

Missing Link!

Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon Newsletter - Distributed OCTOBER 2022

JOIN IN FOR SOME
SPOOKTACULAR FUN & MAKE
YOUR OWN

Optional Fancy Dress!

Everyone Welcome

Scary Pumpkin Carving

OPEN TO CHILDREN
(& ADULTS!) OF ALL
AGES

**Bring a pumpkin to carve and display
at Brookthorpe Village Hall
from 2pm**

**on
Sunday 30th October**

**Free refreshments for kids and the bar
will be open for parents!**



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Saying Goodbye - Margaret Bone

14th October 1944 - 4th August 2022

My Poem

*I am like a white dove that flies high in the sky.
I am the white dove that dances on high.
I am in the memories of good times gone by.
Thank-you my friends for being you.
I am the spirit, my friends, of good times gone by.
Thank-you my friends for being you and true.
Together we've loved, laughed and danced –
Whole nights through.
This is not the end but the beginning of eternity –
While I lie dreaming of all of you.
The part you played –
The places we've seen:-
Crete, Egypt, Masai Mara, Machu Picchu to name but a few
Towns, cities, Prague, Budapest and special cuisines
Retsina, Becherovka, Moussaka and Kleftiko are favourites I know.
All part of this wonderful world we live in.
The Mighty Quinn evermore I shall be.
Everyone has been so kind to me.
So I say thank-you to my lovely friends –
And family I leave behind.
Evermore in my heart you shall be –
As I sleep in eternity.*



Margaret Bone June 2022

Picture taken at Margaret and Nigel's

Golden wedding anniversary party in April 2022

As I am sure many of you will be aware, we sadly lost Margaret Bone on 4th August.

Margaret was a huge part of Brookthorpe and for me – herself and Nigel were one of the first people that we met when we moved here. My memories of Margaret are of a lady who was determined, dedicated and above all caring.

She was the driving force behind a number of nativities held at St Swithuns, involving the children of Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon. I will always remember her determination in getting the children to come to practices and learn their lines.....as a parent I dared not cross her! But without failing, she would produce a memorable night at the church, which is testament to her character.

To me, she always seemed to want to make people happy and ensure they were enjoying themselves. Sometimes it seems that the concept of community is fading but people like Margaret keep that alive and for that she will be greatly missed.

Her funeral took place at St Swithuns Church, Brookthorpe on 26th August and was attended by a great many people – in fact the church was full and people had to stand outside – a clear indication of how highly Margaret was thought of by her family, friends and neighbours.

Afterwards, everyone gathered at the Village Hall – relaxing with a drink and some food and sharing memories. The weather was perfect and the day was a true celebration of Margaret's life.

Vicki Smart (Brookthorpe)



St. Swithun's Church – Brookthorpe

I have submitted this article in order to draw attention to the current structural position regarding the church. St. Swithun's church dates back to about 1100 and consists of a chancel, nave, north aisle, vestry west tower and south porch. Much of the existing fabric is of 13th century date. It is built of limestone and with roofs of Cotswold stone slates. The west tower, of two stages, has a saddleback roof with a weathercock on its western gable. The north aisle was added in 1892 as was the north-west vestry.

The major restoration and enlargement works were undertaken in 1891-92 overseen by the architect Sidney Gambier-Parry. Poor drainage and subsidence had long caused problems and various measures to deal with them were undertaken at various times in the 20th century. The rising cost of repairs and declining congregation led to a decision to declare the church redundant. The last Parish service was held on Palm Sunday 1997 and the church was officially declared redundant in December 1997 and care of it was vested in the Churches Conservation Trust. Shortly afterwards the Trust initiated a programme of repairs under the direction of Nigel Hammett of Norman Machin Associates, architects, of Oxfordshire. Sadly, the issues of subsidence have returned with a vengeance! The extremely dry period that we have experienced this year have led to some serious structural problems with the tower and vestry that will need substantial funds to rectify and stabilise the tower. James Cooke, who is the keyholder for St Swithun's was concerned with the movement evident in widening cracks and the amount of stone and mortar debris that had dropped to the floor. He contacted the local community officer for the Churches Conservation Trust who in turn arranged for a site meeting to discuss the problems and the way forward.....*continued*

As a result, James Cooke and myself, together with Meriel O'Dowd, Conservation Projects Manager, West, together with Clive Dawson a Structural Engineer (who was familiar with the history of St. Swithun's problems), met at the church. The Structural Engineer is preparing a report and I understand, as far as was possible, that any remedial work would be addressed, **subject to sufficient funds being available**. In terms of priority, along with other churches the CCT has responsibilities for in the West, we hopefully will be placed third in terms of funding allocation.

What was made clear however was that the CCT has limited funds and has to prioritise and funding. Matters that could influence this funding allocation are, 'What is the community use of the church?' 'What fund matching would the community be prepared to contribute'.

So, if you want St. Swithun's to remain accessible to the community I would hope that you may consider the future developments regarding its structural safety. I will update any information in due course.

Paul Gaze (Brookthorpe)

<https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/visit/church-listing/st-swithun-brookthorpe.html>



Brookthorpe, Inside St Swithun's Church

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Brookthorpe Village Hall Notices

Village Hall - Now Licensed Premises!

We are very pleased to be able to announce that we have been granted a premises licence to allow the sale of alcohol in the hall.

Consumption will be permitted both in the hall and around the grounds.

This means changes to our terms and conditions of hire which can be viewed on our website bvhtrust.uk. We look forward now to providing a retail bar service at appropriate future events. Card as well as cash sales will be possible of course.



STROUD DISTRICT
www.stroud.gov.uk

LICENSING ACT 2003
PART A - PREMISES LICENCE

Premises licence number

Part 1 - Premises details

Postal address of premises, or if none, ordnance survey map reference or description, including Post Town and Post Code

Brookthorpe Village Hall
Stroud Road
Brookthorpe
Gloucester

Telephone number - None

Where the licence is time limited the dates
Not applicable

Licensable activities authorised by the licence and the times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Indoors Only

Supply by retail of Alcohol	Every Day From 12:00 to 22:30 (Midnight)
Live Music	Every Day From 09:00 to 24:00 (Midnight)
Recorded Music	Every Day From 09:00 to 24:00 (Midnight)
Performance of Dance	Every Day From 09:00 to 24:00 (Midnight)
Activities similar to live, recorded music and dance	Every Day From 09:00 to 24:00 (Midnight)
Plays	Every Day From 09:00 to 24:00 (Midnight)
Films	Every Day From 09:00 to 24:00 (Midnight)

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Part A - Premises Licence
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Hall Closure - January 2023

Advanced warning is given that the Hall will likely close after the Christmas Party envisaged leading up to Christmas itself.

We are hoping to be able to carry out alterations to the Halls interior and re-decorate as well.

It is anticipated that the Hall will reopen at the end of January - all being well!



Film Night - Experiment!

We are looking into the possibility of holding a regular Film Night, probably on a Friday evening.

Date, time and title of the first film to be announced.

Seated with tables and chairs, a nominal charge will be made to cover costs and a Bar will be available throughout the evening as well as simple snacks (not noisy ones though). Watch out for future announcements!



Parish Council Notices

Parish Council Meetings 2022 - Brookthorpe Village Hall

October 4th - 8.0 pm

November 1st - 8.0 pm

December 6th - 8.0 pm



*Christmas
Party date to
be announced!*

