

BARFORD NEWS

APRIL 2011

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Parish Council Notes

THE MEETING TOOK place at 7.30pm on 2nd March 2011 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Councillors Hobbs (Chairman), Best, Bullard, Eden, Styles, Turner and Woolgrove. Also attending was Mrs R Watts (Clerk), County Councillor R Jelf.

Fairmitre Windows have installed a new hardwood village notice board. It was noted that the wood must be oiled at least annually.

The Clerk has received a letter from Mrs Purton of the Manor House, Barford St John, confirming that tree works are in hand. It has been noted that the trees running along the perimeter of Manor House have been pollarded. However, the hedge by the 30mph sign still needs cutting back to improve visibility. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr & Mrs Purton again.

Oxfordshire County Council have announced that the Big Society Fund start-up funding has been launched. This allows local people to bid for start-up funding to help them take responsibility for providing services in their area such as libraries, youth services, etc. For more information visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/big society fund

The police have visited The Green six times and have found no evidence of obstructions by cars. Bernard Lane has carried out repairs to The Green where large vehicles have ploughed deep ruts into the grass. Following a lengthy discussion it was resolved that Councillor Woolgrove would ask for a quotation from Mick Cook for digging a trench 1 metre deep and 18" wide the length of The Green,

backfilling with stone, covering with grass and erecting a number of wooden bollards 18" in to prevent further damage.

Planning Matters

Details of planning applications can be found on the CDC website

http://cherweb.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx

This site does not include 'Notice of Intent' for tree works in a Conservation Area (TCA)

Application: 11/00099/F Edginton, Avalon, Horn Hill, Barford St Michael, erection of two-storey rear extension. 5 Councillors objected/2 Councillors did not.

Application: 11/00039/F/11/00040/LB Mitchell, Barford House, Horn Hill, Barford St Michael, proposed external ramp. No objections.

Application: 11/00198/F Hill, Wormwoods Hilton, change of highway to domestic use. 6 Councillors objected / 1 did not.

Any Other Business

Councillor Bullard apologised to Councillor Woolgrove for omitting his name on the February list Of Parish Council attendees in the Barford News Parish Notes.

The next meeting is on 6 April 2011 immediately followed by the Barford Village Hall Trust meeting at 8.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Barford St John and St Michael

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

will be held at 7.30 p.m. on **WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL**

in THE VILLAGE HALL

followed by

THE VILLAGE HALL

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING EVERYONE WELCOME

come and have your say about parish affairs Refreshments provided

Barford Challenge

Barford Challenge 2011

YES, IT'S THAT TIME of year again when we have to think up a gruelling challenge for the good people of Barford. So this is what we have come up with for this year.

The date has been set for Saturday July 9th.

A cycle ride, starting at Barford and finishing at Barford, we cycle through six counties and notch up the magic 100 miles. You will be given a map at the start, there will be three or four check points and at each one you will hand in your map and get a new one that will lead you to the next check point. To stop any main roading and to keep everyone on the route intended there will be a simple question that you will find the answer to on the way to the next check point.

The half way check point will be made known before the start so any friends and family can meet up with the cyclists and cheer them on, hopefully at a pub so the wait won't be too arduous.

The idea is that people set up teams of three so they will train up for it and help each other on, but this is not set in stone so any number can cycle together.



Not sure of start time yet but I guess it will be between 7.00am and 9.00am and we will let people go at slight intervals.

This year any money made will be given to Maggie Harvey's trust. Maggie has done most of the challenges with us and we all miss her laughter and mad chatter keeping us all going. The entry fee will be £ 20.00 per person and we will also make available a sponsorship form so you can earn money for you own particular charity. We will open entries on April 1st and close them on June 1st.

We are thinking of giving three prizes, one for the fastest team, one for the slowest team and one for the team that raises the most money.

Glynnis has set up an email dedicated to the challenge for anyone wanting more information,

barfordchallenge@btinternet.com,

or give me a call on

01869 338835.

More details will follow as we make them up but this is to let you know that you'd better dust off the bike, stretch on the lycra get your bum back in the saddle.

Pete



Mothering Sunday

Sunday 3rd April



10.30am



**Morning Worship
St. Michael's Church**

**Come along and collect spring posies for
Mums, grans, aunties and friends!!**

**Barford Churches APCM
THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH
MEETING
will take place in
St Michaels Church
on Thursday 28th April at 7.30**

THE IS THE TIME for you to give the PCC your views on how you would like the churches to be run and to offer your help with looking after them. We are in dire need of people who can offer their help as readers, sidespersons, cleaners, gardeners and to give general help in the day to day running of the churches. The last request for help produced a tiny response which was very depressing. You don't have to be 'churchy' to help out, however I know there are plenty of people who don't want to attend services on a regular basis who would be keen to keep our churches open for when they would like to use them, i.e. weddings, baptisms, funerals, Christmas, etc. However, for those occasions when they are needed most, they also need the TLC for the whole year. So I urge you to think about offering some help, however little, and come to the APCM on 28th April to give us your support, or if you would rather, phone me on the number below. And please get in touch if you would like to be added to the Electorol Roll – The PCC will be elected at the APCM.

Cubby Brett (churchwarden) 338300

Banbury Young Musician of The Year



Sam, pictured with the three trophies that he won

Congratulations to Sam Rees aged 12, of Lower Street, who became The Banbury Young Musician of the Year on Saturday 5th March. The competition is organised by the Rotary Club of Banbury.

Sam was awarded the Chidzey Trophy in the intermediate guitar section and the Ena Grubb Trophy in the intermediate piano section before being declared the overall winner of the whole competition for his performance of his piano solo 'Le petit éléphant from L'Histoire de Babar' by Poulenc.

Sam explained 'I chose the piece because it is the story of Babar the elephant, which my granddad used to read the books to me when I was younger'

Sam has been playing the piano since he was 6 yrs old, taught by Mrs Jan Elvidge of BStM, he will be taking his Grade 7 exam in the Summer.

Sam also plays saxophone and has just passed his grade 6 with distinction. A very talented young musician, he will be starting school at Oundle in September where he has recently gained a music scholarship.

He is the youngest winner ever of the Banbury competition. Sam will now go on to compete in the regional finals of the national Young Musician of the Year competition and has opted to continue with the piece that brought him success locally.

Well done Sam! Many hours of devoted practice have been well rewarded! We wish you good luck in the regional finals and look forward to hearing about future success.

1st Deddington Brownies



MANY OF THE BROWNIES were lucky enough to attend the District Thinking Day Celebration, which was held in Deddington during March. During the afternoon they took part in a wide range of activities including planting seeds, glass painting, singing, games, and a quiz on food from various countries. This event was a chance to meet and have fun with Brownies, Guides and Rainbows from across the District. At meetings they have begun rehearsals for their part in the Deddington Festival Community Concert, and have been busy designing doll's outfits for their Designer Badges.

Lucy Squires
338442



**The Barfords
Clean Up Day
Saturday 7th May
From 10.00a.m.**



Teams of volunteers will be asked to cover small areas of the village, picking up any litter and debris that they find.

This is always a very fine and happy community event. It is hoped that there will be the usual enthusiastic attendance by Mums, Dads and children

This is YOUR opportunity to do your bit for the village by giving it a Spring Spruce Up. If you can spare an hour or so in the morning, then do come along to the Village Hall at 10.00am to collect plastic bin bags, and protective tabards, please bring your own old gloves!

Tea, soft drinks and delicious doughnuts will be served to all volunteers on their return to the Hall.

All helpers are requested to gather in the Village Hall at 10 a.m. to be allocated the areas for cleaning.

There will also be a group photo of all the happy workers to be published in the May Barford News.

(We buy the doughnuts!!)

Fernhill Club News

WE HAVE meals out - 5 this year
We have speakers/entertainers - 10 this year



We have visitors from other clubs

We have games, e.g. cards, carpet bowls, bingo, curling etc., to name a few.

What we don't have are new members! Where are you hiding? The weather is better now, why don't you venture out and come and join us on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30pm in the Village Hall?

We had a very humorous talk by Dr. Maisey, on 'spare parts'. This ranged from hair implants, right down to toes and how big toes can be transplanted into thumbs.

March 9th was Fernhill's 34th birthday, which we celebrated by our usual meal out, this time a wonderful lunch at Wyatt's Farm.

April 13th we will be entertained by 'Impromptu', a group of musical entertainers and April 27th will be our AGM.

Mary Ashbridge, 01295 252298

Barford Picture House



Saturday April 16th
CALAMITY JANE

We would like to invite any Fernhill members to come along at a special price of £3. Lifts can be arranged. The film starts at 7.45 and the doors open at 7.15.

So why not join us on The Deadwood Stage and we can Whip Crack Away!

The Barford Picture House is open to all of course, contributions towards the running of the Village Hall are £4 per film. Teas, coffees and soft drinks served, or bring your own favourite tippie.

Our last film will be on 21st May.

Contact: Gunilla on 01295 720521 or Claire on 01869 337736 for information and lifts.

**Help Needed
for Wedding Garden Party
on
Saturday July 9th
from 11.00 till about 21.00 (with breaks)**

**4 young people
(or part time equivalents)**

**to help out at
a wedding garden party
in Barford St Michael...
setting tables
serving drinks, clearing glasses
and stacking dishes away etc.**

**"uniform" and refreshments provided
and remuneration negotiated!
Please ring Avril on 02476 674749**

Editor's Postbag Thoughtless Dog Owners

Dear Ed,

Would you please put a notice in the Barford News about the fact that although most people in the village do clear up after their dogs there are some people who are clearly not!

One of my favourite walks, as with a lot of people in the village I think, is up to Netherworton Lane and then turning right into the corn/crop field, around the field and then back across to the church. Unfortunately and in spite of someone having put some notices up there is often dog muck in the middle of the path (headland) around the field. If everyone who used this field failed to clear up after their dogs the field would be disgusting in no time and it seems a great shame that a few people are spoiling it for everyone else.

Concerned dog owner

(Name and address supplied)

(Please be responsible for your dog and keep an eye on what he/she is doing, especially when you get ahead of them when walking. Fines for not doing so are quite severe and concerned residents have said that anyone seen not cleaning up after their dog will be reported. Sadly, West Close, a designated recreation area, is becoming equally fouled. Ed).





Barford Green Garden Club Events 2011

Saturday 2nd April...

Visit to Chastleton House Gardens

Following the talk by Anna Derrett, a follow up visit has been arranged on 2nd April To Chastleton House Gardens, commencing 10am, cost £2.00 per person and will last approx 1 hour. Letters have gone out to members but any one else interested please contact me for further details. Maybe lunch afterwards at Wyatts ?

Plant Swap

Wednesday 18th May evening

Time to be advised



This very popular event will be hosted by Sarah Best in Barford St John, more details in May BN but please start putting to one side any spare plants to bring along on 18th May and of course don't forget to bring a bottle !!

Jill Bunce

Tel 337577 / jill@ridleymarreco.co.uk

STOP PRESSOPEN GARDENS 2011 !!!

Further to my Secretary's report , I now advise you that OPEN GARDENS 2011 will take place on

Sunday 29th May.

If you can help in any way please do not hesitate to contact me or a committee member. This is our annual fund raiser to help the village charities

So PLEASE if you are willing to either open your garden or help on the day contact us as soon as possible

Thanking you in advance for your continued support

Jill Bunce Tel 337577

FOR SALE



8 Par16 Lamps

Complete with GU10 50w Halogen bulbs.

A bargain at £5.00 each

Originally purchased for the village hall, they are surplus to requirements and are ideal for creating a modern 'industrial' look in the home, or for a workshop, office or garage

Contact Peter Leney on 338 992
Of email peter.leney@gmail.com

DEDDINGTON LIBRARY

1921-2011

**DON'T R.I.P. THE
HEART OUT OF OUR
COMMUNITY**

**THE LIBRARY NEEDS
YOUR SUPPORT**

TELL OCC COUNCILLOR
JUDITH HEATHCOAT
WHAT LOSING THE LIBRARY
MEANS TO YOU!

The Deddington Library campaign material is on the
Deddington News website:
<http://www.deddingtonnews.co.uk/librarycampaign/>.

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

THIS TERM THE PFSU children are finding out about transport and have already hosted visits from a parent with her bike and another parent who told us about her job as a flight attendant. We are looking forward to seeing a rally car later this term. We also took our own journeys around the village, finding out about some of the places on our route and taking photographs of them. The Nursery children are learning about all mini-beasts and numbers, and are watching frogspawn and caterpillars as they develop. Both sites will be thinking about Mother's Day and Easter before the end of the term. Our Holiday Club will run in the Easter Holidays from Monday 11th to Friday 15th April, and Monday 18th to Thursday 21st April, at the Nursery, but open to children from both settings. There will be an informal parent's evening for PFSU parents on Wednesday 11th May from 7 to 9pm. The Formula Fast fund-raising evening was a huge success and raised over £2000 for the Nursery and PFSU, in part due to generous matched funding. Thank you to Neil Skinner for organising the event, and to all the parents who have supported our activities and fund-raising events so far this term.



Lucy Squires
337484

Katharine House News Easter Chicks

Cheep cheep! It's that time of year again! Our fluffy knitted friends are on sale (complete with Cadbury Crème Egg!) from all our charity shops and reception. As usual, demand is outstripping supply, and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to contribute to our brood!

This is the 5th year we have undertaken this fundraiser- last year raised a fantastic £3,300! If you would like to knit for us, call Sarah in Fundraising on (01295) 812161 to receive a pattern. We would also be delighted to hear from anyone who might like to sell chicks on our behalf.

Hospice Clearance Sale

Our annual Hospice Sale will take place on **Saturday 9th April at the Institute, the Green, Adderbury, 11am- 2.30pm.** There will be many stalls selling good quality donated items, as well as hand-crafted knitted items and home made cakes, a raffle and tombola. Tea, coffee and soup will also be available for a small fee. All proceeds benefit Katharine House.

Fairport Convention Acoustic Concert

Oxfordshire's favourite folk-rockers will be performing a fantastic line-up in aid of the Hospice at **St. Mary's Church, Horsefair, Banbury on Monday 23rd May.** The concert will begin at 7.30pm and doors open at 6.45pm. Tickets are £18 and can be purchased from the Fundraising Department at Katharine House on (01295) 812161 or by downloading a form from our website at www.khh.org.uk. Tickets are selling fast- book now to avoid disappointment.

Hospice Washing Up Liquid!

To mark our 20th Anniversary, long-time supporter, Cleenol Group Ltd in Banbury, has very kindly produced 1,000 bottles of Katharine House washing-up liquid to be sold to benefit the hospice and they're selling like hot cakes! The bottles bear the hospice logo and are now on sale for £1 in all our shops, hospice reception and at forthcoming events. Would your business like to support the Hospice's 20th Anniversary in a quirky way? This is a great way to promote your business, too! Please call Sarah Brennan, Community Fundraiser on (01295) 812161.

Festival of Open Gardens

This year, thirteen local supporters will be opening their gardens to the public to raise funds for the Hospice. This fundraiser proved extremely successful last year, with hundreds of people enjoying these beautiful gardens. The first ones are:



On **Sunday 22nd May**, the garden at **the Old Vicarage, Main Street, Bledington**, will be open between **2pm - 6pm (entry - donation).**

On **Sunday 29th May**, the garden at **Kabale, Chapel Street, Bloxham**, will be opened to the public, between **2pm-5pm (entry - donation)**

For further information, please see our website at www.khh.org.uk

Midnight Walk

Our 5th Midnight Walk is scheduled for Saturday 9th July and this year will be held from Bodicote Cricket Club. Entry is £15 and includes a sponsor form, training guidance, t-shirt, medal, hot drink and bacon roll. A new 10.5 mile route has been devised, partly reversing our previous route and of course, will be well-lit and marshalled. Last year, 600 supporters took part in this event, and almost £82,000 was raised towards nursing care and we would be delighted to match this again in 2011.

Application forms will be available from 1st April and can be obtained by calling the Fundraising Office on (01295) 812161 or emailing sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk. Forms will also be available from our 6 charity shops, or download one from our website www.khh.org.uk.

Sarah Brennan
Community Fundraiser

Triathlon Heads For Woodgreen

Woodgreen Open Air Pool is set for a thrilling summer and one of the first major events taking place there this year will be the return of the Banbury Triathlon.



It all starts in the 50m outdoor swimming pool on 8 May and this year the event will include the British Fire Service national sprint championships and Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service championships.

Cherwell District Council's portfolio holder for environment, recreation and health, Cllr George Reynolds, said: "The Banbury Triathlon is making a welcome return after a long break of several years and it will make full use of the newly refurbished open air pool. I'd urged people to sign up to take part, volunteer to help out on the day, or just come along and watch. It will be an exciting curtain raising event for this summer's open air pool season."

The event combines a 750m swim, 20km bike ride through the Oxfordshire countryside and a 5km run, commencing and finishing at the Woodgreen Leisure Centre.

Deddington Fire Station

THIS MONTH HAS been slightly quieter with just nine firecalls, three of which were chimney fires, one in Fritwell, one in Hempton and one in Hinton in the Hedges, where we were sent to support Brackley in dealing with a chimney fire in a thatch roofed cottage.



We also attended a house fire in Warwick Road, Banbury, with both appliances from Banbury and one from Hook Norton, where a fire had started in one house and spread via the lean-to outside and into the neighbouring property. The hydraulic platform and incident support unit also attended to assist in the damping down operation.

At Fine Lady Bakeries in Banbury, we attended as part of a six pump response to reports of a fire which had started in the ovens and spread through a stack onto the roof. Again, the hydraulic platform, incident support and incident command units also attended along with senior officers. As it happened, the fire was dealt with relatively quickly and staff were able to return to work the same evening.

At the station, we recently held a couple of drop in sessions for potential recruits to come up to the station and find out more about us. We're pleased to report that we have 3 serious candidates that may now go through the selection process, but if you think you may be interested still, it's not too late to make yourself known to us. Just come up to the station on a Tuesday night at 7 p.m. or call 01869 338281 and leave us a message and we will get back to you.

We have recently been busy installing a new notice board at the Deddington Town Hall, which will enable us to deliver the latest fire safety information and details of relevant people here at the station and within Oxfordshire County Council. A big thanks to Deddington Charity Estates for letting us use this space. We hope that you will take a look when you are waiting for a bus or sat under the arches on one of the benches.

A/CM Harding
Deddington Fire Station

Office to let

in rural location.

Available immediately.

Tel: 01869 338635 for further details

Deddington Festival Writing Competition

DEDDINGTON WRITERS' GROUP will again be organising a writing competition for the annual Deddington Festival. There are two categories: short story up to 2000 words and poem in any form up to 36 lines. The theme in both cases is open. The deadline is 6 May and the entry fee £5 (two additional entries in either category will be £3 each).

Full details on www.deddingtonfestival.org

Deddington CE Primary School News

It's hard to believe the Easter break is almost upon us! The end of term has been very busy this term due to performances, and trips.



Year 2 have enjoyed a Singing Day at Bishop Carpenter. The children worked hard all day and then in the afternoon had the opportunity to perform in front of parents- it really was a fun day for them. Our Year 5 had a great day out at Banbury Museum, using census records to find out about a particularly interesting character who lived in Victorian Banbury. Year 5 and 6 also had a good day out at Oxford Story Museum. Our Foundation Class the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon to go with their topic 'Going on a Journey'. Year 1 are also looking forward to their trip to Banbury Museum to look at Toys through the ages. Towards the end of April Year 6 will be going on their residential to Yenworthy Lodge which is situated next to Exmoor National Park- having been several times I know they're going to love it!

Our annual Performance this year is 'The Wizard of Oz' which at the time of writing is in the very last stages of rehearsal. The children and staff have been fantastic, the children learning their lines and showing great commitment to the show, the staff have been making costumes, helping the children perfect their lines and singing and making props and scenery- all overseen by the amazing Alicia Rumsby whose enthusiasm is infectious!

In next months Deddington News I shall get one of our pupils to write a review of the show- hopefully it will be a glowing recount!

Mrs Jane Cross, Deputyhead

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

THIS MONTH the Cubs have tackled subjects as diverse as mountaineering & ironing, these were not combined, they are not in training for 'extreme ironing'.



The boys spent an evening dressed as mountaineers & had to take part in climbing fitness, passing a weighted bag up the stairs, running circuits, beanbag relay & traversing a table! They 'climbed' the youth room floor & enjoyed a wild snowball fight.

We have also made clothes hangers for their uniforms & have shown them how to iron & fold their neckerchiefs to keep them smart, let's hope they carry on the good work at home.

Coming next- Saints, St Georges Day Parade & Easter mosaics.

Many thanks to the parent who donated the laptop, it will be a great help. We could still do with a couple more if anyone else has a spare.

Jo Churchyard C.S.L.
338071

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

SCOOTS HAVE BEEN carrying on with some basic map work leading up to a night hike to Clifton. They learned how to calculate the time a hike would take by measuring the distance on a map & studying the route. How steep is the terrain? Do we cross muddy fields? They made route cards & used them when we walked to Clifton, although their calculations were a little optimistic (magic boots would be needed) we managed to arrive at exactly the right time. Next hike will be to Barford.

We have decided that it would be good for the group to have a designated badge & the scouts have been thinking about possible designs although I'm not sure a skull really represents the group favourably!

Pete Churchyard S.L.
338071

pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

The group is actively working towards the formation of a Beaver group (6-8yrs), if you would like to help, please contact Jo

St Georges Day Parade will be early this year due to Easter, it is on April 10th in Banbury.

PTA March 2011

A FABULOUS EVENING was had by all at our annual Quiz Night on 12th March. Everyone had a great time testing their knowledge against our brilliant Quiz Masters, Mike and Heather Ward and Alan Collins. We raised a whopping **£1560** so very many thanks to all those who so generously supported the event and also to those who helped make this such a successful evening. The scores were all very close with 3 teams tying for 3rd place but Mayos' Mates clambered their way to the top with 92 points followed by The Inbetweeners on 85.5 points!



The 7th Annual Deddington Walk – "The Deddington Challenge" is on **Sunday 15th May and starts from 10.30am**. Once again we have a brand new route with new trump cards to collect and lots of excitement in store! Will you be able to rise to "the challenge"?! A reminder that **the Walk is open to all – not just school children!!** Make sure you don't miss out by registering early – visit www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk to download an application form, email:

info@deddingtonchallenge.co.uk or phone Heather on 01869 338468. There will be the usual sizzling hot bacon rolls to start the day and a delicious BBQ, bar and entertainment laid on for your return. Heaps of fun along with a bit of exercise - what better way to spend a (hopefully!) sunny spring Sunday?!!

Dates for your diary:

15th May – 6th Annual Deddington Walk

18th June – School Fete

Many thanks for your continued support.

Janet Watts
337135

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TREKKING IN NEPAL

An Illustrated Talk by
Mick Bullard and Jill Hopcraft



Wednesday, 13th April

7.30pm, Village Hall

**All Welcome to Join us at our
WI Meeting
Visitors £3.00**

Concessionary Fares

As FROM 1 APRIL 2011 the Concessionary Fares Scheme (bus passes and tokens) will transfer to Oxfordshire County Council.

All existing bus passes can continue to be used until they expire. They will be renewed under the scheme provided by Oxfordshire County Council

From 1 April 2011 - 31 March 2012 all enquiries and renewal of bus passes will be made through Cherwell District Council, as they will continue to administer the scheme on behalf of the County Council until March 2010

No new bus tokens will be issued after 1 April 2011. Those who have received these in the past can apply for a bus pass.

Dial-a-Ride community transport is not affected by this change, except that from 1 April 2011 bus passes can be used on the Dial-a-Ride service until 31 March 2012. The County Council intends to review these arrangements during this time and decide whether these arrangements will continue after 31 March 2012.

Make sure you can vote on 5 May

FIGURES PUBLISHED BY the Office of National Statistics recently show that there are 104,374 people registered to vote in Cherwell.*



But Cherwell District Council's acting returning officer Karen Curtin is warning some residents that they need to act now if they are to have their say in the council elections and referendum on the voting system to the UK Parliament taking place on 5 May.

"Anyone who's moved house in the past few months needs to register at their new address", she warned. "We know there are people who haven't registered to vote, which means they'll be missing out unless they take action."

To request a registration form phone 01295 227938, email elections@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, or print one off from www.aboutmyvote.co.uk.

Karen added "If you're planning to be away on 5 May, given the extra holiday for the royal wedding it's worth applying now to vote by post or proxy. You can print off the forms from www.aboutmyvote.co.uk. It just takes a few minutes, and then you are all set for 5 May."

For the 5 May election and referendum, registration and requests for postal votes need to be submitted by 5pm on 14 April and for proxy votes it's 5pm 21 April.

Registration and requests for postal or proxy votes need to be submitted by 5pm on 14 April for the 5 May election and referendum.

200 CLUB WINNERS:

March draw

£25, No. 104, Barbara Alt;

£15, No. 131; Steve Hill;

£10, No. 140; Rees Family;

£5, No. 217, Andy Neal.

The draw was made at a Coffee Morning.

Allotment Vandalism in the Barfords?

It is understood that Planning permission is not being sought from CDC Planning Department for the renovation of a shed situated on one of the allotments in Barford St Michael. The intention of the allotment holder (77) who wishes to remain anonymous is to remove the walls of the shed which comprise severely rusted corrugated iron sheets and replace them with wood fence panels. He also intends to take the opportunity to upgrade the shed by installing a window.



Given the age of the construction, which dates from the middle of the twentieth century, there are strong rumours that the CPRE may view the renovations as vandalism to what is one of the last surviving corrugated iron sheds in the area. It is feared given their reactionary nature, the CPRE will be seeking a preservation order stating that the shed is one of the last examples of the fine allotment architecture of the 1940's and should be preserved in its present condition.

The allotment holder has expressed some sympathy with this view but feels that his gardening tools and machinery - items of which in themselves could be strong candidates for Flog It, - deserve better protection from the elements given the recent very cold and wet winter. A decision by CPRE is not expected in the immediate future

Opinion at The George is divided. Some customers favour "renovation and improvement" as it would be more in keeping with other sheds recently erected by newer tenants. Others are strong in their wish to retain the rural ambience of the environment and support the idea of a preservation order which would run in conjunction with the practice of retaining old measurements when allocating plots i.e. four rods, poles or perches per plot.

To date nothing has been heard about this potentially divisive development from the Fernhill Club, the WI, the Bowls Club or the Rainbows although statements may or may not be imminent. It is well known that the Rainbows strongly support energetic development and growth.

The allotment holder has stated he is going ahead with the renovations notwithstanding. He will be assisted by his eldest son (52). However he has indicated that he would be prepared to compromise should an affluent parish benefactor emerge offering to preserve the current edifice and provide a new weather-proof shed of the same dimensions.

It is universally agreed within the Parish and by many outside visitors especially on Open Gardens Day that the allotments' twenty well cultivated plots and their well-maintained sheds are a fine example of the allotment holders' dedication to vegetable and flower production. They deserve the best whatever the decision.

Timely Warning from Thames Valley Police

Please be aware that we are approaching the time of year when sheds and garages are targetted for tools. We have already seen a rise in this type of offence.

Please be extra vigilant and secure your sheds and garages as well as you can - there are relatively cheap shed/garage alarms available from diy stores. Please mark your property with your postcode and house number/house name - offenders are less likely to take things that are clearly marked.

Regards

Jayne Taylor Crime reduction

Thames Valley Police - Community Messaging

Raffle Proceeds

The profit from the raffle at March Barford Village Market was £49.00.

This is for Barford Playground Committee and will go towards paying for a goal post for West Close.

Many thanks to everyone who bought a ticket, gave a prize or both. Thanks also to the organisers of the market for allowing us to have a table for the raffle.

Report on Church Finances

'So, here I am, newly installed treasurer to The Barford St Michael & St John Parochial Church Council: as some of you will be aware, for some years I carried out the independent examination of the accounts of the Council. This is a rather dispassionate review of what has occurred during the financial year, a, far more expensive, audit would give the reviewer more of a feel of what was happening & having now familiarised myself with what happens on a weekly basis I can only report that we need a significant but not, in this day & age, an enormous amount of money to maintain the expense of supplying the services of Dr Rev Hugh White & his colleagues to our community along with the usual running costs of our two churches.

As things stand at present our outgoings for the year ending 31 December 2011 would appear to be in the region of £16,500, both churches are in reasonably good order so any major refurbishment would, of necessity, have to be the subject of a separate appeal. Our income which can be predicted on a regular basis, being based upon pledges executed some time ago & with weekly collections as low, sometimes as £2 amounts to £8,000: over & above these sums our annual fete, courtesy of Barbara Alt, my predecessor, has generated in excess of £2,000 each year &, somewhat sadly, the funerals & more happily the weddings conducted at our churches can produce over £2,000 a year. Beyond these we get about

£220 from our investments & wayleave payments which leaves us with a deficit of something in the region of £4,250 in a full year barring unforeseen events.

Simply stated this is only £100 per week or, if I pursue my daytime job as a boring accountant, let us assume we need £200 a week to be close to being safe. I believe that there are about 600+ persons living in the two villages: £17 each year per person - & this is before tax reclaims & I have the forms here - would give us well over £10,000 in a full year.

Having done this job for just a few months now, when working in my garden on a Sunday afternoon I hear the church bell for the 4 p.m. service & wonder what Cubby Brett will bring me to bank on the Monday: even with the dedicated pledges in the envelopes what is banked rarely exceeds £25!



So please complete the gift aid form enclosed with this edition & deliver it back to me at Dove House, Mill Lane, B St M, tel. 337550. All contributions will be gratefully received & will, of course, be treated in strictest confidence hence Jill & I will not reveal what we have put on our form!

Best wishes, Stephen Bunce.'

Save our Planet – Tip

Reduce food waste: One third of our food shopping end up in the bin and goes to landfill where it produces methane as it rots. Take control of the kitchen cupboards. Only buy what your family will use up.

1st Deddington Guides

WHAT A BRILLIANT SHOW! The Scout and Guide Show in



Oxford. Two of our guides Emma B and Natalie T were in it, and 2 older guides now moved onto Rangers. We went on the coach with other local guides – very exciting evening – especially not getting back until 11pm.

We celebrated our special thinking day – with 100+, Rainbows, Guides, Brownies, Young Leaders and Adult Leaders from surrounding villages. We celebrated the history of guiding and all things English, gardening, crafts, seaside sandcastles, puppets, St George and the Dragon, rainy day relays, flags and fashion. We had everyone in country dancing and revived them with jam tarts, cream and jam scones and lemonade!

In our own meeting we held a candle ceremony thinking of guides and brownies across the world and learning how others may live. We enjoyed trying some Indian and Chinese food and tasting various fruits from around the world.

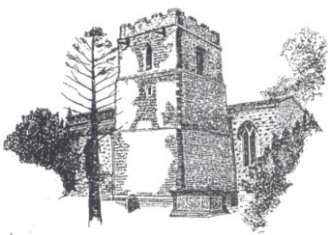
Everyone loved the yoga session, thank you to Sian Westbury - followed by umpteen pancakes – we felt it was better in this order!

We also loved the manic map session with Martin (Squires) – we learnt a lot – thank you.

Now we are having fun practising for our charity show. Tuesday 29th March, 7.30pm, Windmill Centre. All welcome! Do come along and support us.

Lastly our thoughts are with our sister guides in Christchurch, New Zealand and more recently in Japan.

Maggie Rampley – 01295 810069
Marian Trinder – 01869 340806



Musicians in 19th Century Southern England

Keith Chandler's series of short essays

No 15: Joshua Hartwell (1836 - 1874) and Samuel Heath (c.1838 - 1888), both of Bloxham, Oxfordshire

A case heard at magistrates' court at Neithrop (Oxon) on 22 June 1865 revealed that:

John Morrey, of Great Barford, was charged with wilfully damaging a violincello, the property of Samuel Heath, of Bloxham, on June 4th ... Complainant deposed that he was a shoemaker and musician. On June 7th went to Little Barford in company with Joshua Hartwell and another, to play music. Was coming home about eleven o'clock, and went into Croft's public house, where dancing was going on. With the landlady's permission, complainant and Hartwell joined some other musicians, and they all played together. Left the house about half-past twelve or one, with his violincello with him. After going a few yards from the house, was attacked by a dizziness to which he was subject, and sat down to rest himself. While he was resting; Morrey came and forcibly took the instrument from him, and carried it back to the house. In about five minutes witness went back after it, and found it broken to pieces. It was worth £4. Morrey said to Hartwell if witness had not made so much bother about it, he would have paid for it, but now he would not.- Cross-examined - The violincello was never out of his hands till defendant took it.- Joshua Hartwell deposed that he left Croft's house just before Heath. Saw Heath sitting down and Morrey a few yards from him, walking towards the house with the violincello in his hand. The instrument was then whole. Witness had left his own instrument in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Croft. Morrey said to him if Heath had not said so much about his instrument, he would have paid for it. It was worth £4.- Mr. Kilby for the defence, called Emma Croft, who deposed that her husband kept a public house at Barford. On the night in question, Heath, Hartwell, and Morrey were all in their house. In the course of the night Morrey borrowed Heath's violin, which was afterwards returned to him, and Heath subsequently gave it to her husband to take care of. When Heath left he had it back again. Heath and Hartwell had been playing at the Rock beer house before they came in. Heath left her house about two in the morning, and the instrument was then broken, but she did not know who by. Heard it smash and ran into the room where the parties had been, but the lights were out and there was nobody in.- Mr. Cartwright [the sitting magistrate] was of the opinion that there was not sufficient evidence that the instrument was really broken by defendant and

dismissed the case.¹⁸

Joshua Hartwell ('Hartall' in the vernacular), a son of stone mason Aaron Hartwell, was baptised at the Protestant Dissenters or Presbyterian chapel of Bloxham and Milton (Oxon) on 13 December 1836. Unlocated in 1841, no occupation was given in 1851, despite his age being suitable for active employment, but ten years later he had followed father and older brothers and was enumerated as 'Stone Mason'. In 1871, still unmarried, he was living with his widowed mother and designated as 'Musician', suggesting that a significant portion of his earnings was derived from such activity during this period. He was buried in his home town on 25 April 1874, aged thirty eight.

Also born in Bloxham, in about 1838, Samuel Heath was the son of shoemaker George Heath, and at the date of three censuses to 1861 was living in his father's household. No occupational details were given in 1841 (per enumerators' instructions to record only that of the head of the household), but ten years he was similarly designated as 'Shoemaker', and in 1861 as 'Cordwainer', a term with the same meaning. In 1871, enumerated as 'Boot & Shoe Maker', he was lodging in the household of stone mason George Clifton, and later that same year married Clifton's daughter Clara. At the baptism of their first born child in 1873 (and, oddly, posthumously in 1889) he was given as 'Labourer', but was again 'Shoemaker' ('Boot & Shoemaker' in 1881) at four further baptisms between 1875 and 1886. One further baptism, in 1887, registered his occupation as 'Stonebreaker'. Samuel Heath was buried in Bloxham on 10 August 1888, aged fifty.

Heath played the violincello, but which instruments were favoured by both Hartwell and the implicit third member of their trio in 1865 is unrecorded. Given that they were performing at 'the Rock beer house' at Little Barford (Oxon) on the evening of the incident, it seems certain that they were supplying music for social dancing. The venue where the cello was broken was the *Crown Inn*, in Barford St John (Oxon), kept in both 1861 and 1871 by John and Emma Crofts. Hartwell and Heath were able to sit in with the dance musicians at Croft's with apparent ease, and were clearly well versed in the technique of playing for dancing. 4 June 1865, the date of the incident, was Whit Sunday, which is illuminating for the light it shines on attitudes towards recreation on the Sabbath. John Murray, the accused in this case, was baptised at Barford St Michael (Oxon) on 24 May 1835, and was a stone mason. The fact that he 'borrowed Heath's violin' at one point during the evening suggests that he too may have

been a musician. it was later noted that, 'The Heaths were the great mummers of Bloxham and Robert Heath [1849 - 1926] ... was the last of them. He was of gipsy origin and wore gold earrings. Mummering was handed down from father to son and members of this same family carried the tradition on into niggering until the 2nd World War.'¹⁹ One informant, recently deceased in 1982 at the age of eighty, 'was of the Heath family although he did not bear that surname. He had never seen the mummers but had heard his father and uncle talking of their days in the mummers.'²⁰ hether or not our musician or his immediate family were ever involved, however, is not known.

18. *Banbury Guardian*, 29 June 1865, 2.

19. Y[vonne] S Huntriss, 'Mummering and niggering in Bloxham', *Cake and Cockhorse* 7, number 7 (Autumn 1978), 219.

20. Chandler MSS., telephone interview with Yvonne S Huntriss, Bloxham, 2 December 1982, relating her recent collecting from this source.

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many
things in
between)



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Don't Miss the Easter Egg Hunt!!
Saturday, 16th April
10.00 - 12 noon In the Village

NATURE NOTES 95

WE AWOKE ON FEBRUARY 1st to -7° of frost. It lifted at sunrise (had one been visible) to a wetting, misty drizzle that fell from a dull overcast on a light NW breeze. However, the sun broke through around mid-day and the day remained unclouded and fairly mild (8°) until it slid beneath a beautiful sunset.

Almost everyone suddenly seemed to be smiling and declaring what a lot of Mole activity could be seen everywhere! The Jet Stream seemed to be driving huge lows across the Atlantic which swept up over Scotland and thus spared us their wrath.

Another chilly night revealed an even, flat overcast on the 2nd, i.e. Candlemas Day; so, with a heavy, misting drizzle setting in mid-day, it might *just* be enough to stop us getting two winters this year! Even if it did reach 8° again!

As Nick Butler drove home about 4.30 pm, he was lucky enough to see a tiny Merlin speeding low along the roadside, looking for supper down Hempton Hills. The ensuing brilliant, starlit night only dropped to -1° . That's better!

The next four nights rose from 5° through 9° and down to 6.5° , whilst the days steadily rose from 8° to 11.5° on the 6th. It was generally overcast, with a high SW wind.

A green Woodpecker found his voice on Hempton Hills on the 4th and I suddenly became aware, almost as if waking up, that Snowdrops and Aconites were blooming in sheltered places and that Daffodils were poking their heads clear of the ground. More noticeable than anything perhaps, was the profusion of Hazel catkins on stretches of unmutated hedgerow . . . Was it me, or were they bigger and brighter this year, after that harsh winter?

The first week of February ended on the 7th with a roaring SW blow and scuds of rain. It changed into a bright, sunny afternoon, but a NW veering wind acquired an edge and, following an angry sunset, produced a night of white frost down to -6° .

A flawless sunrise on the 8th, was followed, after the frost cleared, by an equally flawless day of warm sunshine with a negligible SW wind. This gave a day temperature of 8° , the night at 5° . From now until the 12th, day temperatures climbed steadily to 12° but nights were cool (from 3.5° down to 0°). The SW wind occasionally also developed an unpleasant chill factor, and there were periods of heavy overcast and showery rain.

However, there were by now the beginnings of a Dawn Chorus with Songthrushes, Robins, Dunnocks and a few advanced Blackbirds leading. There was more bird activity in general: Andrew



Murrey picked up a Barn Owl in his headlights on Fernhill at 11.30pm on 10th and Sylvia Butler listened to Tawny Owls calling in West Close at 3.00am on the 11th. After some absence, the female Swan reappeared at Cheney Manor, where I was surprised by a female Kestrel sweeping low and fast out of the drive gateway – very

Sparrowhawk-ish behaviour for such an elegant bird! Woodpeckers were noisy, Green below Steepness and Green and Great Spotted around the allotments and churchyard. A little flock of about 80 Fieldfares could be seen on the airfield close to the Bloxham road and, other than all the 'regulars' at bird tables, my final bird for the week was a small Raven flying around the north side of Steepness in the morning of the 12th.

Steady rain started in the small hours of 13th and continued until after nightfall – about 18 hours of unbroken rainfall! Misty moonlight followed and dropped the temperature to -1° . In the morning, a Green Woodpecker called briefly on Steepness, in the brilliant day-long sunshine that was the only nod to romance on St. Valentine's Day – and only produced 8° max. in the chilly SW breeze. Still, a good excuse (if you need one) for a cuddle.

By the 15th a cold SE wind had set in; there was a gloomy overcast all day with rain through the afternoon and evening. Overnight there was fog and a frost down to -3° . The bone-numbing chill of the SE wind stayed until the 20th. There was more gloom and rain, and sad glimmerings of sun. Nights stuck at freezing point, or a little below and days between 4.5° and 7° belied the wind chill.

Then, on the 20th, the gloom was dispelled by the wild pipe-music of a Mistle Thrush – the Stormcock – hurling his hope and defiance at the wretchedness of February Fill-dyke, from a tree in the spinney at Barford House. What a triumph!

From the 21st, temperatures lifted as the wind dithered between SW and NW which it did, oddly, on alternate days! There was dense fog, much rain and overcast, mild spells, cold spells and sunny spells – all the tantrums of late winter!

Perhaps the saddest occurrence was the discovery together, of two dead Barn Owls in a barn on Irondown. They had been dead for some weeks and probably starved in December's frozen snows.

On the 23rd a Great Spotted Woodpecker spent most of the morning feeding at my peanut feeder. I had never seen him there before and strangely, I've not seen him since.

During a windless, sunny spell on the 24th at about 1.00pm, five Buzzards were soaring and calling above Townsend and Horn Hill. They were at staggered heights, the lowest at about 35m. I

can't even guess the altitude of the highest; it looked the size of a Blackbird and although audible, its calls were very faint!

At night, Tawny Owls were calling again from West Close.

On 26th, poor Andrew Murrey (and several Homing Pigeon mates) were aghast to see a Sparrow Hawk circling and stalking their flock of pigeons. The hawk did manage to snatch one bird and bring it to ground, but the men were able to drive it away before the pigeon was harmed.

And so the month drew to a close. On this last day, I had a report from our very own editor, Mariann, to say that she was getting visits to her garden feeders from a Willow Tit. It is very shy, is dominated by other visiting birds and stays only a few seconds. It has the attributes of a Willow Tit – dull black cap (not shiny like the Marsh Tit's) and more thick-set and bull-necked than the Marsh Tit. The habitat locally is about right but, oh dear, the Willow Tit is so greatly reduced in numbers, it is scarce. And in all honesty, the only way to make a diagnostic I.D. is to hear one of its calls, compared to a Marsh Tit's equivalent. The Marsh Tit peevishly, and almost explosively, says 'Pitchew'; the Willow Tit says 'Tchaey' with a nasal twang. So if anyone hears such a sound near Mariann's please let her know!

Another welcome report was of Woodcock once more, in suitable habitats around the parish. Always an exciting bird, and always a possible breeder.

But in the meantime, a ridge of high pressure was moving onto the British Isles, extending from NE to SW and drawing bitter arctic winds from Northern Europe with it. On such a NE wind, February became a memory. Would we awake to find a Lion at the door?

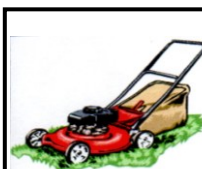
As a footnote: if you thought this February was awful, look at last year's equivalent *Nature Notes*!

Freezing NE winds, endless processions of 'Lows', snow, sleet, supercooled rain freezing on impact and only two nights at most above freezing! Sounds (and was!) worse than this year!

Ron Knight

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Upton's Gardens are full of the Joys of Spring!

Upton's gardens are springing into life with stunning displays of tulips. The spring bulbs are a welcome sight not only because of their bright and cheery colour after the dark days of winter but also because they're bringing a touch of 1930s glamour back to the gardens.

We're currently in the middle of a five-year project to restore the gardens' planting style to how it was in the 1930s when Upton was the weekend country home of the oil millionaire Lord Bearsted. He and his wife hosted house parties at Upton for their wealthy friends.

Lady Bearsted was passionate about gardening and appointed Kitty Lloyd Jones, who was an influential plantswoman, to work with the Head Gardener Mr Tidman. They created the beautiful gardens that you can see today at Upton.

Tulip displays were a prominent feature of the gardens in spring. Mr. Tidman was instructed by Kitty Lloyd Jones to plant thousands of tulips on the terraces in order that the Bearsteds and their guests could enjoy wonderful spring garden displays.

After the Second World War, the house and gardens went into decline and the original planting style changed which wiped out the 1930s influence on the gardens. Upton's Gardening team have read articles and letters and looked at numerous photographs to research how the gardens looked in the 1930s.

As part of the restoration project, the team have planted four thousand tulips on the terraces in order to return them to their 1930s splendour. The sweet scent and vibrant colour of different varieties of tulips complemented by spring bedding plants such as forget-me-nots make for an amazing display.

Discover more about the tulips and the 1930s Garden Restoration project on our new website "Local Voices" which is available at:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse.

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338468, email info@deddingtonchallenge.co.uk
or visit www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk

Organised by Deddington PTA (reg charity number 1052715).
All proceeds to local Deddington Youth Projects.

Banbury Branch Broughton Castle and the Tudor Country House



Course Information

Course Tutor
Adam Smith

Timetable:
Saturday
11th June 2011
10am – 4pm

Location:
Hanwell Fields
Community Hall,
Rotary Way,
Banbury, OX16 1ER
& Broughton Castle

Fee: £20 including Guide
round Broughton Castle
(Lunch not included)
Optional Cream Tea £4 to
be paid at time of
booking.

Contact:
Jenny Gough (Branch
Sec)
Tel: 01295 690326
Or email Banbury Branch
on
wwma63@hotmail.com



The course will look at
Broughton Castle as an example
of a Tudor Country House. The
morning will be spent in the
classroom and the afternoon
will be a visit to Broughton
Castle.

The Castle has been in
numerous films such as:
Shakespeare in Love; the
Madness of King George, as
well as Three Men and a Little
Lady.

Banbury Branch THE DETECTIVE IN FICTION



Course Information

Course Tutor
Peter Leyland

Timetable
Tuesday 1st May 2012
for 6 weeks
7pm – 9pm

Location:
Church House,
High Street,
Bodicote,
Nr Banbury

Fee: £ tba

Contact : Jenny Gough,
Branch Secretary
Tel: 01295 690326 or
email Banbury Branch
on
wwma63@hotmail.com
Please call to book a
place



A look at the history of the
detective character from Poe's
Dupin to P.D. James' Adam
Dalgliesh. A detailed study of
Holmes, Poirot and Wimsey
with reference to film and TV
treatment. A consideration of
modern crime writers such as
James, Rendell and Rankin.

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