

BRAMSHALL NEWS



"A glorious Summer morning"

July 2020



*"The Church
is re-opening soon"*

500 Words has been a story writing competition for children promoted on BBC Radio 2. This year appears to have been the last such competition, and the following entry moved the Duchess of Cornwall to tears. For those who have not heard or read it, I hope you enjoy.

The Old Rabbit – by *Lenny Tucker*

Patrick (Pat) the rabbit was very sad. He was very old, his fur was grey on his paws and around his mouth and his bones were aching. His baby rabbits had all grown up and moved away and had bunnies of their own, his mum and his dad had died many years ago and he missed talking to them, but most of all he missed his lovely wife Pearl, all the time.

Pat was also fed up of running from the mean farmer who was always chasing him with his gun, he never dug any holes any more and he only ate the carrots easy to dig up these days.

Today it was raining and grey, the sky was black, and the grass was muddy and wet, and it was really windy and cold so Pat decided to hide in the barn until the rain stopped before he went looking for carrots. As Pat dried off from the rain he drifted to sleep. Pat woke up feeling very warm, he could see the bright sunshine coming through the walls of the barn and he could hear rabbit's 'chilli chilli' chat chatting coming from outside. Pat started to creep outside, his bones felt light and he noticed the fur on his paws was a lovely brown colour like they used to be. Pat's bones didn't ache, and he didn't feel sad, but he didn't know why.

Outside he noticed the grass was so green it didn't look real – it almost sparkled. It was so soft it felt like he was walking on green clouds! And there were piles of carrots everywhere – with no mud on them – he wouldn't even have to dig them up or wash them! Then he saw a little way away under a tree, there was a group of about fifty rabbits all whispering and smiling and watching him. Suddenly he saw a beautiful lady rabbit step forward and walk towards him with her arms open and crying. Pat gasped and nearly swallowed his little rabbit tongue! It was Pearl! He ran to her and he kissed her all over her face and he cried, and he said to Pearl 'I have missed you so much my love' and she cuddled him so tight and whispered in his ear.

'I have been waiting a long time for you Pat'.

He then realised he recognised the shapes and voices of the rabbits standing nearby all watching him and smiling – it was his mum and dad. His aunties and his uncles and even his Nan and Grandad! He looked at Pearl dazed, and she smiled, and she said, ‘they have been waiting too’. Pat was so happy but so as he cried with happiness into Pearl’s fur he whispered, ‘Pearl I am so happy I feel like I am in Heaven’. To which Pearl replied with a smile, ‘my wonderful, beautiful Pat, you are’.

Walking the Village

During the past couple of months it has been noticeable how many people have been walking around the village and delighting in the relative freedom of living in the countryside and this place of Bramshall. As restrictions lift, it would be nice to think that people continue to walk around, and even give a cheery wave or chat to those who, through shielding or a sense of vulnerability, still feel restricted to their gardens.

Thanks to Garry Thomas for suggesting the inclusion of this poem:
Revd Eli Jenkins prayer from **Under Milk Wood** by *Dylan Thomas*.

Every morning when I wake,
Dear Lord, a little prayer I make,
O please do keep Thy lovely eye
On all poor creatures born to die
And every evening at sun-down
I ask a blessing on the town,
For whether we last the night or no
I’m sure is always touch-and-go.
We are not wholly bad or good
Who live our lives under Milk Wood,
And Thou, I know, wilt be the first
To see our best side, not our worst.
O let us see another day!
Bless us all this night, I pray,
And to the sun we all will bow
And say, good-bye – but just for now!

Church News

The Uttoxeter Area of Parishes
Parish Church of St. Lawrence Bramshall
Vicar Revd John Lander
revjls@aol.com 565228

Church Opening Latest

Following the easing of restrictions, we are now able to open our church for individual private prayer. The church was cleaned throughout prior to opening, and there are guidelines about hand sanitizing and distancing for those who wish to take the opportunity of entering the church for their spiritual wellbeing. Opening times are currently limited to Sunday mornings between 10.00am - 12.00noon.

It has been a frustrating and disappointing time for those who had planned Baptisms or Weddings, but as soon as approval for these to continue is received I will be in contact with those who have been affected. General notification will also be made via notice boards and social media. If anyone would like to speak to me, please feel free to contact me on my mobile 07706 058689

The latest government announcement indicates that churches can open for public worship from 4th July. I hope to be in a position to offer more details by the time you receive this News Sheet. Refer to The Bramshall Village Community facebook page, noticeboards or the village 'round robin' email.

100 Club Results: June



1 st	No 7	Val & Garry Thomas	£30
2 nd	No 81	Dave Leadbetter	£25
3 rd	No 154	Liz Greenhough	£20
4 th	No 2	Margaret Jones	£15

*“Thanks to Lucy & Ed of T.G. Sargeant & Sons
for drawing the lucky winners.”*

Underground Leak

The recent activity around the extension at church was necessitated by the discovery of a mains water leak. We were alerted to the sound of escaping water in the region of the external water tap, and a quick investigation confirmed our worst fears. The leak was located under the lovely new extension!! Philip Hamlet (the stonemason who built the extension) had to dig down and into the outer wall to let out quite a reservoir that had collected. The fault was traced to a failure in a plastic water pipe connection. Philip's son, Adam, had to crawl into the hole to make repair (thankfully it wasn't too bad a day as he got soaked). But what a fantastic job they did - you could hardly tell they had been after they had replaced the slabs.



Please remember, this is everybody's News Sheet and the editor would be delighted to receive contributions about anything interesting or important, celebrations, forthcoming events, reflections, anything... and photographs make any item more engaging. *See page 7 for contact details*

Penny's Recipe of the Month

Roasted Peppers

Serves 2 people.

2 Red peppers.
2 medium tomatoes
2 cloves of garlic.
4 dessertspoons of olive oil.
Black pepper,
salt,
small bunch of basil leaves
(optional)



Cut the red peppers in half and remove the seed but leave the stalks intact; whilst they aren't edible they look attractive and help the peppers keep their shape. Lay the pepper halves in a lightly oiled roasting tray. Put the tomatoes in a bowl and pour boiling water on them. After 1 minute remove the tomatoes and peel the skin off which should remove easily after being in the water. Cut the tomatoes into quarters and pack the pepper halves with them. Peel the garlic and finely chop and add to the peppers. Now spoon a dessert spoon of oil into each pepper and season with salt and pepper. Put the tray of peppers into the preheated oven at 180deg Fan oven on a high shelf and cook for 50mins to 1hr.

Don't use a roasting tin with deep sides as you won't get the lovely nutty toasted edges on the peppers. When cooked tear up some basil leaves and sprinkle over the peppers. Serve with a crusty french roll to soak up the lovely juices.

What with the weather we have been having this recipe is really delicious we had it the other night with half a pizza each out in the garden and of course a little glass of something to wash it down. So I hope you enjoy.

Penny Gilpin

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The Village Library

Just to update everyone that a resident from the village and myself spent an hour last week sorting out the books in the phone box. You should notice that all paperbacks are facing you as you open the phone box door. Put in the writers alphabetical order and the hardbacks are put on the left hand side again in alphabetical order. Non-fiction hardbacks towards the bottom of the excellent shelves made by some very kind person(s) as are the children's books.

Hope this helps everyone find something to read and it seems the phone box is getting very full - it is lovely to see it been put to good use. I shall try to do a weekly tidy.

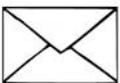
Penny

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

August deadline is Sunday 23rd July 2020

Rev John, Bramshall News Interim Editor

9 Overcroft. Bramshall. ST14 5DE
Tel: 565228. Email: bramshallnews@gmail.com



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Dave, Tracey & Simon Carroll

Mobile: 07754 267 511

Landline: 01785 604318

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We look forward to hearing from you.