinks and hot snacks will be available. This is a hugely popular event and sells out every year so be sure to get your tickets as soon as possible.

The Festival then continues on Saturday 2nd September with a day for all the family starting at 1pm - entry is once again free.

Brigstock Beer Festival 2023 cont'd



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 including local favourite Lucy Brown and Brigstock's own Molly and Michael. 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.

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

North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC)

2023 club dates

1st Friday of the month

2nd June

7th July

4th August

1st September

6th October

3rd November

1st December

<https://nnastro.club>

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

Paul Smith, North Northants Astronomy Club NNastronomy@hotmail.com



UMBRELLA FESTIVAL
ST ANDREWS CHURCH
SAT/SUN
JUNE 17TH/18TH
10.30 AM UNTIL 5PM
UMBRELLA DISPLAYS USING
FLOWERS AND CRAFT ITEMS
HOME MADE CAKES/TEAS
RAFFLE

LYVEDEN MANOR HOUSE AND NEW BIELD



National Trust

It's been a great year so far! We finished off the 2022/23 year with over 35,000 visitors which was the busiest year Lyveden has ever seen. March saw the opening of our new collaborative art exhibition 'Views on Lyveden', featuring art created by students from nearby Tresham College at Kettering and Corby. The students have been working and visiting Lyveden since July last year, and it was amazing to the art that Lyveden inspired. The feedback from the students and their families on the preview night was fantastic, we received some wonderful press coverage. For many of the participants, this was their first interaction with the National Trust, and it's been exciting to see their contemporary reflections and personal connections to a local story that happened over 400 years ago. The next part of the exhibition will open in mid-July with new pieces from foundation degree art and photography students. I can't wait to see what they've been up to, do come and visit the exhibition and tell us what you think!

We are looking for new volunteers at Lyveden to help us in various ways from baking to gardening, tours and walks leaders to welcoming and inspiring visitors. If you are interested in volunteering with us please email lyveden@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Looking forward, we've got some exciting events coming up;

27th-4th June: May Half Term Nature Detectives Trail

17th June & 22nd July: Introduction to Watercolour with Something Less Boring - £40.00pp

17th June: Heartbreak Productions introduces MacHamLear Outdoor Theatre

18th June: Fathers Day Model Railway Day with Market Deeping Model Railway Club (members free, normal entrance applies – no extra cost)

29th & 30th July: Sealed Knot Civil War Re-enactment Event

nationaltrust.org.uk/Lyveden

**An update from the children in Oak class about how
Brigstock Latham's celebrated for the coronation of King
Charles III.**

Last week we had a marvelous time celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III. At the beginning of the week we were lucky to join a 'Draw with Rob' tutorial, where we all participated in a draw along. We were all able to draw a spectacular crown using instructions from Rob. Rob is an award winning author and illustrator and this event was excellent.

Next, we all designed crowns that were used to decorate the school fences. These were decorated with drawings using pencil and felt tips. Once all the crowns were placed along the school fences it looked bright and colourful.

We also had the opportunity to participate in a coronation Art competition. A local artist came into school and led multiple sessions so we could create our own mixed-media art- this was very fun. We really enjoyed being able to work and collaborate with other classes.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH Toilet and Servery Project

St Andrews have been busy fundraising for a servery and toilet. The race night and the Big Band event raised approximately £2,200 The Big Band were very well received and we hope to invite them back. Our Spring Fair also made in excess of £900 so a good boost to the funds in 2023.

Thank you to the residents of Brigstock for supporting these events.



Jordans Weeones

Tomatoes, tomatoes and yet more tomatoes. This year I grew 23 different varieties and was donated some more plants giving a choice of 27 different varieties in all for you to try, ranging from the usual common type like mon-eymaker to Ukrainian Purple and Sweet White Cherry, black, striped, red, yellow and orange. Alongside the tomatoes there were other vegetables and flowers. The poly tunnel was bursting at the seams along with the greenhouse in the garden. I also grew a good selection of Sunflowers which is a flower Jordan loved and it features on the Jordans Weeones Logo which was drawn by my late brother Dave.

The Garage sale held in April was a great success and we were blessed with a lovely sunny day. 28 houses took part and the Village Hall was full of tables selling crafts and garage sale items. We sold over 100 maps and lots of people came to the village for our sale. A generous donation from one of our households boosted the total made on the day to £904.15

There has been a marked increase in the number of families needing our support and we have had to pause our grant scheme until we raise some more funds so the money raised from plant sales and the garage sale is a huge boost.

Other members of the Jordan's Weeones team have also been raising funds with various events. Sister Sue has been busy on the sewing machine making cushions and some lovely bunting using some gorgeous donated fabric and Wayne has been making bug and bird houses.

I have been Car Booting with your generous donations of bric a brac and have had several good days along with a day selling plants at the Spire Hospital.

Future Events

On Saturday July 8th we are planning, if there is enough interest to have a fashion show and pre loved clothes sale in the Village Hall. If anyone is interested in having a space to sell clothes at this event with the opportunity to showcase certain items or be one of the models please get in touch with me via email j@janesteward.co.uk

Bric a brac can be dropped off by prior arrangement

Thank you once again for all your donations, help and support for Jordan's Weeones. Jane Steward