



(a rather wet)  
Brightwalton  
Village

# Brickleton News

March 2020

Issue 228



*Just eight weeks before the Fete happens! Time to get active and organised. Jeremy Snow and his Committee are already in the planning stages and will be accepting your ideas, which this year will feature VE Day celebrations—thus the slight change of date. Contact—see back page.*



## FETE FETE FETE

We are adding a new stall to the Brightwalton Fete this year, selling home-made produce supplied by villagers.

Any jars you can spare of home-made marmalade, jam, honey, chutney, jelly, piccalilli, elderflower juice, etc etc would be most gratefully received. Clearly labelled please, and preferably with your name on, with potential allergens flagged up.

If you are unable to drop the jars off on the morning of the fete, then please don't hesitate to contact Annie Agnew at [annabelagnew@icloud.com](mailto:annabelagnew@icloud.com), who can arrange to pick them up from you beforehand. Any prior notification, via this email address, of what you plan to provide would be very gratefully received.

Many thanks in advance for your participation..... Every contribution, however small, is welcome to our fund-raising efforts.

**From Parish Councillor Sue Sayers -**

Can we get families in the village to decorate the road front of their houses and gardens to celebrate VE day the bank holiday weekend of 8th -10th May same day as the fete . There will be a prize given to the winning display.

## quiz

So what had Dave and Gill Judge plus Tim Wyatt been doing all winter? We were to find out on January 24<sup>th</sup> as 109 people from Brightwalton, Leckhampstead and Chaddleworth descended on Brightwalton Village Hall bearing carrier bags of plates, cutlery and food, spare paper and pens!!!

Yes, it was Quiz Night in aid of the ASPIRE Project!!!

Having collected our drinks included in the entrance fee, we cosied up in 14 teams of up to 8 people and readied ourselves for a mental workout. The table rounds were a good warm up with a sheet of Abbreviations and one of Dingbats (Book Titles). I for one was pleased to have grandchildren at that point having read several of the books many times to them!! Then the real work started!! Actually it wasn't too bad. The questions were well pitched so that most people could answer a good proportion of them, and then there was the odd few that really tested us!!!

Midway through the evening we were given a break!!! Out came the food baskets and more drinks from the bar and we all tucked into picnics while chatting with our partners in crime (sorry -Quiz!)

All too soon the next set of table questions arrived, Sequences and Geography. Working out which country we were in was a challenge! Note to self: - Must watch more Richard Osman's House of Games (where is Kazakhstan?)

And then came the remaining round including TV Themes and First Lines of books. Jokers were played and some managed to really increase their scores!

At the end of a great evening the winners were announced. A team consisting of a mixture of members mainly from Chaddleworth, with the extremely apt name of The Aspirers!!!!

Many thanks to all those involved for a great evening. We look forward to the next one!!

Rosie Chatfield



Enjoy a magical, uplifting performance from

## The Newbury Rock Choir

the UK's favourite contemporary choir as featured on BBC, ITV SKY & Radio 1

Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020

7pm at Brightwalton Church

Followed by a fish and chip supper & a drink

My concern this month has been the potential for flooding in rural villages around the Downlands Ward and I am happy to report that following contact with the Parish Clerks of those vulnerable villages and driving around the area, all is well apart from road surface water and local flooding of fields. However, the river and streams are running high and Carolyn Richardson, the West Berkshire Council Joint Emergency Planner at the Council Offices and her team are keeping a close watch on the situation and are circulating regular updates on all of the vulnerable areas. These reports are sent to all of our Parish Council Clerks for further distribution to residents, if you have not received one please contact your Parish Council Clerk.

Due to the atrocious weather conditions some of our roads have unfortunately deteriorated and pot holes are appearing again. If you have identified a potentially dangerous area of road, please log your concerns on the West Berkshire Council website: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/> and select 'Report a problem' and follow the link.

### **Veolia Respect Campaign**

The Council has been raising the profile of our Veolia waste teams in #ExpectRespect campaign through social media. It recognises that waste collection teams work in all-weather conditions and should be valued by our residents and treated with respect by highlighting some of the risks associated with their work.

### **Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

*(In case you haven't kept up to date with developments in the media, here is some advice—Ed)*

- wash your hands often - with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- avoid close contact with people who are sick
- if you feel unwell, stay at home, do not attend work or school. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin. Or sneeze into your sleeve. See [Catch it, Bin it, Kill it](#)
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home and work environment

**If you are worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment.**

### **From our Rain Correspondent, David Gardner at Lilley**

With 104mm of rain in the month, February was yet another in the series of exceptionally wet autumn and winter months that we have had. There has been over 100mm in each of September, October, November, December and February. February had three named storms, Ciara, Dennis and Jorge. The six months September 2019 to February 2020 had a total of 601mm. However, since I started keeping records in 2002, this was by no means the wettest 6-month period. That record is still held by the period September 2013 to February 2014, which had 654mm. Four other 6-month periods had over 500mm. The wettest single month since January 2002 was January 2014, which had 187mm.

With February 2020 having been wetter than February 2019 (53mm), the Moving Annual Total has continued its upward path, and is now 892mm. This is still some way below its highest point, which was at the end of March 2013, when it was 1,119mm.

At least, being on chalk downland, we do not have the river floods that there have been in other parts of the country. Sadly I do not have records of groundwater levels, but this year the springs have broken and are flowing more strongly than for about 7 years. They were at their strongest in March 2013.



Quite a few sightings close to our village..



Dunmore Pond has recently filled up after some years of low water..



# Brickleton Summer Ball

*In Aid of the Aspire Project*

On  
Saturday 27th June 2020

At  
Green Farm, The Green,  
Brightwalton

Champagne Reception  
BYO Picnic  
Auction  
Dancing to 'The Fake Tan Band'  
Cocktail Bar

Tickets: £45  
Contact :  
Gill Judge: 07905 805647  
Miranda Cooper: 07855 449539

**ASPIRE**  
All proceeds are being match  
funded by The Greenham Trust



## Brickleton Babes (Baby and Toddler Group)

Tuesdays 9am-10.45am (term time only)

Brightwalton Village Hall  
(Opposite Brightwalton Primary School)

- Babies only section
- Huge variation of toys for babies, toddlers and pre-school children
- Crafts
- Ride-on toys to let off steam
- Drink and biscuit for the little ones and lots of tea and coffee for grown-ups!
- Field for children to go outside in spring/summer months

£2.50 per family (1<sup>st</sup> session free)  
Contact: Christine - 01488 638659  
**Everyone welcome!**

## Are you friendly, helpful and organised?

The village hall is looking for a bookings coordinator to take enquiries and manage bookings for the hall. Typical bookings include parties and events, as well as liaising occasionally with regular hirers. This is a great opportunity for someone local looking to volunteer in the village, get to meet people and be part of our community. It shouldn't take more than around 1 hour per week and will be fully supported and trained by the hall committee.

For more details please contact Mike Ananin [mikeananin@gmail.com](mailto:mikeananin@gmail.com) 638700, Anna Britnor Guest [anabg@btopenworld.com](mailto:anabg@btopenworld.com) 07899 897739 or Emma Aird [emmaaird@btinternet.com](mailto:emmaaird@btinternet.com)

## Attention Cricketers.

Despite valiant efforts by the Cricket Club in Brightwalton to revive, all traces have now disappeared from our field.

However, this notice has appeared at the Woolley crossroads in case someone would like to take part in some summer cricket locally.



Spring well and truly sprung on Pudding Lane

## BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

*See the Brightwalton website for a full copy of the minutes, plus other news and events – [www.brightwalton.org.uk](http://www.brightwalton.org.uk)*

**Minutes:** The January meeting minutes were agreed and signed as an accurate record. There were no declarations of interest.

**ASPIRE Update:** It was reported that fundraising is going well with ticket sales for the Rock Choir (28<sup>th</sup> March) and the Summer Ball (26<sup>th</sup> June) progressing well. Details for purchasing tickets are on the Brightwalton website and in the Brickleton News.

### Matters Arising:

**Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) – West Berkshire Councils New Local Plan Consultation:** WBC had submitted plans to all parish councils, proposing changes to settlement boundaries and sites identified as suitable for development. There was no proposal to change the settlement boundaries in Brightwalton and Brightwalton Green and the Parish Council agreed with this. WBC had marked the site currently known as Isbury as potential for development, the Parish Council strongly disputed this site as suitable for development by any more than a replacement dwelling. Councillors agreed a response based on the issues identified previously such as parking, access, high density of dwellings in this area and then also the issue of the already over capacity sewage system in this area. Response also drew reference to the Parish Plans and the clear desire to retain the rural nature of the village. Clerk to draft response and send to S Orpen for review before submission.

**Memorial Benches:** Two memorial benches have been donated for the front of the village hall. Initial quote for installation had come in at over £600, S Sayers to look at alternative options, including a small working party for the install. The new combination goalpost has also been ordered, with the assistance of a Parish Plan grant, again a small working party to build this will be required. Clerk to confirm delivery date.

**Highways:** It was noted that the signpost has come down near Manor Farm – Clerk to report. Clerk reported that the residents at Lilley had reported further accidents and WBC Highways team had agreed a Speed Limit Review hearing. The PC agreed to support this, Clerk to follow up with WBC Highways.

**Proposal for VE Day Celebrations:** S Sayers proposed that the village recognised the VE Day celebrations that take place during the Fete weekend. S Sayers is making arrangement for the War Memorial to be decorated with knitted poppies and will write a Brickleton News article encouraging homeowners to decorate houses with red, white and blue bunting and hanging baskets. T Wyatt and A Agnew agreed to discuss with the Fete committee suggestions such as war time dress up displays and war time themed competitions. Along with music from the brass band.

**Brightwalton School:** Concerns were raised at the lack of input and reporting from the School since there was no PC representation on the Board of Governors. S Orpen to speak to a Governor regarding opening regular dialogue so the Parish Council can be kept informed on School matters.

**Annual Parish Meeting & General Meeting:** Agreed the Parish Meeting would be held at 7.30 on the 11<sup>th</sup> May with the Annual General Meeting held straight after. S Orpen to put together Chairman's summary for the Parish Meeting.

**Brickleton News Articles:** Adverts for the Rock Choir and Summer Ball have been submitted. S Sayers to put together article regarding VE Day.

**Planning: 20/00477/HOUSE The Paddock** - The architect presented the plans for a one and half storey extension and external alterations including partial raising of the roof. No neighbours had commented on the application to date but the Conservation Officer had raised several concerns. Councillors discussed the application at length and agreed a response to Support the application. It disputed the Conservation officers' comments and agreed that the extension was a thoughtful design that improved facilities and had minimal impact on neighbouring properties. The scheme did not increase the roof height only increased the height of the eaves and much of the proposed extension would sit behind the garage. It was also noted that the proposal fell in line with the Parish Plans aim of supporting the reasonable development of properties to allow residents to move within the Parish.

**Finance:** Current account balance as of the 09/03 £3,750.57; business savings account balance £7,859.01. This includes the following transactions:

Chq 200053 03/02 Imprint Colour – January Brickleton News £65.00  
Deposit of Cheques for Memorial Benches of £511.46  
Chq 200054 03/02 S Youldon – Reimbursement for purchase of Bench Plaques £19.80  
Chq 200055 03/02 Sustainable Furniture UK – Purchase of Benches £660.00 (inc £110 VAT)  
Receipt of Parish Plan Grant £1,185.52 for goalpost  
Chq 200056 03/02 Mark Harrold Ltd – Purchase of goalpost £1,992.00 (inc £332 VAT)

The following cheques were signed at the meeting

Chq 200057 09/03 WBC Annual dog bin charge £33.76 (inc £5.63 VAT)  
Chq 200058 09/03 Clerk expenses November to March including 2 year domain renewal £28.78, printer ink £19.99 and £2.80 postage costs - £51.57 (inc £8.13 VAT)

Clerk has submitted a second VAT reclaim for this financial year of £574.49

### AOB:

**Coronavirus & Emergency Planning:** S Orpen suggested that a plan be put in place identifying key contacts and vulnerable people within the village that may require assistance should the local area be locked down by the Coronavirus or an emergency situation. Agreed that no action would be taken at present, but a quick response could be put in place should the need arise using the village Facebook page etc.

**The remaining 2020 Meetings will be held 11<sup>th</sup> May (APM 7.30 followed by AGM 8.00),  
13<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> September and the 9<sup>th</sup> November**

Please e-mail contributions to me (Word format preferred) at [bricnews@gmail.com](mailto:bricnews@gmail.com)

**Next Edition Deadline— Wednesday 13 May 2020**

**Enquiries : Mike A 638700**

Find Brickleton News and other Village affairs on the Village website [www.brightwalton.org.uk](http://www.brightwalton.org.uk)

Brickleton News is delivered to your door every two months