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# Hello & Welcome

It's obvious, the size of 'Brigg Matters' has changed.

During the last decade in particular, the unpaid volunteers that comprise the magazine's committee, have been inspirational enough to experiment with change to improve the publication's image, value for money and contents.

Historically, 'About Brigg' was the embryonic compilation that evolved about 15 years ago and 'Brigg Matters' some years later. Since its conception, the magazine has been the vehicle for the distribution of Brigg Town Council's 'Newsletter', which is compiled and edited completely independently from 'Brigg Matters'. For many years, the late Cllr. Ben Nobbs was both editor and chairman of the magazine but perhaps the most significant change to 'Brigg Matters' emerged under the auspices of the then editor, Emma May Smith, when the committee explored the feasibility of a full colour publication and, consequently, a very professional, glossy magazine surfaced.

In addition, the production run of around 3,500 copies per issue has risen to 5000 as the circulation area of 'Brigg Matters' increased to include Wrawby, Cadney and Howsham thanks to the incredible help from our 70-odd team of house-to-house distributors, many of whom have been involved since 2004. The team of volunteers has not been afraid of experimentation,



and subtle changes have occurred; Children's and Puzzle pages, for example, have added interest and diversity with the publication's increased number of pages.

During the enforced suspension of 'Brigg Matters', its committee has been quietly active. Altering the size, but maintaining the professional quality, has offered a saving of over £1000 pa, which has allowed the recruitment of local company 'Webcetera' to develop a 'Brigg Matters' website on which past issues of 'Brigg Matters' and a rolling programme of photographs may be viewed. The website also provides access to 'Brigg Matters' for interested readers all over the world. Like its

parent magazine, it is anticipated that improvements will be made accordingly during its evolution.

On a more concrete basis, Brigg Library has agreed to maintain our archived series of 'About Brigg'/'Brigg Matters' in its reference section. In the meantime, please enjoy reading this Special Edition and be assured that we are presently planning, dependent on prevailing conditions, to re-establish our programme of quarterly issues starting in the spring of 2021.

Take care and have an enjoyable, but safe, festive season.

Ken Harrison  
Chairman.

### Committee Members

Ken Harrison • Gail Copson • Stephen Harris • Paul Hildreth • Danielle Li  
Becky Reynolds • Graham West • Sharon Worth

All of the information within this publication is believed to be correct at the time of going to press; we cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies. The views expressed in Brigg Matters are those of contributors and are not necessarily those of the publishers.

Contributions from members of the public are welcome - either as an article or a letter - subject to normal editorial scrutiny. Please send your contributions to:  
**Brigg Matters Magazine**  
c/o Brigg Library, The Angel,  
Market Place,  
Brigg, DN20 8ET

**Or email: [briggmatters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:briggmatters@yahoo.co.uk)**  
With the exception of letters, please send all written matters as .doc, txt file, and images as high res .jpg or .pdf files.

For more information go to our website: [www.briggmatters.co.uk](http://www.briggmatters.co.uk)  
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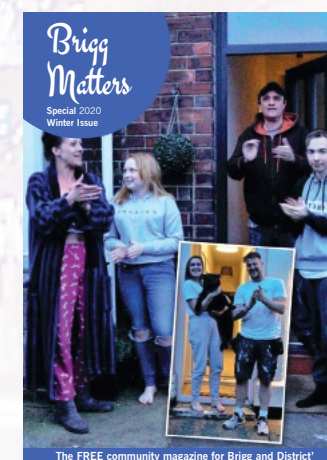
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## Alice & Mario

*Alice: 'Ever since Donald Trump mentioned a face-mask would make him look like the Lone Ranger, Mario has become somewhat confused!'*

*Alice and Mario appear with the kind permission of Shipley's Curiosities*



Cover Pic:

*Local residents clapping for the NHS.  
Pic: Ken Harrison*

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# Movers & Shakers

By Paul Hildreth

It is October 1st and, in the light of recent new restrictions, too early perhaps to be talking about the phoenix rising from the ashes following Brigg's experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic but there can be no doubt that there have been, and continue to be, appreciable effects on local businesses. Some, unfortunately, have not managed to survive, many have adapted and a few have started from scratch in premises vacated by others.

A report, broadcast on Radio 4 in late August, claimed that the lockdown caused by Covid-19 had been beneficial to female, particularly young female, entrepreneurs so in this extended column I have decided to start by focusing on Brigg's own contribution to this phenomenon. At **Blush Avenue** in College Yard, Paige Markham now offers a full range of beauty treatments including aesthetics and semi-permanent make-up in partnership with make-up artist Naomi Jensen. The salon was scheduled to open its doors on Saturday 25th July but was affected by the government's clampdowns and had to postpone until the 17th August.

Opposite Blush Avenue, the temporary closure and subsequent sale of the **College Yard Café** business has given the opportunity to Broughton's 'cake fairy', Lou



Blush Avenue

Rutherford, of building on the venue's popularity by introducing her own experience and skills. Lou provides traditional home-made food using ingredients from local suppliers and has found early success with her take-away Sunday lunches and afternoon teas. She hopes eventually to introduce a loyalty card scheme to reward regular customers. The 'cake fairy' label was given in recognition of Lou's contribution of a 'make-and-drop-off' service which provided for key workers and the isolated and elderly population of Broughton at the height of the pandemic. The café now proudly displays a certificate, awarded by the Broughton Community Sports Association, recognising Lou as a 'Shielding Superhero'.

Lauren Credland from Kirton Lindsey and Emily Hinds of Wrawby have teamed up and moved into the refurbished premises formerly operating as 'Charlies' in Queen Street. This is their first venture and they opened as a hair salon on Thursday October 1st. They had kept the name of the salon secret until the last week of September when new signage announced it as **Palm Studio**.



Palm Studio

**Molly's Flowers** in the Market Place has not gone completely. Though the shop has closed, the business continues, as a delivery service only, from a local workshop base that can be contacted using the established telephone (01652 650356) and social media links (e.g. @mollysofbrigg). Proprietor, Louise Beacock, informed me that the move was not a direct result of Covid-19, it had been considered for some time and triggered by the retirement of her business partner early this year.



Molly's Flowers

**Pip's Kitchen** is based in the clubhouse of Brigg Town Football Club. Though first opening in September 2019, the business has really had to restart following closure during the lockdown. Owner Pip Huxford offers breakfasts every weekend 8.30am to 12.30pm then snacks and meals 12.30pm to 4.30 pm. Friday night is 'Fish and Chip Special Night' using fresh, not frozen, produce. Check opening times and 'specials' on Facebook (@PipsKitchenBrigg). I enjoyed a Friday morning breakfast served by Sharon Chambers in the refurbished club house. While Pip and Sharon were busy with take-away breakfasts and deliveries I learned from Vicki Cooper, club house manager, that the revamp had been a community effort and that the building had been made much less gloomy by inserting windows on both sides. Pip hopes to extend the business activities by introducing home-made Sunday lunches, available as take-away or delivery or in the club house, and offering special breakfast deals to schoolchildren between 8am and 9am for £2.

Some business ventures have seemingly been put on hold. The refurbishment of the former Auto Extra shop in Wrawby Street by Craig Stafford of **Decozo**, reported in the last issue of Brigg Matters, appears to have halted as have the final stages of the metamorphosis of the Halifax Building Society, opposite the Black Bull, into a travel agency. But it's all go in the west of Brigg with the construction of the new roundabout on Bridge Street and the access road for the new **Aldi** store scheduled to open on Thursday September 24th. **AF Carpets** finally made the transfer to the new building off Ancholme Way between March and its opening on 15th June. They retain the same floor space but it is now all on one floor and benefits from better natural light. They continue to stock the same ranges as previously offered but hope to add a 'rug room' and wall art displays.



Aldi

Sadly some businesses have succumbed to the economic pressures exerted by lockdowns and social restrictions imposed as a consequence of Covid-19. Le Raj restaurant, at 20 Market Place on the corner of Elwes Street, attempted to continue with a take-away/delivery service but eventually closed down. Within a few days, and after a redecoration of the frontage, the premises were taken over by **Brigg Tandoori** who offer a wide selection of Asian take-away food. Visit their Facebook page, @BriggTandoori, for a view of the comprehensive menu. The curtain has come down on 'Curtain Couture' in Spring's Parade but Steve Bourton (Valley Carpets,



Brigg Tandoori



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# Movers & Shakers

(November 2020)

Scunthorpe) and Ian Thwaites have refitted the shop opened as **Valley Carpets and Furnishings** in late September specialising in carpets but also featuring bespoke and renovated/recycled furniture. Two units remain empty. In Wrawby Street, the **Lindsey Lodge Hospice** shop closed in Spring but I noted in September that their website showed a new address as 'Town Hall Building, Market Place'. I visited the Buttercross in mid-September to find the **Tourist Information Centre** being emptied of its pamphlets, maps and other local information ready for the hospice shop to move in and open on October 1st. There now appears to have been a change of plan as I have it on good authority that, owing to public pressure, the TIC will re-occupy the Buttercross. A quick check showed that the 'Town Hall Building' address has been removed from the Lindsey Lodge Hospice website but their future address in Brigg is, as yet, unknown.

Perhaps the most poignant story is that of Cliff and Kim Thirkettle of **Something Old – Something New** in Wrawby Street. They thought they would have to close the shop, which deals with renovated furniture, as a direct effect of the Covid-19 pandemic. Cliff worked for the NHS and was on-call to deal with the increased demand for the care of patients in the fight against the virus. As a result, he found little time to keep the shop supplied and was, in Kim's words, "shattered". Added to this, the business' supply of stock – from house clearance – has been severely hit by people's reluctance to have others inside their homes. In conversation with Kim in mid-September I now learn that Cliff has found alternative employment which 'frees' him to devote more time to the business so at the moment the 'show carries on'.

A move that possibly took place without too much notice because our focus was elsewhere was the change of management at the Britannia Inn. Mine host since August 21st is Mark Burns, formerly of the White Hart and the Exchange in Brigg, who proposes to continue the pub's support of local football and quizzes and hopes eventually to introduce Thai food, the Brit is after all in the far east of town!



Altham's Travel Agents

One result of the lockdowns and travel restrictions has been a surge of activity in bicycles. I have to admit to being one of the many who, after weeks of walking around the same block of Brigg, decided to adventure further afield and at the same time exercise more. A puncture and need for new tyres took me to **Brian's DIY**, who you may remember from the Summer 2019 issue of Brigg Matters, introduced a department dedicated to bicycle sales and repairs on 20th April last year. The surge of interest brought a mixture of experiences especially after the government's incentive of offering half a million £50 vouchers to help people get their bicycles repaired in a move to improve the public's fitness and reduce air pollution. Phil and Darren were able to tell me that although customer footfall was greatly

increased, there were problems in sourcing supplies, both of accessories and of new cycles. Further, many bicycles that had been brought in for a '£50 voucher overhaul' were considered to be un-roadworthy; it will be interesting to read the official statistics concerning accidents involving bicycles at some time in the future!

As one of my heroes, Charles Darwin, famously proposed, the ability to adapt is one of the key components of survival. This can be applied to business as well as the natural world and some of our local people have done just that. Just a look in the window of Wrawby Street's travel agents demonstrates a shift in focus of posters from overseas beach resorts to coach tours to Harrogate, Exmouth, Chester Zoo and several other parts of the UK.

As a final word, I believe I speak for all of us connected in some way with the Brigg area when I congratulate all of those businesses, large and small, that have managed to remain open for the majority, if not all, of the time of restrictions and social distancing to provide our essential needs. Some have found new ways of working, others have simply gritted their teeth and carried on. Whichever, they deserve our thanks and continuing support.



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# Clapping for the NHS

The early summer saw the emergence of "Clap for the NHS Carers". For 10 weeks, from 26th March to 28th May the nation routinely emerged onto their doorsteps and applauded the NHS essential services at 8pm on Thursday evenings. These pictures show some of the folks in Grammar School Road showing their appreciation.



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## Smart Street Art Arch

Fran Rhodes and John Cavill recently moved into their house in Bigby Road. To show their appreciation of the NHS during the Covid-19 lockdown Fran decided to decorate the arch on the front of their house with the rainbow you see in the photograph.

John said: "It was all Fran's idea", adding jokingly, "all I did was supply the chair to remind Fran of the idiom - "Richard of York gave battle in vain". Both Fran and John, who are keen to acquire the history of both their house and the local community, work for ONGO.





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# VE Day

Before the enforced lockdown a number of local clubs, groups and village communities had planned to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe.

However, the local Veteran's Group ensured that a commemorative service was not forgotten on Friday 8th June. Simultaneously, Saturday 15th August saw a group of spectators gathering at the war memorial to commemorate VJ Day (Victory over Japan) at the end of WWII.



*The elaborate VJ display assembled alongside Barnard Avenue*





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# New 'Lightweight Eight' for Ancholme Rowing Club

Having competed at Lincoln the previous weekend, and during preparations for the Vesta Veterans' Race in London at the end of March, the Covid-19 restrictions put a complete stop to club activities. Amid the initial confusion as to what could and could not be done, the club committee decided that a complete closure was necessary.

As government requirements became clearer, British Rowing, our sport's national representative body, issued a comprehensive list of do's and don'ts. After the initial lockdown phase we were permitted to use the club rowing machines outside in small, socially distanced, groups. Some members took up the offer of taking a machine home to continue their fitness work.

As the country emerged from total lockdown and businesses began to re-open, we were permitted to take to the river in single sculls and double sculls if people were from the same household. As restrictions continued to be lifted we were permitted to row in four-man boats and finally, at the end of August, all water-based activities returned to normal. The gym and changing facilities remained closed throughout this time and social distancing was maintained as far as possible. An attendance booking system was introduced to restrict the numbers on site and remains at the time of writing.

Whilst rowing activities were curtailed, it was decided to refurbish the gym and changing facilities. All have been repainted, with new flooring and emergency lighting

installed and the rowing machines have been serviced. All of this work was undertaken by club members.

The club had been on the lookout for a lightweight eight suitable for our women's squad. Our forty-year-old heavy fibreglass eight had reached the end of its life and was proving to be difficult for our ladies to handle. When a suitable boat came up for sale at Oxford University, three members went to view it. Having been deemed suitable, an offer was made and accepted. It is now at the club and soon to be put through its paces. It is to be named after Diana Letts, club benefactor and mother of our coach, Penny Barker.

Prior to lockdown, the club finances had been in a healthy state. As subscriptions became due on April 1, members were given the option to defer payment until full club activities resumed. It came as a pleasant surprise to learn that the club was eligible for the government's small business grant to offset loss of revenue due to Covid restrictions. Our thanks go to Councillor Rob Waltham of North Lincs Council who brought this to our attention.

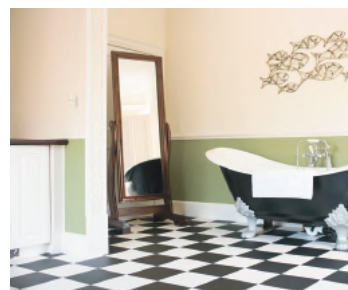
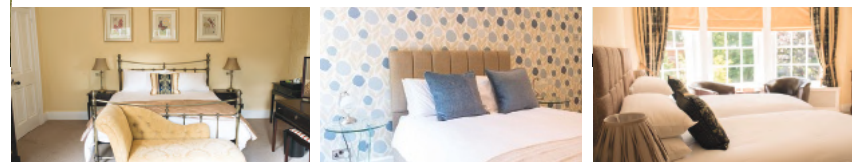


*The Ancholme Rowing Club's new lightweight-eight rowing boat being collected from Oxford University.*

We have also received a donation from the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme. Unfortunately the club's big money earner, the Ancholme Head Race has been cancelled. The committee agreed that it could not guarantee the recommended social distancing of competitors or spectators during the event and that the logistics involved with travelling and inter-club competition would be extremely challenging.

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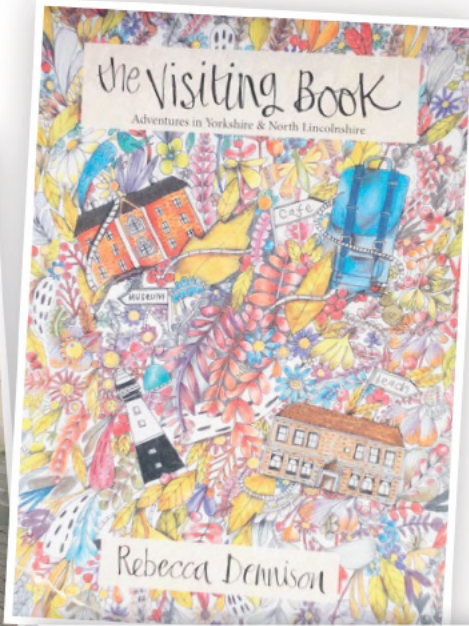




# In Pictures



Rebecca Dennison, from Barton, who has written a book about local places to visit - called appropriately "The Visiting Book".



Dancing In the Street, a regular monthly event in Brigg performed by 'Smoke & Mirrors'.



Something Old, Something New in Wrawby Street reveal their new low emissions delivery service.

## PICK YOUR OWN

Volunteer extraordinaire, Jason Ladley has been a volunteer in a number of Brigg's charity shops over recent years. In his spare time, he tends his allotment site in Redcombe Lane and is a voluntary prime-mover for 'Brigg in Bloom'. "Unfortunately, Brigg in Bloom was a non-starter in 2020" added Jason. He is however preparing for 2021 and is helping Brigg Town Council to develop its own 'Brigg in Bloom' allotment site. In the meantime, Jason became aware of the rather desolate planters in Wrawby Street and has planted 3 tomato plants and herbs amongst some perennials outside the Red Cross shop - all transferred from his own allotment



# Brigg In Lockdown!





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# New Jetty for Glanford & Scunthorpe Canoe Club

In February this year Glanford and Scunthorpe Canoe Club (GSCC) was thrilled to announce that it had secured funding for a new 30 metre-long jetty for the benefit of the whole community. Funding was gratefully received from the North Lincolnshire Council Community Grant scheme, Brigg Town Council, Scawby Parish Council and from its own club funds.

The jetty is sited on the River Ancholme alongside the Ancholme Leisure Centre. The new jetty should significantly increase the number of club members who can launch simultaneously on a club night as it will greatly speed ingress and egress to and from the river. It can, and is, also being used by other river users. For example, the LincsQuad Quadrathlon Club will use it for their Brigg Bomber event (Covid-19 stopped that happening this year), fishermen are

*Next to launch were two of our younger members who were trying marathon boats for the first time. Here are Connor and Charles before launching in the Lightning class of racing boat*

already using it and the Ancholme Rowing Club may use it for future events. Small dinghies can also use it to access the Leisure Centre's facilities.

Lots of people were involved in securing funding for the new jetty which has been many years in the planning process. The idea to upgrade the river next to the boathouse was conceived as long ago as 2013

by a couple of club members and the project was supported by the Ancholme River Trust. The new jetty was part of that plan. GSCC undertook to progress the jetty project but before funding could be obtained, a permit was required from the Environment Agency that involved producing detailed plans, an Environmental Risk Assessment and even conducting a water vole survey!

*New Jetty used for the first time! Our two longest serving members Kath and Eric Cox, who joined GSCC in 1988, were the first to launch off the new jetty!*





# A Surprise Visitor!

By Andy Mydelton

**The most beautiful member of the crow family had been absent from the Millstream Fork wildlife garden for over 25 years. So why do we now see it regularly? I've analysed the most important underlying factors and specific local conditions to see what could be responsible.**

Was one of the reasons because jays are common in woodland areas? This seemed to be one of the contributing factors on the first occasion when one dramatically appeared from the thicket on the opposite side of the millstream. This memorable incident could not have been more spectacular because occasionally in life, and in the world of natural history, some events can be stranger than fiction.

Over the years I have experienced many dull thuds on the window so that I know that when I hear this that a bird may well have smashed against it and could be in trouble. This is exactly what happened in early summer when a fledgling greenfinch flew into the patio doors unaware of the impenetrable glass in its way. I have learned that I must protect these birds in these perilous situations because predatory animals would, if possible, take advantage of their defenceless state. I realised that I would have to put my work aside for the next twenty minutes and hold the bird whilst it recovered.

I calmly unlocked the doors, stepped onto the patio and bent down to pick up the prostrate bird which lay completely still in a state of shock. As I did so, in the corner of my eye I noticed a flash from the bottom of the garden; being in the moment I collected myself and focussed on the streaking object. At first I saw a pink-coloured bird zooming towards me from the deep green trees. It soon became obvious that I had startled and caught it unawares – which is exactly what it had done to me as well! As the large bird crossed the lawn, it slowed down, flew upwards a few inches, turned around in mid air and returned to the same branch from where it had dramatically launched itself only seconds before.

As it darted back I noticed that it had a white rump that was in stark contrast to all of the colours that I glimpsed when it gymnastically spun around on its axis. I was shocked by this large gyrating avian and carefully

followed the bird as it flew back to the safety of the thicket. I then continued to track it flitting from one branch to another.

I soon identified the bird as a jay, a member of the crow family, because of its unmistakable markings that allow them to be instantly recognised by regular birders. It is a medium-sized bird with a black and white crown, a black



moustache on a white face, a pink-brownish back, and a large blue flash on its multicoloured wings.

Whilst this was a momentary distraction from my original purpose, I still had the presence of mind to pick up the poor greenfinch within seconds. Fortunately its gape was open which meant that it was still alive, but in shock; for me this was a good indication that the bird would survive. I held the greenfinch as protectively as possible and prepared myself for an estimated twenty minute wait for it to recover and fly away.

As the time passed, I studied its colours and intricate patterns of feathers on its wings, body and head. The filaments of every feather are grown to suit at least three purposes. They are extremely delicate but are designed to allow the birds to be light enough to fly, keep it dry and warm, and have the exact colour patterns for its sex and species. I sat there deep in wonder about how such a

small animal could grow so many of these amazing and functional features.

As I continued to nurture the fledgling I also considered the drama that had enveloped me. It became obvious that the marauding jay had seen the greenfinch's moment of vulnerability and was on the prowl to grab an easy meal. By coincidence I had unwittingly interrupted the jay's scavenging opportunism.

## Wildlife Feature



I mulled this over and felt happy that I had intercepted the hunting jay from killing the juvenile greenfinch whose full life lay ahead of it. But I was also aware that my values were human ones and victim-sympathetic; however the world of nature does not care about wildlife with a human perspective. The Earth's natural systems remain objective and hard-wired to allow happenstance, coincidence and circumstances to develop without omniscient interference.

Perhaps the jay was hunting to feed chicks back in its nest, and that the juvenile greenfinch was seen as normal food supply. If this is the case it can be argued that my appearance had prevented the chicks from having a decent meal that they needed to grow and eventually leave the nest. Soon the greenfinch emerged from its state of shock and instantly disappeared into the nearby bushes, never to be seen again.

Since that day jays have regularly returned to the wildlife garden; sometimes as individuals and occasionally in a pair. However these subsequent sightings have lacked this drama because they have postured on the lawn, fluttered around the garden from perch to perch, and fed on the nuts from the bird feeders. So what other influences may have caused this change of behaviour at Millstream Fork?

I do not know for sure. But my guess is that this pair of jays may well have built a nearby nest. If this was the case they would have needed to establish a territory that included enough prey species to raise a family of growing chicks. Whilst the trees around Millstream Fork are a habitat for one nest\* of the most colourful member of the crow family, they do not appear to be enough to support a permanent scold of jays.

By  
Hannah  
Dale





# Colin Mumby

## - ‘The Oldest Winger in Town’... Not Out

Nigel Fisher describes Brigg’s eldest sports statesman of 3 score years and 10, Colin William Mumby, as ‘the oldest winger in the town!’ If Colin was a bar of seaside rock he would have ‘Brigg’ through his middle.

Born in December 1949, Colin was the only child of George and Winifred. He takes his middle name, ‘William’ from his maternal grandfather’s lineage of the Lidgetts who lived in Mill Lane. During his formative years, the Mumby family lived in the Woodbine Grove prefabs and Colin’s earliest memory is one of kicking a football about in the garden with his dad. “I remember the prefabs being cosy, but they lacked insulation: they were too hot in the summer and freezing in the winter.” He attended Brigg’s infant school which was housed in a couple of wooden huts, near the site of the now youth club, and the row of the new houses in Colton Street - previously, the school kitchens.

At the age of 7 he moved to Glebe Road school at which, according to Colin, he later “failed miserably the 11+ exam” and graduated to Westmoor Secondary Modern in Grammar School Road. At this institution of learning, Colin excelled in sport. “My geography-cum-PT teacher, Dennis Altoft, was a inspirational motivator and under his guidance I became captain of the school’s cricket team, was in the football and basketball teams and became a district cross-country champion”. However, Colin’s sporting prowess was interrupted at the age of 14 with the discovery of a massive abscess on, or near, his appendix. “I’ve never been of large build, and I lost a lot of weight. I was near death and owe my life to Dr. Holmes and Dr. Dixon.” The abscess was removed at Scunthorpe Hospital and “my appendectomy was at Brigg Hospital some time later.”

Despite his focus on sport, Colin was in the top class, 4X, at Westmoor and by chance, the Certificate of Secondary Education (CSE) had just been introduced



“and Grade 1 in a CSE was a pass at ‘O’-level”, added Colin. In consequence, Colin volunteered to stay on in the 5th form and, to redress his 11+ failure, obtained exam grades that were probably better than those of some of his peers at grammar school.

By the middle 1960s Colin was playing football for Scawby and had started an apprenticeship at Rose’s engineering in Gainsborough. With an apprentice weekly wage of £3.16s (approx £3.75), Colin’s lodgings cost £3 per week leaving 16 shillings (about 75p) for other expenses. “At weekends, I travelled home to Brigg by a variety of means, bus, train, thumbing lifts, being a pillion on a motorbike” said Colin.

John Spencer, who, with his wife Sue, at that time owned the newsagents in West Street, ran the Scawby football team. “John had professional contacts within Scunthorpe United and I was invited to go for a trial at the Old Showground. I made a very impressive pass to another player who then scored and I was invited to attend twice-weekly training sessions, without remuneration, at the ground.”

Colin was coached by his schoolboy hero, Jack Brownsword, who played nearly 800 games for the Scunthorpe United. However Colin had now assumed a complex logistical matrix of travelling home at weekends and travelling to and from Gainsborough to Scunthorpe twice a week: “this involved considerably more thumbing” added Colin. Other local teenagers who attended the Scunthorpe United training evenings included John Hastings, later a teacher at Sir John Nelthorpe School, and John Reed from Broughton who eventually came to own the Broughton garage. A trainee from Doncaster who had just been turned down by

Coventry, allegedly for being too short, joined the group about a year later, the one and only Kevin Keegan.

Life was becoming busier. “At weekends we were travelling to both watch and play matches all over the country. We crammed ourselves into a mini-bus, so tight that it would not be allowed today. Occasionally, we were slipped a couple of quid for extras.” After a practice session “we all clamoured into a communal bath” to which Colin added rather embarrassingly, “I’m one of the few people who can claim I bathed with Kevin and have seen him naked!” Colin’s Mum died in December 2012 aged 95 and her greatest claim to fame, which she mentioned whenever the opportunity arose, or even when it didn’t, was that she once gave Kevin Keegan a lift and bought him a fish and chip supper.

Colin met his then future wife, Elizabeth, at Brigg’s old youth club. “Liz use to travel from Horkstow by bus.” At the time, she was about 16 and Colin about 18 and they were dating for 6 years before getting married at St. Mary’s church, Wrawby, in 1974. “I’d finished my apprenticeship and received my indenture at the age of 18 but Rose’s Engineering closed. However, I immediately got another job at Wright’s and even took my lathe with me.” By this time, Colin’s parents had moved to the Springfield estate.

“Liz and I were dating for a long time and accepted each other’s ambitions. Liz was great, she knew and accepted my great interest in sport and has never once complained.” But in 1967, Colin’s professional aspirations in football took a tumble, “I was running down the wing when my left knee unexpectedly collapsed.” Medical examination showed that Colin’s cartilage had splintered with a large section lodged on the inside of his knee. At this point in the interview Colin carefully moved his second pint of Old Mill, lifted his left leg above the Lord Nelson’s pub table, pulled up his trouser leg, “See, the scar’s still there.” The cartilage problem was further complicated when signs of arthritis were diagnosed. “Since that time I’ve had four operations on the left knee and two on my right. Thereafter I was okay for local club football but not for the professional game.” At this stage, Colin listed a long register of both cricket and football clubs he’s played for such as Elsham and Broughton.

Just after their marriage in 1974, the year of Abba and Waterloo, Liz and Colin lived in a house in Vicarage Road, Wrawby. The house was elevated and it had a panoramic view over the Ancholme valley and beyond. “I had just been watching Frank Bough’s Grandstand/

Final Score programme when the windows rattled accompanied by a distant boom. I could see a pall of black smoke rising somewhere near the Trent.”

The date was Saturday, June 1st, and Colin had just witnessed the Flixborough explosion. “We didn’t know what had happened until newsflashes signalled a massive explosion near Scunthorpe.”

“Liz and I have always been a bit impoverished and as newly-weds we had to raise funds to pay for Margaret Thatcher’s infamous Poll Tax. I reluctantly had to sell my extensive collection of Dinky toys, little cars that Dad had been getting me from Greens and Taylor’s in Brigg.”

For Colin and Liz, holidays abroad have been vital. “It all started in 1970 when we travelled with a group of 8 friends in a mini-bus to Austria in the summer and ever since, we have planned an annual holiday.” Eventually, their children, Nicola and Peter, arrived and Liz and Colin are now doting grandparents of Bobby.

For Colin, playing cricket and football throughout the year has been continuous. He last played cricket for Broughton in 2019 and was hoping to play football for the Briggensians this year and in the ‘Gibby’s Annual Charity Match’ “but Covid-19 has squashed that”, added Colin. Local journalist and sportsman Nigel Fisher said that the presence of Colin could change the game. “When the home team was flagging there was an inevitable chant of: “Bring Mumby on!...Bring Mumby on!” and the aspirations of the opposition would collapse.’ Colin cupped his hand to his mouth as if he was being overheard and sheepishly whispered: “On the odd occasion I started the chant in the hope I would get a game!”

Colin could list an endless list of sporting colleagues but my pencil wore out beyond Carl Sherwood, Adrian ‘Gibby’ Gibbons, Simon Allcock and Dave ‘Boots’ Robinson, just a few stalwarts of local sports.

During his sporting career Colin has never been booked, or sent off and still walks 2 or 3 miles a day and does 20 odd press-ups/pull-ups before breakfast. “But I still rattle with some pills. The doc put me on statins because of a family tendency towards high blood pressure. Overall, Liz and I are very happy together; we’ve never been rich but live life to the full”. At this point Colin departed to put a flutter on a horse! He rightly deserves to be recognised as Brigg’s ambassador to sport.



# Shining Lights

Marcus Rashford calls them the 'Stars of the Community' - the local folk who have had the inspired community drive to offer free meals to disadvantage children during the autumn half-term break.

Dawn Rickells from E-cig World on the corner of Wrawby St and Queen St said that she has lived in Brigg all her life and never wants to see any children go hungry. Community-minded, Dawn is no stranger to supporting local charitable initiatives. For example, she has already contributed to the Brigg Town Council's Appeal for Christmas hampers for the needy; the Macmillan Appeal and the Rotary Club's Polio Appeal.

Across Brigg, at Harrison's Hideaway on Island Carr and adjacent to Smithy's Pond, Siobhan Riley-Smith, indicated that there has been much interest and demand has been high. 'I don't want to see any child miss out on meals because of shortage of money in the family.' Siobhan's dad, entrepreneur and well-known Mick Smith, said that he wished that there had been a similar scheme in his schooldays as times were sometimes hard.

In the Market Place, disadvantaged children could pick up a meal-pack from the Woolpack. Mine host, Sarah Ryder who has been at the hostelry for 18 months and in the trade for over 15 years, said, 'Some people have



**Sarah Ryder - 'Mine Host' at the Woolpack**

to step up a little bit to ensure innocent children are not deprived of a meal. We are going through a strange episode and families can be affected by extra pressures. The Woolpack is offering 30 free meals a day and on this first day of operation, 23 have already been issued. Sarah is being assisted by Tesco who have been donating groceries to this locally-inspired scheme. Thank you to each of you for caring about vulnerable members of our community. *As we went to press The Hungry Fisherman, Coney Court and China Garden, Wrawby St, have added their names to the list!*



**Sarah Ryder with a trolley full of food donated by Tesco.**



**Siobhan Riley-Smith - Harrison's Hideaway**



**Andrea Hough - E-Cig World**

# Re-discovering and Re-wilding Lincolnshire's Ancholme Valley

Since the successful launch of the Wilder Ancholme project at The Buttercross in Brigg and the sudden halt due to Covid-19, the project team has worked hard to reschedule the project diary for when restrictions ease. Sadly the spring and early summer events were cancelled but The National Lottery Heritage Fund granted an extension to the project and, happily, events will now run until summer 2021.

As restrictions have eased, community days have started up again albeit without the indoor sessions originally planned. The latest event was led by Graham Catley, a local ornithological expert, who guided eight participants along the Ancholme river from Bonby on a blustery evening in August. All armed with cameras, the group spotted Marsh Harriers, Peregrine Falcons, Roe Deer, Hare, Linnets, Willow Warblers and more.

The 'Re-discovering and re-wilding a 'lost' landscape' project is exploring the remarkable and unique Ancholme Valley, primarily in the area north of Brigg towards the Humber Estuary. Starting at the present day, layers of history are being peeled back to discover hidden landscape heritage and biodiversity. Much of this heritage may still be found in the countryside fabric of this 'lost' wetland landscape - in hidden river courses, ponds, meres, streams, old lanes and greenways, derelict farms and cottages and more. The place-names and lanes tell a story of landscapes past, and the buildings and families bear evidence of the changing communities. Documentary research and historical wildlife records, combined with outdoor events, will add to the window from the past.

Professor Ian Rotherham of Sheffield Hallam University said: 'The Ancholme represents a unique opportunity to unravel past wildlife and heritage and to inform an emerging vision of a rich and vibrant future for the area. We want local people to come along and help us discover the amazing story of this valley's past.'



**Peregrine falcon in flight - pic Laurie Campbell**



**Roe deer - pic Laurie Campbell**

Project officers, Jenny and Lewys, planned a series of discovery days for all interested parties to get involved. Two have already been held, but one more, on the 10th January 2021, will be a Wintering Bird Survey with the RSPB. The members of the team invite all interested parties to join them. To register a place for this event visit the website listed below.

South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group's Mission Statement is to promote biodiversity and environmental conservation issues to all sections of the community throughout South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and beyond by providing practical training in ecological and archaeological

survey techniques; a forum for dissemination of information and collaboration on biodiversity and landscape research; and by publicising biodiversity, landscape and environmental issues through seminars, conferences, publications and via electronic and other media.

More information on the project can be found on <https://www.ukeconet.org/ancholme.html> and regular updates are shared on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WilderAncholme>.

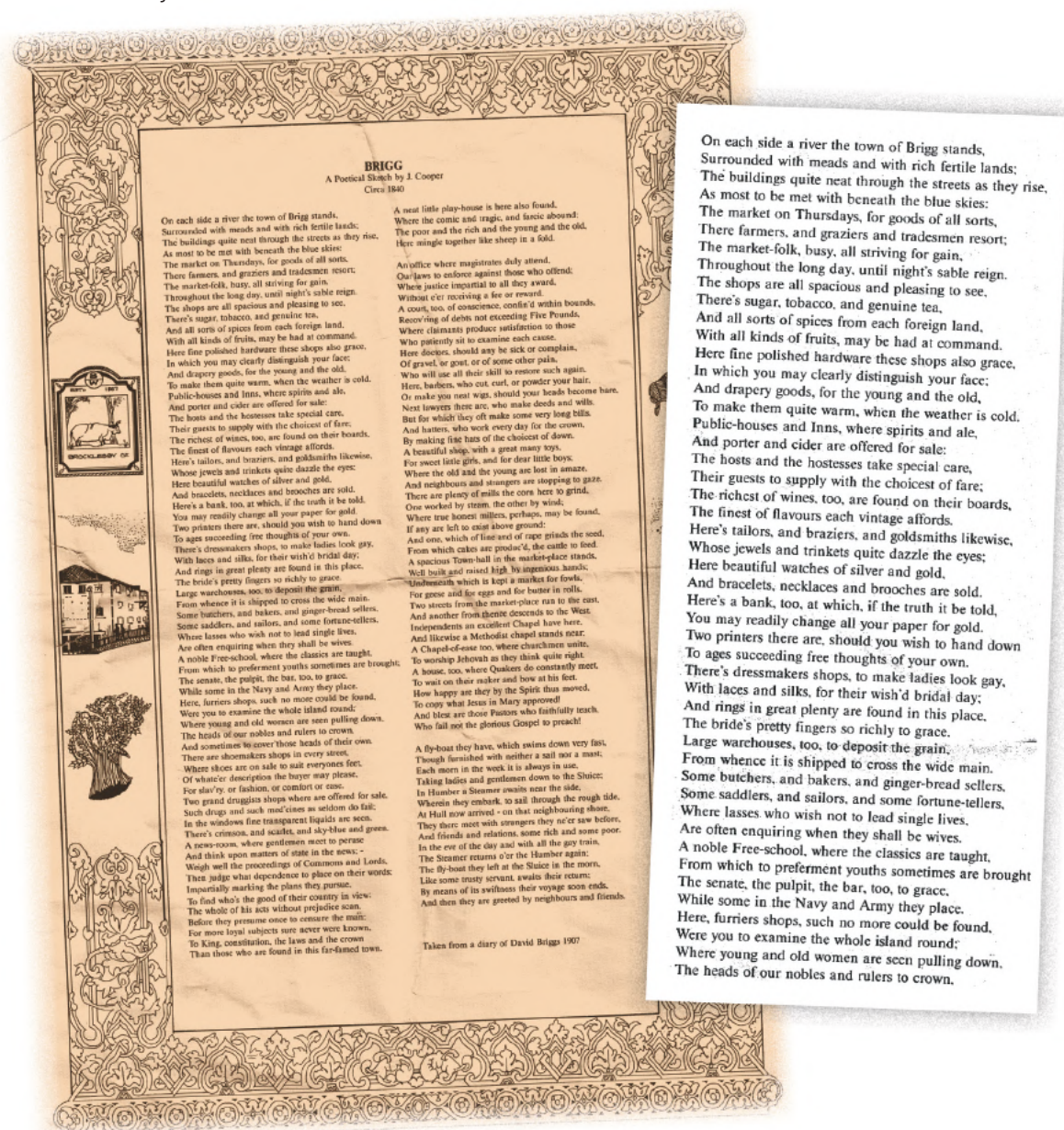


# A Poetic Sketch of Brigg in the late 1800s

A 'Poetic Sketch of Brigg' was written allegedly by a J. Cooper. Nothing is known about this person other than he could have been a 'cooper'. It was then updated sometime after that, but by whom we do not know. It paints a vivid picture of Brigg and its range of businesses, shops and activities during that period.

This latest extract was taken from the diary of appropriately named David Briggs in 1907. David is thought to have been an auctioneer, a churchwarden and an attendant at a Conservative meeting – other than that, nothing more is known about him.

We hope to make available copies of the manuscript for all to read and they will be available from the newly refurbished library for a small fee.



Even if you don't enjoy poetry, you cannot help but be fascinated by this delightful and extremely insightful poetic sketch of Brigg written circa 1840.

## A Lincolnshire Life

By Dick Heath

Old Joe he comes from Lincolnshire  
'Somewheres up in Wo'ds',  
He always calls a spade a spade  
But his greeting's never cold.  
He doesn't talk an awful lot  
Unless he has summat to say.  
His life is very simple,  
Built round his working day.  
I know that if you're in trouble,  
And you need a real good friend,  
He'd be the best man to lean on,  
Stand by you to the end.  
He's not a man for jollity  
And can appear quite bluff,  
But his heart is in the proper place,  
He's made of sternish stuff.  
He's spent long days with horse and plough  
On rollin fields 'neath endless sky  
Turning over the rich chalk soil  
And never really wondered why.  
Joe loves his two shire horses,  
Gently called them Prince and Bess.  
Their work was often cold and hard,  
But they give of their best.  
He had no time to take a wife.  
The village girls all moved away.  
Around this farm became his life,  
The place he longed to stay.  
His cottage is always spick and span.  
A welcome there you'll find.  
The furniture is old and quaint,  
Polished with love and lavender shine.  
He never wants to travel far.  
The world he'll never see.  
The Wolds have always been his home,  
The place he wants to be.  
When Joe ploughed life's last headland,  
Neath friendly chalk soil he was laid.  
He'd ploughed life's straightest furrows  
And all Heavenly trumpets played.

## Is Winterton so cool?

By Bill Grant

Bolton is an add-on,  
Burn-leys looking charred,  
Buxton Springs won't make you bounce,  
Wills-den is up the yard.  
  
"Arrow" as the Cockneys' say,  
Is well away from Bow,  
Leeds means take the dog for walks,  
Don't tread in Edwinstowe.  
  
Barking, and the Isle of Dogs,  
Lamp posts on Ever Street,  
"Richard the Third" is Cockney slang,  
Watch where you put your feet!  
  
Barnetby Le Wold, North Lincs,  
The name won't rhyme with much,  
But get to know the locals  
Once met, you stay in touch.  
  
Tactile greetings every meet  
The place to go for cuddles  
Beware of pitted local roads  
All full of bloody puddles.

Horses seen in rider care  
Rhythmic sound, clip clopping,  
Evidence to show, if needed,  
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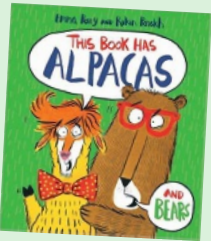


# Books for All Ages

## This Book Has Alpacas and Bears

Author-Emma Perry  
Illustrator-Rikin Parekh  
Publisher-David Fickling Books  
Age 4-12

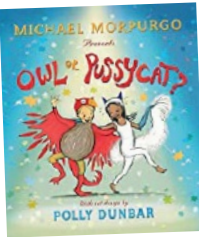
Alfonso is an Alpaca who is feeling very under-appreciated and decides it is time to make his own voice heard and show value in who he is. He is fed up with finding bears in books everywhere and thinks Alpacas should be represented in a more positive light. A lovely laugh-out-loud book with two great characters in Alfonso and Colin, his friend who is a bear, the book is beautifully and cleverly illustrated by Rikin Parekh. One of those picture books to share and encourage younger ones to value themselves and who they are.



## Owl or Pussy Cat?

Author-Michael Morpurgo  
Illustrator- Polly Dunbar  
Publisher-David Fickling Books

This is a beautifully illustrated book and tells the story of Michael who gets the role of starring in the school festive play as The Owl called Too-wit-too-woo. The illustrations are stunning and, as the story progresses, we are treated to a complete four-page fold-out illustration of the stage. This is a story many can relate to and is based on true experiences of first love and first-night nerves of Michael Morpurgo. We are taken on the journey of Michael and his best friend Belinda as they prepare for the first night of their performance.



## Guardians of Magic

Author- Chris Riddell  
Publisher-Macmillan  
Age 9-11, 366 pages

'Guardians of Magic' is the first of 'The Cloud House Chronicles' by author and illustrator Chris Riddell. It is another example of Chris' amazing story-telling and wonderful illustrations. The story is about Zam, Phoebe and Bathsheba who are sent on a quest to rescue magic but without completely understanding the magical powers they themselves have. It is a world of fairy tales that go wrong and of groups of enemies who are trying to destroy the powers of magic. The guardians are tasked to save magic and the wonderful cloud horses upon which children, for as long as anyone can remember, have made their wishes.



## Victoria Stitch-Bad and Glittering

Author- Harriet Muncaster  
Publisher-OUP, 288 Pages  
Middle Grade Readers

Harriet Muncaster is very well known amongst younger readers for her adventures about Isadora Moon. This new series of books will introduce the adventures of Victoria Stitch to a slightly older reading age group, allowing them to continue their independent reading for pleasure. 'Bad and Glittering' contains more-descriptive detailing and more-challenging vocabulary allowing progression together with a fantastic plot with twists and turns. Twins, Victoria Stitch and Celestine, are denied their royal birth-right. Celestine accepts the decision with good grace, but Victoria Stitch is consumed with her obsession for power. A story about re-writing your own destiny. The book introduces new characters with special powers in the miniature worlds created by Harriet Muncaster.



## Cossack Bear

Author -Neil Foxley-Johnson  
Independently Published  
Age 11+

Written by local author Neil Foxley-Johnson, Cossack Bear is a story of the Chernobyl Disaster told through the eyes of 16-year-old Demyan Baranets, whose fire-fighting father faced the biggest challenge of his life. One of our reading group reviewed it and commented: "I really enjoyed this book although it did take me longer to read than it normally would. I liked the plot and how the characters developed. I did not know about Chernobyl before I began reading Cossack Bear and it helped me to learn a lot more. I would recommend Cossack Bear to those who don't lose interest with challenging books".



## Imperial Mud-The Fight for the Fens

Author-James Boyce, Publisher-Icon Books  
Adult History

A fascinating and interesting book covering the history of the drainage of the fenland areas of England in the seventeenth century. It includes chapters retelling the 'Battle for Axholme' told in "The Manuscript in the Red Box". James Boyce himself now lives in Tasmania but sent this message to people in this area: "It is perhaps impertinent for a Tasmanian to be writing about the long struggle to defend the wetland commons of your land, but your story is such an inspiration, I believe that the whole planet should hear it!" James Boyce author- Imperial Mud

# KIDS' MATTERS

Hello Kids' Matters readers,

Let's talk about emotions. Some can make us feel fantastic but others can be more difficult to cope with. If we are struggling with our feelings, there are activities we can do to help us calm our minds and help us to think more clearly. Here are a few:

- 1. Breathe!** Imagine your belly is a balloon. Breathe in deeply to fill your balloon up and then breathe out to let your balloon go down again. Repeat this a few times.
- 2. Move your body.** Hop, skip, jump, dance and sing. Getting your body moving can be a great way to relieve stress and help you feel happy.
- 3. Craft.** Draw a picture, make a junk model, do some colouring. Giving our minds something else to do helps us to forget the things we are worried about.
- 4. Look after ourselves.** When we are tired, hungry or thirsty, we often find that we feel more emotional. Drinking plenty of water, eating well and getting enough rest can help us to think clearly.
- 5. Talk!** If you are struggling with your thoughts or feelings have a chat with a grown-up, they might be able to put your mind at rest.



t h y s u o l a e j  
n p a o a y n j f y  
e y a p l d m g t s  
m s u r p r i s e a  
e e r t e i u o l d  
t r a n a g n o o n  
i e i p s p v e m e  
c g e i u e h t s s  
x n d s j o y a h s  
e a r a e f s b p w

fear	jealousy	sadness	happiness
joy	disgust	anger	excitement
love	surprise		

We have used all felt to decorate but you could use gem stickers, glitter or anything you like.

## Winter Bunting Craft

Things you will need:

- Some felt in your chosen colours (or you could use paper or card)
- Scissors
- Ribbon or string
- Glue (or a needle and thread)



1. Decide how large you want your bunting to be and cut your felt into triangle shapes. Once you have one the right size, use it as a template to help you make others the same.
2. Decide what you would like to display on your bunting and cut out the shapes you will need. For example, for our snowman, we started with two white circles of slightly different sizes for the body and then added a hat, scarf, eyes, mouth and buttons.
3. Once you are happy with your flags it is time to put them together. You might choose to glue everything in place or you could sew it together. (Remember to ask a parent to help if you are using a sharp needle.)
4. Attach your finished flags to some string or ribbon.
5. Proudly display your creation in your chosen spot.





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# Brigg Town Council Report

## A message from the Mayor– Cllr Sharon Riggall

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone in Brigg and surrounding area for working together and supporting our community. The effects of COVID-19 have created a traumatic time for us all. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost family and friends at this time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our key workers. Many work in hospitals and healthcare settings, nurseries, local businesses and schools, care for older and disabled residents collect our waste and support our community. They have all worked extremely hard in challenging and sometimes unknown environments and their efforts have been appreciated by many.

There have been many changes; not just social distancing and wearing masks but learning to work in different ways. I would urge you to continue to use our local shops and cafes and continue to be respectful to those who work in them. They have provided us all with sustenance throughout the period of lockdown and we must thank them for their work. Thanks must also go to North Lincolnshire Council for supporting the town with signage for those who need to be reminded.

Brigg Town Council has continued to hold its meetings online using 'Zoom'. We meet every month and details can be found on the town council website.

As part of the significant financial investment being delivered by North Lincolnshire Council to create a central council hub in the heart of Brigg town centre, we have relocated our office to the top floor of the Angel building. Dinah, town clerk, retired recently and we would like to thank her for her service.

The new Brigg Town Clerk is Kerry McGrath. Kerry has worked for the council for over two years as Deputy Clerk, producing the accounts and helping with the running of council business.

We continue to be supported by our three excellent North Lincolnshire ward councillors, Carl Sherwood, Nigel Sherwood and Rob Waltham. They also serve as Town



councillors and support many residents who express concerns.

Jonny Barnard and his team at JB Rural Services continue to provide a handyman service to Brigg Town Council. They have been busy maintaining and installing new seating around the town. They have also been sweeping the town centre streets with the new sweeping machine and carrying out grass-cutting duties.

We are currently purchasing a number of new waste bins. We continue to be disappointed that people choose to drop litter and fly-tip even though measures are taken to keep on top of the problem. This was particularly noticeable after the Covid lockdown was relaxed. We have already carried out our first socially-distanced litter-pick and I would like to thank those who volunteered to support our community. Details of further litter picks will be posted on the council Facebook pages, so please help if you can.

The volunteers who run the Christmas Market have understandably decided to cancel the event this year. Thousands flock to the town to see the light switch-on but sadly crowds of this nature clearly are not appropriate at this time. The Town Council has been very careful with taxpayers' money and able to commit to a significant expansion in the Christmas lights that will be displayed through-out the festive season. We are working with a local supportive contractor to purchase, at a very competitive price, a number of new lighting displays so we hope that residents will see a difference when they support the town and visit local shops.

As the Mayor of Brigg I have had countless reasons to be very proud but perhaps no more so than when seeing local residents uniting and pulling together in the common cause of keeping the Brigg area safe. Please stay safe and well and take care of yourselves and those around you. My best wishes to you all.

Cllr. Sharon Riggall



# A Quick Hello from the Clerk

I'd like to say a very quick hello and introduce myself as the new Clerk to Brigg Town Council. I've worked for the Council for over two years now as Deputy Clerk and when Dinah Lilley decided to take a very well-earned retirement I was appointed to take over.

Even though my main responsibilities prior to my appointment were the financial affairs of the Council, I've been involved in organising all of the town's events from the Holocaust Memorial Service to the Christmas Lights switch-on and everything in between. I am really looking forward to working with local groups in arranging more events as soon as the Corona virus situation allows.

We recently organised a litter-pick with the Town Mayor and we are grateful to everyone who took part. Keep an eye out on the website [www.briggmarkettown.co.uk](http://www.briggmarkettown.co.uk) or on the Brigg Town Council Facebook site for news of the next one.



*Some of our Happy Litter pickers with the Mayor, Cllr. Riggall. (Photo courtesy of K. Harrison)*



*Never too young to start litter picking!  
Mrs. Smith, Miss Smith & Mayor, Cllr. Riggall  
Photo courtesy of K. Harrison*

My role also involves working with the town's councillors to make Brigg a safe and pleasant environment for residents and visitors. The agendas for the monthly Town Council meetings are set so that the Councillors can make the decisions on spending money on projects that enhance the Town. In the last month, new benches and larger bins have been ordered and these will be situated in strategic points around Brigg. Plans are afoot for Road Safety measures including speed-monitoring in highlighted black spots and extra CCTV to help keep everyone safe.

The office has now moved to a central position overlooking the Market Place and again, when the situation allows, the doors will be open to the public. In the meantime, I can be contacted by phone or e-mail (contacts on the back page). Until we can meet safely in person all meetings of the Town Council and Committees are held virtually via 'Zoom'. Please keep an eye on the website for the agendas and contact me by e-mail if you would like to attend any of the meetings.

Stay Safe everyone, Kerry McGrath

## Brigg Town Council Community Grants

Brigg Town Council is always keen to hear about local groups and their projects and can often support these with a community grant. If you would like more information please do get in touch or have a look at the website. Many projects have had to be put "on hold" this year but we were proud to support the Brigg Rotary Club with its 'Purple for Polio' campaign.



## IN BRIEF...

- New goal posts are on their way for Davy Memorial Park
- Plans for new play equipment in Davy Memorial Park
- Flashing speed signs and speed-monitoring in the town to keep all road-users and pedestrians safe.
- New benches and bins for Millennium Green
- New benches and bins for Ancholme River Path
- Beacon to be reinstated on Millennium Green.
- Arches project to be completed in 2021.
- Town and Tourist information boards to be sited around the town

## Town Council to Invest in New Christmas Lights for 2020

Christmas will be very different for everyone this year and unfortunately we are not able to host the traditional lights switch-on as it is considered not safe to bring large crowds into the Market Place on one evening. We are however working really hard with local businesses to make Brigg look the best it has for many years. The Council is investing in new light displays on Wrawby Street, Market Place, Bridge Street and Queen Street with extra lights for the trees and the large Christmas tree in the Market Place.

We know it won't replace the normal extravaganza and Christmas Market but we do hope it will bring some warmth to Brigg during the strange times we are all experiencing. We will be switching on the lights on Friday 27th November and will be streaming the event live on Facebook. Keep an eye out for it!





# Meet and Contact your Council



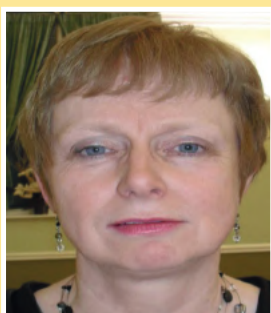
Mayor, Cllr Sharon Riggall  
07446 389511



Cllr Rob Waltham  
07977 987903



Deputy Mayor, Cllr Brian Parker  
07768 341189



Cllr Jane Kitching  
07442 160785



Cllr Ann Eardley  
07786 904466



Cllr Carl Sherwood  
07789 991818



Cllr Nigel Sherwood  
07788 910332



Cllr Penny Smith  
01652 652024



Cllr Jane Gibbons  
01652 653077



Brigg Town Council Clerk, Kerry McGrath  
Town Council Office, S04 The Angel, Market Place,  
Brigg, DN20 8LD  
[enquiries@briggmarkettown.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@briggmarkettown.co.uk)

# Christmas Shopping with a Difference!

With the absence of the Brigg Christmas Market this year, Christmas shopping will be very different. However, members of the Brigg Town Business Partnership are determined to make sure that the town will be full of festive cheer!

Some shops will be offering alternative shopping experiences including appointments for personal shopping, Click & Collect and deliveries to your home address (please ask the individual shop owners for more information).

Plans are also in place to have a late-night shopping evening on a weekly basis throughout the Christmas period allowing you to do your shopping at a time that suits you and in a less crowded environment.

There will also be the annual Christmas Window competition as well as a Children's Christmas trail. Both activities can be done whilst socially distancing but are free for you to participate. Other plans are being developed and if you would like to get involved or have any ideas do let us know!

Above all, please support the independent shops in Brigg this Christmas. Not only will this help the businesses in these difficult times, it would also be helping to keep jobs, support families, charities and your neighbours.

Deb Dunderdale. Chair of BTBP

## Last Year's winners of the BTP Christmas Window Dressing competition.

Sue Ryder Charity shop, Spring's Way.



O'Brien's Opticians – Wrawby Street.







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# Glanford Boat Club

Residents of Brigg may have noticed the significant reduction in activity at Glanford Boat Club. This is not, in any way, because we have fallen out of love with the area but, like everyone else, our lives have been disrupted by Covid-19. We hope to have done our bit to protect both vulnerable members and residents by reducing activities according to guidelines.

Under normal circumstances our members would have been enjoying motoring up and down the River Ancholme with some travelling even further afield. Some like to boat around the island, waving to passers-by and occasionally mooring in town to visit the shops.

We enjoy a relaxed social life at the club, winter and summer, and usually put on both pre-planned events and more 'ad hoc' ones. Who needs an excuse for a barbecue as long as the sun is shining? We have regular parties to celebrate the boating season, as well as the usual festive

season ones of course, and the club house is available for members and guests to use for more personal use such as birthdays etc. Weather permitting, we regularly fire up the barbecue, available for use by all members, and in winter we put on the occasional Sunday roast.

Many of our events in the past have raised funds for both local and national charities. There is a number of ways to get involved in the club and its activities. For example, since lockdown, the grounds and moorings are looking so well cared for because of the work of one particular member and a selection of helpers. We have a range of membership options available. Anyone who would like to visit or find out more information about us can contact the membership secretary whose contact details are displayed on the noticeboard to the left of the main entrance and on the Glanford Boat Club website.



*Boats moored on the River Ancholme alongside the Brigg Boat Club. Pic G. West*

## Your Hardworking Local Team



**Andrew and your local councillors, Carl, Nigel and Rob are here to help - please feel free to get in touch on any issue!**

**To arrange to see Andrew at one of his local surgeries, or to speak to one of the team, please call 01405 767969.**

**Your local councillors also hold street surgery in Brigg Market Place on the last Thursday of every month.**

**Andrew says: "We're here to help you, so please do get in touch!"**



**Andrew Percy MP**  
2 Morley's Yard, Old Courts Rd,  
Brigg, DN20 8JD  
01652 650094  
[andrew.percy.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andrew.percy.mp@parliament.uk)



**Cllr Carl Sherwood**  
T: 01652 655202

**Cllr Nigel Sherwood**  
T: 01652 657882

**Cllr Rob Waltham**  
T: 01652 652021

## BRIGG TENNIS CLUB

Tennis is being played at the Club again following guidelines from the Government and the LTA. Tennis was one of the few sports allowed as we came out of strict lockdown and it is great to see the courts being used again. An online booking system is being used for players wishing to play in their 'bubbles' and at the time of writing it is anticipated that some form of social tennis will recommence on Tuesday evenings, following COVID protocol. Unfortunately the clubhouse is yet to be opened and we are hoping that North Lincs Council will soon allow us to use the facility again. Coaching of adults and juniors is also up and running successfully. There is also a beginners / back to tennis

coaching course on Mondays from 6 - 7pm which all are welcome to attend. It costs £5 per session. We are lucky in having excellent outdoor facilities for both adults and juniors and new members are always welcome. The membership fee this year has been reduced as it is a shortened season so why not come along and give us a try.

Please visit our website or facebook page for more information on the Club or to book onto the coaching sessions or contact Helen Cresswell on **01652 653216**.  
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BriggTennisClub> or  
<http://www.briggtennis.co.uk/>





# Mind Craft



## Cool Winter Puns

What do you get from sitting on the ice too long? Polaroids!

What's an ig? A snow house without a loo!

Why do seals swim in salt water? Because pepper water makes them sneeze!

Which side of an Arctic Tern has the most feathers? The outside!

What's a sign that you have an irrational fear of icebergs?  
You start having water-tight compartments installed in your pants.

What do women use to stay young looking in the Arctic? Cold cream.

Why was the Saami herder given an umbrella? Because of the rain, dear.

What do you use to catch an Arctic hare? A hare net!

What sits on the bottom of the Arctic Ocean and shakes? A nervous wreck.

What did the big furry hat say to the warm woolly scarf?  
"You hang around while I go on ahead."

Why didn't the tourist in the Arctic get any sleep?  
He plugged his electric blanket into the toaster by mistake and kept popping out of bed all night!

## Christmas Sudoku

5	6			7		1		8
	3			1	5			
	1					6		
					2			4
6		8				2		7
2			7					
		4						3
			2	9			8	
7		1		3			4	2

Solution on Page 63

## Odd Laughs

Cannibals like to meat people.

A dentist and a manicurist fought  
tooth and nail.

I used to be a doctor,  
but then I lost patients.

Where did the king put his armies?  
In his sleeves.

"Waiter! This coffee tastes like mud."  
"Yes sir, it's fresh ground."

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.



# Mind Craft



## Christmas Crackers

How does Santa Claus take pictures? With his North Pole-roid

Why did the elf push his bed into the fireplace? - He wanted to sleep like a log.

What do Elves learn in school? The Elf-abet!

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite

What is green, covered with tinsel and says, 'rabbit, rabbit'? A mistle-toad

What do snowmen eat for breakfast? Snowflakes

Who makes toy guitars and sings, 'Blue Christmas?' Elfis.

What does a reindeer say before telling a joke? This one will sleigh you

What do you get if you cross a Yule Log with a duck? A Fire Quacker

Who delivers Christmas presents to dogs? Santa Paws

What do you call a cow at the North Pole? An Eski-moo.

ROAST TURKEY

ROAST CHICKEN

ROAST HAM

ROAST POTATOES

STUFFING

BRUSSELS SPROUTS

PARSNIPS

BREAD SAUCE

CRANBERRY SAUCE

PANETTONE

MULLED WINE

STOLLEN

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

CHRISTMAS CAKE

BRANDY BUTTER

CHOCOLATE YULE LOG

MINCE PIES

Solution on Page 63

## Christmas Wordsearch

N	E	P	S	E	C	U	A	S		D	A	E	R	B	E	K	D
Y	B	C	R	A	N	B	E	R	R	Y		S	A	U	C	E	O
X	R	Q	Q	T	V	F	E	N	I	W		D	E	L	L	U	M
Y	A	X	E	I	S	G	J	G	Y	A	T	P	G	H	S	S	N
I	N	S	R	A	N	G	N	I	F	F	U	T	S	F	L	E	N
I	D	E	H	Y	X	A	I	S	R	H	C	O	T	M	B	I	Z
E	Y	X	R	S	L	V	W	S	P	I	N	S	R	A	P	P	Q
V		E	K	A	C		S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C		K
H	B	X	S	T	O	L	L	E	N	B	U	R	S	M	Q	E	A
O	U	Z	K	I	X	R	A	X	Z	F	D	U	W	Q	S	C	W
P	T	O	N	E	K	C	I	H	C		T	S	A	O	R	N	S
S	T	U	O	R	P	S		S	L	E	S	S	U	R	B	I	C
N	E	R	O	A	S	T		T	U	R	K	E	Y	H	Q	M	C
N	R	S	K	P	A	N	E	T	T	O	N	E	R	X	P	J	C
G	N	I	D	D	U	P		S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	C
S	E	O	T	A	T	O	P		T	S	A	O	R	M	N	A	T
G	O	L		E	L	U	Y		E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C
O	T	A	K	X	R	O	A	S	T		H	A	M	X	L	S	Q



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## You've been framed

By Stephen Harris



## Vandals or April Fool?

In the early spring, near the start of Lockdown, this picture appeared on a local blog site. It reported that some prankster has re-painted the iconic telephone and postbox in the Market Place.

Someone claimed that they were certain the structures were red earlier that morning, but the posting created so much heated debate that it was withdrawn...only to reappear, suggesting the date, April 1st, had something to do with it.



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## Brigg Rotary Meeting the Challenge

Lockdown has brought changes for Rotary as it has for Brigg Matters and, in the absence of physical meetings, we have all learnt to Zoom. The use of smart phones has seen our meetings joined by busy farmers from their tractor cabs and from holiday destinations across the country plus a yacht in Greece. All new learning experiences and although COVID-19 hasn't stopped all of our essential community responses it has curtailed our fundraising activities so will impact on our ability to provide financial support for hard pressed charities.



Rotary Club  
of Brigg

One of the most pressing issues was the provision of PPE, personal protective equipment. With the support a past-President, a business friend and his contacts in China, imported 20,000 masks which Rotary distributed to local Care Homes and, with the help of North Lincs, to Young Carers. All were most grateful and these masks have helped to keep our elderly and vulnerable residents safe.

We clocked up a first for us with a joint Zoom meeting with a club in Amritsar, India. We discussed the Purple4Polio campaign here and there including community work both locally and internationally. Over the last 3 years the sale of 81,000 and the planting of 53,700 crocus corms in and around Brigg has highlighted the amazing work done to eradicate this crippling disease from the world. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation matches whatever money we raise locally and together we are closer to achieving eradication. There are just two countries, Pakistan and Afghanistan, to complete. War and prejudice have impeded progress. However, the good news is that the African Region is now Polio free. It was World Polio Day on 24th October and we were selling crocus corms at Brigg Thursday Market. Did you buy yours and support the campaign?



"Lincolnshire Day" Thursday market day.  
Members from Brigg Rotary Club - selling crocuses to raise funds for the global extermination of polio.



With COVID-19 still a serious threat, the last thing we want is for Polio to reappear. In Amritsar they keep up the annual vaccine provision for children and they are also working on other projects: Accommodation for Homeless Girls; Sheltered Accommodation for Elderly

Homeless People; and a School for Handicapped Pupils. We are considering joining the Grantham club in supporting joint projects in Kenya to provide Micro

Loans, Develop Tailoring Skills and feed 'Street Children' because restaurants and food outlets closed in Nairobi because of Covid19.

The last event before lockdown was the NL Rotary Swimarathon organised by the Rotary Clubs of Brigg, Scunthorpe and Scunthorpe Pentagon. Thanks to corporate sponsors, all funds raised by swimmers on the day, just over £10,000, were awarded for specific projects. 25 applications were supported, amongst them: Hibaldstow Brownies; Wrawby CE Primary School; Carers' Support Centre; Brigg Singers; North Lincs. Young Carers; Brigg LIVES; Headway; Gateway; Bosom Family Support; Brigg Heritage Centre; and Wrawby Windmill Society.

Schools' projects continue through reading support for Primary pupils, interviews for sixth form students preparing to move to universities, apprenticeships or work. Help for Young Carers and Christmas Parcels for those in need also continue to be supported.

Unfortunately, there will be natural disasters around the world that will require the provision of emergency shelter or clean water or support following outbreaks of famine, disease etc. We want to help everyone in need but there are limits to what we can achieve. You would be welcome to join our efforts with as much or as little time or money as you can spare. You do not need to be a member or join the club to offer support. Visit our website or see us on Facebook.



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# Brigg Matters Campaign Page Pop-Up Parking

Brigg Matters is aware of a growing public concern about vehicles parking on the pavement apron area near Wetherspoons, particularly during the evening and at weekends.

Brigg Matters reminds offending drivers that parking on a pavement, although not specifically an offence, could be regarded as unlawful by obstructing the highway if disabled, sight-impaired and people pushing prams are hindered.

The area is not a pop-up auxiliary parking zone and drivers should not assume that they can take advantage of such so-called 'convenient parking' when civil parking officers are normally off duty; obstructing the highway is dealt with by the police and may carry penalty point endorsements on a driving licence.



been finally resolved. The faulty lift was repaired some months ago and residents are now very satisfied.

However, Brigg Matters became aware that Ongo's promised reimbursement of the residents' monthly 'maintenance fee' to cover the problematic period had not been received.

Brigg Matters has given Ongo a recent nudge the result being that a reimbursement team has been

consulted and Ongo has asked residents to check their rent statements. As one resident said "the amount of reimbursement is really quite small, it's the principle that counts."



## Missing Bollard

For several months the central bollard that prevents traffic from entering or exiting Market Place via Bigby Street has been missing. Obviously someone has found a better

## Monetary Lift

Brigg Matters is happy to report that the on-going problem with the lift at Ongo's Ancholme Gardens off Elwes Street should have

use for it! The outcome is that vehicles are now using this access illegally putting pedestrians – particularly young children – at great risk.



Van parked illegally on the paved area in front of the White Horse.

There are cameras to record these indiscretions but to-date know-one in authority has used – or probably never even viewed the monitors nor taken action against the perpetrators. Brigg Matters asks two questions. When will the bollard be replaced - and what is the point of installing expensive camera monitors if know-one bothers to view them? Probably easier to catch someone not wearing a mask maybe? *Just as we went to press a replacement bollard had been delivered. How long will stay?*





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## Au Revoir Sandy

On Wednesday 21st October, suitably distanced and abiding by all of the recommendations imposed upon us by Covid-19, a special meeting of the 'Brigg Matters' committee was convened in the Lord Nelson. The meeting had one item on its agenda, to thank Sandy Andrews, a member of the BM team since 2015, for her valuable contributions.

Sandy is moving to the south coast to join her daughter, a GP, and grandchildren. Her younger son, an actor, and his family also live in the Brighton and Hove area. Sandy's older son is a wing commander, a RAF engineering officer, presently stationed, and half-way through a tour, in the USA.



in 2012. Her late brother, Frank Tett, ran the Andrew's Hedgehog Hospital between Broughton and Appleby.

Many will recall Sandy's shop in Market Place which sold replacement ink cartridges; the internet put paid to that enterprise! Her assistant, Paul, is now one of the professional advisers from Webcetera who are developing the 'Brigg Matters' web site.

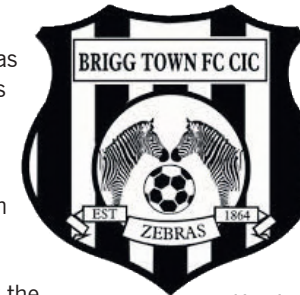
With 'Brigg Matters' not only was she responsible for keeping our accounts in order, she also dealt with our many advertisers - and to be truthful she also kept the chairman in order!

Sandy will be sadly missed. We wish her well in her new venture. Her buoyant and cheerful personality will be hard to replace.

Sandy has lived in the Brigg area for nearly 20 years and has been actively involved with such groups as the Brigg Town Business Partnership and was a leading organising member of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations

# Brigg Town Juniors FC

Brigg Town Juniors are a chartered standard club affiliated to the Lincs FA, as with all other sporting events our leagues came to an abrupt halt towards the middle of March. We were fortunate enough to be allowed to commence limited training under strict regulations in July and friendlies from August onwards in preparation for the new season. As I write although this maybe out of date by the time the publication hits your doorstep, we have a full season of fixtures planned with the first games already commenced in September, if the season plays out without lockdown we will then continue in 2021 with cup and knockout games. Allowing the kids to play football under social distancing and FA rules has been an outstanding benefit to their wellbeing and morale.



be possible without the coaches, league officials and commitment of parents who are an integral part of managing youth teams throughout the year and in the closed season. A special mention as well to Denis Collins who 'retired' from grassroots juniors football last season, with his u18' completing their final season for the club.

Key is the creation of the mini kicker's football on Monday nights at Brigg Rec Ground for both boys and girls, to develop their skills and teamwork with a view to forming a team from under 7 years (school class 2) onwards into the league system. As mentioned, to continue this we need parental support to manage, encourage and develop these teams as they grow

through the grassroots system. Training and coaching qualifications are fully funded to help and comply with FA, COVID and safeguarding rules. We are happy to discuss this with any adult who is willing to assist in support and developing a team at any age under the Brigg Town Juniors Club, especially under 7 age groups. It can be time-consuming sometimes but the satisfaction of winning

This season we will have over 150 players signed on the books with 13 teams registered in the appropriate league system from Liberty Steel, Jack Karlson, and Lincs Intermediate/Senior.

We work alongside and very closely with Brigg Town CIC FC but are self-funding and independent, with funding coming from annual subscriptions, fundraising through our presentation day, tournaments, event evenings and the generosity of the local community businesses. None of this would be possible without this support and sponsorship in the community.

We have many teams who are well established, and they have solid support from players and parents, however as the teams move through the grassroots football system, the squad sizes do increase so we are often looking for new players.

The ongoing success of developing both boys and girls from the age of 4, 5 & 6 onwards to form teams has proved its worth with 3 new teams been registered at the start of last season. Of course, none of this would



that game on a cold, wet, muddy weekend morning is second to none (honest) !!

Last season we have also supported kids in The Gambia in providing kit and footballs through AJ our under 8's manager, the kind donations of football kit were sent to The Gambia as part of AJ's charitable work to support the kids there.

Hopefully at the time of printing we will still be playing in our respective league systems.

**If you would like any further information about the BTFC junior's club, please contact:**  
email: [briggtownjuniors@gmail.com](mailto:briggtownjuniors@gmail.com)  
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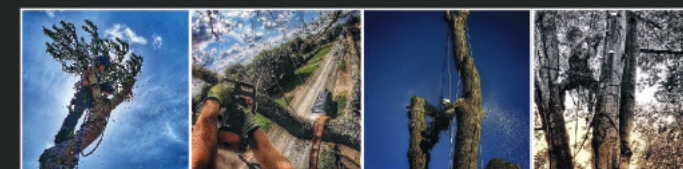
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# Ragwort – Yellow Peril or Fields of Gold?

By *Paul Hildreth*

**Common Ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris* formerly *Senecio jacobaea*) is a familiar wild flower of wasteland and pasture that occurs in every county in the UK. Its natural habitat is sand dunes but it is prevalent on light, low fertility soils and on grassland that is overgrazed. It frequently infests horse pastures and is often seen along roadsides, railways and on rubbish tips. It is a biennial plant which produces a rosette in the spring of the first year and flowers between May and November of the second year. It has characteristic dark green leaves, tough stems and yellow daisy-like flowers. Rosettes consist of a circular cluster of leaves with a ragged appearance (hence the name), usually deep green on top and cottony underneath. The rootstalk, leaf stalks and lower parts of the stem may have a purple to red colour. Studies suggest that the plant thrives in areas where the land has been distressed, for example after severe drought or overgrazing, but it takes two years for it to establish.**

There is little doubt that national opinion of Common Ragwort is divided and this article is designed, not to influence your opinion but to consider some of the contrasting information that is widely available. If you are a horse-lover or keeper of livestock you are likely to consider Ragwort as ‘yellow peril’ but conservationists will see spreads of blooming plants as ‘fields of gold’ for wildlife. So please read on for further enlightenment or simply to discover what the fuss is all about.

Common Ragwort is poisonous to mammals. The plant contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids which can cause liver poisoning to horses and other livestock but it is a myth that an animal dies if it ingests only a mouthful. It is a cumulative poison, particularly for horses, in which low level digestion over a period of months may result in signs of distress. According to the invertebrate charity ‘Buglife’ a consumption of 7% of body weight is a lethal dose for horses. Cattle are also prone but sheep less so. It is also a fact that Ragwort is poisonous to humans, but a myth that it is a serious health hazard to people. On this subject, from which one can understand the concerns of equestrians, it is worth noting that horses in the UK have been living alongside Common Ragwort since the last ice age about 20 000 years ago. Only in exceptional circumstances or when there is a food shortage will horses eat fresh Ragwort; they have learned that it is distasteful and that the leaves have

an unpleasant smell. The latter characteristic has led to regional nicknames for the plant, for example ‘Stinking Willy’ in Scotland and ‘Mare’s Fart’ in Cheshire. There remains however the problem that livestock, particularly horses for the reasons given above, do not recognize the presence of Ragwort in its dried form if ‘contaminating’ hay. There is no known antidote or cure to poisoning, but examples are known from the scientific literature of horses making a full recovery once consumption has been stopped.

In the United Kingdom, Common Ragwort is one of the five plants named as an injurious weed under the provisions of the Weeds Act 1959. The word injurious in this context indicates that it could be harmful to agriculture, not that it is dangerous to animals, as all the other injurious weeds listed are non-toxic. Under the terms of this Act, a land occupier can be required by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to prevent the spread of the plant. However, the growth of the plant is not made illegal by the Act and there is no statutory obligation for control placed upon landowners in general. Matters are not helped by misleading statements such as this one found on the website of a company concerned with weed control and referring to Common Ragwort: “It is recommended that this plant is controlled or eradicated, and you have a duty of care to prevent its spread from your property. (We are) experienced contractors in the surveying and remediation of invasive non-native plant species.” It begs the question of how long must a species have to be living in an area for it to be considered ‘native’? Perhaps the company is confusing Common Ragwort with Oxford Ragwort (*Senecio squalidus*) which was introduced to Britain in 1700 to 1702 from Sicily and incorporated into the gardens of the Duchess of Beaufort at Badminton, Oxfordshire (ironically a famous equestrian venue). After years of containment it spread rapidly during the Industrial Revolution when Oxford was linked to the expanding railway network and the cinder-lined track beds provided conditions very close to the volcanic ash soils of their native region.

In the United Kingdom Common Ragwort provides a home and food source to at least 77 insect species. Thirty of these species of invertebrate use this plant exclusively as their food source and there are another 22 species where it forms a significant part of their diet.

Furthermore, English Nature identifies a further 117 species that use Common Ragwort as a nectar source whilst travelling between feeding and breeding sites, or between separated populations. These consist mainly of solitary bees, hoverflies, moths, and butterflies such as the small copper butterfly (*Lycaena phlaeas*). Pollen is collected by solitary bees. Common Ragwort is also the species of choice for the Cinnabar Moth to lay its eggs. The resulting, conspicuous, black and yellow-hooped caterpillars feed on the plant, ingest its toxins and become unpalatable to potential predators. Under its Manx name Cushag, Common Ragwort is the national flower of the Isle of Man where local poet Josephine Kermode (1852–1937) wrote the following poem about it:

*Now, the Cushag, we know,  
Must never grow,  
Where the farmer’s work is done.  
But along the rills,  
In the heart of the hills,  
The Cushag may shine like the sun.  
Where the golden flowers,  
Have fairy powers,  
To gladden our hearts with their grace.  
And in Vannin Veg Veen,  
In the valleys green,  
The Cushags have still a place.  
( Vannin Veg Veen is Manx for dear little Isle of Man)*

Misuse of statistics has also fuelled the divide in opinion. In particular there is a well-publicised, but unreliable, figure of 6,500 deaths out of a UK population of 600,000 horses that appears in many sources without its origins being examined. This figure was quoted by the British Horse Society (BHS) and led to action by the Advertising Standards Authority against people who were repeating it. The figure, which if true would have indicated a rapid increase from an average of ten deaths per year quoted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) in 1990, resulted from a survey sent to all members of the British Equestrian Veterinary Association (BEVA) in 2002 from whom replies were received from only 4%. This yielded 283 reports of suspected (note ‘not definite’) poisoning (note ‘not deaths’). A serious statistical error was then committed by extrapolating the results to all 1,945 members of the association. There was a further flaw in that the possibility cannot be excluded that several vets reported the same cases, and that therefore cases would have been included more than once.



Although Common Ragwort can be a significant nuisance to horse keepers, these species are a very important source of nectar and pollen. About 150 species of insects, such as bees, flies and butterflies, visit the plant. Therefore, even it were possible, eradicating the plant is not a desirable option. We will have to find other ways to protect our livestock. There are no easy solutions to the Ragwort problem, but that doesn’t mean that there is nothing we can do. A Code of Practice for ragwort was introduced by The Government in February 2004 and contrary to popular opinion it does not require anyone to control or treat ragwort; however, it is expected that landowners will seek to prevent ragwort from spreading. It splits ragwort into three risk categories:

**High risk** – Ragwort is present within 50 metres of land that is used for grazing or for crops. Immediate action needs to be taken to treat the ragwort.

**Medium risk** – Ragwort is present within 50-100 metres of land that is used for grazing or crops. An action plan should be put together.

**Low risk** – Ragwort is present over 100 metres of land used for grazing or crops. No action needs to be taken.

I will leave the final word on this subject to a finer hand than mine:

*Ragwort thou humble flower with tattered leaves  
I love to see thee come and litter gold...  
Thy waste of shining blossoms richly shields  
The sun tanned sward in splendid hues that burn  
So bright and glaring that the very light  
Of the rich sunshine doth to paleness turn  
And seems but very shadows in thy sight.*

*John Clare 1831*



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# Brigg Town Football Club

During lockdown and pre-season, under the guidance of chairman Jim Huxford, the club carried out major refurbishments both on and off the field. Mr. Huxford's aim, when taking over the running of the club, was to make it benefit not only the town's football supporters but also the town community as a whole. To this end, with the help of local businesses and volunteers, the outside car park area had a complete makeover. It was resurfaced and lined, an outdoor beer garden built and a large, grassed, children's enclosed play area built complete with giant bouncy castle. This is available for the whole family to use whether or not they are attending the actual match.

Extensive internal changes to both the clubhouse and function room have also been carried out. The latter provides an ideal room for businesses and private individuals for any function required and specialises in



weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, children's (including football-themed) parties).



On the playing front, and showing ambition to succeed, Jim appointed a new first team manager, Marcus Newell, whose impressive record includes an FA Vase final and numerous championship and cup successes. This has already proved a wise decision as at the time of this article the team has shown a change of style and tempo winning four and drawing one of their first five league matches.

At the same time as the big improvement in playing results, attendances at home games (so far an increase of 27% on last season's average) show that the town is getting behind the club and the club is living up to its name of COMMUNITY INTEREST CLUB.

**Purple4Polio**

"The Rotary Club of Brigg say's a big thank you to local businesses, Brigg Council and the Brigg Community who supported our 2020 Purple4Polio campaign."

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# Brigg Geology Group

By Paul Hildreth

Unfortunately the group has not been able to meet since Thursday 20th February and this has meant the cancellation of what promised to be an interesting programme of talks and activities during the remainder of 2020. One of these was to be presented by two of the group's most loyal members, Peter and Dyan Batty, who had agreed to share their geological experiences from a visit to St. Helena, a remote volcanic tropical island in the South Atlantic Ocean situated on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. It is more than 2000 kilometres (1200 miles) from the nearest major landmass and therefore one of the most remote places in the world.

Despite lockdowns, social distancing and travel restrictions that we have all had to endure some interesting geology ventures have been happening. Mike Oates and myself have been working in the large quarry at South Ferriby that ceased its excavation of raw materials in early July as a result of the impending closure of the neighbouring Cemex cement works. Mike has been examining and collecting from the black clays at the base of the quarry while my interests have focused on the Chalk which lies above. Both of us have come across features of much interest which, as far as we know at present, have not been previously recorded. Whereas most of Mike's 'evidence' is portable and can be taken home for detailed examination, mine is still in the quarry in the form of large flints; one of them measures 50 x 40 x 30cm, not the sort of thing you can pop in your rucksack! I have put my name on the ones I want with an indelible (I hope) marker pen and hinted to the quarry operator that I would welcome help in getting them to the site entrance.

Students of geology, as well as members of the public with an interest in the subject, have been unable to participate in group visits or field trips this year. As a result there has been a drive to produce virtual field trips and, as a contribution from the Yorkshire Geological Society, I have completed and released a four-part series on the geology of Flamborough Head. Should anyone be interested in joining me (virtually) on the tour please use the following links:

## Part 1 (Speeton to Staple Newk)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOw\\_kaTcK0c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOw_kaTcK0c)

## Part 2 (Thornwick Bay and North Landing)

<https://youtu.be/5YpOtOiaYDU>

## Part 3 (Selwick's Bay and High Stacks)

[https://youtu.be/54L\\_-pRBQi4](https://youtu.be/54L_-pRBQi4)

## Part 4 (South Landing to Sewerby)

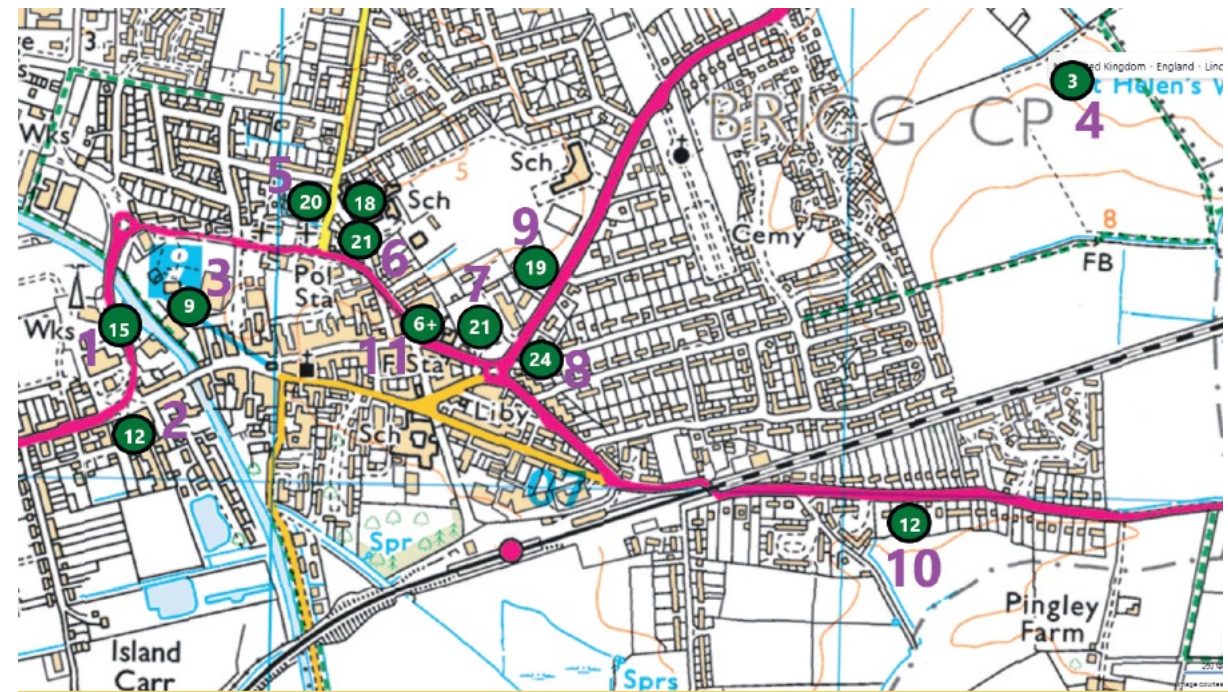
[https://youtu.be/VM\\_fJGYDhwl](https://youtu.be/VM_fJGYDhwl)

I was recently asked for an opinion on the feasibility of tunnels under Brigg. Apparently there is a strong belief among local historians that tunnels were used for smuggling and other activities and that one tunnel in particular led from the town centre to Newstead Priory. My search for information may be of interest to both geologists and local historians.

A trawl of borehole and well records (see accompanying map) confirms that Brigg is floored by the Oxford Clay, a formation dominated by mudstones of Jurassic age deposited about 160 million years ago. This outcrop (where the rock comes to the surface) stretches as a strip of lowland from Scarborough in the north to South West England and was excavated extensively around Peterborough for brick-making. However, in Brigg, the Oxford Clay is overlain by a variable thickness of largely un- or poorly consolidated beds of sand, clay and gravel. The boreholes or well sites are numbered 1 to 11 on the map and the figures within the circles indicate these thicknesses in metres. Three of these boreholes also record that the Lincolnshire Limestone, the rocks that form the Lincoln Edge between the Humber and Lincoln, occurs about 60 metres below the surface.

I have little experience as an engineering geologist, particularly of tunneling, and so my thoughts are very open to contradiction but the poorly consolidated material in Brigg would, in my mind, be unsuitable for safe excavation; it would be prone to collapse. The Oxford Clay would make a more suitable tunneling medium (the central part of the London Underground network is through tunnels in London Clay) but it would mean access shafts of significant depth.

There is also the problem of water causing potential flooding of tunnels. Many of the boreholes shown on the map, including one for Spring's factory (3) and another for Sergeant's Brewery (1), were sunk on the site of wells and record efficient flow rates.



**Selected sites of boreholes and wells (green circles numbered 1 to 11 in purple) showing thickness of superficial deposits (in metres) above Oxford Clay bedrock. Based on Ordnance Survey 1:50 000 Series.**

For readers who may be more interested in the local history behind these borings, the records also provide the drilling company, date, name of client and, occasionally, other interesting information. For example, a geologist visited the grammar school (now SJN School) on the 4th July 1951 to inspect a well sunk in 1912 (9) only to find that no one at the school had any knowledge of its existence. His conclusion is recorded: "it is certainly not in use".

The three borings in the west of the town (1-3), close to the River Ancholme, are, together with that at St. Helen's Well (4), the deepest. On the south side of Bridge Street and "70 yards west" of the river a borehole (2) was drilled to a depth of 111 metres for a Mr. Joseph Parker in 1864-65. Its purpose is not mentioned but I am sure that someone will know and I would be pleased to find out. In 1921 a borehole was drilled for Sergeant's Brewery (1) just west of the river and prior to that, in 1913 on the opposite bank, another for Spring's factory (3) on or adjacent to the site of what is now the B&M store.

A Mr. J. Launders commissioned four boreholes in 1914 to be drilled by a Grimsby company called F. Smith and Sons. Two of these were sited between the Roman Catholic church and Grammar School Road (5 and 6), the other two close to the Monument roundabout (7 and 8). Of the latter pair, the western one (7) was a deepening of the well at the Brigg workhouse. Smith's

also drilled a borehole for a Mr. Brown at Thornholme House, Wrawby Road (9) and another Grimsby firm, Jacklin and Son, drilled for a Mr. Fox at White Lodge, Bigby High Road (10). Borehole 11 was drilled during ground investigation studies prior to the construction of the Barnard Avenue 'inner bypass' road. I mention the drilling company in this paragraph because, as a young, learning-my-trade geologist in 1967, I used a rope ladder to access boreholes drilled by Smith and Sons of Grimsby in order to record sections drilled into the chalk of Thetford Chase in Norfolk.

The final record I shall mention is that at St. Helen's Well (4), another boring by Smith and Sons in 1918 that is 108 metres deep and proves, as the map shows, only a thin cover of superficial deposits. The annotated record indicates that the geology was interpreted by Mr. C.F.B. Shillito of Brocklesby for P.E. Kent in 1938. Shillito was an influential local geologist and collector, not only of geological specimens but also of Lincolnshire borehole and well records. He joined the Hull Geological Society and served as its president from 1939 to 1947, a difficult period in European history. Peter Kent, three years prior to approving Shillito's interpretation of the St. Helen's Well boring, had joined Louis and Mary Leakey's early investigation of the Olduvai Gorge in East Africa where, after many years of work, they eventually discovered early hominid fossils. He became Chief Geologist at BP (1966 – 1971), was co-author of a book, 'The Geology of Lincolnshire', and was knighted in 1973.



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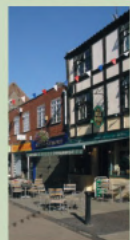
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# An update from St. John the Evangelist Church, Brigg

Following the move of Fr. Owain Mitchell and his wife Claire to New Mills a lot has happened - not least Covid-19! For the first few weeks we were without Rev. Andrew Ballard who was hospitalised in Sheffield. Rev. Mike Burson-Thomas was a fantastic support for many weeks until he finally retired to move back to The New Forest.

During Lockdown we have been pleased to be able to join the Zoom services led by Malcolm Bailey and Kate Ellis of The Methodist Church.

We have now resumed a reduced service plan on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. There will be a service in church

at 9.30am. Social-distancing, hand-sanitising and masks will be required. Other Sundays will continue with Zoom services until further notice. We have tried to keep in contact with all members of our community. There will be no Remembrance Service in church this year and Christmas Carol services etc. are likely to be affected.

Some members have been involved with the Brigg Food Bank supplies as there have been no Thursday refreshments, Saturday Market functions, quiz, or other fundraising events.

Pam Braithwaite.



## Brigg Methodist News

Who would have thought a few months back that our churches would close for worship? The last service held was Sunday 1st March 2020 but through our Senior Steward, Malcolm Bailey, and our co-host, Kate Ellis, we have been able to continue to worship every week through

the medium of Zoom. Not only that, but friends from the Methodist Circuit, St John's, St Mary's, around the UK and the world, including family and friends from Kuala Lumpur, Canada and Portugal, have also been able to join us. We have had as many as 130 people connected to the services though numbers have now dropped to 60+ since some churches have reopened for worship. For those with no access to the internet, it was found that a landline telephone could be used and some took advantage of this; even though they couldn't see us they could still join in worship. Others with no access have been receiving weekly letters and updates from Revd. Peter Thomas. We give thanks to God for keeping us connected to each other through technology - a learning curve for a lot of us.

The good news is that the church was open for the first time since lockdown for our Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 27th September. The Zoom service was streamed to the church for those who felt they wanted to meet physically. All rules and regulations were adhered to so as to keep all safe. The church looked

very different with chairs spaced apart, but we trust that this will meet the needs of our congregation. Instead of bringing gifts to display in Church, some of us brought cars to our car park on Saturday September 26th where gifts were placed directly into car boots and taken to Brigg Foodbank Store - 36 bags were collected - to be distributed to those in need. Also, £230.00 was donated which will be used to provide fresh fruit and vegetables as needed.

Sadly, on the 31st August, the Revd. Nichola Jones moved to a new circuit in Nottingham. Not quite the farewell service she would have received during 'normal' times but a service was held at Barton Trinity Methodist Church with a handful of people socially-distanced; a large church like Barton Trinity was easily able to accommodate. It was a joyful service though a sad occasion which saw Revd. Nichola move on after four years service. If anyone was ill or in hospital Revd. Nichola would be there, and as one person remarked, "sometimes before the ambulance!" She will be greatly missed.

During the interim period, before the next Methodist year (starting September 2021), Revd. Angie Long, Superintendent Minister of Scunthorpe & Epworth, will be in charge of the Circuit with the help of Revd. Louise Carr, from Wolds and Trent, and Revd. Neil Vickers from Grimsby & Cleethorpes. The Revd. Peter Thomas will remain Minister at Brigg until August 2021.

Sylvia Thomas - See us on Facebook



# News from the Villages

## *My #poshrock walk in aid of All Saints Church, Cadney*

*By Debbie Clark*

As is the case with many churches, although we get money from collections during the services, donations from visitors and other small ways of raising money to keep the church running, the PCC often needs to find yet more to help boost funds through the year to help with maintenance and running costs.

When all the churches had to close during Lockdown, all our regular sources of income stopped. We had a parish-wide Open Gardens event organised for June, a share of which would have been received by Cadney church, and other events planned which would have helped keep funds not affluent, but enough to cover expenses.

The PCC members had chatted a bit about how they could still do some fundraising while it was still Lockdown as funds were really low. As I put together the parish newsletter and was writing the May issue, again asking for donations to Cadney church, an idea popped into my head. Why not find something for them to sponsor? A little bit of googling later and I saw that Cadney to Lincoln Cathedral is 27 miles. If I walked from Howsham to Cadney and back again each day for a week I could cover the same distance as a sponsored walk from Cadney to the Cathedral. I put all this in the newsletter ready for sending it out the next morning, Thursday 30th April.

On Friday 1st May, when my husband got up for work at 4.30am and I would normally go straight back to sleep, my brain started whirring. I needed something to make my walks stand out from the crowd. Then it came to me; FROCKS! I am the sort of person who very rarely wears dresses or skirts except for special occasions, so I decided to walk in the sort of dresses I would wear to a special church occasion such as a wedding or christening.

In 2016, to celebrate our silver wedding anniversary, my husband and I renewed our vows at Cadney church. The dress I wore for that kicked-started the week and



on Monday 4th May I set off from the Howsham sign at the very end of the street and did my walk complete with walking boots and my first #poshrock. Each day, I went to the end of the street and we took a photo of me in my #poshrock and another when I reached Cadney church. I posted it on Twitter and Facebook and my son, Stephen, who is quite handy with a video camera, filmed me along the some sections of the way. He edited them into films for the Facebook page (Cadney and Howsham news) and we shared them with some other local Facebook pages and they began to get a number of viewings and comments.

As the week went along, people started turning out to wave as I went past or to hand over donations. I started at 10.30am each day and wore a different #poshrock each day. As they waved at me I started filming people and on Wednesday 6th May we posted a 'waving' film. It was a beautiful day, we have lovely countryside all around and it was great to show so many happy, cheerful people out and about, giving me a wave but still socially distanced of course. This was received well, my son did an excellent job editing it all together and for the rest of the week we did more films showing the people I met rather than what I was doing.

The local paper, the Market Rasen Mail, wrote an article about it and BBC Radio Humberside kept giving it a mention. My friend told me to listen in on the

Thursday morning. She had emailed the station to give me a 'shout out' and the presenter, Amanda White, read out a really lovely email, saying 'I was lifting everyone's spirits' and reminding everyone to come and give me a wave. That day I received 6 donations before I left Howsham. I had decided to wear a wedding outfit complete with a hat that day. I kept doing some filming but I had borrowed my son's video camera that day and my efforts didn't quite go to plan. I hadn't quite got the hang of the video camera and didn't have anything like as many clips as I thought. Stephen later made an amusing film, making fun of my lack of clips. When I had almost reached the end of the walk, I saw a man with his lorry. He had collected some lunch from our village café which was still open for takeaways. I explained that I didn't normally wear this to go for a walk but that I was doing a sponsored walk. He replied 'I know, I heard about you on the radio.' He reached in his pocket, and said 'I only have £2, will this be ok?' I replied that all donations were appreciated.

While I was still out walking on Thursday, my friend messaged me to ask if I could call someone at BBC Radio Humberside. I rang and they asked if I would talk to someone on the breakfast show on Saturday about what I had been doing? I agreed. Anything to reach more people and hopefully get more donations.

Meanwhile, on Friday the 8th, a wonderfully sunny day, my husband and son agreed to come with me as it was the last day and Stephen would do some filming following the previous day's disaster. It was the VE day celebrations. The bunting everywhere and loads of people were out as we passed giving us a wave and more donations. The day before, on Thursday's walk, as I approached Cadney I could see a child coming up to the gate and going back again. When I got there and said "Hello", some of the family were out and mum, Maria, said "they were hoping they hadn't missed you, they wanted to wave and see if they could get on today's film." When we arrived in Cadney on Friday the whole family (there are four lovely children) was ready for us, sitting on the gate and waving so we filmed them as we went past. Maria commented later on the Facebook post: 'Fabulous, well done Debbie you have brought everyone together in a time when we're having to be physically apart, all the while raising money for our wonderful church, well done xx.' As we came round the corner on Vicarage Lane, Cadney, we could hear voices and a group of people had waited for us to arrive and to give us a round of applause when we got to them.

On Saturday morning, as I waited to go BBC Radio Humberside, I heard the presenter, Kofi Smiles, say: "And we are about to speak to our 'Hero of the Week'." Me! I did the interview which had been instigated by my friend, Julie. Stephen then made one final video



*By  
Hannah  
Dale*

which he asked me to review. The clever lad had put all of my 'Hero of the Week' interview over a collection of clips from the week. All of the films he edited were good but this was really great. All of the films are on the Cadney and Howsham Facebook page and from this week they are all on You Tube too (search Cadney and Howsham). My parents (and lots of other people) are not on Facebook but wanted to watch them, so we did this so that everyone can see them.

It really was a very special week. The weather was fine all week but got sunnier as the week went along. Each day the walk took longer as more people stopped to wave or have a quick chat. A couple from Cadney, Graham and Terry, decided to do my walk in reverse and each day set off from Cadney at 10.30am. We passed somewhere in the middle both on the way there and on the way back. I met another couple midweek who had set off from Cadney knowing they would meet me somewhere on the way so that they could hand over a donation. I knew we had lots of special people in both villages but my week of walking emphasised that. It has been very humbling to hear all the kind things people have said. A card I received on the last day had a donation inside and it read: 'You are a star! Well done with your walks – you look fabulous in a dress (& hat)'. I had told them earlier in the week that I wasn't very comfortable wearing dresses but hoped by doing something a bit different it would catch people's attention and raise more money.

I have always loved walking around here. Whichever direction you take, it is beautiful countryside. I haven't worn anymore frocks, posh or otherwise, but I have kept up going for a decent length walk, only not just to Cadney every day. We raised over £700 from my week of walks. If you would like to donate the bank account details are Account name: Cadney cum Howsham PCC. Sort code: 54-41-26. Account Number: 48262390.



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### Christmas Sudoku

5	6	9	4	7	3	1	2	8
8	3	2	6	1	5	4	7	9
4	1	7	9	2	8	6	5	3
1	7	5	8	6	2	3	9	4
6	4	8	3	5	9	2	1	7
2	9	3	7	4	1	8	6	5
9	2	4	1	8	7	5	3	6
3	5	6	2	9	4	7	8	1
7	8	1	5	3	6	9	4	2

## Lincolnshire charity LIVES proudly celebrates 50 years of saving lives

This year Lives, Lincolnshire's community First Responder charity, is turning 50! It has come such an incredibly long way from when it was founded all those years ago by Drs. Cooper and Harper-Smith. Today we have an army of dedicated Responders who come from all walks of life but give hours each month to respond to 999 medical emergencies in their local community.

As we all know, Lincolnshire is an incredibly unique county because of its rural landscapes and country roads. However this can cause problems for many ambulance crews trying to respond to a patient in need when time is critical. This is where LIVES Responders make the difference day in, day out. Because they are based in the very heart of the communities that they look after, they can be at a patient's side within minutes, more often than not assessing the patient and delivering the first medical treatment.

Of course we had big plans for celebrating our landmark anniversary this year but unfortunately a global pandemic put paid to that! We were lucky enough though to be able to invite Responders and supporters alike to join us for a socially-distanced celebration and also enjoy some cake. It was lovely to be able to greet people and hear the stories of their involvement with the charity over the years. It is something we look forward to doing a lot more of next year.

Although COVID-19 put a stop to a lot of our plans, it didn't stop our Responders from looking after their local communities. As the nation settled in to lock-down, large numbers of our Responders signed up to help the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum. This saw them going out to visit the most vulnerable people in their communities and delivering food and medical packages as well as performing welfare checks in full PPE.

They were always ready to respond at a moment's notice. We are very proud of all of our Responders and the work that they do, but we can only continue to do this with the support of people like you. If you would like to find out more about LIVES then visit our website or drop us an email at: fundraising@lives.org.uk. You can see more of what we are up to as well as ways in which you can support our charity.



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# Brigg Live Arts

It seems a very long time since Brigg Live Arts had to make the decision to postpone all of its programmed events for 2020. Since then, the committee has been monitoring the situation closely and will continue to do so as it does its best to rearrange dates as soon as possible. Hopefully the B-Natural's Singing Workshop, Brigg Live Arts Fest, the Art Exhibition and Sale of Work, and the concert featuring the amazing Wilson Family, will all take place in 2021. It is also possible that, as members of the committee put on their 'creative hats', smaller or on-line events will be planned that are manageable within Government guidelines.

There are two important things to remember. Firstly, that Brigg Live Arts is here to continue to promote the arts in the Brigg area and we really welcome ideas from anyone. Secondly, that there are easy ways to make sure that everyone hears about any plans as soon as possible, particularly as advance notice might be shorter than previously been given.

A number of mailing lists exist which can be joined by emailing [brigglivearts@gmail.com](mailto:brigglivearts@gmail.com). We hope in addition to the general mailing list there is a specific mailing list for artists (2D and 3D) and also one for people who are crafters who like to sell their goods



to the public. Future events will continue to be publicised through social media so please take time to follow our page on Facebook and join our group. Then you can like and share to spread the word. Posts are also welcome from local groups, individuals and businesses as long as they are promoting the arts in the Brigg area (subject to admin approval). Posters will continue to be placed around the town where possible and a big 'thank you' goes to the

many local businesses that support us.

The Arts have been really important for many people during the last few months. Old talents have been

revisited and there has been time to try something new. People have taken to writing poetry or perhaps painting. Some have joined on-line singing events, book clubs, painting tuition and enjoyed streamed performances. If anyone wants to share details about something they have really enjoyed, or think others might be interested in, please get in touch, either through our Facebook page or by emailing, and we will do our very best to make sure more people hear about it.

Hope to see you soon and very best wishes from the Brigg Live Arts committee.



# For your entertainment & enlightenment!

November 2020 to Mid April 2021

**11<sup>th</sup> November** - Brigg Town Football Club CIC - Brigg Town V Rossington Main 7.45pm at Hawthorns

**14<sup>th</sup> November** - Brigg Wool Shop - Learn to Crochet. 10am-1pm. £50 for a three week course includes materials and refreshments. Booking required

**14<sup>th</sup> November** - Brigg Town Football Club CIC - Brigg Town V Selby Town. 3pm at Hawthorns

**25<sup>th</sup> November** - Brigg Wool Shop - Crochet Cables. £25 1-4pm includes materials and refreshments

**28<sup>th</sup> November** - Brigg Town Football club CIC - Brigg Town V Dronfield Town. 3pm at Hawthorns.

**12<sup>th</sup> December** - Brigg Wool Shop - Needle Felting Christmas. 3-6pm. £25 includes materials and refreshments. Booking required.

**12<sup>th</sup> December** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Hall Road Rangers. 3pm at Hawthorns.

**16<sup>th</sup> December** - Brigg Wool Shop - Tunisian Crochet. £25 1-4pm includes materials and refreshments.

**18<sup>th</sup> December** - Brigg Wool Shop - Wet Felting Pictures. £25. 1-4pm includes materials and refreshments. Booking required.

**26<sup>th</sup> December** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Skegness Town. 3pm At Hawthorns

**2<sup>nd</sup> January** - Brigg Town CIC - Brigg Town V North Ferriby. 3pm at Hawthorns

**13<sup>th</sup> January** - Brigg Wool Shop - Needle Felting Dogs. £25 1-4pm includes materials and refreshments. Booking required.

**16<sup>th</sup> January** - Brigg Town CIC - Brigg Town V Parkgate. 3pm at Hawthorns

**16<sup>th</sup> January** - Brigg Wool Shop - Learn to Crochet Part 1. £50 for a 3 week course, 3pm-6pm including materials and refreshments. Booking required

**18<sup>th</sup> January** - Brigg Wool shop - Starting Socks £40 for two weeks. 1-4pm. Booking required.

**27<sup>th</sup> January** - Brigg Wool Shop - Learn to Knit Part 1. £50 for a 3 week course, 1pm-4pm including materials and refreshments. Booking required

**30<sup>th</sup> January** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Campion. 3pm at Hawthorns

**13<sup>th</sup> February** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Swallownest. 3pm Hawthorns

**15<sup>th</sup> February** - Brigg wool shop - Crochet Baskets 9.30am-12.30pm £25 including materials and refreshments. Booking required.

**27<sup>th</sup> February** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Emley AFC. 3pm Hawthorns

**24<sup>th</sup> February** - Brigg Wool Shop - Tunisian Crochet 3-6pm £25 including materials and refreshments Booking reqd

**3<sup>rd</sup> March** - Brigg wool Shop - Wet Felting Pictures 1-4pm £25 includes materials and refreshments. Booking reqd

**13<sup>th</sup> March** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Winterringham Rovers. 3pm at Hawthorns

**17<sup>th</sup> March** - Brigg Wool Shop - Learn to Crochet £50 for a three week course, 1-4pm includes materials and refreshments. Booking reqd

**27<sup>th</sup> March** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Glasshoughton Welfare. 3pm at Hawthorns

**10<sup>th</sup> April** - Brigg Town FC CIC - Brigg Town V Harrogate Railway Athletic. 3pm at Hawthorns

**All subject to change due to Covid 19 restrictions**

**Brigg Town FC CIC matches subject to change. Please check on 01652 794275**

**Enquiries for The Wool Shop: Please contact Pam or Sian 01652 408632.**



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