HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Popular events return for 2017

Update from Community Library

... and other village groups

JANUARY 2017
New year, new you! Treat yourself to some time out this January.

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EVENTS IN 2017
EDITOR’S COMMENT

Happy New Year! We’ve some exciting events returning in 2017, starting with our second Quiz Night, see the back cover for full details.

The Brampton Events Group
This enthusiastic newly formed group has loads of ideas to help make Brampton a more interesting place to live. They have already organised several successful events including the Picnic on the Green, the Quiz in October and most recently the Childrens’ Halloween party. We have more events planned for 2017 but we could do with a few more volunteers to help run them. Please email me judithchitty@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

Brampton Open Gardens 2017, it’s back!
If you would like your garden to be considered for viewing as part of the Brampton Open Gardens 2017 please contact me on 437977 or email judithchitty@gmail.com. The Open Gardens will be taking place in early June 2017.

Brampton Village Fete 2017 is also back!
Keep the afternoon free on Saturday 1st July 2017. Fun for all the family: sideshows, activities and races for children. Dog Show. Beer and teas.

Judith Chitty, Editor

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Cover image, view from Park Road

Articles needed Co-editors Viv Jenkins and Judith Chitty look forward to your continued support of providing articles and photos for publication. Please send in reports of the groups, clubs and societies that you belong to, anything that you think will be of interest to the village or whatever you have an opinion on that you feel needs airing. Details of where to send on page 29.
This is the longest road within the built-up part of the village. It started in 1955 as a cul-de-sac from West End; its original end still visible in the slight widening that was a banjo end for turning. In the late 60s a road was started from Grove Lane eventually connecting with the turning banjo. During naming discussions Elizabeth Road was also proposed. With Peter Lenton, the then Parish Council chairman’s casting vote, Miller Way was agreed.

Many complaints have been made about the uneven surface of the original part of this road but the District Council explained in 2016 that when built it was not designed as a through road. Eleven roads now have junctions with it.

The road is named for Thomas Miller, a lawyer, who died in 1683 and is buried in the churchyard. He owned land in the parish, and local area, but we do not know how much land or where he lived. In his will made in 1681, he left the following bequests (spelling not corrected):

“Item — I give unto the Town of Brampton in Huntingtonshire four acres of meadow in Portholme viz. in the milking corner two acres the Earl of Sandwich on the South Mr. Merrit on the North being freehold, in Haddon Dole five roods Mrs. Bernard on the North the meare or great swarth on the South, in Thacking Dole three roods Edward Lindsey East Mrs. Bernard on the West to the use and purpose hereafter named viz. ten shillings of the Rent to be paid to the Minister of the Parish every year to preach a sermon on New Years Day for ever, and the rest of the Rent to be faithfully distributed to the Poor in Easter week by the hands of the Minister and Churchwardens according to their discretion But if the Rent of this Meadowing shall be put to any other use whatsoever then shall this Legacy be void and ineffectuall shall John Dalton my Kinsman or his
heirs forever possess and enjoy it.

“Item — I give unto the Town of Brampton one Close at the West Towns [this was the cherry orchard] end to pay the money that Mr. Phillips gave to the Town of Brampton and to excuse all the rest of the land and House that my father had of Mrs. Phillips.” A copy of the will can be seen in the church and also a memorial to him.

The hay from the Portholme bequest is sold annually, the income disbursed by the Thomas Miller Charity Trustees. The poor people in the parish are the beneficiaries, though “poor” is now a word of uncertain definition. The orchard produced only a nominal rent until the major part was sold in 1976. Correspondence with the Charity Commission some 30 years ago resulted in interpreting Miller’s concern for Brampton in ways appropriate to the present-day village.

The sermon, after some years of neglect, was revived in the 1977 jubilee year when wide interest was aroused in local and national media about the ‘ten shilling sermon’ It is now on the first Sunday, after moving to 1 January many years ago, and not 25 March as in Miller’s day. The fact that in 1681 ten shillings was a very substantial sum is a reminder of changed values, and of inflation.

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**Born To Travel**

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE LOCAL GROUP**

For the first of our New Year’s meetings, the Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust are pleased to welcome Peter Holden who will present an illustrated talk entitled ‘Born to Travel’. This will be held on Wednesday 11th January at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB.

Peter, who is an author and broadcaster, has always had a passion for birds. He will talk about bird migration, delving into the amazing journeys of many of our most loved birds. Peter will include a short film to illustrate his talk.

Peter was a Senior Manager with the RSPB for 40 years and was responsible for devising the RSPB’s Big Garden Birdwatch. He has also written many books, including the RSPB Handbook of British Birds and the RSPB Handbook of Garden Wildlife and Birds: A Hidden World.

Anyone interested in wildlife is most welcome to attend. Booking for the talk is not necessary. Entrance charge £2.50 (accompanied children free). Please contact Tim on 01480 457795 for further information.

Part of the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. Registered Charity No: 1000412
With the start of work on the new 10-lane road development west of Brampton, it seems opportune to look at the way the landscape has changed in this part of the Parish.

A map dating from 1772 shows the roads in existence then. When compared with a map drawn in 1808 (British Library online at bit.ly/2hkXm9h) the layout of the roads was much the same as in 1772. Access to the A1 to the north was via ‘West End’ whilst to the south it appeared to run through Park Farm turning west to the A1 and east to Buckden Road. By 1835, a new road replaced the route via Park Farm, and access to the ‘old A1’. This map shows a new track west of Brampton Park, also visible on the much later Ordnance Survey Second Edition map of 1902.

Within the same field, parallel lines give a hint of a landscape predating 1772. This ‘ridge and furrow’, is a form of open field, peasant farming, probably dating back to Medieval Times. A pond and the remains of an ‘ice-house’ are also features of interest.

Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) is an airborne mapping technique, which uses a laser to measure the distance between an aircraft sensor and the object on the ground. The LIDAR image above shows more detail for this area. If you look carefully,
whilst walking along the footpath which follows the old trackway, it is possible to see these features today.

Already a major route, the Great North Road became the A1 in 1923 when the Government introduced a classification system. The A1, west of Brampton was upgraded and straightened in the late 1980s.

Unlike today, there was no major east-west highway. However, opened in 1993 the “A1-M1 link road” now forms part of the A14.

By 2020, there will be a new road system with the A1 and the A14 running parallel to each other south and west of the village. Included in this will be major excavations for gravel extraction and other associated activities. In August 2016 Highways England announced that “A new study has set out plans for the A1M to be extended creating a continuous motorway between Peterborough and London.” It is unclear if this will require further road building along this corridor!

The Google map below of the Parish shows a summary of all these changes from 1772 through to completion of the A14 realignment.
Following our appeal last month, we are delighted to say that we have now received donations of approximately 4,000 books for the Community Library. A huge thank you goes out to all of you who have donated books. We also want to thank members of the Library Management Committee, for their work in organising and storing the donated books, and the Memorial Centre staff for their co-operation during this time. Please note, our book donations appeal is now closed, for the time being, while we sort the books and make arrangements to catalogue them. Discussions with the County Library Service are progressing well and we hope to be in a position to set a timetable for opening Library sessions very soon.

Currently, we need to find additional space to store books. If you have, or know of someone who has, garage or other storage facilities, please telephone 01480 385 505. Please leave your contact details on the voicemail and someone will get back to you.

Brampton Cycling Club
NO PLANNED RIDES

There are currently no planned rides due to the risk of icy roads. I will post rides on Sky Ride Social and Brampton Information Exchange FB page if the weather is suitable.

Terry Downing
IT Mentoring
MENTORS NEEDED

IT mentoring sessions are now up and running, and at the time of going to press we have held our first full session.

The sessions are taking place on Monday from 10:30am – 12 noon, Wednesday 2pm – 3:30pm and Thursday 6:30 – 8pm, this was a mix decided upon from the variety of times and days students were available, and we tried to make sure mentoring was available for as many people as possible.

At the moment we are in urgent need of more mentors. If you use a computer, iPad, tablet or mobile phone and have a couple of hours to spare once a fortnight, we would love you to join us.

You don’t have to be a professional, or even a bit of a wiz, although if you are you would be very welcome. If you know how to switch on, use a mouse, find your way around a web site, maybe you use e-mails or skype, are you a Facebook user, and other basic operation, and would be happy to pass your knowledge on to novices and people just frustrated because no one has ever had the time to show them in laymen’s terms how to conquer the elephant in the room, then you are just the person needed.

For more info or to volunteer call Ann on 01480 437345, or email alaidlaw25@gmail.com.

Unfortunately we don’t have room for any more students at present, however, if you are interested in joining our waiting list then please also contact Ann.

**Opening Times**

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Volunteer for a better Brampton

We have opportunities for volunteers in the Brampton area.

**Shape your community** for the better by helping older people live happy, healthy and independent lives. Even with just a few hours a month, we have flexible roles to suit you:

- **Give practical help** after an illness or stay in hospital. Help at Home volunteers offer practical help and emotional support (usually for 3 weeks) by: collecting prescriptions; shopping; arranging meal deliveries or just making sure people are ok. You could also help with one-off tasks such as changing a light bulb or taking curtains down for a wash.

- **Find information** to help stay connected with the community. Community Navigators volunteers help older people connect with local groups and services. You could find anything from social activities to services that help people stay independent at home, e.g. gardeners and cleaners.

- **Set up your own group** for older people? Would you like to work with the Community Development team to set up your own group? You could get involved in anything from car schemes to lunch clubs and singing groups. You could make a big difference!

**Contact us now on**: 01954 211919 to find out more, or www.care-network.org.uk. Email: volunteering@care-network.org.uk.

Thank you!
The Bramblers
BRAMPTON WALKING CLUB

On 19th November we had our first Saturday outing when seven of us enjoyed a morning walk from Catworth including the length of a ridge with good views of the countryside (and A14!) to the west. Three of us lunched at the Racehorse and walked a circuit to the east of the village afterwards.

December saw us travelling to Stanwick Lakes, south of Thrapston, where the ex-gravel pits have been transformed into an attractive nature reserve. We walked around the lakes and along the old railway track to Woodford Mill tea rooms, returning full of excellent cake.

It was disappointing that only three of us were there to enjoy it. Please, would some of the many who said they would like a walking club tell me why they are not coming out? What sort of walk do you want, where, how long, which day of the week?

January walks will be on Wednesday 4th and Sunday 22nd. I’m open to suggestions as to place and distance. Those people on the emailing list will be informed of walks in good time, and if anyone not on the list would like to be added to it please contact me.

To give feedback or for information please email geoffreystratton@gmail.com or ring Geoff on 01480 436126.

Our weekly Health Walks continue every Thursday morning at 10am meeting outside the Memorial Hall. Each walk lasts between 45 minutes and an hour and we have been making the most of the good weather we have had and our proximity to the Country Park.

We have a core group of walkers now (plus 2 well behaved dogs) but there is always room for more. So why not make it a New Year’s resolution and come along for a walk and a chat, followed by refreshments and more chat at the Memorial Hall.

Sue & John Breslin (john_sue_breslin@hotmail.com)

Ladies Netball
RESTARTING IN THE SPRING

Brampton ladies netball finished the year with a meal together and took the decision that with the evenings getting both colder and darker we would take a break from our usual Monday evening games and restart in the Spring. A date will be set nearer the time so anyone interested please look out for this sometime early March/April.

A big thank you to all the ladies/girls who supported us – we have had some good and energetic evenings!

Billie Leighton
Wise and Unwise Women of the Fens
BRAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BRIAN GEBBELS, CHAIRMAN

How do I set the mood for what I am about to relate? Relax: let your mind wander and drift back to life in the Fens during the 17th and 18th centuries. Have you done that? And are you sitting comfortably? Good! You are now ready for me to tell you that the talk, ‘Wise and Unwise Women of the Fens’ spiritedly and hauntingly given by Mrs Polly Howat was the subject at the November meeting of the Brampton Historical Society (BHS). As usual, held in the Stocker Room of the Brampton Institute, yet another full house of members, unaware of what was to follow!

Setting the scene, Polly stressed the dominance of Fen women during that period (probably not changed!) and their ability to influence their fellow villagers. Into the realms of folklore we went, witches; hag stones; handy-women; opium; children sewn into clothing; swallow water, coins in the eyes of the dead! Are you now ready? Is Sir Christopher Lee looking over your shoulder? Beginning with witches Polly stated, and I am sure you are all aware, that they could be any woman of the village who was considered to be ‘out of the ordinary’; a sharp tongue; warts on the face, shabbily dressed or lived alone. Of course the simple minded villagers were afraid of such women and their influence. This being the case ‘Witch Hunts’ were a regular occurrence. The means of defining who was a witch was left to the professional ‘Witch Hunters’. Matthew Hopkins of Grantham being a prominent name. He claimed the rank of ‘Witchfinder General’ and with his colleague John Stearne (The Witch Pricker) were responsible for the accusation, trial and execution of many. I think that I have got this right as I understand that John Stearne obtained his title from his practice of using a cane with a needle inside which he used to ‘prick’ a suspect. If blood came out, the person was innocent, but he had control of the needle and if he did not release it, no blood appeared, that was known as the ‘devil’s curse’ and ‘proved’ that the person was a witch— a good way of keeping his tally up! The ‘Witches of Warboys’ is well documented and resulted in the execution of Alice Samuel and her family.

Polly then progressed to terms and other roles that women had in those days. Hagstone (pictured left) — simply a hollow stone with a natural hole in it which if you looked through was purported to ward off the ‘dead’; cancel curses; cure sickness and keep witches away! The origin of the word ‘nightmare’; in Old English, a ‘mare’ was a mytholog-
ical demon or goblin who tormented others – night was added as a pre-fix to stress the dream aspect. The word that amused the majority of us was ‘Incubus’. I am glad this magazine is now a Brampton Magazine and not the Parish Magazine as I feel I can now, perhaps, enlighten our readers as to the description! Folk lore tells us that an ‘Incubus’ is a Male Demon who lay upon women when they were asleep, and had his evil way with them! The female equivalent was ‘Succubus’. If you are lucky! I wonder if they are like London! You wait all day/night for one; then three ‘Incu(Busses)’ come along!

The term ‘Handywomen’ covered those ladies who were involved with many aspects of normal life, the delivery of children, laying out the dead, some licensed to brew ale and general ‘all-rounders’. Polly explained a few of the ‘fen land’ rituals involved with birth, some not suitable for this magazine but, interesting and amusing- probably not for the patients! However, opium appears to have been widely used in reducing the pains associated with birth and for many other complaints. Polly did mention Gripe Water, the formula containing alcohol — perhaps that is why I liked it when my children were infants! May 1st, for whatever reason, was considered unlucky for a birth. Other small items of interest, maggots put in the ear to cure earache! Put a slug on a wart! One I am sure all the ladies will appreciate, the liquid in the centre of a ‘cow pat’ when smoothed on the face was believed to enhance the complexion — so when you take the dog for a walk across the fields you can return more beautiful! But no one will go near you! It was also a custom to put coins in the eyes of the dead and Handywomen were known to have surreptitiously removed them and sold them at great profit on the pretext that if a lady put them under the pillow it would act as a contraceptive!!

I could go on but I hope that I have given you a feel for a most interesting and informative talk. We never know what our guest speaker will be like, some good, some not so, and some, like Polly, exceptional. She really made us laugh with the descriptions and tales of the ‘Wise and Unwise Women of the Fens’. A fitting end to the talks of 2016. Many Thanks are due to Pat Last, the Society’s Secretary, for organising such an interesting programme.

The next meeting of the BHS is Wednesday, January 25th 2017, the AGM, which will be followed by a talk from Karen Aspinall entitled the ‘Night-watchman of Huntingdon’. In the meantime may I wish all readers and members of BHS a Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to your continued support in 2017.
The ALBRAM Car Scheme exists to help those patients of Alconbury and Brampton Surgeries who cannot, whether temporarily or permanently, make their own way to medically related appointments at the surgery, hospital, clinic, optician, dentist etc.

Details of the scheme are held at Reception in both Surgeries.

Drivers in the scheme are all volunteers who give freely of their time for the benefit of other patients. Patients using the service pay a mileage charge for each journey and a further contribution is made by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC).

Drivers do only as much driving for the scheme as they wish to.

Before being accepted as volunteer drivers, individuals are required to undergo Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks, which are arranged by the CCC at the request of the ALBRAM Secretary, who is the coordinator for the ALBRAM Scheme. (Information about DBS checks can be found at www.dbschecks.co.uk)

If you are interested in helping out as a volunteer driver, please give your details to Janet Street at the Alconbury Surgery or Annerley Symes at the Brampton Surgery. You will then be contacted by the Scheme Coordinator to commence the recruitment procedures.
A happy new year from everyone at the school. I always feel that we have 2 ‘new years’ - one in September after the summer break and then one again in January. As we return after Christmas we can look back on many successes last year and see how much has been achieved. We enjoyed all the celebrations and concerts at the end of last term and the children should be very proud of themselves. The choir sang at both Hilary Lodge and Hinchingbrooke Hospital and it is important that we continue to be part of, and contribute to, our local community.

We have had some new staff and children join us this term and we welcome them to the school. We have a number of events to look forward to in the next few months, including residential visits, concerts and trips and the children will be able to write and tell you all about them in future editions.

We also look forward to getting back into the Victorian building in the middle of January, provided that all the work is completed. We certainly need all the space we have as we continue to grow, now having over 430 children on roll.

The latest information from the school is always available on our website which is www.brampton.cambs.sch.uk.

Men, have you considered singing?
OUSE VALLEY CHORUS

The benefits of singing are manifold. Apart from being enjoyable, it is sociable, reduces stress, improves your mood and you learn a new skill. There is also recent medical research that concludes that it improves health. It is also a very affordable pastime.

Ouse Valley Chorus is a male chorus based in the Huntingdon area and are looking to expand their Chorus. In particular, they are looking for those men who may be tenors although all are very welcome to come along and give singing a try.

We have members ranging from 15 years old to retirees. No previous experience or musical knowledge is needed as you will be trained and coached by other members.

We practice for two hours each Wednesday at 8:00 pm at the Methodist Church in Huntingdon High Street, PE29 3TE. If you would like to attend or know more please contact me, Keith Wood on 01480 459617 or 07802 368659.

Why not give it a try? There’s no commitment to join and no initial expense.
Your Local Councillors

SEPTEMBER 2016

Your Parish Councillors

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Lin Sinclair</td>
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<td>Rev Jason Taylor</td>
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Assistant Clerk to the Parish Council

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<tr>
<td>Debbie Steel</td>
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Bookings Clerk

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<tr>
<td>Debbie Steel</td>
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Burial Clerk

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Your Huntingdonshire District Councillors

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<tr>
<td>John Morris</td>
<td>458818</td>
<td><a href="mailto:john.morris@huntingdonshire.gov.uk">john.morris@huntingdonshire.gov.uk</a></td>
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Your Cambridgeshire County Councillor

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Parish Council minutes, names, addresses and telephone numbers of your councillors and other parish notices are displayed on the two village notice boards, at the Memorial Centre and by the shops. The information also appears on our official Parish Council website at [www.brampton-cambs-pc.gov.uk](http://www.brampton-cambs-pc.gov.uk) together with lots of other useful information about Brampton.
Parish Council
HIGHLIGHTS FROM 16 NOV MEETING

- Community Library – days confirmed as 3 x 2 hours slots and the 4th slot during Brampton Befrienders which will be a closed session.
- Youth Matters – Future Youth Project – new art work on Sk8 Park.

District Councillors Report
- HDC Planning Dept consulting on a draft Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document. Once adopted it will be taken into account by the council when considering any future planning applications. Closing date for comments is 12 December 2016. The document can be viewed online at: http://consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/portal/pp/spd/dg?tab=list
- Council soon to commence consultation on proposals to increase car parking charges. Currently, HDC raises £2.5m in car parking charges. If draft proposals go ahead, the cost to park for 1 hour could rise from 40p-80p to 60p-£1.00. Concern has been expressed about the negative impact this might have on town centre shops
- A Special Meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 7pm to consider devolution proposals which includes the proposal for an elected Mayor for Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. Mayor's salary is projected to be up to £80,000. Lib Dems are opposed to an elected Mayor and do not support yet another tier of local government.
- Brampton Park Golf Club. Outline planning application for 56 homes, 40% to be affordable, will be considered by HDC’s Planning Committee on 21 October - this application has now been approved.

County Council Report
- CC decision on having a Devolution Deal with directly-elected Mayor has been deferred to 22 Nov.
- Service cuts continue. Staff working in children’s services are concerned about their future.
- Government’s intention to encourage more grammar schools discussed at Council 18 Oct; Motion to call Council to reaffirm its commitment to comprehensive community education (as practised in Cambs for 50 yrs) was defeated by a majority of one.
- Early Years education funding: The increase of free places for all 3 and 4 year olds from 15 hours to 30 hours per week has not been funded in such a way as to allow providers to cover costs. CCC fears that it may not be able to meet its statutory duties.

Brampton
- The contractors at Brampton Park have been keeping local residents informed of work schedules and
progress. John Baldock of Breheny wasn’t able to attend the November parish meeting but hopes to go to a meeting early in the New Year.

Useful contacts:

- Project Manager, Adam Weatherill  07392 197665 a.weatherill@breheny.co.uk
- Sub Agent, Ben Mathers  07889 115401 b.mathers@breheny.co.uk
- General Foreman, David Hilliard 07801 017435 d.hilliard@breheny.co.uk

- No expressions of interest received to Peter Downes in relation to Primary School governor vacancy: a place will be arising early in 2017 so anybody who might be interested should contact Peter Downes to discuss what is involved. This is a ‘co-opted governor’ so need not be a parent of a pupil currently in the school.
- The Tidy Village Group met on the last Sunday in October but its activity was curtailed by poor weather. Nevertheless, some useful work was done on the cycle path from Brampton to Buckden and they were pleased to have some new volunteers. They hope to fit in some sessions to finish the re-painting of the bridge as and when time and weather permit. The overhanging bushes in Huntingdon have been cut back.
- Work to install the pedestrian refuge on Huntingdon Road and change the speed limit to 40 took place and has been well received and has now been completed.
- The District and County councillors continue to deal with a number of specific complaints by residents brought to their attention at surgeries or by e-mail.

Remainder of the Agenda

- Planning – 10 applications are currently for Brampton Park. Many application have been received.
- Brampton Park Development – the site is manly flattened. S Cambs looking into street lights not working.
- River Lane – Road Surface and Sewage Treatment Plant – Clerk has written to Anglian Water regarding these issues.
- LHI – the application for a 20mph limit around The Green has been submitted to CCC.
- NMU Crossing – A1 – concerns over layout – this will be decided later but responsibility will lie with CCC and PRoWs.
- Burial space – running short, seeking further land to extend the cemetery.
- Church – o/s west door – looking at resurfacing and installing a gate as a barrier between the church and the road.
- Churchyard trees to be inspected.
- Brampton Village Friends Facebook page has 1,000 members.
- Speedwatch – more and more drivers being caught speeding.
Free trees
TO CREATE SMALL WOODLANDS

Huntingdonshire District Council is looking for people who have suitable land on which to plant small woods or copses to encourage wildlife and enhance the landscape. Unfortunately there are a number of tree diseases in the area which are damaging or will kill a significant percentage of our existing trees. You can help by planting young trees now to grow up to be the mature landscape trees of the future.

A variety of native tree species are available for free; and the majority of them have been grown from seed collected from local ancient woodlands by volunteers. The trees have been grown in Huntingdonshire Community Nursery and are now ready to plant out. The trees are adapted to our soil and climate conditions and provide excellent food and shelter for our native birds, mammals and insects. Preference will be given to those sites which are visible from a public viewpoint but this is not an exclusive requirement if a suitable site is offered. Numbers of trees available range from 10-500.

Tree species offered include Oak, Field Maple, Crab Apple, Wild and Bird Cherry, Wild Plum and Alder. The trees are between 40-100 cms tall, depending on the species. Rabbit protection and biodegradable mulch mats will also be supplied.

Anyone interested in participating in the scheme is asked to contact Bridget Halford at the District Council on 07917 554057 to discuss their ideas.

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**BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**VACANCY**

**PART TIME CARETAKER**

We are seeking a person to manage the opening and closing of our facilities for our various user groups. This post covers the Community Centre, the Memorial Centre and Playing Field Gates. The Assistant Caretaker will report to you.

The work required is to ensure our user groups have access to the facilities and to check these after the duration of their booking. There may be some minor maintenance tasks. A reporting facility will be in place for more major repairs/faults.

The successful candidate should be flexible regarding working hours; a minimum of 12 hours per week, which can increase considerably per the number of bookings. The hourly rate is £8.50.

Please apply to the Clerk for an application form or for more information.

Janet Innes-Clarke, Clerk to Brampton Parish Council
Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton Huntingdon, PE28 4TB
Tel & Fax: 01480 454441
e mail: clerkbrampton.pc@gmail.com
Faithful One
THE REVD JASON TAYLOR

Every New Year many of us make some kind of resolution - a declaration that we will do, or not do, something in order to improve ourselves in some way. The great majority of these resolutions: I will not drink any alcohol in January, I will go to the gym and lose two stone, I will read my bible every day etc. will fail within the first few days if not weeks of being made. Only a few of us will realise our ambition to be a better person in this way.

The reasons for this are many. Mostly we try to do too much in one go but we also usually fail to put the necessary support in place to help ourselves. We think that with nothing but sheer will power we can change habits that have developed over a lifetime in a few months. I don’t know how to break this to you gently but, mostly, “we” can’t!

God knows you and I better than we know ourselves. The hairs on our head are numbered. That doesn’t just mean He knows how many there are but that when one falls out as we comb it in the morning, God knows that that was hair number 2781. As well as knowing us, He has also called us (Isaiah 43:10) and when He called us He knew everything about us – good and bad. He knew that we had that tendency to gossip and over eat, that we didn’t always treat others so well; He knew about your secret sin and that terrible thing you did all those years ago and yet He still called you to be His son or daughter. He forgave your sin and longs to be in a relationship with you. All of this despite your weakness. Maybe even because of it.

Despite our best efforts most of us will mess up time and time again. We all, like sheep, have strayed (Isaiah 53:6) and will stray from the Good Shepherd. But God is faithful! However far we stray He is always there ready to welcome us back. 2 Timothy 2:13 puts it like this, “If we are faithless, He remains faithful—for He cannot deny himself”.

No matter our sin and doubt, our deliberate and unintentional acts, our refusal to accept His correction and even, sometimes, His love and forgiveness —God is faithful. He loves us unconditionally. He is not impressed by our human effort to change ourselves; what He wants is for us to allow Him, by His Holy Spirit, to change us. Our role is not to strive but to surrender:
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise (Psalm 51).
Mothers’ Union
A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God bless our year
Giving us time for the task
Peace for the pathway
Wisdom for the work
Friends for the fireside
Love to the last.

Our January meetings will both be AGMs. We hope to run through the reports and elections fairly quickly because we are hoping to have a guest speaker. Emily, Elizabeth Arkle’s daughter, has been invited to talk about her trip to Swaziland which I’m sure we shall all find very interesting.

We now have four more lap quilts ready to give to people suffering from dementia which we hope will bring interest and comfort to those in need.

Our meetings are open to all.

BRAMPTON LITTLE FISHES
A cuppa and chat with songs, story and prayers for the under 5’s in the Methodist Church
9 for 9.30 start and finish by 10.00
Every Tuesday during term time
All babies and children welcome
Contact Rosemary Parsons 454910 or just come along!

Brampton Befrienders
New members are always welcome to Befrienders. Come along to the Community Centre in the High Street from 10am to 12 noon for coffee, tea, cake and chat every Friday. Transport can be arranged for anyone who has difficulties.
Contact Jan Edwards on 01480 417380.
Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene
stmarym.co.uk

Parish Ministry Team
Rector
Revd Jason Taylor  453341  rector@stmarym.co.uk
If you would like to meet with, or speak to, the Rector please contact him using the details above. His rest day is Friday.

Associate Minister & Lead Chaplain of Hinchingbrooke Hospital
Revd Scott Watts JP  411141  scott@stmarym.co.uk

Children and Families
Adventurers’ Sunday School (3-10s) during the 11am service
Karen Large  433922  children@stmarym.co.uk
Youth Club for years 6+ Thursday 6.30 – 7.45pm
Hannah Arkle  youth@stmarym.co.uk

Other Officers and Leaders
Pastoral Assistant Jan Edwards  417380
Churchwardens Sue Roberts  433935  sueroberts@stmarymco.uk
Keith Wood  459617  keith.wood@stmarym.co.uk
P.C.C. Treasurer Tony Page  treasurer@stmarym.co.uk
P.C.C. Secretary Karen Large  433922  pccsec@stmarym.co.uk-
Mothers’ Union Elizabeth Arkle  434924  mu@stmarym.co.uk
2nd Tuesday 8pm Church Hall, 3rd Tuesday 2.30pm Hilary Lodge
Tower Bells Ian Stracey  457525  ian@stmarym.co.uk
Practice Monday 7.30 – 9.00 pm
Church Hall Bookings Secretary  434374  hall@stmarym.co.uk
Church Mission Society Coordinator  433220
Bible Study Notes Jean Carter  436846

Church House Groups
House groups provide an opportunity for people to meet, to learn, and to help each other as Christians. We have a number of groups which meet and we welcome new people. For more information, contact Revd Jason Taylor.

Across the Churches Bible Study
Ellington normally 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening. Contact Jean Clark on 890033
Parish Churches in Jan
SERVICE PATTERNS

1 Jan  Christmas 2
10.00  Morning Prayer Brampton

8 Jan  Baptism of Christ
9.15  Holy Communion Brampton
11.00  Service of the Word Brampton
11.00  Service of the Word Ellington

15 Jan  Epiphany 2
9.15  Holy Communion Brampton
11.00  Service of the Word Brampton
11.00  Holy Communion Grafham

22 Jan  Epiphany 3
9.15  Service of the Word Brampton
11.00  Service of the Word Brampton
11.00  Holy Communion Ellington

29 Jan  All Together Ellington

St Hugh Catholic Church
BUCKDEN

Priest in Charge
Fr. Chris Newman CMF Tel: 810344

Services
Saturday  6.30 pm  Vigil Mass
Sunday  9.45 am  Family Mass
Days of Obligation
  12 pm & 7.30 pm  Mass

Religious Instruction
for children Sunday from 10.30 am
Confessions  Saturday 10-10.30 am

Brampton Methodist
Church on the Green

Minister  Rev Matt Finch 01480 462293
1 9 Audley Close, St Ives PE27 6UJ

Church Contact
Mrs Bessie Rands 01480 52852
norma_nil2000@yahoo.co.uk

Hall Bookings  Mrs B Rands 01480 52852

Services  Each Sunday at 10 am
1 Jan  Mrs Leonore Charlton
8 Jan  Mr Derek Rutherford
15 Jan  Rev Pam Siddall
22 Jan  Rev Matt Finch (Holy Comm.)
29 Jan  Mr Laurie Horden

Thursday Fellowship
This is inter-denominational, not a Methodist Fellowship. You do not need to attend a Church on Sunday to come along. Everyone welcome at 2.30 pm.
12 Jan  Games afternoon
26 Jan  Rev Matt Finch

Other Events:
4 Jan  Coffee Morning 10 - 12.00
18 Jan  Soup lunch 12.30

Hinchingbrooke
Hospital Chapel

1st and 3rd Sundays each month 10.45
C of E with holy communion
Every Wednesday 4.30 RC Mass
TAXATION AND ACCOUNTING HELP?

Are you aware of the forthcoming changes to tax on rental income? We can advise on all aspects of taxation, including tax returns, PAYE coding notices, property lettings, tax planning and advice regarding Capital Gains Tax and Inheritance Tax.

We also provide full business accounting support including Payroll, Auto Enrolment and VAT.

For an initial, no obligation meeting, please contact:

Angus Hurford FCA (accounting)
Nita Hutchcraft FCCA (accounting)
Carol George CTA (taxation)

Kinnaird Hill
Chartered Certified Accountants
Montagu House, 81 High Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3NY
T – 01480 453112
E – enquiries@kinnairdhill.co.uk
W – www.kinnairdhill.co.uk

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Thursday 9.30 – 2.00
37 Park Lane, Brampton Park PE28 4QD
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What’s On Weekly
EACH WEEK IN BRAMPTON

MONDAY
Brampton Mums and Tots Group
CC 9.15 – 11.15
freckles87@hotmail.co.uk
Pilates MC 9.30- 10.30
zarawalters@gmail.com
Health and Fitness Class Keep Fit 60+
CC 2.00 – 3.30
alisonmount@btconnect.com 810805
DMJ Children’s Dancing
MC 5.30 – 6.30
dmjdancing.co.uk Debbie 458522
Beavers 6 – 8 yrs
Scout Hut 6.00 – 7.15
gsl@1stbramptonscouts.org.uk
Guides 1st Brampton girls aged 10 – 14
6.15 – 8.00 Laura 07796 331036
Gi Jo Fitness Bootcamp BMF 6.15 – 7.15
07894 534317 gi-jofitness@hotmail.co.uk
GET FIT WITH VIC 07966 660028
Fitness Pilates MC 6.45 – 7.45
Kettlebells CC 8.15 - 9.05
vicki.hughes.100@hotmail.co.uk
Bridge Club
MC 7.15 –10.30
Yvonne Palfrey 456462
Tower Bell Ringers
Parish Church 7.45 – 9.00
ian.stracey@gmail.com 457525
Ladies Netball MC MUGA 7.00 – 8.00
Billie 454453

TUESDAY
Brampton Thrift Shop
37 Park Lane, Brampton Camp 9.30-2.00
Judith 437977

WEDNESDAY
Stay and Play 0 – 5 years 9.15 – 10.45
Brampton Childrens’ Centre, The Green
376191 cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk
BodyBlitz Fitness Pilates
MC 9.30 – 10.30 07812 243378
imelda.zumba@gmail.com
Fitness is Fun CC 10.00 – 11.00
heathersteer@btinternet.com 840046

Day Centre Tuesday Club
MC 10.00 – 3.00 Transport can be arranged contact Norma Tebbs 392525
Little Fishes
Brampton Methodist Church 9.00 – 10.00
Rosemary 454910 DPBrampton@aol.com
Topaz Health Training
MC 10.30 – 11.30 Suzi Gibbs-Chalmers
456333 info@topazhealth.co.uk
Slimming World
MC 5.30 or 7.30
Mandy 472086 mandyreewe@aol.com
Brownies 2nd Brampton girls aged 7 – 10
5.30 – 7.00 Contact Sue 07880883032
MetaFit HIIT CC 7.00-7.30
07894 534317 gi-jofitness@hotmail.co.uk
Scouts 10.5 – 14 yrs
Scout Hut 7.15 – 9.00
gsl@1stbramptonscouts.org.uk
Air Cadets 73 (Huntingdon) Sqn
1 Hubbard Close, Brampton 7.00 – 9.45
73@aircadets.org Flt Lt. Adam Cook
Iyengar Yoga MC 8.00 – 9.30
Pre-book with Mark Issacs 01733 253615
karmacorneryoga@yahoo.co.uk
Yoga Primary School Hall 7.30 – 9.00
To pre book contact Jane 07958 757076
Brownies 1st Brampton girls aged 7 – 10  
5.30 – 7.00 Contact Carla 07546 430512

Music Hall Society  
CC 7.30 – 9.30 Jul, Aug, Sept only  
Noreen 01487 822443

THURSDAY  
Art Class with Teresa Gabriel  
MC 9.15 – 11.30 term time 07814 289885  
teresa.gabriel.4@gmail.com

Brampton Thrift Shop  
37 Park Lane, Brampton Camp 9.30-2.00  
Judith 437977

Hatha Yoga  
CC 10.00 – 11.30  
lindatongue@yahoo.co.uk 350345

Health Walks  
from MC car park 10.00  
geoffreystratton@gmail.com

Weight Watchers  
MC 6.30 – 7.30 07789 918366  
sandrews@weight-watchers.co.uk

Rainbows 1st Brampton girls 5 – 7 yrs  
4.45 – 5.45 Vicky 07899 942868

Cubs 8 – 10.5 yrs  
Scout Hut 6.30 – 8.00  
gsl@1stbramptonscouts.org.uk

Connect2 Youth Club Yr 6 +  
Church Hall 6.30 – 7.45  
Hannah Arkle youth@stmarym.co.uk

GET FIT WITH VIC Kettlebells  
CC 7.30-8.30 07966 660028  
vicki.hughes.100@hotmail.co.uk

FRIDAY  
Befrienders drop in session  
CC 10.00 – 12.00 Jan Edwards 417380

Shotokan Karate  
MC 6.45 – 7.45  
Sensei Jon Chitty 437977

Air Cadets 73 (Huntingdon) Sqn  
1 Hubbard Close, Brampton 7.00 – 9.45  
73@aircadets.org Flt Lt. Adam Cook

SATURDAY  
GET FIT WITH VIC Fitness Pilates  
MC 9.00 – 10.00 07966 660028  
vicki.hughes.100@hotmail.co.uk

Martial Arts CC 9.30 – 10.30  
sensei@toraseishin.co.uk

Huntingdon Caledonian Society 1 to 3 events held Sept to May for details of this and other meets Pat 453774

Brampton Cricket Club  
MCPF afternoon matches May to Aug 07460 470615 radlermass8@gmail.com

Brampton Senior Football Club  
MCPF afternoon matches Aug to May francisburnley@yahoo.co.uk 370996

SUNDAY  
International Tang Soo Do – Martial Art  
MC 10.30 – 12.00  
Alan Miller 07708 879973

Missio Dei  
MC 3.30 – 6.00  
damiangmitchell@gmail.com

Adventurers Junior Church  
St Marys 11.00  
karen@stmary.co.uk 433922

CC   Community Centre High Street  
MC   Memorial Centre Thrapston Rd  
MPF   Memorial Playing Fields
What’s On Monthly
EACH MONTH IN BRAMPTON

Women’s Institute
1st Tuesday CC 7.30
hazel.day7@gmail.com 414623

Cromwell Quilters
1st Wednesday MC 7.00 – 10.00
International speakers and workshops Jane 417455

Brampton Flower Club
1st Wednesday CC 7.30
bramptonflowerclub.com

RAF Association Huntingdon and District Branch RAF Wyton Officers’ Mess
1st Wednesday 7.30
Advance notice for entrance to RAF Wyton needed contact Tony Perryman
465395 WRAF and WAAF welcome

Councillors’ Surgery
1st Saturday Scout Hut 10.00 – 11.00

Mothers’ Union
2nd Tuesday Church Hall 8.00
3rd Tuesday Hilary Lodge 2.30 – 4.00
Elizabeth 434924 mu@stmarym.co.uk

Mobile Library
2nd Wed Hanover Court 10.25 – 10.55
3rd Friday Hilary Lodge 11.05 – 11.35

Huntingdonshire Group of Wildlife Trust
2nd Wednesday 7.30 MC Talks Sept to March timpfryer@gmail.com 457795

Trefoil Guild 18+ Scouting and Guiding
2nd Thursday Scout Hut 2.00 – 4.00
jeanmking@outlook.com 890901

Brampton Ladies Social Group
3rd Monday 8pm
Madeleine O’Broin 453376

Brampton Historical Society
4th Wednesday odd months
Brampton Institute 7.45
pat.last465@btinternet.com 451514

Brown String pop-up shop
The Forge 1st weekend Fri to Mon
julieleach24@gmail.com

Daily in Brampton
Carolyn Parker School of Ballet
Cecchetti Ballet & Contemporary Dance
MC various days kangyparker@yahoo.co.uk

What’s On in January
4 Jan   Brampton Walking Club
11 Jan  Wildlife Trust Talk MC 7.30
22 Jan  Brampton Walking Club
25 Jan  Historical Society AGM/Talk
Brampton Institute 7.45

CC   Community Centre High Street
MC   Memorial Centre Thrapston Rd
MPF   Memorial Playing Fields

Brampton Institute
SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

21st Jan   Jenna - solo artist
The upstairs room in the BI is available to hire for functions.

COUNCILLOR’S SURGERY
First Saturday of each month
10 -11 in the Scout Hut
behind the shops in the High St
On Tuesday 3rd January there will be our monthly meeting of the Brampton WI in the Community Centre, High St, Brampton, starting at 7.30pm. Our speaker will be George Cottam, from the Wildlife Trust, who lives in the village. He will be telling us about the wildlife, flowers, plants and trees in Brampton Wood. George is the Warden of Brampton Wood and his talk will be illustrated with photographs, which I am certain will include the spectacular bluebells which are an absolute delight each year. The Wildlife Trust work so hard to keep our countryside a beauty to behold and we very much look forward to learning more about the work that goes on, right on our doorstep. Contact Hazel Day at hazel.day7@gmail.com or telephone 01480 414623 for any extra details. Otherwise just come along on 3rd January. You will be very welcome.
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THE BRAMPTON EVENTS GROUP
presents their second

Quiz Night

Saturday 4th February 2017
7.00 for 7.30 start

Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton
Everyone welcome as teams or individuals

£5 per person
includes ploughman’s supper

Bring your own alcohol, soft drinks and glasses

FOR TICKETS
please contact Judith on 437977
or email judithchitty@gmail.com