

BRANSGORE NEWSLETTER

No 121

Summer 2006

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

BRANSGORE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Your new Chairman of the Parish Council is Ann Hickman, who I am sure many of you will know, and we all wish her all the best as chairman over the coming year.

We have two new councillors on the Parish Council - Mike Manley from West Road and Mark Steele from Burley Road. This brings the Council up to full strength again. We had a consultation on the affordable housing proposed behind Meyrick Close, which was well attended. Funding has been agreed for this project on land owned by New Forest District Council, being the garage site and a small field. This will be carried forward by Western Challenge Housing Association. We hope the building will start later this year, but it has yet to be given planning permission.

We had a good day at the opening of the Village Hall extension with a fine but windy day. We were all very upset by the graffiti which appeared all over the end wall of the old hall, notices, teen shelter and half pipe. Later windows were broken. The Council is unable to spend money on new play equipment when it has to spend money on senseless damage. The budget for the Council comes out of all our rates. We can only spend money for which we have budgeted. It took a lot of time and effort on behalf of the Clerk and Councillors to keep it below 5% increase.

There is a new non-emergency PHONE NUMBER TO CONTACT POLICE - 101 - this will cost 10p from land line or mobile. Should the operator answering the phone deem it an emergency it will be routed as a 999 call without delay.

The new Hall and facilities seem to be liked by all its users. Included in this Newsletter under the heading 'Village Hall' is a list of charges and how to make bookings.

Have a good summer with health and happiness to you all.

SALLY OWEN Vice Chairman

BRANSGORE PARISH COUNCIL - INFORMATION OFFICE The Village Hall, 116 Burley Road, Bransgore, BH23 8AY.

Please note the change in normal opening hours for the Parish Council Office:-

MONDAY	11.00am to 12.30pm
TUESDAY	9.30am to 11.00am
WEDNESDAY	CLOSED
THURSDAY	9.30am to 11.00am
FRIDAY	11.00am to 12.30pm

(There may be times when the office is closed due to meetings etc., and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause).

Should you need to see the Clerk or a Councillor out of hours please contact the Clerk on Tel: 0125 674155, or e-mail: council@bransgore-parish.gov.uk

BRANSGORE COMMUNITY PLAN

New Forest District Council are funding a Community planning project to support local parishes in producing an action plan for local communities, based on what the residents would like to see improved in their village in the future. The Bransgore Community plan will consider all aspects of community life and identify the local issues and then develop an action plan based on the improvements that have been widely requested. A Community Plan Steering Committee has been formed, representative of the community and elected at a public meeting on 28 March 2006.

The first active "step" in our Community Plan is to ask residents what local issues people "love" and "hate" about Bransgore and what they would like most to see improved about the village. This will be conducted in June in the format of a short "flyer" asking these questions. Please find time to fill out the flyer that should have arrived with this newsletter and return it to the Parish Office at the Village Hall or the Post Office by June 30th.

Then a longer Questionnaire will be designed reflecting the input received from the earlier exercise and expanding on topics associated with community life, the environment, local access and travel and youth and older peoples' aspects. It is hoped that the Questionnaires will be despatched to all households in the Parish in early September. From the extensive results of this information priorities can be identified which will form the basis for the construction of our Community Plan which will include an action plan for the future of the village. The Plan will be scheduled for public viewing in Spring next year.

It is hoped that all Bransgore residents, young and old, will fully participate in this Community Planning exercise. Your support will help us to identify a consensus of opinion to help overcome perceived difficulties and improve the quality of life in our village.

DOUGLAS CLARE
Chairperson, Steering Committee

BRANSGORE VILLAGE HALL - Available for hire.

The Village Hall has now been extended and includes the Main Hall (with stage), Committee/ Dressing Room plus a new Small Hall, kitchen and toilets. The building now has disabled access and both halls have hearing loop systems.

To make a booking or view the facilities contact the Clerk, Mrs S Clarke, at the Parish Office, Village Hall, 116 Burley Road, Bransgore, BH23 8AY.

Tel: 01425 674155 (10am – 11am, or leave a message);

or e-mail council@bransgore-parish.gov.uk.

SCALE OF CHARGES 2006

<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>NEW RATE</u>
<u>MAIN HALL</u>	
Hourly rate for locals	£8.40
Hourly rate for others	£9.45
All Day rate for locals	£85.00

All Day rate for others	£95.00	
<u>SMALL HALL</u>		Rate when hired with Main Hall
Hourly rate for locals	£7.40	£6.40
Hourly rate for others	£8.45	£7.45
All Day rate for locals	£85.00	
All Day rate for others	£95.00	
<u>KITCHEN</u>		
Half Day, or part of, without cooking facilities	£2.00	
Half Day, or part of, with cooking facilities	£4.00	
<u>MAIN & SMALL HALLS + KITCHEN</u>		
All Day rate for locals	£160.00	
All Day rate for others	£180.00	
<u>COMMITTEE/DRESSING ROOM</u>		
Hourly rate	£5.75	

BRANSGORE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

We have had a relatively quiet few months on the BSA since the last Parish Newsletter. On the 1st May we participated in the Bransgore Village Fun Day and for the second year in a row we hosted the Dog Show. The weather was excellent and the event was great fun and all the dogs (and owners!) seemed to enjoy themselves. We had a good number of entrants for each category and everyone who entered had clearly put in a lot of effort getting their dogs ready for the day. Congratulations to all those who won a prize and thank you to everyone that took part.

We also held a social event for parents of the school which was a Skittles Evening at the Elm Tree Pub on the 6th May. This was again a very enjoyable event and although attendance was light, much fun was had by all.

We are now all working full steam ahead to organise the upcoming Barn Dance at the Village Hall on the 7th July and the Summer Fayre at the School on the 8th July. The Barn Dance will feature the very popular "Woodsiders" Barn Dance band who were such a hit last year. Please come along, whether to take part in the dancing or simply to enjoy watching others; we guarantee you will have a good time!

The Summer Fayre this year will feature a Walking Carnival again - which was very popular last year with many local groups and organisations taking part. The theme of the Carnival and the Fayre itself this year will be "Around the World" with many people in fancy dress to fit the theme. The Fayre will include all the usual favourites and will hopefully be as successful and enjoyable as ever raising much needed funds for the School. Please come along if you can and have a great Summer!

JASON HINES Chairman

ST MARY'S CHURCH BRANSGORE & ALL SAINTS CHURCH THORNEY HILL

Hello everyone! Welcome to the Church of England Page!

I can tell that I am getting older for several reasons.

Every time I drop something on the floor I grunt and groan as I pick it up! The big 40 is looming in a year or two and the trousers keep shrinking in the tumble drier or whilst at the dry cleaners. Fabric today is just not what it used to be. Bathroom scales too just seem to be unable to tell the truth.

I can sense that I am embracing middle age for another reason too. I seem to reminisce a lot. I enjoy looking back, thinking about days gone by and people who I

spent those days with. In quiet moments (I get a lot of those at the moment!!), as I pray and think, I often recall a face or an experience from the past. I don't live in the past or even crave it, I enjoy life today more than ever but its good to recall folk and to remember experiences.

Its nearly the end of May as I write, it's cold, wet and windy. It's almost summer and hence I recall many summers of the past. I remember being at school in 1976 baking in that famous heatwave. I can recall many summers shivering in a beach hut at Milford-on-Sea. Every year someone in the family would rent a beach hut off the council for the summer and because money was always tight, it was considered a luxury. Therefore, as a luxury, it had to be used at every possible moment. Thermos flasks, blankets, striped deckchairs impossible to fold up, hard boiled eggs and sandy sandwiches. Day after day, weekend after weekend, it was endless: we were all crammed into that beach hut, rain or shine, warm or cold, it just had to be used. I can remember thinking will this ever end! I would hope for hot sunshine and dry days. I would listen to the rain pelting the roof hoping for just enough blue in the clouds to "patch up a sailor's trousers".

In the summer time we do tend to hope, hope for better weather and better moods. We hope for more time outside, more BBQ's, more leisure time, holidays and all manner of water based activities. So much of what we hope for in the summer is reliant upon the weather. My study of the weather forecast increases ten fold during the summer months. I hope for high pressure and high temperatures.

But as I do so, I reflect that so much of what we hope for is transient and temporal. I spend so much energy hoping for things which will be here today and gone tomorrow. I know I have hoped for things in the past so much and yet I have now forgotten about them or they seem so irrelevant to me.

Our sense of hope is linked to our sense of vision for the future and of course to our dreams and wishes for the remainder of our lives. Having a faith in God creates a different sort of hope. It's not quite so temporal and it's always here today and never gone tomorrow. As I hope for better weather and a good summer for 2006, I realise that my hope ultimately has to be founded on God. In God, my hope finds real meaning and purpose. In God my hope translates itself into prayer and action for the betterment of our community and world. This is hope that reaches out to that which is unseen and yet is felt by millions of people of faith in our world today.

Yes, the many peoples of faith are racked by issues and tensions, claims to the truth abound and collide, but still these people, we, hope in a God who loves and creates, who redeems and forgives, who soothes and challenges and who transforms lives and communities. In God there is a potential for life, love, justice and peace and it is for these values that I find myself hoping for the most. Even when it rains in July on the beach.

With my love, prayers and thanks.

PETER ☺

St Mary's

Sundays

8am Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer A quiet service in traditional language without music

10am Family Communion Service in modern language with hymns and songs and young church. Our church is full of toys, children's books and activity bags for ALL children to use.

Our thriving "Living Stones" Young Church meets every week during the 10am service and is made up of 2 groups: "Pebbles" - babies to reception class age children

and “Rocks” - Year 1 upwards. Visiting children are always welcome. Our All Age Service “Morning Glory” is on the 1st Sunday of each month at 10am. This is a short, informal, child-friendly service with a well resourced children’s space for pre-school children....and lots of fun.

Tuesdays

10am GODPLAY - Every Tuesday in term time. Games, activities, singing, dancing, puppets, storytelling, prayers, coffee, refreshments and a time to meet and socialise with friends. For all parents, carers & pre-school children!

Wednesdays

10am Service of Holy Communion. A quiet service in modern language without music. With time for a reflection of the Bible readings for the day and silent meditative prayer.

All Saints Church, Thorney Hill

9am Sundays - Morning Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer – a service of prayer in traditional language with hymns and music. Holy Communion in the same style is held on the 1st Sunday of every month at 9am.

We also arrange Christenings/Baptisms on the 2nd and 4th Sunday’s of the month, Weddings and funerals. We especially seek to reach out and to care for those in any kind of need. Please do not hesitate to speak to the vicar, Peter, if you or another is in any kind of need. We are here to help.

The Parish also holds Bible Study and discussion groups, social events, children’s activity days, children’s Parties, special services at times like Christmas and Easter and enjoys and celebrates a vibrant partnership with Bransgore Primary School. Look out for our notices in the village and please check out our website

www.stmarysbransgore.co.uk

for up to date notices and details of events.

If you need any more information then please call the Vicar, Peter Rickman on 01425 672327 or find him at

St Mary’s Vicarage Ringwood Rd Bransgore BH23 8JH email pizzarev@aol.com

BRANSGORE & DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB

Paul Harris Fellowship.

Bransgore Rotary Club has been delighted to present a Paul Harris Fellowship (the highest honour that Rotarians can bestow, and only the third in the Club’s history), to their founder member and past president Allan Alford.

Allan has been a most conscientious member of Bransgore Rotary and, over the years, has held just about every official position within the Club, especially chairman of the International Committee concerned with such things as: Aquaboxes and Shelterboxes (used extensively following the Tsunami and Pakistan earthquake), the eradication of polio through Polio Plus, Tools for Self Reliance, Sight Savers, and the Christmas Shoeboxes. One of his most enduring roles has been organising the Club’s annual Golf Day that has raised thousands of pounds for Rotary charities and local causes. Allan was understandably overcome and (unusually) lost for words at the surprise presentation made during the recent Ladies Night held at the Club’s new venue of The Carpenters Arms, Bransgore.

Whilst Rotarians don't carry out their good works for the sake of recognition and acclaim, there can be little more rewarding than to be honoured by one's colleagues and friends.

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE, NAOMI HOUSE

See Village Notice Board too

A big thank you to everyone who donated Books, CD's Tapes and Videos for our Bookstall at the Village Fun Day, and of course to everyone who came and bought! We had a fantastic selection of books, and NAOMI HOUSE benefited considerably. A thank you too to all at the Carpenter's Arms, and the Fish & Chip Shop for the donations you have put in the boxes. Thank you Lynn, John, Ben, Paul & Connie. Have you noticed the box Gavin has in the Butcher's shop? Thank you Gavin for the raffle you are running to help both OAKHAVEN HOSPICE and *NAOMI HOUSE*.

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 **NO LONGER COLLECT MILK BOTTLE TOPS**, but would like your USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES and STAMPS. PLEASE SAVE THEM AND RING ME.

NAOMI HOUSE Open Days this year are **FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 22nd – 24th SEPTEMBER**. Ring me for further information. Many villagers have already visited us. You will be very pleasantly surprised at what you see.

We are putting on another Opus 8 Revue at the Village Hall on Saturday 4th November. I am giving you plenty notice as some of you were disappointed that all the seats (152 of them) went quickly, so keep the date in mind AND BOOK EARLY!!!

The **METHODIST BROWNIES AND GUIDES** will be having a "Litter Picking Session" in aid of *NAOMI HOUSE* in mid June. Please sponsor them.

SHIRLEY TOBIAS Bransgore 673078

BRANSGORE METHODIST CHURCH

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

We have had an extraordinary Spring. Every tree and climbing plant that could flower, has blossomed in a profusion I don't ever recall before. This was followed by a week's rain, wind and cold that proceeded to destroy the remaining blossoms. Nature is fickle, but one begins to suspect that the man-made factor of global warming is now having an effect on our weather – in other words – God shouldn't take all the blame! In fact, it never made much sense to believe that God controls the weather. Of course, as an occasional player of cricket I get the blame (jokingly) if a match is rained off (but never the praise when it is a fine day!). Man has always had to work within the limitations imposed by the seasons. We don't plant geraniums out in the autumn! However, I can understand it when people feel angry with God because, for example, Ethiopia has had no rain for 5 years – and doesn't help the poor Africans to tell them that their theological ideas need updating. The bottom line is that whatever the weather throws at us, (and some of that now may be our fault), humankind has enough knowledge, ingenuity and resources, if used properly and fairly, to ensure that no one goes hungry. (I was saddened by the reports from some

Christian Aid collectors this year that some people had not only declined to give anything but had been rude and abusive on the doorstep).

Life is for living, with joy, with the deeper satisfaction of appreciating all its 'givenness', as well as the responsibility of caring for others.

I am looking forward to the summer months, to the enjoyment of this lovely area we live in – and all the summer events – which reminds me to end with an invitation to everyone to come to our **Methodist Church Fete on Saturday June 17th at 2 pm**, Chapel Lane. (Of course it's 'my job' to make sure it doesn't rain that day!).

Advance Notice:

Saturday, 21st October 10.30 am. Table Top Sale. To book a Table at £5 call Jean on 673122

Thanks:

Our Car Treasure Hunt on 20th May raised £40. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

BRANSGORE FLOWER CLUB

Longer days and bursting blooms, we welcome the summer with all its colour.

Our floral raffle prizes at the Bransgore Fun Day created a wonderful attraction for all to enjoy.

An exciting workshop, entitled "Ready, Steady, Arrange", under the watchful and expert eye of Carole Norman, was held at the end of May. This was a challenge enjoyed by all.

This year's annual Summer Garden Party will be held on Thursday, 3rd August, in the perfect setting of Mrs. Shirley Case's garden. A delicious tea will be served and this will be complemented by Shirley's amazing display of flowers and shrubs.

Our first Autumn event on 28th September will be a demonstration by Margaret Marriott. Her chosen titled "Metal Mania" will provide lots of entertainment.

You are most welcome to join us as a guest or perhaps become a new members. We meet on the fourth Thursday each month at 2 pm. In the Resource Centre, Ringwood Road, Bransgore. CAROL E. REED Chairman 01202 470139

BRANSGORE CRICKET CLUB - YOUTH

There is a lot of cricket going on in Bransgore this summer.

The Under 9 squad (matches on Friday nights, practices on Tuesday nights) began their season playing 'kwik cricket' at the Suttons Cricket Club in Kinson. We have a very healthy squad of players at this age group including a very enthusiastic young lady.

The Under 10 squad (matches on Sunday mornings, practices on Thursday nights) have had two matches losing the first narrowly, but winning the second with a great display of bowling and fielding to progress to the second round of the cup.

The Under 11 squad (matches Saturday mornings, practices on Thursday nights) have had two defeats, but only lost narrowly to a strong Corfe Mullen side.

Most of the Under 13 side (matches Saturday mornings, practices on Wednesday evenings), are 'playing up' a year and have yet to register a win, but they have competed gamely against some very strong opposition.

The Under 15 squad (matches Monday night, practices on Thursday evenings) are also 'playing up' a year and have just started their campaign.

Finally, the Under 17 squad (matches on Thursday evenings) have begun their campaign with a win.

In addition four after school coaching sessions are being held this term at Bransgore Junior School with twenty children attending.

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. We hope to run a fun game consisting of a side from these original players against the 'older' players in the club on Sunday 25th June.

The club AGM took place on Friday 24th March in The Carpenters' Arms to whom we are grateful for their hospitality. The annual Quiz Night took place on Friday May 12th in the Village Hall with a record attendance and looks sure to have made a healthy profit towards club funds.

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 finished an agonising one point short of a promotion place in the New Forest Indoor League. However, to the inevitable accompaniment of rain, the outdoor season has started.

The first XI has had an excellent start to their season, winning both their opening games comfortably. This side now includes a number of players who have come up through the Club's youth strategy and this can only bode well for the Club's future. The second XI have started less auspiciously, failing to win either of their opening games, but we hope that the blend of youth and experience (age!) will win through. The mid-week side has started with two wins so, all in all, the Club is doing very well. As well as the competitive sides, the Club has a number of friendly fixtures to play over the season. 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.

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.

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

BRANSGORE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This year we have had a long cold Winter and waited so long for warmer Spring days. Now I find myself writing this for the Summer newsletter – how time flies!

The Club is enjoying another successful year, with an average of 55 members attending the meetings.

If you would like to join us, just come along to the Village Hall, Burley Road, on the second or fourth Tuesday of the month, 1.45 for 2.15 pm start. You would be made most welcome. Most Tuesdays we have entertainment with singing or talks and slide shows for the first hour. Tea and biscuits and a raffle following, before departure at 3.45 pm. Every third Tuesday there is a coach outing, picking up at local points in the village. We are always home before dark, approximately 7 pm.

On June 13th we have the annual strawberry tea, and on June 27th, another annual event – the Rose Show. The garden party will be held at Margaret and Derek King's, Wiltshire Gardens, on July 25th. A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO THEM FOR OPENING THEIR HOME AND GARDENS ONCE AGAIN. Next year we shall be

looking for a new venue for the garden party. So if you can put up with us for one afternoon next July, would love to hear from you.

The Club has a month's break during August. THANK YOU to everyone who helps to keep this Club such a successful venture. ESTHER HARRIS

Secretary 01425 673589

BRANSGORE AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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

Since early in the year, when I took over as Chairman, all of us on the Committee have been doing our best to gain more members and to do whatever we can to benefit the residents of Bransgore. We need you to let us know of any worries or concerns you have and we will do our best to help.

The Carpenters Arms has obviously been our biggest concern. I am sure you are aware that Inntown Pub Company has gone to appeal at Bristol and we have to await the outcome. We understand there will be a site visit and will let as many of you as possible know the date once we have details.

We are aware that safety to and from school is a big issue for many families with young children, but understand the school has this in hand. Vandalism is also very much in peoples' minds. We would like to see more than just one policeman in the village and with a much smaller area to cover.

Another concern is that we no longer have a dentist in the village even though the government promised a National Health Service dentist for everyone who needs one. We have been looking into aircraft noise over the village recently. Please keep an eye on the planes and telephone the airport if they are flying over your house. We anticipate meeting with the airport authorities before long.

We are hoping to be able to get the skittle alley - which we have been holding for some time now - into the Village Hall. This would be for the benefit of all of the organisations in the village and we would love to see it in use at last.

We very much need new members and would also like some more people willing to come on to the Committee. If any of you feel able to help, please let us know. You will be welcomed with open arms. We would also like to hear from anyone who feels able to help us with occasional delivering of leaflets - just in your own area.

If you feel strongly about any of the above points, then let us hear your views - this is what the Residents' Association is all about. JUNE RICHARDS 01425 672183

BRANSGORE CHILDREN'S ART CLUB

Due to a growing waiting list, we have a second Art Class starting September 2006 at Bransgore Committee Church, for years 2 to 6.

Does your child enjoy learning how to paint and sketch? If so, come and join us on a Wednesday from 4.99 pm to 5.00 pm.

We are Ruth and Liz (qualified mums and teachers!!) aiming to provide a fun and creative Art Club.

We have 16 places available, allocated on a first-come-first-served-basis at a cost of £4 per session.

For further information and to book a place, please contact : Ruth Davies 01425 673147 or Liz Emecz 01425 674231

**Bransgore Children's Art Club
Christmas Workshop**

At Bransgore Committety Church, Shackleton Square

Friday, 22nd December 2006

10 am – 12 noon or 1 pm – 3 pm

(for Years 1-6)

Activities will include making Christmas cards, gifts and decorations. Drink and biscuits provided. Please bring an apron or wear old clothes.

Cost £10.00 for the 2 hour workshop

For booking please telephone Ruth 673147 or Liz 674231

BRANSGORE COMMUNITY CHURCH

By the time you're reading this we will probably be inundated with World Cup fever, and as I write this I wonder if Rooney will have recovered from his foot injury or whether we will have to win it without him!

As a sports lover I'm aware that sport can bring out the best in humans as the following story illustrates.

On New Year's Day, 1929, Georgia Tech played UCLA in the Rose Bowl. In that game a UCLA player named Roy Riegels recovered a fumble, but somehow got confused and started running in the wrong direction down the field. He ran sixty-five yards before one of his team-mates, Benny Lom, tackled him just in front of the goal line—otherwise Riegels could have scored a safety for the opposing team. UCLA was unable to move the ball from that point in the game. Georgia Tech blocked the punt and scored a safety on the play.

Since that strange play happened in the first half, everyone watching the game was asking the same question: "What will coach Nibbs Price do with Roy Riegels in the second half?" The players filed off the field, went into the dressing room, and sat down on the benches and the floor—all except Riegels. He put his blanket around his shoulders, sat down in a corner, put his face in his hands, and cried like a baby. A coach usually has a great deal to say to his team during halftime, but that day, Coach Price was quiet. No doubt he was trying to decide what to do with Riegels. Then the timekeeper came in and announced that there were only three minutes till play time. Price looked at the team and said simply, "Men, the same team that played the first half will start the second."

The players got up and started out—all but Riegels. He didn't budge. The coach looked back and called to him again; still he didn't move. Coach Price went over to where Riegels sat and said, "Roy, didn't you hear me? The same team that played the first half will start the second." Then Roy Riegels looked up and Price saw that his cheeks were wet with a strong man's tears.

"Coach," he said, "I can't do it to save my life. I've ruined you. I've ruined the University of California. I've ruined myself. I couldn't face that crowd in the stadium to save my life."

Then Coach Price put his hand on Riegels' shoulder and said, "Roy, get up and go on back. The game is only half over." And Roy Riegels went back, and those Georgia Tech players will tell you they have never seen a man play football as Roy Riegels did in that second half.

The grace of God is like Roy's coach. At times we feel as if we've messed up so badly that we want to give up and throw in the towel. God doesn't give up on us, though. He says, "Get up and get on out there. The game isn't over yet." The Gospel of the grace of God is the Gospel of the second chance, and the third chance, and the hundredth chance. We fumble the ball continually, but God never tosses us out of the game. He just keeps cheering us on.

If you would like to get to know the God of the second or even hundredth chance you are very welcome to come along to any of our Sunday Services in Shackleton Square at 10.30am or give me a ring on 01425 673245. PHIL COLE Church Leader

BRANSGORE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SPRING – GONE SO SOON!

It seems we wait so long in anticipation of it and then, whoops, it's gone; or maybe it just seems to whiz by because we try and pack so much into it. We certainly did have a full programme, a lecture in March, Spring Show in April, another lecture in April and the plant sale in May. We hope you enjoyed the events and that they made Springtime even more special for you.

THE SPRING SHOW was very well attended again this year with many more exhibitors overcoming nature's obvious desire to frustrate their efforts and providing a really lovely splash of colour to our enlarged and enhanced Village Hall. If only the weather would confirm to our idea of seasons, it would be so much easier (but where would the challenge be then?). A big Thank You to all who came along, whether to exhibit or not, we hope you enjoyed yourselves. It certainly seemed that you did by the happy buzz of conversation over tea in the Hall's bright new room that we used as our rest/tea room.

Trophies were awarded as follows :

Dove Shield	-	Douglas Patterson
Loader Cup	-	Pauline Booth
Faborge Cup	-	Gret Skeggs
Homecraft Vase	-	Gret Skeggs and Doreen Waller
Frampton Club	-	Janet Baines
Manley Coup	-	David Cox
Jennifer Reed Shield	-	Natalie Linford
Centenary Cup	-	Bea Lewis

THE PLANT SALE on May 5th and 6th was also very well supported, with a number of items sold out within the first hour. We do hope you found some bargains and they give many weeks of colour and interest in your garden. If you think of any plants you would like to be on sale, please let us know and we will look into the possibility of buying some for next year's sale. The proceeds from the sale help to provide what we hope is an interesting programme of events throughout the year. Many thanks for your much valued support.

FUTURE EVENTS AND 'DATES FOR YOUR DIARY'

JIM DUDLEY

6th CHRISTCHURCH (BRANSGORE) SCOUT GROUP

We have just held our Group AGM which was well attended. In preparing for the AGM, it's a time for reflection on what we have done throughout the year, what went well and what we would like to have done better.

For all sections it has been an extremely active year. They have all functioned very well and have very active and balanced programmes throughout the year, which are a credit to all the leaders. We must be doing something right as we continue to grow.

We have to complete a census for headquarters every year, and this year, Beavers had increased by 1 to 17 and Cubs reduced by 4 to 22, a more manageable number, however Scouts increased by 9 to 39 and this has since increased further to 42. With very low attrition and without an influx of new leaders to allow us to open new units, we have to maintain waiting lists in all sections. Regrettably, this will result in some young people missing out on the opportunities, experiences and challenges of being a member of the Bransgore Scout Group.

Bransgore is a very successful group but in order to maintain that success we need to recruit some additional leaders. 2 Assistant Beaver Leaders are leaving at the summer to continue their studies at University. Cubs need a couple more assistant leaders as do Scouts. Are you able to give up a couple of hours a week to help make a difference to the young people of the village, or do you know someone who would be interested. If so please give me a call. It is a very worthwhile role as well as being fun.

During the AGM we presented a number of awards to Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. We also made a presentation to Joy Pennick, who retired as the Group Treasurer. We are very grateful for all her hard work keeping our finances in check during a very busy couple of years. Further presentations were made to Beth Allebon and Sam Evans for their sterling efforts in Beavers. They will be leaving at the summer for a new life at University. We wish them all the best for their exam results and their in the new life. Sam will be working at a Scout Summer Camp in America throughout the summer. Finally we were honoured to welcome The County Commissioner for Dorset, Dr James Morton, to present the Queens Scout award to Brian Boyes. Brian joined Beavers at the age of 6 in Eastwood Essex and transferred to Bransgore Cubs when his family moved to the village. He followed on through Scouts and then Ventures in Bransgore and carried on in Network when he went to University in Bath. He attended the World Jamboree in Chile and was in the support team for the Thailand World Jamboree. In December 2005 Dr James Morton presented Brian with the Gold D.o.E award and in February this year he was invited to St James Palace to be officially presented with his award by Prince Phillip. He has now achieved the highest award for Scouting, The Queens Scout. Bransgore Scout Group is immensely proud of his achievements and hope he will be an inspiration to the whole troop. His hard work and determination have been greatly rewarded and we are now fortunate that he has returned to Bransgore as an assistant Scout leader.

Unfortunately during the year, we have suffered 3 break-ins and a great deal of vandalism. We have had to fit security shutters to the Scout HQ and make many repairs to both buildings. This has meant that we have had to reallocate money intended for scouting type activities to these unplanned expenditures.

None of this could have been achieved without the efforts of all the volunteers within the group, both uniformed and non-uniformed helpers who give of their time so freely. We have benefited from a very strong committee who have supported the group admirably, in what has been a very challenging year. I would like to thank everyone

GRAHAM PEDDER Group Scout Leader 01425 672914

Enquiries:

Beavers:	Lesley Manley	01425 672667
Cubs :	Ginny Hebden	01425 674721
Scouts :	Mike Manley	01425 672667
Scout HQ and Ann's Lodge hire:	Liz Holroyd	01425 673398

THORNEY HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

THE HALL IS 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)

SCALLYWAGS

Sallywags is a Parent/Carer, Baby and Toddler Group which meets at the Community Church, Shackleton Square on Thursday mornings in term time between 10.00 am and 11.30 am. We have various toys and activities for the children to enjoy and serve drinks and biscuits. It is a friendly and information environment offering Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers and Children an opportunity to get to know each other..

We make a nominal charge of £1.00 per family.

For more information, telephone Ruth on 673147 or Liz on 674231.

BRANSGORE PROBUS CLUB

Probity II has had a mixed time recently spending two terms in hospital. This meant missing two of our talks.

Chris Manner took over very quickly when the actual speaker had to cancel. Chris is one of our own members and he talked of his time in Uganda. This is a very tough place at the moment where a great need of hospital care is needed – especially in the case of AIDS.

Our May speaker was Roger Coleman, a military man, who “introduced” us to ten members of the Royal Hampshire Regiment who had won the Victoria Cross. Each man thoroughly enjoyed his Cross, but one could not but help thinking that an amount of luck is needed to gain the award.

Probity now expects to continue at all future lunches and duly write up the notes.

PROBITY II

BRANSGORE LUNCH CLUB

As we approach the halfway mark for 2006, the Bransgore Lunch Club is sadly facing a drop in the numbers of both members and helpers. Those members who still attend continue to enjoy and appreciate the lunches provided in a friendly and social atmosphere. We would, however, like to find more members to fill existing vacancies, so if you are interested in joining us, please contact either Shirley Tobias on telephone number 01425 673078 or Pat Newman on telephone number 01425 673678.

The Bransgore Lunch Club has been in existence for over 20 years. It aims to provide lunches for anyone over the age of 60 without a partner. For the sum of £3.00 (from September), a freshly cooked lunch is provided in congenial company. This includes

a main course (often a roast), a sweet plus tea or coffee. Members attend once a week on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday, unless they are over the age of 90, in which case they are eligible to attend twice a week. Transport is provided for anyone who needs it.

The Lunch Club AGM took place on Monday, 8th May. Shirley Tobias continues as Chairman, Mary Carlow as Treasurer and Pat Newman as Secretary. Thoughts are now turning to our Annual Coffee Morning. This is scheduled for Thursday, 6th July, at 10.30 am. at Ann's Lodge (formerly the Boys' Brigade Hut). As usual there will be a variety of stalls and activities including tombola, a bric-a-brac stall, plant, cake and produce stalls and a raffle. The entrance fee of 50 pence includes coffee and biscuits. Contribution to any of the stalls would be gratefully received. Funds raised by the Coffee Morning go towards providing Christmas Lunch for members. Both members and non-members are cordially invited to the coffee morning, and we look forward to welcoming you all.

We still urgently need helpers, drivers and cake makers to keep the Lunch Club running smoothly. If you feel you could possibly spend between 2 and 3 hours ONCE A MONTH to assist in any way whatsoever, please ring Shirley (01425 673078) or Pat (01425 673678). We would be delighted to hear from you – we really do need your help.

BRANSGORE EVENING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Our Guild held their AGM on March 27th at the Resource Centre when we presented the Red Cross with a cheque for £400 to be used for at least two wheel chairs and other necessary items for the Medical Loan here in the village. We have also purchased two seats at the newly refurbished Regent Centre so when you next visit you might see The Guild seats!!

We once again had a stall at the Village Fun Day with games; guess the name of and books where we started our charity fund off for this coming year. It was a lovely day and enjoyed by one and all.

Events for the coming year are being booked, the first one being our 'Midsummer Madness' Garden Party, which is being held at Mount Stewart. Chapel Lane on Friday 16th June from 6.30 p.m. when we will be serving Pimms and Nibbles with a prize for the best (or worst) hat bought from a Charity shop! In August around 14 members and friends will be visiting Warwick Castle for the day. September 3rd will once again be our annual BBQ, which will be held at Anderwood in the New Forest from 12 noon onwards, starting with a walk to wet our appetites.

Talks between now and September include our very own Post Master, Phil Stenner on 'Saving local Post Offices', 'Life and work with a police dog' with PC Glenn and 'Fungi' with New Forest Ranger, Paul Hibberd. This last talk will be followed with a walk in October to see whether we had listened properly!!

Townswomen's Guild is held on the 4th Monday of each month at the Resource Centre, Ringwood Road, with a social get together and speaker. New members are always welcome. If you are interested please give Melissa Sheppard (Chairperson) a call on 674065 or just come along.

BRANSGORE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

BRANSGORE CELEBRATES 21 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL TWINNING

Well what a splendid and memorable occasion it was! Bransgore Twinners were delighted to welcome thirty French adults and children from our twinned village of

Saint Georges Montcocq in Normandy into their various homes in the village during the May Bank holiday week-end.

1985 would appear to be a long time ago when through the inspiration and determination of our founding members, in association with the agreement and co-operation of village civic leaders, twinning arrangements between the two villages were set into motion. Alternate visits have been organised between the communities throughout the past twenty one years.

The celebrations commenced on Saturday afternoon 29th April with the arrival of our guests who welcomed a short respite at home with their hosts after their long journey.

There then followed a somewhat bumpy but nevertheless enjoyable journey across Dorset in a 'traditional' (some may suggest vintage) double decker bus to Swanage where a total of eighty four people boarded a blast from the past steam train named 'Wessex Belle'.

After a few moments to allow everybody to be comfortably seated in the restaurant cars the train huffed and puffed out of Swanage station on a journey which doubtless brought back for many of those on board fond memories of former times. While the train travelled sedately up and down the line between Swanage and Harmonds Cross stations on a fine Saturday evening, we all enjoyed an excellent dinner efficiently served with copious wine by friendly and attentive staff over the next three hours in the company of our friends, to then return to Bransgore via our majestic carriage.

A Reception and tea party was held in Bransgore Village Hall on Sunday afternoon and nearly one hundred people joined the lively party. The New Forest was represented by Michael Pemberton, Chair of the District Council. Mrs Sally Owen, Chair of Bransgore Parish Council and Mrs Sam Clarke, the Parish Clerk, represented the political life of the Village. Reverend Richard Clarke represented the spiritual life of Bransgore. Bransgore Scout Group, who have often camped at St Georges Montcocq, were represented by Mr and Mrs Mike Manley.

A commemorative tree that was generously donated by the Bransgore Parish Council and supplied by MacPenny's Nursery was planted adjacent to the village hall. Mr Jeffery Green, President of Bransgore Twinning Association and M. Jean-Yves Laurence Mayor of St. Georges Montcocq took the spade together as its red, white and blue ribbons fluttered in the cool wind.

Many of the Founder members whose vision it was to develop the concept of Twinning, attended the celebrations and represented Bransgore and St Georges Montcocq. A number of Bransgore members who are no longer able to travel abroad were thrilled to meet old friends and muse over shared experiences.

The Association is particularly delighted that fifteen children joined in the celebrations and their presence added to the enthusiastic atmosphere. Many took part in a competition about Bransgore and Lauren Bennet contributed the best Bransgore entry and Sabrina and Kevin Duchemin were the outstanding winners for the French group.

Our French guests presented the Bransgore Twinning Association with a pewter jug and a shield portraying the Normandy insignia. Bransgore twinners responded by presenting a framed collage created from memorable photographs of twenty one years of friendship, a gift which really delighted our visitors.

A 21st birthday cake was cut and a sumptuous tea was enjoyed by all. The local press printed a photograph of Founder Members from both countries who assisted in the ceremonial cutting of the cake.

On Monday morning our visitors were entertained to a delightful tour of Christchurch by a bi-lingual guide.

As May Day is an important event in France, each lady was presented at the time for the departure of our friends with a sprig of Lily of the Valley, a traditional French gift on May Day. It is said to bring good luck and as they left more gifts were exchanged.

I am advised by Judith Allebon, Chair of the Twinning Association that four French families are expected to join the St, George's twidders during this summer. We would very much hope to be able to welcome new members from Bransgore who would like to be linked with French families.

Detailed information and photographs of the recent activity are available on our excellent web site at www.bransgoretwinning.org.uk Do visit it to read about our latest social events including a B.B.Q. on 16th July. DAPHNE M. CRISP

Publicity Secretary 01425 673684

SOPLEY WI

We are an evening group which meets at 7.00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the Scout Hut in Burnt House Lane. Other activities include a walk followed by a pub lunch on the first Wednesday of each month. New members will be warmly welcomed.

For further information contact Sally Hickling, President, on 01202 476939.

NEWS FROM AVON TYRRELL ACTIVITY & RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Unfortunately we have not yet been able to start on the fourth new Norwegian log cabin but we are keeping our fingers cross that it won't be long before erection is underway and that it will be closely followed by the remaining two, bringing the total up to six.

But we are pleased to report that the toilets and showers have been upgraded in both the main house and the main loo block up on the camping area. We are most grateful to all those who have made it happen.

In the Spring Newsletter we announced that during the weekend of 6th-8th October we will be holding a series of fund-raising events. to coincide with the celebrations marking the one hundredth anniversary of the building of All Saints Church at Thorney Hill, which is the Manners family chapel. These will be as follows :

October 6th Friday evening – Race night, with supper

“ 7th Saturday evening – 60s/70s Disco with “Elvis”

“ 8th Sunday afternoon – Tours of the Grade I Listed House and Gardens including light refreshments. This coincides with the celebrations markin the 100th anniversary of the Manners' family chapel, All Saints, Thorney Hill.

Full details, times, ticket prices, etc. will be included in the next Newsletter but please make a note in your diaries now.

The Friends of Avon Tyrrell will be holding their annual Carols for Christmas (with a three-course supper as usual) on Friday, 15th December. There is already a booking from a party who were unlucky to get tickets last year when the event was over-subscribed!

We have been setting up a 'Bursary Fund' ready to launch to applicants in early 2007. The aim is to offer free and subsidised places for young people, who might not normally be able to afford it, to attend Avon Tyrrell for holidays, training courses and activities. More details of this and how you can help our fundraising goals are at www.avontyrrell.org.uk/fundraising.org.uk

If you want to catch up with other news, holiday fundays for kids, events and jobs available, take a look at our website at www.avontyrrell.org.uk, it's all on there. Alternatively, please do call us on 672347 during office hours for further information.
R.L.BONNEY Centre Director