



COUNCILLOR BARRIE BIRT: A VILLAGE MAN



Barrie Birt was born in Etching Hill, Rugeley on 26 August 1943. In 1965 Barrie and his fiancée Catherine purchased a bungalow on the new development of Oak Close in Great Haywood. As the property was just 4 pegs in the ground at the time it wasn't until 1966 when the newly married couple Barrie and Catherine Birt moved into their new home where they were to stay until January 1972 when they decided to move nearer to Cath's family home in Stafford. However, by 26th May 1972 they decided that Great Haywood was the village for them and back they moved to their current home on Mill Lane. Barrie and Cath both agreed that the parish was a beautiful place to start a family, whilst staying close to Barrie's ageing parents in Rugeley.

Barrie was an avid sports fan and player from a young age. He represented Rugeley District and Staffordshire school boys as a goalkeeper. He was signed by his beloved West Bromwich Albion as a youth player but unfortunately they could only keep on two youth goalkeepers and so Barrie was let go. He was offered "papers" with Nottingham Forest but declined the offer as he was, in his own words "financially better off sticking with his day job" – what a contrast to modern footballers! Barrie was also an excellent all-round cricketer representing Rugeley, Stafford and Milford Cricket Clubs. In 1962 he was selected to represent the Midlands' Club Cricket Conference in a match against

Warwickshire Nursery XI played at Edgbaston. Barrie wasn't only a member of these teams. He was Club Captain at Rugeley Cricket Club for many years and Club President twice. Barrie was also a committee member and supporter at Stafford Town FC watching them play both home and away until illness in recent years meant he could no longer attend. Barrie and Cath started their family in 1968 with the arrival of Helen and a year later the arrival of a second daughter, Tricia. Their family was complete and the bungalow in Great Haywood became a family home, busy and full of people. As the girls went to school in the village home life became busier still, Barrie would often arrive home from work not knowing who was going to be sat around the tea table or asleep in a sleeping bag on the living room floor or in tents in the garden.

Barrie retired early from Lotus Shoe factory in Stafford, where he had originally met Cath, in 1993. However, it wasn't long before he switched the labour of factory work to exploring opportunities to serve the community in his adopted village. Barrie was elected to Colwich Parish Council in the May 1995 election. He soon became a familiar

sight in the three villages. Barrie was known by everyone for his work supporting various causes, helping parishioners with problems such as housing, road signage, speeding, events for young people and campaigning for our older residents. Barrie was also a Local Authority Governor at St John's in Great Haywood. Barrie worked hard to champion the concept of 'village life' fearlessly protecting the integrity of our villages through his day-to-day work as a member of our community and a parish councillor. Barrie was a member of various Committee and Organisations in the parish either in a private capacity or as the link Parish Councillor. These included the Twinning Association, the Great Haywood Memorial Hall; the Parochial Charities; Recycling Scheme; Colwich Allotments Association; WWI Action Group. Barrie was also a member of the Best Kept Village/Colwich in Bloom Committee both as the Vice Chairman and a willing volunteer assisting Cath to maintain the grass verges and flower beds in Great Haywood and the Diana Memorial Bed on St Mary's Road, Little Haywood.

Barrie's love for the parish was also shared by his family. His daughter Helen was a Parish Councillor for two years and in May 2015 Barrie's granddaughter, Victoria, was voted in by her community to become a Parish Councillor. Both grandfather and granddaughter brought different skills to the forum, whilst both holding firm their understanding of the meaning of community and how, if we support each other, we will achieve great things.

Barrie's health had deteriorated over recent years and he spent 5 weeks in Royal Stoke hospital last autumn. Whilst he started to get out and about, even attending Parish Council meetings again, Barrie never fully recovered. Barrie attended his final Parish Council meeting on Thursday 7th June 2018 even though his health was deteriorating rapidly. He sadly passed away on Sunday 17th June 2018 surrounded by his family.

Writing as Barrie's daughter I remain immensely proud of my father's achievements within the community, the people he helped, the friends he made, the work he did, but above all else Barrie was generous, kind and a good man and that's the best legacy anyone can ever hope for.

Helen Jenkinson

SCHOOLBOY BATSMAN SAVES MATCH FOR RUGELEY



FENCING AND NOTICEBOARDS

The current noticeboards across the parish as well as the fence around the children's play area at the JPF are old and showing signs of their age. In deciding to replace them the Council wished to be as environmentally friendly as possible. Consequently, we have purchased recycled plastic fencing and noticeboards. Once the ground has softened up after the recent hot dry weather the lengthsmen will commence the task of installation.

We will replace all of the noticeboards, including moving the one from the wall of Haywood Abbey, Mill Lane onto the bus shelter. We will also install a new double width board at the JPF which will be able to host information about other groups in the villages. We have already installed a small board by the door into the Parish Office providing contact details for Councillors and office opening hours.

The new fence will be a picket fence style, which needs to be built from scratch, and will include a new gate at the entrance. The Council has decided to alter the layout of the play area slightly taking the top 4 items outside the fenced area to form the start of the new teenagers' exercise area under consideration by the Youth Council. A second gate will be installed where the fence crosses the current tarmac path in the play area near these items.

It is estimated that each kilogram of fencing is made up from 569 bottle tops. The fence weighs 2,000 kg or 1,139,000 bottle tops.

WWI COMMEMORATION

This year marks 100 years since the end of The Great War.

Have you got ancestors who were involved in the Great War? Did they survive the conflict? Have you got any memorabilia? If so, please contact Dave Robbie (01889 881794) who is putting together an exhibition in the Great Haywood Memorial Hall, commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the end of The Great War which falls by amazing coincidence on Sunday 11th November. The exhibition will also be open on the Saturday 10th November.

Meanwhile plans are in hand for our own Parish Remembrance Service to be held this year in St Stephen's, Great Haywood. As for previous years, this will start at 3:00pm on the Sunday afternoon.

We are also looking into lighting a beacon within the Parish as part of the nationwide commemoration at 7pm on the 11th, along with over 1,000 other beacons across this country and the commonwealth!

Cllr Andy Cooper

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

In response to requests received last year from local residents the Parish Council setup a working group to investigate both the feasibility and options available for providing festive Christmas light displays in the villages. Various locations were considered as were the type and size of Christmas lights to be used, available sources of power, and the requirement for licences with the determining factor being the availability of a suitable power supply. After considering various options the working group has made a recommendation to the Full Council for two 'modest' trial displays in Great Haywood (the tall conifer at the rear of the verge, Trent Square) and Little Haywood (conifer outside the Parish Centre) be considered for December and early January and if successful these, and other suitable locations, could be used in future years. Local companies have been approached to provide costs for the supply and installation of the light displays and although this year a small budget has been set aside by the Parish Council for the trial in future years sponsorship and the use of grants would be considered to further develop the illuminations. We would welcome your thoughts on the provision of festive illuminations within the villages and any ideas for future locations and displays.

Admission free – donations welcome

Organised as part of the Plastic Free Colwich Parish

Bookings and enquiries to plasticfree@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk

or call Robb Horton on 881345

DONNA LOUISE FUNDRAISING

Pads Dog Training Stafford presenting a cheque for £4,239.16p to The Donna Louise. Pads has raised this amazing amount of money at dog events we travel to all over the country holding fun dog shows and have a go rings in aid of charity.

Each year we choose a different one, this year's is the Donna Louise children's charity. The dogs help out to doing obedience displays and generally being excellent ambassadors for dog obedience training.

Roz Hickman Pads Dog Training Centre

CLLR NEIL WHITFIELD



Labrador-cross than they are with us!

We moved to the village two and a half years ago, and in that time have come to love the Haywoods and its residents. I'm sure many residents are more familiar with our enthusiastic Labrador-cross than they are with us! I attended Durham University, before taking an entry-level position at a company testing water quality for Yorkshire Water. Over the subsequent 12 years, I have worked to implement their environmental and quality management systems throughout the UK and Ireland, and now work as part of their global software development team.

From my time in the village and regularly talking to other residents, I'm aware of some of the issues facing the villages – particularly development (both housing and HS2) and ensuring local services and amenities are protected.

A PLASTIC OCEAN

Book your place now to see the shorter version of the film followed by a personal story of reducing plastic use and interactive discussion to encourage the use of alternatives to single-use plastics.

Monday 29th October 2018

6:45 pm for 7:00 pm

Great Haywood Memorial Hall



Chairman: Cllr. Adam Billingsley E: adam.billingsley@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Clerk: Michael Lennon E: clerk@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Parish Office: St Mary's Road, Little Haywood, ST18 0TX
 T: 01889 882665 facebook www.facebook.com/Colwich Parish Council

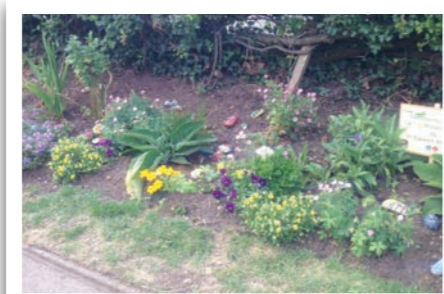


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BROWNIE GARDEN



1st Colwich Brownies completed a Challenge badge last term that focused on activities around the elements- earth, fire, water and air. Part of the Brownie promise is to "serve the Queen and my community" so we liaised with Irma Isenschmid from the Community Gardens project to plant and decorate a border just by where we meet at the Village hall. We meet weekly for 1.5 hours so we had to complete the task over several weeks.



The Brownies were very excited! The first thing was to decorate some stones to go along all the borders around the Colwich school playing field, some of the designs were based on the royal wedding, some were insects and some were just jazzy colours! The second thing was to think about the plants and our parents and volunteers kindly donated the plants. We spent three of our meetings planting the border up with the Brownies and Irma's guidance. As we have had such hot weather the most local Brownies kept an eye and watered the border during our weekly visits whilst the garden was establishing.

The Brownies were successful completing their challenge badge and we hope to look after the border in the future to continue our promise to the community.

Alison Flower 1st Colwich Brownie Guider.

Short Story Competition winners...

Age 7-10 Frontline George Herriman
 Age 11-13 Homefront Courtney Robson
 Frontline Hayli White

Sweets in a Jar (Total 189)

Yvonne Marston



YOUTH COUNCIL FETE

Way back in March, when summer stretched out before us and September seemed like a lifetime away, the Colwich Parish Youth Council were invited to participate in the Flower and Vegetable Show. How hard can organising an end-of-summer-fete be? Rather tricky, so it transpired.

After several regular meetings, plus a few informal ones involving tea and biscuits, we had a schedule. Summer holidays ensued, and we divvied up tasks between ourselves. Just before the summer holidays we opened up the short story competition, World War I themed, with the winners to be announced as part of the Flower & Vegetable show. Young people aged 9-16 were invited to imagine the experiences of a soldier in the trenches, or a civilian from the home front. To help prompt, we provided a selection of wartime photographs.

Sunday 9th September – windy, high of 18°, 30% chance of rain.

It has to be said that the weather was not perfect for setting up a gazebo, but set it up we did, with the help of our resident engineering-student-to-be. We ran six stalls on the day: Splat a Rat, Wheel of Fortune, Code Breaking, Play Your Cards Right, Obstacle course and Sweets in a Jar, and we later found out that we made a grand total of just over £100.

Alongside the stalls that we ran, we also invited two groups of young people to perform music as entertainment. The first group was a

duo of singer and violin combination followed by a group including 3 members of the Youth Council. Both of these performances were greeted well by the public.

Overall, the day was a success, far more so than we were expecting, if we're being honest. Before the event, we had discussed the possibility of a poor turnout, due to the fact that this was the first year that we had been involved. However, the response from the public was amazing, and we hope we made it as enjoyable for the fair-goers as they did for us.

It had been decided that we would donate the money to charity, with our chosen charities being House of Bread, that supports vulnerable and homeless people in Stafford, and the Donna Louise Trust based in Stoke-on-Trent, which supports families with young children struggling with terminal illnesses. Both of these charities support amazing causes, and specifically help to improve the lives of young people. This seemed like an apt way to help: the youth council helping other young people.

I would like to give a huge thanks to all those who helped us put on this event including Anson School and PTFA; Weston Road Academy and our parents. Finally a huge thanks to the Flower & Vegetable show for inviting us to join them and we hope to be even bigger and better next year.

Georgina Browning Chairman, Youth Council



RIMBACH OCTOBER 2018

The long months of planning for the Twinning Association's biennial visit to Rimbach are now coming to their conclusion and the arrangements are almost complete. All interested parties are signed up and deposits paid, the coach is booked and the programme of visits whilst we are in Germany decided upon.

42 people will be travelling to our twin town in the Odenwald area of Germany (situated between Frankfurt and Mannheim). With the encouragement and support of the Parish Council, the Twinning Association's aim over the past two years has been to encourage a wider interest in the spirit of twinning especially amongst the younger members of our community. Those travelling with us this year reflect the success of this endeavour. There will be 29 long-standing members of the Association, 5 young people and 3 younger members to lead them and 5 members of the Stafford and Rugeley Lions Association. The latter are in the process of forming a link with the Weschnitzal Lions Association of the Rimbach area.

Our friends in Rimbach will arrange accommodation in their homes, many of us returning to the same household where we

have stayed for twenty to thirty years. The Partnerschaftverein, Rimbach, have arranged a programme of visits which will be in two groups, one for the adults and one for the youth, with some being combined. After over 30 years of the Twinning link, when day trips during the visit have taken us further away from Rimbach in search of new destinations, we have requested that most of our visits this year renew our acquaintance with the more immediate area surrounding our twin town. Consequently we shall be visiting local attractions

Our coach will depart from the Haywoods early in the morning of Saturday 27th October and we will arrive in Rimbach on Sunday afternoon having crossed by ferry and had an overnight stay in Leuven, Belgium. Our route to Rimbach will be slightly different than previously in that we will cross to the east side of the river Rhine further downstream, thus having our view of the Rhine from the opposite bank. On arrival, the adults will attend a reception before dispersal to our hosts for the evening. The Youth will have the option of attending a performance of a musical by a local youth choir and stage group

On Monday, the adults will visit the capital of the Odenwald, Heppenheim and

also Bensheim, including a visit for a local wine tasting. The young people have their own programme and will be visiting the local secondary school and participating in sporting activities with the young people of Rimbach.

Tuesday will see a combined visit to Koblenz. A football match has been organised for the younger members in the evening.

On Wednesday, the adults will visit Erbacher Schloss and later the Schmucker brewery, while the youth will visit Frankfurt, travelling by train.

Thursday will see the adults visit the Red House Museum, in nearby Zotzenbach, in the morning with a boules tournament in the afternoon. The youth will also visit Zotzenbach, walking, with some outdoor games en route. In the evening we will all join, with our hosts, for a farewell dinner in the Krone restaurant in Rimbach.

On Friday we start our return journey travelling through France to our overnight stop, Boulogne, from where we will take the ferry back to England on Saturday morning, arriving back in the Haywoods, hopefully by late afternoon.

Keith Butler

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FULL COUNCIL:
Parish Office 7:30 p.m.
4th October, 8th November
& 20th December 2018

YOUTH COUNCIL:
Parish Office 6:30 p.m.
17th October & 19th December 2018

SURGERIES:
Great Haywood Memorial Hall
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
26th September
& 14th November 2018

Parish Office
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
10th October & 12th December 2018

CIVIC AMENITY (SKIP) VISIT
J.P.F. 10:00 - Noon
3rd November 2018
19th January & 9th March 2019

A PLASTIC OCEAN FILM
Great Haywood Memorial Hall
6:45 p.m. 29th October 2018



COFFEE AND CAKE

On 8th September, 1st Colwich Senior Section of Girlguiding joined forces with the young members of the Twinning Association to host a coffee and cake morning at the Memorial Hall, raising money towards their visit to Rimbach, our twinned community, next month. Two members of the Senior Section along with three young members of the Twinning Association will be going on the visit. The young people worked hard baking all of the cakes and planning the event, bringing everything together for a lovely community gathering. A fantastic morning was had by

all and the young people raised over £600 for their upcoming projects.

As well as raising money for the visit to Rimbach, 1st Colwich Senior Section have raised over £100 for their linked charity 'The Moira Fund', which works to support suddenly bereaved families. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the local young people involved in the organisation and delivery of this event, to thank all those who came out and supported them.

Victoria Jenkinson
Youth Leader and Mentor

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello everyone, hope you all have had a lovely summer? And what a summer it's been, fantastic weather.

The new noticeboards and fence for the JPF play area have arrived. However, installation has been held up by the ground being so dry and hard (those gardeners amongst you will know it's been like concrete!) As soon as the weather permits the lengthsmen shall be erecting them both.

The bench on Abbeyfields Green (opposite the Spar shop) was found to be in disrepair and so the Parish Council decided to renovate it. Whilst removing the many layers of paint from the cast iron metalwork it was discovered that the plaques on the ends of the bench were embossed with the

reduction either side of the Main Road/A51 junction at Great Haywood. The Council had asked if the 50mph speed limit be extended southward so as to conjoin with the proposed 40mph restriction. The original proposal was for a 200-metre restriction either side of the junction. However, at the Full Council meeting on the 6th September, County Councillor John Francis informed the Parish Council that a new proposal has been put forward in which the 40mph speed limit would be extended to 700 metres either side of the junction. This would mean that the new limit would indeed conjoin with the already existing 50mph limit north of the junction. The Parish Council is hoping that this plan is implemented as soon as possible so as to reduce the risk of any further tragedies.



Councillor
Adam Billingsley



The renovated bench at Abbeyfields Green

wording "To commemorate the 1951 Festival of Britain". If anyone has any information about the history of the bench please get in touch. Some of the metal and all of the slats have been replaced and the bench has been returned to its former glory. Thanks to Cllr Jim Sarjant for the making and installation of the two planters.

The Council decided, with the agreement of the family, that the bench be dedicated to the memory of the late Cllr Barrie Birt (see front-page article from his daughter) and a plaque to mark this will be fixed to the bench in due course.

On the issue of road safety, the Parish Council has been in correspondence with County Highways regarding the speed limit

The twinning Association will this year be accompanied by five young people and three younger members when they visit Rimbach in October. The Parish Council was approached by the Twinning Association earlier in the year to enquire if we would help with the costs of funding the five young people. As part of our efforts to encourage greater involvement in all of the local organisations by younger people, it was decided that the Council would match fund up to the sum of £50 per person. The Twinning Association, in conjunction with the local Senior Section of Girlguiding held a coffee and cake morning at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 8th September to raise money to assist with travel costs and to support a local charity, the Moira Fund. I am delighted to say

a sum of over £600 was raised and £75 of this will go to each of the young person's fun, the remainder will go to the Moira Fund. Congratulations to the Twinning Association and the 1st Colwich Senior Section of Girlguiding for their fabulous efforts.

The first round of the Small Grants Programme for this year is complete and the three applications were considered at the 6th September Full Council meeting. The second round is now open for applications until December. All applications will be considered at the 7th February 2019 Full Council meeting.

And finally, don't forget the Council Surgeries, are in this newsletter.

Cllr Adam Billingsley

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

The 2018 Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show, held on Sunday 9th September at Colwich and Little Haywood Village Hall, was the biggest and best yet!

This year saw a 21% increase in exhibitors together with a 23% increase in exhibits compared to last year. I'm sure you will agree that this is a remarkable achievement given the testing weather we have experienced this year. The Show was very well supported on the day which was wonderful to see and we actually ran out of space on the car park.

The Team behind the Show would like to thank every single person who entered an exhibit, along with everyone who came along to take a look and support this traditional village event. It really was a fine exhibition of talent and hard work, so well done everyone.

We would like to thank Colwich Parish Council for their continued support of the Show, and Colwich Parish Youth Council for joining us on the day.

This is the second year of the junior baking category with a very artistic display of cakes and cookies. Indeed, it was lovely to have such a big children's section, and the junior photography class had more entries this year too.

We hope you all enjoyed the Show, and if anyone would like to get more involved, please email haywoodsflowerandvegshow@outlook.com. New ideas are always welcome.

For full details of how to go about entering the Show please visit our website at:

www.haywoodsflowerandvegshow.com

See you next year!



Huge congratulations go to our 2018 winners!

Overall winner
The Earl of Lichfield Challenge Cup
Hilly Burns

Gentleman runner-up
The Peter Handy Perpetual Challenge Cup
Ted Minton

Lady runner-up
The Alan Fuller Perpetual Challenge Cup
Pat Broome

Best vegetable in show
The Stan Hopper Memorial Plate
Martyn Tabernor

The Rosern Trophy
(Best rose in show) **Pete Astle**

The Sydney Rawlings Rose Bowl (Roses)
Pete Astle

The Clendon Vase (Cut Flowers)
Jean Tabernor

The Cys Dyble Cup (Pot plants)
Jean Tabernor

The Davies Floral Art Challenge Cup
(Flower Arranging)
Hannah Clendon / Jean Tabernor

The Marjorie Clinton Trophy
(Best floral exhibit)
Jean Tabernor

The H W Hunt Company Cup (Vegetables)
Martyn Tabernor

The Morral Plate (Longest runner bean)
Dean Cottam

The Canalside Salver (Fruit) **Ted Minton**

The GH Memorial Hall Challenge Cup
(Preserves) **Hilly Burns**

The GH WI Trophy (Baking) **Hilly Burns**

The LH Ladies Club Cup (Bread)
Andy Broome

The Burbridge Tray (Handicraft)
Monica Walford

The Jan Pugh Art Cup
(Art and Photography) **Julia Smith**

CHILDREN'S SECTION

The Alison Mayo Junior Trophy (5-7 years)
Holly Broome / Eliza Wilde

The Bishton Hall Cup (8-11 years)
Alice Jones

The Flower & Vegetable Show Trophy
(12-16 years) **Lily Hurley**

The Broome Junior Baking Cup
Kate Hurley

We're thrilled that there are some new names on the trophies, and we hope that the momentum continues as more people find classes to enter.

Yvette Lycett