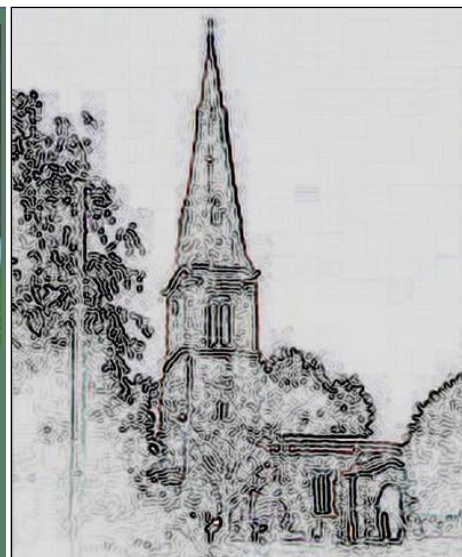


The Braybrooke Gossip

Join us for 6 Nations Rugby at The Swan

Every weekend February to March



The King's Coronation Street Party

Sunday 7th May 2023

BEER will be applying for a road closure of Griffin Road from Northamptonshire Highways for a street party to celebrate the King's Coronation. The closure will be from the Baptist Church to the Village Hall, on Sunday 7th May between 12 and 6pm.

Tables will be laid out on Griffin Road and the Village Hall car park with the street party being from 3pm to 5pm. All villagers & friends welcome, just bring a chair to sit on, along with any food and drink you wish to consume.

In the event of no road closure or inclement weather, the party will be in the Village Hall and undercover in the Village Hall car parks between 3pm and 5pm, where you can consume your own prepared food.

BEER will provide all children in the village under the age of 16 with a commemorative mug keepsake, to celebrate the occasion and to any other persons who would like one at £6.50. To reserve one for a child (or children) please email Rob on jeacockbraybrooke@yahoo.com giving how many required, address and contact number. Numbers are limited and will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.

Save a Life

Community Defibrillator Seminar

Tuesday 28th March 2023, 7pm at The Village Hall

The Community Heartbeat Trust will be demonstrating the use of defibrillators and explaining how the equipment works and its benefits to the community in saving precious minutes in the treatment of sudden cardiac arrest. The more people that know how to use the portable defibrillator installed in our community, the more chance there is of saving the life of a victim of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Everybody is welcome, and no special skills are required, just your willingness to play an important role in the event of a medical emergency.

May I ask those of you who have volunteered to be a 1st responder to do their best to attend.

If you would like to receive a certificate of attendance then please send me your name and email details by March 21st to cllr.mclaughlin@braybrooke-pc.uk

♥ Braybrooke? Hate Litter?

Please join us to clear the local verges and hedgerows of plastic bottles, paper cups, aluminium cans, fast food wrappers and other detritus. Target areas include Harborough Road, Park Hill, Top Road and Desborough Road.

Saturday 1st April and Sunday 2nd April
Meet at Village Hall
9.30am

Alternatively, if you want to "adopt" a section and do it in your own time over that weekend, just let us know.

We can provide litter-pickers and bags but please bring your own gloves

We hope to see you there

Lisa and Jayne

(contact us on 07989 991702 or

lisa.templeton@signetjewellers.com)



FORTHCOMING EVENT

WIN CASINO NIGHT WIN

£100 £100

SATURDAY 18th MARCH

At the Village Hall - 7pm to 11pm

Tickets only £15 and includes -

****Complimentary glass of bubbly****

****Complimentary \$2,000 betting money****

****£100 Cash To The Nights Winner****

Dress code - Smart / Casual

Licenced Bar

Call to reserve your ticket -

John - 456244 Rob - 462782 Marc - 434178

Notes from the Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan. The Independent Examiner appointed by North Northants Council, with the agreement of your Parish Council, has issued his report on our Plan for fact checking. He proposes a number of helpful and constructive modifications. And he has recommended that the Plan, modified in this way, should go to Referendum. So a referendum of the Parish on the Plan will be held on 27 April (when there will also be a couple of Council elections). Further information about the Plan and the referendum on it will be published by 16 March.

Annual Parish Meeting on 26 March. This year will see changes to the APM to make it more interesting especially, we hope, to newcomers to the village. See separate item in this edition of Gossip.

Annual Parish Council Precept. This is the (small) part of your Council Tax bill that supports your Parish Council. Despite inflation, we have not increased the amount of precept that we have requested for the coming year.

Green Waste Bins. NNC has decided that from April we will have to pay to have our green waste bins emptied. Residents who want this service will have to register, and pay £40 per year for each green bin that is to be emptied. Collections will be on the same fortnightly cycle as at present, giving 24 collections a year. This is a consequence of aligning the practices of the four boroughs that were merged to form North Northamptonshire. NNC will also be offering an ad hoc sack collection system, at £16.50 for ten compostable sacks, for those not needing or wanting a bin.

You can also take green waste to your nearest household waste recycling centre in the NNC area for free disposal.

Please go to the garden waste section of NNC's website (northnorthants.gov.uk/bin-collections/garden-waste) for more details and to sign up.

Get in touch via the Contact Us page on the council website at braybrooke-pc.uk, or by speaking to/emailing any member of the PC.

All Saints Church, Braybrooke

Services

* Service at All Saints

† All Age Worship at the Village Hall

5 February – 10:00am – Holy Communion*
 19 February – 10:00am – “Keep Smiling”†
 5 March – 10:00am – Holy Communion*
 19 March – 10:00am – “Keep Mothering” – Mothering Sunday†
 2 April – 10:00am – “Keep Saving” – Palm Sunday†
 9 April – 10:00am – Easter Day – Holy Communion*

The Parochial Church Council would like to thank all villagers and friends for their support over the Christmas period. Special thanks go to those who sponsored the floodlighting of the church and Robert Jeacock for setting up the lights. To date £185 has been raised for the Church.

As always thanks go to the ladies of the flower rota whose efforts made the church look beautiful for Christmas.

Many villagers and friends attended the Christingle service and £163.58 was raised for the Children's Society.

The Nativity on 11 December was well attended and a great success with children taking part in the service. Afterwards we were pleased to welcome the Braybrooke Singers who entertained us whilst we partook of mince pies and mulled wine. Thanks go to everyone who helped to make this a happy and joyous occasion.

Home Visits

If there is anyone who would like a home visit or the opportunity to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Rev Steve Heygate on 01536 764106 or 07981156335.

Easter Lilies

For many years Margaret Jackson has organised Easter lilies for the Church and our thanks go to her for all her hard work. Sadly, because of ill health, she is no longer able to continue. If there is anyone who would like to volunteer for this task, please contact Ann Underwood on 01858 463002.

Dates for your Diary

Mothering Sunday – 10:00am – 19 March – Village Hall. This will be an all age service and an opportunity to celebrate both Mothering Sunday and Valentine's Day.

Tuesday 4 April – 7:30pm – AGM – All Saints Church

Sunday 9 April – 10:00am – Easter Day – All Saints Church – There will be activities for children including an Easter egg hunt. Details to follow.

Braybrooke Cricket Club

In 2023, BCC celebrates its 125th year. To celebrate the occasion, Tony Pepper – who played for the club for almost 40 years, and was groundsman for over 30 – provided the Gossip with a poem he wrote to celebrate the club's 100th anniversary in 1998.

100 Years of Braybrooke Cricket Club

*There has always been a cricket team
 Of good old Braybrooke stock
 Where village lads and their dads
 Have had their merry knock
 The Stratfords, Loakes and Underwoods
 The Steeds, Russells and Noel Tarry too.
 The Marlows, Peppers and Panters
 Only mention just a few.*

*Those days are now a memory
 Near forty years gone by
 Each team, each man played his part
 To ensure the club didn't die.
 Centuries weren't many
 Captain Wally was sound
 People all around heard him stutter
 F – F – F – Flip it
 When a catch went to ground.*

*As time slips by we often try
 To picture this old scene
 When to cheerful yells the wicket fell
 On Braybrooke's cricket green.
 Still we have had our day
 We regret to say, to age we must always yield
 Though bent and lame we'd like a game
 On that rural cricket field.*

*G. Panter, N. Chudley and C. Tyrell
 The Handys from over the hill
 Are playing their part to day
 So that Braybrooke has a club still
 Here's to the present Club Captain
 To the laws we must always yield
 Play up, play up and play the game
 On Braybrooke Cricket field.*

©Tony Pepper

Harborough Cinema

After 20 successful years in Market Harborough, Octagon Cinema has relaunched itself under its new title of Harborough Cinema.



By now, like every household in the area, you should have received a leaflet with your post telling you what's new and how to book tickets. Thanks to new projection facilities, Harborough Cinema is now able to offer the latest films soon after they are released, saving you the trouble of travelling further away: the tickets are much cheaper too and no adverts to sit through at the beginning! There are also lots more showings and matinees. What makes Harborough Cinema even more special is that it is run by volunteers, so you could get involved too.

To see what's on, check out their new website (created by Bob Morris, who lives here in Braybrooke): harboroughcinema.uk.

Braybrooke Morris Dancers

In December Braybrooke Morris danced with the Witchmen, a local border side, at their Winter Solstice Event at the Lilacs pub in Isham. The dancers finished the season with a sing-a-long at the Swan. They were in fine voice led by their squire, Jenny Timothy, although the rest of the customers may not have agreed. Thanks to Cerys for the loan of her room.

The dancers will next be performing out on the morning of Saturday 25th March in the Square, Market Harborough, in support of the Macmillan collectors. Braybrooke Morris practice every Thursday night at 7.45pm in the village hall and warmly welcome new members.

Please contact us at braybrookemorris2014.weebly.com.



The Witchmen in action

Braybrooke Baptist Church

At the November AGM, it was unanimously agreed that there's enough village support to keep the chapel open.

It was clearly indicated by the enthusiasm of so many villagers and their families who attended the Candlelight Carol Service. The atmosphere was very special and clearly showed the villagers' wish for the Chapel to remain open for worship and other village uses. The beautifully decorated church was the perfect setting for flowers placed by members of the congregation onto the wicker heart in memory of friends and family unable to join us. Many thanks to the families who took part during the service, and thanks to the children who helped to serve the tasty refreshments.

Grateful thanks for the anonymous sponsors both private and business for the under pew heaters. 6 down, 24 to go!

URGENT REQUEST

An additional signatory is required to support the treasurer. Please phone Linda on MH 466216 if you'd like to help.



Tasty refreshments at the Carol Service

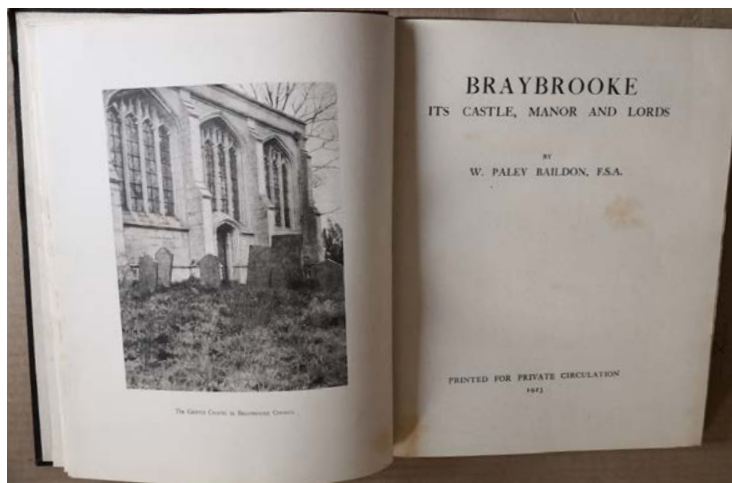
Braybrooke 100 Years Ago – The Braybrooke Castle Book

Before Heneage Griffin bought back Castle Farm and the castle site in 1923, he commissioned an antiquarian to produce a book on the history of the castle and the families, including his own, who had lived there. The book, *BRAYBROOKE, ITS CASTLE, MANOR AND LORDS*, was produced for private circulation and had a very limited print run, but Braybrooke's Rector, Rev. Hakewill, received a copy. The author, William Paley Baildon, was a barrister at Lincolns Inn, a legal historian and a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. He was a prolific author of many legal and historical publications, but the Braybrooke book was one of his last, as he died in 1924 aged 65.

This was not the first book Mr Griffin had been involved with. A few years before he had given Rev. Harvey Bloom access to his archives so he could research and publish *THE GRIFFINS OF DINGLEY* in 1921. Again, this book was produced for private circulation and only 50 copies were published, so it must have been financed by Mr Griffin. The author, the Rev. James Harvey Bloom MA, was an antiquarian and contemporary of William Paley Baildon, being only a year younger. Like most parish histories of this period, the Braybrooke book is not about the village but concentrates on the castle and the landed families who lived there. The book is rather heavy going but very well researched and is still the main source today for scholars researching the history of the castle. The author was very methodical and laid out the sections in the book based on the Feudal System. He starts with the tenants in Chief,

who held their land direct from the king, followed by the Intermediate lords and finally the Immediate Lords such as the Latymer's and Griffin's, who actually lived in the parish. All held their land by service to their superior.

One aspect which did confuse the author was when the castle was demolished. It had been created when the crown granted a licence to crenellate (fortify your house) in 1304. These later licenses often resulted in little more than a moat, battlements and a gatehouse being added to an existing house to create a fortified mansion. The author assumed this and believed that the castle buildings stood on the moated platform where the ruin of Castle Farm still stands and which is still assumed to be the case. However, he also assumed that the castle was demolished by 1569, whereas we now know that there was a royal visit in 1603, so it would still have been standing then.



Frontispiece from the Braybrooke Castle Book

There was only two years between the publication of these books but both duplicated sections about the Braybrooke Griffins. It would appear the main reason for Heneage Griffin seeking the services of an eminent academic like Paley Baildon to partly re-write a work he had so recently commissioned was his purchase of the castle site and his wish to have a publication which tied the Griffin family to their ancestral home, Braybrooke Castle, rather than their later seat at Dingley Hall.

©Geoff Pitcher

The Christmas party on 12 December was, as always, a very enjoyable occasion. A buffet meal to which all members had contributed was enjoyed by all.

On 9 January our speaker was Paul Howard who stepped in at the last minute and gave us a very entertaining evening with his talk on "The Story behind the Story". Having started as an apprentice toolmaker, one day he picked up a second hand camera. With no training in photography he went on to forge a successful career with his work appearing on the front pages of both national and local newspapers. Some of his stories were sad, some funny and some you would think would never make the news but did.

Future Meetings

- 13 February – Michelle Hayes – The Art of Needlefelting
 13 March – Annual Meeting (7pm start)
 Speaker – Rosie Greenall – Riding for the Disabled

Visitors and new members are always welcome. Anyone interested in joining WI should contact either Marilyn Knibb (07947 729892) or Lisa Templeton (01858 461028)

Braybrooke Neighbourhood Watch

Want to protect your home? **Think WIDEN** (WINDOWS, INTERIOR, DOORS, EXTERIOR, NEIGHBOURS) to have the best possible protection against burglary.



Research from Nottingham Trent University shows that a set combination of security actions provides up to 50 times more protection for your home versus no security.

A combination of "WIDEN" actions is the most effective and recommended by police throughout the country. Additionally, Neighbourhood Watch believes that neighbours keeping an eye out for each other is also key to preventing burglary.

- **WINDOWS:** Lock your windows
- **INTERIOR:** Put your interior lights on a timer
- **DOORS:** Double or deadlock your doors
- **EXTERIOR:** Put your exterior lights on a sensor
- **NEIGHBOURS:** Keep an eye out for one another

As with all types of crime, prevention is much better than cure. Taking simple measures such as these can significantly reduce your chances of being burgled.



The first snowdrops, spotted in Braybrooke on the bank opposite the Baptist Church by Helen Salisbury. Spring is just around the corner!

Braybrooke Annual Parish Meeting

Come to the Village Hall at 3.00pm to:

- See displays by local clubs, societies and other voluntary organisations illustrating their activities during the last 12 months
- Hear what local voluntary organisations and your Parish Council have been doing on behalf of the community during 2022/23
- Have your say on aspects of village life which matter to you and suggest ways we could work together to improve things for everyone in the Parish



Better still, come along at 2.00pm to:

- Take a fascinating, guided stroll around the centre of Braybrooke, looking at historic buildings, structures and landmarks, including the castle grounds, All Saints church, the Baptist chapel, schools, pubs and green spaces
- Enjoy delicious tea and cakes on your return to the Village Hall, courtesy of Braybrooke Women's Institute

Sunday 26th March

Put the date in your diary now, and look out for more information in the coming weeks on the Village Hall noticeboard and here in the Gossip.