



Accident Advice & Assist



In the event of an accident,
call us on 0800 999 7000

Putting you in the driving seat

Know your rights

It's your insurance policy not the insurers, which means that in the event of an accident, whether or not it's your fault, you are entitled to have your vehicle repaired by a manufacturers' approved repairer to their high standards.

At AAA, we offer a completely free of charge 24hr Accident Management for private individuals and business users, ensuring your vehicle is repaired at our state-of-the-art manufacturers' approved Bodyshop.

With one simple phone call, we will deal with your claim from start to finish. If the accident was not your fault, you have the legal right to a like-for-like replacement vehicle completely free of charge. At fault customers will be provided with a free of charge courtesy car whilst your vehicle is being repaired.

For your free of charge Accident Management Pack, please contact **Noel Matraves** on **01628 777720**.

Berkshire's **premier**
accident repair centre

Auto Technics

107-109 Windsor Road,
Bray, Maidenhead,
Berkshire SL6 2DP

t: 01628 777720

f: 01628 777790

e: enquiries@autotechnics.com



Approved by



Specialising in



autotechnics.com



Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association

Autumn Newsletter

October 2018



www.ogafcap.co.uk

Welcome to the OGAFCA Autumn newsletter...



AGM

There was a good attendance at the 9th Annual General Meeting of the Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited which took place on Thursday September 20, 2018 at 7:30 pm in Braywood Memorial Hall.

All were invited to partake in a complimentary glass of wine and nibbles before the Chairman, Bill Collier, welcomed all attendees and opened the meeting introducing the Committee:-

Barbara Frame - Director, Vice Chair and Secretary, Alison Brayshaw - Director, Paula Grevett - Treasurer and Helen Howard

a) The Directors Report and Financial Accounts

It was noted that these had been circulated to all members before the meeting on August 28, 2018 and are available on our website.

b) Chairman's Report on the Association's Activities over the past year

As usual, the main work of the Association is underpinned by the 23 Actions identified in the Community and Local Businesses Action Plans published in 2009 and 2010 respectively through:-

General Public Meetings

- Everyone is welcome to come along for Updates and Feedback

Work Group Meetings

- Work Groups – made up of Volunteers and each with Spokespersons. They meet as and when required

Committee Meetings

- 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:-



...meet the new Vicar of Bray...



...Fifield Fund Day raises money for local charities again this year but help is needed so it can take place next year...



...plans to tackle lorry traffic ...



... and a calendar of social events for this Autumn...



The OGAFCA newsletter is edited by Alison Brayshaw

Printed by DRAYTON: www.drayton.co.uk

Published by Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited by Guarantee
Postal address: OGAFCA, Woodlands, Oakley Green Road, Oakley Green, Windsor. SL4 4PZ
The views expressed in the OGAFCA newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the editor.
The Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited by Guarantee does not accept responsibility for products or services advertised in this publication.

On Communications and Community Safety

- Website (www.ogafcap.co.uk) is updated regularly with activities
- Publication of 4 Free Newsletters – Nov / Feb / April / July
- Communications by Flier, in Local Press, on Website and by email
- At long last a location has been found for new Notice Board in Oakley Green – Funded by OGAFCFA / Cllr Coppinger / Bray Parish
- Broadband - After years of fighting and frustration there is hope on the horizon in the form of Gigaclear for our 4 “Not Spots” who do not have any Broadband in Oakley Green / Forest Green / Drift Road / Water Oakley. planned for the end of 2019
- Raising local awareness about Crime Prevention in Newsletter Articles

In the Environment and Drainage area

- Litter Picking continues and staying on top of Fly Tipping
- 2 Christmas Trees in Fifield – thanks for Support from John Train Plants and Fifield Art Club
- 2 Hanging Baskets in Fifield and 4 in Oakley Green
- Planted Daffodil Bulbs donated by RBWM
- Works by RBWM to improve Coningsby Lane Flooding are “imminent”

Local Planning issues

- Keeping abreast of Bray Parish Neighbourhood Plan (BPNP) and RBWM Local Plan. Informing residents about progress and public participation opportunities and encouraged response.
- Monitoring planning issues with assistance from Oakley Green and Fifield Residents Association (OGFRA) including development activities in Coningsby Lane and Tarbay Lane Farm.
- Continued to raise enforcement issues e.g. Illegal development (e.g. Queens Head), fly tipping and illegal occupation of land.

In the Roads and Transport area

- Investigating and consulting on feasibility of new Roundabout by Braywood Memorial Hall. Slow progress
- Monitoring Impacts of HGV Ban in Holyport (implemented Dec 2015)

- Continued attempts to control speed
- Trying to extend Footway on Fifield Road and Oakley Green Road.

A number of Social Events were organised

- Support for 2017 Fifield Fun Day on August 5
- Gathering around Christmas Tree on Sunday December 17
- Annual Christmas Walk on December 27

The Treasurer (Paula Grevett) then described the Finances for The Association from April 1, 2017 to the end of the Financial Year on March 31, 2018.

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 Deficit of £1378 and at the end of the year, our Reserves were £1841. 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.

c) Election of two Directors of The Association

Currently there are 3 Directors:-

Alison Brayshaw - standing down after this AGM

Barbara Frame - remains in place for another year

Bill Collier - remains in place for another year

There were no nominations for new Directors

d) Resolutions and Any Other Business

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

The Chairman then invited Grenville Annetts and Rod Lord to give an update on Broadband and Drainage issues respectively followed by any questions from the floor under Any Other Business.

The Future

- The Association would like to raise money for a Defibrillator in Oakley Green
- Deeply concerned about the impact on the Oakley Green Road since the HGV ban through Holyport. There will be a separate meeting to form an action plan to oppose this.
- Keen to see measures introduced to reduce speed through our neighbourhood

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

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

- Become a Member of OGAFCA – just £3 per year or £5 for two years
- Join a Workgroup to share the workload – vacancies in Communications / Drainage / Children and Youths
- Deliver Newsletters
- Write an Article/Feedback for Newsletter or Website
- Help out at and attending events
- Tell us about and help solving local problems
- Give us your Email Address to keep informed and more

Formal Meeting Close

The Chairman thanked the Newsletter Deliverers, Members of our Work Groups and gave special thanks to the Officers and Committee. The Chairman also thanked everyone for attending the AGM and invited them to stay for further Presentations.

Fifield Fun Day

Louise Shenstone thanked the Local Community and all the Volunteers and Sponsors who helped out in July this year (2018). The extreme hot dry weather this year caused health and safety concerns in the run up to the event and the high winds made it difficult to set up the day before. The number of attendees was down on previous years so the final figures were, as anticipated, disappointing but nevertheless around £4,750 was raised for local charities and good causes.

A cheque for £1,250 was presented to Windsor and Maidenhead Starfish Swimming Club, one of the main beneficiaries.

External Speakers

The Chairman introduced Andy McCabe - Chairman of Windsor and Maidenhead Starfish Swimming Club who then gave an interesting talk on the work of the charity for children with learning difficulties.

The Chairman then introduced Geoff Pick of Thames Valley Police Community Safety who gave an enlightening talk on how to avoid being a victim of crime.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Chairman's Report

I would first of all like to thank all those people who attended our AGM in the Braywood War Memorial Hall in September. It was my first AGM as chairman and although feeling a little nervous at first I soon became more relaxed as the meeting got going.

There are many things that the Community Association are dealing with which will make our area a better place to live and impact on everyone's lives, so it is important that we all engage as a community on these issues and good to see so many people at the AGM.

One of the most pressing items is the HGV's in Oakley Green Road, and we will be having another meeting soon to discuss this issue specifically, so if you are a member and we have your email details then look out for details in the near future. If you are not a member, but would like to join so you can be a part of the discussions, you can join us just get in touch via our website www.ogafcap.co.uk We would welcome you to our organisation and look forward to your input.

Bill Collier

Volunteers needed to help on OGAFCA Work Groups

Due to a number of volunteers on the OGAFCA committee and in Work Groups stepping down, it is getting increasingly difficult to put on social events and keep up a good level of support to the community.

We have many volunteers helping already with newsletters which is much appreciated, but we do need people to get involved in other aspects of the Community Association. If you can help please contact us ASAP through the website or contact a committee member.

Community Safety

At the Community Association AGM in September we were treated to talk by Jeff Pick who deals with community Safety in the borough. The number of items he covered were numerous all relating to how and what we should be doing to keep our property and possessions safe. To join the ringmaster link, just email info@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk

“Wet Spot” 4

We were promised that the Coningsby Lane Flood Relief Project would be completed by the end of October 2016 so it was sort of excusable that we got a bit over-excited in Autumn 2017 when excavation work began across the Lane. Unfortunately that turned out to be just an exploratory investigation.

Then RBWM published an engineering drawing of the proposed project with notice that the footpath would be closed from May 01 till June 15 2018 to carry out the work.

But nothing at all has happened yet and despite constantly repeated requests for information over more than 3 months we have completely failed to get any response from the Council Officer concerned. This is not only very frustrating but also extremely discourteous.

Thankfully Councillor Coppinger has managed to obtain some info on our behalf. The main landowner involved has not responded after the initial meeting so it has not been possible to obtain official consent to carry out the work. We have been trying to contact the landowner to resolve this but once again without success. It may be that RBWM will have to use their statutory powers to requisition the access to the land.

We assumed that as the drawing and closure notice had been published that the ecological survey had been successfully completed. But it turns out that a further cause for delay is that yet another Crested Newt and Badger eco survey has been called for. We are trying to point out that as the entire route has just been mechanically flattened and cleared to return it to open grazing any vulnerable wild life must have already made a rapid exit.

Yet again, no response. But we keep trying.

OGAFCA Environment

New Art Class

The art classes in Braywood War Memorial Hall are progressing well, so much so that I will be starting a new class on Wednesday evenings 7 pm till 9pm from October 31. We welcome beginners and parents with children who would like to learn to paint from the age of 11 years old upwards. I have all the materials required to paint watercolours, oils and acrylics although the emphasis will be on teaching the techniques of watercolour painting.

The cost is just £6 per person per session and tea and coffee is provided free of charge. The maximum number I can take in a class is 11 so if you are interested contact me as soon as possible. If you require any further information just get in touch

Bill Collier

07811 953071 fifieldartgroup@gmail.com

Braywood Cricket Club ...end of season celebrations

The cricket season ended in September with a social evening at the club to celebrate the 'highs and lows' of the season. We celebrated the U9s winning their league and their County semi-final which they lost by a small margin. Each team member received a certificate and cricket sculpture award. The seniors were also recognised for the highest run maker, most wickets taken, players player of the season etc and awards were presented by Mrs Mary Shurley; the President's Wife. An authentic curry, homemade chilli and Pizza's made by the local Italian pizzeria; La Spiga, was enjoyed by all.

The committee and members are now making plans for winter maintenance and pitch treating for next season. Winter nets will start in February at the Windsor Boys' School when all Seniors and the older Juniors are invited to get ready for the 2019 season.

Daffs on Offer



Once again the Borough has offered daffodil bulbs to the Community Association to be planted in public view.

If you would like some of these bulbs please contact Barbara Frame barbaraframe@btinternet.com or mobile 07831

485645. You must have the land-owner's permission and they must be visible from the highway, so that we can all enjoy them in the Spring!

Fifield Fun Day 2018 Update

This year, with the help of local residents and businesses, we managed to raise a fantastic **£4,500** for our chosen charities. Not as much as last year, but still a sterling effort, given the exceptionally high temperatures prior to the event, which meant we were unable to run the steam train (but used a diesel engine instead) and the Dog Show was likely to be cancelled!

These are two big attractions, the potential lack of which, together with high winds on the day and the fact that we brought the Fun Day forward a week, sadly contributed to a fall in attendance this year.

The two main charities which will benefit this year are the Windsor & Maidenhead Starfish Swimming Club <http://www.starfish-swimming.org.uk> and the Thames Valley Adventure Playground <http://www.tvap.co.uk>

Donations will also be given to a number of smaller local charities and not-for-profit organisations, who helped out at the Fun Day:- Windsor Horse Rangers, Maidenhead Rotarians, Braywood Cricket Club, Braywood Memorial Hall and the Community Association (OGAFCA) and we will be donating £500 towards a defibrillator in Oakley Green.

A cheque was presented to the Chairman of the Starfish Swimming Group – Andy McCabe, at the Community Association’s AGM on Thursday September 20 and the other donations will be distributed over the next few weeks.

A huge “Thank You” to everyone who contributed – the Fun Day would not have happened without the generous donations and help from local businesses and residents.

Fifield Fun Day Work Group



Send your comments on any issue relating to our community via OGAFCAP.co.uk or by post to the address on the inside front cover



If the Fifield Fun Day is to continue it needs people who are passionate about life in our community to organise it!

The Fun Day started in a field next to the local pub and has grown into the annual event it now is.

BUT

The group that organise it need new members. Do you have ideas for the Fun Day – new name, new attractions, new format – join in and make it happen!

YOU can make a difference.

Contact the work group here for more details

<http://www.ogafcap.co.uk/PAGES/Funday.htm>

Roads and Transport update

At long last the road works in Fifield in connection with renewing of the gas main have finished. The roads in the area have been repaired and RBWM did resurface Fifield Road between two speed humps but omitted other parts of Fifield Road for no apparent reason even though the road surface is beginning to break up. We will be urging RBWM to look at the rest of Fifield Road.

Bray Parish Council (BPC) has started a new work group made up of Parish Councillors. The aim is to identify a problem within the Parish and then work with RBWM to find a solution. The Community Association will be working with BPC to in identifying problems, providing information and contributing to the solution. At a recent meeting of Bray Parish Council a number of problem areas were brought to their attention such as the issues with an increased volume of HGV's on the Oakley Green Road for residents, the school and all road users, Braywood Memorial Hall junction, Forest Green Road - issues with speed and priority at the bridge and footways (pavements) in Fifield and Oakley Green.

Please do bring to our attention any problem areas that you have covering highways, footways, public footpaths contact details are below.

You are also able to contact RBWM direct regarding issues such as potholes, road surface breaking up and footways by using the "Report It" form on the Royal Borough's web site. I urge you to use this reporting mechanism as the more complaints that are made, the more likely it is that something will be done.

Roads and Transport Work Group

roadsandtraffic@yahoo.co.uk

Helen Howard 01628 782003

OGAFCA Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair is being held in the Braywood War Memorial Hall on Saturday November 17 from 1 - 4 pm. We have a variety of stalls this year but still have a couple of spaces left if anyone would like to have a stall. The cost of a table is just £10 with a small gift for the raffle. If you would like to join us please contact me on **07811953071** or email fifieldartgroup@gmail.com Otherwise do come along and support the event, you might find that perfect Christmas gift for someone dear to you.

Bill Collier



**WHATEVER THE WEATHER WE ARE
READY TO SHOW YOU AROUND...**



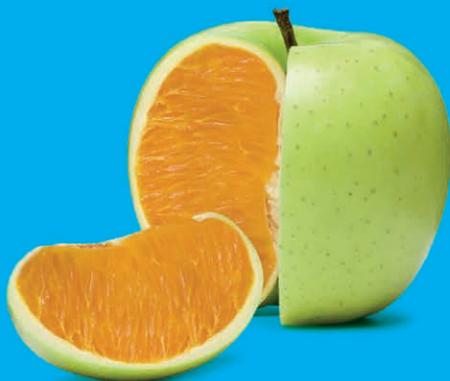
..make the call and we'll be there!!

Windsor: 01753 62.1234
Datchet: 01753 54.6667

HORLER
Windsor's Premier Estate Agent

DRAYTON
CREATIVE DESIGNS
INNOVATIVE IDEAS
FABULOUS RESULTS

LET US HELP YOU BE
EXTRAORDINARY



IT'S QUITE THE OPPOSITE
OF BEING ORDINARY

FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION
DESIGN • PRINT • BRAND

0118 40 22 777

472 Basingstoke Road, Reading, Berkshire RG2 0QN



PAPER BAGS



WEDDING STATIONERY



GIFT VOUCHERS



APPOINTMENT CARDS



MENUS



CALENDARS



BEER MATS



PULL UP BANNERS



STANDEES

OGAFCA

Christmas Fair

Saturday 17th November

Braywood Memorial Hall

1- 4 pm

Start your Christmas shopping early at the
OGAFCA Christmas Fair

Excellent selection of crafts and original gifts



Refreshments available

ENTRY FREE

For more details contact

Bill Collier 07811 953071

fifieldartgroup@gmail.com



Proposed Annual Christmas Walk
Thursday 27 December 2018
Meeting at the Fifield Inn
11.45am

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

Children and 4 legged friends welcome!



Carols by the Christmas Tree
Saturday 22 December 2018
Fifield Village 5.30pm

Dress up warm, bring a torch and your voices!

Free mulled wine mince pies and festive cheer

Children especially welcome.

Admission FREE



It's Bingo Nite!

Braywood Memorial Hall Fifield

Friday 2nd November 2018 7pm

Come and join us to have fun, meet you're neighbours and raise money for OGAFCA
Licensed Bar and FREE ENTRY!



OGAFCA Christmas Fair
Braywood Memorial Hall
Saturday November 17
1-4pm

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT THE VOLUME OF LORRIES USING THE OAKLEY GREEN ROAD ?

If so, please come along to
Oakley Green & Fifield Residents Association AGM
Thursday November 15
Braywood Memorial Hall 7.30pm

OGFRA will be holding it's AGM and providing an update on the Borough Local Plan and the significant level of development planned for our area, including the loss of two garden centres (and imminent plans for 40 dwellings on the Squires Garden Centre site).

The planned developments will exacerbate the existing issues with lorry traffic on the Oakley Green Road (and congestion on the A308) and OGFRA intends to support OGAFCA in tackling the issue of lorry traffic and will seek OGAFCA's support in challenging the scale of development planned for our area.

Since the introduction of the 7.5 tonne restriction on the A330 through Holyport there has been a dramatic increase in the number of heavy vehicles using the Oakley Green Road. We believe this is unacceptable because this is a semi-rural, B road, with narrow, unconnected footways and blind bends. It is used extensively by cyclists, horse riders and dog walkers, and farm traffic, and there is a primary school on the route. The increase in the volume of lorries has further exacerbated the ongoing issues with traffic delays during school start and finish times, and the diesel fumes cannot be healthy for children at the school.

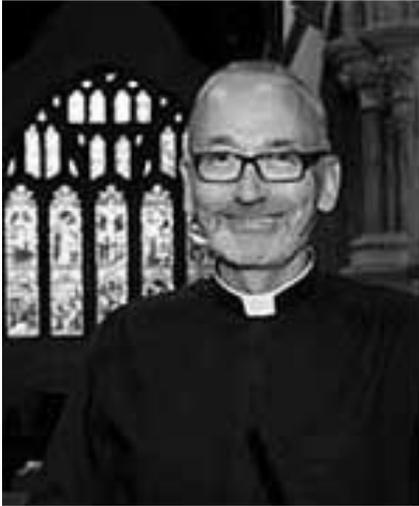
This restriction also forces heavy vehicles to use Fifield Lane and turn right onto Oakley Green Road at the Fifield crossroads, which has already been identified as a hazardous junction requiring improvement.

We need the Highways Department to acknowledge the serious issues that this ban has caused for us and to consider a solution. In order to do that, we need evidence, and this is where we need your help. We need evidence of:

- road damage (eg broken drains, collapsed kerbs)
- damage to property and vehicles
- incidents with other road users (near misses, frightened horses etc)

Please come along and join forces. Let us try to do something about this situation before a tragedy forces the issue.

Meet the Reverend Ainsley Swift, our new Vicar



A new Vicar has arrived!

So, what's this new Vicar like and, perhaps more importantly, what are his plans?!?

If you'll indulge me, I will give you a bit of information about myself...

I was born in Penny Lane in Liverpool. I came from a Christian family, they belonged to a denomination known as Plymouth Brethren or just Brethren. The Christian faith became my own when I was about 16 or 17 as I attended a Brethren Communion Service. As bread and wine was blessed and broken, the

penny dropped for me, this Christian life, which I thought was about trying to be really good (and usually failing) was actually about the unconditional love of God for everyone, even me! It was a gift to be received, as was this bread and wine, Christ himself present to be received freely.

I became an Anglican while at Teacher Training College and after college worked in community development (more about that another day) including a number of years with The Children's Society.

The sense of calling to ordained ministry recurred from time to time and eventually I went to train for the Anglican Priesthood at theological college at Cuddesdon, Oxford, where I met Richard and Maureen Cowles in the year above me. After college I served my curacy in Liverpool then moved on to become Team Vicar at Windsor then eventually Rector of Windsor and spent 20 years in Windsor.

My call to Bray began when I encouraged clergy friends to apply for this post. I was telling them what a wonderful opportunity it would be; large parish, one church (the Holy Grail of Anglican ministry!)... then I wondered: "if I am telling everyone else how wonderful Bray is perhaps I should have a go!"

Bishop Andrew had asked to see me and I had thought "This must be about Bray" in fact Andrew asked if I would be Area Dean, I must have looked a little nonplussed "Bishop, I had imagined you wanted to talk to me about Bray!" After the confusion settled I was left with the question "If it's not the Bishop prompting me about Bray, perhaps it's Somebody else!"

For the interview here candidates were asked to make a presentation

on: "**Strategies for bringing those attending St Michael's for School Services and Music events into the regular worshipping community.**"

My answer in summary was:

Build!
Build expectation...
Build on our spiritual journey, everyone has one...
Build our relationships... in church AND wider community,
Build on what we are good at...

I look forward to working in this community for the good of all.

The Revd Ainsley Swift

Remembrance Sunday - November 11



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY this year will be on November 11 the annual wreath laying service will take place at Braywood War Memorial, Oakley Green Road at 3pm please do come along and join us.

This year is a special one as it will be exactly 100 years after WW1 Armistice day November on 11 in 1918

British Legion Christmas Fundraiser

The British Legion will be holding their Annual Fish and Chip Supper with live entertainment on Saturday December 1 at Holyport Memorial Hall.

The British Legion invite you all to join them at their Christmas FUNDRAISER event which starts at 7.30pm.

There will be a raffle and fantastic entertainment from a solo singer and later a SingAlong group ...all in the festive spirit!

Tickets are £12 each from Phil Shaw 07971 463653 or philshaw59@gmail.com. BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND GLASSES!!!

All welcome!!!

Broadband Update

As reported in the November 2017 and January 2018 Newsletters, it would appear that BT Openreach have lost out / given up on providing fast Internet Service to every single Premise in our Rural Area. If you live close to one of their Fibre Enabled Cabinets, you may achieve speeds of up to 50 MB. But the farther away you are, the lower the speed as they are using old fashioned Copper Wires from the Cabinets to you. OGAFCA has identified that up to one third of our Residential and Commercial Premises (approx. 200) achieve Internet Speeds of less than 10 MB.

After successfully bidding for and securing Funds from Superfast Berkshire in July 2017, Gigaclear are scheduled to deliver a superfast service to our area between Q1 and Q3 2019. Their Networks use the much faster Fibre to Premises model where speeds of up to 1000 MB can be achieved! As far as we know, this is still the timeframe we can expect.

If you have not registered an interest and would like to, just go to the Gigaclear Website <https://www.gigaclear.com/> and insert your Postcode. This does not commit you to anything but allows Gigaclear to keep you informed on progress with the rollout. To access an Interactive Map of Superfast Berkshire's Phase 3 Project Rollout - which shows details within the OGAFCA Area - insert the address below in your Browser:- <https://westberks.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6b46d468227a4ba58015d37065f22fa1>

Gold coloured dots are where Gigaclear are planning to cover

Click on the dot for your Property

Click on "Zoom To" at the bottom of the box to see scary amount of detail!

Communications Work Group

Would you like to advertise in this Newsletter?

Please contact Bill Collier on

07811 953071 or via email: fifieldartgroup@gmail.com

Fifield Art Group

Braywood Memorial Hall ,
Fifield Village

Monday: 10am - Noon or 3 - 5pm

Also Tuesday : 3 - 5pm or 7 - 9pm

All materials supplied plus tea & coffee

Inclusive cost per session only £6

Private tuition or groups at your venue

Fees negotiable

Contact Bill Collier

fifieldartgroup@gmail.com

Or by phone 07811 953071

E. Pardoe & Son

High Class Shoe Repairers
Quality Cutting

206 Windsor Road
Bray, Berks. SL6 2DW
Tel: 01628 623630

Welcome Pack

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


BRAYWICK
Heath NURSERIES

providing
Horticultural Employment And Therapy
in the Royal Borough

*"quality local plants
at sensible prices"*

**We have a superb range
of seasonal plants**

Spring and Summer bedding,
roses, herbaceous perennials
shrubs and climbers
vegetables and soft fruit
hanging baskets and patio pots

our **maintenance teams** can
help care for your garden

need a meeting/training venue?
we have rooms for hire

Open 7 days a week

41 Braywick Road Maidenhead
(next to Toby Carvery)

admin@braywickheath.co.uk
www.braywickheath.co.uk

we are here to help
so call on us

01628 622510

10% discount
on production of this advert



One Woman (and her dog) went to Mow a Meadow

Dry hot weather, fires and roadworks were among some of the harvesting challenges this year!



This year the crops began to ripen 3-4 weeks early which is not surprising since some Spring sown oats and beans barely saw any rain. Those last few weeks are when plants can fill up the seed heads with nutrients and even an extra few days of green leaf can make a huge increase in yield. Inevitably, yields are down and many samples are coming up short which is important to the miller as it's easier to extract flour from a plump seed. Oil seed rape also suffered terribly on our clay soil, although the ladybirds found it to their liking! Hundreds, possibly thousands, descended on the crop whilst it was in flower. I have a theory

they are attracted to the yellow flower of the crop. The problem being, our Combine and Trailers are also yellow and they were completely smothered coming back to the yard. Now, I love the odd ladybird landing on me which is a sure sign of summer but this was becoming similar to a horror film. Forget the 1963 Hitchcock film, 'The Birds'. We had our own hit film, 2018 'Return of the Ladybirds'.

Another scare brought on by the drought was fire. After a terrible incident at Marlow, the seriousness and risk was truly felt. The fire service should be congratulated on all their efforts this year. We cultivated a fire break around every field and converted our Boom Sprayer into a Fire Engine with a long hose and followed the Combine around, washing it down every day as Combine Harvesters have this strange desire to catch fire. It's not surprising

since there are only two speeds in the field which is stop and flat out since it's like a mobile factory all set to work at a preset speed! Its multiple bearings, shafts and pulleys creating dust to mix with a very hot engine and exhaust. Strangely, the dust this year was very fine and stuck to every surface possible. Modern cabs with computers and sensors help isolate the driver from noise, heat and dust. "Not like in my day when you had to wrap a hankerchief round your head", you'll hear my dad say! It was only when Andy stepped out of the cab the smell of smoke was noticed which then followed a frantic 5 minutes crawling around to find a burning mound of greasy dust surrounding shreds of metal that was once a bearing. Now, there comes another problem in our haste to put it out, modern extinguishers are very powerful and the blast of the powder simply just scattered the hot embers to even harder places to reach and on the field of stubble we were trying so hard to protect! Thank goodness for our 'Fire Engine'!

We occasionally move the Combine to a distant field and this requires a little planning. Unusually, this year there seemed to be road works everywhere. An hour before moving, we checked the route we usually take and found a water leak repair team in the narrowest of our leafy lanes. After a frantic, quick review of Google Maps and a scenic drive around the area we found a route avoiding low bridges and width restrictions. Only trouble was, we had to go through the centre of Twyford on a Saturday - thankfully not Maidenhead, although that was considered! By this time it was late morning and our move luckily went without a hitch until Dad leading the convoy lost his way – another story!

In reality, all went quite well and the grain drier was never used, unlike last year! However, this year's crop poses another issue. Our clay soil resembles rock boulders used on the coyote from Road Runner, wearing out any machine we dare throw at it! Farmer's gamble with the weather, never forgetting that despite all our modern science, nature is always the stronger force and the master.

Jenny Mortimer's diary of life on the farm

**Please submit Winter Newsletter contributions
by Monday 7 January 2019
via the web site or email to alison.j.brayshaw@gmail.com**

Dates for your Dairy 2018/19

- **Friday November 2** - OGAFCA Bingo evening at Braywood Memorial Hall 7pm all ages welcome!
- **Sunday November 11** - Remembrance Service at Braywood Memorial 3pm
- **Saturday November 17** - OGAFCA Christmas Fair at Braywood Memorial Hall 2- 4.30pm
- **Saturday December 1** - British Legion Christmas Fundraiser at Holyport Memorial Hall 7.30pm
- **Saturday December 22** - OGAFCA Christmas Gathering 5.30pm Fifield Village Green
- **Thursday December 27** - Proposed date for OGAFCA Christmas Walk from Fifield Inn 11.45am
- **Thursday February 7** - OGAFCA General Meeting ALL WELCOME at Braywood Memorial Hall 7.30pm



KELPERLAND
VETERINARY CENTRE

Tel: 01628 624935

www.berkshire-vet.co.uk

kelperland@yahoo.co.uk

"Traditional values, exceptional care"

Join our **Pet Club** to get 10% off all services and spread the cost of routine treatments

We offer a comprehensive range of quality vet services for your pets. From annual check-ups to advanced diagnostic testing and surgery.

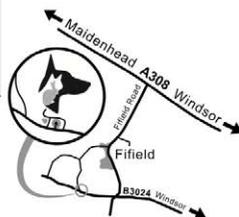
Friendly and independent practice that has been established for over 50 years.

Rural setting in Fifield between Maidenhead and Windsor.

Free parking



**Ledger Farm, Forest Green Road,
Fifield, Berkshire SL6 2NR**



APM **ELECTRICAL SERVICES**

Your Local Electrician

- Free Quotaions
- Part P Registered with NAPIT

Call John on

07762 232023

01628 780965

apm.electservices@btinternet.com

BRAYWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Fifield, Maidenhead SL6 2NX

Available for Hire

- Large Hall and Meeting room with Boardroom Table, adjoining toilet and kitchenette
- Very competitive rates
- Meetings, conferences, parties wedding receptions, classes
- Seating for 100 in main hall
- Car parking

For further details Tel **01628 631179**

INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTHCARE PROVIDER

We have the time and the place

 **CARDINAL CLINIC**

Better Mental Health for a Brighter Future



Cardinal Clinic is a leading independent psychiatric hospital and has been providing the highest level of psychiatric care for over thirty years. Set in beautiful grounds on the outskirts of Windsor, we offer out-patient, day-patient and in-patient treatment as well as specialist programmes.

For more information please call Louise De Haan on 01753 869755.

Oakley Green, Windsor
Berkshire SL4 5UL
Tel: 01753 869755
email: info@cardinalclinic.co.uk

www.cardinalclinic.co.uk

AN ABANDONED TRIP

One of the advantages of being a long-haul cabin crew member is that you do not have to drive to work every day. A trip may last a week and then you get three or four days at home before the next one. As a result, many crew members live some distance from the airport.

Alex decided that he would swap the urban sprawl of West Drayton and move his family to the West Country to enjoy a rural life and fresher air. He shared his country idyll with his wife, two small boys and two large lurcher dogs, called Bootsie and Smudge. He loved the country life and found it harder and harder to tear himself away for his next trip. As a consequence, he often left it till the last minute to pack his suitcase and hit the road. One such day, Alex was doing his usual last-minute dash around before leaving for work. He threw his suitcase into the boot of the car, tossed in his cabin bag and then realised he had left his jacket in the hall. He dashed back for it, quickly patting himself down to check for passport, wallet and I.D. card, then slammed the boot, jumped in the car and set off on his four-hour trip to Heathrow.

The traffic on the M4 was slow and Alex was relieved to reach the car park with ten minutes to spare before his bus into the Crew Report Centre. He flung open the boot to retrieve his suitcase. As he lifted the lid, he recoiled in horror as Smudge leapt out, eyes bright and tail wagging, ready for an adventure with his master. In the moment when Andy had dashed back into the house, he had seen his opportunity and hopped in to settle down behind the suitcase.

For a moment, Alex was dumb-struck, but then, realised he would have to face the music and phone the Crew Allocators. Luckily, they saw the funny side of the situation and re-allocated his trip. Alex set off on the 4hour trip home!

Barbara Frame



Animal Tales

Do you have a story or poem to tell? Please send it in to OGAFCAP.co.uk

Bray Lake Watersports

• Paddle Sports • Wind Sports • Swimming •

**Leaders in watersports for all abilities
and ages based on Bray Lake**

- Stand Up Paddle Boarding •
- Canoe & Kayak •
- Windsurfing •
- Dinghy Sailing •
- Open Water Swimming •

- School holiday courses
- Watersports tuition
- Equipment hire
- Retail shop
- Regular group activities

- Open 7 days a week
- Cafe

www.braylake.com
info@braylake.com
01628 638860



Bray Lake Watersports

Monkey Island Lane, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 2EB