

Braunton Memory Cafe News

Hello to you all

Below are some pictures of the Fish and Chip supper delivery. We hope you all enjoyed your meal. We would like to thank Squires for all their help and for providing excellent fish and chips.

Braunton Caen Rotary held a competition for Mad Monsters in August. Entries had to be made from household plastic rubbish. We held the competition in conjunction with Plastic Free North Devon. We had some great entries as you can see! Thanks to Geoff for organising it.



MUSIC IN BRAUNTON



Music has long played a part in the life of Braunton village. In his book, Victorian Days in a Devon village, A.H.Slee tells of "much musical talent in the village". In the 1890's there was a Choral Society with members from three Churches. Their leader was Mr. Heap who was a master at Chaloner's School, as well as an organist in the Parish Church. Concerts were held and Mr. Slee recalls a rendition of Haydn's 'Creation' and a boy chorister, Alfred Long, singing a duet with a Mr. Sidney Harper, both of whom went on to enjoy a lifetime contributions to the music circles of North Devon. The Barnstaple Male Voice Choir was later conducted by the aforesaid

Alfred Long. During this time an orchestra was formed by local instrumentalists and lead by a Mr. John Reed. They held their practices in Merryfield Lane and regularly performed concerts in the Congregational schoolroom. Come the summer, they could be found playing to villagers under Cross Tree.

We are fortunate that one of our Rotarians, Jennie, is involved in the present day music scene in Braunton. Jennie Tomlinson and Mike Court run Red Shoes Music between them. It is a not-for-profit business aimed at promoting and supporting live music. "Red Shoes" have been part of running local festivals such as Elevation and Lapstock, running the music at the Rotary Village Fair and Pilton Green Man Festival. They also put on 'open mike' sessions and live music shows throughout the area. Recently, Jennie has bought along musicians to perform at the Memory Cafe which has been a great delight to those attending.

There are opportunities to get involved in music in many ways in the area such as the Ukulele Orchestra of North Devon, the North Devon Sinfonia, the North Devon Choral Society. You can also go along to the Saunton Road Studios to hear (or perform) music. Braunton Academy has a strong musical department encouraging younger villagers through performance, composition, listening and appraising. they have access to a wide variety of instruments ranging from keyboards, guitars, and drums to percussion and ukuleles.



We also managed to get out to Croyde Beach in two groups of six, adhering to Government guide lines, to do a beach clean. It was a lovely evening, as you can see from the photos, and we hope we helped a little to keep the beach clean and welcoming.

If MUSIC be the food of LOVE, play on!

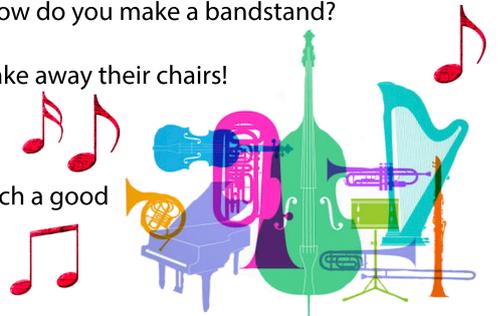


Why did the fish make such a good musician?

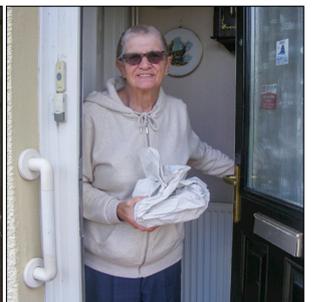
He knew his scales!

How do you make a bandstand?

Take away their chairs!



We hope you are still taking care of yourselves and please remember that if you need to speak to a member of the team, contact Geoff on 01271 815377.



DAVID MORGAN BRAUNTON SCHOOL 1966 to 1996.

Many of you will remember/know David Morgan who we were so lucky to have at Braunton School from 1966 to 1996. He may have taught you at school but he taught many of our children. He was head of music at the school and joint founder of the Braunton School Orchestra, but we must not forget his wife Elizabeth who supported him throughout this time taking an active part in the orchestra and teaching children. In 1993 the Orchestra won a prestigious Gold award in the Macdonalds Children of Achievement, Music in the Community awards in Nottingham. But whilst the orchestra performed mainly classical pieces, David also encouraged the children to pursue their own individual interests in all music genres of that time.



Braunton school orchestra wins national award

A band of gold from North Devon

PUPILS from Braunton school are blowing their own trumpet after winning a prestigious musical award.

The school's 40-strong orchestra were presented with a gold award in the Macdonalds Children of Achievement, Music in the Community awards at a ceremony in Nottingham last week.

On a whistle stop day-trip the youngsters received the honour, and then splashed out with an express-paid lunch at Macdonalds, before returning to North Devon in the evening.

David Morgan, head of music and joint founder of the orchestra, said: "The children really enjoyed themselves, especially the meal at the Macdonalds. We are all very proud and happy to have done so well. The children were a real credit to the school and North Devon."

The orchestra has been playing a whole range of classical and popular music for the last 27 years at concerts throughout the country.

"We try to give the kids a wide introduction to the world of music and hope they go on from there," Mr Morgan said.

John Hinkes, the head of Braunton school, said: "We are very proud of the musical achievements at the school. We have built up a strong reputation for musical excellence."

He was greatly respected by the children who probably at the time might have said he was strict!! He was not strict he was firm, kind, incredibly generous with his time in and out of school and so respected by all. But additionally to giving up so much time for the young people of Braunton he founded The Braunton Orchestral Society, this was in the late 60's He was fondly known as 'Morgan the Music' 35 years he conducted this orchestra and finally hung up his baton in 2002. You will still catch David in the village either walking or catching up for a chat with his friends in the coffee shops. A real treasure.



Braunton Buskers
North Devon and Braunton in particular, is blessed by possibly more musicians per square mile than anywhere else in the country a fact that has been previously endorsed by a BBC Radio2 presenter. If you enjoy music you really dont have to go far to find it. There is even a succesful recording studio in the village with it's own record label. Several years ago a few of us thought that it would be fun to have a go at busking. None of us had done it before preferring pub, club and staged venues. Funnily enough busking is not illegal unless local byelaws exist. Nevertheless, we felt it polite to seek parish council guidance and they granted permission for us to play outside the Countryside Centre. So was formed "Braunton Buskers", a very loose group of local musicians. Our only aims were to be able to play our music and at the same time raise money for local charities. We have supported local fund raising for the Air Ambulance, Teenage Cancer Trust, Surf Museum and of course our hosts at the Countryside Centre. Part of the appeal of "Buskers" is that it provides an opportunity for our young, up and coming musicians to experience playing in public to an audience which can be quite nerve racking. For us older ones it keeps us on our toes remembering lyrics and riffs from forty years ago!



What kind of music are balloons afraid of?
POP music!



Why is a piano hard to open?
Because the keys are on the inside!



STEVE TUCKER ALL STAR JAZZ BAND
Braunton based jazz musician and Author Steve Tucker (band leader, double bass and vocalist) has been running his jazz band for over 20 years. The Steve Tucker All Star Jazz Band has recorded 9 albums and many DVD's. Tracks can be heard on his website and seen on YouTube. Basing the jazz songs on the show tunes of the 20s, 30s and 40s you may enjoy listening to them and reminiscing happy tea dance/ballroom days of your youth. The band has played at many top festivals all over the country including our own Goldcoast Festival twice. Steve also appeared in three Braunton Productions shows at the Queens Theatre, Half a Sixpence, South Pacific and played Chino in the hit musical West Side Story. We are so lucky in Braunton to have so many talented musicians living in our village and Steve is very proud to be one of them.
www.thestevetuckerallstarjazzband.co.uk

