



Broughton InTouch

Bringing you up to date with your community

Welcome to the first bi-monthly newsletter for the Broughton Astley/Sutton Elms community.

The Broughton Astley Volunteer Group (BAVG) was set up at the start of lockdown to help support the local community during this unprecedented time. Thanks to an amazing response and a lot of volunteers, the Group has been able to deliver a wide range of services including prescription collections, food deliveries and a Swap Shop.

Our recent survey showed that 90% of respondents would welcome a newsletter (more survey results on pg.3). So here at BAVG we are now producing a bi-monthly newsletter to keep you up to date with both existing and new social groups and activities to be involved with.

Following our success, we are now also in the process of registering BAVG as a charity, which will provide access to grants and services to help set up a variety of groups within the village. Our new newsletter will provide the perfect way to keep you all updated with what is available locally.

To finance each newsletter, we will rely on one major sponsor each edition. The sponsor will be given the full back page to not only advertise, but also to tell us more about themselves and their business so we can get to know them a little better.



Many thanks to [Ringrose Butchers](#) for putting their trust in us for the first edition and writing our first "Meet the Shopkeeper" article. If you would like to sponsor future editions and appear on the back page please email BAVGoffice@gmail.com for details. If the amount of content means

the newsletter grows, further smaller advertising opportunities may become available.

We also would like to thank our army of trusty volunteers for stepping up once more and delivering this to your door for us. We are very lucky to have many willing helpers in our village which means that each person only had to deliver to a few streets. The first newsletter has gone out to every home in Broughton Astley to enable us to get the word out. It will be a bi-monthly newsletter with the next edition covering Dec. 2020/Jan. 2021.

You can view a digital copy of this newsletter on Issuu.com by following the link from our group Facebook Page ([Broughton Astley Volunteer Group](#)) or searching for **Broughton InTouch** on Issuu.com. You do not need to download the Issuu app to be able to read our newsletter.

If you prefer digital and would like to opt out of receiving the paper copy please email BAVGoffice@gmail.com with your name & address, putting 'OPT OUT' in the subject line.

If you would like to contribute to the next issue or future editions of our newsletter or require more information, please email BAVGoffice@gmail.com Deadline for the Dec/Jan edition is 30 October 2020. We accept features and information on any non-for-profit organisation within our community.

October/November 2020

A brief history of the Broughton Astley Volunteer Group (BAVG)

*Broughton Astley & Sutton Elms
Covid-19 support.*

On Tuesday 17 March in the Village Hall a map of the village was sellotaped together and a simple message sent out using spotted Broughton Astley's Facebook page: "volunteer shoppers required."



The response was totally overwhelming and before the Government Lockdown on 23 March, the BAVG was created and ready to respond. The initial priority was simply to connect volunteer shoppers with those who were told to shield.

Within the first week of lockdown over 4000 leaflets were delivered to every household in the village to promote the BAVG and provide a freephone telephone number and dedicated email address. We required a fast method of delivery and no one in the village could have done it quicker than the Squirrels Running Club, we were extremely grateful for their speedy service.

Other requirements came to light very quickly and next a rota of volunteers was created to assist with the delivery of prescriptions from the Main Street chemist.



They covered not only the village but also the surrounding area delivering to Ulesthorne, Sharnford, Blaby and even as far as Earl Shilton. During a 22 week period we delivered over 3000 prescriptions.

The role of the BAVG expanded rapidly during the first few weeks of lockdown. The volunteers took on many roles including dog walking, delivering newspapers, posting mail and gardening, as well as delivering meat and supplies direct from Ringrose Butchers, (our sponsor for

this first edition of Broughton InTouch). Broughton Alive ran a mobile banking system for us allowing residents who were shielding to obtain cash.

In the early weeks, the phone lines were remarkably busy and at times we had five volunteers working from the Village Hall answering calls. A Group Facebook page was created and the BAVG was registered as a COVID-19 support group, this allowed people from as far afield as Scotland to contact the Group directly asking for help supporting their relatives living in Broughton Astley. In addition, we picked up many calls for help outside our area and so we developed a network of telephone numbers so we could pass on the relevant calls.

A befriending service was set up, headed by the Reverend Sharon Constable whose team gave friendly support via the telephone to those feeling isolated.

The Swap Shop idea came from Sam Woolman who was unable to continue her swap shop from the front of her house. Her stock was donated and moved to the Village Hall, and once more the Parish Office stepped up and opened the small cottage for us to utilise, where donations then kept flooding in.

Funding initially came from the Parish Council and was quickly followed by a Grant from the Leicestershire and Rutland Rural Community Fund. Broughton Alive also secured a grant from the County Council enabling two laptops, a printer and stationery to be purchased.

A big thank you goes out to everyone who donated their time to making the BAVG develop and grow so quickly to support the local community.

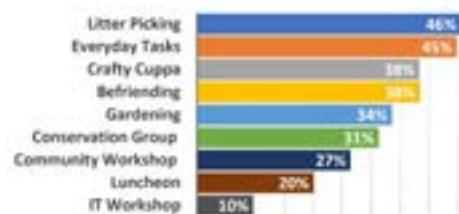
Looking to the Future...

The BAVG will continue to provide help with everyday tasks such as shopping and prescriptions for those who are shielding/ isolating or in need for other reasons. This will continue with our large group of volunteers being allocated to people in need, to enable a trusted relationship to be established. The telephone befriending service is also continuing as before.

Having carried out a survey across the village we had a great response and received some excellent ideas and requests that helped us to make some big decisions.

97% of respondents think there is a need for the BAVG to continue carrying out voluntary activity in the community, so we are forming as a charity, with help from the Rural Community Council, to allow us to continue with all we have been doing so far, and providing support for existing groups. We look forward to expanding into other areas. Having charity status will enable us to access more grant funding that we can then use to help our community.

The graph below shows the percentage of respondents who had an interest in each activity.



What else...

The Gardening Group has begun with just a few people (see the write up on page 9) but has plans for the future! We are also exploring Conservation issues within the village and will continue our discussions with the relevant people to enable this to get up and running when we are allowed.

Litter picking is obviously an issue residents feel strongly about and we are trying to set up a session, but with the changing Government guidelines this is proving difficult, please keep an eye on our facebook page and in the next issue. The Crafty Cuppa group is unfortunately not able to be introduced presently due to current Government restrictions. 93% of respondents would support a Charity shop / Swap shop in the village however, at the present time we are unable to find any suitable premises even though we have 51 volunteers who are happy to help man it.

At the time of writing the government guidelines are to change once more, with social groups being no more than six. This makes our work more difficult and it may slow us down but not stop us. The BAVG has formed for the long term and the present crisis will pass, with the help of our volunteers we as a community will enhance the place we live and also make a difference to all who live in Broughton Astley and Sutton in the Elms.

Finally, thanks to everyone who completed the survey, we were very grateful for the lovely comments and support shown. We will continue to welcome new thoughts and ideas of how as a community we could work together to make improvements. Please get in touch, contact details below.

Broughton Astley Volunteer Group

InTouch and responding to our community's needs.

Freephone: 0808 528 4477 Email: BAVGoffice@gmail.com



Scouting was started in Broughton Astley by Scoutmaster Joseph Goy in 1934 and has been involved in the community ever since. Inspired by their Founder, Scouts were encouraged to stand up for what they believe in and blaze a trail. From the very beginning, they were kind, considerate and always ready to help other people. Today we have 23 leaders, 116 young people and run over 150 activities each year. We teach boys & girls skills that can be used for the rest of their lives. We aren't limited to camping and map reading, we also teach digital skills, Health & wellbeing and First Aid. We offer Duke of Edinburgh awards and adventurous activities throughout the year. We offer leadership & management skills and adults get free training that culminates in the coveted Wood Badge. This also confers recognition by the Institute of Leadership and Management. We offer places to children aged 6 (Beavers), 8 (Cubs), 10 (Scouts).



To join the movement contact:
1stbascouts@gmail.com.



Girlguiding Lutterworth Division

has been busy throughout lockdown, holding virtual meetings with girls or sending them activity packs. Fun and engaging badges and challenges have continued to support the physical and emotional wellbeing of our young members during this challenging time.

Although some units are not meeting 'normally' yet, we do still want to allow more girls (Rainbows aged 5–7, Brownies aged 7–10, Guides aged 10-14 and Rangers aged 14-18) to experience all of the fun & friendship that our active units have to offer. To do this we need more volunteers. Girlguiding offers a range of flexible volunteering opportunities to enable girls and young women to grow in confidence and discover their full potential in a safe, girl-only space.

More volunteers are needed in Broughton Astley and surrounding areas. Lutterworth Division is calling on residents of these areas to give a little of their time to support local girls and young women to enjoy exciting activities, as well as acquire new skills and experiences themselves. Whether you are new to the area or have lived here all your life Girlguiding is a fabulous way to make new friends and we look forward to hearing from you.



To volunteer visit: **go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-volunteer**

Ekojoe is a mobile zero waste shop & refill station, a non profit based community interest company run by a group of volunteers in the heart of Leicestershire, with a focus on making zero-waste shopping more affordable and accessible. They have a wide range of products, herbs and spices, dried fruits and nuts, pasta and rice, grains and pulses, flour and yeast, cleaning and laundry liquids, natural soaps, shampoo refills and bars. View our van location events via the website and visit us in person. Most products can be bought by refilling jars. We encourage you to bring your own containers, but when you don't there are always some available or products can be put in paper bags. In addition Ekojoe stock a range of gifts and other plastic free products including toothbrushes, cotton buds, bags, reusable cups.

Alternatively, we will deliver our produce, (free of charge if you spend over £10.00) with no plastic packaging to your home. Please place your orders online at www.ekojoe.biz or contact us on 07784673371 or info@ekojoe.co.uk

It is really impossible to list all of our products so please visit our website: www.ekojoe.biz



Lutterworth & Villages Foodbank is a project facilitated by St. Mary's Church, Lutterworth, supported by local churches, schools, community groups and businesses. We support the people across the Harborough and Blaby District areas.

We are so grateful for the generosity of local people and businesses, who donate the food, funds & essential items that we give out to our clients in crisis. A special thank you to everyone in Broughton Astley who has donated so generously to us, particularly over the past few months. Look out for our collection points in BA Coop & Village Hall.

Due to Covid-19, we are currently operating a delivery-only service which is kindly supported by Lutterworth Community Transport & Blaby DC Volunteer teams. We give 3 days worth of nutritionally balanced emergency food for 3 meals a day, to every person in the household.

As part of The Trussell Trust, we run on a voucher referral system. If you, or anyone you know is in need, please don't suffer in silence.

Please check our website or contact us for more information.

lutterworthvillages.foodbank.org.uk

info@lutterworthvillages.foodbank.org.uk • 01455 558797

Twitter: @LuttFoodBank

Facebook: Lutterworth and Villages Foodbank



BROUGHTON ASTLEY GARDENERS ASSOCIATION (BAGA)

*Gardening products & services
available from the Trading Hut ,
Western Willows Allotments site.*

We stock a wide range of gardening products including chemicals, composts, canes, fleece and fertilizers, along with a variety of popular vegetable seeds, beans, onions, peas and potatoes. We also offer a seed scheme whereby you may pre-order all of your seed requirements for the next growing season. These seeds are first-class quality, will cost significantly less than those purchased elsewhere, and will be delivered direct to your home. Our range of wild bird feeds has also proven extremely popular. If we don't stock what you need please ask, as we can often source one-off purchases much cheaper than you might be able to yourself.

BAGA is run for the benefit of all local gardeners and we rely on your support to maintain our service. The Trading Hut is open between 10.00 and 12.00 every Sunday from February through to the end of October, and then on the first Sunday of November, December and January.

Membership remains at just £1.00 per year. Come along any Sunday morning when we are open, we would be delighted to welcome you as a new or returning member of BAGA and look forward to seeing you in the Trading Hut. It is your support that will guarantee the on-going success of the Association and the running of the Annual Village Show at the Village Hall in August.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to give Colin Golding a call on 01455 282726 or better still why not go to our website:
www.broughtonastleygardeners.co.uk and see for yourself what is on offer.



Broughton Alive – a group of volunteers working to keep our community together.

During the Covid-19 crisis we secured funding for the response led by BAVG, who have done sterling work for our community. Now we are looking at how to help restart community activities including providing grants for smaller groups such as the Luncheon Club and others.

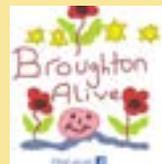
We recently purchased a Zoono spray machine for use by any community group who need to sanitise their community areas. We are working with Lutterworth & Villages Food Bank & St.Mary's church to help set up easier ways for clients from Broughton Astley to obtain the support they need.

Each year we organised the Summer Carnival, August Party in the Park & the Christmas Fayre and Santa Fun Run with

any surplus generated being donated to other community groups. These have included the Community Bus, First Responder equipment, Luncheon club, Scouts & Brownies, Library Garden, Sutton Elms Elm trees, new bell ropes, TECC's Children's play area, Gardening Club, D&B United and the Remembrance sculpture.

We hope you enjoyed the walking market, which may run again in December if we cannot hold the usual Christmas Fayre – we will of course have our lovely Christmas tree anyway for your enjoyment.

For more information call 285069 or go to the Broughton Alive website
www.broughtonalive.co.uk



St Mary's News and Views!



It has been heartbreaking to keep our church closed for 5 months during lockdown. It was a very strange time but also an amazing community spirit pervaded the village!

We might have been closed but St Mary's ministry team helped with friendly phone calls with the BAVG volunteers and we were local deliverers of food bank help too. We were honoured to help the team based in the Village Hall.

The church is now open again in a limited way. We open on Wednesday mornings from 10-12 for people to come in and quietly sit & think or pray. We are also open for services now too, with safe distancing and we also continue to live stream our services for anyone wishing to [join us on line!](#)

Our services are at 9.45am every Sunday. Weddings, funerals and baptisms can now happen in our church but with limited numbers at present.

Anyone can come and help themselves to fruit & veg in our church porch for free, given by kind people who have spare veg or fruit from gardens and allotments. Please drop in to see what's there!

Do contact Rev. Sharon if you want to chat about our services

Tel: 01455 644779 Email: sharonconstable@msn.com



View one of our online church services via YouTube or our website www.suttonelms.co.uk

These past few months have been interesting to say the least! Many lives have been disrupted, despaired, and even lost. No one knows when things will return to normal and it's often said we need to embrace a 'new normal'. Going through times of difficulty and uncertainty make us question many things and reevaluate our lives as we search for meaning, answers and hope. At the height of lockdown, as our nation and the rest of the world began to feel the impact and effects of COVID-19, Google searches for prayer skyrocketed and there were reports that as many as 1 in 4 people attended an online church service in the UK. Perhaps you were part of these statistics?

Faith and prayer have often brought comfort and hope into people's lives, particularly in difficulty and uncertainty. They seem to be part of a recognition, deep within us, that there is someone we can and need to, call out to. God welcomes all who call to Him and offers comfort to all in difficulty. In whatever 'new norm' you find yourself in, I encourage you to give place for faith and prayer.

If you would like to connect and talk about these things, I would love to hear from you. You can email me at jonathan@suttonelms.co.uk.

Your local Policing Beat Team



PC 4480 Michelle Skingsley and I, (PCSO 6008 Laura Bolton) would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and let you know how we can be contacted and what we have going on in Broughton Astley at the moment.



We are based at Market Harborough Police Station but

do have an office here in Broughton Astley. If you need to contact us email is preferable and by leaving a phone number for us to call you on...

michelle.skingsley@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

laura.bolton@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Currently we have a helpful network called 'Neighbourhood Link'. This is an alert messaging system that will go straight to your email address or your mobile phone and once signed up you will receive general information and crime prevention advice from The Local Beat Team. If you feel that

you would like to receive these messages, please just email either of us and we will let you know how to do this or you could follow the website below.



We also hold Beat Surgeries once a month, these are currently held in The Parish Council offices and cover various times of the day to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to call in if they have any concerns or have questions for the Police.

The dates & times for the next surgeries in the Village Hall are: Mon 5 Oct. 7-8pm and Sat. 7 Nov. 10-11am.

Looking forward to meeting and speaking with you...

Broughton Astley Photographic Society (BAPS)

We are a small, friendly club who meet at 7.30 pm on Tuesdays once a month as a forum for local photographers of all abilities, amateur and professional, who enjoy photography and want to learn more.

During the pandemic, we have been taking advantage of the light summer nights, and meeting in various outdoor locations in groups of 6 or less to enjoy walking photoshoots in local villages. We are due to start our indoor meetings again shortly. Due to social distancing guidelines, we are moving to the Alan Talbot Room in the Village Hall. The dates for 2020 are 29 Sept, 20 Oct. and 17 Nov. However, in normal times the meetings are held in the Cottage at Broughton Astley Village Hall and usually consist of theory and tutorial sessions on a variety of techniques and subjects. During the summer, the second monthly meetings are usual practical sessions when, weather permitting, we are out and about taking photographs at a variety of locations.

We participate in local events such as the annual Carnival, Party in the Park, Christmas Fayre and Santa Fun Run as well as the Boxing Day Duck Race and the Garden Show in August.

New members are always welcome so why not visit to see what our society can offer.

For more information either visit the website: thebroughtonastleyps.co.uk or contact us on secretary@thebroughtonastleyps.co.uk



Alberto Costa MP

Since the pandemic began, we have seen countless communities coming together across the country to help one another, and the Broughton Astley Volunteer Group perfectly embody this strong sense of community spirit.

I was very pleased to support their nomination for grant funding from the Western Power Community Fund, and I was delighted when they were successful. The grant will enable the Volunteer Group to widen their reach to all parts of Broughton Astley and continue their fantastic work in supporting their local community and making a real and lasting difference to the lives of those who call the village home.

I look forward to seeing the Volunteer Group continue to go from strength to strength, and hope to meet all the volunteers involved very soon to thank them for their tremendous efforts and hard work.

First BAVG Community Gardening session

Early in September we had some winter pansies donated to the group through our connection with the Sows and Grows project and, using some of our own funds, we purchased some dafodil bulbs & snowdrops from Sapcote Garden Centre, who kindly gave us a small discount.

We contacted a few people who had expressed an interest in joining a gardening group via our survey and managed to get together a small group of willing volunteers to kickstart the first of hopefully many projects to enhance the green areas of Broughton Astley.

On Fri. 4th September the pansies and bulbs were planted in the Memorial Garden by Anne, Carmella & Jean. Thank you for your work ladies, and also thanks to Sean for the photos.



Our next projects will include the area outside the Cottage and the Co-op. If you would like to join our Gardening volunteers and have not already expressed interest via our survey, please email BAVGOffice@gmail.com



Swap Shop Success

I can't thank the BAVG and the community enough for the fantastic service the swap shop has given my family and I. We were regular library visitors before lockdown and were overjoyed one day on a bike ride to find the swap shop had been set up. We used it on a weekly basis to get books for the week, that we then swapped back the following week. It became our library!

In addition we picked up games and jigsaws which really helped to keep us occupied when there wasn't much else to do. My daughter loved it, and said it was far better than the library and didn't want it to stop!

I feel proud to be part of a community with a spirit that was shown to be so keen to help and support others during such a difficult time. Well done Broughton Astley!



Nicola Clegg- resident



Broughton Astley Parish Council Contact Details of Councillors

LOCAL COUNCILLORS

ASTLEY WARD

David Glenis	07792620963	daveglenis@hotmail.co.uk
Mark Graves	01455 283834	markgraves@aol.com
Stuart Oliver	07519659821	soliver.bapc@gmail.com
Paul Shipman	01455 284867	paul.shipman1@btinternet.com

BROUGHTON SOUTH WARD

Colin Golding	07759707581	colingbapc@gmail.com
Gerry Mallaghan		gmbapc@hotmail.com
Colin Porter	07596142817	colin180@btinternet.com
Maureen Stell	01455 284496	maureenstell@hotmail.com

BROUGHTON NORTH WARD

Daniel Howe	07523276628	danielrhowe@aol.com
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PRIMETHORPE WARD

Gerald Brown	07801143040	dgbapc@gmail.com
Raymond Capewell	0773961610	raycapewell@yahoo.co.uk
Robert Davis	07707587256	Bobdavis01455@gmail.com
Russell Patrick	07539413261	russellpatrick@live.co.uk

SUTTON WARD

Robert Gahan	01455 283865	rjgahanbapc@outlook.com
Clive Grafton-Reed	07709657671	clivegriftonreed@gmail.com
Michael Swinfen	07942734046	swinfen50@hotmail.com

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

PRIMETHORPE & SUTTON WARD

Paul Dann	07796507609	p.dann@harborough.gov.uk
William Liquorish	07753400519	w.liquorish@harborough.gov.uk

BROUGHTON SOUTH & LEIRE WARD

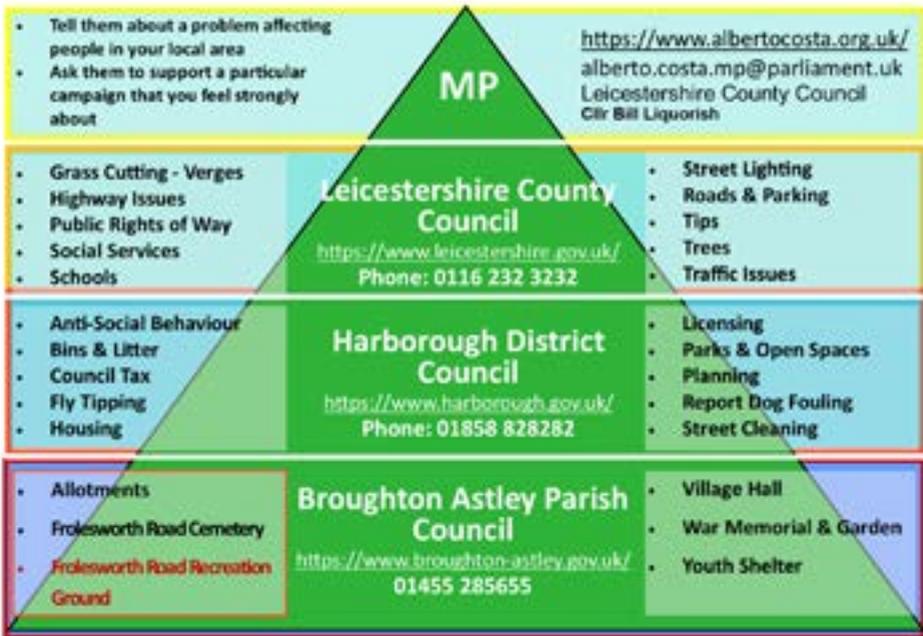
Colin Golding	07759707581	c.golding@harborough.gov.uk
Mark Graves	01455 283834	m.graves@harborough.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

William Liquorish	07753400519	w.liquorish@harborough.gov.uk
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Alberto Costa	0116 2781924	Alberto.costa.mp@parliament.uk
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Parish Managers Round-up



It has been a difficult five months for everyone, however it has been nice to see the village pulling together through this pandemic.

Monday, 7th of September saw the Village Hall reopen to existing groups but under very strict guidelines. The Parish Council has purchased an anti-bacterial fogging gun which allows hard surfaces to be coated giving Covid19 protection. This is applied not only in the Village Hall but also on all Parish Council owned outdoor play equipment etc.

On the agenda of September's Parish Council meeting the subject of dog waste and the provision of bins was discussed, the following was agreed:-

The red dog bins would not be reinstated but new black waste bins purchased and strategically placed.

Some under-utilised black bins to be relocated to more suitable areas if possible.

Please remember dog waste can be put into any black bin including your own domestic bin.

The Parish Council have been extremely pleased to work alongside BAVG during the pandemic and to help them with future plans, including their first new project planting winter pansies & spring bulbs in the Memorial Garden with a group of their volunteers.

 ★ 5 out of 5

RINGROSE BUTCHERS



We are a family butchers selling dry-aged meat from local farms. We hand-make award-winning sausages and pies, and stock fruit, veg, salad, eggs and more!



Andy Ringrose grew up farming and butchering with his father Alf.
Alf retired and Andy set up the Broughton shop in 1992...

Wife Sarah joined Ringrose Butchers as a partner around 1995...



Ray also joined us around this time - he now cooks all of our ready-to-eat products, including our pies and our famous Chicken Nuggets...

We have won a few awards since 1992!



Sons Adam and Matt have joined the business along with Matt's partner Hettie.

Today our team still uses many of Alf's methods to produce a variety of handcrafted meats, both fresh and ready-to-eat, for Broughton Astley and beyond. Follow us on Facebook—our average review is a full five stars and we post new value packs each week!

