

BRIGSTOCK NEWS

EDITION 36 – WINTER 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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BRIGSTOCK SUNNYSIDERS		01536 373383
BRIGSTOCK KURLING		01536 373367
KNIT AND NATTER		01536 373422
HARPERS COURT BINGO. Eileen Coles.		01536 373168

Front Cover Photo -

Brigstock in the Snow, by Andy Homan

PRODUCED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 1 Living Advent Calendar starts, 6.45pm, then every night till 24th.
- 1 Village Hall Quiz Night 7-30pm
- 1 North Northants Astronomy Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 4 Mens Club June Small Room 10.30am
- 9 URC Christmas Coffee Morning, 10 - 12am
- 9 PFA Wreath Making, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 Scrabble, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 13 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 14 BINGO Village Hall 7.30pm
- 15-17 Enchanted Garden, Jordans Weeones, Park Walk
- 18 Mens Club June Small Room 10.30am
- 22 Act of Remembrance for Lancaster DV361, Lyveden Airfield, 2.30pm
- 26 Hound Parade, Hall Hill 11am

January

- 5 North Northants Astronomy Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Scrabble, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 15 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 15 Ladies Leisure Group, June Small Room, 1.30pm
- 17 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 19 Film Night "The Angel's Share", Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20 Quiz Night, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22 Scrabble June Small Room, 10.30am
- 24 Historical Society, "The Kettering Mosaic", Village Hall 7.30pm
- 29 Mens Club June Small Room 10.30am

February

- 2 North Northants Astronomy Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 Scrabble, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 7 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 12 Mens Club June Small Room 10.30am
- 16 Film Night "The Worlds Fastest Indian", Village Hall 7.30pm
- 19 Scrabble, June Small Room, 10.30am
- 21 Kurling, 2pm Village Hall
- 23 St Andrews Church Cheese and Wine with Carl Hector picture show.
- 26 Mens Club, June Small Room 10.30am
- 28 Historical Society, "Commonwealth War Graves", Village Hall 7.30pm

March

- 1 North Northants Astronomy Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16 St Andrews Race Evening, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 22 Film Night "The Lost King", Village Hall, 7.30pm

BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

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 |
| North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC) | First Friday 8pm |

VILLAGE HALL QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER

VILLAGE HALL 7-30PM START

Teams of up to 6 to win.

BAR PROVIDED

Tickets £5-00 from committee members

Doors open 7pm, Start 7-30pm

Enquiries 07471 502952, 373428, 373422

NEXT QUIZ NIGHT TO BE HELD ON 20TH JANUARY

LOOK OUT FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE NEW YEAR

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 winter with an extended set of three films for your diary:

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.

Enquiries: Emma Poole on 370142

Village Hall Events

The Village Hall committee have been busy over the last few months. They put on a very good event such as the Community Wellbeing Day which had useful information about a variety of items from fitness to volunteering. Thanks to Sally Wilks for her work in bringing this together.

Also in September we had a flood warning for the Brook. Having been flooded badly 3 years ago, we decided to erect our flood gates around the building and over the airbricks. We have a team of volunteers who have now offered to help when needed for this. All erected within an hour, but luckily not needed this time.

If you would like to join our committee or have can help at certain events, please let our Secretary Chris Allen know 373059.

Toy Appeal 2023 Brigstock CO OP



Jump into the season of giving with the COOP Toy Appeal campaign. Donate toys at our stores or find a festive event to attend!

Every child should know the excitement of receiving a gift at this magical time of year. We're keen to make this happen, so we're supporting the COOP Toy Appeal across all our stores throughout November.

Drop an unwrapped present at our toy collection point by 1st December, and let us do the rest.

What can be donated?

Anything you can give will be gratefully received, but here are some gift ideas:

Bath toys, teddy bears, books, puzzles, colouring sets, educational games, craft sets, stationery, board games, backpack or tote bag, sports items, toiletry gift sets.

Please do not buy:

- Toys or games suggesting aggression i.e. guns or war games.
- Sweets or other edible items.
- Gifts requiring additional equipment or ongoing costs (i.e. DVDs, console games, or battery-operated toys).

Please remember:

- Label your gift by age and gender if relevant.

We can only accept new items

Knit & Natter Group



Brigstock War Memorial

Was it really 6 years ago that Knit and Natter ladies, together with ladies from the village knitted over 2,000 poppies for the village war memorial. Every year they are carefully dried and stored away and have now become a village tradition.



Every year we think of different ways to ease the task of putting them up. Earlier this year, we asked for help on FaceBook to sew Velcro on the cross section and poppy bands to hold the main structure in place, rather than the usual tie it all together with red string, which took forever to do. We wish to thank Gill Dorks, Glenda Stephen for creating the Velcro trips and Antonia McKinnon from Red Piece Equestion who had the difficult job of sewing Velcro onto the sections of the cross. What a difference it made. Gordon Stephen spent ½ the time he normally took to create the display in time for the Brigstock Memorial Service.

Bobble Hat Project:

On 22nd November our group held a coffee morning to unveil what all the knitted bobble hats are for. Some of you might have already guessed. We created a Christmas tree display using the hats, which will stay in the hall for a few weeks, before being dismantled. Over 150 hats knitted will be given to three different Homeless Charities. Thank you to all those who supported the coffee morning.



The proceeds of the coffee morning were given to the village hall fund. The village hall is a huge asset to the village and every little helps, so they say.

I have had to write this in the past tense as at the time of writing, the display has not taken place, but will have done by the time you receive your copy of the newsletter. Hence the reason why we cannot let you know how much we raised on this write up.

We have been quite overwhelmed with the amount of support we have had from you lovely ladies who have knitted for our Bobble Hat project. A special thank you to you all.

Knit & Natter Group—Cont'd

Christmas Display

Only a week to go before the Christmas post box toppers go back up and our Christmas display for the Village Advent Window on 1st December. This year we have changed the theme slightly ready to delight the children, big children and visitors to the village.

Baby cardigans and premature baby hats

We have also been knitting 1st and 2nd size baby cardigans for Corby Council initiative and premature baby hats for special baby unit.

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

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

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

EMPORIUM HAIR SALON

Hello, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Jeremy, I run and manage the Hair salon in Brigstock namely Emporium Salon,. This was established in March 2017. I have recently moved to live in the village so am now able to widen my opening hours. As well as my loyal regulars, I can now welcome new clients into my salon. I have 28 years experience in the industry and can offer the full range

I offer a full range of chemical services, foil highlighting multi tonal spatula colouring, Balayage blonde ,cutting / styling / updos for weddings, proms and special occasions,

I also offer a service to gents and children.

All by appointment please to give you my dedicated attention

Please call me to discuss,

Jeremy 07572320519

BRIGSTOCK LATHAM SCHOOL PFA



**Christmas
Wreath Making
Workshop***

Saturday 9th December
7.30pm Doors open
8.00pm Start

Join us for a festive workshop this delivered by Flowers From Eden. Bring along your own drinks and we'll provide the snacks and foliage! There will be a raffle (£5 per ticket) on the night and our popular hampers are back including a wellbeing, curry and Warners Gin version.

TICKETS
£30 per person - Purchased from Bake and Brew, Tracey Sharp, Leanne Cloono or Rosy Briggs.

WHERE
Brigstock Village Hall
*18 years + only



Jordans Weeones

Fundraising for Jordan's Weeones is an ongoing effort as every penny raised is paid directly to families in need of our help. Unfortunately this year we had to pause our grant scheme while we raised more funds as referrals for help were higher than ever before which shows just how important our work in Jordan's name is.

To date this year through plant and produce sales, the Garage sale, car boot sales and the Autumn Fair £5777.15 has been raised, another 38 families benefiting from our efforts.

Outside of Brigstock fundraising has been going on well with various people organising events. A total of 81 families have been helped this year.

Our other patron Yvonne Fielding has held several psychic evenings and organised two Craft Fairs and some Reiki Healing sessions.

Sister Sue attends lots of Crafters Markets with all of her home made goods, she also completed an 11 mile walk of part of the South West Coastal Path which was incredible as she really doesn't do much walking due to her bad knees.

Other events organised to benefit Jordans Weeones included a Horse show, a Domino night, Pub Quiz, A family Jordan met through her cancer while their son was also receiving treatment organised a weekend event. The Slackstring Band played a gig and donated their appearance money.

We at Jordan's Weeones are as always so very grateful for all the support, donations and help we receive.

If anyone would like to organise an event to support Jordan's Weeones please do get in touch via the web site or our FB pages.

The Enchanted Garden will be lit as part of Brigstock Advent Windows on Friday 15th December and will be open for people to walk around from then do come along there will be a pop up Christmas Stall for last minute gifts, Hot Chocolate and mulled wine.

Father Christmas will be in attendance on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th Please book Father Christmas through me via email i@janesteward.co.uk messenger, or on the post on Brigstock Jordans Weeones information fb page which will appear nearer the date and by text 07775830526

BRIGSTOCK KURLING GROUP

As this Newsletter is due out in late November, I thought I would remind people that we will be meeting on 29th November, and that our last meeting this year will be on 13th December. We don't normally meet on a fifth Wednesday in a month, but doing it this way means that we don't have a meeting in the week leading up to Christmas, so hope that most players will be able to come along on the 13th. The first meeting in the New Year will be on 3rd January, when most people will probably have recovered from the festive season, and then we are back to the normal first and third Wednesdays, so will be meeting on 17th January, 7th and 21st February, and 6th and 20th March.

We have been pleased to welcome some more new players following the Wellbeing day that was held in September, but if you missed that, and would like more information, please contact me on 01536 373367, or just come along on any of the above dates if you would like to try something different in the New Year. As usual, we will be at the Village Hall from 2-4 p.m., and it will cost you £2, including refreshments.

Judith Beeby

Warm Space

Is up and running again!

Every **Thursday, 11.30-2pm** in the June Small room, Mill Lane
Soup, rolls, cheese, dessert plus a hot drink or two all available.

No charge but any small donations are welcome.

BRIGSTOCK BELL RINGERS

The Brigstock bell ringing team will be ringing over the Christmas season. With a full list of events we hope you will enjoy our ringing to celebrate Christmas.

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

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

Sharon Spencer SAC DIP FHPT/FHPP Registered Foot Health Practitioner



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For appointments call Sharon: 07947 307276 or 01933 316824

BINGO

Thank you everyone who came to our Autumn Bingo Session. Another lovely evening and thank you for your positive feedback which was greatly appreciated.

Now it's the time of year when our attentions turn to Christmas Festivities. Our Extra Special Christmas Bingo Evening will take place on Thursday 14th December.

Doors open at 7.0pm for Eyes Down 7.30pm. Old and New members are very welcome but sadly due to regulations age limit has to be 18 and over.

Christmas refreshments will be served and well as Tea and Coffee but please bring your own refreshments if you wish. As usual there will be a Raffle with LOTS of lovely prizes.

We look forward to seeing everyone on 14th December and please feel free to wear Christmas Jumpers / Hats to get us in the Festive mood. Eileen, Chris and Steph



Brigstock United Reformed Church

At the beginning of October, after our annual Harvest Thanksgiving service- at which people kindly donated food for the Corby foodbank and cash for the Crisis at Christmas appeal-the chapel was emptied of all surplus furniture and walls were cleared of pictures. The whole place was shrouded in plastic sheeting and, for the following three weeks, Chris Reynolds and his mate, Paul, painted all the walls and window surrounds. This was something that we had been hoping to do for a long time, and then the generosity of a local benefactor made it a reality. Chris and Paul have done a great job and the chapel looks really lovely, all ready for our Christmas celebrations. We are very grateful to all involved in making our chapel a beautiful place where anyone is welcome to worship.

Following the success of the Warm Space earlier this year, we decided to start again at the beginning of November, and so far the sessions have been very successful. If you're at a loose end on Thursdays, please come and see what we have to offer between 11.30 and 2pm. Just pop in for coffee, or stay for a soup lunch (all home-made). Meet up with other villagers and enjoy the chat and company.

Coming up next- the annual Christmas coffee morning on Saturday, December 9th. See the poster for details, but do come and relax for a while with a hot drink and a mince pie. We have an excellent raffle and tombola, cakes, jigsaws and Christmas decorations to sell and our very popular "Open the Box", courtesy of Yvette, where you can win great cash prizes.

Our Christmas carol services by candlelight have proved very popular over the past two years, and we are holding this year's service on December 17th at 4pm. You are very welcome to join us and stay for refreshments afterwards-the chapel looks beautiful decorated with greenery and candles-it's a lovely way to start the festivities. As Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, we have an extra, short all-age service at 10.30 on 24th Dec, just a simple telling of the Christmas story with carols. We also have our annual short service on Christmas day at 10.30, and a carol sing-along on Dec 31st.

Don't forget, we have a service at 10.30am every Sunday, and everyone is welcome.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2024.



BRIGSTOCK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

**Christmas
Coffee Morning**

**Saturday 9th December
at the chapel
Mill Lane, Brigstock
10.00am – 12noon
Coffee and Mince Pies
£2.00**

'Open the Box'
Special prize game – cash prizes

**Plus – Cakes, Tombola, Raffle, Jigsaws,
decorations**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Ladies Leisure Group

After a break in August, we met again in September for a silent auction, something we hadn't done before. Everyone brought something to sell and there was a very good choice of items to bid for. The afternoon raised £46 for our funds and this will be used to help pay for our Christmas lunch in December.

In October we collected loads of lavender and set about making lavender bags for our own use or to give as gifts. It was a very peaceful afternoon, with everyone quietly sewing. Perhaps the powerful scent of the lavender had an effect on us all, but it was a lovely afternoon.

Our first meeting of 2024 will be a mystery games afternoon on January 15th in the June Small room at 1.30pm. We shall also be organising our programme for the year ahead and enjoying our usual tea, cake and raffle. Do join us, we charge just £2 to cover the hall rent, tea and a raffle ticket-very good value!!

More details from Sharon-373832 or Sheila-373225

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas, hope to see you on January 15th!

Mobility aids available to borrow

At the chapel in Mill Lane we have a comfortable wheelchair and a four-wheeled pusher with brakes and a seat. Anyone is welcome to borrow them. Ideal for hospital visits, special occasions or if you have people with mobility problems coming to visit you.

Please contact Sheila on 373225 for details.

The Open Door

Every Tuesday morning, from 9.30-11.30, the door is open at the June Small room for anyone to pop in for coffee and a chat.

Once a month we have Bingo, with good prizes, we also have a monthly "Bring and win" raffle and we organise outings for lunch and a Christmas meal.

Come and join us! More details from Sharon tel:373832

VOICES ALOUD SHOW

On Friday 10th November, the Kettering choir, Voices Aloud gave a performance at the Village Hall. The choir has around 25 members - 4 of whom come from Brigstock. They gave a wonderful range of songs and medleys which met all tastes. They were so popular, that they had to do encores as well and got a standing ovation.



The evening raised £1000 from tickets sales and the raffle for Prostate Cancer. A short talk introduced the evening by Mick Jones on Prostate Cancer and the charity. The Village Hall made about £250 profit from the bar.

Thanks go to Peter Hedges and Pete Burdett in their work bringing the choir to Brigstock and the Village Hall committee for running the bar.



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!

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



Contact José on: **079 0811 8395**

jdfotcare67@yahoo.com



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



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BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk



Since our last newsletter we have enjoyed a selection of speakers. These speakers are often experts in their field and are happy to share their knowledge, experience, and insight to our members. We welcome all topics which often spark questions and conversations amongst our members.

We recently had a behind the scenes talk about Madam Tussauds (a real person) and the gruesome need for copied body parts such as the head of a decapitated enemy to go on tour around the country. Can you imagine a young Marie Tussauds collecting heads from the guillotine? This was the birth of the realistic wax work figure made with meticulous craftsmanship and expert sculpting. There were so many questions from the membership if think we could very easily welcome Lucy Swales back for more.

Another riveting talk was from the Blood Bikers. These are the unsung heroes of the NHS, they are a team of dedicated volunteers providing a service that, quite frankly, can mean the difference between life and death! They offer a nighttime service delivering blood, medical instruments, and breast milk (yes!... breast milk) throughout the UK. The breast milk gives prematurely born babies a better chance in life than formula. We raised healthy sum on the night and take our hats off to this selfless service.

The WI will be present at the Brigstock memorial service with our president laying a wreath. We are part of the village team that tidy and garden the square and war memorial. There is always something to do to help keep Brigstock looking like the village we love, and if you want to get involved just contact the numbers in this newsletter.

It is that time of year again when beautiful posies will appear in the village to brighten someone's day. This is our annual Flowers of Kindness Day and the WI get busy flower arranging and creating up to 100 posies to give away. If you know someone who would benefit from some flowers just let any WI member know or pop a note through our hall door.

We are also taking part in this years advent window. It is always a challenge as the hall is so big and our window recesses are up high yet somehow every year the creative team behind our window manage to come up with something wonderful.

BRIGSTOCK WI WI Hall, Park Walk—Cont'd



We open the hall for drink and refreshments and a chance for a warm up from the winter cold.

Our monthly socials have been a hoot with a Halloween themed spicy pumpkin lunch and lets not forget the gin an tarts evening. The tarts were the edible type thank you very much!!

We are also running the 200 club once again so get your numbers at the ready. What is the 200 club, we hear you ask? It is a mini Brigstock (though all are welcome) lotto. It is £1 per month with the annual sun taken in advance. You are then allocated a number between 1 and 200 (much better odds than the lottery). Once a month the numbers are pulled and we have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize. If you want to take part please contact any WI member and they will point you in the right direction or contact 01536 373141.

If you wish to join the Brigstock WI you will need to get you name submitted in readiness for our year end. Please email info.brigstockwi@gmail.com

The Committee would like to thank all the members who organise and participate in our planned meetings and social activities. Without your help and support the Brigstock WI would not be the success it is today – a huge thank you.

BRIGSTOCK WI	200 Club
Drawn on the first Tuesday of every month, except August (due to our summer break). Therefore 2 draws will take place in December	2024
£12 per share for the year	
All winners are notified and the results are minuted	
1st prize - £50 2nd prize - £30	
3rd prize - £20	
To purchase a share, please contact Hilary 01536 370015	

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
Elaine Fincher	Councillor
Ken Motion	Chair Planning
Sophie Cullinan	Clerk 07923 441873

Your Parish Council has continued to work for the good of the local community. Although we have few legislative powers, we endeavour to bring your issues to the notice of those who do. With the changes following the establishment of North Northamptonshire Council, which encompasses the duties which were previously undertaken by the now defunct East Northamptonshire Council (NNC), new lines of communication are still being forged and those holding office are beginning to get to grips with their new roles.

In conjunction with other villages in Harper's Brook Valley, many communications have been made regarding the state of the roads in Brigstock and the A6116 between Stanion and Islip. Unfortunately, resultant action taken has been limited to signage noting an uneven carriageway and a vague promise of more fulsome improvements in the future though without a specific timeframe. We will continue to draw the attention of NNC to these issues. On a more positive note, and doubtless due to the additional assistance of parishioners identifying road surface issues via 'Street Doctor', many of the potholes in the village have recently been repaired. Likewise, repairs to the school are now underway by much encouragement from various parties.

The contentious problem of changes in planning permissions made by Grace

PARISH COUNCIL

Homes in respect to the new housing site has created much concern within the village. Despite active protestation from the Parish Council, NNC have stated that there is a government 'loophole' that allows any developer to request a reduction in the provision of affordable housing citing that it is uneconomic for them to construct such. Whilst we await further comment and clarification from our District Councillor, it appears that any changes being considered do not require approval or indeed comment from the Parish Council and we appear to be powerless to act in such circumstances. Having spent three years developing the Neighbourhood Plan with extensive consultation with the village, it is of particular concern that the stated objectives of the parish to provide more affordable homes is so readily overturned. We will be contacting our local MP over this matter.

We are at present seeking to clarify the implications of Article 4 conversation directions which aim to control small scale changes to the outside of houses that would otherwise harm the historic or architectural character of the conservation area. Whilst obtaining permission to make authorised changes has been required in the past, the government have now decided that more formal planning permission needs to be made where additional costs can be involved. This is a complex area where we have been actively in consultation with NNC Planning Department to clarify matters as to where and under what circumstances planning permission is required. We will be publishing clear guidelines for householders when such consultation is complete.

We are pleased to announce that we are able to fund some projects for the village from money provided by Grace Homes who have already contributed to the seat to be erected near to the post box on Stanion Road. There will also be a substantial amount available from Scottish Power once the solar farm off Grafton Road is connected to the National Grid. The Parish Council is, therefore, pleased to receive suggestions for ways to use such monies to enhance life for parish residents. Practical suggestions can be communicated via the Parish Council website by email to the Clerk.

Litter Picking The Parish Council would like to thank all the volunteers who pick up the litter when out for a walk. Any piece picked up helps to keep the village looking good. If anyone wants to tackle an area on their own, there is equipment available from the Parish Council. Contact Liz Searle 373672

PARISH COUNCIL Cont'd.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome Elaine Fincher to the Parish Council. I am sure her business expertise, as well as being a long-term resident of the village, will be a great asset. She is particularly focussed on making ours' a fully inclusive village for all. We also have a vacancy for one further councillor and we hope that an enthusiastic, forward thinking person who can make a difference will come forward to join us. An application form is available from the Clerk.

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

WAR MEMORIAL ROTA

Thank you to the groups who have kept the War memorial tidy over the last few months. This time of year, is always the worst with the leaves coming off the trees. The new rota has been sent out and most groups replied to say they are willing to help next year so thank you in advance. The following groups have said they will tidy the area in the next few months.

December 2023 St Andrew's Church

January 2024 Historical Society

February 2024 Knit and Natter.

Thank you again to the Knit and Natter group for putting the poppies around the memorial, it gives a visual impact to the Act of Remembrance and adds colour to the winter months.

KHL Paddock Care

We offer the following services to our local area.

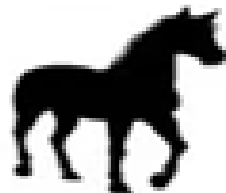
Topping & Mowing, Aeration

Spraying – Weed Control,

Rolling & Harrowing

Hedge & Verge Cutting

07803 819564



The 10th Brigstock Living Advent Calendar

It's nearly here!! Excitement is building.....

For those new to the village and those visiting, there is a reveal of a window or garden scene each night from 1st December to the finale on Christmas Eve at St. Andrew's church, with the Bell Ringers and the Christingle Service. At some events you will be treated to drinks, treats for the children and maybe your first mince pie of the season!

All the dates were booked up back in September and I even have enquiries for next year!! The reveals of this year's Advent Calendar are shown on the enclosed map. Each evening at 6.45 pm (unless shown differently/ check our Facebook page on the day) a new scene will be unveiled and lit up. On the right hand side of the map you will find each address with the corresponding date. The stars on the map show the date and approximately where to find the addresses!

On the 16th & 17th a special visitor will be up at Jordan's Wee Ones, so please check their FB page for details.

The 22nd December, sees the 80th anniversary of the crash of the RAF Lancaster EM-V DV361 just outside Brigstock. Although this not part of the nightly reveals, Jane Jones at 28 High St is lighting her window with a lovely tribute and poignant reminder of the crew who lost their lives, so do pop along on your way to or from the Advent Calendar reveal at 12 Hall Hill that evening.

We have some new entries this year, which along with all the other reveals, will bring bright lights and surprises to cheer up our chilly December evenings, so do come along to support all the villagers who have put hard work into their displays and pop some money into our rattling buckets as we support our two charities: our own Brigstock Village Hall and Corby Foodbank.



BRIGSTOCK living advent calendar 2023

24 windows around the village will be illuminated with festive scenes.
 One new scene will be 'opened' each evening at 6-6:45pm unless otherwise stated.

Proceeds from the
 nighty occasions are
 going to:

Brigstock Village Hall
 & Curley Food Bank

Brigstock Village Hall



Use Giving Link: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/brigstock-williams-536>
 Find us: [facebook.com/brigstockvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/brigstockvillagehall) • [instagram.com/brigstock_village_hall](https://www.instagram.com/brigstock_village_hall)
 Design by: northamptoncity.co.uk • Printed by: typeset.co.uk

- 1st Kirk & Kratzer, Hall Hill Green
- 2nd Rees & Rees, 34-36 High Street
- 3rd Co-op, 2 High St
- 4th A4.3.30, Brigstock School, Latham Street
- 4th A4.6.45, 11 Mountley Ave
- 5th Green Program, Hall Hill
- 6th The Old Rectory, Church Street
- 7th 4 High Street
- 8th 25 High Street
- 9th 9 Sudborough Road
- 10th 64 High Street
- 11th 8 Woodyard Close
- 12th 7 Park Walk
- 13th 6 High Street
- 14th 2 Grafion Road
- 15th Jordan's Wine Caves, Park Walk Paddock
- 16th 41 High Street
- 17th 11 Latham Street
- 18th Mill Lodge, Mill Lane
- 19th WZL Ltd, Park Walk
- 20th Grass Farm, Stankon Road
- 21st 9 Woodyard Close
- 22nd 12 Hall Hill
- 23rd Old Forge, 11 High Street
- 24th A4.3.30, St. Andrew's Church

Sponsored by:
 GRACE HOMES

ADVENT MAP IN PRINT EDITION

The 10th Brigstock Living Advent Calendar cont'd

We are being supported by Grace Homes who are also doing their own reveal at the show home - so that will give us all a taster of what is to come at this new development.

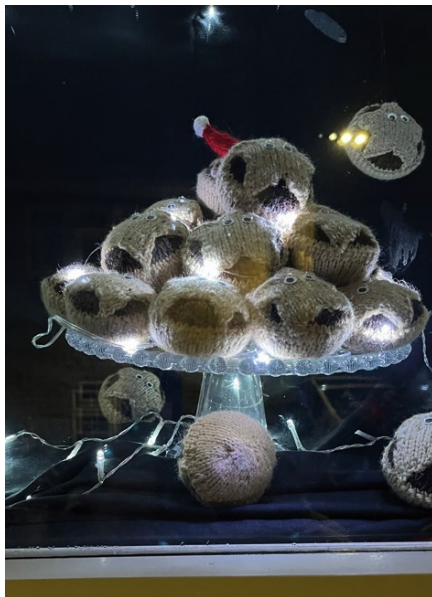


From 1st December, you will find reminders on facebook.com/BrigstockAdvent, Instagram.com/brigstock_living_advent

our JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/karen-williams-338>

Grateful thanks go to Tracey Sharpe at nothingbutlovely.co.uk for map design; Caroline Nall at www.Typestart.co.uk for printing; Grace Homes for their support and to the many people who I have asked for help! Couldn't do it without you.

LAST YEARS DISPLAYS



BRIGSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Below is our next series of talks taking place on the 4th Wednesday of each month in the village hall at 7.30 p.m. Membership is £15 for the year or £4 per visit.

If you would like to go on our mailing list please let us know.

We look forward to welcoming you

24/01/24	<i>The Kettering Mosaic</i> Monica Ozdemir	Many people remember the mosaic on the exterior wall of Kettering Grammar School. Who designed it and what happened to it?
28/02/24	<i>Commonwealth War Graves</i> Andrew Beckett	The CWGC has 23000 locations in 150 countries. Andrew will talk about the ongoing work of the commission and the challenges of car-
27/03/24	<i>Northamptonshire Victorian Inventions and Inventors</i> Jon-Paul Carr	The 19 th Century was a golden age of inventions. Jon-Paul Carr gives an entertaining talk about Northamptonshire's contribution.

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.

Act of Remembrance Lancaster DV361 - Lyveden Airfield memorial Site 80th Anniversary - Friday 22nd December 2.30pm

On December 22nd 1943, Lancaster DV361, a 207 Squadron aircraft was on a post repair cross country test flight, taking off from RAF Bottesford.

A fire was reported in the starboard inner engine. The pilot ordered the crew to stand by to abandon the aircraft and the Flight Engineer to feather the engine and operate the Fire extinguisher.

The Pilot dived but the fire continued. The order was given to abandon the aircraft.

The Bomb Aimer, Flight Engineer and Navigator baled out, the pilot followed minutes later after trimming the aircraft.

The three men in the aft of the aircraft were trapped by a jammed rear door and perished in the crash.

Flt/Sgt Cecil Ryall R.A.A.F

Sgt Thomas Higgins R.A.F

Sgt George O'Neill R.A.F

We will hold a short Act of Remembrance for the crew. The crash was recorded as at 14.42 and at this exact time, we will observe a minute of silence to reflect on their sacrifice.

Kevin Flecknor and I continue the work of the late Paul Knight, who fundraised and erected the memorial. We endeavour to keep alive, at least in memory, the three airmen who perished.

Please do come up and join us to remember those who sacrificed their lives.

"When you go home. Tell them of us and say. For your tomorrow, We gave our today"

Jane Jones 373129

jane.jones3@btinternet.com



Some Victorian Parlour Games for Christmas

Are you there, Moriarty?

Two players are blindfolded and lie face down, head-to-head, holding each other by the left hand. Their seconds hand them each a rolled up newspaper. The first player calls out "Are you there Moriarty?" His opponent replies "Yes" and the first player tries to smack him on the head with the rolled-up newspaper using the voice as a clue to where his head is. Then the victim takes his turn. What fun!?

Reverend Crawley's game

You need seven or eight players or more. You all stand in a circle and link hands but not with the people on either side of you and not both hands with the same person. This has the effect of turning the group into a huge human knot, and your joint task is to untie it. You work together to step over each other, crawl under people's arms, climb through gaps and so on - all without letting go of the hands you are holding. You usually end up with a single ring of people holding hands.

Laughing Game

Players sit in a circle. Each player takes it in turn to say "Ha", "Ho" or "Hee". The first person to laugh is out of the game and so on until there is only one person left who has managed not to laugh.

How? What? Where? When?

One player thinks of the name of an object. To make it more difficult it should have multiple meanings like male, mail (letters) and mail (armour). The other players try to discover what it is by asking the following four questions: How do you like it? Why do you like it? When do you like it? Where do you like it? Player 1 must answer truthfully. Alternate between the meanings as appropriate for each question. The person who guesses correctly wins

BOOKING THE VILLAGE HALL

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

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

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS rosybbiggs@btinternet.com 373579

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

It has been a busy year with our continued fund raising efforts. At times it seems like treading through treacle but the rewards are many and not just monetary. We get that warm fuzzy feeling when we experience people of all ages having fun, the community spirit and the total commitment of those who put themselves out time after time to bring enjoyable varied events to the calendar. A huge thank you to everyone, without you our quest to keep the church open and make improvements would not be possible.

We look forward to celebrating together at our Christmas services, details can be found below. We will only be having one Christingle service this year. As in previous years for Health and Safety reasons it will be admission by ticket only. Tickets will be available from the beginning of December from Barbara Platt 01536 373240 or Allison Porter 07933 804432, keep an eye out on the village Facebook page, posters and our weekly News Letter. The Living Advent Calendar will end at church after the Christingle Service. Below you can find out what is happening at St Andrews along with information on the Christmas Day service at Sudborough. There are numerous events going on in our other churches, details of which will also be available in our News Letter and on our website www.harperbrookanglicans.org.uk

	Brigstock
Thursday 14th December	2.00 p.m. Brigstock School Keystage 1 Nativity in church.
Friday 15th December	2.00 p.m. Brigstock School Keystage 2 'panto' in church.
Sunday 17th December	4.30 p.m. Candlelit Carols led by All Saints Sudborough
Thursday 21st December	10.00 a.m. Holy communion service
Sunday	5.30 p.m. Christingle - strictly ticketed event
Monday 25th December	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion All Saints Sudborough
Thursday 28th December	<u>No</u> Holy Communion service

Wishing you all a Happy, Peaceful and Blessed Christmas.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH cont'd

St Andrews Fundraising

Since the last newsletter the fundraising group have been extremely busy. It started with a raffle at the Comedy night at the Beer Festival which raised £300.

The next day started early with more than 200 boxes being trundled to the meadow by wheelbarrow. This was for the very popular pick a box stall which raised £220.

At the same time a gathering of vintage cars made their way to the meadow. Visitors were free to look around and pop coins in a donation box. This raised £70.

Three weeks later another early start on a damp windy morning for the car boot sale. The group sold bacon rolls, tea and cakes and very welcome hot drinks. There was also a bric a brac stall which also raised £50



Not much time to relax as 3 weeks later was the Pudding Club. This had not been held for a few years and was warmly welcomed. 20 men of the village displayed their culinary skills with an array of 40 desserts. There was not much left at the end of the afternoon! £824 was raised.



FUTURE EVENTS

The Winter Fair. Saturday 25th November. 10am till 1pm. Do come along a do a bit of Christmas shopping or just relax with tea and cake.

Race Evening Saturday 16th March. Another fun evening with a chance to win on the horses and have a meet friends. More information in the New Year.

February 23rd Cheese and Wine in church with an accompanying picture show about Brigstock. Carl Hector will tell you anecdotes about Brigstock.

April 2024 Rutland Big Band will be returning—details to follow.

Brigstock Latham's CE Primary School

By Alyssa, Bella, Willow and Byron

Our school is very loved by all pupils and teachers .We have lots of wonderful resources to help us learn. We are very passionate towards our learning in forest school and in our classes. When help is needed, help is given by teachers or class mates.

Forest school

Mrs Cloono and Mr Kid are in charge of Forest school and help us learn and have fun at the same time. We get to build dens, play on the tyre swing, play on the slack line and get to explore. The teachers get to sit back and watch us all have fun. We also get learnt how to tie knots and make cool picture frames out of sticks and plants. "I like how you can just have fun." Said Elliot year 2. "I like swinging in the hammock and on the tyre swing." says Maeve in year 1. It gives us fresh air and helps us to survive in the wild.

Residential

This year the year 5/6 have gone to London for 3 days (Wednesday-Friday) and have had so much fun. They have went to the Natural History Museum, science Museum ,hard rock café, pizza hut, going on the London eye and watching Matilda the musical live! They are sleeping in a hotel which was very nice. "I'm so excited!" said Erin year 6.

Performances at Christmas

This year we are going to be performing a nativity play and maybe more.KS2 will be doing a performance called Bethlehem: The Musical on the 14th of December at 2pm and Early Years and KS1 will be doing a play called 'Twinkly Nativity' on the 15th at the church also at 2pm. We would really like you to come and join us this year to be an amazing audience.

Also on December the 4th we will be revealing our advent window made by the people in Art club. Please join us at 3.30pm on Latham's Street to see their work revealed.

Harvest

For harvest this year we have delivered baskets full of tinned and bagged food like pasta sauce, canned corn, canned peas and vegetables and fruit to the elderly who are struggling with food.

Brigstock Latham's CE Primary School, cont'd

Everyone was very happy and thanked the year 5/6 pupils a lot .We spent around 1 hour giving baskets to them. We preformed, as a school, a song called Harvest hymn and each class prepared a song to share with the school and adults at the church.

Clubs

We have a lot of choices for clubs. We have :

- Art
- . Football .
- Multi sports
- . Writing

And more it depends what you like. They are all really fun but we all have different opinions on what we think is the best. They can be in the morning or evening but you choose what suites you best.

Georgia Reynolds, Head Teacher

Brigstock Book Group

The last year has seen the welcome return to normality for the group after a couple of years of unexpected disruption. However, we began 2023 with the sad loss of two of our founding members ... Peggy Adams and Joy Thomson. They were lovely ladies and they always enlivened our meetings with their wit and wisdom ... and many anecdotes... they are missed, but will I am sure be often brought to mind at our meetings.

At these monthly meetings we review the book we have read, discuss a chosen theme and more often than not the discussion veers into all kinds of directions.... fuelled by tea and cake! The books are selected from various genres including non fiction and this year we have amongst other experiences, visited the Tudor court, encountered ghosts in the Welsh borders, witnessed crime in the Highlands, met a Russian poet ...

We have limitations on the group size and I have been looking at ways to share our books with the village community e.g. online discussion group ... a work in progress. Also, we will be having an event closer to Easter ... with something to encourage the young readers of the village too. Further information on both ventures will be issued through the usual channels.

Brigstock Project Group

At the end of August, we put out an appeal on Facebook for more helpers. 12 very kind volunteers came forward and we held a meeting at the village hall in September. Unfortunately only 4 people were able to attend, but we are grateful for this new larger group of 13 now formed.

It was decided that the two hanging baskets at the village hall will be scrapped. They are high maintenance to keep them looking at their best, especially during a hot spell.

The planters at Grafton Road, Swan Avenue, Sudborough Road and the large planter at the entrance of the meadow will be revamped in the spring. Some of what were small plants at the time, have grown into very large shrubs and will need to be



removed and topsoil topped up. We will all get our heads together to meet in the spring to evaluate plants that come up every year with a small amount of summer bedding. We have agreed to purchase geraniums (that don't need so much maintenance) from Jordon's Wee Ones, rather than buy from a garden centre to support the charity.

Goodness knows where the slate stones at the village hall planter go to, but they seem to "walk" and need topping up on a regular basis!!! They do help to suppress the weeds that seemed to thrive quite happily around the planter.

Thank you again to everyone who have in the past watered, deadheaded and weeded the planters and will continue to do so and to those new people coming forward to join the group.

We are also pleased to announce that we have been allocated some money from the Beer Festival profits to fund some of these projects. A big thank you to them for supporting us.

For more information or if you have any ideas for the Project Group, please call Steph on 01536 373422 or Glenda on 01536 373987.

Emma Simon



A new volume of poetry by Emma Simon, entitled "Shapeshifting for Beginners" has just been published. The official launch was on 31st October in a London bookshop. The event, with readings by Emma and special guest poets, was attended by around fifty people, including family members and many friends. It was a very enjoyable and entertaining evening.

Emma grew up in the family home in Stanion Road and was a student at Brigstock School and later Bishop Stopford School. She has had a successful career as a finance journalist with a national newspaper but decided in her forties to go freelance, to give her more time with her family and space to pursue her love of poetry.

Emma's poems cover a wide range of subjects, scenes from her family life, observations of nature and also some strange and surreal flights of fancy, often with a touch of humour but always with deep feeling and a facility for memorable language. She even gets in a quote from her dad:- "at least they are not floating islands" a reference to a past culinary disaster which became the standard by which all cookery efforts in the family were judged.

This review is completely biased of course but others with more expertise and objectivity have recognised Emma's talents as she has received several poetry awards. Anyone with an interest in modern poetry or who just wishes to give Emma their support can purchase the book for £10 by contacting me at simon.bill428@gmail.com

Bill Simon

BRIGSTOCK ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Pottery sherds are among archaeologists' most useful tools. Often almost indestructible, they are common finds when digging in the UK. Comparing them with ceramic type-series – so called typological analysis – can begin to suggest when, where, and why they were made. Today, for the cost of a smartphone, all sorts of reference collections and guides are freely available online for identifying pottery. These cover all periods and a huge array of different ceramic wares, from Roman finewares to post-medieval clay smoking pipes. You may like to check out <http://www.pipearchive.co.uk/> the next time pieces of that distinctive fine, white fired clay turn up while digging your garden.

But even then, it can be far from easy to recognise your battered sherd among the thousands of historic forms, fabrics, and styles evidenced in Britain's archaeological record since ceramic first appeared in the Neolithic some 6,000 years ago. So, when it comes to identifying our finds, community groups like BAG prefer to consult the same specialists as commercial archaeological units. As this newsletter goes to press, we're currently – excitedly – reviewing results from analysis by Time Team regular, Paul Blinkhorn, that include ceramic finds dating back to Brigstock's Iron Age. Equally usefully, this has also allowed us to begin to draw up our own ceramic reference collection specifically for Brigstock – a resource of ever-greater value as we supplement it with finds from future excavation and fieldwalking.

Unfortunately, rain has rather curtailed our planned Autumn surveying programme so far this year, but we're still holding out for some opportunities if better weather returns. As ever, archaeology is often on so many levels very much at the mercy of the elements. 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. Alternatively, we can add your mobile number to our increasingly lively WhatsApp group if you have a smart phone.

In the meanwhile, Oxford Archaeology's extremely engaging senior archaeologist, Paddy Lambert, is now confirmed for a return talk about more of Prior's Hall Roman villa site. That will be from 7pm on Friday 26th January 2024, with a raffle and a bar to help fund our next round of ceramic analysis. See you there!

Brigstock Beer Festival 2023

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



I am sure that those of you who were able to attend the Brigstock 19th annual Beer Festival over the weekend of the 1st and 2nd September will agree that the event was a fabulous success.

The Festival commenced, as usual in recent years, with a Comedy Evening on the Friday night featuring 4 comedians. This was again a sell out and thoroughly enjoyed by all (except possibly for the few who sat too near the front and got included in the jokes!). It continued on Saturday with the Meadow hosting an eclectic mix of music, an impressive display of vintage cars from Brigstock residents and an array of children's entertainment, whilst the WI duck race was held on the Harper's Brook course. Outside the village hall there was a variety of food stalls to cater for everyone's tastes. To ensure everyone stayed hydrated there was a choice of over 30 different beers and ciders, gin, soft drinks and slushys which were served from the main bar within the village hall and the Cricketer's Arms on the meadow.

The aim of the Festival has always been to entertain visitors while raising money for local charities and worthy causes. This year the event raised over £7.5K meaning that sizeable donations will be made to the 2 main charities, Cransley Hospice and Corby Foodbank, as well as several donations being made to various Brigstock groups e.g. Sunnysiders, archaeological society, Friends of Fermyn Woods, St Andrews and the URC churches, volunteer drivers as well as a making a contribution so new plants can be purchased to maintain the planters around the village and the hanging baskets outside the village hall. Thank you to everyone who attended, the Beer Festival Committee members and volunteers for making it such a wonderful village event.

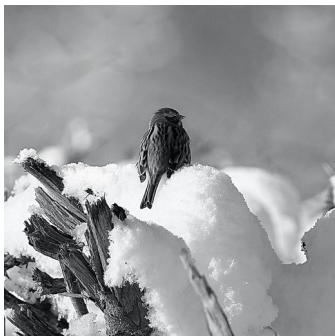
Watch out for details of next years Festival which we will be releasing in the New Year.

www.brigstockbeerfestival.com

Fermyn Woods Country Park

There has been an amazing display of autumn colours in the park this year, the trees have also produced an abundance of nuts and berries which the wildlife is taking full advantage of, the old wives' tale of it being a harsh winter due to a good year for berries comes to mind, we will have to wait and see on that one.

The summer migrants have gone to warmer climes, and we are starting to slowly see the arrival of the winter migrants of Fieldfares and Redwings, also a lot of the resident birds are starting to flock together, I have seen big flocks of Goldfinches and Linnets around the park. As the weather turns more wintery, we will see the arrival of Siskins from northern England and Scotland.



We have had our hay meadow, plateau and grass maze cut and with help from corporate group volunteers we were able to get them raked and the arisings put into grass snake habitat piles. We have also been busy with our regular volunteers with maintenance around the park which has included: - redesigning the refuge viewpoint and installing gabions (metal cages filled with stone), digging over the bark chip in the main playarea, repairing the squirrel scramble, to name but a few of the tasks that we could not do without the help of our amazing volunteers.

Our thoughts are now of the winter habitat work we are starting to undertake as the season goes on, we have been slowly brush cutting areas around the park that are either done annually or biannually. As autumn and winter gets later so does our tree habitat work as the trees are still full of leaves and the sap has not stopped rising which makes it difficult to carry out our work. This season we are going to carry on in areas which we did not get to finish, create some more wildlife corridors and glades to let in light, create more low scrub hedges and any safety work that some of the trees might need.

So, as you go for a nice Autumnal/Wintery walk around the park keep an eye out for wildlife and then why not warm up in the Skylark café with tea/ coffee, homemade cakes and warming homemade soup.

The Ranger Team

Fermyn Woods Country Park

Looking for activities to encourage your children to get outside and engage with the natural world around them? At Fermyn Woods Country Park we run several groups during the week:

WILD n WOODY

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

McHADSON'S

McHudson's School for the Inquisitive and Wild is a weekly held group for home educated children. Each session is linked to the KS2 curriculum but delivered in such a way that younger children are able to access too and all have fun, learning with nature. The McHudson's group meet at Fermyn Woods Country Park on Tuesday mornings, 10-11.30am.

NATURE TOTS,

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

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



BRIGSTOCK VILLAGE INFORMATION

FACE BOOK PAGE

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



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BRIGSTOCK ART GROUP



The Brigstock Art Group meets on Fridays between 10 and 12 o'clock in the June Small Room at the URC chapel in Mill Lane. Members work in watercolour, acrylic, pen and ink, collage, and anything else we fancy having a go with. We welcome new members

and warmly welcome an-

yone interested in joining us, you may not have picked up a pencil or a paintbrush for some time but surprise yourself and refresh a skill or try something new and enjoy the pleasure of creating. If you feel this could be

of interest to you do come along on Fridays, from 10 to 12 for a cup of coffee/tea and see some of our work. Susan Phillips



In commemoration of the late Queen Elizabeth's rule the Parish Council intends to plant 70 trees, one for each year of her reign, in honour of her service and commitment to her people.

If you would like to plant a tree in your garden, please get in touch via brigstocktrees@icloud.com. We will provide a native sapling of a species suitable for the intended location. We will also be able to assist with the planting if required, as well as provide advice on pruning.

Brigstock Parish Council is also embarking on an eco drive, working closely with the Rockingham Forest Vision to better manage the parish land and to restore the natural landscape. We hope that planting more native trees will help sustain the natural habitats that our native wildlife is so reliant on. We hope that, by creating a more bio-diverse environment, this will also go towards mitigating climate change.

Further information will be appearing on the village website soon so keep a look out.

The initiative is being led by our tree warden Francisco Gutierrez and supported by Rockingham Forest Vision – a vision to link landscapes, people and wildlife..

rockinghamforest.org.uk

Brigstock Post Office

We had hoped that the Post Office would attend every week, but they have had problems with staff illnesses and other issues. They have said that they are getting extra staff and should improve in the New Year. They should be there every Monday from 10 until 12 in the village hall. Watch Facebook for updates.

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)

THE SCRABBLE GROUP

The Scrabble Group will meet just once more this year, on 11th December, and then have a month's break over Christmas and the New Year before we resume our usual fortnightly meetings on 8th January. After that we will meet on 22nd January, 5th and 19th February and 4th and 18th March.

If you are interested in joining us, we hold our meetings in the June Small Room at the United Reformed Church in Mill Lane, starting at 10.30 a.m. If you would like any more information about the group, please ring me on 01536 373367, or just call in on any of the above dates, you would be very welcome.

Judith Beeby

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. The dates are November 20, December 4 and 18, January 15 and then every fortnight after. We meet at 10.30 until noon, coffee and biscuits are provided for the cost of £2.

We will start with a general discussion and hope to have some talks on a relevant subject soon. We will be meeting with coffee and biscuits. Please pass this on to anyone who you think might be interested. All men are welcome with no age limit.

Contact Robin Phillips 01536 370144 or Terry Bowen 01536 373807

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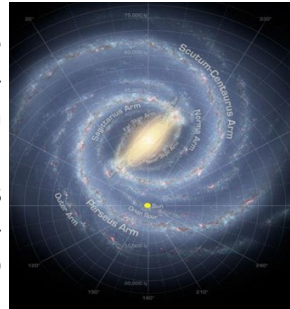
Mob: 07958 657378

Email: kmsurveys@hotmail.co.uk

North Northants Astronomy Club (NNAC)

Where do we live? Always a good question. We live on a planet in a solar system on a spiral arm of the Milky Way.

We can see the spiral arm in our night sky; it is a hazy band of light. We can see less than 5% of the Milky Way from Earth. We only have an artist impression (shown left) of what it looks like from space because we have yet to reach that far out!



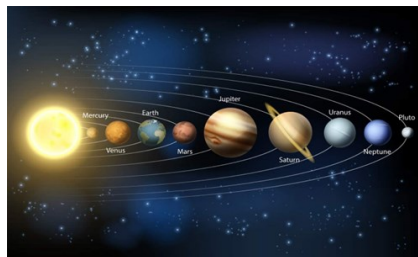
We believe our Milky Way is about 13.6 billion years old, only 200 million years younger than the universe itself. The number of stars in it is thought to be around 100–400 billion, and counting.

With a width of 100,000 light years, even Star Trek: Enterprise at Warp 5 (125 x C) would take 800 years to traverse the Milky Way. That's with a fresh box of Dilithium crystals!

Our sun (yellow dot in the bottom) is located in a small spiral *arm*, the Orion *Arm*, which is one of the four spiral arms travelling around at 515,000 mph. Our solar system takes about 230 million years to complete one orbit around the galactic centre, so we were at top when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

When talking about the Universe it is useful to understand what is a Light year? It is a unit of astronomical distance equivalent to the distance that light travels in one year, which is nearly 6 million, million miles.

We live on the third planet from the Sun, our precious Earth. We think our solar system formed about 4.571 billion years ago from a dense cloud of interstellar gas and dust.



Our solar system is made up of a star, eight planets, and countless smaller bodies such as dwarf planets, asteroids, and comets. Pluto is now relegated to an inferior rank of a dwarf planet.

More to come next edition.

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

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