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Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association

Autumn Newsletter

October 2015



www.ogafcap.co.uk

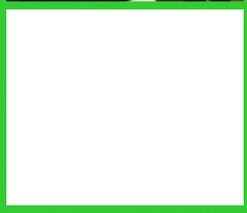
Welcome to the OGAFCA Autumn newsletter...



...Fifield Fun Day draws in record crowds and raises £5,800 for charities...



...cheques presented to Rosie's Rainbow Fund and Macmillan Cancer Support at AGM...



...Rod Lord steps down from OGAFCA - his work and support has greatly improved flooding issues in our villages...

The OGAFCA newsletter is edited by Alison Brayshaw
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More social events.... Get involved!



Saturday 19 December 2015
OGAFCA Christmas Gathering in
Fifield Village 6pm

Dress up warm, bring a torch and your voices!
We will provide carols, mulled wine and mince pies.
Children especially welcome.



Sunday 27 December 2015
Annual Christmas Walk
Meet up in the Fifield from 11.30am

Setting off at about Noon - for a leisurely walk of about 75 to 90 minutes along local Footpaths. Wellies advisable!

All welcome including children and 4 legged friends!

Farewell and a big thank you to Rod Lord!

At the AGM in September Rod Lord stood down from the OGAFCA committee. As co-leader of the Environment Group, web master, and founder member of OGAFCA he has been at the very heart of all our efforts and initiatives including our quarterly newsletter and lobbying to improve broadband service for many residents. But most notably, his work on the flooding issues within our villages has been nothing less that heroic.

You will have read in the newsletter his well-researched and accurate updates on the state of all the ditches in the area and his target wet-spots, but you will not have seen the hours spent outside digging ditches, talking to residents, studying water flows and lobbying the Borough to get some action. It is as a direct result of all his hard work that the Borough are now embarking on a full review of the drainage problems in this area.

I would just like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all of us, to thank him for his untiring efforts and his cheerful support. His shoes will be difficult to fill!

However, this is not meant to sound like an obituary as I am sure he will still be around to support us but in a less visible capacity. Enjoy your retirement Rod, you absolutely deserve it.

Fifield Fun Day Update

You have probably already heard, but just to confirm we raised a net £5,800 (more than last year!!) for our chosen charities at the Fun Day this year!

The funds will be distributed as follows:-

Rosie's Rainbow Fund	£2,150
Macmillan Cancer Support	£2,150
Braywood Cricket Club	£ 300
Windsor Horse Rangers	£ 300
Braywood Memorial Hall	£ 300
Community Association	£ 300
1st Slough Scouts	£ 300

Cheques were presented to representatives of the two main charities on Thursday 17 September at the Community Association's AGM. Both Carolyn Mayling (Rosie's Rainbow Fund) and Natalie Hill (Macmillan Cancer Support) gave us a short but really informative and moving talk about the work they do and stayed afterwards to have a glass of wine and a "mingle".

The Fun Day would not happen without the valuable help of the numerous volunteers and generous donations and gifts from local residents and businesses, so thank you again for all your help. Please put next year's event in the diary – Saturday 6 August 2016.

There is one proviso however – we really need more help setting up on the Friday – there is so much to do (chairs/tables/BBQs/Straw Bales/Gazebos/water/bunting/signage etc) and this year there were only 7 of us doing it all!

So please talk to your friends and neighbours and encourage them to spare us a few hours. It will be a shame if we can't hold the Fun Day next year!

If you feel you can help please call Louise on 01628 783448. or email louise.challis@btinternet.com.

Braywood Cricket Club teams win the league!

Braywood Cricket Club celebrated a fantastic season this year! The U15 Juniors won their league and so too did the 2nd XI, a double celebration!

From the Chairman



AGM

The 6th Annual General Meeting of the Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited took place on Thursday September 17, 2015 at 7.30pm in Braywood Memorial Hall.

The Chairman (Grenville Annetts) welcomed about 30 attendees, opened the Meeting and introduced the Committee:-

Grenville Annetts (*), Alison Brayshaw, Bill Collier, Barbara Frame, Paula Grevett, Rod Lord and Louise Shenston (*)

The Directors / Officers (*) of The Association are: Chair and Secretary - Grenville Annetts, Vice Chair - Louise Shenston and Treasurer - Paula Grevett

The Directors Report and Financial Accounts

It was noted that these had been circulated to all Members before the Meeting and are available on our Website.

Report by Chairman on the Activities of The Association over the past year

As usual, the main work of the Association is centred around implementing the 23 Actions identified in the Community and Local Businesses Action Plans published in 2009 and 2010 respectively. The work of the Association is organised through:-

General Public Meetings (35 held to date)

- 3 held in past year - including this AGM – on February 12, May 14 and September 17
- Everyone is welcome to come along for Updates and Feedback

Work Group Meetings

- 7 Work Groups – made up of Volunteers, each with Spokespersons.

- They meet as and when required

Committee Meetings (29 held to date)

- 4 held in past year
- Made up of Directors and Work Group Spokespersons – who meet as and when required

The Chairman then gave a brief description of the activities of the Association. Fuller updates are given regularly in the quarterly Newsletters:-

- Website running since Feb 2009 and updated regularly
- Publication of 4 Free Newsletters - Oct / Jan / April / July
- Communications by Flier, in Local Press, on Website and by email
- Still looking for location to install a new Noticeboard in Oakley Green
- Raising local awareness about Crime Prevention in Newsletter Articles
- Successfully lobbied RBWM to relocate the HGV Restriction Signs to nearer A308 turn into Fifield Road - to reduce Lorries going through Fifield Village
- Litter Picking continues and staying on top of Fly Tipping
- Continued monitoring of Footpath accessibility and upgrades to Kissing Gates
- Two Christmas Trees in Fifield – thanks to John Train Plants and Fifield Art Club
- 2 Hanging Baskets in Fifield and 4 in Oakley Green
- Planted Daffodil Bulbs donated by RBWM
- Successful lobbying against Crown Estate plans to use SSSI in Windsor Forest for Pheasant Rearing – thus barring Walkers and Riders
- Investigating possibility of installing Village Gates
- Continued to work on 9 “Wet Spots” identified in our area
- Cricket Ground (#1) – improved and monitoring
- Fifield Road by Longlea Nursing Home and North (#2) – Ditch

reinstated, Pipes/Culverts repaired and Blocked up by RBWM by Wayside Stables

- Braywood Lodge on OGR (#3) – improved and monitoring
- Coningsby Lane (#4) – RBWM are reluctant to support proposal to reinstate ditch to fix this area.
- Oakley Green House on OGR (#5) – looking much better
- Ledger Farm – Coningsby Lane South (#6) – no Progress
- Fifield Inn and Road South (#7) – New Roadside Pipe and Gullies installed and Culverts jetted by RBWM.
- Fifield Road Culvert by Willow Creek (#8) – no Progress
- Cardinal Clinic on OGR (#9) – no Progress
- Worked with RBWM Consultants to fine tune their Catchment Study/ Model. Awaiting their Report and planned actions.
- Many Local Planning issues - including
- * *Delivering the Fifield Survey to 235 Households in late September achieving 73.2 % Response Rate. Support for Housing in exchange for Gift of Land was 50/50 and not conclusive so not included in Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan.*
- * *Appeal by Applicants for Gypsy Site behind Sun and Stars turned down in October. Supported significant successful campaign over previous 18 months*
- * *Objection to Application for 2 Gypsy Sites at Brayfield Stables. Application refused in April. Appeal is still a possibility?*
- * *Objection to development of 6 Houses on Oakley Green Road*
- * *Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Pre-Submission Consultation from May until July 24. Promoted participation.*
- * *Raised concerns about Developments at Water Oakley and Bray Studios.*
- * *Based on strong feedback from Residents – raised Objection to Application to relocate Phoenix Gym to Fifield Road – in progress. May go to Development Control Panel.*

- Continued to monitor significant Applications and Enforcement Issues e.g. Logs Business in Fifield Road, Fly Tipping and Earthworks on Forest Green Road
- Continuing to research the possibility of a more frequent Bus Service
- Determining the feasibility of a further reduction in the speed limit on Forest Green Road (50 to 40 mph)
- Still trying to extend Footway on Fifield Road and Oakley Green Road.
- Investigating feasibility of new Roundabout by Braywood Memorial Hall

A number of Social Events were organised in 2014/15

5th Race Night	October 31
4th Christmas Fair	November 22
3rd Christmas Gathering around Tree	December 20
16th Annual Christmas Walk	December 27
Support for the Fifield Fun Day	August 1

The Treasurer (Paula Grevett) then described the Finances for The Association from April 1, 2014 to the end of the Financial Year on March 31, 2015.

Income for the Association is derived from Membership Subscriptions, Social Events, Newsletter Advertising and Donations. Expenditure is on Social Events, Venue Hire, Website, Annual Insurance, Administration and Newsletter Printing.

During the Year, the Association made a small Surplus of £849 and at the end of the year, our Reserves were £5288. Details of the Accounts are included immediately after this Article.

The Chairman thanked Paula for all her efforts as Treasurer of The Association and for preparing the Accounts this year.

Election of Directors - The Chairman then handed the Chairmanship of the Meeting over to the Vice Chair – Louise Shenston for this part of the Agenda.

Louise advised the AGM that under the Rules of The Association, Directors are required to stand down at the AGM on a rotation basis. On this occasion,

it was Grenville Annetts's turn to stand down. All Members of the Association were advised in advance of the Meeting that there were then three Director Vacancies.

There was just one Nomination for Director – Grenville Annetts - nominated by Rod Lord. By a show of hands – Grenville Annetts was unanimously appointed to serve for another period of up to 4 years.

The Association now has two vacancies for Directors and nominated volunteers can be Co-opted at anytime between AGMs. Anyone wishing to come forward and serve should contact the Chairman in the first instance.

Resolutions – No Resolutions had been notified to the Association in advance of the AGM, so no Vote/Decision was required

Any Other Business - The Chairman then invited questions from the floor.

The main topic of conversation was the current Planning Application to relocate the Phoenix Gym from Water Oakley to Fifield Road. The Chairman reported that there was a good response from local Residents – the overwhelming majority of whom were Against the proposal. Bray Parish Council recommended Refusal at their Planning Committee Meeting on Monday August 3. Based on Residents comments, OGAFCA wrote a letter in objection (See OGAFCA Website). RBWM Planning department are still considering whether to Recommend Approval or Refusal. If Approval, Cllr David Coppinger has called the Application before the Maidenhead Development Control Panel which is made up of 11 RBWM Councillors and which meets monthly. OGAFCA will keep Residents informed of progress.

What can Residents do to help/be involved in the local Community?

The Chairman said many, many Opportunities – including....

- Becoming a Member of OGAFCA – just £3 per year
- Joining a Workgroup to share the Workload – vacancies in Communications / Drainage / Children and Youths
- Delivering Newsletters – we are short of Deliverers in Fifield Road
- Writing an Article/Feedback for Newsletter or Website
- Helping out at and attending Events
- Telling us about and help solve local problems
- Give us your Email Address and more

Formal Meeting Close

The Chairman thanked the Newsletter Deliverers, Members of our Work Groups and gave special thanks to the Officers and the Committee for their help and support over the past year.

Rod Lord had announced before the Meeting that he would be standing down from the Committee and from his Role as Chief of Drainage for the past 5 years or more. The Chairman gave special thanks to Rod for all his sterling work and his legacy and presented him with a Plaque in recognition.

The Chairman thanked everyone who attended the AGM and invited them to stay for refreshments. Formal Annual General Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Fifield Fun Day

Louise Shenston introduced Members of the Fifield Fun Day Organising Committee who were at the Meeting – namely Bill Collier, Barbara Frame and Helen Howard. Other Members who were not at the meeting are Julie Glover and Teresa Jerzewski.

The 2015 Fifield Fun Day was a great success again in August this year - raising £5,800 for local charities and good causes. Louise showed the detailed figures which can be seen on page opposite.

Cheques were presented to representatives of the two main Charities - Carolyn Mayling (Rosie's Rainbow Fund) and Natalie Hill (Macmillan Cancer Support). They both then gave an informative and moving talk about the work they do.

The Presentation concluded at 8.40pm and Refreshments were taken.

Grenville Annetts – Chairman

Daffodil Bulbs



We are requesting some Daffodil Bulbs from RBWM for planting in areas adjacent to/visible from the Public Highway.

If you would like some to plant, please contact us via the **Website or on 01628 784441.**

Send your comments on any issue relating to our community to the OGAFC A website, or by post to the address on the inside front cover

FIFIELD FUN DAY – August 1, 2015

	£	£
Carried Forward from 2014		116.67
DONATIONS		
Sponsorship	1,225.00	
Attractions	946.73	
Refreshments	2,000.25	
Stalls	1,720.05	
Other	2,284.10	
		8,176.13
OUTGOINGS		
Attractions	384.60	
Refreshments	642.24	
Equipment Hire	914.60	
Admin	277.09	
		2,218.53
FUNDS RAISED in 2015		5,957.60
DISTRIBUTIONS		
MacMillan Cancer Support	2,150.00	
Rosie's Rainbow Fund	2,150.00	
Braywood Junior Cricketers	300.00	
Braywood Memorial Hall	300.00	
1st Slough Scouts	300.00	
OGAFCA	300.00	
Windsor Horse Rangers	300.00	
		5,800.00
Carried Forward to 2016		£274.27

Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited
Income and Expenditure Account for the period
1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015

		£	£
Turnover	Membership Subscriptions	284	
	Members' Social Events	899	
	Newsletter Advertising	2,312	
	Donations received	300	
			3,795
Expenditure	Venue Hire	56	
	Social Events	402	
	Administration costs	18	
	Newsletter Printing	1,898	
	Christmas Gathering	49	
	Insurance	413	
	Website Costs	63	
	Hanging Baskets	47	
			2,946
Net Surplus for year			849

Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2015

	2015	2014
	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and in Hand	6,032	5,808
Debtors	53	55
	6,085	5,863
Creditors		
Amounts falling due within one year	797	1,424
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	5,288	4,439
Reserves	5,288	4,439

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Remembrance Sunday - November 8

Acts of Remembrance will be taking place on Sunday November 8 at three War Memorials in Bray Parish - in Bray Village (after the Remembrance Service in St Michael's church which starts at 10.50am) on Holyport Green at 12.15pm and at Oakley Green Road at 3.00pm at the new War Memorial at Braywood Cemetery.

Members of Holyport and District Branch of The Royal British Legion along with Clergy from St Michael's Church Bray will be in attendance to lead the Services. Everyone is welcome to come along and **Pay their Respects** on this very important day.

The Acts of Remembrance last about 20 minutes and will take the form of an opening prayer, The Exhortation followed by the Last Post, the two minute Silence then Reveille, the Kohima Inscription, a prayer, The Lords Prayer, laying of Wreaths, the National Anthem and finally the blessing.

Copies of the Service will be available to be printed from the OGAFCAs website.

Love your Forest - Update

In the last newsletter Matthew and Sarah Stubblefield wrote an article warning of a threat to Windsor Forest. They had discovered that the Crown Estate were planning to build pheasant pens with a view to breeding for shooting. This would not only have closed the paths to walkers but it would have been catastrophic to the rare and special species that make the Windsor Forest an SSSI and European 'Special Area of Conservation'.

OGAFCA contacted the Crown Estate and also Natural England who would need to give approval for this to go ahead. We have received assurances from Natural England that they will not be supporting this initiative.

We have also received a response from the Crown Estate admitting that this plan will probably not go ahead. However, they did mention that they have seriously restricted the use of the bridleway within the Forest by closing the access point at Orchard Lea Gate. So, not all good news, but at least it looks as though the danger of the pheasant shooting has been averted.

Environment Work Group

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Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Council – Bray Ward

Cllr David Burbage – 01628 796322

Cllr David Coppinger – 07866 493272

Cllr Leo Walters – 01628 627927

Bray Parish Council – Oakley Green and Fifield Ward

Cllr Nicola Marsh – 07973 112873

Cllr Chris Yates – 01344 882374

Vacancies

The Association relies heavily on Volunteers who give up their time and make great contributions to our community in a whole host of ways. Just look at the list of activities in the Chairman's Report to see how much and how varied our activities are - from delivering Newsletters - to litter picking - to helping with the Fifield Fun Day - to working in any of the 7 Work Groups.

We currently have a number of roles and positions with vacancies and are looking for local residents to step forward and help make a real difference:-

Two **Directors**.

Spokesperson for **Children & Youth** Work Group.

Spokesperson for **Communications** Work Group.

Drainage lead within the Environment Work Group.

Web Master.

Newsletter Advertising co-ordinator.

If you would like to become more involved and help make a difference in your local community, please contact any of the Committee.

Thank you in anticipation

Welcome Pack

If you are new to the area and have not received a "Welcome Pack" please contact us at www.ogafcap.co.uk

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The Mobile Library Service visits our area (Stewart Close, Fifield) on Wednesdays, 11.45am - 12.15pm, on the following dates this year.

- **October 28**
- **November 18**
- **December 9 and 30**

For further information please call Supervisor Mobile Libraries on 01628 796314 or 07975 236165 or email at Mobile.library@rbwm.gov.uk

Missing Phone Kiosk



Residents may have noticed that the iconic Red Phone Kiosk located in Fifield Village was removed sometime in July this year.

We contacted BT to find out if they had intentionally removed it or indeed if it had been stolen. BT confirmed they had removed it because it was in very poor condition and was not economic.

We pointed out that we have had a long campaign to have the Kiosk repaired and returned to full use. As far back as 2009 local Residents had put together a Petition of 200 Signatures asking for this to be done.

And it was bound to be uneconomic when in such poor condition, often Out of Order and when it only accepted BT Phone Cards and not Coins.

We thought we were making progress when BT Openreach Payphones actually started the paperwork to renovate the Kiosk in late 2012 – only to be stopped when they had problems sourcing replacement parts. They then said they were consulting the local Council about removal. We contacted RBWM about this and they said they could find no correspondence and on chasing BT in June 2014 their reply was:-

“Thanks for this information and sorry to hear about the kiosks. I have reported both kiosks today to our engineers and requested a full clean and fabric repairs as described. The kiosks will be cleaned as soon as possible however depending on the nature of the fabric repairs required, items may have to be ordered in to complete, so please be aware this may cause a delay in a full repair being completed. The kiosks will not be returned to coin usage but will be maintained for emergency usage and card calls”

(The other Kiosk referred to was the one outside the Red Lion on Oakley Green Road).

So we were very surprised when the Fifield Kiosk disappeared in July. When asked, BT were defensive and said they had consulted RBWM in the proper way but when we asked to see the relevant correspondence – they said they could not release it as it was “commercially sensitive”. So it looks like “it’s a gonner”.

BT Openreach say they have no current plans to remove the Kiosk outside The Red Lion.

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An Autumn country walk from Fifield



This walk takes approximately 1hr 15mins taking you through footpaths, fields, across stiles and along some busy roads so please take care and keep a look out for our local family of Muntjacs!

REMEMBER: Take nothing but photographs, leave nothing but footprints and keep dogs on a lead.

Starting from the Fifield Inn, with your back to the pub, turn left passing Stewart Close towards Coningsby Lane. Turn left into Coningsby Lane and passing the cottages on your right then turn right by the side of number 4 down a public footpath. Crossing 2 stiles continue forward and at the gated entrance to a field turn left over a stile. Follow the edge of the field to cross another stile, follow the footpath round to your right past sheds and a pond on your left. Then turn left over a bridge, on reaching yet another stile, cross and turn left into Stroud Farm.

After the Barn conversion, (now called Cart House) turn right, On leaving Stroud Farm enter Stroud Farm Road, keep walking forward passing Holyport Primary School on your left. At the junction with Holyport Road, turn left and then immediately left into Langworthy Lane, proceeding onwards passing Langworthy End and Peters Lane on your left and Lynden Barn on your right. Opposite the main entrance to Lynden Barn bear left down a public bridleway named Gays Lane with John Gays House on your right. Walk to the bottom of Gays Lane and at the T junction, opposite Orchard Cottage, turn left passing the polo practice ground on your left and Coningsby Farm on your right. Turn right into Coningsby Lane passing barn conversions on your left and approximately 75 yards after the entrance to Grove Farm, concealed in the hedge, you will find, on your left, a stile opposite a farm gate. Climb over the stile and continue forward crossing a small wooden bridge, eventually passing through a kissing gate before reaching Ledger Lane. Turn left and take the path between Deep Meadows and Blenheims. In Deep Meadows on your left, keep a look out for the railway line and a collection of antique steam engines. At the end of the footpath turn right leading you to Fifield Road, carefully cross the road, turn right taking you back to the Fifield Inn.

Robin Knock

New Tuesday afternoon Art Class in Fifield

Hello all you budding artists, the Monday afternoon class has grown so big that I have split it into two. So now there will be a class on Monday afternoon from 3pm till 5pm and also on Tuesday afternoon from 3pm till 5pm in addition to the Tuesday evening class from 7pm till 9pm.

It doesn't matter at what stage of painting you are at or what medium you paint with, I can cater for oils, watercolours and acrylics. I now have plenty of spaces available so please contact me to have a chat.

We had a very good display of work by our artists at the Fifield Fun Day and gained 5 new recruits for the class all of whom have settled in nicely. So even if you have never painted before and would like to give it a go then please give me a call. I tell all my new recruits even if you have never painted before, you will leave your first lesson with a painting in your hand and I have never failed yet!

Bill Collier

07811 953071

Oakley Green Noticeboard

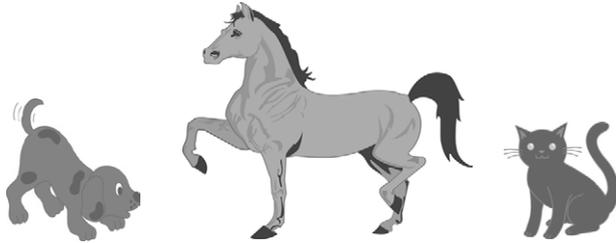
For a couple of years now, we have been trying to install a noticeboard in Oakley Green, for use by the Parish Council and local associations including OGAFCA. Some of you will remember that there used to be a noticeboard in the Post Office next to the Red Lion many years ago, Fifield village already has a noticeboard in the bus shelter in the village.

So we started a project over 2 years ago to try to have a new noticeboard installed somewhere in the centre of Oakley Green. We were given a very generous donation by Cllr David Coppinger from his Participatory Budget and Bray Parish agreed funding in early 2013. This donation plus funds from OGAFCA means we have enough money to install a quality, free-standing noticeboard which will require minimal maintenance; our problem is we just need somewhere to locate it!

Suggestions and help please

**To advertise in this Newsletter please contact Bill Collier on
01628 676939 or via email: william1935@tesco.net**

THERE'S A RAT IN THE KITCHEN WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?



My friend Shirley used to have a killer cat. Mice, birds, nothing was safe, and like most cats he took a pride in presenting these trophies to his owner. She was constantly coming in to her kitchen to find bodies laid out as if in a mortuary. She kept a small shovel handy in the kitchen for the sole purpose of removing the victims to a small piece of wasteland opposite the house.

One fine day Shirley returned home from an early shift to find a very large rat on the kitchen floor. She grabbed her shovel and gingerly manoeuvred the rat onto it, which wasn't easy as it was so large it was hanging over the edge. Holding the shovel at arms length she slowly and carefully inched her way to the front door. As she opened the door she didn't see the man crouching down to read the gas meter. He suddenly stood up, startling Shirley, and causing her to jump backwards. As she did so, the rat flew off the shovel and hit the man full on the chest!

With a yelp of horror the meter man ran to his van and drove away at high speed.

They have had estimated bills ever since!

Barbara Frame



Animal Tales

Do you have a story to tell? Please send them in via our website www.ogafcap.co.uk so we can share them in our next publication.

If you wish to contribute news to our Winter Newsletter
please send your submissions by Friday 1 January 2016
via email to alison.j.braysaw@gmail.com



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