

BARFORD NEWS

MAY 2010

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Parish Council Notes

SIX COUNCILLORS attended the last meeting of the current council on April 7th. Councillor Langlands having sent his apologies as he was currently exploring the Nile. There were two members of the public in attendance.

The Minutes of the March meeting having been passed without amendment and there being no matters arising the clerk was invited to provide a report of activity since the last meeting.

The willow overhanging the bridge is to be inspected by tree experts employed by the land owner to determine its future. As soon as positive advice was to hand the council would be informed.

The parish clean up day (10th April) had been well advertised and the kit; plastic bags, gloves, pickers and luminous jackets had been ordered. It only remained to hope for a fine day and a good turnout,

The fly tipped rubbish reported at the March meeting had been collected by CDC. CDC had some query as to whether the farmer had moved the dumped rubbish to the entrance of the property as this apparently was also considered fly tipping and attracts a heavy fine.

The chairman of the NAG was as good as his word and had been supplying the Agendas for future NAG meetings.

Barclays Bank had finally acknowledged the change of Parish Clerk and was corresponding with her, providing bank statements and accepting her instructions.

The council noted that Councillor Lane was meeting County Councillor Rose the OCC Cabinet Transport Representative, and County Councillor Jelf on 27th April to discuss various improvements for pedestrian and vehicle safety in the Barfords.

There was no news as to when the checks on the speeds of vehicles in the Rock area would be undertaken. It was pointed out that it had been accepted that no definitive check could be made until the school Easter holidays were over.

The clerk informed the council that as the national elections having been set for 6th May parish council elections would be held on May 27th. There was a caveat to this arrangement: if there were only seven parish council candidates or less by the withdrawal date of 13th April, nominations would be closed and

subject to the Electoral Officer's approval all the candidates would make up the new council. There would be no election. However should there be eight or more accepted candidates on 13th April an election would be held and the closing date for nominations extended to noon on 29th April.

It was noted that at the time of the meeting eight nominations had been received by the Clerk.

Parish councillors were reminded that the Annual Parish Meeting was on April 28th followed by the VHMC AGM. All councillors were expected to attend. The agenda for the parish meeting was set as:

- Item 1: Chairman's Report,
- Item 2: Charities Report
- Item 3: Open Forum.

Retrospective planning permission had been given to works at Iron Down Farm, and tree works at Brambles, Lower Street.

There were two planning applications received during the month. The first was an application to demolish a conservatory and erect a single storey extension at Rock Edge, Horn Hill and the second, at Thimble Hall, was to demolish the single storey rear extension on the garage, replacing it with a two storey rear extension and converting the garage loft space to form one bedroom unit. There were no objections to either application.

Councillor Lane reported that he had attended two meetings in the last month. The first was a CDC Standards Committee on 18th March which had dealt mainly with administrative detail. An outline plan was given by the Chairman for the visits of independent members to parish councils to monitor procedures and provide advice. So far 17 councils had indicated they would welcome a visit. The Monitoring officer sought approval for the Draft reply to the Standards for England Annual return questionnaire.

A new parish council representative was elected replacing Councillor Lane who was retiring and the second, a Village Hall Advisory Group on 31st March.

At the second meeting, a VHAG meeting, the main business was reviewing the progress on 2009/10 grants and the forecast for the future. The news was that OCC was again providing some £59,000 for grants in 2010. Applications will be

accepted from 12th April. The lottery is providing £100m country wide over five years for rebuilds and extensions, starting this Autumn.

Regarding annual financial support for the administration of VHAG, in 2010 OCC were providing £20,000. The Oxfordshire District Councils had also confirmed future support providing £1250 each.

Councillor Bullard reported she had attended a NAG meeting. The main business had dealt with speeding, the perceptions of speeding and solutions to the problems of speeding.

Cheques in respect of the clerk's remuneration and expenses, membership of OALC and ORCC, grass cutting and dog bin emptying, were approved and duly signed.

There were a number of points in Any Other Business

Councillor Woolgrove replying to a question about the proposed Garden of Remembrance at the Methodist Chapel and current care for the unmarked graves said that the garden would be closed for some six months whilst the conversion of the Chapel was completed. The builders were very conscious of the care that had to be taken to minimise any disturbance to the area. The Trustees were and remain very vigilant but it was accepted that whilst the building work continued some latitude had to be given to the builders.

Parishioners had expressed anxiety over what seemed to be the development of a commercial car repair business at The Old Forge. The council noted the concern deferring action until more information was available.

Councillor Turner enquired whether the demolition of a wall at Old Turnstile was within the given planning permission. The clerk is to research the matter and report at the next meeting.

There being no other business given that there would probably be a parish council election on 26th May the next meeting was set for Wednesday 5th May and the meeting closed.

B.E.L.

200 CLUB WINNERS:

April draw –

£15, No. 128; Claire Cox;

£10, No. 217; Andy Neal;

£5, No. 119, Sandra Lees.

The draw was made at the whist drive.

Barford Village Show Saturday August 14th



Now is the time for all flower/vegetable/ fruit and soft fruit growers; makers of cakes, jams, chutneys and sloe gin; photographers; craftsmen/women and children – all readers of



Barford News – to think ahead to **Saturday August 14th** and to your entry to the Village Produce Show.

The schedule can be seen in this edition. There have been one or two changes this year and one or two exciting new challenges! Jewellery for the first time features as a class and photography, which has



proved very popular over the last few years, now has a class of its own with 4 subjects to experiment with before August.

Last, but not least, for anyone of us tempted last year to enter a 'vegetable animal' as a child can this year do so as an adult!

Saturday August 14th

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.

Volunteers attend a training course which leads to a formally recognised qualification with the Open College Network. They also receive expenses.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer advocate or want more information, please contact us.

We would love to hear from you!

Parish Council Elections

By 8th April there were 8 nominations for parish councillor, which were duly submitted to the Electoral Officer. Unfortunately one application was rejected as incorrectly completed. Thus, the situation is, that the remaining 7 candidates will automatically become your new parish council and there will be no parish council election.

The seven councillors are Rodney Hobbs, Tracey Bullard, Sandi Turner, Peter Eden, Robin Woolgrove, Sarah Best and Lisa Stiles. The first meeting of the new council will be on Wednesday 2nd June 2010.



Our two new councillors:-



Lisa Stiles

Hi, I'm Lisa the one on the left without the dribble! I'm a 32 year old mum to Jack, wife of Derek and keeper of Oscar & Archie the mad springer spaniels. I've lived in Rock Close since 2007 and run my own Management Consultancy and Accountancy business from home.

I've put my name forward for the Parish Council as I would like to play my part to ensure that the village is well looked after and remains a fantastic place to live for all.

I enjoy getting involved in village activities and events. As part of this I am currently Treasurer within the Village Hall Management Committee and play an active role on the Village Hall events committee. (Please come out and support our Salsa night on the 8th May!).

My interests are widespread and span from rock concerts to caravanning and clay pigeon shooting to playing the saxophone and environmental issues.

I hope to represent the interests of the village by demonstrating integrity, objectivity, honesty and accountability in carrying out this important role.

Lisa.

Sarah Best

My name is Sarah Best. I have lived in Barford St. John for 21 years with my husband David and our children Eleanor, Rosie, Samuel and Cicely. We have greatly enjoyed the wonderful village communities of St. John and St. Michael during that time.

When my four children were small I was involved in running the village playgroup, then the toddler group. For many years I have helped organise the annual Christmas lunch and always try to be involved in village life. I am a member of the garden club and am active in the village market, which is a wonderful addition to the community.

Now my family is growing up I have a little more time and am looking forward to contributing to village life on the Parish Council.

Sarah

KEYS FOUND



Two small cut keys on orange binder twine found on the verge along Nether Worton Road
Contact Mariann 338 570

Amateur Photographers

Please note



That the four subjects for Village Show Photograph Section Are

A Portrait

A Barford Scene

An Interesting Sky

A Shed

Full show details on page 10

Village Clean Up Morning

ON THE DAY SATURDAY 10th the weather was fine and about 30 adults and children turned out for a good clean up around all areas of the Parish.. Some twenty bags of rubbish and at least six old tyres were collected.

Thanks also to the tea ladies (Gill & Erika) who handed out tea, coffee, biscuits and delicious doughnuts for the ravening hordes. Generally the village was not as clean and litter free as in previous – the greatest amount of rubbish was collected by Tony and Jan Elvidge from the Nether Worton road, who needed two wheelbarrows to get it all back to the hall. From the happy smiles and the general chatter it was a good ‘community’ event, enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who made the effort on a lovely sunny morning..



Pictured above l to r: Derek Styles with Jack, Lisa Styles, Andy Neal. Rodney Hobbs, Erika Smith, Jim & Sophie Holmes, Bernard Lane, Emma Best, Ann Pearson, Julia Winter, Mick Pearson, Zalie Butler, Aggie Booth, Nick Butler, Hazel Neal, Sue Broughton, Graham Newton, David Crowther, Valerie Canallaro, Emilia Best, Ava Canallaro, Barney and Tilly Neal, and Ella Booth, plus of course,

Children: Lucy & Harry Holmes, Barney, Connie and Tilly Neal, Ella Booth. **Pooch:** Angus the Border Terrier!

Pictured right: Tony & Jan Elvidge with their mammoth haul from Nether Worton road.

Not Pictured: George Williams, Jane Holliday, Cathy Peacock, Maggie Harvey, Jeff Elliott, Mariann Young, Verna Lane, Barb Greenwood, Gill Maddison.



BARFORD ST MICHAEL

Village Market



**Saturday, 15th May
On the Village Green**

10.am - Noon

With live music from
The Blue Cayotes

Speciality Breads & Cheeses, Locally Produced
Meat, Organic Vegetables, Home-made Cakes &
Preserves, Free Range Eggs, Plants, Gifts,
Cards, Crafts

Something for Everyone!

Visit to National Memorial Arboretum Alrewas

The Bloxham History Club is running a visit by coach to the Arboretum, situated between Lichfield and Burton-on-Trent, on Friday 4th June. We shall leave Humber Street Bloxham (near the Elephant and Castle) at 9 a.m. sharp, with a view to arriving in good time for the daily ceremony of remembrance at 11 a.m.

Many will know that this large, varied and moving site, embodying the concept of remembrance, both civil and military, has been most recently in the news with the dedication of the Basra Wall in memory of all our servicemen who fell in the recent Iraq conflict. The fare will be £12. There is no entrance fee but donations are of course welcome.

Anyone interested should contact Alan Donaldson at High House, High Street, Bloxham (01295 721801) without delay. Seats are at present limited to 2 per person, and a deposit of £5 per seat is requested.

Barfords W.I.

Japanese Cuisine & Sushi

A Demonstration with tasters
By Adrienne Baba

Please join us at

7.30pm

Wednesday 12th May

In the Village Hall

At the W.I. Meeting



Visitors £3.00



Today's Women working for
Tomorrow's World

Bloxham Amnesty International
Group present:



"PERSEPOLIS"



The extraordinary multi-award winning animated
feature film set against the backdrop of the
Iranian Revolution (cert 12)

"TERRIFIC...A TRUE ORIGINAL" (*The Times*)

"ENDLESSLY CHARMING AND VERY FUNNY...BRILLIANT"
(*Empire*)

**VILLAGE HALL, BARFORD ST MICHAEL
SAT 19 JUNE 2010**

Doors open 7.15pm, starts 7.45pm

Bring your own refreshments

All welcome - admission by free ticket

Call 01295 810969 to book

Retiring donations in aid of Amnesty International

From the Vicar

SOME BIG OCCASIONS this month. First on May 9th, Rogation Sunday, in accordance with the tradition of the season we shall be asking God's blessing on animals and crops in a procession through the Parish. We start with the procession at 4.00pm from St Michael's Church. We shall walk from there to Barford St John, where the Lovells have kindly offered to accommodate a service in their barns.

This second week of May is also Christian Aid Week. Do contribute as generously as you can, and thanks to those who have volunteered to act as collectors.

On May 15 and 16 the Maurice Frost Festival in Deddington will honour the contribution made to the study of hymns by a previous Vicar of Deddington. The choir of Deddington's patrons, St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and the choirs of its link parishes in South Africa and Sweden will combine for an Evening of Praise on Saturday 15th May (6.30 pm) led by the Bishop of Oxford. All are welcome.

On **Sunday May 16** at 10.30 pm Deddington Parish Church Choir and the choirs from South Africa and Sweden will combine at a Eucharist at which the Bishop of Dorchester will preside. There will be **no service in the Barfords on that Sunday** and Barfordians are invited to the morning Eucharist at Deddington or to the informal service there at 3.30 pm. Please see the BN flyer for further details.

Finally, on Thursday May 27 at 6.30pm, again in Deddington Parish Church the well-reviewed Springs Dance Company will perform *Five-a-Day* (on the Fruits of the Spirit). Tickets are £3 Children and Students, £5 Adults and may be booked with Sue Addison

(susan.addison@virgin.net; 338017).

Thanks to those of you who attended the Parish's APCM. These are not easy times for the church in Barford and your interest and support are much appreciated.

Hugh



Barford Green Garden Club PLANT SWAP EVENING

Come along to our plant swap on Thursday 20th May, 7.00pm at the home of our Chairman Sandi Turner, Farthings, Lower Street. Bring those spare/unwanted plants along together with a bottle and look forward to an enjoyable evening meeting other garden club members.



OPEN GARDENS

Please note your diary Open Gardens 2010 will take place on Sunday 20th June. We need "new" gardens to open

So if you would like to open your garden however large, small please do not hesitate to contact a member of the committee

If you are unable to open your garden but will be available to help on the day please let us know; all monies raised for village charities and organisations so please support Barford Open Gardens 2010

COTEFIELD NURSERIES BODICOTE

You may recall I wrote to members a while ago informing them that Cotefield were introducing their own loyalty card and you could either register under the new loyalty scheme OR use your garden club discount card but obviously could not have both! With effect from 2010 they advise me they will now only accept their own loyalty card which I regret means you will no longer receive discount with your garden club membership card.

Jill Bunce, 337577/ 337550
Email jill@ridleymarreco.co.uk



A concert by the award-winning Choir of Church of the Resurrection, Mafikeng, South Africa, in aid of the Tsogo Centre

Dithaga tsa Tsogo

Robins of Resurrection

St Mary's Church,
Banbury
7.30pm
Thursday 13th May
Free Entry
Retiring Collection



Tsogo

The Tsogo Centre ('tsogo' means 'resurrection') is a registered non-governmental organisation in Mafikeng, South Africa, which provides day care for pre-school children infected or otherwise affected by HIV/AIDS. The Centre recently won joint first prize in a competition for social development projects run by the Anglican Church in South Africa. The Centre is supervised by a committee made up of members of the Church of the Resurrection in Mafikeng. The Church of the Resurrection is in partnership with the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Deddington under the link between the Diocese of Oxford and the Diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman.



Singing For Pleasure



Gathering strength!!

Next meetings are
May 10th & 24th June 7th & 21st
In the Village Hall

Join us whenever you can!
No auditions, No solos
just lots of fun!!

Details from Mariann on 338 570



Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

THE NEW TERM sees us enjoying a new topic, 'minibeasts'. We look forward to minibeast hunts outside and to hatching our own butterflies in the PFSU classroom. The Nursery children are also very excited about incubating some eggs and hopefully getting some chicks as a result.

We finished the Easter term with our traditional Easter Eggstravaganza, and a happy time was had by all, despite the rain!

The PFSU children made a trip to Deddington Fire Station where they learnt about the fire-fighter's job and about keeping themselves safe, explored the fire engine, and best of all had the chance to squirt lots of water! Many thanks go to Graham and Adam who hosted our visit. Finally we'd like to thank everyone who brought in vehicles to the settings last term. The children really enjoyed your visits.



Lucy Squires
(01869) 337484

WI News

The members of our new Committee are:

President	Betty Wyatt
Secretary	Mariann Young
Committee:-	Sue Broughton
	Lavinia Crowther
	Pat Evans
	Helen Honour
	Sandra Lees



PRESIDENT BETTY welcomed members to the meeting, along with several visitors. After the usual business and reports from external meetings from Ann Budd and Helen Honour, she welcomed our speaker for the evening, Gunilla Treen, who had come to tell us about her passion for 'Photography with a difference'.

Gunilla has spent many successful years working as a jeweller, but has retrained in photography, and is now receiving commissions from such august bodies as the Churchill and John Radcliffe Hospitals in Oxford and the new Spiceball Leisure Centre. She also does smaller, pieces for anniversaries, birthdays and special celebrations for private individuals and companies.

She took us through the various stages of composition, from taking the shot, to the choice of the various parts of the whole and then the arrangement of the choices, which Gunilla emphasized can take a long time to get right.

It was a fascinating insight into an artist at work, and we were treated to many lovely photographs, shown to great effect on the new Village Hall projector and screen with the able assistance of the Lovely Debbie (aka Mariann). We were all inspired to get out our cameras and try some of the techniques that Gunilla described. A really interesting evening.

SRT



Barford Green Garden Club

Plant Swap Evening

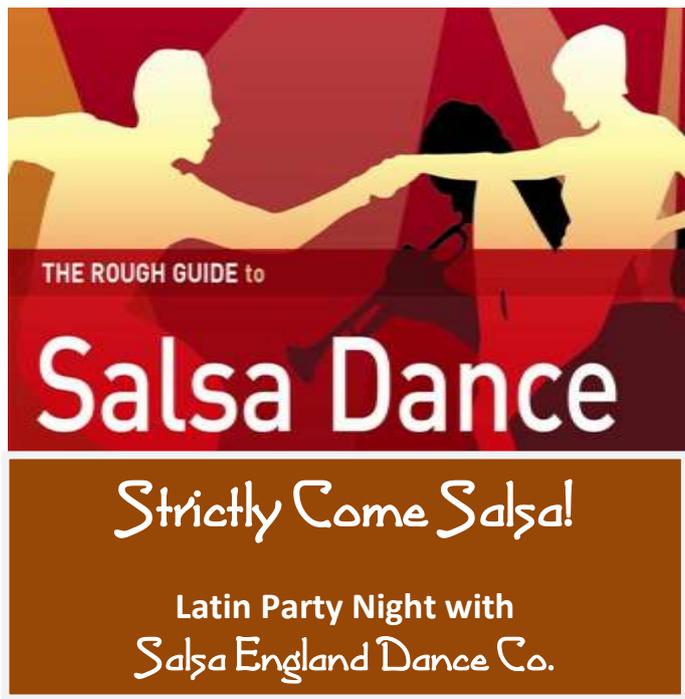
7pm, Thursday 20th May

At

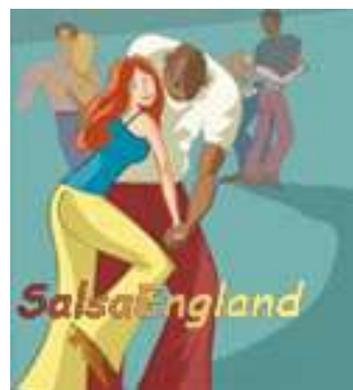
Farthings, Lower Street

Bring those spare/unwanted plants along together with a bottle and look forward to an enjoyable evening meeting other garden club members.

Barford Village Hall Committee and Salsa England present:



Saturday 8th May
7.30pm
Village Hall
Lower Street



Tickets: £7.50 Salsa Food £2.50 Licensed Bar
Available from the village shop
or Contact Claire Cox on 07986 462 315,

BARFORD OPEN GARDENS

With Scarecrows!!!

on Sunday June 20th from 2.00 to 6.00pm

~ ~ ~

We Need Some New Gardens to open this year,
so if you would like to open your garden however large or small,
contact a member of the committee

~ ~ ~

Also - please get to work on those Scarecrows
- the more we have, the more visitors we can attract -
Competitions for Children and Adults

~ ~ ~

Make a Note of the Date in Your Diaries!!

All proceeds go to village charities.

Deddington Fire Station News

WELL THIS MONTH has seen 24 firecalls in total, these include a kitchen fire in Lower Heyford, a barn fire in Middle Barton, a fire at sheltered accommodation in Bicester, a bonfire in Banbury, a road traffic collision in Deddington, a flat fire in Banbury and a large fire at Junction 10 of the M40.



The largest incident was the motorway services station fire at Junction 10, which involved around twenty pumps, four water carriers, one high volume pump and two hydraulic platforms. Resources were mobilised from three other counties namely, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire.

First in attendance were the two pumps from Bicester who quickly requested more appliances. Here at Deddington, we were the third or fourth pump to arrive and could see the plume of smoke as we passed Fritwell.

Our task was to try and stop the spread of the fire in the roof, but despite our efforts to do so, we struggled to source adequate water supplies and with the wind in the favour of the fire, it soon took hold of the main roof causing it to collapse inwards.

Whilst the fire service tackled the blaze, the police and highways agency were monitoring the smoke plume and considered closing the M40 for safety, and the ambulance service attended in case there were any casualties.

As this was a large incident, there were a lot of resources committed to managing the logistics and safety and welfare aspects, as much as the actual fire itself. It was good to see that as a service, we were prepared with all the right equipment to call upon when needed. There will always be some learning points at these type of jobs, and I'm sure that there will be a lot of feedback to learn from.

Tragically in the flat fire in Banbury, despite being rescued from the flat, one person died from extensive burns. We were mobilised to the actual incident to support the Banbury crews and then again later on in the day, we went back to assist the fire investigation team to establish the cause and make the flat safe.

In Bicester, whilst on standby duties, we were called to a fire in a sheltered accommodation apartment where some blankets had caught fire after falling onto a night storage heater. Luckily, the 91 yr old occupant managed to alert a remote operator via a neck pendant and also managed to push the blanket out the back door. We assisted the lady by evacuating her to safety whilst we extinguished the blanket, ventilated the property of smoke and isolated the heater after we became suspicious of its operation.

On station, our newest recruit - Richard Day, has almost completed his basic training and will hopefully be on the run soon, whilst Sharon Wilson is doing her Breathing Apparatus course in Oxford and so we all wish them good luck.

F/F Harding
Deddington Fire Station

Thank you

To our old friend
In Leicestershire
For her generous donation
To Barford News
(and for the jar of delicious lemon curd!!)

Deddington CE Primary School

LOOKING BACK over the Spring Term a special mention has to go to all of the children (over 160 of them) who took part in our production of 'Annie', all 3 evening performances were well attended and as always the children, and Angus the dog, were amazing. Ticket sales and collections on the night gave us a total of about £1200 raised, the license to stage 'Annie' cost us £500, plus we had other overheads, (costumes etc), but with monies left over we hope to buy our own spot lights. A lot of work went into the production and Mrs Tinsley, on each evening, thanked everyone who helped behind the scenes, but a special mention needs to go, once again, to Alicia and Philip Rumsby for all their hard work and time they give so willingly.



As we enter the Summer Term our Year 4's have been on a successful overnight residential to Grendon Hall, in Northamptonshire, where they had the opportunity to take part in activities such as mountain biking and climbing. At present our Year 6 are preparing for their SATs tests which they will be taking at the beginning of May, they've worked hard and we are hoping this is reflected in their results. Once SATs have finished we are looking forward to our Activities Week at the end of May, during this week we have a visiting dance group that will work with the children, an arts day, sports day and Year 5 are visiting the Imperial War Museum as part of their World War I Topic. Also during the month of May we are looking forward to the annual Deddington Walk and Walk to School Week.

We are collecting Sainsbury's and Tesco vouchers for school, there are boxes in our reception area.

Mrs Jane Cross, Deputy Head

Barfords Village Show
Saturday 14 August 2010

Vegetable & Fruit Classes

- 1 Three Beetroot, with tops cut to 10cms (4ins) approx.
- 2 Three Carrots, long, with tops cut to 10cms (4ins) approx.
- 3 Three Courgettes
- 4 Three Onions
- 5 Five Shallots
- 6 Three Potatoes of one variety
- 7 Three Runner Beans with stalks
- 8 Five French Beans with stalks
- 9 Five Cherry Tomatoes
- 10 Three Round Tomatoes
- 11 A Cucumber, house or frame
- 12 A Pair of Vegetables (same variety) not in other classes
- 13 Five Single Assorted Vegetables
- 14 Largest Marrow
- 15 Three Apples of one variety, eating or cooking
- 16 Dish of one variety of soft or stoned fruit
- 17 Adult Fun Class: A Vegetable Animal

Cookery Classes

- 18 A Quiche (labelled)
- 19 Six Flapjack pieces
- 20 Four Fruit Scones
- 21 Six Chocolate Brownies
- 22 Four Meringues
- 23 A Carrot Cake (men only) Suggested Recipe in Barford News
- 24 A Victoria Sponge Sandwich, Raspberry jam, no Cream
- 25 An Individual Trifle
- 26 A Jar of Jam
- 27 A small pot of Lemon Curd
- 28 A Jar of Chutney
- 29 Sloe Gin (decanted into small bottle)
- 30 Half a dozen eggs

Flower Arranging Classes

- 31 An arrangement in an unusual container
- 32 A foliage arrangement 50cms (20ins) width
- 33 A miniature arrangement 10cms (4ins) overall
- 34 An arrangement in a basket 36cms (14ins) max width

Cut Flower Classes

- 35 A single Gladiolus
- 36 A Sunflower in a vase
- 37 Three Dahlias
- 38 Three Roses
- 39 Four Marigolds (one variety)
- 40 Four Fuchsia heads in a saucer of water
- 41 Six stems of Sweet Peas
- 42 Vase of mixed garden flowers, 6 varieties, (max.18 stems, no oasis)

Crafts

(NB Crafts must not have been entered previously in the Show)

- 43 A Handmade Toy
- 44 A piece of Jewellery
- 45 A hand knitted or crocheted article
- 46 A piece of needlecraft (embroidery, tapestry, patchwork, cross-stitch)
- 47 Drawing or Painting: any subject, any medium (mount or frame optional)
- 48 You Made It, Let's See It (Handmade article not covered in other classes)

Photography

(13cm x 18cm or 5" x 7")

- 49 A Portrait
- 50 A Barford Scene
- 51 An interesting Sky
- 52 A Shed

Children's Classes

7 and Under Years (age to be stated on all entries)

- 53 A Colouring Picture (available from the Post Office)
- 54 A saucer of fruit (any modelling material)
- 55 Four Chocolate Crispy Cakes
- 56 A vegetable animal
- 57 You Made It, Let's See It (Handmade article not covered in other classes)
8 - 15 Years (age to be stated on all entries)
- 58 A photograph (Any Subject, 13cm x 18cm or 5" x 7")
- 59 A design for a Flag (A4 size: landscape)
- 60 An outdoor scene in a seed tray
- 61 A drawing or painting (any subject, any medium)
- 62 You Made It, Let's See It (Handmade article not covered in other classes)

Entries: 30p per Adult Class
20p per Children's Class

Warriner School Farm News

IT IS A WELL KNOWN FACT amongst farmers that a sheep's main aim in life is to die, and even the book *Sheep: Breeds and Management* published in 1893 baldly states that 'Sheep are liable to many diseases and sundry kinds of death'. It is therefore an unexpected pleasure that lambing is almost over for another year and we have encountered very few problems along the way. Lots of triplets and two lots of quads have, however, left us with 14 cade lambs needing bottle feeding four times a day – a popular activity with visiting groups and the students on our vocational courses.

The BBC did us a favour by showing *Lambing Live* in the week leading up to our Lambing Open Afternoons. These were extremely well attended, and although the farm staff struggled to impersonate Kate Humble and Adam Henson, the ewes came up trumps on the Sunday afternoon when two lambed in front of a crowd of 80 to 100 people. Also popular at the event was our newly acquired shepherd's hut. This used to be part of Cogges Manor Farm Museum in Witney, but with the closure of the facility, the Oxfordshire County Council generously donated the hut to the Warriner School Farm Trust. Traditionally, the shepherd would have dragged the hut to the field or yard, and stayed there until the lambing was over. At present, Bloxham Village Museum have kindly loaned us some items to furnish the inside but we are currently on the lookout for items to make a more permanent display of our own. So if anyone has an old pot bellied stove that they would be prepared to donate or let us have on long-loan, we would be most grateful. As we are not planning to live in the hut at any point, the stove does not need to be functional, just to look the part!



Now lambing is nearly over, and we have held our Farm Open Weekend, now is the perfect time to stock up your freezer with our meat, we sell meat from the farm all year round. As summer approaches, why not try BBQ-ing our sausages, steaks and chops; beefburgers and gammon steaks also available.

Isabel Hands
Assistant Farm Manager

News from the Fernhill Club

NOW THAT SPRING is here and all the lovely flowers are out, it brings a little joy after the long cold days of winter.



We had a lovely afternoon out at the Heyford Club. We were invited to be entertained by young Irish Dancers, a delightful group of girls and boys in beautiful costumes. A truly lovely afternoon followed by a delicious tea and a raffle. Then our bus arrived to take us home, a good time was had by all.

Anyone new to the village or who isn't aware of our club, we meet each Wednesday afternoon (unless a trip has been arranged) in the village hall at 2.15pm and would love to have new members, so why not give us a try? Bring some of your ideas as to what you would like to do, we are always open to suggestions as well as new members. So, how about it? 2.15 – 4.15pm each Wednesday afternoon, or phone me Maureen Holden on 01869 337138 if you would like more information. We would love to see you at the club, all ladies and gentleman 55+, so why not give us a try??

M.H.

Nigel Fletcher Update

LAST MAY I TOOK on the ambitious project to paint a small oil painting every working day for a year! So far and 254 paintings later I have almost done it. Weekends and Bank Holidays were days when I could work on exhibition paintings and commissions, so it's been a very busy year! I made the paintings each day and sent them to members of my mailing list. Available for just £99 each almost all have been sold. If you would like to see the paintings in your inbox each day go to www.cotswoldsketchbook.co.uk and sign up.

This May I will be holding my annual two week exhibition in Sibford from the 15th at the Mission Room opposite the Wykham Arms pub in Sibford Gower. Some of the Cotswold Sketchbook paintings will be available to see and buy, along with a selection of larger oil and watercolour paintings. The exhibition is open from 12 noon until 6pm every day and I will be there each day to talk to visitors.

For more info: 07792 657 248,
01295 780 234

Nigel



NATURE NOTES 88

NIGHT-TIME TEMPERATURES, although still around minus 2° to plus 2°, were nowhere near as savage as those of early March, but still produced some dawn frosts. However, daytime temps improved to give a range between 9° and 13° until the end of the month which, compared to what had gone before, felt positively warm. From the 19th a huge low north of Scotland sent a succession of fronts across from SW to NE as it drifted south down the Atlantic, and although milder, the weather was very changeable. There was rain, heavy at times, but mostly steady and gentle. The wind, SW at first went to a chilly SE on 23rd then back to SW on 25th. On 27th another big low pressure area started to cross the country from SW, and March, which had coldly come in like a lamb, went out like a lion, with a day temperature of 5°, NW winds and vicious, lashing 'lambing storms'.

But what was wildlife doing during the latter half of March? Answer – not very much! The Winter Thrushes seemed to have departed north to their breeding grounds, as none had been seen for many days. On Saturday 20th I realised that no-one had mentioned the (probably) nesting Ravens at Rignell for a long time. I realised that I too, had neither seen nor heard them since I watched a male displaying over St. Michael on 13th February. I was angry with myself for not having been in that direction for so long and decided to go and have a look. Unfortunately, the trees were silent and remained so; I looked at several differing times and checked with others, but the general conclusion was that nothing had been seen or heard for a fortnight and we must accept that they had forsaken their intention through disturbance or some other reason.

On a brighter note, I found another of the moths of early Spring trying to get in through my bedroom window. It was a March Moth, quietly, but beautifully dressed in various satin shades of mushroom. This is yet another moth with wingless females which emerge, are mated, lay eggs and die on the same little bit of hedgerow for generations. The same night, I encountered another old acquaintance, creeping around the stairs. It was *Herpyllus blackwalli*, the 'mouse' spider, whose abdomen is covered with smooth, shiny silver hair – like a Pussy Willow bud. A robust little chap, he was looking for supper among the tiny creatures that live under skirtings, boards and carpet edges – or a mate!

In quieter spells between the seemingly endless procession of rain-bearing weather fronts, Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers were busy calling and drumming around Steepness and the allotments. I imagine everyone recognises woodpecker drumming, especially the familiar staccato

hammering on resonant branches by Great Spotted, but drumming by the Greens is of very infrequent occurrence. I heard it three times from the Steepness birds – of shorter duration, a little slower and more muffled than the Great Spotted performance.

Before the onset of torrential rains at about 2.15pm on 25th, I saw my first Brimstone butterfly of the year in Deddington, and then my first singing Chiffchaff down in St. Michael. Bas Butler observed two Red Kites over the church on the same day. Next day was chilly and showery but even so a Buzzard put in an appearance on Steepness; then on the morning of 27th, Tawny Owls were noisy in the hours before dawn on Steepness and Sylvia Butler heard much hooting from another pair at the bottom of St. Michael. During the day, about 2pm I saw my first Swallow of the year, over Townsend, dead on time for the usual arrival date of 27–28 March. A solitary bird, almost certainly on passage to the far north – I was not to see another in the Barfords until 17th April!

The miserably chill, showery weather continued until March bowed-out with a spiteful afternoon of vicious 'Lambing Storm' sleet and a max. day temperature of 5°. The Steepness Tawnies celebrated its departure with a night of sporadic hootings.

Unfortunately, the wind remained in this cold (unusually) SW direction until the 6th of April when it veered to NW for two days. During this period daytime temps steadily rose, much more April-like, culminating in 19° on the 9th. However much of the effect was lost because the chill factor of the wind was so pronounced. The wind then continued veering to NE where it remained until the 16th.

At this point the weather was little different from March, with it seemed, all wildlife sheltering in any available nook or foraging along low sheltered hedgerows or woodland. On the 3rd I noted that a few shoots were greening on the Hawthorn and that there was a particularly good flight of larger moths at night. In addition, as I drove around after dark, the verges seemed to be alive with foxes, many of them I thought very small and underweight. Perhaps pickings were slim because of their shear weight of numbers?

In between the chilly periods of rain the Green Woodpeckers continued to laugh around the villages, but that was all. I noted 'Everything is so very quiet – some birds are still in flocks; a few Rooks, Woodpigeons and Stock Doves are out feeding on bare till and a few Skylarks are singing here and there.'

By the 5th, although still cold, the weather had started brightening and as the week progressed it at last became spring-like. On the 6th I noted that the hedgerow Violets were coming into bloom with that

delicious spring-time perfume as the temperature climbed toward the mid teens. During the night, two male Tawny Owls were shouting at each other near Fernhill. The birds were so close together, the hoots so aggressive, and the interval between answering hoots so short, that I assumed it must be a territorial border dispute between nesting pairs. To add interest, a Little Owl started calling shrilly close to the two Tawnies, almost as if to tell them to pipe-down! Suddenly, all fell very silent, so perhaps the Little owl was successful!

The 8th was a beautiful day of sun with a gentle NW breeze and a few small, fluffy white clouds in the afternoon. The weather continued thus, but with the wind veering to NE on 9th, the breeze resumed something of its chill. It has remained thus up to my writing these notes on 17th. Generally, signs all over show Nature is catching up. Hedgehogs are browsing scraps under bird feeders and searching for juicy snails and slugs as they wake from their winter sleep, and leaving little characteristic 'calling-cards' across lawns.

Many smaller birds are busy building, for example the Tits, Chaffinches and Goldfinches, Linnets out in the hedgerows, even Greenfinches with their 'butterfly' display flights and 'ip-pip-pip-pip' flight calls. The Rooks have built high and their nests look tight and tidy, ready to keep their broods safe from the worst lambing storms. Some Blackbirds and Robins are even carrying food for youngsters! Less welcome around our gardens perhaps are the Sparrow Hawks! But they have to eat, and they have to feed their young and unfortunately our bird feeding stations are useful honey pots for them – hang up a few old CDs around the garden to catch their eye and spoil their aim as they tear in to snatch a Great Tit – or even a Homing Pigeon perhaps! And I understand from Mrs. Alt that a pair of Canada Geese have eggs at the Manor. I wonder if the Swans have laid yet, wherever they have moved to.

On the 14th, a great ash-cloud from one of the Icelandic volcanoes swirled in on higher level winds to cover the UK with invisible volcanic-glass dust. As we know, it has grounded our entire airlines operation, including much of Europe, an economically crippling situation but part of Nature, just as much as ripening Barley or hens laying eggs! It could however be with us for weeks – or until the wind changes direction.

It caused me (possibly) a minor annoyance, along with many astronomers, pro. and am. alike (among whom do not I class myself). The evening of the 15th I understood to be one of the rare occasions when the planet Mercury would be visible from Earth. It would be situated between Venus (at the moment, *the evening star*) and the (then invisible)

Moon. Mercury is the planet physically nearest to the Sun and is so close to it as to be usually invisible through mist above the horizon or out-shone by the general sky brightness.

Unfortunately the western evening sky was blanked out by a band of cloud on 15th from the environs of the Barfords – 'but there might still be a chance next evening'! So I took my binoculars and bird-watching 'scope up to the oak-tree on the bend in the Bloxham road at about 7.40pm. At 7.55 the Sun touched the horizon and quickly sank out of view. Then the light show began! Generated by the ash-cloud, the horizon turned brick red, through scarlet and orange to yellows, pinks and pale violet spanning a third of the sky and held its colour *for over an hour and three quarters!* On the margin of this I spotted the wispiest crescent of the Moon at about 8.10 and five minutes later the tiny faint spot of Venus became visible. I remained watching until about 9.30 by which time many stars were faintly visible. But did I see Mercury? No! He moves swiftly across the sky compared to other planetary bodies so I expect he was enveloped in the blaze of colour above the point of sunset! I tried again on 17th, but even Venus appeared considerably SW below the Moon. Ah well, *C'est la vie!* The Daffodils on the approach to St. John are gay; the Blackthorn is in full bloom and the temperature touched 20° today. A Swallow sat on the telephone wires to my house, and I saw three more flying around Bloodybones hill at St. John. They're late, but could it be that Spring is here at last?

Ron Knight

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Warriner School News

FINALLY, WITH A REASONABLE dry spell the students, like young puppies, have been let loose on the grassed areas on the school site. Much needed R+R for all concerned, except lunch duty staff!



The recent news that Oxfordshire is in the next wave of “Building Schools for the Future” has been well received despite the obvious envy of Banbury School which is in the first wave of this multi-million pound redevelopment of all the County’s schools. Seriously though, good luck to them! We will be in the second wave of developments which, if the outline plans come to fruition, include the establishment of a Sixth Form here at The Warriner. Phase (wave) two starts in 2012. As a note of caution we have at least one General Election between now and then.

Some of you will have seen that we have started the consultation process required for becoming a Trust School. The formal consultation with the wider community will start later, in the summer. However, if you would like to know more please do visit our website www.thewarrinerschool.co.uk and look at “Parents” – “Recent Letters Home” where you will find the papers sent to our parents. Any comments you may have on this exciting next stage in The Warriner’s life would be most welcome (we are 40 next year!)

As with all schools we are always on the look out for members of the community we serve who might wish to act as Governors, contributing their expertise and views, to the Governing Body. If you would like to know more about the commitments, demands, challenges, and rewards of such a role please contact Julie Wood (Clerk to the Governors) at the school.

Nick Hindmarsh
Headteacher, The Warriner School

Deddington PTA News

THE PTA WHEELS are whizzing along in preparation for our next big event – *The 6th Annual Deddington Walk* which will be held on Sunday 16th May. This year’s exciting theme is “You’ll Never Walk Alone” – to get you in the mood for South Africa this summer! Our actors will be out and about on our *new* route handing out more of our infamous trump cards. Make sure you are there to collect the brand new set!! Once again we will be starting from the Windmill Centre where sizzling hot bacon butties will await your arrival. Upon completion of the Walk there will be more food, a bar and entertainment laid on for your enjoyment back at the Windmill Centre. Perhaps you would like to try out your skills “playing the beautiful game”??! Please remember to book early to secure a free food voucher! We hope to have some lovely warm sunshine in which to bask after burning off all those calories walking!! Entry forms are available from the library or from Heather on 01869 338347. Take a look at our updated website – www.deddingtonwalk.co.uk. As usual, there will be 3 levels of walk – a toddler trail, a family walk or a challenging 12 mile hike – so there is something for all ages!! This Walk is NOT restricted to school children – anyone can come along and join in the fun! We look forward to welcoming you!



In last month’s edition I promised to let you know the amount raised at our recent Quiz Night - **£1500!** Thank you to everyone who contributed to this hugely successful evening.

Finally, another reminder for our school fete which will be held on **Saturday 19th June**. It is shaping up to be a bigger and better event than usual with new attractions! More details next month.....

Janet Watts, 01869 337135

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**10 am – 3pm, Tuesday 11 May,
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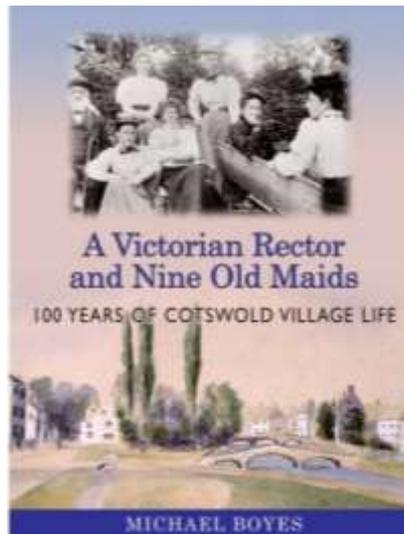
Deddington_History_Society

THE APRIL TALK was the subject much anticipated under the title of 'The Victorian Rector and the Nine Old Maids' which had twice been postponed due to adverse weather conditions and confusion over dates. However Michael Boyes had the members complete interest and a large collection of slides made an enjoyable evening. By way of introducing his talk Michael Boyes explained that his talks came about from the two books he had written on the history of the family who had lived in Little Rissington in the 19th century. Michael himself was born in Sri Lanka and came to; live in England at the age of nine, went to school and ended up studying at Trinity College, Dublin and later working for Rolls Royce. When he gave up work he settled with his family in Little Rissington and became a Governor of the village Primary School. Arising from this he was prompted to write a history of the school, publication of which gave rise to a villager asking why he didn't write a history of the Le Marchant family, These were people he had never heard of 'till then, but the idea of the subject made him start research into the family, although at first there did not appear to be much to go on, it subsequently turned out- to be a very large endeavour taking many years of work.

Robert Le Marchant was the village Rector in the middle of the 19th century and the father of a large family. He was born in the Channel Islands and came to England as a small boy and at the age of sixteen went to Trinity College Dublin to study for a Bachelor of Arts in Natural Sciences and Medicine, ended up as a doctor. He left to go and work at a hospital in Edinburgh but after a number of years decided to give this up and to enter; the Church. He served as a Curate in a, number of parts of the country and finally, after marrying Eliza K, Tupper he settled in Little Rissington. It was here that they started their family which over many years became a total of fifteen, there being six boys and nine girls, this must have made the Rectory quite crowded eventually as it was not an over large house, there being of course maids and a governess, Due to his previous training Robert was appointed as the Chairman of the Rural Sanitary Authority being responsible among other things for the Bourton Cottage Hospital, this being one of the first three: such hospitals built at this time in England. Initially Michael had only the diaries of Robert Le Marchant to work on these having been given to him by the Villager who made the original suggestion. The diaries did not contain very much information,

consisting largely of single line entries for each week day with a little more for Sundays.

From his research Michael had found that there were now no living direct relatives of the family, the nine daughters never having married and of the six sons, only three married and only one had a son. However a connection arose when he found a distant branch of the Le Marchant's in Lincolnshire, this being Baron Le Marchant who had a large collection of writings and letters of the daughters. Letter writing and receiving being one of the primary pastimes, of ladies in the 19th century. Later on Michael's attention was drawn to an auction that had taken place at Phillips Auctions in London when a large collection of papers and photographs of the family had been sold. After tracing the purchaser he managed to "buy them from him and add a lot to his overall collection. From all the information he had accumulated he: spent several years formulating it into a book and ended up with a volume of some 155,000 words. On receipt of this his intended publisher said 'far too long but a very good story - shorten it. This Michael found to both very time consuming and difficult, but managed, after a couple of years, to get it down to



135,000 words. It was still too long so it was then decided to make it into two books, one of the Sons and one of the Nine Maidens, The obvious question arises: from this, how come the ladies never married - it is known however that one did have a romantic attachment, this to a member of the Trupp family. He was an officer in the Navy but unfortunately he was killed on active duty in Brazil, which appeared to end any further romantic connections. The ladies were all very well educated having had a full time governess for many years and were all intensely interested in nature and wild life, they kept many caged birds and a pet little monkey brought home by one of their brothers after service abroad. They were all very into sports of the day playing hockey, tennis in the garden courts in the village Manor House. They are also known to have played cricket in a mixed village cricket team. The Rectory at Little Rissington was small by some standards but had fairly substantial grounds where the ladies built a successful garden with a bridge over the stream. The youngest daughter was very artistically gifted not only producing some fine water colours but also making a number of them into very good cartoons using the faces of the family members. She was also a fine photographer many of her photographs being amongst the slides shewn by Michael during his

talk. As for the sons, although they were privately educated by means of money from a relative of the family, none of them managed to pass into the Military College at Sandhurst which had been founded by an earlier- member of the Le Marchant, dynasty in the early 19th century. One son, whilst serving as the Colonel of his Regiment in Afghanistan, was assassinated by an Afghan warrior. Another son, Evelyn, rose in the Navy to become an Admiral who had the honour of taking the two sons of the then Prince of Wales on an ocean cruise, an action which gave rise to several Royal connections later.

A third son, Edward, married Mary Christie of the Glyndbourne family, she was given a dowry of some £10,000 on her marriage, Edward was engaged in-business in the City of London and was the only member of the family to obtain any form of wealth. One should probably mention one daughter, Blanche, who was born with 'Downes Syndrome' and was looked after almost outside the family being cared for by a nurse in her room, her father even noting in his diary that she did not attend the Christmas celebrations, she did however live until the 1930's. Further interest can be found in the Deddington Library which now has a copy of the book 'AVictorian Rector and Nine Old Maids'.

A.M.

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See location map on reverse.



————— A CUT ABOVE THE REST —————



**Sandford St. Martin
Cricket Club Fixtures**



Date	Opponents	Venue	Start
1st XI – Division 2			
May	1 Challow/K Bagpuize	Home	1.00
	8 Abingdon Vale	Away	1.00
	15 Banbury II	Home	1.00
	22 Banbury XX	Home	1.00
	29 Wolverton	Away	1.00
2nd XI – Division 6			
May	1 Challow	Away	1.00
	8 Abingdon II	Home	1.00
	15 Bourton Vale II	Away	1.00
	22 Oxford IV	Away	1.00
	29 Bletchley	Home	1.00
Sunday Fixtures			
May	2 Witney Mills	Home	2.00
	9 Shipton-u-Wychwood	Away	2.00
	9 Upton House	Home	2.30
	16 Oxenford	Home	2.00
	23 Broughton & N. Newington	Away	2.30
	30 Wayfarers	Home	2.30



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