

BRIXWORTH BULLETIN



Including Draughton, Hanging Houghton and Lamport

Issue No.5

June 2005



PLAY EQUIPMENT A New Start?



Play equipment at Market Harborough (Example suggested by PC)

At a recent parish council meeting and from a blank page perspective, councillors debated the future of recreational facilities in the village, bearing in mind that nowadays residents are fortunate enough to be able to access the splendid new adventure playground at Brixworth Country Park.

The Country Park however presents problems for our residents – on foot the route is inconvenient and even dangerous. Country Park officers are sensitive to the drawbacks of the field path access into the park and indeed repairs are on the list of planned actions. Unfortunately, there are no funds available to action the plan. The route from

the roundabout, lacking a pavement, is also hazardous and the cost of car parking has increased to £2 a visit.

The St. David's field playground equipment is pleasant and accessible but for a village this size, do we deserve something bigger and better?

The Spratton Road Rec. has the skateboard ramp, now hardly used for the purpose intended and is regularly subject to vandalism. Whilst it passes health and safety standards, it is agreed that its days as a useful facility are probably over. The swings and play equipment are also in need of an imaginative 're-think' – still useable but hardly adequate for the number of young families in the village.

What should the village be aiming for in terms of improvement? Should the Parish Council be looking now to pre-empt larger funds to create say a multi-sport arena (minimum cost £70,000) or should we be looking to improve the existing play equipment, perhaps constructed of wood and other natural products? Spratton Road Rec is, after all, one of the few 'green lungs' left in the village centre and most councils nowadays include visual impact when planning such improvements.

The Parish Council, under a 106 agreement, is obliged to spend £10,000 on some sort of play equipment on the Ashway development, even though there is inconclusive evidence to suggest that such a facility is either needed or wanted by the Ashway residents.

Bearing in mind the huge cost of the installation, upkeep and ultimate removal of the village's two skateboard ramps (one has already gone) which from their installation four years ago, have cost Brixworth Taxpayers upwards of £15,000, the Parish Council recognises the need to 'get it right' next time.

The Bulletin invites residents, particularly its younger ones, to submit ideas for the recreational needs of the village – all ideas will be passed to the parish council for consideration and debate.

Paddy Fox

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GUY KIPLING 1919 - 2005



A character in a Rudyard Kipling story declared that "There's nothing more interesting in the world than finding out how the next man gets his vittles" – his living. Guy Kipling, or 'Kip' as he was known by everyone except the two who called him Dad, was endlessly fascinated by people and things. One of his most typical expressions was 'Well I never! Is that so?' This curiosity, along with his long life in farming, made Kip an intensely practical man who well into his eighties loved to tinker and help out, though most of his methods and materials were not out of textbooks, and some of his ways of starting a stubborn machine would make your hair stand on end.

But most of all, Kip loved the land and its animals. Since boyhood he worked only in the fields and among the animals, always watching, always thinking, always planning and always right up to the end of his life marvelling at the miracle of life renewed year by year. The land was his church and its breeding, planting and harvesting was his worship. From starting at half-a-crown a week as an apprentice on a Suffolk farm, he went on to study at the Chadacre Agricultural Institute and later became a herdsman and farm manager in Quinton Green. He came to Brixworth to work for Tom and Eddie Turney, farming brothers whose philosophy Kip greatly admired. The men who worked with him on the farm said he was everywhere, joining in, jumping onto a tractor or a baler, loading sacks, laughing, boosting their spirits in all weathers and whistling, always whistling notoriously out of tune.

This practical hard-working man placed all his life unreservedly in the hands of his wife Peggy. 'Mrs Kip' as she was known, was the quieter, spiritual, reflective half of their long

partnership, without whose affection and care, he could not have gone out to face the day's work for fifty years. When Peggy died, almost 14 years ago, Kip, now alone, made a brave and successful effort-of-will to continue: to be busy, to maintain his home, his garden and workshop hobbies. But as he once admitted, it was an effort.

In retirement he returned as a keen volunteer and spectator to the sport he had played as a young man – cricket. Again typically, Kip's enjoyment of the game was just the same whether he was watching a test match, a county game or a junior village contest on the pitch at the end of his street. He also took up oil painting, surely a brave step for a chap in his seventies and eighties. Kip was best known for over 40 years as a stick-dresser; a maker of traditional shepherd's crooks, one of which he made for the previous Bishop of Brixworth. Busy, ever busy, he could not walk down his garden path without a pair of clippers in his hand.

People often ask our family about the name of Kipling. One of Kip's prized possessions which he loved to chuckle over, was a letter from Rudyard Kipling written in 1936 to Kip's father, in which Rudyard declared in friendly but definite terms that NO they were not related.

Kip will be remembered by many in the village for his many qualities that he and his wife lived out.

David Kipling

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MARTIN ANDERSON'S CUBAN BICYCLE RIDE

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for their kind sponsorship. I raised over £5800 in support of REGAIN, a sports charity for Tetraplegics. In total the event raised close on £30,000 which is a fantastic sum of money. Cuba is the world's 15th largest island, located in the sunny Caribbean sea, with a population of 11 million and famous for a number of reasons : cigars, rum and a chap named Castro. I tried the cigars and rum but never came close to Castro. I did, however, get very close to the island through this charity bike ride and found it to be a wonderful country, full of lush fertile scenery with friendly smiling faces along the way. I never once felt threatened, only uncomfortable with the amount of poverty on display, crumbling houses, food rationing, a road network that is in desperate need of repair, a lack of public transport, power cuts and water shortages. Despite this, literacy is over 97%, one doctor for every 140 Cubans and one teacher per 40 head of capita.

And so the bike ride. It was a challenge as it should have been, the 14 cyclists having to cover 400km in 5 days. We set out on our first day from the infamous Bay of Pigs on rough undulating terrain. It was hot, 36°C on average. I had to pinch myself to believe the scenery, dense forestry on one side, waters of the Caribbean on the other as we headed towards Trinidad. We travelled through meandering valleys, passing through small villages and towns, the names of which I never knew as road signs simply didn't exist. One part of the route took our group along Cuba's only motorway, not one signpost did we see for directions, just nameless junctions for a nameless location. Another day we rode up a mountain so steep I thought it was a staircase in disguise!, before descending the following day triumphantly into Santa Clara and a visit to Che Guevara's mausoleum. Our final stage was into the city of Cienfuegos, an 80 km ride to be completed before a celebratory lunch. Once again fantastic mountain views together with green valleys as the peloton accompanied by Police motorcyclists guided our 'Tour de Cuba' to its conclusion. It was a wonderful experience, one I'll never forget. I made good friends and hope that one day we'll reunite for another event.

Once again, many thanks for your support.

Martin Anderson

NEW YOUTH CLUB

Up and Flying!



Alexandra Dewey and Hayley Jackson on dance mats

The urgent need for a decent youth club in a village of this size is a truth universally acknowledged by Brixworth residents.

At last our collective voice has been heard and, thanks to a small band of dedicated volunteer parents, local residents and the dogged determination of District Councillors Liz and Frank Wiig, our brand new youth club is up and running and is superb!

Situated at 10 Ironstone Way on Brixworth's Industrial Estate, safely away from the village's residential areas, this recently built unit has three beautifully appointed spacious rooms, one fitted out with comfy sofas and floor cushions, a telly, play station and dance mats – that's the chill out room. Then there's a large reception room with football table and music equipment. There's a kitchen area, two loos and best of all a huge games room with a pool table, table tennis and tuck shop leaving plenty of room for dancing or, as on the night I visited, room for two jugglers sharing their skills with anyone who wanted to learn. Members can also look forward to the soon to be functioning boxing club, to be run by local amateur

boxing referee Sandy Matthewson.

At the back of the building is an enormous patio area with gas fired barbeque, (kindly donated by Ilmor), with the potential for any number of outside activities.

Club Chairman Gail Smith is bubbling over with ideas for further improvements. 'With people's help, our youth club can become the best in the County,' she says, 'Grateful though we are to all those who have already given so generously, we still need to appeal for more. For example, we have a lovely TV but we can't afford the cost of a licence or to buy an aerial - so no live football – something the kids adore! We could really do with another CD player, board games and DVD's! If there's anyone out there who could help either with a donation of goods or is willing to sponsor a purchase, we'd be so grateful'.

Gail also explains that the patio area is currently gravelled but if it were to be surfaced with tarmac, it would make an ideal multi-sport arena for football, basketball and netball. Proper lighting would also provide opportunities for winter evening play. Alas, all this is beyond the Club's financial aspirations at the moment.

The most impressive feature of the youth club, however is priceless - the dedicated professionalism of the volunteer committee; there's never less than six adults at each session, all of whom seemed to be enjoying themselves as much as the kids. The Committee is made up mostly of parents but there's also a good mix of other residents interested in ensuring that the youth club remains a sustainable village facility. With this level of collective enthusiasm, this youth club looks set to stay.

However, the sustainability of the venture is of real concern – at the moment it seems to be flying by the seat of its pants. Regrettably there does not appear to be much semblance of a business plan which is essential for the viability of a Club that needs to find £14,000 annually for the rent alone. Whilst most residents might agree that a proportion of local taxes should be put towards such a worthy enterprise, fundraising will need to be the committee's on-going priority. This is where residents could really help either through donations or through willingness to fundraise on behalf of the youth club. The good news is that the Club is seeking charitable status which should provide some financial relief. Annual Membership is £5 and members are issued with a photo card. Members and their parents are expected to sign up to a code of conduct demanding respect for each other and for their environment. Members are also issued with a Behaviour and Response Policy outlining club rules and the consequences of breaking them. There is an entrance fee of £1 payable on each visit to the Club (members can have one visitor as a paying guest).

Daventry District Council has provided a grant to cover the cost of the first six months rent and Brixworth Parish Council has donated just over £5,000 to help with associated costs. The Club expects to become self funding by the end of June.

The Club is also affiliated to the Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs which offers support and advice on best practice principles.

The Club currently opens two nights a week, split into age groups:

Mondays: 6-9pm for 11-14 year olds.

Tuesdays: 7-10pm 13-17 year olds.

The Committee is appealing for more adult volunteers to enable the Youth Club to open on further evenings.

For details on membership or for offers of help, please contact Gail Smith 883627 who will be very pleased to hear from you.

Paddy Fox

PROFILE – MANDY DAWKINS



There cannot be too many villagers who have never come across the name of Mandy Dawkins or her husband, John. Anything to do with the history of Brixworth or arty matters and the first port of call is the Dawkins! Thus, with the daunting prospect of them moving away in another few years, it seemed a timely idea to find out a bit more about these busy people – well, at least Mandy (sorry, John!).

Mandy was born in Newark, Nottinghamshire and lived there until she was 10 years old. Between the age of 4 and 10, she was taught ballet by a particularly strict Russian ballet teacher, who forced her to wear tiny shoes with blocks for doing her points (now illegal until the age of 13 due to the damage that can be caused to growing feet). On a recent visit to Northampton Museum, Mandy was surprised to see her very own ballet shoes exhibited there. She had donated them for a window display as they are so small and rare.

Her ballet possibilities were curtailed when the family moved up north to Shotley Bridge, a picturesque village in Co Durham, where no ballet classes were to be found. However, she was able to become a professional entertainer at the age of 12 as her mother owned a marionette show and they regularly travelled around Northumberland and Co Durham with their puppets. Her mother, a self-taught painter, had failed to have her own wish of studying art fulfilled when she was young and pushed Mandy into going to Art College at the Newcastle School of Industrial Design. There Mandy particularly wanted to do "Window-dressing" but due to a shortage in numbers she ended up doing "Furniture Design".

After two years following a career she was not keen on, Mandy was persuaded by her mother to apply to St Andrews School of Occupational Therapy in Northampton where she was awarded a place but had to wait for a year to take it up. During this year, Mandy did her first stint of voluntary work in the

Occupational Therapy Department at Shotley Bridge Hospital. At the end of her time at St Andrews, Mandy rebelled and went into book-keeping work – partly in order to stay in Northampton as she was at this time engaged to John. They had met at a dance featuring "The Searchers" at Loughborough College, where John was doing Teacher Training. They married at St Giles Church in Northampton in 1966 and made their first home in Clarke Road, backing onto the County Ground and facing the Brook Manufacturing Dress Factory where Mandy was subsequently to find employment, working her way up to become Chief Cashier.

In July 1970 Mandy and John moved to Stannard Way, Brixworth, where Julia was born in October and Michael three years later. Both children went to Brixworth Primary School and then on to Moulton Secondary School. Meanwhile, Mandy kept busy at home doing various voluntary jobs. These included helping at Mrs Alcock's Playgroup in the village, selling baby food at the Clinic and attending the Wives' Guild and Village Hall committees. A particularly community-minded action, when the village had expanded considerably, was to produce Fact Sheets on Brixworth, which Mandy then hand-delivered herself around the streets of Brixworth. Always fond of drawing and having learnt perspective from her earlier furniture-design course, Mandy's drawings of Brixworth Church and "The George" public house soon became popular in the village and beyond. However, she really wanted to do watercolours and so joined a class in Brixworth Village Hall for 4 years, practising painting every day until she had perfected her technique. Then she started teaching other people to paint.

Mandy's mother had died in 1973 and her father moved into Saxon House just after it was built in 1983. After a job with Social Services as a craft-instructor at the Day Centre for the Elderly in Kingsthorpe, Mandy started working in an Arts & Crafts shop in Northampton, serving and teaching Porcelain Painting, Silk Painting and Watercolours for Beginners. When the shop closed, nearly 12 years later, Mandy set up her own business - "Home is where the Art is" - from home. She now teaches mainly for Adult Education's Life-long Learning programme giving watercolour classes three mornings a week at the Community Centre above the library.

John and Mandy started the Brixworth History Society in 1989, following an exhibition in the Parish Hall. Originally there were about 20 members meeting in the Coach House at the back of "The Coach & Horses" public house. Later, Mandy became the Archivist for the History Society and succeeded in filling the whole of their spare bedroom with archives! Recently, she has given up this role and now three people have taken

it on, which shows just how much work is involved. Mandy says that the job very much appealed to her sense of organising items, a trait that has proved useful throughout her life including more recently in the highly-successful annual Art Exhibition held in the Heritage Centre during the Brixworth Church's Festival weekend at the beginning of June and now in its Ninth year.

Yet another assignment for Mandy in the last few years has been due to the arrival of a much-loved grandson, Marcus, now aged two. Mandy and John look after Marcus one and a half days a week while his mother is at work. Presumably, Marcus is learning some of Mandy's art and craft skills as well as her organisational ones!

With all these commitments, Mandy and John are going to leave a big gap in Brixworth when they move to Penkrige in Staffordshire in 3 years time. Lucky old Penkrige though!

Jane Neill

PETER JONES HUNTSMAN

Peter Jones, who was the longest serving Huntsman of the Pytchley Hounds, having hunted with this pack for 34 seasons, retired at the end of last season.

For forty seven years Peter has devoted his life to hunt service and his dedication, friendship and loyalty to the hunt have been exemplary. A special party has been organised in his honour to be held on the 27th June 2005



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Multi-story Living in my Garden

Ten years ago, wandering about Delepre Park during my lunch break, I noticed something odd about an ivy scrambling over a wall. On an otherwise normal plant, just below the tip of one shoot, the leaves had a brighter green than the usual gloomy shade, and each one had a random splotch of pale yellow on it. So I snipped it off, took it home and put it in a glass of water on my window sill. Soon a few thick white roots appeared and I potted it up in a coffee cup. By the following spring it was well-rooted and had doubled in size. It was time to find a place for it in the garden. The ideal spot proved to be the little tree in my front garden. After an initial reluctance it has romped away and now extends to the very top of the tree, about twenty feet. The ivy, which I think I can call 'Webster's variety' is such a prominent feature that more than once itinerant jobbing gardeners have offered to 'trim yer ivy guv before it kills the tree'.

But it is more than an attractive feature of my garden. It has turned out to be a Mecca for the local bird community. As I write there is a pair of wood pigeons nesting in it, their flimsy flat platform apology of a nest holds the usual clutch of two glossy white eggs. A few feet away, in a much bulkier nest, a blackbird is sitting on her complement of four eggs. These are pale blue heavily freckled with russet.

As if this wasn't enough three or four house sparrows have taken up year-round residence. Their untidy domed nests are something of a rarity because they usually build in holes and crevices in buildings. The sparrows are especially welcome as their numbers nationally have fallen by up to a half over the last thirty years. Every time I go out I can hear them scolding me from within the safety of the ivy.

Even in winter the birds use it as a warm refuge from the cold. It is safe too, as it has proved impossible for the local cats to climb it. I once saw a determined tabby make it about three feet up, but it was eventually defeated by the dense mass of branches.

As a final bonus the ivy now bears abundant crops of black berries every spring, at a time when food is scarce. Mainly blackbirds and starlings eat them, although an occasional mistle thrush will arrive to take over the tree, chasing any rivals away.. *Brian Webster*

Caroline Knight (Windmill Glade) and Janet Leeke (Broadlands) will run in the Hydro Active Women's Challenge (5 km run) in September. They are running in memory of Linda Lowe (Caroline's mother). The British Heart Foundation needs donations because heart disease is the most common cause of death in the UK. You can sponsor them at www.bhf.org.uk/sponsor/carolineknight/

BRIXWORTH DANCE CLASS




ADVERTISING FEATURE

Local photographer Kate Green has been offering free photo shoots to local clubs, groups and organisations. Kate runs her own business offering all types of photographic services. She has been attending Brixworth Dance classes at the village hall with the emphasis of her photography being 'people at play'. Kate specialises in natural photography and has presented the classes with a presentation album of the event. Leisa Griffiths who teaches Brixworth Dance classes said, "I have been looking for a good photographer for four years to record our dance shows, that's why I was so pleased when Kate offered to do free shoots. Her pictures are great because they capture the essence and fun of a moment rather than the usual 'rabbit in the headlights' school photos that I am used to seeing."

BEDFORD TRUST

Even though the origins of this charity go back to the Domesday Book, according to the Charity Commission, there is no trust deed, but through custom and practice, the charity is managed by 4 trustees and a secretary, currently under the chairmanship of Jack Bason. The secretary, Roger Groves has resigned but is continuing in the post until a successor is found.

The purpose of the charity is, at the discretion of the trustees, to provide vouchers to Brixworth householders so that they can purchase goods at local stores. To be eligible, it is necessary to be over retirement age and to

have been a resident for over 25 years.

The income is derived from the rent from two fields totalling 10 acres which are situated to the east and west of the village. The Trustees would be pleased to hear from anyone who would be prepared to take on the voluntary post of secretary to this charity. There is only one meeting per year and a small honorarium is paid for the work entailed in collecting the rent and drawing up the accounts for the Charity Commission. If anyone is interested, please contact Jack Bason, 4 Lesson Road, or telephone 01604 881046.

POLICE REPORT END APRIL

PC Stubley reported that on the weekend 23rd/24th April there were 17 incidents of damage to motor vehicles stretching between Creaton and Holcot. The damage was caused by small metal spheres fired by some projectile. The Police do not know who carried out this series of vandalism. There were also 5 instances of thefts from motor vehicles in April. Again the Police do not have any information concerning these thefts.

CENTRE PRE-SCHOOL SPRING FETE

The Spring Fête held on 7th May raised £1079 which will be used towards much needed equipment for the Brixworth Centre Pre-School.

Colin Bell

**NEXT ISSUE 1st SEPTEMBER.
PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR LETTERS ON ANY SUBJECT
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MUSICAL CHAIRS AT THE PARISH COUNCIL

In the last issue of the Bulletin, it was reported the Cllr S Mabbutt had resigned as Chairman of Planning due to pressure of work and that Cllr K Redley had taken on the Chair of Planning at the end of November 2004. At the end of February 2005, Cllr Redley reported that she wished to resign as Chairman of Planning and Cllr S Mabbutt agreed to take on that role again.

At the end of March, Cllr B Chattaway resigned as Chairman of Recreation and Amenities and as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council due to work commitments. No replacement is to be made until June 2005.

At the same meeting a letter was read out

from Cllr F WiiG offering to resign from the Parish Council. The Council debated the resignation after hearing from the chairman that Cllr F WiiG would reconsider his resignation if a fellow councillor apologised for making unacceptable comments. It was proposed to take a vote, and despite a request for a secret ballot which was denied, seven voted in favour of Cllr FWiiG being asked to reconsider his offer of resignation and five abstained.

At the meeting of the 26th April Cllr F WiiG resumed his seat in view of the Parish Council's support.

KEN CROOKS



The Bulletin is sad to announce the passing of Ken Crooks earlier this year after a relatively short battle with cancer.

Ken contributed many articles to both the Bugle as well as the Bulletin, providing his own strong opinions on various subjects but particularly politics and the church.

Ken was involved with the church throughout his life, singing in Brixworth All Saints' choir for nearly 35 years – he joined shortly after arriving here from the United States in 1970.

After he retired from Rolls Royce in 1983, Ken became the LEA representative on Brixworth Primary School's governors. He was also in charge of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in the area in which he lived. With his wife, Gwen, whom he married in 1944, Ken enjoyed Scottish Country dancing as well as their singing commitments. However, at heart, Ken was basically a family man and happiest pottering around his lovely garden or spending time with his two sons, four grandchildren and cat!

ELECTION RESULTS

NEW MP FOR KETTERING

Philip Hollobone, Conservative, was elected with a majority of 3,301 overturning a labour majority of 665 in 2001. Phil Sawford, Labour, had represented the constituency since 1997 when he defeated Roger Freeman, Conservative, by a very narrow majority.

Philip Hollobone writes,

'It is a huge honour to have been elected to serve local residents in Brixworth and surrounding villages as the MP for the Kettering constituency. I intend to represent local interests in the House of Commons to the best of my ability and I am looking forward to working together with the Parish Councils for Brixworth and surrounding villages, our excellent local district councillors Liz WiiG, Frank WiiG and Nick Bunting, and Brixworth's re-elected County Councillor Chris Millar'.

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION RESULT FOR BRIXWORTH

Christopher Grethe (Labour) 1550

Chris Millar (Conservative) 3581

Cllr Millar writes,

'It is an honour and privilege to be re-elected as your County Councillor for the Brixworth Division on May 5th. I am a keen advocate for protecting the integrity of all villages within this division and will continue to strongly represent the interests of all local residents as and when required. My contact details are as follows:

Address: 23 Grass Slade, Brixworth, NN6 9HZ. Tel: 01604 881925

e-mail cmillar@daventrydc.gov.uk

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

ORGANISATIONS LIST IN LAST ISSUE

Guides (10-15) Telephone no. 01604 880929 not 01604 880057.

Ladybirds Pre-School Telephone number 07855051516 not 01604 882813

Any other inaccuracies should be sent to Caroline Monk on caroline.monk@virgin.net or to the Bulletin on 01604 880337

Jack and the Beanstalk Poem by Jean McDonnell

Author has asked for this statement to be published

'Due to the author's inept computer skills, two lines in the original poem were inadvertently deleted before submission. The third and fourth lines should have read *Jean and Dave, they are to blame, Getting me into this thespian game.*

My apologies to Jean and Dave Templeman for this omission – many thanks for their invaluable help behind the scenes at the pantomime.'

BRIXWORTH LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Brixworth Library's current opening hours are as follows:

Monday	9am to 1pm	2pm to 7pm
Tuesday		2pm to 7pm
Wednesday		2pm to 7pm
Thursday	9am to 1pm	2pm to 7pm
Friday	9am to 1pm	2pm to 7pm
Saturday	9am to 1pm	

In July 2004 Brixworth Library extended its opening hours to include an extra two hours from 5pm to 7pm on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Use of the library on these two evenings has been very low, especially in the winter months, and Library Staff have had persistent problems with groups of young people. We are considering whether it would be better to open the library on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. If you have any comments to make on this suggestion, please let the staff at the Brixworth Library know (telephone 01604 882153, e-mail brixlib@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

Ian Clarke Principal Librarian

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LONDON MARATHON 2005



Jane Hughes of Old and Sharon Jackson of Brixworth who both work for Ashbourne Pharmaceuticals in the village, ran in this year's 25th Anniversary London Marathon held on the 17th April. Jane had run in three previous London Marathons but this was Sharon's first London Marathon. They ran in aid of Cynthia Spencer Hospice in Northampton and raised over £450 in sponsorship. They would like to thank everyone for their support.

A Fund raising 50's/60's dance at Brixworth Village Hall featuring John (Wilson) and Jeff (Jones) from Brixworth's own 60's Kossaks band, raised £796.20 for Brixworth Youth Foundation and the Stroke Association, (www.stroke.org.uk) Thanks to everyone who helped make it such a great evening.

The Friends of All Saints' Church Heritage Centre is now open until the end of October on most Saturdays and Sundays from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. Light refreshments, souvenirs and toilet facilities are available. Visitors can also enjoy an exhibition of artefacts and photographs relating to the church and village presented by the Brixworth History Society. Highlights of this year's exhibition are displays of Pitsford Reservoir and Brixworth Football Club. For more information on the Heritage Centre, Brixworth History Society and Guided Tours of the Church/village, telephone 01604 880604 or e-mail jd_brixworth@yahoo.co.uk

Brixworth and Scaldwell Scout Group

Brixworth and Scaldwell Scout Group are looking for unused rucksacks and day sacks from 15 litres up to expedition rucksacks of 100 litres. If you have one in a usable condition, lying unused in a loft or a garage, the Scouts have a use for it.

With all scout sections undertaking many outdoor activities, waterproofs are a necessity to combat the often inclement weather. So if you have unused waterproof jackets, trousers, cagoules or boot gaiters (children to adult), we have a use for them.

Please call Shaun on 01604 498744 to arrange collection.

Brixworth History Society

Saturday 25th June: Coach trip to Ludlow
Thursday 21st July: Guided tour Lampport Hall.

Friday 29th July – Monday 1 August: Four day European trip based in Lille, including visits to 1st world war battlefields and Bruges.

Northampton & Lampport Railway

May 28th 29th & 30th : Teddy Bear's Holiday

June 5th : Classic Car Show

June 19th : Father's Day

August 13th & 14th : Vintage Transport Rally.

August 27th , 28th & 29th : Day Out With Thomas.

Saturday June 25th 2005

Cottesbrooke Village Gardens and Hall Greenhouses open 2 – 5 pm. Tickets:- £3.00 Adults and £1.50 Children. Homemade teas are available in the Village Hall.

Proceeds in aid of All Saints' Church

Sunday July 24th 2005

Cottesbrooke Village Fete in the Hall gardens open 2 – 5 pm. Entrance £1.50 Adults, 50p Children under 14. Delicious homemade teas, stalls, fire-eating, stilt-walking entertainer, pony rides etc.

Proceeds in aid of All Saints' Church

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Village Hall A.G.M.

The Village Hall A.G.M. will be held on Wednesday 8th June in the Village Hall. Natalie Sharp has resigned as secretary to the Village Hall Committee and her position has been filled by Kate Williams who lives in Brixworth. She can be contacted on the Village Hall number 880654. Natalie is moving to Abu Dhabi and we send her and her family our best wishes.

The Village quiz took place on the 18th May and the winners were 'Revenge of the Si(x)th'. 111 people attended and £350 was raised.

DAVENTRY and SOUTH NORTHANTS PRIMARY CARE TRUST (PCT)

PCT have a patient panel which meets regularly in Guildsborough/Brixworth.

These meetings provide an opportunity for members of the public to be informed of PCT activity, give feedback on service provision, take part in consultation and be more involved in local health services.

The next 'Guilsborough/Brixworth' patient panel meeting is planned for Monday 6th June at Brixworth Library/Community Hall from 7pm to 8.30pm where Sarah Hyatt, Director of Primary Care will give a presen-



The farewell service for Rev. David Iziorho was very well attended with representatives from all 7 parishes present. A committee drawn from all the parishes has been busy producing a profile of all the villages to give to a prospective new incumbent. We hope it will not be too long before the position is filled.

St. Catherines has been without proper heating for some time and it is hoped that we will shortly be able to have the electricity re-wired and electric heaters installed. We have, of course, to raise funds for this.

Our Church Fete this year will be on the 17th July at the usual time of 2.30pm. The Club Room Trustees are still waiting and hoping for a grant to build the extension and they are holding their Summer Fayre on Sunday 15th May.

The Garden Group has started their summer schedule with a visit to Leicester Botanic Gardens and other visits are arranged.

I am sorry to say that, due to lack of use, it looks as if the mobile library will no longer come to Draughton after July. Several villages will lose their service as they have fewer than 3 regular users. *Anne Block*

BRIXWORTH INFORMATION CENTRE

Opening times have been slightly changed. New times are as follows:

Mondays	9.30am to 5.00pm.
Thursdays	9.30am. to 5.00pm.
Fridays	9.00am. to 5.00pm
Saturdays	9.30am. to 1.00pm.

**Supplied by Roger Verallo
(Italian cook of some repute!)**

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbs Olive Oil
- 1 tsp finely crushed Garlic
- 1 tin Chopped Tomatoes
- 8 oz Fresh Salmon diced into inch pieces
- Pinch of Chilli Pepper
- 8 oz Double Cream
- 2 tsb of Shredded Fresh Basil

METHOD

Put the oil in a pan and gently saute' the garlic until it starts to change colour. Pour in the tomatoes and season with salt. Leave to simmer for 10 minutes and set aside. Cook pasta 'penne' as per instructions on the packet. Return the pan with tomatoes to a medium heat and add the salmon, cream, pinch of chilli pepper and salt to taste. Cook over a medium heat until the cream has reduced by half. Stir in the basil and remove from heat. When the pasta is cooked 'al dente', drain and toss with the sauce. Serve with salad leaves.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Police wish to encourage more Neighbourhood Watch Teams to be formed in Brixworth. Groups of four houses would be sufficient. Contact Gemma Simkins, Policy Community Support Office 01327 300300.

— OMBUDSMAN BACKS DOWN —

And tenant farmer loses out

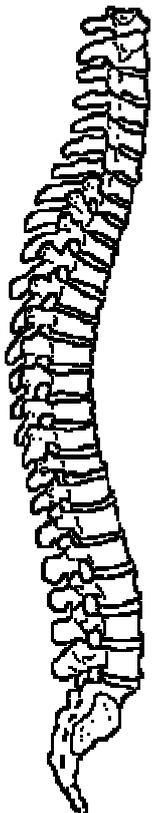
In a recent investigation into a planning complaint lodged against Daventry District Council by a tenant farmer living in Hanging Houghton, the Local Government Ombudsman found the Council guilty of maladministration causing injustice and recommended that the complainant be compensated to the tune of £10,000.

In his original report the Ombudsman had concluded that the Council had been wrong to link an approval of applications by the landowner for residential development on the tenant's farmyard with an offer to withdraw an old but extant golf course application on land elsewhere on the landowner's estate. He said that this was not necessary or relevant to the granting of permission for the residential development and that the application would have been judged unacceptable had it not been for the offered 'trade off'. *'At the time of these applications, the complainant had a life tenancy, his business was doing well and he intended continuing for as long as he was able'*. The ombudsman continued 'Without the flawed planning permission granted by the Council, his landlord would not have been able to use this ground to serve notice'. In a vigorous rebuttal DDC claimed that the ombudsman's conclusions should not be accepted and that no payment made to the complainant. Both parties then sought further legal advice.

In a letter dated 25th April, The Commission for Local Administration in England wrote to the tenant farmer regretfully informing him that *'The Ombudsman is now persuaded that the matter is not as clear cut as he believed it to be when he wrote his report. The barrister has highlighted other case law and has given his own view that the Council's position is not indefensible. In short, because there is no definitive view on the point at issue – as to whether it was reasonable for the Council to rely on a connection between planning permissions – the Ombudsman believes it would be unfair for him to criticise a Council for taking a view that can be supported by case law and which cannot, therefore, be obviously categorised as unreasonable'*.

Whilst acknowledging how *'deeply upsetting this news must be'*, the Ombudsman, perhaps wisely in the circumstances, chose not to elaborate on the resultant 'unfairness' to the complainant who, like most people, would have had every good reason to believe an ombudsman's ruling is final. *Paddy Fox*

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Helen Mathieson is the owner and has worked in Brixworth Osteopathic Clinic since it opened in 2000. Sam Ryall joined the practice in 2003 and has experience in Cranial Osteopathy, a particularly effective form of treatment for babies. In August, we will be joined by Cheryl Staikov who also treats babies.

Each consultation costs £30, with patients typically achieving 90% relief of symptoms within 3-5 sessions. We receive many patients through GP referral and as members of the General Osteopathic Council, we are accepted by all major insurance companies. For further professional advice, or to make an appointment, please contact us:

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MARK PHILLIPS



Mark Phillips of 37 Brackenborough raised £1000 for the Charity Cancer Research UK at his home on Monday 2nd May which was also the date of his 51st birthday. He achieved this by lifting a million pounds in weight using a leg press machine in the incredible time of 2 hours 59 minutes 10 seconds. Mark was cheered on by his wife, two children, relatives and friends and he had beaten his allowed time of 4 hours by over an hour. Mark has always been devoted to fitness regimes, boxing for the Midlands and has run marathons. Nevertheless it was a wonderful feat for such a worthy cause and we are sure all residents will applaud him.

atives and friends and he had beaten his allowed time of 4 hours by over an hour. Mark has always been devoted to fitness regimes, boxing for the Midlands and has run marathons. Nevertheless it was a wonderful feat for such a worthy cause and we are sure all residents will applaud him.

ASHWAY PLAYING FIELDS

Whilst a letter of intent has been placed with Thurstons for the supply of a prefabricated changing room, an order cannot be confirmed until the 106 agreement has been signed between the Parish Council and the developer (Wilson's) for the strip of land near the Ashway. It is understood that the developer will pay legal costs and it is hoped that by the

time the Bulletin is delivered, the agreement will be signed.

Currently the Council have estimated £130,000 for work in association with this project. The cost of remedial work in connection with the existing carpark is not included.

DAVID HYMAS STEPS DOWN FROM BULLETIN TEAM

After ten years of continuous service and support, David Hymas has stepped down as treasurer of Brixworth's Community newspapers (once The Bugle and now the Bulletin). In terms of interest, support and wisdom, David's contribution to the dynamics of the community newspaper has been immeasurable. For five years, David meticulously fulfilled the role of Parish Council correspondent. He compiled the Brixworth Welcome Pack, a publication crammed with local information designed to help village newcomers feel comfortable with their new surroundings.

In a hundred ways, the Bugle/Bulletin team owes David Hymas a huge debt of gratitude and his contribution will be greatly missed. Mrs Sheila Jenner has generously agreed to take over the role of Bulletin treasurer.

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PLANNING STATUS REPORT



RIGIFLEX DEVELOPMENT

DDC granted planning permission for the build of 34 housing units on the Rigiflex site subject to a 106 agreement between the developer and DDC and a planning requirement for the developer to provide a footpath through the development for children and adults to access the school.

The 106 agreement will cover the following:

- Number of housing units to be built which are deemed to be affordable (normally 29%).
- Ratio of rented to shared-ownership (developer in conjunction with the housing association has proposed 25% rented, 75% share ownership)
- Contribution required from the developer to the Education Authority
- Amount of open space

Mr John Wilcox advised the Bulletin that he did not expect to resolve these matters with DDC before August.

REF NO. & DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION	P.C RECOMMENDATION & D.D.C. DECISION
DA/2004/0707 29 Burrows Vale. First floor extension and single storey rear extension.	Subject to Appeal.
DA/2004/1296 Rigiflex, Northampton Rd. Demolition of existing factory, to be replaced with three and two storey residential units.	PC 27/10 Objection. DDC Refused.
DA/2004/1583 34 Froxhill Cres. Two storey extension to side of dwelling.	PC 25/1 Objection.
DA/2004/1475 Land adjacent to the Old Vine, Station Rd. Erection of a new dwelling	PC 25/1 Continuing Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2005/0115 65 The Ashway. Extension to rear of dwelling and conversion of part of garage to bedroom for a disabled person.	PC 25/1 No Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2005/0121 Rigiflex, Northampton Rd. Demolition of existing factory and construction of 34 residential units.	PC 29/3 Objection. DDC Approved.
DA/2005/0140 Land at Holcot Rd, Brixworth 14 dwellings, estate road, highway alterations and ancillary works.	PC 29/3 Objections.
DA/2005/0171 The Grange, Kennel Terrace. Convert existing office building into leisure facilities and build new indoor swimming pool building as extension to same.	PC 26/4 DDC Refused
DA/2005/0135 16 The Ridings. First floor extension over garage to provide additional bedroom. Amendment to roof.	PC 29/3 No Objection.
DA/2005/0164 88b Northampton Rd. Conversion of existing garage into habitable room.	PC 29/3 No Objection.
DA/2005/0167 1 Church Street. Single storey rear conservatory.	PC No Objection.
DA/2005/0296 12 Tantree Way. Two storey extension to side of dwelling	PC 26/4 No Objection.
DA/2005/0163/F Sywell Aerodrome Sywell. Constuction of an all weather surface to the existing runway 03/21 with associated taxiway apron areas and earthworks.	PC 26/4 No Objection.
DA/2005/0345 5 Hunt Close. Two storey extension to side of dwelling. Single storey extension to rear.	PC 24/4 Objections
DA/2005/0347 Adjacent 'Sangria' Harborough Rd. Outline application for new dwelling.	PC 26/4 Objection. Outside village envelope and contravene SLA. Extra traffic would be dangerous.

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The Bulletin Postbox at Brixworth Library
e-mail: brixworthbugle@aol.com

BRIXWORTH RED LION F.C. – CUPWINNERS



(Front row L to R) Matt Coleman, Ben Spraggons, Neil Dolman, Craig Spraggons, Ian Sharrock, Liam Mitchell and Jason Cockerill (Assistant Manager)
 (Back row L to R) Andy Roe (Coach), Henry Wright, Edward Coleman, Lee Deacon, Steven Roe, Rick Kimbell, Ben Fagan, Michael Forskitt, Dean Mabee and Ian Bandy (Secretary)

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BRIXWORTH RED LION F.C.

Brixworth Red Lion F.C. ended the season in fine style winning the 3rd Division of the Sunday Combination in their first season. The League title goes with the Chronicle and Echo Cup that already resides in the trophy cabinet. In our last two league games we beat Royals 5 – 1 and Travis Perkins 4 – 3. We only lost 2 out of 18 league games, winning 15 and drawing 1. The management team of Alan Knight, John Cockerill and Andy Roe would like to offer Nigel Toseland and Gary Booker their utmost thanks for the support and sponsorship. Anyone wishing to attend the presentation evening is more than welcome. It is at the Red Lion public house on Sunday 29th May. (BBQ in the afternoon followed by presentation and entertainment)

BRIXWORTH JUNIOR CRICKET

As published in the excellent Cricket Club brochure which hopefully you have received, there will be many opportunities to play cricket this summer for the youngsters of the village. The club has registered two league teams, U.15'S and U.11'S. However all ages, girls and boys will be welcome at the coaching sessions which will be held on Monday evenings 6.00pm to 7.30pm at St Davids Close (this is a change from sessions published in the brochure)

Under the guidance of the clubs qualified coaches, children will learn the basic skills involved in the fundamentals of the game in a safe and controlled environment. If you require any more information please ring Andy Bransby on 01604 882622 or 07711618959.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

The Junior Football Club is looking for new managers for the Under 7's and Under 8's teams. Anyone interested to contact Dave Coleman on 07803259409.



BRIXWORTH 1st XI CRICKET TEAM 2005

**Front Row Left to Right: Russell Parsons, Adam Peel, Andy Roper (Capt.), Chris Richmond, Paul Gardner
Standing Left to Right: Paul Blakemore, Phil Perryman, Chris Timm, Graham Bott, Fred Newborough, Lee Deacon**

FIRST XI

Played 3. Won 1. Drawn 1. Lost 1
Northants Premier Division – Position 8th
‘At last the season here
High expectations and hopes
The toss is won but oh dear!
The ball regularly crosses the ropes
Rushtons 250 is a decent score
They’re confident at tea, Brixworth’s response
is pretty poor
A heavy defeat, we’re all at sea
But since then an honourable draw,
And a mighty win
Has lifted spirits more and more
And now its Finedon and their spin’
Andy Bransby.

F1 SPANISH GRAND PRIX

Kimi Raikkonen, driving a McLaren-Mercedes won the Formula 1 Spanish Grand Prix on Sunday 8th May leading from start to finish. Despite retiring in the previous race at Imola with mechanical problems, he did show in that race that he had a very quick car. Ilmor employees and supporters will look forward to Kimi and Ilmor having more success this season.

BRIXWORTH ALL SAINTS’ FOOTBALL CLUB

It was a season of ups and downs for Brixworth All Saints’ Football Club, with mixed results.

Just before Christmas the first team manager left the club and Chris Gathercole, his assistant and last year’s Reserve team Manager stepped in. He has had a marvellous season as have the players, at one point looking like they might get promoted. Unfortunately they ended up finishing one place away from promotion. This was due to magnificent team effort and spirit, not to mention Craig Spraggon’s 29 goals, making him one of the top scorers in the league this year.

The Reserves, managed by Paul Willis sadly have not done quite so well. They still have two games to play needing 6 points to avoid relegation. Paul has at times struggled for players but has not failed to get eleven out every Saturday. A lot of these are young lads who are playing well and hopefully have a promising future for the reserves and club. BASFC has been going through a transitional period, as do all clubs, but if we can keep the youth coming up then we have a very promising future ahead of us.

Thanks to all who have made valuable contributions to the club this year, Lynda Forskitt, Glynn Hughes, Keith Dolman and indeed all the committee without whom it these would not be possible to run the club. Thanks to Sarah McCallum for organising the end of season presentation, as she always does, at The Elizabethan, Welford on Friday 20th May, bringing the BASFC season to a close. We look forward to the summer break and hopefully a successful new season. Details of the AGM will be sent to all players in due course.

BADMINTON CLUB

Congratulations to Brixworth youngsters, David Brown, Christopher Read, Philip Warner and Ben Island who for the second year in succession represented Northamptonshire at the Inter County Tournament at Nottingham.

SECOND XI

Football and unavailability in general has made for a difficult start for the second XI. After a commendable performance at Stony Stratford, the team has been humbled by Rothwell and Irchester. But there are positive signs for the rest of the season as players return and the youngsters find their feet.

NEW GROUND

The new square is about to be laid and the clubhouse plans revealed; so watch this space and developments as you drive in and out of the village. In memory of the great ‘Kip’, it is proposed to name one end, the Kipling end and a celebration of ‘Kips’ life will be held on JUNE 8th at St. David’s Close. Please come and enjoy the evening.

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