

BRANGORE NEWSLETTER

No 120

MARCH 2006

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BRANGORE PARISH COUNCIL

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

The extension to the Village Hall is all but finished. Sir George Meyrick has agreed to open it for us at 3 pm on Saturday, 18th March. 2.30 pm for 3 pm for the official opening.

There have been one or two teething troubles and there are sure to be more, as with any new project. I hope you all like the new extension and will make sure it is fully used.

The Twinning Association will be planting their tree in April. We had to remove the old tree when the extension was built.

We are hoping in the not too distant future to have new play equipment and other facilities on the playing field. Developers contributions will be used for this along with 'match funding' from another source.

The Parish Plan is going ahead with a further meeting on 28th February. It is most important that the way forward for the Parish is planned. The village 'heart' is not in the National Park and needs protection from over development.

We have not forgotten about affordable housing in the village. We keep being reassured that the Meyrick Close development will go ahead – things grind exceedingly slowly. We will be inviting Lynne Crocker, New Forest Housing Strategy and Development Officer to talk at the Parish Assembly on 18th April at the Village Hall, 7.30 pm.

Spring is on its way with crocuses and snowdrops cheering us all up in this cold weather.

SALLY OWEN
Chairman 672596

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Clerk has posted a list of meetings for the year on the Parish Council Notice Board and also on the Board outside the Post Office.

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

GRANTS FOR HOME INSULATION

Free insulation and discounted schemes are available for all householders to help them stay warm and well.

With rising fuel bills and the cold weather we have experienced this last winter making headline news, now is the time to take advantage of the many schemes available to insulate your home. Some of these schemes offer free insulation, others offer discounted schemes, but there is a scheme for every householder.

By ringing the helpline number 0800 512012 you will receive free and impartial advice to match you to the most appropriate insulation scheme currently available.

Did you know up to 60% of the heat you pay for could be escaping through the loft and the walls if they are not insulated? The Government recommended level of loft insulation is 10 inches or 250mm.

To find out more, ring free phone 0800 512012 and start saving money on your fuel bill!

BRANGSORE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



Brangsgore School Association

Supporting our village school

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and are all set for 2006! The past few months have been relatively quiet for the BSA following the tremendous success of our Christmas Fair on the 3rd December. The event was one of our best yet raising over £2,300 and much enjoyed by all. A big, big thank you to everyone who helped out on the day and in preparing for the event.

We also had our AGM in November when we elected a new committee for 2006. We had to say goodbye to some long standing members who will be sorely missed having contributed a great deal to the committee over the years, but we were also able to welcome some new members to the team. We are now all working hard to plan out our schedule of events for this year. These will include the Village Fun Day (Monday 1st May) featuring the every popular Brangsgore Dog Show! The annual Summer Fair (Saturday 8th July) to include all the old favorites including another walking carnival which was such a huge success in 2005! Our annual Fireworks Extravaganza (Friday 3rd November) and our annual Christmas Fair (Saturday 2nd December).

We are also looking to hold a number of social events in 2006 including a barn dance, children's disco and many more casual "get-togethers" where parents and friends of the school can meet and greet and get to know each other.

For more details, please keep an eye on our regular news letters and our website at <http://bsaonline.co.uk>

Anyway, I hope to see you at one of our events soon and if not, have a great 2006.

JASON HINES
Chairman

ST MARY'S CHURCH BRANGSORE & ALL SAINTS **CHURCH THORNEY HILL**

Revd Peter Rickman
St Mary's Vicarage
Ringwood road
Brangsgore
Tel 672327
pizzarev@aol.com
www.stmarysbrangsgore.co.uk

MAKING A COME BACK ?

They said they would never come back. And most of us agreed. But they have. With the arrival of Madness, the Specials and The Selector in 1981 we all put them away. Some of us threw them away in disgust and some wishful thinkers put them into storage.

But they are now experiencing a revival on a scale that Billy Graham could only dream about and we see them everywhere today. They have changed a little but there is no mistaking them!

They are now worn predominantly by younger people and of course by older people like me trying to look like a younger person! They now drag along the ground and are worn and torn as a result. They are made of denim and it's all the fashion. If you have enough money for designer clothes you can buy them pre-worn and pre-torn by Calvin Klein but if you're like me it's a trip to Tesco and a lot of hard wearing to get that fashionable look we wearers all desire.

What am I talking about? If the penny hasn't dropped because the fashion of the 70's, 80's and 90's passed you by then here's the clue: when we stopped wearing them the demand for cycle clips dropped so severely that by 1989 you couldn't buy a pair for love nor money! They are of course the flared trouser! And they are back!

The Church is a bit like a pair of flares. It has a history of making a come back! Revival and decline has long been a cycle that the church has experienced in its 2000 year old history. We were told that flares would never make a comeback and the prophets of doom talk about the mainstream churches in the same way, especially the rural churches. However, I believe that a faithful church will make a come back and regardless of what the inaccuracies in the work of FICTION "The Da Vinci Code" might tell us, nothing can endure for 2000 years and reach into every corner of the world unless God is at work within it.

Just as people come to church for many reasons, people stop coming or don't go at all for many reasons too. St Mary's church has been in Bransgore since 1822, that's for 184 years and it will still be here long after you and I find ourselves in the churchyard. As a church community it will have touched people's lives in many different ways and long may it do so in positive and healing ways in the name of Jesus.

In my experience people can and do stop coming to church for a variety of reasons. Some get hurt, some lose faith, some get too busy with other things, some go off the boil, some find the answers they seek in other places and some just get bored with it all. And some of us will have experienced all of those things at some time or another. If that's you, GOD is sending you an invite to make a "comeback" this Easter.

Church has changed a lot these days!

St Mary's and All Saints have a tradition that's 184 years old in our villages, it's a tradition that is still important to us as a faith community. Our faith community is an open, broad, inclusive and tolerant one, welcoming and valuing people of all ages, backgrounds and lifestyles.

We are not a church that will tell you what or how to think. We are not a church that will ram the Bible down your throat claiming only one way of interpreting it or applying it to life's situations. We are not a church with all the answers to many of life's questions and problems. We are not a church that would sit easily with some of the thinking and actions of the so called media labelled "Christian Right" of George Bushville, USA.

But we are a church that is honest enough to admit that we struggle with the questions as much as anyone else does. We are a church that celebrates differences. We are a church that acknowledges that God speaks today just as he always has done: through

many different channels. We are a church that is aware of our weaknesses and shortcomings and our need of God's love and healing. We are a church that has a heart for people, accepting and welcoming. I like to think of us as a healing centre and a sanctuary, a place of silence and a space to just be you.

Make a COMEBACK this Easter, come and talk to God and let God talk to you. If you would like to find out more about the Church of England in your village please get in touch or try www.stmarysbrangore.co.uk or just make a comeback! God is always ready to welcome you and so are we at St Mary's!

And if you want to wear your flares, that fine too! I've got mine on under the cassock!! Sssshhh!

May God bless you! Hope to see making you a Comeback?

PETER

ROTARY CLUB

Brangore Rotary Club's Boxing Evening, recently held at the Carrington Hotel, Bournemouth, has been a tremendous winner for fund raising! This annual event, that provides an evening of first class amateur boxing, has raised thousands of pounds for local charities. Whilst the brave competitors gave an exhibition of their pugilistic skills their enthusiastic supporters gave generously to local charities.

This year's beneficiaries include **The Youth Cancer Trust**, which provides holidays for young people suffering from cancer, and **The Domino Appeal** in aid of the Portfield School for autistic children.

BRANGORE YOUTH PROJECT

The Brangore Youth Club has been meeting on Wednesday evenings in the Village Hall during school term times since 14 May 2005. Kim McMurray our Hampshire Youth Worker is ably assisted by up to four Volunteer Helpers in running a wide range of indoor activities. These range from badminton, pool, table tennis and skittles to music, dancing, karaoke and computer games. We are also planning other activities as diverse as indoor football, face painting, tee-shirt printing and jewellery craft.

We have been fortunate in attracting grant funding from the Local Network Fund, Hampshire County Council, the New Forest Community Safety Operational Group and a South Central Connexions community group grant. This provides the Youth Project with the necessary stability to confidently plan its Youth Club activity programmes.

Attendance at the Wednesday evening Youth Club evenings averages around 35 young people between the ages we support; which are secondary school 11 to 16 year olds. We operate a Tuck Shop facility each evening which is popular and we seek to promote a friendly, relaxed atmosphere where there is mutual respect between Helpers and the youngsters themselves. Unless there is a specifically organised outdoor activity the young people are encouraged to remain within the Village Hall, but as the Youth Club is only offered on a "drop-in" basis we cannot insist or make a young person stay within the building.

Evening programmes are planned by the Helper's Operational Group; and the Youth Project Management Committee deals with the finance, funding and legislative issues. All persons involved in the Project have been recommended and CRB checked and Volunteer Helper training is undertaken by the Hampshire Youth Service.

We have held a number of highly successful Youth Club discos in the Village Hall and organised theatre trips and we are currently planning an EASTER DISCO, so look out for the posters in the village shopping area. We are also looking to make some outdoor excursions to the local sporting facilities in the area.

Through arranging activities which youngsters like to undertake; our aim is to open up and maintain a regular dialogue with young people in the village which will indirectly lead to the general benefit of the community at large. In partnership with Bransgore Rotary Club, who are sponsoring a Bransgore Youth Achievement Award for 2006, we will be seeking 11-16 year olds, resident in the village, who have consistently undertaken a programme of community help or reached a significant sporting achievement during the year; again look out for the posters in the village. Further plans for 2006 are to consolidate the progress we have made last year and expand the range of activities we can offer. There will be outside activities and on that note we have agreed to give "on the ground" support to the Bransgore Rotary Club in the organisation and running of the Bransgore Village FUN DAY on Monday, 1st May 2006.

So if you have a youngster who seeks company, or as a Mum or Dad you would like to give your support as a Helper on some of the Youth Club evenings, then come along at 7pm on a Wednesday evening in school term time and see for yourself.

DOUGLAS J CLARE
BYP Chairperson - 01425 673958

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE, NAOMI HOUSE

See Village Notice Board too

Thank you to all who visited our stalls at both the St Mary's Church Fair and the School Christmas Fair. We will of course, be running our BOOKSTALL on FUN DAY, so if you have any PAPERBACKS, please keep them for me, or ring me to collect them.

The **NAOMI HOUSE** Shop in the Sovereign Centre, Boscombe is worth a visit. If anyone has items they would like to donate, please let me know and I'll arrange collection. We can take furniture, some electrical goods, as well as good clothes and saleable bric-a-brac.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who supplied me with MILK BOTTLE TOPS. We have now reached saturation point, so no more thank you. We are still collecting USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES and USED STAMPS. PLEASE SAVE THEM AND RING ME.

Later in the Spring, the Methodist Guides will be collecting rubbish in plastic bags from around the Car Park and shops in the Village in aid of **NAOMI HOUSE** so please sponsor them by the carrier bagful. Sponsor forms will be available soon.

SHIRLEY TOBIAS
Bransgore 673078

BRANSGORE METHODIST CHURCH

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

As with everyone else, after the Winter months of cold and dark days, we look forward to

Spring. For us, in the Christian church, it is a happy coincidence that Spring and Easter come together. On the way towards Easter the churches celebrate Mothering Sunday, when Spring flowers are usually much in evidence, and of course most churches now follow the tradition of filling the church with flowers on Easter Day, after weeks of Lent when our buildings are left plain to reflect the more sombre mood of Christ's suffering.

But, throughout the weeks of Lent, from Shrove Tuesday to Maundy Thursday, when Jesus shared his Last Supper with the disciples, we keep our sense of hope over despair, light in place of darkness, as we reflect on the Love of God, poured out for us and for all by Christ in his suffering and death. Perhaps only on Good Friday do we 'stand awhile and gaze' let the Cross again remind us of both the horrors of our world and the way to overcome them, that is by self-giving love. Then on Easter Day we celebrate that Christ has conquered sin and death for us and been set free to fill the world with Almighty Love.

BRANSGORE FLOWER CLUB

Music and flowers filled the hall for our first Flower Club meeting of the year.

Demonstrator, Irene Hickson, delighted members with six beautiful flower arrangements, each one depicting a musical show. Irene asked us to try and guess which one, as she placed her stand and container on the table and started the arrangement, beginning with "Fiddler on the Roof" and finishing with "Phantom of the Opera". With the "Music of the Night", the title of Irene's demonstration still ringing in our ears, the magical afternoon came to an end.

Our February meeting was a hands-on workshop with Rosina Brandham as tutor.

March is AGM time again with a few changes this year. Having completed my three years as Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Carol Reed, will be taking on the role. With a new Programme Secretary, Carole Norman, Secretary Yvonne Shipway and Treasurer Marcia Neil remain the same. To complete the afternoon we have speaker Madeleine Simpson.

You are welcome to join us at any of our meetings, which are held on the fourth Thursday in the month at 200 pm at the Resource Centre, Ringwood Road, Bransgore.

MARGO CROUCH

Chairman 01425 672612

BRANSGORE CRICKET CLUB - YOUTH

Of the sides playing in the indoor leagues at Hurn this winter, only the Under 13 squad reached the knock out stages, losing in the quarter finals. For many of the younger players, this winter was their first taste of indoor cricket so congratulations to the Under 10's who won against Christchurch.

The indoor nets have started on Thursday evenings at Hurn. The club has two nets between 6.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. every Thursday 27th April 2006 inclusive. Please contact Dave Lay to find out when each squad will be practising.

League squads for the coming summer have been entered at Under 9 (Friday nights), Under 10 (Sunday mornings), Under 11 (Saturday mornings), Under 13 (Saturday mornings), Under 15 (Monday evenings), and Under 17 (Thursday evenings).

Unfortunately, we have not had enough response to run a girls only side, but we would welcome any young ladies to join the club at any age group. This summer will be the 10th 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.

The club AGM takes place at 8.00 p.m. on Friday 24th March in The Carpenters' Arms. I would be most grateful if as many parents/guardians as possible could attend. Our annual Quiz night takes place on Friday May 12th in the Village Hall. Details and tickets will be available nearer the date

As ever, if your child would like to play for any of our teams, please contact me on the number below. We would welcome new players of all ages and abilities.

Dave Lay - Bransgore 673242 or e-mail lay_dj@btopenworld.com

BRANSGORE CRICKET CLUB – ADULT

The Club's indoor side, which plays in the New Forest Indoor League on Sundays at Pennington School, are in with a chance of promotion. Only two games have been lost and a win in the final game could well see them rise to Division 2 next winter.

Senior nets have started on Wednesday evenings. The Club has two nets from 9.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. on every Wednesday evening until 24th April 2006 inclusive.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, both the Club's senior sides gained promotion last year. The first XI will play in Division 2 – South West and the second XI will play in Division 3 – South West of the Hampshire Leagues on Saturday afternoons. In addition a mid week side will play on Wednesday evenings in Division 3 of the Wimborne Evening Leagues.

If there is anyone in the village with experience of looking after sports pitches or would like to help the club maintain its playing surfaces and could spare an hour or two a week, the club would like to hear from them

Please contact Richard Jones on 673880 or Dave Lay on 673242 if you would like to play for one of the club's senior sides. We look forward to welcoming you.

BRANSGORE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Club started off the new year with a programme of entertainment with some magic from Mr Chris Woodward. He is a member of the Magic Circle and gave an interesting talk telling us of the many famous faces he had met – Tommy Cooper, Paul Daniels, David Copperfield, to name a few.

The Pewits returned again in January with a very enjoyable funny variety concert. Mavis Collins, the producer, never fails to come up with great ideas. Well done to you and all your players – we shall look forward to new year.

The Club have been able to continue using the hall while building works have been in progress except for one meeting back in November when the cricket pavilion was made available. Thank you, John the warden, for all the help moving the tables and chairs on that day.

In March the Club will have the first coach outing the year continuing each month until August. Ann Pitt has some great trips organised so please support her and get together for some fun days out.

The Annual Rose Show will be on June 27th, so plenty of loving care and you may be the holder of the cup this year.

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. Details of our meetings are included in the Diary of Events in this Newsletter..

Looking forward to my favourite time of the year – the Springtime.

ESTHER HARRIS

Secretary 01425 673589

BRANGSORE AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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

Many of you will no doubt already be aware that the application to NFDC for housing on the former car park at the Carpenters Arms was once again refused on the 8th February. Several of us went to Lyndhurst and were delighted at the response of the committee members as opposed to the officers, who had recommended acceptance ahead of the meeting. We will obviously keep a close watch on any future plans by Inntown Properties. We would like to thank all of you who so readily supported us. Brangsgore was most certainly put on the map!

We are still in contact with Hurn Airport regarding aircraft flying over the village. They appear to be co-operating but please telephone at any time if you see an aircraft flying over the village – telephone 01202 364500.

The Residents Association are supporting the Parish Council in their endeavours to initiate a Steering Group regarding the "Brangsgore Parish Community Plan". Those of you who attended the meeting when Penny Valender, the Community Planning Officer, spoke, will understand the importance of this village plan. It will benefit us all and give Brangsgore a greater say in the way the village progresses.

We have also offered to help in any way with regards to safety on the way to and outside the school. This is something that is obviously of considerable concern to all parents.

On the subject of safety aspects, some people have complained of cars being parked half on pavements. This does cause problems for parents with pushchairs, the elderly and people with wheelchairs. Could we ask all of you to be as kind and considerate to others as possible.

Lastly, could we once again say that new members are always welcomed. The more of you who join, the more we are able to help.

JUNE RICHARDS

01425 672183

BRANGSORE COMMUNITY CHURCH

When I came across the story below it made me smile as it is so true to life.

Just a few days before Christmas, a postal worker at the main sorting office found an unstamped, handwritten, messy envelope addressed to God. Curious, he opened it and discovered that it was from an elderly woman who was in great distress because all of her savings—£200—had been stolen. As a result, she wouldn't have anything to eat for Christmas. The man went to his fellow postal workers and took up a collection for the woman. They all dug deep and came up with £180. Putting the money in a plain envelope, with no note or anything, the postal workers sent it by special courier to the woman that very day.

A week later, the same postal worker noticed another unstamped letter that had been addressed to God in the same handwriting. In it, he found a brief note:

Dear God,

Thank you for the £180 that you sent me for Christmas, which would have been so bleak otherwise.

P.S. It was £20 short, but that was probably those thieving workers at the post office.

Have you ever been criticized for trying to do the right thing? Have you ever been blamed for something you didn't do? Kind of makes you want to give up, doesn't it? After all, why knock yourself out when all you get is a slap in the face?

The feeling is understandable. That's why we should be affirming to each other and encourage each other. When you see someone doing the best they can, let them know that you appreciate their effort. Don't blame them or get on their case for what they weren't able to do. Don't just notice that they were £20 short. On the other hand, if you are the one expecting to get affirmation and praise...don't hold your breath. Instead, take comfort in the fact that you are in good company.

We all need to know that we are loved, valued and accepted, and Christians can have that assurance that God does indeed love, value and accept us unconditionally. He made it possible for all people to know this perfect love through acceptance and belief in his son Jesus. When we really 'know' this we no longer need affirmation from other people, although it's still nice!

Many of us have had many 'bad' experiences and things said to us and it has taken its toll on our self esteem so in order to help us improve our self image we are holding the following event to which any ladies are welcome:

PHIL COLE
Church Leader

BRANSGORE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Spring, and here we are again thankfully entering what is without a doubt the most exciting season of the gardener's year with new life bursting out all around us and the promise of long summer days ahead. Our planned programme of events will, we hope, add even more interest and enjoyment to your gardening. Here's what we have for you.

Lectures

Oh, and I must just mention the fantastic photography of our lecturer on 1st February – the best I believe I have seen. It was entitled "Look Where You Tread" and "Wild Flowers" by Bert Wason F.R.P.S. If you ever get the opportunity to see any of his presentations, don't miss it. Wonderful stuff.

"There's plenty of time" you may say, but it's surprising how quickly it will come around so start thinking about what you are going to exhibit now. There's a class for almost every plant and every interest, including photography, art, handicraft, floral art and cooking. There's also a junior section for those under 17 years of age. Whether you're exhibiting or just having a look around, it's a pleasant way to spend an afternoon and maybe having a cuppa and a chat with like-minded neighbours while awaiting the presentation of awards. The staging of exhibits is from 8 am until 10.30 am., and the hall is open to the public from 2 pm. Remember, you don't have to be a member to complete – it's open to all and we are looking forward to seeing you there. **WRITE THESE DATES LARGE IN YOUR DIARY** for you will find it difficult to buy quality plants at such bargain prices elsewhere. We will have choice plants from MacPennys and a wide range of excellent bedding plants from a local nursery, all at discounted prices, and our own Society plant stall offering even more value for money. Don't be tempted to buy bedding any earlier and suffer frost damage – wait for our sale on 5th and 6th May.

These two gardens close to Bradford on Avon provide between them everything a garden lover could want for a day out. Add the company of like-minded enthusiasts plus maybe a lunch in the tea room and a little sunshine, and you are in a gardener's paradise, or almost.

JIM DUDLEY Publicity Officer 673202

6th CHRISTCHURCH (BRANSGORE) SCOUT GROUP

Beavers

We have 17 Beavers at the moment. The boys have been making various items, in their lodges they had to make a parachute and a basket of sorts to hold an egg. Then we let them go from a height to see which egg broke. That was a great success, for the boys if not for the egg.

We hope to be carrying out their Creative badge and their IT badge before Easter. We hope to get several Beavers through their Bronze Chief Scouts Awards which will be awarded at our AGM.

Lesley Manley (Beaver Leader) 01425 672667

Cubs

As usual we have had a very busy term with a packed programme and District events. We began by watching a pantomime with the beavers, Puss in Boots, at Twynham School, which the boys thought was great. The boys enjoyed their fun swim at the sixers and seconders party, and for the District scrapstore challenge they had to build the factory for "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and great fun was had by all when trying to build the moving conveyor belt loaded with sweets!

As part of the Cub programme we have been concentrating on the Caring Challenge and have incorporated some badge work including the personal safety and home safety badge, together with the communicator's badge. After half term we will be holding an auction for charity, visiting Christchurch Police Station and taking part in the District Cub hike. In March we are staying on the Isle of White for the weekend at Little Canada activity centre where new and exciting activities are on offer. We are currently planning and looking forward to our May Bank Holiday Camp at Harry's Island. We would like to thank the rest of the team for their continued support.

Ginny Hebden (Akela) 01425 674721

Trudi Butcher (Chil) 01425 672830

Scouts

All scouts reported back after the Christmas break. We have been joined by seven more boys which takes the total in the troop to 42. On Sunday 15th January we took part in the District Scout cooking competition. We did not win but the boys enjoyed taking part. We have also taken part in the Outdoor Challenge, First Aid night and a domestic evening which included ironing and shoe cleaning. Friday 10th February to 12th February we travelled to the Isle of Wight for an activity weekend which all the boys thoroughly enjoyed.

Mike Manley (Scout Leader) 01425 672667

Group News

Although the Group continues to thrive and offer an exciting programme of activities for the boys of the village, we are always short of leaders and helpers. If you can offer even a couple of hours once a month, please do contact us. More parent representation on the Executive Committee is also needed ~ the committee meets just once every two months so it is certainly not onerous.

Scouting has a number of anniversaries coming up and in order to commemorate these, the committee has funded the purchase of special woggles for all the members of Beavers (20 years), Cubs (90 years) and Scouts (100 years).

The Group AGM is to be held at 6.30 pm Monday 15th May. It would be much appreciated if parents would attend in order to support the committee in their efforts to maintain the Scout group.

On a less positive note, Recent unfortunate events during and after a party in Ann's Lodge have forced the Committee to re-evaluate the Hall hiring rules regarding parties. Both halls will still be available for hire for Children's parties (up to 11 years). Parties for Adults (with a Scouting connection) will be possible on Saturday nights only. Other bookings remain unaffected. It is very sad that the actions of the few affect the many.

SUE BOYES
Chairman 01425 674156

BRANSGORE THEATRE GROUP

After the disappointment we experienced at the production of "A Man for All Seasons" at The Mayflower, Southampton, due to the very poor acoustics, we visited The Lighthouse, Poole, with hopes for something better. Fortunately "The Kingfisher" was a delightful comedy beautifully presented with precise diction and played with a perfect light touch by Rosemary Leach and Francis Matthews, and, without exception, our members expressed their pleasure with a most enjoyable evening.

Inevitably the pantomime season restricted our choice of theatre going in December, so we took the opportunity to return to Poole on New Year's Day to hear a concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra entitled "A New Year's Viennese Gala". The conductor Günther Bauer-Schenk, a native of Vienna, linked the pieces with interesting anecdotes and he was ably supported by a lovely young soprano, Andrea Boyner, also from Vienna.

In early February, and with some trepidation, we gave The Mayflower a second chance. The management obviously responded to the fact that our Group was in the audience, and tissues were much in evidence – not to wipe away tears but to act as earplugs! Nevertheless "Anything Goes", set on an ocean liner and including most of Cole Porter's well known songs was enjoyable despite the fact that Angela Rippon restricted herself to only one high kick!

At the end of the month, an adaptation of a Joanna Trollope book "Married to the Mistress" will provide our evening's entertainment and then in March we will be going to our first ballet for four years which will be the English National Ballet's production of "Giselle".

Our final three productions before the summer recess will be as follows :

LESLIE SEWELL
Hon. Secretary 01425 674026.

BRANSGORE PROBUS CLUB

Once again it was our Christmas luncheon. John Heighes and Janet welcomed us all and then we sat down to hear Alan Hyde 'make music'. As usual it was great fun. The raffle was a great success and quite a lot of money was raised.

In January Roland Stott, a member of Lymington Probus, talked to us about "Smuggling in Hampshire". These were the good old days when all sorts of goods were carried through lanes in the Forest. Very nearly all the Forest people were involved including vicars and decors. It probably carries on still but the goods carried are not quite so law abounding.

Our February speaker was Jack McKenzie. Unfortunately your Probity II was in hospital having a hip replaced and missed what was a very good talk. Our speaker was in the Army, then the police before becoming an actor with an ability to take off all sorts of people and voices.

PROBITY II

DIARY

MAY

- 1st **FUN DAY – See Rotary Club**
- 3rd New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In
- 5th/6th Horticultural Society – Plant Sale
- 8th Theatre Group outing
Bransgore Lunch Club AGM
- 9th Friendship Club – Singalongs
- 12th Cricket Club – Annual Quiz
- 15th Scout AGM
- 16th Friendship Club – outing
- 20th Methodist Church – Car Treasure Hunt
- 22nd **Last date for contributions to Autumn Newsletter**
Townswomen’s Guild meeting
- 23rd Friendship Club – Talk
- 25th Bransgore Flower Club

JUNE

- 1st Horticultural Society – Lecture
- 6th Theatre Group outing
- 7th New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In
- 8th Horticultural Society – Trip
- 13th Friendship Club – Tea
- 17th Methodist Church Fete
- 20th Friendship Club - Outing
- 22nd Bransgore Flower Club
- 24th Sopley School Fete
- 26th Townswomen’s Guild meeting
- 27th Friendship Club – Rose Show

JULY

- 5th New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In
- 6th Bransgore Lunch Club - Coffee Morning
- 8th Bransgore School Association - Summer Fair

AUGUST

- 2nd New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In Session

SEPTEMBER

- 6th New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In

OCTOBER

- 4th New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In
- 6th Avon Tyrrell – Race Night
- 7th Avon Tyrrell – Elvis Night
- 8th Avon Tyrrell – Tours of House

NOVEMBER

- 1st New Forest Disability Information Service – Drop In Session
- 3rd Bransgore School Association – Fireworks Extravaganza