

BARFORD NEWS

DECEMBER 2010

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Price 30p where sold

BARFORD ST MICHAEL

Village
Christmas
Market



FREE glass
of mulled wine
when you bring this flyer to the market

SAT 11th DECEMBER
in the **Village Hall**
10am - noon

See Santa in his Grotto

Don't miss our last market of the year.
Mulled Wine and Mince Pies, Christmas Wreaths by UGM
Nurseries, Banbury, Plus all the usual stalls.



*A Happy and Peaceful Christmas
To Everyone
From the News Team*

Parish Council Notes

The meeting took place on 3rd November at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllrs Hobbs (Chairman), Best, Bullard, Eden, Styles, Turner, and Woolgrove. Also attending were Mrs R Watts (Clerk), Miss C Peacock, Mrs G Treen and (for part of the meeting) Mr P Leney.

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Styles confirmed her interest in Planning Application 10/01508/F; Cllr Hobbs confirmed his interest in Planning Application 10/01557/F.

Clerks Report:

In the absence of a reply from the owners (Mr and Mrs Purton) of The Manor House, Barford St John, the Clerk had reported the overgrown hedge to the Highways Department on 22nd October. Mrs Purton left a message for the Clerk on 1st November explaining that they were actively looking into the matter; in particular the trees, which they felt were more problematical than the hedgerow. Agreed that the report to Highways should remain active.

Oxfordshire County Council had explained that cutting back the shrubbery on The Rock would necessitate road closure. Works would be carried out when other road works were taking place.

Mr Jonathan Watts had written informing that Barford Church Governors for Deddington Primary School are Barbara Allen and Thelma Moore.

The Clerk had written to Cherwell District Council regarding Review of Members' Allowance to confirm that the Barford St John & St Michael Parish Cllrs had already resolved not to claim allowances.

Mr C Potter, Chairman of Banbury NAG; had written to request £300 towards the purchase of a covert speed recording device for use in Oxfordshire. It was unanimously resolved not to contribute towards this particular scheme.

Parish Matters

A new nameplate for Lower Street is at Bodicote House and will be fitted by Cherwell District Council as soon as possible.

Works will be carried out by Oxfordshire County Council to the access to West Close via Murrey's Lane by the end of November.

Cllr Eden reported that a goal post for West Close is being dealt with.

Written quotations are being sought for a Parish Council Notice board.

The Parish Council is anxious to pursue the matter of Rural Exception Sites / Affordable Housing but resolved not to carry out another survey of residents at this time as it would serve no purpose, there being no new sites identified.

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)

10/01508/F Coombe Cottage, 1 Rock Close, Barford St Michael – erection of Hornton stone wall and wooden closeboard fencing to enclose garden. Cllr Styles declared an interest. There were no objections from the remaining six Cllrs.

10/01557/F 9 Bishops Close, Barford St Michael – side extension. Cllr Hobbs declared an interest. There were no objections from the remaining six Cllrs.

Any Other Business

Cllr Styles was concerned that residents may not be aware that planning permission is needed for works on trees within a conservation area.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.47.

The next meeting is on 1st December 2010.

T.B.

Shrubs, Hedges and Trees

The Parish Council would like to remind residents that they are responsible for keeping shrubs, hedges and trees trimmed back to ensure that pavements and visibility & passage along highways are kept clear. However, please remember that tree works of any kind in a conservation area firstly need TCA planning consent from Cherwell District Council. Thank you for your co-operation in keeping our village tidy and safe.

Ro Watts, Parish Clerk

Thank you for donations For Barford News

To
The Robin's Close resident
Who gave £10.00

~
and to
The Broad Close couple
For their generous
Cheque for £25.00

All donations received are used to help cover
production costs of B.N.

20:10 20.10.2010 'Vision' at Broughton Castle

Girlguiding UK has been celebrating its centenary this year, and the centenary celebrations drew to an end on 20th October 2010. Eleven members of Barford and Deddington Rainbows joined more than 600 other members of Girlguiding from Cherwell Division at a "Vision" Event at Broughton Castle.

Lady Saye and Sele (Cherwell Division President) said "We have been so proud to host the Cherwell Division Girlguiding Vision Centenary Celebrations here at Broughton Castle. So much planning and

organisation has been happening – but then that is what Guides do better than anyone!"

The High Sheriff of Oxfordshire, Marie-Jane Barnett opened the event with some jazz singing. Despite the freezing cold night the girls did their best to keep warm, dancing to Apricot Pie and eating hotdogs cooked by John Kench of Chipping Norton and his team. Craft activities kept the girls busy in Broughton Castle church and tearooms and campfire songs led by Janet Hodges (of 1st Grimsbury Guides and 6th Banbury Brownies) were also part of this memorable event.

The highlight of the evening was at 20:10 20/10/2010, when the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior section, Trefoil Guild members and leaders joined together on the lawn in front of the floodlit castle to reaffirm their promises. At this very same moment, over half a million other Guiding members across the country were also renewing their promises, sharing a moment in time across the country. Fireworks provided by Martin Buzzard brought the evening to a dazzling end that certainly did not fizzle out. One of the Guiders present commented " ..the promise ceremony and fireworks on the lawn in front of the Castle was one of the moments I will always remember - it was

inspiring and I think the centenary celebrations went out with a bang!" Invited guests included The Mayor (Cllr. Colin Clarke) and his wife, and several other Girlguiding Ambassadors including

Surinder Dhesi, Cllr John Donaldson, and Barford residents Mariann Young and Philip Brodey.



Barford Rainbows pictured excitedly awaiting the start of celebrations in the huge marquee. L to r: Connie Neal, Harriet Souch; Anya Robey; Jemima Scott; Leah Ng and Florence Tuthill

A grant from Oxfordshire Community Foundation Grassroots fund ensured the event was affordable to all members as their grant covered the majority of the expenses. Everyone who attended the event was awarded two cloth badges, a national Vision badge and a Cherwell Division

badge. The Cherwell Division cloth badge was designed by Sarah Williams a Young Leader from 1st Grimsbury Guide unit.

Also at the event Rachael Winter (from Barford) and Georgie Jamniuk were presented with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards. Several guides made their promise for the first time.

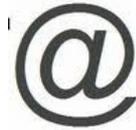
Although this year has been exhausting with all the opportunities and events that have been run it has reignited our enthusiasm to continue a strong Guiding community in this area, and we are looking forward to the next 100 years!

Marie Idziaczek,
Cherwell Division

Ed's footnote: I make no apologies for giving this amount of coverage to 'Vision', which is briefly mentioned in two other articles in this issue. As a retired District Commissioner and present day Girlguiding Ambassador, I was thrilled to be invited to attend this historic occasion. The whole evening was masterminded by the Cherwell Division Commissioner (our very own Mary Brodey) and ran like clockwork. The promise renewal was led by Mary and was a very moving experience as all ages reaffirmed their promises together. Huge congratulations to Mary and her team for organising such a successful and memorable event. Long may Girlguiding continue! Ed.

Editor's Postbag (via email)

Dear Ed,



I notice that the subject of scammers claiming to be from Microsoft and calling people on the phone informing you that your computer has a virus that only they can fix, has hit the news.

I have had several calls from these criminals over the last few weeks and I'm sure that others have too.

I know from bitter experience that they can frighten people into downloading their, so called, 'anti virus software' and charging them a couple of hundred pounds for the pleasure. It happened to my Mother, who is not that computer savvy. Neither Paypal or her credit card would repay her.

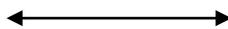
The real problem is the software is in fact, usually a bit of spy software so they can find their way into your email or even bank accounts, find your passwords and do untold damage.

Fortunately, for Mum, her computer was virtually brand new and she had a computer boffin remove the easily found software without any damage. More cost though.

My recommendation is to hang up immediately. Or if you feel like having a bit of fun, ask them to hold while you claim your computer is starting up, then go and make a cup of tea or go to Tescos, or even on holiday. At least it stops them calling someone else!

Ben

(Timely advice – I have had one of these phone-calls and so have 2 neighbours in Lower Street, so be aware! Ed.)



Fernhill Club News

On 17th November we visited our Banbury members for card games. On 24th we entertained Upper Heyford Warriner Club to a handbell concert given by the Banbury Handbell Ringers.



On 1st December we are going to Sturdy's Castle for skittles and lunch. 8th December we will be having our Christmas meal at the Hanwell Arms. And on 15th we will be having our Christmas Party in the hall, with surprise guests.

After the Christmas break we resume on 19th January with a film about the life of Beatrix Potter.

Fernhill members would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have had several new members this year and hope that more of you will come and join us in 2011.

Mary 01295 252298

Barford VHMC '200 Plus' Club

**Tickets For 2011 Available Now
£6.00 Annual Subscription**

12 Monthly Draws offering
Guaranteed Prizes

*£5.00, £10.00 & £15.00 Every
Month

** £25.00 Once each Quarter

*** £50.00 Twice a Year

***Christmas Bonus prize of £100.00
~ ~ ~

Have a go! - - - Help raise funds to
maintain your Village Hall - for 50p a
month you can really make a difference.

Current members will be contacted soon.
New members NEEDED to help swell the
funds!

**To reserve a ticket
Ring Mariann 338 570**

Barford Recipes

Proceeds to be divided between the youth of our community
in the Barfords
and
The Helpless Children Mother Centre, Kathmandu

84 Recipes - 43 Contributors

IDEAL FOR:

New Recipe ideas

Birthday or Christmas Presents

Stocking Fillers

A Barford Keepsake

ONLY:

£3.50



**COPIES AVAILABLE FROM:
MAGGIE 338 835 OR MARIANN 338 570**



Barford & Deddington Rainbows

WE'VE DONE LOTS of 'making' things recently- beautiful pottery angels for Christmas, thanks to Sandi Turner and we also recycled some Tetra Paks into wallets which the girls decorated with sticky-back plastic 'mosaic'.

It's been a busy term; as well as our regular meetings some of us went to 'Vision', a celebration at Broughton Castle to commemorate the end of the Guiding Centenary year. Very cold, but we had a lot of fun. It ended with a big firework display and all the girls went to bed very late! Thank you to Mariann Young and Julia Winter for superb hand warming skills, an excellent way with sticky tape and wallpaper (you end up with a princess hat!) and generally making sure we kept track of everyone in the dark. Julia's knot tying also turned out to be second to none!

The Rainbows had a 'Splat the Rat' stall at the Village Market to raise money for the RNLI who came to speak to us in the summer and raised nearly £30 thanks to some very kind donations. We then had a very busy weekend when 13 of the girls went to the Division Rainbow Fun Day on the Saturday where they made a jigsaw, a mask, sang songs, acted out Little Red Riding Hood and lots of other things.



We then attended the Remembrance Day Parade on the Sunday. It was a very smart turn out, and they were extremely well behaved during what can be a rather long and grown up service. Gillian and I were very proud of them!

Special mention ought to be made of Becca Warner and Connie Neal, both of Barford, who have been to *everything!* Well done girls. To look forward to before Christmas we have felting, which promises to be rather wet, a DVD and popcorn at Squirrel's house and a party to finish! Phew.

Hazel Neal, 01869 337822

The Old Mettle Dance Band

Says

'Thank you'

To everyone who dropped spare coins (and notes!) into their hat when they were busking for the Nepalese orphanage charity at the Barford Village Market held at the George in October. Thanks again from Verna, Stephen. Tony, Chris, Meg and Bryan. See you again at the market in 2011!

Tony Ecclestone



WI News

PRESIDENT BETTY was quickly through the business part of the evening, with one special announcement, which was that the Skittles Evening at Sandford St Martin Cricket Club would be later than advertised, due to a double-booking (entirely not our fault) and that it would now be on 25 November (which unfortunately clashes with the Garden Club Talk!)



The members and 6 guests were treated to an evening of cookery wizardry by Kathryn Wheeler (of Barford) who entertained us with not only her culinary skill (aided and abetted by the Secretary) but also an informative and hint-filled running commentary as she demonstrated her recipes.

Kathryn had borrowed her mother-in-law's emergency gas ring, and we were all amazed at how easy it was to use and how fast it was in cooking. From her recipe sheet, Kathryn first made choux pastry buns (later filled with Philadelphia cheese and sweet chilli sauce), then she went on to Salmon Vol au Vents, using puff pastry cleverly cut into square baskets. The final taster was Chicken Liver pâté, with garlic and brandy. Fantastic!

Mariann was in charge of the oven in the kitchen and made sure that we tasted everything (all delicious) and we had a very entertaining and happy evening. The raffle was won by Pat and one of our guests for the evening, Pauline Orchard.

The December meeting will be on **8th December** (not 15th as printed in the leaflet) and will comprise the customary Christmas Social, with mulled wine and mince pies from the Committee. We will also be choosing the venue and menu for the Annual Dinner. Hope to see you there.

SRT

1st Deddington Guides News

What a busy term!
We have built up our 6 patrols and they are working very well together! Some very exciting and interesting activities --- I can't imagine why food always seems to come into every one of them!!

'Camper' and 'Advanced Camper' and 'Traditions of Guiding' are badges that we have worked hard for. Welcome to several new guides; and 4 guides have started on their Baden-Poell Award.

We loved toasting marshmallows and presenting in journalistic style, our First Aid knowledge, and dressing up for Halloween, and apple bobbing.

Thank you to all who supported our Pakistan flood relief fund-raising stall – we raised £100, a huge thank you to the Farmers' Market team for allowing us to have a stall and for their cheque for £300 – very generous!

The Gang Show in Oxford is something we look forward to annually. The next show will be more special as Emma and Natalie have joined the cast along with Maisie and Jasmine, who are now Rangers – well done.

We had huge fun and got covered in glue, making life-size angels for the Feast of All Angels at Barford Church – a very lively service in the company of so many angels!

We learnt both verses of the national Anthem ready for Remembrance Day when the guides did us proud! Well done to all who came- a super turnout on this special day. We were able to understand much more of what people went through after Capt. Johnson, Ted to his friends, came to talk to us one evening. Ted has so many tales and experiences to share about his wartime



service. Tales of combat and capture – and the things that never change like mums embarrassing their off-spring by making a fuss, and more importantly, stories of reconciliation and friendship, in later years, with German soldiers.

Another inspirational event for us, and the finale of our Centenary year was 'Vision' – Six hundred plus of us from Cherwell Division met at Broughton Castle one very cold but beautifully clear night.

The Guides were entertained by a brilliant jazz singer, country dancing, crafts, ghost stories in the churchyard etc., and then in an excellent well-organised style, we excitedly counted down to 20.10(time) 20.10 (date) 2010(year), and at that precise moment Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Rangers and Leaders all renewed our promise along with thousands and thousands of others gathered all across the country! (On a personal note, I phoned my 91 yr old mum in Southampton – an ex Brownie Guider – she also renewed her promise – 4 generations in one family!). The cheering afterwards was almost as loud as the firework display – a great end to our special year.

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069
Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Oxfordshire Advocacy

**Wanted! Volunteer advocates!
Help others get their voices heard.**

Reg. Charity No. 1131403 Co. Ltd. by Guarantee No. 6845465

Tel: 01865 741200

Email: oadg@oadg.org.uk

Website: www.oadg.org.uk

Advocacy at its heart is really very simple. It is making sure people get their wishes and choices heard and taken into account on matters of importance to them.

This can be difficult due to comprehension difficulties, health problems etc. However as a volunteer for Oxfordshire Advocacy, through frequent training and support, you can ensure that their voices are heard!

We run three schemes- OSTAS for people who need help with a short term issue, CAPOLD for those with learning disabilities and ADAPT for people with dementia.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer advocate or would like to know more, please contact us. We have scheduled Volunteer training for the 3rd, 4th and 11th February 2011.

To All Village Carol Singers



Carols in The George
7.30pm, Tuesday 21st December



~ ~ ~

Carol Singing around the village
Wednesday 22nd December



Meet at Church Gates (outside Church Cottages) at 6.30pm
Both in aid of local charities

Christmas Ceilidh Dance and Supper evening

Saturday December 11th 2010

Only a few Tickets Remaining £10.00

From Tracey 337369 or Mariann 338570

The George Inn

Wishing all our customers

***'A very merry Christmas
and a healthy and prosperous
New Year'***

Martin, Julia and Rachael

~ ~ ~

See boards for opening hours

01869 338 226

1st Deddington Scout Group



CUBS

The Cubs are still working on the model of Deddington Castle, most of the parts have been made, we now just need to put it all together. The annual display of guys in the market place was a great success and thanks to the generosity of the shoppers we raised £215, which is nearly half a Shelter Box. We will be looking at other ways of raising the rest of the money. We shall be tackling, road safety & Christmas decorations during the next few weeks. The visit from the Blue Cross will now take place in the new year due to it clashing with the school fireworks, and we will be finishing on Dec 9th as the KS2 performance is on the 16th. Cubs will start again on Jan 6th.

Jo Churchyard C.S.L. 338071
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

SCOUTS

Scouts are still working towards their Guide and Meteorologist badges, by taking some photos of 'dangerous' places in the parish and keeping a record of weather conditions. We will be having several hikes during the winter term (more fun in the dark), when we shall be walking scouts home, the first was to Adderbury (windy and very muddy) to take Felix home. We set some caches to find with our new GPSs, each box contained a treasure, a candle, candle holder, matches and last of all a little cake – it was Felix's birthday. We also invested Angus and Jack in Daedas Wood. We will be making some beautiful gifts for Christmas and swimming at The Spiceball in lieu of a Christmas party. Scouts finish on Wed Dec 15th and start back on Thurs Jan 6th.

Pete Churchyard S.L. 338071
pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

Barford Green Garden Club



There will be no garden club events in December and January.

Annual General Meeting

The 17th Annual General Meeting of BGGC will be held on Monday 7th February 2011 in the village hall at 7.30pm. Please note your diary ! we hope many members will attend and find out what we have in store for you in 2011.

We will welcome you with mulled wine and delicious mince pies.

I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year !

Jill Bunce, Secretary BGGC
01869 337577

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

COMING TO PRE-SCHOOL or Nursery is always lots of fun! In the last few weeks just a few of our activities have included cooking muffins, painting with our feet, mixing a variety of materials with paint to make texture paintings, and discovering different smells and textures. We have visited the park and library, taken the PFSU children to the school harvest festival, and taken Autumn walks where we collected beautiful Autumn leaves, sticks and crab apples, and made 'snow angels' in the leaves! Thank you to all the parents who attended the AGM on 27th September. We were pleased to elect a strong committee for the coming year and welcome you all on board. For those who don't know, we are a parent managed setting and a charity and rely heavily on the dedication and fundraising of our parent volunteers. Thank you all! We held parents' evenings at both settings during October and November and we hope you found the opportunity to hear more about us and to discuss how your child has settled in, a useful one. As December arrives we look forward to Christmas, with the PFSU children busily preparing for their Christmas production with the F1 class, and lots of seasonal activities going on at both settings. We currently have some places available. Please contact us on (01869) 337383 (Nursery – age 2+) or at the PFSU (for children in their pre-school year) on (01869) 337484 to find out more or to come and see what we do. Merry Christmas everybody!



*We wish all our members
and their families
a very Happy Christmas.*



Lucy Squires
337484



Christmas - New Year Walk.

How do you fill the void between Christmas and New Year?????

" Why not blow away those winter cobwebs - walk off the turkey - escape the TV - get the kids away from the playstation and come and join us on a winter walk".

Route will be adjusted to suit the weather. We will meet at the Village Hall and end up at the George Inn for "Game Soup and a roll".

£5 per head on the day - any profit to Kathmandu kids home.

Tuesday 28th Dec.

10am - Barford Village Hall



Good walking shoes/boots - bring the dog/kids/granny etc etc.



BOOKING in advance would be helpful to the chef - not to mention the local wild life!

Book yourself in at any of the following numbers
338061(Leon) 337369(Tracey) 338835(Pete) 337229(Jill)

PICK OF THE CROPS

READY UP FOR

**CHRISTMAS AND GET YOU SEASONAL
FRESH VEG IN!**

This Christmas I will be taking orders for your Christmas box specials – where you get to decide what goes into your boxes, how much of it and when you get your FREE delivery

**I will be at Barford Village market on
December 11th (10 am till Noon) to display
all the seasonal Christmas Vegetables.
Simply come along, choose and your order
will be delivered ready for Christmas
Day.....**

**For telephone orders please call Freddie
Bird on 01869 338630**

Country Dairy

Tel: 01608 737971



Providers of quality milk and dairy products
Supplied by: www.cotteswold-dairy.co.uk

Halls bakery supplies us with a selection of
breads, cakes, and other baked products.

We also stock, yoghurts, orange squash, bottle
water, fruit juices, Pepsi, lemonade, eggs, and
more...

**Delivered to your door,
whatever the weather!**

If you are interested in a delivery or have any
questions please ring Tom Sammons,
on the number provided, leave a message
and we will get back to you.

A WEEE bit more help

Another 14 collection banks have been delivered across Cherwell meaning it is now even easier to recycle small electrical items.

Cherwell District Council launched its WEEE (waste electrical and electronic equipment) scheme in February. And since then it has installed the bright pink banks, which can take small broken or unwanted items such as kettles and toasters, at 30 locations.



Cllr George Reynolds, said: "Our new collection banks for small electrical items have proven extremely popular so far. "A total of 18 tonnes has already been diverted from landfill which has saved £1,350 and recycling these items has earned £1,200 which will help us towards our aspiration of having no council tax rise next year. "With Christmas just around the corner there will be a large number of items being replaced and if they're of no interest to charity shops then we can find a use for them." The electrical goods collected are broken down into their constituent parts which can be used to create components for new items.

The latest banks can be found at the following locations:

Banbury

Bradley Arcade, Bretch Hill, Admiral Holland pub, Woodgreen Avenue; Sainsbury's, Oxford Road

Deddington, Banbury Road layby

Larger items such as televisions, computer monitors, fridges and washing machines can be disposed of at Oxfordshire County Council's waste and recycling centres. A bulky waste collection can also be organised at a cost of £20 for up to four large items by calling 01295 221940.

Locations of all banks are available at www.cherwell.gov.uk/recycling or by calling 01295 221940. Why not find us on Twitter, keyword "CherwellRecycle", and keep up to date with all our refuse, recycling and energy efficiency news?

For further information please contact:

Craig Forsyth, 01295 221639

Email: craig.forsyth@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

News from The Warriner School

THIS TIME OF YEAR is both one of my favourite and one of my least liked periods in school.



It is a time when; we are starting to re-adjust to the longer nights and shorter days; the weather prevents students from properly playing at break and lunchtime, releasing their pent up energies; Year 11 start to feel the pressure as their Mock Examinations commence and suddenly the next stage of their life draws into sharper focus; and we all start looking forward to Christmas and the celebrations this brings, both in school, family and in the community.

The "busyness" of the last week is, for me, one of the highlights of the year. We have a particularly busy last week here this time with the usual School Concert and Carol Service, at St Mary's, plus the formal opening of our new farm buildings; 'The Warriner Centre for Rural Education'. This latter development was the brain child of John Hirons many years ago; one that has finally come to fruition. This will provide a bespoke education base on the farm one that will welcome many thousands of school children to the site for many years to come. On average we have over 2500 primary children visit each year!

In our recent staff meeting Peter Hogben, who will be acting Head after Christmas, shared his vision for the school going forward. We are convinced with the measures now in place and with real self-belief there will see a step change improvement in our students' results over the next two years. Clearly there are many challenges facing all schools, and indeed the public sector generally, but we take the view that we determine our own destiny, that we take up the challenges as they arrive, that we do not allow ourselves be deflected from our core purpose which is to provide high quality education for the young people of this part of North Oxfordshire.

I will be sorry to leave The Warriner School next month, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and as the headline in the recent Banbury Guardian said [it is] "The best job I have ever had". I would like to thank all of you who have supported the school in whatever way during my tenure and wish you all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

Nick Hindmarsh
Headteacher – The Warriner School

~ ~ ~

Christmas Fact

According to a 1995 survey, 7 out of 10 British dogs get Christmas gifts from their doting owners

Deddington PTA News

WHAT A FABULOUS fireworks evening we all had once again! The weather held out for us and we had a beautiful clear sky. Mulled wine and hot chocolate kept us warm whilst the BBQ did a roaring trade with delicious sizzling sausages and burgers. It was fantastic to see the field full of children and adults laughing and having fun. Thank you all so much for supporting this event and we sincerely hope you enjoyed the evening. We raised the spectacular sum of **£1550**. Special thanks must go to the Co-op and Farmer's Market Committee who very generously supported us. Finally a huge thank you to all those who gave their time to help organise and put on the event - we are very grateful.

Our next event is a live music gig at The Windmill with Pete Boss and the Bluehearts and Indigo Child on Saturday 4th December. Tickets can be purchased from Pete Boss, The Old Farmhouse, New Street, Deddington

OX15 0ST email: pboss@btinternet.com or tel: 01869 338536 Don't miss it!!

Christmas is rapidly approaching and, once again, we have our ever popular range of Christmas cards designed by the children. Samples of the cards are available should you wish to 'try before you buy', just contact Janet on 337135 or e-mail janet@janetwatts6.wanadoo.co.uk for a sample pack or to place an order. The cards can also be viewed on the school website www.deddington.ik.org

Santa's Float will be winging its way from the North Pole and landing in Deddington on the weekend of the 11th and 12th December. As usual, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please see posters around the villages for the route plan and the advert in this edition.

Santa's Magical Grotto will be in its new location in the Living Room in the Parish Church on Saturday 18th December during the Farmer's Market. Santa is really looking forward to meeting all the children so please come along and help him make your Christmas special! Please see posters and advertising for further details. A huge thank you to Father Hugh and the PCC for allowing us to use the Church.

Our dedicated carol singers will be, once again, singing in the Church during the morning of the December Farmer's Market. Do come along and listen to the spirit of Christmas or even join in!!



The fun continues into the next decade. dates for your diary include our ever popular Quiz Night on Saturday 5th March, The Deddington Walk on Sunday 15th May and the School Fete on Saturday 18th June.

In the meantime, on behalf of the PTA, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Janet Watts
PTA Chair

White Belling Cooker

For Sale

4 years old

2 Ovens

600mm

and very efficient!

£50.00

Tel: 01869 338630

Once again we have decided to save a few trees and make a donation to 'Rethink', a mental health charity rather than sending village Christmas cards.

We would like to wish all our friends, neighbours and fellow villagers a happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.



From Aggie, Ella and Jim

Deddington CE Primary School

DECEMBER IS UPON US and the classrooms are ringing out with the sound of carols as the children rehearse for our Christmas Productions.



This term we have had several school trips; Yr5 and 6 have been to the Oxford Playhouse to see award winning author Andy Stanton, Year have also visited Bletchley Park as part of their World War II topic and Yr 1 went to Chipping Norton Theatre for the production of Beauty and The Beast. We also ran a competition to find who could create a healthy, delicious and exciting packed lunch. Over 70 children entered the competition and the 12 lucky winners (2 from each year group, Yr1-Yr6) went to Peach Barns in North Aston where they had a chance to make their packed lunches and to bring back some goodies- a lovely day was had by all!

We are happy to welcome Mr Lloyde Collings to Deddington School; Mr Collings is teaching Year 2 whilst Mrs Fane goes on maternity leave.

I would also like to mention how extremely proud our school community is of Mrs Sargant, our Year 5 teacher, who has raised money for the school by taking part in the Great South Run. She completed the 10 mile course in less than 2 hours! A fantastic achievement- we are still counting sponsor money and will keep parents informed as to how much was raised.

As mentioned the children are hard at work practising for their Christmas concerts, these will take place during the last week of term in Deddington Church. These are always lovely occasions which are very well attended by parents and grandparents and a really nice way of ending the term.

After our Christmas break we will be welcoming our new Headteacher, Mr Clive Evans, to Deddington and I shall be returning to my role as Deputy Head and move back into the classroom. I know that he is very keen to join us and myself, the rest of the staff and the children are really excited about welcoming him into our community.

Jane Cross

Christmas Fact:

"Wassail" comes from the Old Norse "ves eill"-to be of good health. This evolved into the tradition of visiting neighbours on Christmas Eve and drinking to their health.

Barford Green Garden Club Visit to Batsford Arboretum

ON THE BRIGHT AFTERNOON of Thursday October 21st seven members of the Garden Club and two guests enjoyed a visit to Batsford Arboretum. Although we had been advised by the Arboretum staff to go in the last two weeks of October, the autumn colours were perhaps not fully at their best – everything this year seeming to be a little later than usual – but nevertheless the arboretum is well worth a visit at any time of the year. It was not until consulting the leaflet based on the trees on the Golden Mile that some of us realised that the smell of candy floss which was unmistakable in one part of the Arboretum was in fact coming from the Katsura tree which exudes this smell in September and October! Among the most beautiful of the trees was the Acer in all its many varieties. Past the Great Redwoods and the Cathedral Lime can be found the Hermit's Cave, the bronze statue of the Buddha and the Japanese Rest House which all add to the peaceful atmosphere of the Arboretum.



It was interesting to view Batsford House, home in their early years to the Mitford sisters – one of whom, Pamela, had links with Barford – set in the lovely Cotswold countryside and to look into church with Mitford and Redesdale memorials.



It seems that most of the nine of us were so taken with exploring the arboretum that we did not in the end have time for tea, but at the excellent talk by Sue Burn in September we were told that work is now in progress to build new tea rooms so perhaps time will be made for that at our next visit!

A.R.

NATURE NOTES 92

IN COMPARISON WITH EARLIER SUMMER days, the settled conditions of late August, produced by the large high pressure system centred over the British Isles, persisted into September. The first four days were beautiful late summer days of very light NE winds, veering to SE on the 4th. Hazy sunrise and clear, sunlit afternoons were the order of the day, although the 3rd started with chill, thick fog, more dense on the hills, lifting into heavy cloud before the morning sun burned it off. Daytime temperatures held steady at 22° whilst the nights rose gently from 4° on 1st to 10° on 4th.

On the 5th the wind backed to E with a cooler, lumpy overcast and showers, as the weather adopted a more unsettled pattern. The high pressure system, moving away, allowed once more the endless procession of low and high pressure troughs and ridges to roll in from the Atlantic.

The 6th was a day of broken, troubled skies with prolonged showers and periods of heavy overnight rain which came on a high SE wind that veered to SW. There it remained until the 21st, except for a little 'blip' on 17 – 18th when it veered up to NW. Meanwhile, the 7th, 8th, 10th and 13th produced showery rain; that on the 8th, precipitating from a cloudless sky. With awesome violence, a vicious, slashing cloudburst produced torrents of coffee coloured run-off water and shingle in the roadways on the 14th.

In contrast, the 9th, 11th and 12th were beautiful, warm sunny days with temps. holding up at 19° – 22° but nights falling from 10° to 6° on 14th.

The 15th – 19th were cloudier and the winds were cooler, producing a chill factor that belied the thermometer reading of 16° – 18°. Night temps. became erratic, for instance 3° on 17th up to 12° on 19th.

Slowly brightening, hazy and pleasant late summer days were the 20th – 22nd, with the 21st managing to reach 23°.

As the wind changed from SW to NE (with savage overnight rainstorms) on the 23rd, the weather entered an erratically unsettled period. The wind adopted a northerly direction until it veered through SE on the 28th to SW on the 30th. The 29th was Vagnerian! Steady rain all day finally cleared after 7.00pm with a furious, furnace-red sunset reflected from the underside of crumpled pillow clouds; and all this above a ribbon of clear, tranquil azure blue across the western horizon.

Anyway, enough of this weather talk – let's see what the bugs, beasties and plants were up to!

On the vapour-trail covered morning of the 1st, I drew the curtains to see three Coal Tits foraging the spent flower heads of *Buddleia*, for small insects



and especially, I imagine, the myriad minute *Lyniphiid* spiders that were now covering the fields with gossamer (which, by the way is our contraction of the old 'Goose Summer' – also known as 'Indian Summer' – the fattening time for geese, in quiet weather, ready for the Michaelmas Fairs).

Big Red- and Buff-tailed Bumblebee queens (*B. lapidarius* and *terrestris*) were greedily drinking nectar to lay down pre-hibernation fat reserves and sinister looking caterpillar-parasitic *Tachinid* flies were lurking on the Michaelmas Daisy flowers. As related in August *N. Notes* this was the afternoon upon which 'my' aged female Common Blue butterfly finally disappeared. About mid afternoon I was surprised by a very large, slow flying 'wasp' droning, with a rustle of wings, across my wild garden. This was another of Bas. Butler's Great Horntails (*Uroceros gigas* – see *N. Notes* for mid-July) only this one was a male, without the huge egg-laying, 'sting' apparatus at the rear end.

Buzzards were constantly soaring around Steepness and Hempton over these first four days, and Green Woodpeckers were similarly active. Great Spotted Woodpeckers also put in an appearance below Steepness and in the Churchyard. Tawny Owls were also noisy below Steepness and in the vicinity of Lower Street.

A further interesting visitor to the Michaelmas Daisy flowers was one of the larger, robust, white-tailed, dark winged cuckoo Bumblebees, *Psythirus bohemicus*. These lay their eggs in the nest of the ordinary white-tailed bumblebee *Bombus lucorum*.

As the weather became more unsettled on 5th, 'my' two young House Martins decided to fly their artificial nest, that morning. They returned quite frequently to rest and roosted in there at late afternoon. This was indeed an unsettled period from 6th to 15th and little revealed itself for comment, but on the few halcyon days, Buzzards and both species of Woodpecker made the most of it. The Green Woodpeckers especially were still visiting gardens early, and one or two Kestrels started to reappear from their 'shy' period.

A particularly late flying butterfly locally is the Small Copper (and, I think, a Barfords speciality!). It has those glistening, metallic copper forewings which contrast so well with blue Michaelmas Daisies. It lays its eggs, and the caterpillar feeds on, *Rumex* sp. – Docks and Sorrel – in wet meadows. It hibernates as a little caterpillar!

On clear mid-nights, the three prominent stars of Sir Patrick Moore's 'Summer Triangle' were slipping westward and away from overhead. The lead stars of Orion were rising bright in the east, at the start of his winter journey across the heavens. And here of course, I have, with red face, to admit

my awful blunder in naming, far too easterly Jupiter, as Venus! (Howls of derision!). Yes, Jupiter, has been prominent high in our night sky for many weeks, as he appears to proceed, then backtrack, and proceed again across the sky, as his year is so much longer than ours. Confession over, I'll move hastily on to other things . . .

On 17th and 18th my House Martins were still roosting in their artificial nest and Mrs Brenda Twigg informed me that a late youngster was being fed in one of her nests! She also said that her nests had produced *six* broods – how great is that? Meanwhile, Basil reported a cock Sparrowhawk 'stooging' over St Michael, then racing in to the attack on something near the Church. Mrs Sylvia Butler reported Tawny Owls actively calling from around The Green and Lower Street and they were also calling around Townsend at 9 pm.

Under a warm breezy sun on 20th, I saw a big yellow and mahogany Hornet cruising various flowers in my garden for prey. Then on 21st, a warm hazy sun after heavy mist, revealed no less than five Small Copper butterflies on my Michaelmas Daisies, But, the highlight of the day was a brand new – and unlikely – species for my garden! It had a lucky escape to start with – it was basking on my footscraper! About to clean my boots I spotted this motionless, fairly large, grasshopper-like insect on the scraper. It was quite colourful, rich dark browns and buffs, with a bright yellow outline to its near black pronotum, like a saddle. There was also a bright yellow patch on each side of the thorax and below the wing bases. It also had long, sweeping antennae and an impressive curved ovipositor. I rushed for my handbook – needn't have bothered – the insect was quite unperturbed.

It was a female Roesel's Bush Cricket, *Metrioptera roeselii*, one of the *Tettigoniidae* and closely allied to the *Acrididae*, the grasshoppers. According to my handbook the Barfords seem to satisfy all its habitat requirements – except for one thing, which is – it is restricted to coastal habitats! – which is where I had seen it, only once, before on the Fleet shore behind Chesil Beach in Dorset.

How or why this one got to Barford I don't know, but the last I saw of it was near the roof where it had climbed the stonework to catch the evening sun.

On the 22nd, a Hornet was once more cruising the flowers for prey. Mrs. Twigg reported her House Martins were now gone, as indeed were mine from their roost in the artificial nest.

By the 25th the wind was hovering in the north and the weather was decidedly autumnal. There was beautiful mellow sun and the drift of small, lightly distributed, fair-weather clouds against the

tranquil blue of early Autumn skies. From my car, I spotted a Raven soaring over Adderbury Bridge at the bottom of Deddington Hill, a male Kestrel hovering about two metres off the ground, between Chestnuts at Hempton, and finally, a female Sparrowhawk flying low over me as she hunted Steepness, then dashing across my front as I turned into Fernhill!

A Green Woodpecker laughed on and off along Horn Hill through the 26th and a Tawny Owl 'kewick'ed below Steepness at midnight.

The 28th was misty, mild and very still. I noted good numbers of pre-hibernating 7-spot Ladybirds in my conifer hedge. A Buzzard, noisy and rather aimlessly, flew low about Steepness, and I noted that small songbirds were starting to gather and become more active in our gardens.

Following that profligate sunset of the previous night, a clear sunrise on the 30th became hazy through the morning. Cloud, building in the afternoon became complete by sunset with the lightest of SW airs, only to turn from tranquility to bluster as heavy rain and wind washed us into October.

An exciting reminder! You may see a small flock of birds, Starling like but slightly smaller, feeding on BERRIES. They will be milk coffee coloured, have a bulky crest and black mask, Their wings will be intricately marked in black and white with a yellow edge. The tail is deep red-brown underneath, grey on top with a yellow tip. They will be Waxwings, from the far north of Europe. They like do Pyracantha, they are quite tame – and they have been seen locally – so watch out!

I would like to say sorry to my readers for not having caught up to date with the last *Nature Notes* of 2010, but hope to do so for the first edition of 2011! Until then, Happy Christmas and good Nature-watching.

Ron Knight

Christmas Facts

"Hot cockles" was a popular game at Christmas in medieval times. It was a game in which the other players took turns striking the blindfolded player, who had to guess the name of the person delivering each blow. "Hot cockles" was still a Christmas pastime until the Victorian era

~ ~ ~

A traditional Christmas dinner in early England was the head of a pig prepared with mustard

Deddington School PTA

Santa's Float



Saturday 11th December
from 5pm

Sunday 12th December
from 5pm

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