

BRAMHAM CUM OGLETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



**18TH EDITION
MAY 2025**

Annual Newsletter 18th Edition, May 2025

Welcome to Bramham cum Oglethorpe Parish Council's Annual Newsletter. It is one of the ways in which the Council communicates with residents and encourages residents to share their experiences with regard to the many and varied societies and groups within the Parish, providing valuable information about what goes on in and around Bramham.

During preparation of this newsletter Bramham clubs and community groups were contacted and invited to provide an update of their activities over the past year. We, the Parish Council would like to thank everyone who replied with a contribution.

Once again, the newsletter is only being published online and is available on the website www.bramhamparishcouncil.gov.uk . However, if you or anyone you know would like a printed copy, please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@bramhamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

All the articles in this newsletter are produced by the organisations concerned and whilst every reasonable care is taken to try and ensure their correctness and accuracy, Bramham cum Oglethorpe Parish Council can only apologise for any errors or omissions that might appear, Also, apart from the Chair's Report, all the articles have been assembled in random order and the full list of contributors is as detailed below.

Contributions received from:

Bramham Parish Council
Bramham Reader's group
All Saints' Church
Bramham Village Hall
The Village Hub
Bramham Community Fund
Parish Planters
Bramham Badminton Group
Mums and Tots
Bramham Parish Magazine
Bramham NSPCC Fundraising Group
Bramham in Bloom
Bramham Running Club
Bramham Bellringers
Bramham Football Club
WiSE
Tenter Hill Allotments
Folly Allotments
Bramham versus Arthritis
West Yorkshire Police – Wetherby PACT
Bramham Drama Group
Bramham Post Office and Convenience Store
Bramham Community Action Group

Thank you to all who have responded, Cllrs TP & MC

BRAMHAM PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIR’S REPORT 2025

Dear Fellow Residents

Bramham House development:

The year 2024/2025 will be remembered for many reasons not least of which will be the tree work which had been carried out on the Bramham House site and the controversy which it caused amongst residents; this amidst confusion over whether planning permission from a previous application remained extant or had expired. A further planning application was refused early in 2024, and the site has remained dormant and secured, except for further maintenance tree and shrubbery work agreed by LCC. An additional planning application is expected later in 2025. The developers are currently seeking pre-application advice and feedback, which has included a brief general presentation to the Parish Council on 12th March 2025. This was followed by a presentation and an open session for all interested parties at Bramham Pavilion on 19th March 2025. Further plans and information are available on the developer’s website www.bramhamsite-consultation.co.uk.

Children’s Playground:

The annual inspection of the playground revealed that a number of the pieces of equipment no longer complied with the current standards but remained serviceable and safe to use. The cost of repairing one piece of equipment alone has been just short of £2000.00. Because of the age of the equipment and the poor state of the surrounding playing surfaces and fencing the Council has acknowledged that the playground will need replacing in about 5 years’ time to ensure compliance with the then standards and general safety for those using the equipment. The Council has started ring fencing funds to help cover the cost of replacement and the Community Fund has very generously agreed to help in this matter. The cost of replacement of the playground will be substantial and the Council will be approaching grant sources to help complement the Council’s contribution and the Community Fund’s generosity. If the Bramham House development goes ahead it might be prudent to re-site the playground elsewhere on the playing field to avoid it being possibly opposite one of the entrances into the development.

Bramham Sports’ Pavilion:

The Sports’ Pavilion has had a difficult year with two floods. The first involved a failure of the switch valve to the outside tap from the kitchen. The kitchen had to be dried out and new kicking board seals and flooring arranged, fortunately this was covered by the Council’s insurance. The second flood involved a failure of one of the digital mixing valves servicing the visitor’s shower room. Thankfully neither of the floods were weather related but rather failure of the equipment. The showers are back in service and the strip lights which had been flooded have been replaced. Fortunately, there was little interruption in the usage of the Pavilion.

A structural survey has identified a number of problems which will require repairing and which include disintegration and breaking up of the reconstituted stonework below the damp proof course, loosening of the ridge tiles which require recementing, replacement/repair of the rear door, replacement of the cill in front of the French doors and a number of more minor problems. At the time of preparing this report quotations are being sought for the major repairs which if not addressed could lead to health and safety issues.

The Memorial Cross in the Square:

Because of the weather and the backup of work it took longer than at first anticipated to repair and clean the Memorial Cross. The work has now been completed and once again the Council would like to thank the Community Fund for its financial support in this endeavour.

Unfortunately, the stanchions which surround the cross have suffered over the last year with three of them being accidentally snapped off by vehicles. These have now all been repaired. It would be preferable (and less damaging) if vehicles refrained from parking around the Memorial Cross.

The Parish Centre:

The Parish Centre is now being used more regularly both during the public hours in the daytime and for private meetings/functions in the evenings. A wide range of established community groups, and new groups, are using the Centre in the evenings. The Council has received positive feedback from individuals and community groups who value the Parish Centre. Bramham is fortunate to have this freely available community space with wi-fi, kitchen facilities and an accessible toilet. Sadly, there was a period during the year when the interior was subject to episodes of antisocial behaviour with the scattering of debris and surface damage to the walls and table surfaces. Council reluctantly took the decision to install CCTV and apart from some general untidiness the matter appears to have resolved. The CCTV is strictly controlled and can only be accessed by the Clerk so it will not interfere with those who treat the Centre in an appropriate manner.

Coffee and tea remain available free of charge, but users are respectfully asked to clear up and wash up after using the crockery and cutlery; please do not spoil use of the facility for other residents.

A new defibrillator is now available on the end wall of the centre. Access is via the Ambulance Service. Finally, I could not leave the topic of the Parish Centre without expressing Council's thanks to Jane Paterson and her group of volunteers (collectively known as the Parish Planters) for designing, planting and generally maintaining the garden area around the Centre. With the help of funding from the Community Fund they have transformed the area which last year was impressive, and this year will be even better – thank you.

Bramham Parish Show:

The weather over the weekend of the Bramham Show was not particularly good but there were plenty of hardy exhibitors who were there to show off their produce. For those that did attend a good time was had by all, despite the weather, and the exhibits were up to their usual standard. Hopefully this year the weather will be better on the **13th September**. Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with setting up and dismantling of the marquee, a task which can be challenging at the best of times but especially so in windy conditions.

Neighbourhood Plan Review:

Under the Chairmanship of Councillor Adam Pumfrey, the current Plan will be reviewed in the context of the changing political, economic and demographic environment and to this end a drop-in open meeting was held on the 20th February, attended by Ian Mackay, a senior planning officer to initiate the process. Further details can be found under the separate heading in the Newsletter.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow Councillors for their individual actions and support and a special thank you to Nancy Fairbairn, our Parish Clerk, who manages to keep us under control and always offers sage advice.

Cllr. Mike Corrigan, Bramham cum Oglethorpe Parish Council.

BRAMHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING REVIEW

The meeting on the 20th of February, chaired by Cllr Pumfrey, focused on reviewing and updating the current Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Ian Mackay, a Leeds City Council (LCC) Planning Officer, highlighted Bramham's pioneering role in adopting an NP and emphasized LCC's support for such plans. He suggested improvements to the existing plan, including updating census data, addressing outdated parts of the NP, holding a referendum and enhancing heritage aspects.

The meeting discussed the importance of aligning the NP review with LCC's Local Plan development and upcoming planning reforms. Ian Mackay stressed the need for community involvement and collaboration with neighbouring parishes. Residents raised concerns about affordable housing, infrastructure, and engaging diverse demographics in the planning process.

Key points included:

- The need for a bottom-up approach to ensure community ownership
- Potential for site allocation for affordable housing
- Importance of up-to-date evidence and clear policies
- Consideration of infrastructure and services for all age groups

The meeting concluded with plans to form a diverse Steering Group to lead the NP review process. Ian Mackay offered LCC's support in providing data and guidance to ensure an effective and focused review.

We are looking for Bramham residents to take part in the NP Steering Group to ensure their voices are heard, contribute local insights, and shape the future development of our Bramham community in a way that reflects Bramham's unique needs and aspirations.

Please contact Cllr Pumfrey; adam.pumfrey@bramhamparishcouncil.gov.uk if you wish to take part.

ROAD SAFETY MEETINGS FOR BRAMHAM AND CLIFFORD

In July 2024 it was decided that there should be Road Safety meetings, held quarterly in the outlying Ward villages, not just monthly within Wetherby itself where village issues tended, for obvious reasons, not to take priority. The meetings would be chaired by Ward Councillor Alan Lamb (Chair of the monthly Wetherby meeting) and attended by Ward Councillors Norma Harrington and Penny Stables, the Senior Highways Engineer for the area, Parish Councillors and local residents; with no specific agenda other than to identify traffic and road safety concerns and prioritise current and future actions to address the issues.

Because of the close association between Clifford and Bramham the meetings involving the two villages have been combined, the first took place in the Bramham Parish Centre on 10th September 2024 with subsequent meetings being held on the first Tuesday of the month at three monthly intervals; December 3rd, 2024, March 4th, 2025, with the next meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 3rd June 2025. All meetings have been scheduled to begin at 4pm and are held in Bramham Parish Centre.

The following matters of relevance to Bramham which have been discussed and either been addressed or are currently being considered for action include the second pedestrian access to Bramham Primary School (almost concluded), the speed of vehicles along Toulston Lane and the danger in the region where Black Wood fronts the road (especially to cyclists, horses and their riders), the speed of vehicles along Aberford Road and the junction of Bowcliffe Road and Paradise Way where there have been a number of serious incidents over the past couple of years. A number of parking issues around the village have also been discussed and are being monitored.

These meetings are open to all residents either as an observer or participant. If there are any issues or concerns that you would like to raise but you are not able to attend then please e-mail clerk@bramhamparishcouncil.gov.uk. The dates and time are advertised on the website www.bramhamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Your opinion matters and this is an ideal forum to voice it given that all the relevant important personnel are present and are willing to listen.

Cllr. Mike Corrigan, Bramham cum Oglethorpe Parish Council.

BRAMHAM READERS' GROUP

The Readers' group has had another enjoyable year exploring the works of a wide variety of authors from different genres. Our meetings are very informal and include a lot of laughter as well as some very interesting discussions.

Meetings are held at 7.30, once a month in the "Swan" on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings in rotation; this gives people the chance to join us when they can. New members are welcome

Contacts: Jillian Lawson 07858293980 or Marion Hogg 844191



Bramham Community Action Group (BCAG) is made up of local residents who organise events for the village. Notable events in the past include Christmas lights switch on, and a summer gala.

2024 was a quiet year for the committee as we focused on planning for future events. The Christmas light switch on was scheduled for Friday 6th December but had to be cancelled due to the weather however the Xmas tree in the Parish Centre as well as the Christmas lights across the village went ahead as planned. The jubilee gardens continue to be maintained through funding from BCAG as well as the hard work by Keith Innocent (thank you Keith).

2025 is an exciting year for the committee with many events already planned - hopefully you have seen some in the parish magazine and on Facebook.

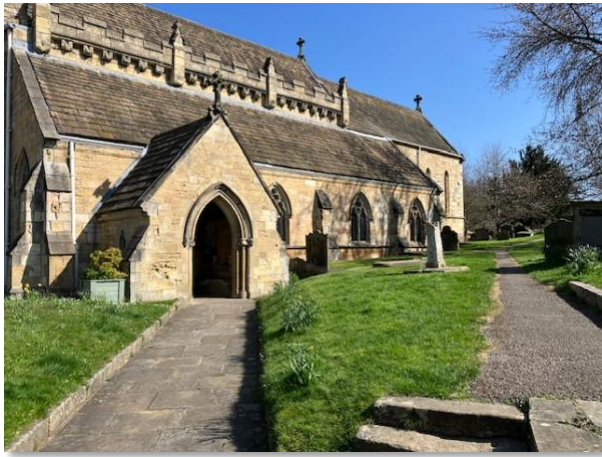
On Sunday 11th May we will be holding an Open Gardens and Scarecrow Festival which is VE themed to tie in with the 80th Anniversary of VE Day on the 8th May. All Bramham residents are welcome to put up a scarecrow and maps will be available for sale (£3) at the Parish Centre from 10am – 2pm. We look forward to seeing you all there!

On Saturday 28th June, the Bramham Gala is back! The event will run from 11am to 4pm at the Bramham Pavillion. There will be birds of prey, a dog show, vintage cars, performances from Ruby Dance Studio, food, drink and so much more. If you are interested in having a stall (£10), please contact nhall@apcclothing.co.uk.

Finally, we are happy to report that we have received funding from the Bramham community fund and therefore will be able to put up more Christmas lights than usual across the village as well as the usual tree in the Parish Centre. Details for the annual lights switch on will follow later in the year.

As ever, we are always on the lookout for new members so if you would like to get involved, please contact me on 07587 090 158.

Jess Bryan, Chair, BCAG



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BRAMHAM – ANNUAL REPORT 2024/5

All Saints' Church is situated at the heart of the village and has been a place of worship for over a thousand years. Over its long history, it has played an important part in the life of the village, and it is still open every day for anyone to come in. Regular church events such as the Plant sale and Craft Fair, the Brass Band Concert, the Christmas fair and Christmas Tree Competition and Carols in the Churchyard have been well supported by

the community and this is much appreciated. The church congregation has also taken part in community events such as the Parish Council's Produce show in September. The Parish Magazine, which is delivered free to every house in Bramham for 10 months of the year, is a valuable vehicle for distributing news and information for groups and individuals.

We have been fortunate to have help with our services from two new members of the clergy team. The Reverend William Marshall who, with his wife Sammi, has moved into the village, and our new curate, Reverend Hannah Moore. Their contribution to the worship at All Saints' is much appreciated.

Reverend Glenda has continued to forge links with Bramham School by visiting the school and facilitating school visits to the Church. We were very pleased to welcome Bramham School to All Saints' for their annual carol service last year.

The beautiful churchyard gives pleasure to all those who visit it throughout the year and provides a refuge for all kinds of wildlife. We are grateful to all those people who work to keep it in good order. There was a very good response to our appeal for volunteers to take part in a "clean up" in the churchyard. Many thanks to all those who worked very hard to produce a great result, and to those who tend graves who have continued to keep the churchyard tidy.

The cost of keeping the church open and in good order continues to rise. A recent architect's report has indicated that extensive repairs to the church roof are necessary. We are grateful to everyone who supports the Church via the Parish Giving Scheme, the Open Door Scheme, and by donations of any kind.

You will be warmly welcomed at any of our services, but you can also visit during the day either to enjoy the peace and beauty of the ancient building or perhaps have a livelier time with your children, exploring the church building and the toys and activities available. Dogs are welcome to bring their owners in at any time! Times of services and contact details for the clergy and churchwardens are available in the Parish Magazine and the Church notice board.

Jillian Lawson and Chips Browning
The Churchwardens



BRAMHAM VILLAGE HALL

The hall continues to be a popular venue for regular and one off hirers whilst also continuing to provide a service to residents through the Hub , Mums & Tots and the Christmas events. We have also provided defibrillator and first aid training facilities.

In addition, we continue to organise events to both entertain and raise funds for maintenance and improvement of the hall and for other local charities.

The major event this year was a gig which brought to Bramham , all the way from New Jersey , the Billy Walton Band. What a band and what a night that was with the hall packed with an appreciative audience!

This year we also considered our younger residents with a Taylor Swift tribute evening . The youngsters (and many mums !) turned out in best Taylor Swift gear. For the perhaps less enthusiastic dads there was also our well stocked bar to turn to . The evening proved to be a really enjoyable family evening.

On a quieter but no less enjoyable note we repeated the “ Quiz with a Difference “ . Again, the hall was packed and this year the Chairman’s team did not finish last ! next to last but an improvement !

The annual Christmas Lunch also returned this year and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Again, this was an off shoot of the very successful Monday Hub (see separate Hub report).

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the volunteers who make both The Hub and Mums and Tots so successful.

After a long process we are now close to completing our transmission to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with all the benefits this will bring . We hope to have a Village Hall relaunch event sometime this year.

Going forward , our focus continues to be upon maintenance and improvement of the hall. A deep clean of the hall has taken place and by the time you read this article we hope to have completed a full repainting of the interior of the hall. New curtains are also planned. A new shutter to the bar area has already been fitted. In addition, both a dishwasher and a glasswasher will be installed to make life easier for our users.

We have managed to keep our prices to probably the most reasonable in the area with only a small inflationary increase to hire charges. The hall’s finances remain healthy and we are able to look forward to another successful year ahead

As always at this time I would like to take the opportunity to thank my fellow committee members for their hard work and the residents of our lovely village for your ongoing support.

Stewart Gibson
Chairman ,
Bramham Village Hall Management Committee

THE VILLAGE HUB

Run by Villagers for Villagers!!



The Village Hub is a not-for-profit, drop-in community meeting place and café run entirely by volunteers from the village. It provides somewhere for people of all ages to meet up, keep warm and enjoy spending time together! We are open every Monday (except bank holidays) from 11.30am to 2pm in Bramham Village Hall and provide a warm, welcoming, safe, supportive and familiar space, where residents can enjoy a cuppa, a bowl of soup, soft drinks and home-made cakes, read magazines, play cards & games, swap books, CDs & jigsaws, share stories and more.

The Village Hall Committee decided to kick start the café in view of the rising costs of living and growing issue of social isolation faced by so many village residents. It has a five star Food Hygiene Rating and offers tea, coffee and biscuits for free to anyone who comes through the doors!! The Village Hub is signed up to Leeds City Council's and Voluntary Action Leeds' "Warm Welcome Scheme" and is part of network of Welcome Spaces across Leeds that offer a heated, friendly and safe space, where people can comfortably spend time in a warm and safe environment.

The Hub has presented a wonderful opportunity for residents and community groups to pull together to support those less fortunate in our community. It has been the place where villagers can meet their ward councillors, learn about volunteering in the community, hear about subjects of local and community interest, and make connections with other community groups and local support organizations.

In the last year the Village Hub has hosted talks on fire safety, crime prevention, banking fraud, social prescribing and the plans to transform Martin House Hospice. We were entertained by guest speakers on subjects as diverse as George Hudson - the Railway King and the History of the Intensive Care Unit, listened to stories from author Neil Hanson about his time running Swaledale's world famous Tan Hill Inn, and the Yorkshire Post's Sue Woodcock about her journey from being a police officer to becoming a shepherd in the Yorkshire Dales. We also hosted a Christmas Wreath Making Workshop run by Bramham NSPCC as well as running our own free bingo sessions, an "Olympic Bake Off Challenge", and a special "Christmas Celebration" event, which was attended by more than seventy residents.

The Hub is sponsored by the Village Hall, Bramham Community Fund, Wetherby in Support of the Elderly (WiSE) and Wetherby Lions, and supported by many local residents and businesses, but, most of all, it's about a dedicated band of village volunteers giving their time week in, week out for the benefit of their community!

The Village Hub is a haven at the centre of our village for anyone who wants some friendly company to pass the time with, or just to hang out. Whether it's because they're feeling the squeeze, on their own or just want to be sociable, there is a warm welcome for everyone! And for anyone passing through our village, it showcases what the community of Bramham represents, a group of people who not only live in the same area but care about each other!!

Pete Dunn, Bramham Village Hub

BRAMHAM COMMUNITY FUND

The Bramham Community Fund was set up by the owners of Bramham Park and the promoter Festival Republic in 2003 to distribute the monies available to Bramham as a result of the Leeds Festival. This money has come from donations made by residents obtaining heavily discounted tickets for the event. Every year, a committee under the chairmanship of Nick and Rachel Lane Fox considers applications for grants from community organisations. Since the Fund was set up, it has made grants of £540,000.

The objective of the Fund is generally to support community projects and these must benefit the residents of Bramham. The Fund does not support commercial activities or private individuals.

This year, applications were received for more than double the funds available. As a result, the committee at its meeting on 4 March was only able to accept some of the applications and in some cases for a smaller amount than that requested.

The following grants were made:

Bramham Village Hall.	Christmas lunch/hamper for elderly and isolated residents	£500
1 st Clifford Scouts	Camping equipment	£1370
Bramham Bellringers	New ropes	£1872
Bramham Village Hall	Kitchen and bar improvements	£2000
Bramham in Bloom	Bulbs, baskets and watering equipment	£3000
Community Action Group	Christmas lights, summer gala	£5000
Bramham School	Multi-use games area	£7165
Bramham Parish Council	Children's playground replacement	£10,000
All Saints' Church	Damp alleviation	£10,000

The Fund also supports the shuttle bus between the village and the festival and the ticket administration costs.

It is expected that the committee will meet in March 2026 to consider grants from the 2025 Festival. An announcement will be made in the magazine nearer the date and any community organisation wishing to apply for a grant will be required to submit an application no later than 14 February 2026.

Colin Pool
Secretary to the Fund



PARISH PLANTERS

Having been involved with the initial planning, soil preparation and planting of the garden at the newly built Parish Centre, beginning mid 2023 the “Parish Planters” were formed in April 2024 to maintain the garden for the foreseeable future. The hard landscaping and initial planting and soil enrichment was generously supported by a grant from the Community Fund administered through the Parish Council.

Volunteers were sought who could donate a few hours a month to help maintain and develop the newly planted garden and we now have a core group of six volunteers and meet at the Centre on an ad hoc basis depending on what needs to be done. New volunteers are always very welcome so if you see us in the garden then please come and have a chat. It’s been an interesting year watching what has come up well and survived the very wet weather last year and but for one or two plants all have so far survived!



It is gratifying to have received many favourable comments about the garden and we look forward to seeing what this year brings with its first full growing season. Please come and have a look...we are aiming for a seasonal display. In addition to enhancing the visual appeal, we have also planted herbs such as bay, marjoram, and rosemary which are available for culinary use.

Jane Paterson, Parish Planters

BRAMHAM HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

The collection of Historic documents held by the West Yorkshire Archive Service (WYAS) can be accessed by either sending an e-mail to leeds@wyjs.org.uk or telephoning 0113 5350155, the reference number for the collection is WYAS9242.

To ensure e-mails sent to systems which do not support TKLS data encryption standards can now be safely received WYAS is now using M365 Purview Message Encryption. You may receive a response to your e-mail enquiry from a wyjs e-mail account saying it has sent you a protected message. If you receive this response you will need to click on the Read the message link and follow the on-screen prompts to read the message, either by logging into the portal using your Microsoft account, your Google account, or by entering a one-time password that will be sent to your e-mail address.

BRAMHAM BADMINTON GROUP

The badminton group have played in the Village Hall for more than 30 years. Currently we play from 6.30 - 7.30. If you are interested in having a few games please contact Margaret by email on madgemorgan5@gmail.com and she would be happy to take any enquiries.

MUMS AND TOTS

Mum's and Tot's Group returned in the New Year to celebrate our 8th year with plenty of balloons and cake.

It was also nice to have some newcomers and to meet their carers and family. We are well supported at the moment and have a good attendance each week. Our staff of six volunteers are conscientious and ready for any eventualities. We also have two Village Hall Committee Members who cover for holidays and sickness, we thank them all for their dedication.

Recently we have been given a donation of musical instruments. The children have been happy to form a little orchestra and play along with some "time counting" songs. (We apologise for any extra loud noise coming from the Hall on Wednesday mornings!!)

We have been working on our co-ordination skills in the last few weeks, our pencil holding and scissor cutting techniques will be soon put to good use. On the run up to Easter the group were making baskets and cards for the occasion, rewarded by the Easter Bunny with some chocolate goodies.

Later on in the year we will be doing more craft ideas on Summer topics. Then, after our short Summer break, we return in September when we will have to say goodbye to some of our older kids as the start (Big School), but they usually pop in to see us during term time holidays with their younger siblings.

We are a friendly group providing a safe and caring environment and try to provide more traditional type sessions.

Linda Matthews, Mums and tots.

BRAMHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

The Parish Magazine is delivered free to every household in the Parish, 780 copies each month. Our thanks go to the loyal Advertisers, many of whom have been supporting the Magazine for years, and although these advertising fees do not cover the full cost of the production of the magazine the shortfall is met by the Parish Council and we are very thankful to them. This year we acknowledge a donation from The Village Hall. Some time ago we asked all residents via the magazine if they would like to donate just £1 each year from each household and this would clear the deficit for the previous year. As a result, the response has been amazing, the Bramham residents have been very generous. Last year the Community fund donated £1,500 towards the costs of the magazine and this has been particularly helpful, and, for the time being we should be able to produce the magazine without suffering a loss.

Jillian Lawson has a splendid team of people who deliver the magazines. Writes Printers assist me every month by sorting out the last minutes snags and I am extremely grateful to Paula at Writes for all her help, patience and good humour!

We welcome articles from all organisations in the village and we hope residents find the magazine useful. The Parish Magazine can be viewed on-line on the Parish Council website.

We welcome new advertisers all the time and if you know of any Company that might be interested in supporting the magazine please get in touch with Anne Palmer at bramham.magazine@gmail.com.

NSPCC BRAMHAM REPORT 2024/25

The NSPCC is the UK's leading charity, campaigning and working in child protection. It was founded in 1884 and is the only UK children's charity with statutory powers that enables it to take action to safeguard children at risk of all kinds of abuse.

'Everything we do protects children today and prevents abuse tomorrow to transform society for every childhood'.

There has been a fundraising group in Bramham for more than 30 years. Our objectives are to publicise and maintain the profile of this national charity, whilst raising valuable funds.

We are committed to including and involving the community of Bramham in our objectives and very much enjoy supporting other local groups as well as organising our own ever popular Village Hall events.

Our large events are always very popular and whatever the theme, attendees can be assured of a delicious meal and a carefully stocked wine and beer bar. This year we hosted a retired headmaster for a lunchtime lighthearted reflection on his career, a Ceilidh band for an energetic evening of dancing and a fighter pilot who presented us with a very thought provoking insight into life in the RAF.

Together with sums raised from the sale of Christmas Cards, wreath making and general donations our total for the year 2024/25 is **£5,553.41**

Since taking on the role in 2005, our treasurer has recorded an astonishing **£73,275.60** raised by Bramham NSPCC Committee. Thank you to all our supporters.

We are a committee of 11 ladies and would welcome anyone who would like to join us. We meet very informally a few times a year.

We are also very grateful to the friends, residents, and family who turn up on an ad hoc basis to help set up, clear up, wash up and give much valued expertise. Thank you.

If you require any more information or would like to help in any way, please contact Margaret Morgan on 01937 844688 or at madgemorgan5@gmail.com

'Every child is worth fighting for'

BRAMHAM IN BLOOM

Committee Members:

Chair – Kate Pirie

Secretary – Rochelle Page

Treasurer – Alison French

Committee meetings held on:

19/8/24

16/10/24

20/11/24 (AGM meeting.)

5/2/25

Main areas for the committee this year.

1. Funding - we applied to the Bramham Community Fund for funds, we were granted £3,000 on 11th March 2025.
2. Working parties - we have three working parties per year, where locals get together for 2 hours on a Sunday to work on an area of the village. These normally take place in April / June and Oct. The committee will work on smaller areas of the village alone or together throughout the year. We can get between 0 - 8 volunteers at these events.
3. Our AGM was attended by 7 people (including the committee) and the main areas on the agenda were:
 1. Downsizing due to lack of support,
 2. volunteer recruitment, and
 3. sustainability moving forward.
4. We currently have 9 sponsors who pay a total of £1115 per year to Bloom.
5. Benches - we have two benches; we have donated one to the Church Yard and the other bench will be positioned at Farfield Garden.
6. Summer maintenance and watering is always a discussion point, we intend to buy a watering cart with money from the Bramham Fund.
7. Open gardens and other group activity in the village - we are keen to help and join forces where we can. Open gardens in May.
8. Bulb planting - we are wanting to plant more bulbs around the village, so we have colour for longer. Funds granted through Bramham Fund.
9. The committee are worried about the 'life' of Bramham in Bloom as there are few people showing an interest in the village. We feel that as it stands Bloom may only have 1 or 2 years left with the current Committee.

Kate Pirie (Chair)

BRAMHAM RUNNING CLUB

Bramham Running Club has been 'running' now for over fifteen years. Established in 2009 by a group of like-minded residents, it is a group of local people from Bramham and the surrounding villages who run/jog/walk together and enjoy exploring the local paths and trails. They all share a passion for leading an active healthy lifestyle.

There are no formalities, no joining fees and no membership commitments; anyone who lives in Bramham or the surrounding villages is welcome to join us.

Running is a great form of low-cost exercise and a fantastic way to get active and stay healthy. No matter how far or how fast you want to run we always plan routes to suit the needs of everyone, be it one mile or one marathon! There will always be someone you can run alongside and who can help motivate you to run a little further or a little faster.

We encourage participation in and support for local events. If you are new to running or want to get back into it, feel free to come along to one of our informal club runs (details below) and maybe set yourself a challenge to enter our 6k or 10k Run Bramham event. You may prefer to simply come along very occasionally when life allows to run a sociable mile or two.

Throughout the years this group has brought together many neighbours who have become great friends. The group continues to evolve with a few of the original founders still pounding the pavements and many new faces have joined along the journey too. This year we welcomed our youngest runner when 10-year-old Alice Finkel joined her dad and the rest of the gang for a gentle jog round Bramham Park on a chilly Sunday morning.

Roo Nicholls, who was a founder member, has taken on the role of leading the group and setting routes and challenges that keep all our members inspired to keep on running. Our optional WhatsApp group enables us to keep in touch and share running times, running routes, achievements and stories.

The Run Bramham 6km and 10km event is taking place on Sunday 12 October this year and this will be the 9th year of a very successful community event. It all takes place within the trails and roads of our village, and we have approximately 30 wonderful volunteers from the village who help make this happen. We welcome up to 150 adults and many children to the event which is scheduled to start at 10am on the village playing field. The run was established by the running group and attracts many local runners and some keen members of other running clubs who join us from far and wide. We always welcome more volunteers to support this event so if you can spare a couple of hours to help, please do get in touch. On the day you may want to stand along the route and give the runners a cheer. It really is quite a spectacle seeing over 100 brightly coloured running vests sprint away from the start line on Freely Lane and head off along Paradise Way at the start of the race. This year, any profits from the event will be donated to Bramham Community Action Group for the benefit of the village.

If you would like to get involved with our group, please do come and meet us in the Village Square outside the Red Lion. We meet at the following times:

Tuesdays @ 6pm – A 3-mile route with a few hills; power hill walkers are also welcome

Sundays @ 9:30am – Routes to suit all, normally off-road or in Bramham Park

For more information, please email: Runbramham@gmail.com

Or call Roo Nicholls 07837 733882. We always look forward to welcoming new faces.



BRAMHAM BELLRINGERS

This year has been a little different for our bell ringing group as we made a split from Collingham church and joined with Thorpe Arch. We officially elected our tower captain Lindy Walker and other key posts on the advice of the VCC and have gained some new ringers bringing our group to eight members, with two ringers from Thorpe Arch regularly joining us.

We have continued to ring for weddings, although these are much less than they used to be and for other key events throughout the year. We used our new muffles purchased with community funds to ring half muffled for the remembrance day service and we shall be ringing for the 80th VE day celebrations along with many other towers across the country on 8th May. We were successful this year in securing community funds to replace our bell ropes which are 25yrs old and showing their age.

We held an open tower event this year alongside the Christmas fair and won the Christmas tree competition. We have already started working on the design for next year. No, we are not competitive at all!

We had quite a few visiting ringers come and ring complicated methods on our bells this year which sound amazing and we've opened the tower to other groups such as Ladies Tangent and later this year the Clifford Cubs will be coming along. We are always happy to host any group who would be interested in learning about and having a go on the bells. We are planning some taster sessions over the next year to maybe find some new residents who might want to take up ringing.

Vicky Innocent

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BRAMHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

Bramham Football Club are a Charter Standard Football Club based at the playing field on Freely Lane. We are currently running a team in the York Sunday Morning League. Details of home fixtures will be relayed on the Parish Council website.

The management of the Club has a local player policy, with the majority of players coming from Bramham and the local villages and area. We are always on the lookout for new players, and also anyone interested in wishing to join the committee.

All players new and old are welcome, and should you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me , Dave Jacklyn, on 07809561199.

Finally, congratulations to all involved for winning the York Sunday League Division 2 title this season!!

Yours in Sport

Dave Jacklyn

Wetherby in Support of the Elderly

WiSE is a registered charity which improves the quality of life for the over 60s in Wetherby and surrounding villages.

Our work enables older people to live at home, whilst reducing social isolation.

Our services include -

- **Activities & Events**
- **Transport Service**
- **Information & Advice**
- **Befriending Scheme**
- **Memory Café**
- **Send a Smile Scheme**
- **Grass Cutting Scheme**
- **WiSE Owl Café**



Volunteer with us!

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our work. We are always looking for more so we can help even more isolated, older people live happy and fulfilling lives.

The main services where volunteers may be needed are befriending, Memory Café, WiSE Owl Café, Transport Scheme, activities and events.

Follow us on social media:



@WetherbyWise



@InWetherby



info@w-ise.org.uk / 01937 588994

www.w-ise.org.uk



WiSE

Wetherby in Support of the Elderly

TENTER HILL ALLOTMENTS



As always 2024 saw another busy year at Tenter Hill Allotments and year by year we continue to work together as an association to improve the site for all.

As reported last year, plots on site were all let but our waiting list does still continue to grow but the committee do work hard to find space. And this year we are fortunate enough to be able to offer further names on the current waiting list a small number of recent available plots on site, so whilst the waiting list continues to grow the opportunities to offer vacant plots do arise.

Association members continue to take the opportunity to get support, tips and advice from each other either whilst on site or via our social media channels.

The association AGM is to be held at the end of April this year, where we will take the opportunity to hopefully meet with many attending members to seek any ideas and suggestions for further improvements on site. Committee members meet regularly throughout the year either face to face or virtually to discuss any site improvements or address site management issues.

We also hope to organise further social gatherings this Summer following the successful family BBQ's previously held, there is also the opportunity at this time of year for members to carry out seed and plant swaps ready for the growing season.

We are sure there will be plenty of entries again this year at the Bramham Produce Show following a number of successful years with members winning top prizes in a variety of classes available

If you are interested in joining the association's waiting list for a plot in the future, then please contact Tenter Hill's Allotment Members' Secretary at tenterhill.allotments@gmail.com

FOLLY ALLOTMENTS' ASSOCIATION

With the Spring equinox behind us and Winter easing, plot holders are returning to their allotments to prepare for the growing season. It is important to prepare the ground and allow the frost and rain to do their work over Winter and there is little point in sowing crops until the days lengthen and the soil warms up a little. Mid-March is the time to begin sowing seed but next month (April) is the busy time to sow this year's crops, whether on the kitchen windowsill or in the greenhouse, if you have one.

Due to its elevated position Folly Allotments seems subject to the worst of the weather. We have little in the way of shelter, so we receive the full force of the wind from all directions. This year storm Eowyn paid us a visit and caused some damage to the buildings and trees, but despite this, the field looks in good condition with most plots being well cared for and the perimeter hedge having been trimmed before the birds started nesting.

The Association continues to thrive with members taking a keen interest and all plots are taken. Although our gardening skills may vary, it is widely recognized that engaging with the natural environment offers significant health benefits. Many of us find that the plots are a good source of tranquillity and feel much better after a couple of hours working on the soil. The crops taste great too although we could do without the pigeons!!

The allotment field will be open this year on "Open Gardens Day" (Sunday, 11th May) so come up and see us, have a look around and have a chat.

Folly Allotments' Committee.

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BRAMHAM VERSUS ARTHRITIS



We continue to hold stalls in the Horsefair, Wetherby and Crossgates Shopping Centre. We also sell books online and in the last financial year we raised a total sum of £5,535. Donations of books, jigsaws and tombola prizes are always welcome. Please contact **Sheila Clayton** on **01937 842954** or **07952 849568** to arrange collection.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Sheila Clayton

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAMS

neighbourhood policing teams

npt



Wetherby PACT meetings

Wetherby Methodist Church, Bank Street, Wetherby
LS22 6NQ

6.30pm to 7.30pm

Held on the 1st Tuesday of each month

POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER - ALL WELCOME!

All residents are welcome to come along and meet
their local Neighbourhood Policing Team and local
Councillors
to discuss any community issues or concerns.

www.westyorkshire.police.uk



Meeting's dates are given on the West Yorkshire Police website:
www.westyorkshire.police.uk/events/wetherby

BRAMHAM DRAMA GROUP

Bramham Drama Group was established in 1981 and has been a thriving community group ever since. Bramham Drama is an all-inclusive and fun community group who have a junior and adult section which is open to all people from age 6+. Many of our junior members have continued with the drama group to go on to join the adult cast and crew members.

We have always aimed to put on two productions a year, a spring/ summer production and our winter pantomime. Notable productions in previous years have been Calendar Girls, Wind in the Willows and Murder Mystery plays.

Bramham Drama Group is all about having fun with like-minded group of individuals, but we are always looking for new faces to join the group. There are a wide variety of roles within the group, and all are essential for us when putting on a production. So, whether your interest is acting, singing and generally being on the stage, or you prefer to be involved in stage and set painting and design, backstage crew, costumes or lighting and sound. If you think that you might like to join in, pop along and meet us, we are a very friendly bunch and there is a role for you.

In 2024 our very talented group of Junior Performers presented a 'Mystery' evening in the Summer, Directed and Produced by Stewart Gibson and Emily Roberts .

Our winter pantomime of A Christmas Carol adapted and directed by Suze Shelbrooke was hugely well received and sold out for every performance.

Our first event in 2025 will be a fundraising evening presenting ★ Planet ABBA - female duo act Angel Eyes! ★ . They get rave reviews, and we have them HERE in Bramham on Saturday 12th April!! Plenty of audience interaction and promising to be a night to remember

This Summer we are once again showcasing the depth and breadth of talent in our Junior Drama group on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th July -watch out for further details and ticket information.

Our Pantomime this year will be Robin Hood, performance dates Wednesday 26th – Saturday 29th November.

Lastly and most importantly, on behalf of Bramham Drama Group I would like to thank all our friends/family and audiences for your continued support.

If you would like more information on being part of Bramham Drama Group, please find us on our Facebook page, email bramhamdramagroup@gmail.com or call me on 07917320750.

Claire Lister, Chair, Bramham Drama Group.



BRAMHAM POST OFFICE AND CONVENIENCE STORE

Apart from being a convenience food outlet the store offers a wide range of Post Office services, an essential lifeline for many in the village, especially now that the high street banks have almost completely disappeared from Wetherby, the bus service to Wetherby has been reduced and other Post Offices in surrounding villages have been closed. We are very fortunate to have this facility within our village and we need to make sure that it remains by giving it our patronage.

Post Office opening times:

Monday – Friday	09:00 – 17:30
Saturday	09:00 – 12:30
Sunday	Closed

Services available at the Post Office include:

Everyday Personal & Business Banking:

Cash Withdrawals
Cash Deposits
Cheque Deposits

Mailing:

Drop and Go
Parcelforce Express Services

Pay Bills & Top Up:

Travel:

Foreign Currency – Euros available

Thank you – AMC

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