

# BRAMSHALL NEWS



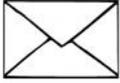
**May you know the Joy of Easter Time  
and the Delight of Spring**

**April 2021**



Send your stories, photos and news for the next edition of Bramshall News!

**May publication deadline is Tuesday 20th April 2021**



Rev John, Bramshall News Interim Editor  
9 Overcroft. Bramshall. ST14 5DE  
Tel: 565228. email: bramshallnews@gmail.com

### **Bramshall Village Community**

On facebook? Then join up to the  
Bramshall Village Community Page for all the latest.



### **How to find your local PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) details for your areas.**

Log on to [www.Staffordshire.police.uk](http://www.Staffordshire.police.uk) website and enter your post code in 'Find your area'. This will link you to your local policing team under the tab 'your team'. This page will also allow you to contact your local officers if you have anything to report.

### **Bramshall & Loxley Parish Hall**

As lockdown regulations ease, the Parish Hall will be preparing to open for indoor events. If you are looking at a forthcoming occasion the booking secretary can be contacted by sending a text to 07940 326463. Geoff will reply as soon as he is able.

Please remember, this is everybody's News Sheet and the editor would be delighted to receive contributions about anything interesting or important, celebrations, forthcoming events, reflections, anything... and photographs make any item more engaging.

## Telephone Reading Friends and Staffordshire Libraries

Staffordshire Library and Arts Service have been working alongside The Reading Agency to launch a Telephone Reading Friends service for members of our Staffordshire community who are finding it difficult to visit a library. If you are interested in books and reading or know of someone else who would be interested, then please get in touch as our library staff and library volunteers are here to help.



Telephone Reading Friends offers a series of four chats, once a week, on the theme of books and reading and is very flexible to account for all tastes and flavours! The chats can be about a favourite author, book, genre, new titles or anything else book related that takes your fancy. After all, books are our business.

To find out more or express an interest please email [reading.friends@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:reading.friends@staffordshire.gov.uk).



**'Uttoxeter Rural Parish Council'** recently awarded a contract for the 'spring-cleaning' of three bus shelters in the area, including the one on Bramshall Road, adjacent the 'Old Bramshall Inn'. The work on the Bramshall shelter has now been carried out and it looks much more user-friendly. In addition, the two 'Bus Stop' signs were also cleaned.

Arrangements are in hand with 'D & G Bus', the service operator, to restore a timetable display at both the bus stops in the village that were removed several months ago.

**The Parish Council** is to undertake a review of fire hydrant access points around the village. If you are aware of the location of such water points it would be of great assistance in this task if you could give the details to Cllr Andrew Dartnell (mob: 07974 588052).

# Church News

The Uttoxeter Area of Parishes  
Parish Church of St. Lawrence Bramshall

Vicar Revd John Lander  
revjsl@btinternet.com 565228

## Covid-19 Road Map

Face to Face Public Worship will resume on Easter Day, when we look forward to welcoming you back into our church. The requirements for wearing face coverings, sanitizing on entering & leaving, and maintaining social distance inside & outside continue to remain in place. Until April 12<sup>th</sup> at the earliest, weddings are restricted to only 6 guests; afterwards that increases to 15 guests. Funerals continue to be restricted to 30 mourners.

## Services for April

4 <sup>th</sup> April (Easter Day)	11.00am	Holy Communion
11 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00am	Morning Worship
18 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00am	Holy Communion
25 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00am	4th Sunday Worship

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The deadline for the APCM has been extended to the end of May, and in order to meet in church the date will be after 17th May (according to the covid road map).

## 100 Club Results: March

1 <sup>st</sup>	No 98	Sarah Newbold	£30
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No 42	Andy Stimson	£25
3 <sup>rd</sup>	No 158	Evelyn Blurton	£20
4 <sup>th</sup>	No 21	John Sargeant	£15

**Thanks to Di of the Strawberry Garden Centre  
for drawing the winning balls for the March prizes.**

## Flowers in Church

We have a lovely band of volunteers who delight in preparing flowers for the altar each Sunday. They are few in number, and would be delighted if there were some other willing helpers who would be prepared to offer their time to join them. There are only 2 vases, and you don't need to be an expert flower arranger. If you would like further details please contact Sandra Kent (tel: 566033)

### Baptisms / Weddings

The restrictions of the past year have greatly impacted on plans for weddings and Christenings. With the prospect of the removal of these restrictions after 21st June, you may now be considering these important life events, and I would be delighted to help in any enquiries relating to these.

Rev John

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### HELP REQUIRED



Theft of lead from church roofs continues to be an ongoing threat. For some years we have been using a traceable liquid product applied to the small amount of lead at St. Lawrence. But, this now needs to be upgraded. To assist us with this necessary task, we would like to hear from somebody who has the appropriate access equipment (long ladder!) and is not afraid of heights, and would be prepared to help 're-paint' our lead.

### In need of a little TLC

This bench was placed in the churchyard to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. Despite being almost 44 years old it is still quite sturdy, but would benefit from some repair work to make it useable again. It's a bit out of my league, so hoping someone may volunteer to take on this project.



## A LITTLE MORE BRAMSHALL FAMILY HISTORY

Following on from last month's article:

Who was Mrs EC Statham?

Mrs EC Statham was my grandmother. Born in 1895 Elizabeth Cooper Buckley (known as Muffett) to Tom and Catherine Buckley, together with her sister Catherine (known as Kitty), home was The Elms Farm on Bramshall Road.

On 7<sup>th</sup> September 1915 she married John Henry (Harry) Statham in Bramshall Church and moved to his home, Bank Farm, Bramshall. In 1917 her father retired from farming The Elms Farm, Harry took on the tenancy and Grandma moved back 'home'. In the following year (1918) the Loxley Estate was sold and Grandfather Harry bought The Elms Farm.

My grandparents were very involved with the village and the Church. As mixed livestock farmers they kept dairy cows, sheep, pigs and poultry. My grandfather was active in the working horse world buying young Shire horses from local farmers and either train them at home or put them out onto other farms to train. He would then sell them on as fully trained working heavy horses further afield.

The family grew with Mary born in 1916, Richard (known as Dick) born in 1920 and my father John born in 1922. I don't remember my grandfather as he died in 1958 aged 74, whereas my grandmother died in 1975 aged 81 having moved into St Mary's Mount following a stroke in the late 1960s. Even with her mobility severely affected she was always very busy at the home helping prepare meals for the residents (probably not allowed these days!) and always having a stream of family and friends visiting. At the time of her death she had six surviving grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

I assume the Parish magazine article was written in 1971, by the reference to the postal strike, and she was reminiscing about her younger life. How things have changed, the Village was a lot smaller in those days and life a lot tougher, but she still had good memories. Perhaps it puts the current limitations into perspective.

Robert Statham

# Bramshall Village Easter Bunny Hunt



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**



There will be bunnies to find  
from 12noon until 4pm.  
Collect a map from the telephone box  
and get hunting.

Once you've found  
all the bunnies go  
to the church for  
your reward!



**Warning – there will be chocolate!**

## New Beginnings?

It doesn't seem that long ago that I wrote an article about New Year Resolutions and here we are in April. They say time flies when you're having fun so, maybe, despite the imposed restrictions on social activity and grave risks to health, I must have been having fun, or perhaps I'm just getting old! The new year is an ideal time for reflection; for thinking about aspects of ones' life that need improvement or changing. Well, Spring is just as good a time too as it's full of new beginnings.

Spring brings warmer temperatures because our planet is tipped at a jaunty angle as it orbits around the sun and, in the Spring months Earth gets more sunlight and warmth. This slight raising of temperature and extra daylight awakens plants and animals of all descriptions. Farmers and gardeners plant seeds and new growth is seen everywhere.



It's been an absolute joy to watch our nearly two year old daughter discover these changes when we've been out walking recently. She can now spot a daffodil and a snowdrop from a distance and every time she sees a different flowering plant she says 'wow'. Even at her very young age, she can appreciate the new growth and changes to the land.



We associate rabbits and hares with this time of year and it's no surprise really as rabbits give birth to large litters at this time of year. This symbol of new beginnings is possibly Anglo-Saxon and has been incorporated into British celebrations over time. It is thought that the Easter Bunny developed from a tradition in Germany

where a hare would judge if children had been 'good' or 'bad' during the spring. This has given rise to egg hunts and chocolate eggs being given as gifts at this time. One thing I do want to make sure our daughter understands is that rabbits DO NOT lay eggs! This could be a very confusing thing for young children.

We are all about to embark on a new beginning from the 12<sup>th</sup> April as the social restrictions required due to Covid 19 are altered. I have visions of people stepping away from their houses, blinking in the sunlight, as they drink in the new world they are allowed to explore. In reality it means that

we can get our haircut or visit a library or a gym, which for most people, will be a welcome change to the limited routine of the past few months. It is a new beginning however, even if it's a small change. I only hope we can all hold on to the feeling of freedom and 'newness' for a long time to enable us to appreciate the change. For an easy read version of the government changes please see:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/965011/COVID-19\\_Response\\_-\\_Spring\\_2021\\_Summary\\_-\\_Easy\\_Read\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/965011/COVID-19_Response_-_Spring_2021_Summary_-_Easy_Read_.pdf)

It is right to be thinking about new beginnings at this time. Not only because of the scientific, historical and political influences mentioned above, but also the Christian belief that Jesus was 'reborn' at Easter. This is what Christians celebrate at this time, His new beginning for everyone!

I wish you all a safe and happy Easter and, whatever new beginning you consider important at this time of year, may you find peace, happiness and good health as the world begins to open.



Laura Hill

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## St. George's Day - April 23rd



Very little is known about St. George's life, but it is thought he was a high-ranking officer in the Roman army who was killed in around AD 303. It seems that the Emperor Diocletian had St. George tortured to make him deny his faith in Christ. However, despite some of the most terrible torture even for that time, St George showed incredible courage and faith and was finally beheaded near Lydda in Palestine. His head was later taken to Rome where it was interred in the church dedicated to him.



**If you have used inkjet cartridges or used postage stamps, then collections are taken at church (or drop off at 9, Overcroft) as part of recycling for charities.**



## Penny's Recipe of the Month

# Speedy Beef Stroganoff



### Ingredients:

1tbsp sunflower oil,  
1lb rump steak,  
1onion thinly sliced,  
11oz button mushrooms thinly sliced,  
2tbsp plain flour,  
1/4tsp paprika.  
2fl-oz brandy (optional),  
1/2pint beef stock,  
1tbsp Dijon mustard.  
1tbsp tomato puree.  
3 fl oz soured cream.  
Fresh parsley roughly chopped.

After the last weekend in February I really thought Spring had come - sadly that wasn't to be. So it is back to good warming recipes. In a large frying pan heat oil and fry your beef steak but cut it into strips and fry for 4mins. Add the mushrooms and cook for a further 3mins. Stir in the flour and paprika cook for a minute stirring all the time then stir in the brandy, stock, mustard and tomato puree and bubble for 5mins. Stir the sauce from time to time until thickened add the cream and check the seasoning. Scatter over the chopped parsley and service with rice or pasta. Enjoy. Would be rude with this recipe not to enjoy a glass of red wine.

*Penny*

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## **Fitness Classes in Bramshall**

I am a Fitness Instructor who delivers fitness classes to the community of Bramshall, Uttoxeter and the surrounding villages.

Join me for fun and varied fitness classes that are easy to follow and suitable for all fitness levels.

**Monday Dance Aerobics Outdoors 6.00 -7.00pm £6**

**Thursday Body Tone Outdoors 6.00 – 6.45pm £5**

Classes are currently held **OUTDOORS** this April at the rear of Bramshall Village Hall

Classes are due to run **INDOORS** (at the same venue) from late May.

Classes are **PAYG & COVID** secure. Please contact Sarah 07817

323095 [Sair.lovatt@gmail.com](mailto:Sair.lovatt@gmail.com) for more information.

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*We look forward to hearing from you.*