

BRAMSHALL NEWS

*Best Wishes for
Christmas*



December 2017

Send your stories, photos and news for the next edition of Bramshall News!

January issue deadline is Sunday 17th December 2017



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THANK YOU.

Just like to say a nice thank you to all the people who have wished me well after my second knee operation. It means a lot to me, but most of all it is great to be back with you all. Thanks again.
Your postman Phil.



Carol Service – We warmly invite everyone to our traditional service of Carols and Readings on Sunday 10th December at 4.00pm, after which we shall be drawing the Hamper raffle and also the last draw for the village 100 Club. If you would like to take part in this service by reading a lesson or poem (all material provided) please contact Rev John.

The very popular **Christingles Event** is on Sunday 17th December; with a workshop in the Parish Hall at 3.00pm (for which we encourage young families to come along and help to make the Christingles and then dress up for the nativity scene. If you have an outfit for your child that is excellent do bring them along. We do have outfits but children may get disappointed if there isn't the correct size for them). This will be followed by a service in church at 4.00pm. You are warmly invited to prepare for the true meaning of Christmas by joining in these favourite of occasions. There is a welcome for everybody at St. Lawrence's.

“Deck the church with boughs of holly”

Well, if anybody is willing to help decorate the church in readiness for Christmas please let us know, as more hands make light work.....or so they say!! Our Christmas Tree will be put up on Thursday 7th Dec at 5pm so do come along and help us in church.

WINE EVENING

A very enjoyable evening was had by all who came along to the wine evening £170 raised for church funds.

Festive Cuppa

Glenda invites you to her Festive Cuppa.

There will be homemade mince pies, coffee, tea, mulled wine, and a cosy log fire.

Enjoy good company and have a relaxing time out before the festivities begin.

Make a diary note and put it on your calendar

Wednesday 6th December 2017

2pm to 4.30 pm

Bowmore House Stone Road Bramshall

01889 564452

Everyone is welcome and any donations will be gratefully received and will go entirely to St Lawrence's Church, Bramshall.



Mick and Noreen would just like to thank everyone for the support of their afternoon tea in the summer.

Also to thank John and SallyAnne for all they do in the village and we wish everyone a happy Christmas and a happy New Year.
Peace be with you all

FOR SALE: Folding table-tennis table and small snooker table.
Please contact Tom Postlethwaite (563982) if interested.

PARISH HALL

A Defibrillator has now been positioned on the Parish Hall. Although instructions for use are contained within the pack (only accessible by code given at the time of phoning emergency services), it is hoped that a training session can be organised in the New Year.



TEA TOWELS OF BRAMSHALL FOR SALE



In order to raise funds I have produced tea towels of Bramshall (printed in blue), which I am selling for £6 each .

I am raising funds to travel to Tanzania in July 2018 to work in Gedelli B school in Mwanza. This is a project my school has been running for 5 years, and my brother went 2 years ago. When we started the school only had 5 classrooms for 1300 pupils, no running water & no electricity - with just 5 drop toilets shared with another school! We've already built 4 classrooms, including one adapted for disabled children, installed electricity & running water, added a toilet block & levelled an area for a playing field. This year we intend to add a water tower as the water supply is restricted & hopefully another classroom. as well as taking supplies with us. We will spend much of our time teaching the children & will also visit local orphanages & a centre for street children.

Also if you have any small jobs you would like me to do, please contact me on 07443 625920 or at Enzian on Stone Road (roughly opposite the Bramshall Inn).

Thank you, Paul Phipps

Very many thanks to everyone who has contributed such interesting items, recipes, family news and photographs in 2017.

This is your Bramshall News - be part of it.

Send your news, photographs, special celebrations, "Lost & Found"

If it is happening in the village, please share it.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas. Marie.



BRAMSHALL AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

The subject of the last meeting was Climate Change and local scientist Michael Swales gave a very plausible explanation of the extreme weather which the world has experienced in the past few decades. The fact that the average air temperature has increased significantly since the 17th century has been proved and the increase is undoubtedly assisted by human activity, notably by causing an unnatural rise in carbon dioxide emissions which trap the sun's heat. It is easy to see that an increased air temperature will cause faster evaporation of water from the oceans and, due to the earth's spin, this could explain the excessive high winds and rainfall on the east coasts of continents and faster desertification on the west coasts.

The main point of Michael's presentation was to emphasise the benefits of belonging to a group such as the Gardening Club where aspects of climate change as it affected gardening could be discussed and shared. This would help to minimise any adverse effects, such as avoiding blight-prone potato species and to maximise beneficial action, such as new ways of giving assistance to garden-friendly wildlife. A very informative and thought-provoking evening.

The December meeting will be the Christmas dinner, organised for **Monday 11th December** and the new year will begin with a Spring Plant Showcase presented by Byron Lewis which will take place on **Monday 29th January 2018 at the new regular start time of 7:30pm.**

Please put these dates in your diary and don't forget - Gardening Club members can claim a 10% discount at the Strawberry Garden Centre on purchases above £10 (excluding discounted items) – just present a 2017-18 Membership Card, price £13.

Clive Tuck.

Christmas Letter to all

Sssh!! Don't say it too loudly, but I'm not sure that I believe in Father Christmas. I had my suspicions when I was about 11 years old; it was something to do with the anonymous surprise parcel at the foot of my bed giving way to a clearly labelled gift from mum & dad. Despite my best efforts I was never able to stay awake to prove his existence. Progressively, all thoughts of Santa receded but the gifts kept coming each Christmas. That's what it's all about, surely? As the years passed by that jolly 'corpulent' (what word am I allowed to use these days?) figure (if I say man who knows who might be offended!) with white beard and red costume (thank you Coca Cola for the colour change from green) became little more than an image on a card or a foil-covered chocolate decoration on the tree.

I never even considered the practicalities of circumnavigating the globe in 24 hours and delivering millions of presents to children who had been good. Ah, there's the catch – only if you have been good. How often were (and are) children told they need to be good or else Father Christmas won't call? More sophisticated nowadays is the 'Elf on the Shelf' who pops up in all sorts of places to watch over and report back on the behaviour of children... the little snitch!! But at least there are websites where Santa Claus reassuringly speaks personally to a child about how pleased he is with them, and then you can track his position as Christmas dawns in around the world.

Anyway, we don't really need Santa; not us adults. We know the harsh reality of life – there is no beneficent and jolly character who will lift us from the worries, challenges and concerns that we experience on a daily basis; no-one who will transform our lives, even if for just a day or two. We have to rely on ourselves and our own efforts.

For many people it would be simple to interchange this perception of 'Father Christmas' for that of God. Even more disconcertingly, too many have no understanding of God, let alone the Christian faith – what **has** religion got to do with Christmas? And for many Christians, we can become swallowed up in the sheer madness of making Christmas perfect. Who was prepared for that first Christmas?

Joseph & Mary travelling miles to Bethlehem certainly weren't (walking more out of necessity than expectation). The innkeeper, frantically trying to make the most of the bounty that so many looking for lodgings brought, was caught in the excitement that money brings. The shepherds who were desperately trying to stay awake amid the boredom of looking after someone else's dumb sheep?

It was God who was prepared; prepared to bring about the most amazing act in human history, prepared to bring about a revolutionary way of understanding, prepared to risk losing everything to gain the possibility that humankind might, just might learn to love God again. Not by bribing with presents, not by mildly veiled threats, not by displays of super powers; but by experiencing what we experience, feeling and seeing what we feel and see, by doing the unexpected... becoming a new born baby. No wonder the angels proclaimed "Joy to the world"; this was (and still is) the most wonderful news imaginable. And it is this joy that we are in danger of overlooking each Christmas and every day. A joy that brings an exhilaration, delight and sheer gladness into our lives; a joy that allows us to live more fully in spite of (and sometimes because of) all that we can and do experience; a joy that is brought about by the expectation of something great and wonderful... Emmanuel, Christ with us.

May you know the joy of the Christ-Child this Christmas.

John



A HUGE THANK YOU to all who donated and help pack the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

It was great to have so many helpers and especially nice to have some little helpers join the band of 'merry workers'. They seemed to enjoy choosing and packing the gifts to go into the boxes.

With all the help and support we managed to pack **186 boxes**, which I'm sure will be happily received.

I enjoyed having all the helpers over and once again thank them for their time, hard work and donations.

Look forward to doing it all again next year.

With thanks. Linda

Church News

The Uttoxeter Area of Parishes
Parish Church of St. Lawrence Bramshall

Vicar Revd John Lander
revjsl@aol.com 565228

Services for December 2017

3rd December	11.00am	Holy Communion
10th December	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11.00am	Service Cancelled
	4.00pm	Carols and Readings
17th December	11.00am	Holy Communion
	3.00pm	Christingle Workshop (Parish Hall)
	4.00pm	Christingle Service
24th December (Christmas Eve)	11.00am	Family Communion
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
25th December (Christmas Day)	10.00am	Holy Communion
31st December (New Year's Eve)		No Services

Sidespersons Rota:

3rd Mr R Jones
10th Not Required
17th Mrs L Corbishley
24th Volunteer
25th Volunteer

Cleaning Rota (for the Sunday stated)

3rd Mrs SA Lander
10th Mrs J Corbishley
17th Mrs M Jones
24th Mrs L Corbishley

Flowers: Mrs SA Lander & Mrs B Gray
Refreshments: None this month

CONFIRMATION: Anyone considering confirmation please see
Rev. John or phone him on 565228 as the classes will start in the New Year.

CHURCH EXTENSION

The scheduled completion date of 16th November needed to be extended. Fortunately, the upgraded heating system is now fully functional and the church is warm again.

The toilet and kitchenette will not be operational until early this month, but we anticipate the works will be finished in time for our Carol Service.

Nearly there!! Just a layer of coping stones to be added and the external work will be complete.



CHURCH CLEANING

As we have already mentioned we are in a mess in Church but both builder and plumber are doing their best to keep the area as tidy as possible. Please bear in mind if you do go into church that you take extra care as things are not in their usual places.

Once the work is complete we could do with a hand getting the church clean and tidy for Christmas services. If anyone is willing to offer their services please email me so that once I have a date I can do a block email to inform you. If you cannot physically do much but would be willing to put the kettle on and chat with us that would be worth its weight in gold.

All offers however small to: pjsaj@aol.com SallyAnne's email.

Thanks in advance.

POSTING SUNDAY

Christmas cards for people in the **village only please** can be brought along to church on the 10th December – a donation of 10p per card would be appreciated – and these will be delivered for you the following week. If you are unable to get them to church please let John & SallyAnne know so that they can arrange collection.

BRAMSHALL 100 CLUB

Our established “100 Club” is entering its eleventh year and we are hoping that you will consider joining or renewing your membership for 2018. For those new to the village – whether you have a direct connection with Church or not – this can be a way of showing your care and support by purchasing a number for £12 (or more if you are feeling very generous!). We pay out half the proceeds in winnings and the other half is put towards keeping our lovely Church in the condition it is in at the moment..... well it will be very soon!!

The cost remains at £12 for the year for each number (£1 per month up front) and follows the usual format of monthly draws with the winners being notified and their names published in the Bramshall News Sheet.

Cheques should be made payable to: **Bramshall 100 Club** and returned in an envelope stating your **name and address, phone number and email address please** **TO:** Rev John Lander, 9 Overcroft, or phone 565228 to arrange collection. If you wish to pay directly into our account please use: Natwest, Uttoxeter Sort Code 60-22-09 Account 64540138 **Bramshall 100 Club** – Ref: put your name. An email to pjsaj@aol.com saying you have paid this way would be most helpful.



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Thursdays 6.00pm
45 Minutes £4.00
First class free!
Sarah Lovatt Fitness
Bramshall Village Hall
PIC-COLLAGES

Looking to get fit in the New Year? Try out fun fitness classes in your Bramshall Parish Hall.

THE OLD BRAMSHALL INN IS OPEN!



We wish Debbie and her staff great success.

“It was so nice to walk into the Bramshall Inn last Saturday evening and be welcomed by 60s & 70s music played by the Early Birds to a packed house.”

“We need to support our local or we’ll lose it for good.”

Autumn Fayre

The afternoon was very popular and successful with many taking the opportunity to catch up with friends over tea and cakes.

Thank you to everyone who helped and donated raffle prizes .

Email distribution list

If you would like to be added to the village email distribution list for important reminders, urgent requests (including lost and found items/pets) and useful information, then please let the Editor know by emailing:

bramshallnews@gmail.com

Bramshall News is available to read on the Bramshall Parish website www.bramshallparish.org.uk

Would it be possible for whoever’s dog has fouled my front garden to clean up after their pet in future please? As an owner of 2 dogs myself I have enough dog mess to clear up both whilst out walking and in my own garden and I am not happy to have to clean up the mess of other people’s pets.

Thank you.

Helen of Mallens Croft

Recipes to warm you this **winter ...**

French Onion Soup.

1 1/2 lb onions, 2-3oz butter.
2 pts beef stock, salt,
4 slices of French bread (about
1/2inch per slice),
4oz Gruyere cheese.

Peel and thinly slice the onions.
Melt the butter in a large sauce pan
and add the onions. Cover with lid
and cook over a low heat for 15mins
approx - until the onions are soft and
transparent. Remove the lid and
continue frying the onions stirring
every now and then until they are
golden brown. Stir in the beef stock
and add salt to taste. Replace lid and
simmer for 30 minutes approx.
Meanwhile toast French bread on one
side only under a grill. Grate the
cheese, and turn the bread over. Top
with half the grated cheese. Return to
grill until the cheese has melted.
Arrange bread in individual bowls
and pour over the hot onion soup.
Serve the remaining grated cheese in
a separate bowl.
This soup is lovely on a cold winter's
day at lunch time and the forecast is
for colder weather, so I hope you
enjoy.

Wishing you all, a very happy
Christmas. Penny

MALVA PUDDING

1 egg, 250ml sugar
15ml apricot jam
5ml bicarbonate of soda
Pinch of salt
15ml butter, 5ml vinegar
125ml cream

Sauce
125ml milk
125ml cream
180g butter
250ml sugar
125ml hot water

Preheat oven to 180 C
Beat together the egg, sugar and jam
for 15 minutes.
In a separate bowl sift the flour,
bicarbonate of soda and salt.
Melt the butter and stir in the vinegar
Add the milk and cream to the egg
mixture alternating with the flour.
Stir in the butter and vinegar mixing
well.
Pour the batter into a greased
ovenproof dish and bake for 45-60
minutes
Sauce
Place all the ingredients into a sauce-
pan and heat until the butter has
melted.
Pour the hot sauce over the pudding
as soon as it comes out of the oven.
Serve warm with vanilla ice cream,
cream or custard

Linda Walmsley

Hello, my name is Lizz and I am offering fellow Bramshall residents the opportunity to try a free taster Cognitive Behavioural Therapy coaching session lasting around 30 minutes. If you want to understand how your own thoughts may be holding you back from getting things done or if you feel overwhelmed with life and work and you do not have time to make a plan of how to manage things better, this may help give you some time to think. Want to make a change for the New Year? Then start now and begin 2018 with a new frame of mind. Anything discussed in sessions is confidential and I can help signpost you to other support if necessary.

“When I started to work with Lizz I seemed to be managing with a very stressful job, but when I was outside of work I felt bombarded by other stresses of life and just thought this was how family life had to be. Instead, with Lizz’s help, I have learnt that stress and anxiety itself are not the problem, it is the way in which we (I) react to it which is problematic. I now manage it better because I understand what is going on and how best to react to it” (Sally from Burton on Trent)

I am a Chartered Occupational Psychologist (British Psychological Society) and registered with the Health and Care Professions Council.
I am currently a consultant working with companies identifying Stress in the workplace.

Call or email to discuss or book your free session using (ref Bram 2017).
Lizz Fields-Pattinson 07715 001840
lizzfp@takeatimeout.co.uk



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YOYOUGA wishes to thank everyone who has shown their support in 2017.

Last class of 2017 will take place on 20th December

First class of 2018 -24th January.

All levels welcome!

Join us in the New Year for Vinyasa Flow Yoga on Wednesdays @ 6.45-7.45pm

Drop-in price is £6 and a block of 6 is £30

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Namaste. Jayne

07765 769979

We are lucky to have a bus route through Bramshall but sometimes you just cannot please everyone!

Thank you Richard Jones for making us smile.



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Email: traceycarroll1966@msn.com

We look forward to hearing from you.

Diary Dates

Church Services and Events

Church of St. Lawrence

See pages 8&9
for full details

NCT Bumps, Babies & Toddlers Group	Mondays	10am - 12pm	Parish Hall	Vicky Smith
Dance Aerobics	Mondays	6.00pm - 7.00pm	Parish Hall	Sair Lovatt 07817323095
U3A Country Dancing	Tuesdays	2pm - 4pm	Parish Hall	Keith Lowson 564427
Bramshall Bowling Club	Tuesdays	7.30pm	Parish Hall	Harold or Sylvia 567763
Bramshall Art Group	Wednesdays	9.30am – 12pm	Parish Hall	Anne Harris 566006
Yoga	Wednesdays	6-45pm - 7.45pm	Parish Hall	Jayne 07765769979
Circuit Training	Thursdays	6.00pm- 7.00pm	Parish Hall	Sair Lovatt 07817323095
Fitness Class	Fridays	10 - 11am	Parish Hall	Barrie Taylor 01543 418242

Events in the Parish Hall - future dates for your 2018 diary

4th February 2018 (Old Hat Jazz Band) - Live & Local

MORE DETAILS LATER!