

Brickleton News

Issue 237

September 2021

A recent visitor to our garden

BRIGHTWALTON SCHOOL LEAVERS PARTY

The leavers event was a huge success. It was all kept as a surprise for the children. They were so lucky to have had wonderful weather for the day. They left on a horse drawn cart pulled by rare breed Suffolk punch heavy horses (a local company based in Fawley called horse drawn occasions). The year six leavers rode around the village twice to arrive at a festival feel party at the village hall. There was a huge bouncy assault course, a BBQ, a tiki bar full of wonderful soft drinks for the kids, a water gun station to cool down, a volleyball net and face glitter painted by a mum and the photographer of the day from Borrowed Moment Photography - www.borrowedmomentphotography.com

But the real hit with the kids was the Limbo/ high jump, which was made even better with the amazing music that Damian dad and DJ played to complete the carnival feel of the day. We also received a voucher from Waitrose Wantage to help purchase food as they like to support local events.



RAINFALL STATISTICS

With 51mm of rain in the month, August was slightly less than the 19-year average for the month (59.4mm), although only half of the very wet August 2020 (102mm). The Moving Annual Total, by losing August 2020, has fallen sharply from 897 to 846mm. The first 3 weeks of the month were unremarkable, with significant rain on two days, 14mm on 2nd and 17mm on 21st. For the last 10 days there was an area of high pressure stuck over Scotland. This gave almost continuous cloud cover, a stiff north to north-east wind, low temperatures and no rain. This is known as an 'anti-cyclonic gloom'.

David Gardiner

Brightwalton Fete—2022

Our well-loved and successful Fete Leader, Jeremy, is taking a year off for family reasons. Although there is already a strong fete committee in place, we need a new leader. Why not volunteer? You would get very strong support and there are always plenty of willing supporters in the village. The village fete needs **you!**

Please get in touch—see bottom of back page.

Another two months has rumbled on leaving us wondering if life will ever get back to 'normal'. Life in the village has continued with an outstanding school event in July and an historic event planned for later this month. (See page two). Clubs and activities are back at the village hall already. We do need volunteers, though. Perhaps you are retired with time on your hands and would like to assist at the village hall. We badly need someone to take an interest, possibly with some skills to keep the hall up to scratch. Please get in touch. (see bottom of back page)



WE ARE BACK !!!

Thursday 7TH OCTOBER 2021

Brickleton Babes (Baby and Toddler Group)

Thursdays 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 snack for the little ones and lots of tea and coffee for grown-ups!
- Field for children to go outside in spring/summer months

£3 per family (1st session free)

Contact: Christine - 01488 638659

Everyone welcome!

Reliance is back - for a day— from Barrie Hedges

The small cream and brown bus that will terminate at Brightwalton on Saturday 25 September will be the 12.15 service from Newbury via Winterbourne, North Heath, Leckhampstead and Chaddleworth. It last ran more than 55 years ago. The bus in original Reliance Motor Services colours will be a 1949 Bedford hired for a family and friends celebration of the company which served the local communities all the way from a horse-drawn carrier in 1917 until it passed on the local service to Alder Valley in 1966. The company had by that time moved its HQ from its site in Brightwalton (now Saxons Acre) to Newbury, and continued to operate there until 1985.

The local event had been planned to mark the launch of the book about the company and its place in local history written by David Wilder and Barrie Hedges. The pandemic forced it to be abandoned in May last year but the family determined to return to it when safe to do so.

Carrying family and friends, the bus will leave Newbury Wharf at 12.15pm and has special permission to travel along its old route through the now pedestrianised town centre. It is due at Ash Close at 1pm and will then go on to the village hall for a buffet lunch.



YOUNG FARMERS MEETINGS—AT BRIGHTWALTON VILLAGE HALL

Wednesdays

22 September

6 October

20 October

3 November

17 November

1 December

15 December





The cows are enjoying the last autumn weeks before they come in to the barn for winter.

FARMING - from Evelyn Bracey



Evelyn has time to take the dog for a walk



Time to munch some nice green grass

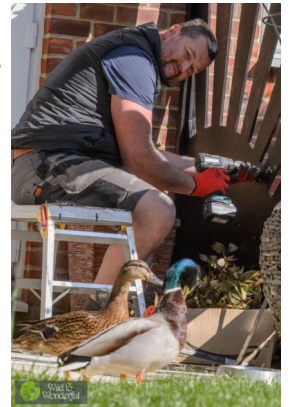


FROM CATHY AND ALAN CORNISH - recently moved into the village.

You may have seen our vans around the village since we moved to Honesty Bottom just before Christmas and wondered who we are and where we came from! Moving to Brightwalton during lockdown was a strange time to arrive, but everyone we have met so far has been so welcoming, thank you so much! We love it here!



Prior to this, we lived in Harwell Village for over 20 years and it was there I founded Wild to Wonderful Garden Design back in 2004 to help people create beautiful gardens and outdoor spaces for their homes where they could relax, socialise and attract wildlife to their gardens. At that time, I worked alone producing design plans and planting schemes, but since then we have grown into a family company with my husband Alan turning the gardens I design into reality. Together we are supported by our friendly team of landscapers, craftspeople, gardeners and office ladies, so we can help our customers with their projects from beginning to end, whatever the size of their garden. We also offer garden training, advice and plant shopping trips for those customers who want to learn how to do things themselves. Even though we are a larger company now, Alan and I are still very hands-on, so are often found digging, building and planting alongside our team in all weathers.

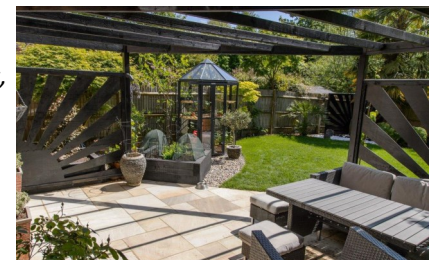


We are very pleased that we have already helped some of our lovely neighbours in the village with their gardens. Thank you to all of you for your support so far, it's been our pleasure to have helped you! We hope to meet more of you very soon, whether to help you improve your gardens, socially or both!!

Cathy & Alan Cornish, Wild to Wonderful Gardens, Honesty Bottom

www.wildtowonderful.co.uk

01235 835664



Brightwalton Parish Council

The September PC Meeting has been postponed by a week to Monday 20th September, so the minutes will miss this edition. However, they will be published, as normal in draft, on the **Brightwalton.org.uk** website and on the notice boards in the following week (in this case 27th September). In the meantime the Parish Council would like to share the following with you:

Proposed Avenue of Trees on Brightwalton Hill

As mentioned in the tribute to Sir Philip Wroughton in the January Brickleton News, the Parish Council, together with the Woolley Park Estate, would like to plant an avenue of trees down Brightwalton Hill in his memory. This feels like a fitting memorial for future generations to enjoy, and would enhance the landscape of the village and increase the number of trees in the parish.

The proposal is to plant an avenue of 18 flowering cherry trees on the stretch from the junction at Keepers Cottage to Dunmore Pond. Sir Philip donated Dunmore Pond to the village to mark the new Millennium. These smaller, ornate trees are expected to grow only to around 5m high, so would provide a wonderful splash of Spring and Autumn colour across the playing field, without disrupting the



view across the fields to Spray Wood in the distance. The Parish Council would be looking to fund the project from the Community Infrastructure funds that were received from West Berkshire Council through the planning department.



Thank you to Simonie West for producing the visuals

Brightwalton Village Community Co-ordinator

By now, everyone in the village should have received the information leaflet on the Brightwalton Village Community Co-ordinator Role, through their letterboxes. This is an exciting project that the Parish Council and ASPIRE project team genuinely feel will benefit all in the village. A big thank you to all those that have already donated towards the project. For those that would still like to contribute please log on to www.thegoodexchange.com and search Brightwalton Community Worker – ref 18759. We need to raise £5,000 to benefit from match funding and secure the position for two years.

The role is designed to bring the village closer together, encourage mutual support and friendship, and to build on camaraderie we saw during the pandemic. The Village Co-Ordinator will create opportunities for people to get together, meet others, learn new things and share skills and information. They will also be able to point people in the right direction for additional support if required.

If you would like more information on donating, or would be interested in applying for the role, please contact Sarah, Brightwalton Parish Council Clerk on brightwaltonpc@btinternet.com or 07811 322994



Brightwalton Playground

During the course of a year the Parish Council conducts reviews of the maintenance of our village amenities, including the play area by the Village Hall. We pick up on items that need to be attended to and look to address them as quickly as we can.

This year we noted that the spikes on top of the swings had been snapped off and also that the rubber chippings for safety around play equipment had depleted significantly. Both of these items needed to be replaced. The spikes are there to help to keep the swings in a hygienic condition, and the rubber chippings to help prevent accidents if someone were to fall from equipment.

The cost to replace these items was £540 plus several hours of volunteer's time to install. This money comes from our yearly budget (the precept) received from West Berkshire Council, and ultimately, from us all as council tax payers. Also any money spent on these types of things means that there is less available for other improvements we may like to make around the village.

Largely these costs are preventable if we all take care of our public areas. For instance, asking children to not scatter chippings outside of the slide area or from underneath the climbing frame. These may seem like small things, but they do add up.

Brightwalton Parish Council Clerk – Sarah, 07811 322994 – Email Brightwaltonpc@btinternet.com