

Bradwell Fundraising Over the Summer

The summer is a time for lying back, enjoying the feel of sun on skin and relaxing. Therefore the fundraising efforts this summer have had a fun and frivolous air to them, if only to compensate for the lack of sun. Bradwell's Fun Day at the start of the August was on one of the sunny days, and we had a wide variety of stalls selling the sort of goods you see at summer fairs, and offering bouncy castles, crafts for kids, face painting and china smashing, presided over by Rae and Martin Gingell. All those staying at Bradwell were dragooned into helping in some capacity, the kitchen worked flat out selling lunches, teas and cakes, and a good time was had by all, marred only by rather fewer visitors than we had hoped for. Still the event broke even and spread our name around the area.

Throughout the summer there has been a tall glass jar filled with change on the serving counter and all visitors have been offered the chance to guess how much money it contains. Many sheets have been filled with guesses, at 10p a go, from the realistic to the frankly over optimistic. If you guess correctly you win a third of the amount. As the idea, change and jar was provided by the Hodgson-Browns it seems right that the change will be counted and the winner declared at their film week in the October half term.

The finale of the season was of course our own Rock festival, Othonastock. This is reported elsewhere, but the sun shone, bands played a wide variety of music all of high quality, even down to the unusual rendition of Britney Spears 'Hit me baby one more time' by our very own budding boy band. Forget Glastonbury and Reading, next year make sure you are at Othonastock.

This is also a reminder that you still have a few weeks left to send me your memories of Bradwell to add to the book on them. The first edition trial run was printed in the summer and has sold well, you can order your copy now for only £3.50 a copy, it will be dispatched early in November.

I have made you read this far to get to the nitty gritty of how much money we have raised so far. As at the end of July it is a total of £35,000, £15,500 of that since last November. This includes Gift Aid and the various sponsored events. We are half way to the target for mains electricity. We on the fundraising committee will renew our efforts to get external funding and maintain the flow of internal events. However we also need help from the membership. We are very grateful for help in whatever way you feel able to offer it, time, effort, ideas or even hard cash.

I hope that in another month's time there will be more news about money from outside bodies, and there will be more events to report on in the lead up to Christmas. If you think you can host a fundraising event from a coffee morning to a sponsored stop smoking month to anything else please let Bradwell or myself know.

Ann Froggatt