

Bromham Broadsheet

December 2022

103rd Edition

Transfer of Bromham Mill to Bromham Parish Council

Bromham Parish Council now has the responsibility for the complex and the ability to pursue the regeneration and renaissance of this community asset, in a measured way with some early successes (like The Coffee Shop) and in line with the vision to develop and invest to enable the complex to realise its full potential. There is a need for realism and acceptance that this is a long-term aspiration and commitment as the current condition of the infrastructure requires investment.

The Parish Council is, as you are aware, fully committed to developing the site in order to enhance the recreational and educational asset, transform Bromham Mill into an exciting community facility and visitor attraction and to creating the location as a key, vital and vibrant leisure and cultural destination. In pursuing this vision it is envisaged that key outcomes will be (i) greater value from the Mill as a heritage site, visitor attraction, nature reserve and open space in rural Bedfordshire, (ii) greater use of the Mill and its surroundings for education, recreation and social activities and (iii) increased involvement and satisfaction of the local community.

Thank you to all Parish Councillors for their vital and overwhelming support and for their considerable energy and commitment for the project and look forward to the vision being fully realised over time. The Parish Council is also grateful for the help and engagement of many others in the village who have a key role at the Mill and will be hugely important in taking this exciting project forward. This includes Friends of Bromham Mill, Bromham Conservation Group, Bromham Nature Club and the Artist Network. The journey continues with even more energy and determination.



Mayor Dave Hodgson and Bromham Parish Council Chair Sian Woodfine celebrating the transfer of Bromham Mill to Bromham Parish Council.

BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL PRESENT....

Christmas

CAROL SINGING

at The Mill

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER

3PM

BROMHAM MILL, BRIDGE END, BROMHAM,
BEDFORD MK43 8LP

OPEN AIR BAR 11-LATE / BRATWURST SAUSAGES
11-LATE / SPECIALITY COFFEE - MINCE PIES - MULLED WINE

 the mill
BROMHAM



THE MILL COFFEE SHOP

CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY

OPEN AIR BAR 12-LATE - LIVE BAND
5-8 - BRATWURST SAUSAGES 12-LATE

FREE ENTRY

MULLED WINE

BROMHAM MILL, BRIDGE END, BROMHAM,
BEDFORD MK43 8LP

**SATURDAY 24TH
DECEMBER**

.....

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FROM THE CHAIR

As another year comes to a close, it is a time of reflection over the last 12 months. After having celebrated the Platinum Jubilee, it was with sadness that we then had to come to terms with the death of Queen Elizabeth II. I am sure many of you were touched by the occasion, and I hope you were able to sign the book of condolence in the village. We are hoping to do something as a memorial in the village.

After 4 years, it was a huge achievement to finally sign the lease on Bromham Mill, and it was great that so many of you have commented on the proposed plans for the redevelopment and re-invigoration of this



historic site. Your feedback is invaluable as we move forward to submitting a planning application. We are excited for the future of Bromham Mill.

Thank you to BRCC for helping the village set up Bromham Good Neighbours scheme. I know that it is early days for the group, but we would like to wish them well with their endeavours to provide a support network to those in the community who need help.

We are delighted so many of you were not deterred by the weather and joined us for Apple Day. I must send a particular thank you to the hardworking volunteers, who battled on in the thunder and lightning to set up the event! How amazing that we had such a dry and sunny afternoon, and that we cleared the site before the second storm hit!!

And now we look forward to our Christmas events. We have Christmas at the Mill on Saturday 10th December, with craft stalls, the Nativity in the woodland walk, and the return of the reindeer and all free entry. Mitch and his team at The Mill

Coffee Shop will have all sorts of Christmassy treats to tempt you too. It proved

very popular last year, so don't miss out. And if you are not too tired, there is a great music evening in the Village Hall that night. Get your tickets from the Village Hall office.

We will also be bringing our Carol Singing, by popular demand, back to Bromham Mill this year on Sunday 18th December. Do join us for a lovely festive afternoon.

It just leaves me to send my personal best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Sian Woodfine



Bromham Apple Day Apple Juice!

Apple Day went ahead as planned even though the weather was not good!

Unfortunately Apple sales were poor and we were left with a LOT! Of apples! So 'Apprentice' style we have had our apples pressed to make a delicious Bromham Apple Juice!

Bottles will be sold at Bromham Mill and from the Parish Office in Bromham Village Hall at a **cost of £3.75 per bottle.**





Parish Councillor Mick Burgess

Parish Councillors were so sad to lose Mick recently, Mick passed away in August 2022. Mick had been a Parish Councillor for 11 years in Bromham and had worked on many projects in the village. Mick had been a Parish Council Chair, Planning Committee Chair and had worked on the Neighbourhood Plan. He will be greatly missed by all at Bromham Parish Council and our thoughts are with Sheila, his wife and family. Bromham Parish Council donated £250 to The British Liver Trust in Mick's memory.

Volunteering at Bromham Mill

There are two groups that currently offer opportunities for volunteering at Bromham Mill

Bromham Conservation Group

This group works with Bromham Parish and Bedford Borough on various sites in the Village including Salem Thrift and Parklands; Bromham Lake Local Nature Reserve; Bromham Mill and Country Park. Activities include keeping pathways open; coppicing and developing habitat areas, planting and maintaining new trees. At Bromham Mill we help to maintain the grounds; maintain and develop the garden areas; maintain and develop the Woodland Fairy Walk; help to keep the brook and mill stream clear; help to maintain the mill buildings by decorating and treating the wood, clear ivy from the stone walls, repair fences

Bromham Mill Nature Club

A nature club for children aged 5 to 12 which meets on the 1st Sunday of each month - range of activities including helping to maintain and develop the Woodland Fairy Walk

These Groups have a joint volunteering session every Monday 13:30 to 15:30 come along to learn more.

NO regular commitment required

Bromham Conservation Group

Philip Grabham - 07840140166

Peter Argyle - 07756 822698 or BCG@peterargyle.plus.com

Facebook@BromhamConservationGroup



Bromham Mill Nature club:

Contact Anne Baker on 07900810938



If you are interested in a place for a young child please contact:

Mrs Janis Russell on 07729 583 331 (9am - 1pm) or 01234 857196 at any other time

We have recently said farewell to our Rainbow class who will be starting big school in September. We feel they are all ready for the next challenge and we hope that we have given them a good start to their education and an experience that they will remember as they progress through life.

Bookings are now being accepted for children aged over 2 years and children who will start school no earlier than September 2024. We currently have no availability for children going to school in September 2023

We are a term time only setting and operate from the very spacious Village Hall in the heart of the village. Website www.thealmondspreschool.co.uk



New Swing at Bromham Mill

Thank you to Councillors Rigby and Gambold for providing a new swing for Bromham Mill.

Borough Councillors paid for the swing from their Councillor Fund and is a great addition to the play equipment at the Mill.

Friends of Bromham Mill—Mill wheel group

Bromham Mill is one of only two operating water mills in Bedfordshire. To keep it operating a small group of volunteers undertake routine maintenance and run Mill wheel demonstrations on the second Saturday of every month from 10:00 to 11:30am.

Like all old machinery, in addition to regular maintenance, there is occasionally a need to replace worn out parts. A couple of retired engineers have identified that 14 of the 32 paddles are badly corroded and it is desirable that they are replaced in small batches over the next few years. To date three new paddles have been purchased, and seven fractured cast iron support castings have been repaired by a specialist welder, at a total cost of £1800. The three paddles still need to be installed on the wheel. There is also a need to replace an existing variable speed drive, to enable the mill machinery to be operated by an existing electric motor when the water level is low.

If you have an engineering background and are interested in getting involved in the research and working with specialist contractors on practical aspects of this work give us a ring or send an email.

Even if you have no engineering background just a keen interest in the history of the Mill or simply want to see this wonderful machinery

preserved for future generations **there is a place for you!**. We need fund raisers, members who want to become involved in the education aspects of the Mill or designing more interactive displays. If you would like to support the work but demands on your time prevent you from volunteering are you able to make a donation to Friends of Bromham Mill to support this programme of replacement. If you are interested in supporting us contact

Friends of Bromham Mill - Edward Jones - E.jones4491@gmail.com or 07798 881483



FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY
BROMHAM VILLAGE HALL PRESENTS
HITS FROM THE SIXTIES AND THE SEVENTIES
FEATURING

Old School

December 10th
7.30 until 10.30.

Tickets
£10

Drinks available from the bar. Please feel free to bring snacks (nibbles provided)

Tickets available from Bromham Village Hall Office
Mon-Thu between 2.30-4.30pm
Card payments accepted
Email: bromhamvillagehall@gmail.com

The Children's Pantomime! Chaplins Gold Pantomime presents

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Saturday 7 January 2023 at 2pm Tickets £8 each
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Following a very positive response to the survey in the last edition of the Broadsheet we would like to update you on the progress of the Good Neighbour Scheme.

We now have a committee of volunteers to manage the group and a group of volunteer residents who have very kindly offered their time to support the scheme by giving lifts, doing shopping, walking dogs and other occasional jobs as required by the residents of Bromham and dependent on the skills and availability of our volunteers.

We are now in the final stages of setting up the group including carrying out DBS checks on all volunteers and purchasing a group telephone so that there is a central number for residents to contact.

The group is planning to launch early in 2023 and there will be publicity throughout the village to ensure that you all know how to contact the Good Neighbours – either as a volunteer or as a person who would benefit from some occasional help (or both).

If you have any questions or would like to become involved, please contact: debra.aitken@bedsrcc.org.uk or ianpedersen@me.com

You Can Do IT is a **FREE** digital inclusion project aimed at improving people's lives by getting them online and accessing services to help with their health and wellbeing.

Our Digital Health Champions are volunteers who deliver one-to-one sessions to learners. Sessions are focused on the individuals needs and wants and learning takes place at a pace to suit the learner.

During the sessions, learners are shown how to use their smartphones, tablets, or laptops and begin to build up their confidence, skills and knowledge over a period of time. We also look at aspects such as online safety and why it is important.

Individuals may wish to carry out tasks such as joining an online activity group, shopping, ordering a prescription or even making video calls and being able to connect with their family and friends.

Whatever the goal, our Digital Health Champions will offer support and guidance all the way.

If you are interested in finding out more for either yourself, a friend or a family member or wish to receive more information on how to become a Digital Health Volunteer and help enable others in your community:

Please call: 01234 838771 and a member of our “You Can Do IT!” Team will get back to you or **visit:** ywb.org.uk/IT



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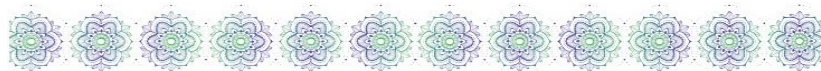
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Elisabeth Curtis Centre— A Year in Review!



How are we almost at the end of 2022 already?! What a year it has been! We started the year with a big task ahead to rebuild our operation and replenish our drastically reduced funds, after the previous 2 years with little income. We are pleased to report that we are ending the year on a much fairer and 'stable' footing, with all of our participants back in the saddle and our funds more buoyant.

Our Ponies...

Our herd has had some comings and goings over the year, with all our 'usuals' enjoying being back to work! In March we retired our lovely and loyal Huggy to the Horses Trust, however we are sad to report that following continued and new illnesses, he sadly passed away in October. We have had 2 new arrivals though, Rio and Baby, who have settled in the herd well. They managed to cover for Lolly who had a period of lameness over the Summer, but is back fighting fit now! We nearly have a full house, but are always keeping our eyes open for a new pony to help us further with our work.



Our volunteers....

Did you know that virtually all of the people that keep our sessions and centre running are volunteers – without them it would be impossible. We are hugely grateful to every one of them who commit to helping regularly. It means so much to our participants to see friendly faces. We are always on the hunt for more volunteers to help us in any way they can. Did you see our appearance on ITV Anglia News back in April? Our appearance on the weekend bulletin really helped to raise our profile and boost the number of enquiries and offers to help and support us – plus it was a great experience for 2 minutes of fame!



Our participants....

We have a great bunch of participants who attend various sessions at the centre. Some just enjoy the experience, but some are keen to compete too. Back in July we had 2 of our riders compete in the RDA National Championships. They did amazingly well with successes in the countryside challenge and dressage. Muscadeau and our volunteers did an amazing job in support. One of our participants, Chris, who has ridden with us for a while and also volunteers to help others, attended the Special Olympics Equestrian event in Sheffield in August, and won the A1 dressage and working trials and was overall champion in the A Division. We are very proud of all their achievements.



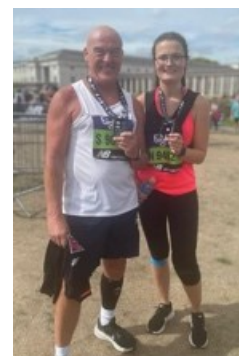
A sad loss....

The whole centre was saddened, in March, when one of our trustees, Ros Ward, passed away following a short illness. Ros did so much for the centre and helped hugely with the fundraising team. She is sorely missed.



Our fundraising....

The team have been working hard with a variety of events to keep our much needed funds topped-up. We've had fayre's, tack sales, quiz nights, collections at Huntingdon Races, stalls at Bromham and Biddenham Show's, crowd funders and coffee mornings to name a few! In September, Alannah and Chris ran the 'Big Half 2022' in London, in Ros's memory, and raised an amazing £1265 for us! We also launched our Buy-a-Brick initiative to raise individual sponsorships of our stables. We are so grateful to local businesses who have supported us so far.



What's next....

Look out for details on how to buy your **Christmas Cards** from us and support our charity.

4th Dec – **Christmas Coffee Morning.**

Join our new '**200 Club**' with a chance to win money every month!

Find us on Facebook, or search: www.elisabethcurtiscentre.co.uk



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Tuesday Evenings
7pm – 9.30pm

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St Owen's Church Christmas 2022



Christmas Craft

Christmas Craft workshop
on Sun 4th Dec 2-4pm in St
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£3 per child U2 free.

Refreshments available

All children accompanied please

Make your own Christingle

**Please join us on Thurs 1st Dec
3.30pm– 4.30pm at Bromham
Primary School Village Rd Hall to
make a Christingle and learn
about what it means. All ages
welcome— children please bring
an adult.**

Thurs 1st Dec 3.30pm Christingle-making in Bromham Primary
School

Sun 4th Dec 2pm Christmas Craft Afternoon

Weds 14th Dec 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve 24th Dec 3.00pm & 4.30pm Crib Services

Christmas Day 25th Dec 10.00am Family Communion Service with
Carols



Contacts and more information from: Rev Catherine Wilson 01234 825665 vicar@bromhambenefice.org

Sarah Smale, Administrator 07957 126145 , administrator@bromhambenefice.org
Website: www.bromhambenefice.org



Coffee Shop & Wellbeing Lounge

Bromham Baptist Church / Mondays / 8.30am – 5.00pm

**coffees, teas, milkshakes, san pellegrino, fentimans
cakes, pastries, toasted tea cakes, sandwiches, toasties, snacks**

Toddler group: 9.15am

Postnatal group: 1.30pm

Youth games session: 3.30pm

Wellbeing lounge: open all day

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Faulty Street Lighting—Please could all residents report faulty street lighting near them to:

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You may need to quote the number on the lamp column.



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Bromham Toddlers (& Tiddlers)

We meet in the Baptist Church Hall on a Tuesday morning (during term time) from 9.30 - 11.30 am. We have toys/activities suitable for new born up until 4 years. Cost is £2.00 per child (over 6 months) and 50p per subsequent child/adult. There is tea/coffee for carers and a drink/biscuit for the little ones.

We finish with a song time, when adults and children sit together in a circle and choose their favourite action song. There is a lovely sense of community within the group and we hope to see you there with your little ones...

For more information, please email Jan at bromhamolivers@gmail.com



KingZone Kids Club

Sundays @ 10:30am & 5:00pm

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a church for all the family



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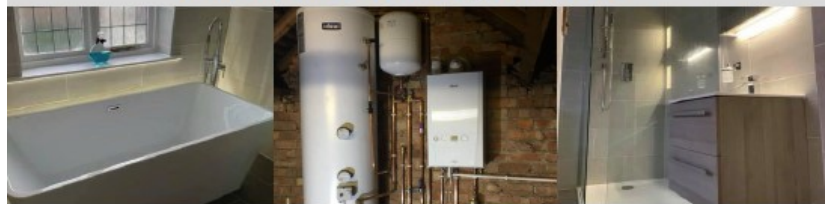


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BROMHAM MILL *Christmas fest*

WOODLAND NATIVITY 11-3 / REAL REINDEER
11-3 / GROTTO 11-3 / CRAFT FAIR 11-3 / OPEN
AIR BAR 11-LATE / BRATWURST SAUSAGES 11-
LATE / COFFEE - MULLED WINE - SWEET TREATS
11- LATE

SATURDAY 10TH

DECEMBER

11AM TO 3PM

BROMHAM MILL, BRIDGE END, BROMHAM,
BEDFORD MK43 8LP



 follow @bromham_parish_council and
@themill_coffeeshop