

# **BRANGORE NEWSLETTER**

No 119

DECEMBER 2005

Published by Brangore Parish Council and distributed throughout the Parish (Brangore, Thorney Hill, Neacroft, Godwincroft, Holmsley South, Heathfield, Hinton & Beckley)

## **BRANGORE PARISH COUNCIL**

You have all probably noticed that the extension to the Village Hall is growing quickly. The builders tell us that the recent rain has put the build back by a week. By the time you read this the beams will have been put in to join the two parts of the Hall together so that the building will have been made water tight.

The Parish Council is to move its office from Oaktree Parade to the Village Hall when building is completed. Some people will think this is a retrograde step. The Village Hall is known by some as the Village Centre – this will live up to its name. Many people use the Hall and the playing field. There is also a car park outside the door. The present office is rapidly becoming outgrown. It has been very beneficial to have the office there for the past six years, but we have to move on. We need more space.

The Parish Clerk has had the External Audit passed first time. I personally think this is a great achievement as it is the first audit that she has done. We must congratulate her on her success and without incurring any monetary penalties which the auditors charge if they have to make phone calls or write letters. Well done.

We have been asked by the Women's Institute for information to update the village historical records. Photographs of the village, past and present, would be appreciated. Could you please loan them to the Parish Council so they can be copied and returned to you.

The Parish Council Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2006 in the Village Hall will have a guest speaker, Penny Velander. She is Community Planning Officer for the New Forest District Council, employed to help parishes and towns to compile plans for their own village/town. This enables people who live there to have a say in how their parish develops. It is hoped that at least one or two people from each organisation in the village will attend to hear what she has to say and help with input into a plan for our village.

Christmas is nearly upon us. May I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS** are held in the Village Hall. Meetings start at 7.30 pm and include a democratic half-hour:

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January    Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February    Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Clerk to the Parish Council : Mrs Clarke – Office number 01425 674155

SALLY OWEN  
Chairman 672596

### **DOG BYELAWS - A Timely Reminder**

Bransgore Parish Council's new dog byelaws came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005. The Parish Council will soon be employing the Dog Warden and people found committing an offence will be fined. Booklets giving full details of the new byelaws are available from The Information Office at 1A Oaktree Parade at a cost of 20p each. To summarise the new byelaws:-

#### Bransgore Recreation Ground – Burley Road, Bransgore.

Dogs are prohibited on the Pitches and Playing areas.

On the rest of the recreation ground dogs must be kept on a lead and canine faeces removed.

#### Playing Field at 'School Site' (Cricket Pavilion grounds), Burley Road, Bransgore

Dogs are prohibited in the whole of the site.

#### Clare Lodge Woodland – Brookside Road, Bransgore.

Dogs must be kept on a lead and canine faeces removed.

*Who commits the offence? This is the person charge of the dog at the time of the offence. This is either the person who habitually has control of the dog, or the person who has control of the dog for the time being.*

These byelaws have been brought in for the health and safety of those people, and dogs, using these areas. If you are in charge of a dog please be considerate of others. The Council provides 'poop scoop' bins in these and other areas of the village, and free 'poop scoop' bags (packs of 10) are available at the information office. Let's keep the village a clean and pleasant environment.

MRS S CLARKE  
Clerk to the Parish Council.

## **VILLAGE HALL EXTENSION**

The Village Hall extension is up to schedule and weather permitting should be ready for use by the beginning of March 2006. We hope you all feel as excited as we do as you watch it take shape. The new toilets and kitchen will have a modern feel and the whole building will now have disabled access.

The new fees for 2006 will be deferred until March 1<sup>st</sup> so that the new Hall can come into use at that time but for those who have new subscriptions to set the rise is likely to be 5% to cover the large rise in all utility bills.

LIZA WOOD  
Parish Councillor

## **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **People like *you* Link Care**

**If you or someone you know, have some time and space in your/their life and enjoy the company of children you/they could be a Family Link Carer**

Hampshire County Council is looking for new **Family Link Carers**, to offer regular, planned respite for families who have children with disabilities and special or complex needs.

If you have some experience with children – your own or someone else's, and think this is something you would like to do – give us a ring and find out more about it.

You can be single, married or in a partnership; a parent or grandparent; working, on benefits or retired. All sorts of people are family link carers and most of them say it is one of the most rewarding things they have ever done.

For more information phone: **Sue Evans on 023 80877840**

## **BRANSGORE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and are having a great Autumn term so far. The past few months have been a busy period for the BSA, beginning a few weeks after the start of the school term with our annual Community Day event. This was a tremendous success, not only with respect to the weather (it was actually sunny for once!) but also for the fantastic support we had from parents, children and teachers at our DIY weekend! We had over 70 people helping out over the two days in early October and we were able to get a huge amount done – assembling a new greenhouse, building 13 planters and 3 raised beds, painting all the benches and sheds in bright

colours, repairing and painting the pond fence, digging and planting most of the flower beds and much, much more. Over 100 different jobs were completed by husbands with their power tools, Mums with their spades and forks and children with their paintbrushes and trowels. A big, big thank you to everyone who helped out.

The Community Day was followed by our annual fireworks display at the Three Tuns. This is our biggest fund-raiser and again, we were able to raise over £3,000 for the school. The event was a great success and was extremely popular. This year was the 400 year anniversary of Guy Fawkes' unfortunate demise and we wanted to make sure this year's display was better than ever. Hopefully it was and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly. As the forecast for the weekend was torrential rain and high winds we were extremely lucky to get a dry evening and many of us were wondering what we would do in the event it proved too wet or windy to hold the event. A big thank you to the Three Tuns for all their help and support and a big thank you to everyone who helped out on the day and on the Saturday afterwards with all the cleaning up.

Our Christmas Fair was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December. This is always a popular event for parents and children of the school. This year there will be the usual Santa's grotto where the children will get to meet Santa Claus. We will also have the ever popular Secret Room where the children will have an opportunity to buy pocket money presents for their Mums, Dads and Grandparents in an environment where no grownups are allowed. There will also be the usual stalls to buy Christmas gifts from and a games room. And of course there will be our fantastic raffle with some excellent prizes! Please come along and I am sure you will have a great time.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> December we will be holding our Winter Children's disco. We will be holding 2 sessions, one for the younger children in the afternoon and a second session in the early evening for the older kids. The disco is always popular and is a great opportunity for parents to get some Christmas shopping done whilst their children dance to the latest hits.

(The above 2 events will probably have taken place by the time this Newsletter is available).

Anyway, I hope to see you at one of our events soon and if not, have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

JASON HINES  
Chairman

### **ST. MARY the VIRGIN with ALL SAINTS. BRANSGORE** **CHRIST MASSACRED OR CHRISTMAS SACRED ?**

In my family every Christmas we observe a number of traditions that have grown up over the years. Some of the traditions will be shared by many other families and some will be considered to be a little weird!

As a child, teenager and even as a young man the deal was that we could get Mum and Dad out of bed at 7am on Christmas day. Of course in our younger days my sister and I had been up all night hoping to catch a glimpse of Santa but he was very elusive even then! The night before bread had been placed on the back lawn for Rudolf and his team, and mince pies and whisky had been left out for Santa along with a few letters confirming to him that my sister and I had indeed been very good that year and deserved the entire contents of the local toy shop in Lymington, delightfully called back then The Pooh Shop.

Even back in the 1970's I always wondered how my Dad knew for certain that Santa drank whisky! But year after year that glass of whisky had always disappeared by 7am on Christmas day.

At 7am the fun began! It would always take another 15 frustrating minutes to get my father out of bed before we could quietly and gently creep downstairs with only a small torch to lead the way (just in case Santa was still there, we didn't want to frighten him!). Year after year Santa had been. We were lucky, even in "prosperous" Lymington we knew of families that Santa forgot to visit every year.

Presents would be opened, there was always an orange and a few nuts to remind us that that was all my Mum and Dad ever got from Santa as children, breakfast of ham and eggs enjoyed (always ham and eggs – no idea why?) and the frantic rush to get to the 9.30 Family Communion service at St Thomas' Church. We were always allowed to take one toy into church with us on Christmas day as long as it didn't fire missiles! Following church there was a rush to grandparents followed by a return home to a ceremony we called "The Wall". Our neighbour at the bottom of the garden would meet us there following the sounding of the Last Post by my father on his RAF bugle from the top bedroom window. At "The Wall" drinks and Christmas greetings would be shared for an hour or so in the company of now (35 years since it started) 20 or so neighbours and family members. This would be cut short by the inevitable cries that the turkey was done and if we didn't get inside soon the dinner would be ruined. We said our prayers of thanks, we ate, we talked, we laughed, we shared, we toasted the family members whom we had lost that year and others from previous years. At 3pm we watched the Queen, all stood for the National Anthem in our living room and then relaxed for an hour or two before the evening festivities began.

I am lucky. Christmas brings happy memories for me. Others I know of were not so lucky. My prayers and thoughts have always been with those at Christmas for whom it really isn't a happy time. Only this week I heard of someone who just wanted to go to bed on December 24<sup>th</sup> and wake up on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Today life has changed a little. Dad is now someone we toast along with almost all of the others who gave me such special childhood memories of Christmas. But I still love Christmas.

I love Christmas very much but not only for the memories, not only because I see that same excitement and wonder in my own children that I had, but because year after year, without fail, despite the repeated traditions, Christmas always changes me a little.

Each time I kneel at a crib somewhere, each time I hear the story of the nativity, each time I eat a mince pie or sing a Christmas carol, each time I recall that God has come to us as a tiny vulnerable baby boy to teach us His way of love and truth and justice and compassion, I am changed by it. Christmas changes me each year. I am a better man because of Christmas. I thank God for Christmas.

My reflection for us this Christmas is to encourage you to let it change you a little. Look for something new in Christmas and you will find it. Yes, Christmas is about children but not just the little ones. It's for all of God's children of any age. It's for you and for me.

Christ massacred or Christmas sacred? Keep it sacred, keep it close and let it change you this year. Look in your heart for that Holy baby of Bethlehem and find His way of love that we so badly need in this dark world.

If Christmas isn't found in your heart, you will not find it on the top of a Christmas tree.

Have a truly special and life changing Christmas everyone and in the words of Tiny Tim "May God bless us, one and all"

PETER Vicar

#### CHRISTMAS EVENTS TO CHANGE YOU THIS YEAR

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 10th December  | St Mary's Parish Fair 10.00 am   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> December  | All Saints Thorney Hill Carols by Candlelight at 6.30 pm, followed by drinks and mince pies  |
| 17th December<br>Aid.10am  | CAROL SINGING in the shopping parade in aid of Christian to 12 noon  |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December<br>drinks and                                      | St Mary's Carols by Candlelight at 6.30 pm, followed by mince pies.  |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> December 21 <sup>st</sup><br>and staff                      | Carol service at Woodside Lodge at 3.30 pm for the residents there   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> December<br>streets of the.                                 | Churches Together in Bransgore Carol singing around the Village. Meet Community Church 7.00 pm.  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> December<br>encourage<br>Christmas Eve<br>characters in the | St Mary's Church 4.00 pm. Interactive Nativity Play. Please all children (of any age) to come dressed as one of the story of the first Christmas |

Christmas Eve            11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St Mary's

Christmas Day

St Mary's:                8am Holy Communion  
                                 10am Morning Glory Communion service

All Saints:                9am Holy Communion BCP

On New Years Eve we will be holding a New Years Party from 7.30 pm to 12.30 am in the Parish Resource Centre at St Mary's Church. Tickets are £4 which includes a buffet meal. Please phone Peter 672327 to book your place. All Welcome.

On New Years Day the services will be as follows:

8am        St Mary's Holy Communion BCP  
9am        All Saints Matins BCP  
10am       St Mary's Holy Communion CW (No Morning Glory)

NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR CHRISTINGLE:

Sunday January 8<sup>th</sup> 10am St Mary's Christingle Service

**AFC BRANSGORE FOOTBALL CLUB**

We have four senior football teams playing in Divisions 3, 4, 8 and 9 in the Bournemouth Hayward Sunday League. Home matches are played on Sunday mornings (kick off time 10.30) on the Recreation Ground. Why not come down and give support to your local teams?

The Club trains on Tuesday evenings (19.00 - 21.00) at the Grange School in Christchurch.

If you are interested in playing for your local club or would like to help in anyway please contact Michael Harriss on 01425 673386.

**BRANSGORE & DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB**

**Timely reminder of 100 years of Rotary**

Bransgore Rotarians recently joined with civic dignitaries and club president Martin Bowles, to witness the official unveiling, by Rotary District Governor, Reg Ling, of a new clock, which has been erected to commemorate the Centenary of Rotary International. The clock, with its familiar blue and gold Rotary roundel, is situated on the prominent façade of Denisons Estate Agency in the centre of the village. President Martin said: "The clock signifies Rotary's ideal of 'Service to the Community,' which is as relevant today as it was to its founder, Paul Harris, 100 years ago".

Bransgore Rotary Club is part of a huge organisation of 1.2 million business and professional people within 31,000 clubs in 166 countries. Through this network of like minded people, both large and small projects can be undertaken in the knowledge that they will be beneficial and fair to all those concerned. For example: in response to the Asian Earthquake, as part of Rotary's disaster-preparedness project, British and Irish Rotarians have already dispatched over 800 Shelter and Aqua boxes to Islamabad where distribution will be overseen by local Rotarians. (*Shelter boxes contain a 10-persons tent, 10 sleeping bags, water purification tablets, plastic water carriers, plastic bags, cookware, a multi-fueled stove, flashlights, and an assortment of tools packed in a 49-gallon reusable plastic box*). In addition to sending emergency relief, Rotary clubs are supporting non-Rotarian volunteers currently working in Pakistan under the International Rescue Corps, a humanitarian organisation that deploys rescue and recovery experts to disaster scenes. At some point local Rotarians will be asked to sponsor reconstruction projects in the area.

To finance this and other worthy causes Bransgore Rotary Club organises and supports various fund raising activities throughout the year. The village Fun Day is a major focus for the community and the club's forthcoming annual Charity Boxing Evening is ever popular.

For more information on the club's activities and regarding the opportunity of joining in Rotary's efforts, please contact president: Martin Bowles 01425 674086 or the club's PRO: Johnnie Parry 01425 476930.

### **BRANSGORE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

As we approach Christmas and the New Year I can already look back over 2005 and see how God has been gracious to us as a church. During the year we've seen Dima, our Youth Worker, arrive with his lovely wife, Olya; we've seen more and more people coming on a Sunday morning; we've seen people more full of joy as their Christian faith grows and we look forward to what God is going to do in 2006. Just a thought for all of us this Christmas...

Had you picked up a daily newspaper in 1809, you would have read the big news that Napoleon I, emperor of France, had conquered Austria at Wagram, annexed the Illyrian Provinces (now part of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), and abolished the Papal States.

But in that same year, in France...

Louis Braille, who devised a way for the blind to read, was born.

And in Germany...

Felix Mendelssohn, the great composer of symphonies, was born.

And in England...

William Gladstone, the four-time Prime Minister and the father of public education, was born.

Alfred Lord Tennyson, the poet laureate of Great Britain, was born.

Charles Darwin, the most influential scientist of the nineteenth century, was born.

And in America ...

Edgar Allen Poe, the master poet and storyteller, was born.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, the writer and physician who developed surgical techniques still in use today was born.

Abraham Lincoln, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born.

But at the end of the year 1809, the only event anyone thought to be important was Napoleon's conquest of Austria. That was the big news.

Today, who remembers the "big news" of 1809? Hardly anyone. Napoleon's conquest is just a tiny blip on the big screen of history. But the world was changed forever by a few seemingly insignificant births which took place that same year.

The year Jesus was born, most people missed it. Only a few were aware of the cosmic implications of his presence in a manger in Bethlehem. And so it is with all of God's work. Most of it is behind the scenes—hardly ever visible. It rarely makes headlines; instead it makes a huge difference in the lives of individual people because it is eternal.

Indeed it is the same in Bransgore. Most of the hard work is done behind the scenes by a few people whether it is the youth sports or the uniformed organisations or all the other voluntary organisation represented in this magazine – It rarely makes headlines; instead it makes a huge difference to this community – thank you.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas; we invite you all to join with us as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Our Christmas services are as follows:

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm – Candlelit Carol Service

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am – Christmas Day All-age service

PHIL COLE

### NEW FOREST DISABILITY INFORMATION SERVICE



**LOOK**

**New Forest Disability Information Service  
is holding DROP IN sessions**

at

**Twin Oaks Medical Centre, Bransgore**  
on  
**1<sup>ST</sup> Wednesday of each month 9 – 11 am**

Providing **FREE** confidential information and advice to those of any age affected by disability

**Including:** Arthritis, stroke, Bad Back, Diabetes, Epilepsy, Breathlessness, Dizziness, Walking/Hearing/Sight/Learning difficulties.

**Related issues include:** Access, Blue Badge, Benefit Applications, Caring, Equipment, Holidays, Transport, Wheelchairs, etc.

**Call in for a chat – no appointment necessary. Please ask at reception**

**HELPLINE 01425 628570**

Supported by Dept. of Health

**BRANSGORE YOUTH PROJECT**

Chairperson's Report to A.G.M.

Bransgore now has a Youth Club which meets every Wednesday during term times and half terms. We are very lucky to have an excellent Leader in Charge, Margaret Armstrong, whose services we 'buy-in' from Hampshire Youth Service as well as a fantastic army of volunteers who give up their time to run the activities each week. All of our volunteers and committee members have had enhanced CRB Check (Police Checks) and will over the coming months be offered opportunities to undertake a variety of training courses.

After forming as a management committee one of our first considerations was inevitably how were we going to fund the Youth Club? We applied for grant funding from the Local Network Fund and were successful in securing £12,000 over two years in order to buy start up equipment, and to fund the Leader in Charge and train volunteers. In addition we have also been given a grant from the New Forest Community Safety Operational Group of £1,000 over the next two years and £3,000 from Hampshire County Council.

Our Operational Group, chaired by Stella Boggis, has planned a wide variety of activities for the rest of the term, including a disco for Halloween, a theatre trip at Christmas and a healthy lifestyles evening.

We opened our doors on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2005 and have from the start attracted a large number of young people. We had anticipated only having perhaps a dozen young people when we first opened but now we regularly have between 50 and 60 young people come each week. This has surprised us and demonstrates that we are meeting a previously unmet need.

Although the Youth Club is open for all young people who are of secondary school age we initially only attracted 11 and 12 year olds. As time has gone on we are

beginning to attract in a few of the older young people who have been able to tell us what they want from a Youth Club.

Each session is staffed by the Leader in Charge as well as at least 3 volunteers. The role of the volunteers is to help organise activities as well as providing a degree of supervision. Unless there is a specifically organised outdoor activity the young people are encouraged to remain within the building, but as the Youth Club is only offered on a 'drop-in' basis we cannot insist or make a young person stay in the building.

Our plans for the future are to firstly to consolidate the progress that we have already made and then perhaps looking to expand what we can offer. There have already been initial discussions about opening on a second night each week as well as organising residential weekends and competitions between Bransgore and other local youth clubs.

### **THE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE, NAOMI HOUSE**

**"A NIGHT AT THE GAUMONT"** the Revue by **"Opus 8"**, on **SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER** was a fabulous success. 150 people enjoyed the evening which was a sell-out. Several people wanted to come at the last minute, but we had sold out in October, so no luck! I did warn every one to book early!

Our thanks once again got to Lynn, John and Ben at the Carpenters Arms, as well as Paul and Connie at The Fish & Chips for their wonderful donations. The Carpenter's Arms have collected in excess of £3,000 in the past few years!

By the time you read this, we will have had a wonderful evening service called "Light up a Life" at The Priory on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, dedicated to loved ones and lost loved ones. Barbara Jefferies and her Guides shone the light for Bransgore!

The **NAOMI HOUSE** Shop in the Sovereign Centre, Boscombe is well worth a visit. If anyone has items they would like to donate, please let me know and I'll arrange collection. We can take most furniture and electrical goods, as well as good clothes and saleable bric-a-brac. We also collect **plastic red, blue and green milk bottle tops and used printer cartridges, foreign coins and stamps. Please save them and ring me - 673078.**

SHIRLEY TOBIAS  
Bransgore 673078  
NIGEL BURTON  
Chairperson 01425 673101

## **BRANGSORE COMMUNITY RESPONDER SCHEME**

### **Even faster responses to Ambulance calls**

#### *Brangsgore Community Responder Scheme*

##### **The Scheme**

We all love the rural life here in our village but there's no escaping the fact that we are further from ambulance services than others around the county. We are very pleased to announce that the Ambulance Service Community Responders scheme will soon become active here in Brangsgore. This means that when villagers call 999, Hampshire Ambulance control will despatch both an ambulance and a Community Responder, if appropriate.

The community responders are a small group of volunteers from the village who have been trained by Hampshire Ambulance Service to attend emergency calls and are able to provide care and support until the ambulance crew arrive. They will carry a variety of equipment including oxygen and a defibrillator machine that can be used to 'kick-start' hearts. As they live in the village, they could be with a patient within minutes – providing emergency care in those crucial first minutes.

##### **The People**

The Brangsgore Rotary Club has been the driving force in establishing this scheme in our village and has raised all the money necessary to buy several thousand pounds worth of equipment. They have received generous donations from people in the village over the past year, as well as support and donations from Christchurch Lions Club. Rob Payne in particular deserves our thanks.

Hampshire Ambulance Service already runs this scheme in many areas throughout Hampshire and has been very supportive in getting the scheme up and running in our village. The support has been professional and yet feels personal, and the group is grateful to the whole team there.

The volunteers come from all walks of life, such as business, engineering and various services and they share a willingness to help their community. You'll recognise them by their high-visibility jackets with Ambulance Community Responder clearly labelled on it. All responders will carry photographic identification when on call. The volunteers will have been at the Brangsgore School Christmas fair on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December to meet people and chat, and hope to be in the village one Saturday morning to do the same. If you run a village group and would like one of us to come and meet you and explain some more about the scheme, we'd love to do so, so please contact us.

The group already has a few supporters and we welcome their moral support and their offer to help raise some funds in the future. The group is a registered charity (Reg. Charity no. 1057439) and are required to be financially self-supporting and receive no funding from the Ambulance Trust or other government bodies. To keep the scheme running, we will have to raise funds each year to pay for replacing consumable items from the kit. We are hoping to soon buy every Responder their own jacket to save sharing. We also have a more ambitious plan to buy a second set of kit but that's for the future.

## **Moving Forward**

The group needs to grow in several ways. Could you help in some way? Maybe you would like to be a Responder. You need no prior medical knowledge, full training is provided and you commit as little or as much time as you like. Maybe you could buy a jacket for us - £90 is an achievable target for a small group of people, or even some individuals. Or maybe you would like to be a supporter of the group, offering to help in some way in the future. Lastly, maybe you'd just like to let us know what you think of the scheme – we'd welcome your comments.

When do we go live? Soon we hope. The volunteers are trained and security-checked with CRB, and the kit is ordered. We have yet to finalise with Hampshire Ambulance Services the precise area that we will cover – it will be something like 2 miles from the village cross-roads. And the kit needs to arrive. But we are hopeful we can do it in time for Christmas. What a great present this could be for the village!

*If you would like to contact our group, Adrian Tindall is our co-ordinator and can be reached either by phone on 07816 893458 or via email to [bransgore\\_responders@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bransgore_responders@yahoo.co.uk).*

## **PROPOSED BMX TRACK**

### *Young Men Present Their Plans to Bransgore Parish Council.*

Nine young men presented their plans for a BMX dirt track to Bransgore Parish Council. They explained that they had designed the track with three different height jumps to facilitate the different levels of competence that young people have. The Parish Councillors thanked the young men for their input and explained that they had contact with a professional firm who were coming to look at the site and give them a costing. They asked if the young people would like their plan sent to this firm with a request that the firm consulted with these young men. One young man then thanked the Council, and asked if it would be possible for them to form a working party to paint the skate ramp. This was met with enthusiasm by the Council and the caretaker offered to meet with them the following Sunday. He said that he would paint the surface of the ramp with the special paint and the outer walls with black matt. The young men would consult with him about paint colours they would like and submit designs of what they wanted to paint. Provided it was not offensive they were given carte blanche to carry on.

## **BRANSGORE METHODIST CHURCH**

**Minister – Rev. R. Clarke. BA. Telephone: 673304**

Probably by the time you read this, our Christmas Tree Festival will have happened, and, we hope, will have brought a lot of joy to our community.

We all enjoy decorating Christmas trees. As the years go by, children get very attached to (not literally I hope) the same decorations that they have grown up with – and expect them to hang in the same place on the tree every year. Although we think

that “it’s always been that way” – the decorating of fir trees is one of those traditions that goes back only as far as Prince Albert, who is supposed to have brought the idea to England. Of course, there’s no set standard for decoration – and these days everything has become more elaborate (and more expensive!) – but it seems that the tradition of a star or angel (hopefully not a fairy) taking the highest spot is well established – reminding us of the Christmas story. Behind all the images of angels, shepherds, wise men following a star, and a baby born in a stable, lies the deeper meaning about God who is with us, not far distant – and God who knows our human condition in its frailty and suffering. In the face of a dark world, we can and should celebrate our faith that Love can overcome hatred, that sadness can be lived through to find joy again, that evil can be defeated by goodness. We celebrate that God, for, for us, means that a light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. So I hope you will enjoy decorating your own tree at home, and all the other preparations for Christmas, because the coming of Love, Joy and Peace into our lives is certainly something worth making the effort to celebrate.

**SOCIAL EVENTS:**

**Coffee Morning at the Methodist Church – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Monthly – all welcome**

Rev. RICHARD CLARKE

**BRANSGORE YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

I am pleased to say that the Club continues to go from strength to strength each season.

So far this season we have been able to fulfil all our fixtures with the weather being kind to us. If you have not taken the time to watch the young people of Bransgore play in a Sunday, then please do. I am sure you will be surprised by the quality of football played through all the age groups.

We are still in the throws of trying to achieve Charter Status with the FA. There is a lot of dedication and hard work to achieve this which we have in abundance. Unfortunately it also takes a great deal of money which is something that we don’t have! But we are trying to do anything that may help us to push our dream forward.

I am pressing the Football Foundation for funds to help us supply coaching badges for all our young coaches, new kit for the players and even new goal posts. This is a very time consuming and too often disappointing exercise, but I will keep putting in requests until they get fed up with my letters and forms and give me the money just to get rid of me!!

To this end we have created a social sub-committee who are coming up with fund raising ideas that are fun. We recently held our first quiz night which was a fantastic success. As it was our first, it was only advertised within the Club. It was greatly supported by parents and Club coaches/officials alike and we would like to thank everyone for their support, with a special thanks to our sponsor on the night, Spar. Thank you again folks! Once we are feeling a little more confident, we would like to

open the quiz to the rest of the village. You can never have too many quizzes in Bransgore!

Going back to what we do best, football, some of our teams are short of players. On in particular is the Under 7s. This team is run by one of our newest and most enthusiastic coaches, Richard Wardle. So if you have a budding young Frank Lampard sitting at home on a Saturday morning, either watching telly or “playing” sport on a Playstation, then get her or him down to the recreation ground and let Richard bring out the talent hidden within! For information as to when Richard trains, please contact him on 07769540680.

You may have noticed that there is an all-girls team now training on a Saturday. We wish that we could take the credit for that, but sadly we can't. If you wish to find out more information in respect of the team, then please go to see their coach on a Saturday morning. We would love to be able to run a girls' team, but do not have a coach able to take on this commitment. If you think that this would be something that would appeal to you, then please ring the Club Secretary, Lyn, on 01425 674462. I am sorry to report that we have lost the services of one of our senior committee members, the Treasurer, Ian Payne. Ian has been our Treasurer for as long as I can recall and has put many many hours into looking after our financial situation, but work commitments have meant that Ian has had to “draw a line” under his position in the Club. May I please thank Ian on behalf of all the Club for his hard work and dedication o the Club.

We have been very lucky that the position has been filled by our newest recruit, Richard (Dicky) Dare. Dicky is the Manager of the Under 6s and so is now in the Club for a very long time (I hope!) as he is a fantastic asset to the Club in so many ways. Welcome, Dicky, and thank you for taking on the role of Treasurer.

ARF SCAIFE

### **BRANSGORE FLOWER CLUB**

At our September meeting, Dodie Stevens delighted us once again with her six beautiful flower arrangements, which certainly lived up to the title of her demonstration – “Great Expectations”.

It was a quick reshuffle for our workshop in October, as tutor Susan Cailles was unable to take it. Instead our own Carol Dove gave tuition on gift wrapping a pot plant and small bouquet. Keeping cellophane wrapping under control and making fancy bows is certainly an art! – a fun afternoon.

“Getting Ready for Christmas” was the title of our November demonstration, when, hopefully Tamaris Ryan will have given us ideas for our own festive arrangements. The year ends with our Christmas Luncheon and musical entertainment by the Pewits. To start our new year programme, we have a demonstration by Irene Hickson entitled ‘Music of the Night’, so come along and join us, you will be made very welcome.

We meet on the fourth Thursday in the month at 2.00 pm at the Resource Centre, Ringwood Road, Bransgore.

**2006 Diary Dates:**

26<sup>th</sup> January           ‘Music of the Night’ – Demonstrator Irene Hickson  
23<sup>rd</sup> February           Workshop (title to be announced) – Tutor Rosina Brandham  
23<sup>rd</sup> March               AGM followed by a speaker

**BRANSGORE BEECHNUTS JUNIOR FLOWER CLUB**

Our junior Flower Club ‘Bransgore Beechnuts’ had a very successful first year with 12 members, girls and boys, starting with basic flower arranging techniques, also a collage of dried plant material for the ‘Retreat for Winter’ exhibition at Highcliffe Castle.

Our September meeting, in this our second year, was Harvest Festival collages with leaves, followed by Fun with Berries in October and Christmas door wreaths in November.

Classes are held on the second Thursday in the month at the Resource Centre. Class times are 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm for children 8 years and upwards. £2.00 per month for entry fee.

For all details and other information, please contact Pat Clark on 01202 892950.

MARGO CROUCH

**HISTORY WITH WINGS**

Following 2005’s first Local Aviation History Fair, the Friends of the New Forest Airfields will be repeating the event on Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 2006 at Merryfield Park between 10.30 and 16.00. Once again it will be free to exhibit and free to enter. In 2005 there were 24 exhibitors from as far west as Dorchester and as far east as Essex. There were an estimated 600 visitors. Light refreshments will be available and both the entrance and flooring to the building is nice and flat so wheelchairs and buggies can be accommodated within most of the building.

We plan for the stands again to include local aviation museums, local aviation societies and enthusiasts groups, local history and archaeology societies, model clubs, authors and artists. It is hoped to run a model contest that will focus on aircraft that flew from the New Forest Airfields.

The “Friends of the New Forest Airfields” is an educational charity that runs the Fair as part of its role in promoting the study of the history of the New Forest Airfields, and those who served or worked on them from 1910 to the present day. For more information see the Friends’ web site at [www.winkton.net/fonfa.htm](http://www.winkton.net/fonfa.htm) or, better still, come and chat to us at the Fair.

And the day before the Fair is the .....

**RAF SOPLEY REUNION**

The next RAF Sopley reunion will be in Bournemouth at the Inver House Hotel on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2006. Details from Jim Fail, Flat 16, 66 Surrey Road, Bournemouth, BH4 9HU. If you used to work at RAF Sopley, why not contact the RAF Sopley Association Membership Secretary, 35 Moors Close, Hurn, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 6AL for details of the Association and its newsletter. The history of RAF Sopley is on the internet at [www.winkton.net/RAFSopley.htm](http://www.winkton.net/RAFSopley.htm).

Chairman 01425 672612

## **BRANSGORE CRICKET CLUB - YOUTH**

Congratulations to the Colts/ Club Second XI who duly won their summer league, losing only one match all season. They attended a presentation dinner at 'The Rosebowl', home of Hampshire C.C. when the divisional trophy was presented. This was a very proud moment for manager Richard Jones who has looked after this side since many of them were only 14 years old. Congratulations also to Ben Waugh who picked up the divisional batting award.

The Youth presentation night took place at the pavilion on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September when trophies were awarded to all who played for the club. It was particularly pleasant that Mrs. Joy Matthews was able to attend and present the 'Harold Matthews Trophy' in memory of her husband to the Under 11 squad who were this season's 'Team of the Year'. We were blessed with fine weather and thanks go to all who manned the barbecue, bar and raffle to make the evening a great success.

The indoor season is now almost half way through with sides representing the club at Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16. The Under 14 squad have won all their matches and the Under 12's have enjoyed a couple of fine wins. The indoor nets are booked to start next February at The Dorset Cricket Centre at Hurn. We have booked two nets between 6.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. every Thursday from 9<sup>th</sup> February 2006 until Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006 inclusive. Please contact Dave Lay to find out when each squad will be practising. We hope to run league squads at Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 17 plus a midweek evening league side.

Next summer will be the 10<sup>th</sup> season of the youth section and a number of celebratory events and 'fun' fixtures are planned. In addition, we would particularly like to trace the lads who were the original Under 11 squad (1987?) for the club, so if you were in that early side which played its home fixtures at Homefield school, please get in contact.

If there is enough interest, Vicky Lay would like to get a girls' cricket team running next summer. This would be open to girls who are currently 12 years of age or younger and would hopefully play league cricket. Please contact Vicky on the number at the end of this article if you are interested.

As ever, if your child would like to play for any of our teams, please contact me on the number below.

Dave Lay - Bransgore 673242 or e-mail [lay\\_dj@btopenworld.com](mailto:lay_dj@btopenworld.com)

## **BRANSGORE CRICKET CLUB – ADULT**

The adult XI finished fourth in their league, but has gained promotion because one of the sides above them was ineligible for promotion. This means that both first and second elevens have been promoted in the same season – a great result for the club. The club's traditional season finale against Richard Frampton's XI for 'The Bransgore Ashes' was contested on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August when the club XI narrowly defeated Richard's team. Another close fixture was ended with both sides enjoying a well-earned pint of ale.

The adult presentation night took place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September in 'The Carpenters Arms' where we enjoyed a good meal and great company whilst presenting the club trophies. The club is indebted to its umpires, scorers and tea ladies without whom life would be much more difficult.

The club has started its season in the New Forest Indoor League on Sundays at Pennington School, winning one match and losing one. A mixture of youth and 'experience' is having an enjoyable time.

Senior nets have been booked for Wednesday evenings. We will have two nets from 9.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2006 until 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006 inclusive.

If you have just come into the village or used to play or have been inspired by 'The Ashes' series and would like to play cricket in the village please feel free to contact Richard Jones on 673880 or Dave Lay on 673242. We look forward to welcoming you.

## **THORNEY HILL & BRANSGORE WI**

**President: Mrs Vera Murray**

Once again the Institute has the sad duty to report the death of a long time member, Clare Taylor, who died on 19<sup>th</sup> October after suffering a long illness. Clare had lived in the village for many years and friends will have happy memories shared with her. Forty-seven members and two guests attended the first monthly meeting after the summer recess, a good turnout considering the popular trend seems to be towards taking holidays later in the year.

Good marks all round were obtained at the New Forest Show. Well done to everyone who entered. Perhaps more members will be encouraged to "have a go" next year. In September members enjoyed a coach trip to London. A stop was made for lunch at Covent Gardens then on to the Imperial War Museum for the rest of the day. The exhibition was about how some children experienced life during the second World War. Member Maisie Long said a few words in praise of the exhibition which brought back many memories of the Blitz for her and many other members - the air raid shelters, the noise of bombs, the smoke, etc, but on the lighter side the songs, games and food. In short, the exhibition was a realistic and evocative experience.

Once again Marks and Spencer invited W.I. members to “take a look” at their new winter fashion range. This is a popular event and was well attended by members who gave feedback regarding the collection.

The September speaker was Jane Rogers whose theme for the afternoon talk was “From Goats’ Wood to Garments”. Jane and her daughter have been breeding goats and processing their fleece into garments for eighteen years. The whole talk was interesting, particularly as Jane was spinning as she talked.

In October we were invited to view the winter collection at the Edinburgh Woollen Mills and enjoyed a light meal at Stewarts Garden Centre.

October is when the draw for Institute Bursaries to Denman College, the Women’s Institute’s very own “seat of learning” takes place. The two places available were won by Helen Creese and Pauline Booth. Pauline and Helen will now have a wide choice of interesting, educational short courses to choose from – in fact, pretty well ‘spoiled for choice’.

In response to popular demand for a craft class, a six week course on Decoupage started at the end of October. This is quite challenging but very popular with the twelve members attending.

The Women’s Institute Group Quiz held at Bishops Waltham didn’t, on this occasion, produce a win for Thorney Hill and Bransgore, but again they did well against very stiff competition.

The speaker, Mrs M Emery, provided the members attending the October meeting with an extremely funny account of the many times she got lost trying to find venues with maps and instructions on “how to get there” which were at best somewhat confusing and at worst of roads which simply no longer existed.

November is traditionally the time when Institutes hold their Annual General Meeting and this can be a time of change in the W.I. President Mavis Bennett informed the meeting that she would not be standing for re-election. Committee members Molly Eaton and Peggy Pitt had also decided that the time was right for them to stand down. The quality of their unstinting contributions has been greatly appreciated by the membership. Vera Murray agreed to stand and was elected President for the next year. Vera was formerly President for several years running and is well known to the Institute and in the village. There are three new members of the Committee taking office – June Richards, Pat Morris and Audrey Pinnock. A warm welcome to all.

A big “well done” to the skittles team who have won the Women’s Institute Group match.

The quiz for the National Children’s Homes raised a very pleasing £68. Many thanks to everyone who took part.

And finally, the Institute’s Birthday Lunch – a special occasion in the year for all members. Good company and splendid food presented and served elegantly by the students of Bournemouth Catering College – what more can anyone ask?

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday in the month starting at 2.15 pm at the Resource Centre. You would be very welcome to come and join us.

BARBARA MALONE

### **BRANGSORE FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

This Autumn we have welcomed some new members to the Club and hope they continue to enjoy the meetings.

In October we celebrated 31 years with a tea with cakes provided by the Committee. Dolly Frampton made a beautiful birthday cake, and she was presented with an indoor plant as a "thank you". It was an enjoyable afternoon with many joining in the old time dancing.

At the AGM all the committee agreed to stay on for another year. One new members volunteered to join – thank you Brenda Griffiths. We are looking for a replacement treasurer in the near future. If you would like to help, you can shadow the present treasurer to get familiar with the job. You won't be thrown in at the deep end!

After our Christmas lunch on December 13<sup>th</sup>, on the following Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>,

We will be holding the Christmas raffle. There will be mince pies and an exchange of cards. Santa will be there to give you a present.

The Club meets at the Village Hall, Burley Road, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month (except August) at 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm. All over 50s welcome. £1.50 per meeting; or six months' membership £6.00. The first meeting in 2006 will be on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Details of our programme are detailed in the Diary of Events at the end of this Newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you in the new year and wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

ESTHER HARRIS

Secretary 01425 673589

### **BRANGSORE AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Bill Bowling, Secretary, 672875      Mike Burrige, Treasurer, 672900

We had a well attended AGM in October, though we would love to have more members. If any of you feel you would like to join the Association, please do so, you will be met with open arms.

The Carpenters Arms sage continues. We can now tell you that it is officially a Fullers Brewery Pub, with a new contract for Lynne and John. There is, however, a revised plan for the fenced-off area of the car park, owned by Inntown Properties, for 5 houses and 1 flat, which will come before NFDC Planning Committee in December. The Residents' Association is still fighting against this application. A copy of the most recent letter to NFDC is in the notice board outside the Post Office.

As you are probably aware, we are also in communication with NFDC concerning the status of Brangsgore in the local plan. We have been designated an **URBAN** Development area rather than a Forest Village – which is, to say the least, disturbing. Again there is a copy of our letter to NFDC in the notice board. If any of you would like to write your own letters, please do so, we need to make ourselves heard loud and clear.

One other item discussed at the AGM was noise from aircraft flying over Brangsgore. We have looked carefully into flight paths and will shortly be writing to the hierarchy

at Hurn Airport to put our case for the correct flight paths to be used, thus avoiding the centre of Bransgore.

We will keep you all posted on these matters, so please keep an eye on the notice board.

Meantime, we wish all Bransgore residents a very happy festive season.

JUNE RICHARDS  
01425 672183

## **BRANSGORE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

First, as the time of good cheer approaches oh so quickly, may we wish you all a very happy Christmas and our very best wishes for 2006.

Maybe we will have seen you at our Christmas party (December 1<sup>st</sup>), if not, we hope to see you at the lecture 'Look Where You Tread' on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **AUTUMN LECTURES**

**September – 'Primulas and Auriculas'** by Alan Edmonson

Unfortunately I missed this lecture and, as is always the case in these situations, it seems I missed a really interesting night. I can only hope that you made it and enjoyed it.

**October = 'Growing and Enjoying Camellias'** by Jennifer Trehane

If you have been fortunate enough to hear Jennifer on her previous visits to us, you will not need to be told that this was definitely a night not to be missed. There were many tips given of which I will give just a couple which I thought were particularly good and easy to remember :-

If there are few buds it usually means large flowers to come

Buds all the same size – all flower together over short flowering burst

Buds of many different sizes – flowers over a long period

Take cuttings July or Christmas

**November (following the AGM) - 'Gardens of Kent'** by Douglas Patterson

For those of us who did not go on the three day trip to the gardens of Kent, this was our chance to see what we'd missed. In fact, speaking for myself, I'm sure I saw a lot more than I missed (what an odd statement) as Douglas always notices so much more than I on these trips. Thanks Douglas for your talk and the lovely coloured slides of the gardens.

### **HIGHGROVE VISIT (August)**

This was a really unexpected and delightful highlight of the year for a lucky few of our members. At short notice we were allocated a slot for a limited number to visit the Prince's lovely garden and, after a trawl to see who would like to be included, names were chosen by lot. The rest of us will have to hope there is another opportunity some time (not in the near future, I'm afraid).

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (November 4<sup>th</sup>)**

For those of our members who were unable to make it to the AGM, here is a short summary of the main items.

- The Chairman, John Snelling, thanked the committee and members of the Society for their enthusiastic support which had seen all our events so well attended over the year. Particular mention was made of the following :
- Mark Dove's efforts as Show Secretary over the years which had seen year on year improvements to the shows. Both Mark and Carol would be greatly missed now they had moved away from Bransgore.
- The excellent work of Tony Skeggs who had taken over as Show Secretary, at fairly short notice, and had managed to win a Large Gold award in the Hampshire Federation's Show of the Year competition.
- The continued dedication of our Honorary Secretary, Peter Foulds, who seems to take on more work every year. Also Dennis Swallow for his organisation of the three day visit to Kent.
- The 'Open Gardens Committee' for a very enjoyable and well organised event which raised £2000 for the charities Naomi House and New Forest Disabled Driving.
- Roy Stanley's hard work as a committee member and Lectures Secretary over the years and in appreciation of this, Roy and his wife Margaret had been offered, and accepted, life members of the Society.

The committee and officers of the Society were, with the exception of retiring members Mark Dove and Roy Stanley, re-elected.

Following the business of the AGM Douglas Patterson took us around the gardens of Kent (see November lecture above).

## **FUTURE EVENTS and Dates for your Diary**

An early reminder first for you artists, photographers and handicraft people to use the winter months to plan and prepare your entries for the **Spring Show (April 1<sup>st</sup>)**. The titles for the photographs are 'Celebration' – unmounted and 'Treasure' – mounted.

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>** Lecture - 'Look Where You Tread' by Bert Wason F.R.P.S.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>** Lecture - 'A Garden for all Seasons' by Irene Bowron of Macgregors Nursery

The above lectures will take place at The Resource Centre, St Mary's Church, at 7.30 pm.

JIM DUDLEY  
Publicity Officer 673202

## **6<sup>th</sup> CHRISTCHURCH (BRANSGORE) SCOUT GROUP**

The **Beavers** have had a very full and active programme, linked with the training programme and environment. They visited the Fire Station and enjoyed learning all about their valuable job.

As usual the **Cubs** have had a very busy time with lots of outings and district events. The Pack won the District Swimming Competition, and participated with the Scouts

in the Group competitions and won that too! Well done boys. They played superbly in the 5 a side football competition and got to the final but lost on penalties. We were very proud of their efforts.

The theme for this term is Attitudes and Beliefs, and much of the programme is therefore built around this. They have made a number of visits including The Christchurch Priory, Fire Station and The Electrical Museum, and had visiting speakers including The Rev Peter Rickman, the Vicar of St Mary's Bransgore. The evenings are always fun, and the boys particularly enjoyed the halloween games. The **Scouts** have been focusing their Programme on cycle maintenance as part of their Cyclist Badge, and preparations for the District Cooking competition in January. We have such a high standard that we have been running various cooking competitions to select our team to represent Bransgore.

The troop came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the District Swimming competitions and third in the 5 a side football.

We have a thriving Scout group which provides a challenging and exciting programme of activities for the young boys of the village. A great deal of effort is put in by all the leaders and helpers to make this possible. All the leaders and helpers are volunteers. However we need more help, even just 2 hours a week or once a month would be welcome, either with the committee, looking after the finances and infrastructure of the group, or with the individual sections. If you would be interested, or like more information, please give me a call.

**Enquiries:**

|                                |                       |              |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Beavers:                       | Lesley Manley         | 01425 672667 |
| Cubs :                         | Ginny Hebden          | 01425 674721 |
| Scouts :                       | Mike Manley           | 01425 672667 |
| Marquee Hire:                  | Sue and Dennis Hughes | 01425 672019 |
| Scout HQ and Ann's Lodge hire: | Liz Holroyd           | 01425 673398 |

GRAHAM PEDDER  
Group Scout Leader 01425 672914

**THORNEY HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**THE HALL IS NOW OPEN FOR BOOKINGS**

**New Heritage Area building in pleasant National Park setting  
with large Function Hall, seating for 100, plus office and store, ample kitchen  
facilities, large car park, very reasonable rates**

**Enquiries: Violet Doe – 01425 673554  
(or Violet at Moss the Chemist)**

### **SCAD (Sopley Camp Anti-Development) COMMITTEE**

The late summer saw much building activity on the camp with the refurbishment of single storey units on the edge of the site.

Letters of concern over the residential use of one of the buildings have been lodged with the NFDC Planning Enforcement Officer. In reply to these letters, the committee has been informed that the building is being inhabited by a training company with whom the department is in correspondence with regards to breach of planning permission.

New Forest District Council are also liaising with the owners of the site in respect of other alleged breaches of planning control

SCAD's ongoing aim is to ensure that the NFDC's planning policies are adhered to in relation to the use of the camp and to prevent residential development continuing. We would therefore be grateful for residents' continued support as regards to further advancements.

JULIA BUCKINGHAM  
(Publicity Secretary)

### **BRANGORE THEATRE GROUP**

Our Autumn season began in September when we visited Salisbury Playhouse to enjoy "To Kill a Mockingbird". Almost without exception our members recalled the film which starred Gregory Peck as the defence attorney, and it was interesting to hear that the book on which the film and play were based is now essential reading for school children's examinations, hence a large number of young people in the audience.

The next production in a much lighter vein was "Thoroughly Modern Millie" at the Mayflower. The leading lady gave a most vigorous and hard working performance which was supported by a competent cast which included Lesley Joseph of "Birds of a Feather" TV fame. In a survey conducted some time ago to assess our members' preferences, musicals came top and Modern Millie responded to their wishes.

In an effort to cater for all tastes we chose to return to the Mayflower to see the award winning play by Robert Bolt "A Man for All Seasons" in which Paul Schofield had played the lead in London years before. This time Thomas More was interpreted by Martin Shaw, but regretfully the nuances of the play were lost, as wherever we were seated, Martin was inaudible. The very essence of this play is the verbal jousting between More and Oliver Cromwell and obviously Martin's time on TV as Judge John Deed had done little to help him meet the demands of the theatre. We were all very disappointed and our displeasure has been conveyed to the Mayflower by letter. Later in November we will visit the Lighthouse at Poole for a comedy with an excellent cast which includes Rosemary Leach and Francis Matthews. We hope that "The Kingfisher" will enable us to forget our unfortunately experience at Southampton.

Our season closes with a return to Poole for a concert given by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra entitled "A New Year's Viennese Gala". We hope that this will be a welcome way to usher in the New Year.

LESLIE SEWELL  
Hon. Secretary 01425 674026.

## **CROQUET**

Are you interested in playing croquet?

In 1962 the Burley Croquet Club was founded – now a new club is being formed in Bransgore by the pavilion on the cricket field. We need enthusiastic new members. Come and try playing. The first three sessions are free! Thereafter an annual subscription of just £60. All you need are flat soled shoes – the club can lend you a mallet and give tuition.

Play will be on Mondays and possibly Thursdays and Saturdays from May to September/ October.

For further information, please telephone June Robb – 01425 402294, or Miles Rich – 01425 672776.

## **BRANSGORE PROBUS CLUB**

Mildred Bromelow has been working in the poor country of Rwanda. Since 1959 there has been sporadic violence between the Hutu and the Tutsi. Gradually peace has come between the groups, but coffee, tea and mineral resources are still being developed. Aids is rampant and the virus still kills some 2,285,000 annually. The problems of Rwanda are not really mentioned and one could not but think that there is still a serious problem in this sad country.

Once again October saw the Annual General Meeting. The financial year was duly dealt with together with new Committee members. As usual this took no time at all and then we were on to the speaker of the day. This was Joy Forrow from the Hampshire County Council. She produced a summary of our consumer rights and advised us on staying safe and secure in our own homes. We would like to believe that we do not buy goods or services at our doors but unfortunately this is not always the case.

On 1<sup>st</sup> November our committee held their luncheon – a very pleasant time for all and the chance to meet with our ladies.

On 8<sup>th</sup> November once again Doug Patterson gave one of his talks, this time about Bransgore – a small village that has grown considerably over the last twenty years or so

.

## **BRANSGORE LUNCH CLUB**

*Urgently needed*

### **DRIVERS. HELPERS. CAKE-MAKERS**

**Once a month for 2-3 hours on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday**

**Please contact Shirley Tobias 01425 673078 or Pat Newman 01425 673678**

## **BRANSGORE EVENING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**

After our Summer break we started our Autumn season with a BBQ at Anderwood in the New Forest in September with members, families and friends enjoying a lovely afternoon

At the beginning of November several members went off to The Mayflower Theatre in Southampton to see 'Annie'. On November 10<sup>th</sup> we held our Fashion Show jointly in aid of the Oakhaven Hospice and our own chosen charity, the Red Cross. This was an excellent evening with the audience being entertained at half time by belly dancers!

As usual we have had speakers at each of our meetings which included 'Strange Phenomena and odd Experiences', 'Life as a Town Crier' and 'My Life as a freelance comedy writer' At our November meeting we created Christmas cards.

In December we took part in the Christmas Tree Festival at the Methodist Church when trees will be decorated in Christmas Carol themes, our being 'We Three Kings'. Townswomen's Build is held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at the Resource Centre in Bransgore at 8.00 pm. We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested please come along or give Melissa, our Chairperson, or Gill, our Secretary on 674065 or 67224 respectively.

## **BRANSGORE TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

This year members of the Twinning Association led by our ever stalwart Committee Members are clearly inspired by thoughts of Christmas and will be decorating a Christmas tree in the porch of the Baptist Church. The theme is to be " *Angels from the Realms of Glory*" and the colour scheme selected are to be blue and white. All members are invited to attend and will be able to view our display of artistic talent in conjunction with other village organisations who will be decorating a Christmas tree to their own design.

As refreshments will also be available how can you (and the children) possibly resist? Hope to see you there!

### Christmas Soiree on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Judith and Malcolm Allebon have once again kindly extended an invitation to members of the Twinning Association to join them at 'Ty Gwyn' at 7.30pm where you will enjoy mulled wine and mince pies and have the opportunity to raise the roof with Christmas carols. Offers of home made mince pies or savoury specialities will be

warmly welcomed. It was a most enjoyable evening last year so please be sure to contact Judith and Malcolm on 01425 672867 and let them know that you wish to exercise a very lusty tenor or bass voice.

Quiz Evening on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2006

Judith Allebon is seeking members to join her at Ringwood who need not be past winners of Mastermind or Brain of Britain (although on reflection this will be considered to be an excellent curriculum vitae). I can thoroughly recommend everyone who has not attended a quiz evening to have a go and who knows you may well become addicted! Please ring her for further details. By the way (sotto voce) Judith is brilliant!

French Twinners visit on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2006

To remind everyone that we will be celebrating *21 years of association* with Saint Georges Montcocq.

A reception to which our Parish Councillors have been cordially invited will be held in our newly extended Village Hall to assist in the welcome of our French friends. During the afternoon tea and suitable refreshments will be provided and we are then intending to relax and enjoy the continued company of our friends at home.

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April a trip is to be organised on the reinstated Swanage steam railway.

We will enjoy Sunday lunch on the train. We can assuredly look forward to a memorable week-end.

DAPHNE M. CRISP  
Publicity Secretary  
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## **NEWS FROM AVON TYRRELL ACTIVITY & RESIDENTIAL CENTRE**

After a very busy Summer, the highlight of which was the opening of our 3 new splendid 6 berth lodges by The Princess Royal, we are looking forward to our Christmas supper and carols on 16<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets sold out very quickly and we are sorry that we have had to disappoint many of our supporters.

Early in the New Year we are planning to open a new off road (mountain) bike track in 15 acres of the woods at Avon Tyrrell. This will be suitable for all ages. A day permit will cost £2 per person, or the track can be hired for the whole day for sole use events.

We have an updated website at [www.avontyrrell.org.uk](http://www.avontyrrell.org.uk) with full details of our accommodation and activities and the latest news/jobs.

R.L.BONNEY  
Centre Director