

BARFORD NEWS

OCTOBER 2012

Price 30p where sold

Parish Council Notes

The meeting took place at 7.35pm on 5th September 2012 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Best, Cllr Bullard, Cllr Eden, Cllr Turner and Cllr Stiles. Also were attending Mrs R Watts (Clerk).

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Woolgrove.

Winter Salt The Clerk reported that Oxfordshire County Council will supply a bulk bag of free salt if required, with additional bags costing £100 each. Cllrs agreed that there was nowhere to store bags of salt and in any case, transportation to the salt bins would be difficult. Cllrs will check the levels of salt in the bins and report back to the Clerk. She will order salt as required. The salt bin in Barford St John has been hit and upturned by a vehicle. Cllrs will see if it can be moved to the opposite side of the road. Cllrs unanimously agreed that another salt bin should be purchased for the bottom of Church Street. They will survey the area to locate a suitable site and report back to the Clerk.

Thames Water – Allotments: The problems regarding water meters appears to have finally been solved. An invoice based on an estimated reading has been received for the period 24th May to 12th August for the amount of £35.64. As this estimated reading is very close to the reading taken by Basil Butler it was agreed to pay the invoice and forward the correct reading to Thames Water. The Parish Council thanked Basil Butler for taking the readings fortnightly.

Grass Cutting: The Chairman met Mr Tom Fox of Tom Fox Landscaping on 12 July to talk about areas in the villages which were not being cut, or were not being cut often enough. The Chairman thanked Cllr Woolgrove for cutting the verge in St John prior to the conversation with Tom Fox. Subsequently Cllr Turner asked the contractors to trim the weeds just north of the bridge.

Weeds: A resident had asked for the weeds in Robin's Close to be sprayed. Cllrs agreed that it is too late in the season to get this done. Next year weeds will be sprayed, where necessary, by a contractor once during May.

Turnstile House Complaints have been received about a flagpole which had been erected close to the footpath at Turnstile House. The Chairman had spoken to Laura Baker in Cherwell District Council's Planning Department and she had agreed to invite Mr Hindle to apply for planning permission.

Outline Planning Permission, Bloxham The Chairman attended a meeting in Bloxham in support of residents' objection to an outline planning application for 75 dwellings off Barford Road. The Parish Council subsequently wrote a letter to Cherwell District Council's Planning Department objecting to the plans. An application for a further 85 houses had since been received and Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should write to Cherwell District Council's Planning Department objecting to the application.

Murreys Lane There are two blocked drains. The Clerk will report the matter to Oxfordshire County Council Highways.

Planning Matters

Details of planning applications can be found on the Cherwell District Council 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)

Planning Applications Received:
12/00926/OUT Gladman Developments, 75 dwellings, Barford Rd, Bloxham - objections

12/01133/F Hopkins, Storeton, Townsend, Barford St Michael, single storey rear extension – no objections

12/00749/LB Coates, Rignell Farm, Barford St Michael, replace roof tiles and re-batten roof to main house and garage, replace roof light – no objections

121/00926/OUT Mintondale Developments, 85 dwellings land south of Milton Rd, Bloxham – objections

12/01174/LB Whitworth, Cottage Barn, Church Lane, Barford St John – single storey gable end extension to provide garden room – no objections

Planning Applications Approved by Cherwell District Council:

12/00706/F Satchell, Crown House, Church Lane, St John, construction of tennis court. Granted 18 July 2012.

Notice of Intent TCA (Trees) Received:

12/00201/TCA Marshall, 4 Bishops Close, T1 x Hazel – fell, no objections

12/00215/TCA Peacock, Stonehaven, Lower St, T1 x Pine – fell; T2 x Maple – remove 5 lower branches growing into holly; T3 Weeping Willow – Crown reduce by 50%, no objections

12/00216/TCA Taylor, rear Bishops Close & adjacent land Murreys Lane, T1 x Ash – crown reduce by 5m and crown raise by 5m; 2 x Ash fell; G1 x Ash Saplings – remove; G2 x Ash Saplings – remove; G3 x Sycamore Saplings – remove; G4 x Beech Saplings – remove, no objections

Approved TCA:

12/00179/TCA Tew, College Farmhouse, Horn Hill, T1 x Larch – deadwood & cut 30% from bough overhanging neighbouring property. Granted August 2012.

12/00194/TCA Village Hall, Barford St Michael, T1 x Whitebeam – fell. Granted 30 August 2012.

Any Other Business

Cllr Turner reported that pedestrians are walking up The Rock rather than using the footpath. Cllr Turner has started to trim back the large bush on the bridge which is obscuring the view for drivers. Cllr Eden asked whether vegetation along The Rock had been reported to Oxfordshire County Council Highways. The Clerk confirmed that a report had been made.

Cllr Bullard reported that vegetation growing either side of Murreys Lane needs attention. The Clerk will report the matter to Oxfordshire County Council Highways Highways.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 3rd October 2012. There will be no meeting in August. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.



Get a free safety check before you use your electric blanket this winter at

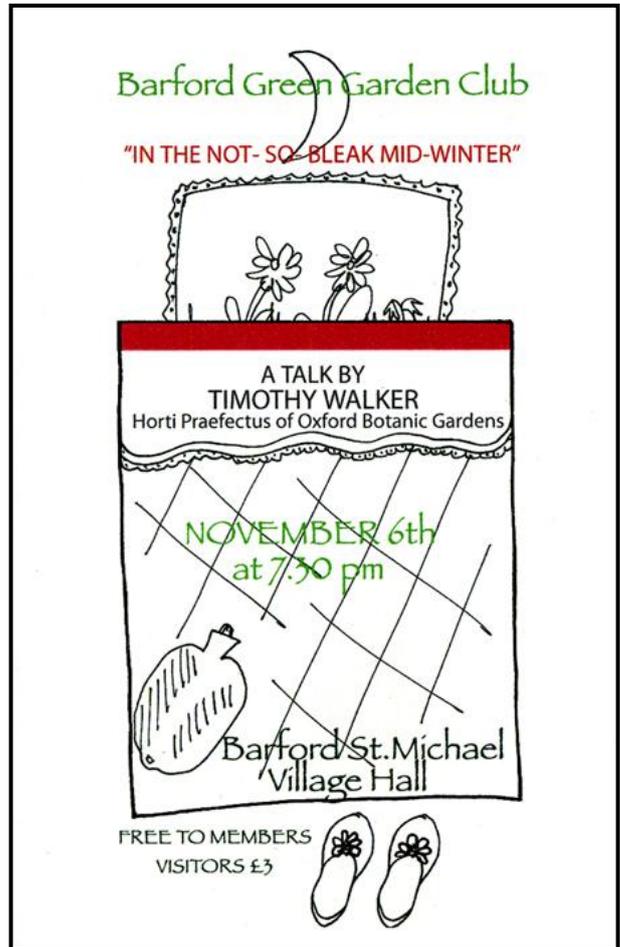
Banbury: 9 October,
Bicester, 23 October.

To book your safety check appointment call 01865 815607 or email

communityengagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Rosemary Watts

Clerk to Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council



**DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE
2012 FLU CLINICS**

It's time to book up to have a flu jab at the surgery

Saturday morning

October 6th 9am – 12pm
November 3rd 9am -12pm



Weekdays :

**Mondays 4.30 - 5.30pm
Thursdays & Fridays 2 - 3pm**

Those who are eligible for a flu jab:-

- Anyone 65 years old and over
- Anyone with a long term condition such as asthma (if on a steroid inhaler), COPD, diabetes, heart disease, chronic kidney or liver disease; neurological disease; have a transplant; on immunosuppression drugs; Nursing home resident.

You are a carer You are pregnant

Book up now and get protected from flu!

Please phone for an appointment on
01869 338611

Church Fete

Stall Name		Takings 2011	Takings 2010
Bottles	£250.05	£300.00	£340.10
Tombola	£135.30	£101.30	£131.80
Punch	£108.83	£35.10	£48.40
Raffle	£167.54	£230.00	£211.00
White Elephant	£151.88	£113.55	£226.53
Cake Guess the Weight	£23.10		£66.00
Pick a Ticket	£26.40	£45.76	£48.24
Hook a Duck	£22.65		
Books	£167.82	£228.15	£204.90
Plants	£275.30	£326.75	£216.95
Cakes and Produce		£90.15	£88.90
Teas	£293.31	£421.60	£376.70
Gate	£249.60	£337.77	£307.80
Treasure Hunt	£12.70	£21.60	£18.30
Dog Show	£75.00	£67.00	£90.10
Toys	£115.69	£124.04	
Total	£2,076.07		£2,487.72
Donations			£35.00
Grand Total	£2,076.07	£2,544.17	£2,522.72

Church Fete

FIRST OF ALL I would like to thank all the people involved with the running of the fete, whether it was manning a stall, running the teas, organising the dog show or putting up the gazebos and drying them out afterwards, your help was very much appreciated. The final total raised for church funds was about £500 less than last year but the weather kept a lot of people away and the gate was down by about a third from last year. However, those who came seemed to appreciate the fete and as one lady from Banbury said to me when I delivered her raffle prize "We love coming to the Barford fete. We always look out for it in the Banbury Guardian and come every year." So despite the fact that her daughter didn't have a bouncy castle this year (we were let down by the owner 2 days before the show) they thoroughly enjoyed their day in Barford.

Finally I would particularly like to thank Barbara and Wolfgang Alt for lending us the lovely venue for the fete. I know a lot of work goes into preparing the garden for the August Bank Holiday by all the family and it's very much appreciated.

Cubby Brett
Churchwarden

Hall and Fernhill Trust

Barford St John and St Michael

Each household in receipt of a state pension and having three years residency in the villages of Barford St Michael and St John will qualify for a small amount from the above trust.

The year end for the charity is October 31st, with the distribution of monies in December.

A list of likely beneficiaries is held but persons wishing to ensure that their name is on the list should contact the Clerk of the Trustees:-

(Mrs Helen Honour, The Cottage, 5 Mead Road, Barford St John) before 31st October.

?? QUIZ NIGHT ??

@ THE GEORGE

??????????

**RESTARTS ON WEDNESDAY
3RD OCTOBER**

**THEREAFTER FORTNIGHTLY ON
WEDNESDAYS:-**

**31ST OCT, 14TH & 28TH NOV
AND 12TH DEC**

**PROMPT START 8.30PM
FINISH BY 10.30PM**

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Ride and Stride – 8 September 2012

FOUR INTREPID RIDERS set out from Pete's at 7am (much later than usual), bikes loaded, to make our way to the starting point of the ride. Pete had promised us only one hill, split in half by a visit, so in reality two hills! And a few depressions, (hills in reverse), but otherwise a very flat ride with the wind behind us! What else.

Our starting (and finishing) point was Yelford, where there is a beautiful small church up a grassy lane, the sixth smallest in Britain, and yes blink and you would miss it!

Pete, Veronique and I rode a similar route last year, visiting all the churches on route. This year we decided to visit only those churches we thought worthy of a second glance, no offence intended. I am sure all are beautiful but beauty, as they say is in the eye of the beholder.

It was cold with a very low lying mist as we set off but with the promise of a hot day we kept layers down to a minimum, some more minimum than others, well a northern girl doesn't give up her vest easily! In essence for the first hour or so we froze. We stopped early on for a hot coffee from a machine in a village post office and shop, the coffee was warm and most welcome just a pity that the welcome was less so.

We visited the Churches of Lyford, where the bell tower has a remarkable beam construction. All Saints Goosey, another small, beautifully cared for church with some wonderful hassocks. Fernham, from the outside a beautiful sandstone parish church that has been totally remodelled inside to provide a functional community space, the only thing that might look out of place is the satellite dish perched on an outside windowsill. From Fernham we visited Great Coxhill and the Great Barn. A tithe barn built in the C12 to gather tithes for the Abbots of Beaulieu, a magnificent building, well worth a visit, and our first hill of the day and it was a hill slow and long.

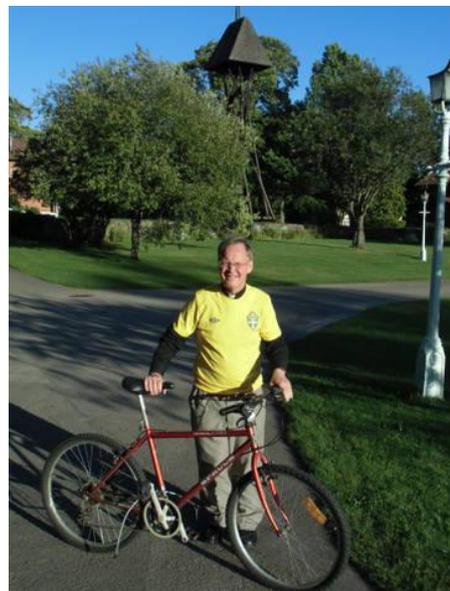
Our Next stop was to be for lunch. Having been told, whilst one member of the team ate a very large Kit Kat, that the bacon butties we had seen would put us off lunch; Jeff and I were eager to get pedalling for the promised lunch and a pint of ale from the micro brewery at Coleshill. Sadly it was not to be. Oh how we regretted not getting those bacon butties! So it was onward to Lechlade where we eventually found a sandwich and refreshment in the Trout a lovely pub on the river. From Lechlade it was a flat ride along small smooth country lanes back to our starting point in Yelford, although Jeff, in his keenness, carried on passed the pick up, on his way to do the route again, perhaps like me he was once again thinking about bacon butties!!

A great ride out, 52.79 miles, with good company on a fine September day what could be better. And we raised £80.00 for the Churches Trust. Same again next year? Well, just wait and see.



above: The Great Barn at Coxhill
The Quartet Back at Yelford

Below: our vicar Hugh, who did his own 'Ride' in Sweden – couldn't persuade him to get into Lycra for the occasion! But he did lash out on a Sweden football shirt as worn for the Euros Ed.



Barford Green Garden Club
NOTES FROM OUR POTTING SHED
September And October

We were too busy in the garden to do 'NOTES' for September Barford News...so here is a 'Double Bill'.

A visit to Ball Colegrave was made on July 25th. It was a blistering hot day and the whole ground was full of people looking at the flower displays, eating and drinking. The flower displays were extremely bright and vivid, a sight that was quite 'shocking' after our awful weather. As a contrast to these were many BLACK or near black flowers which when planted against lovely foliage plants looked quite stunning...remember for next year? Another feature was the vertical wall of plants, some were flowers, others herbs and vegetables. Several vertical growing systems are available and when correctly built can provide an area of planting in a small area and at 'eye height' for those who cannot bend down too far! There were not many vegetable plants on show however.

Rousham visit, August 16th

Ten of us, members and friends, spent an enjoyable few hours in "the purest example of an Augustan landscape garden". We sheltered from a brisk shower as we arrived, but from then on the weather was dry and warm as we explored the grounds and the various grottoes, woodland walks, pools and statues. With its classical landscaping by William Kent, lavish planting in the walled garden, its peafowl, long-horned cattle and dovecote, Rousham is of interest at all times of year, but high summer is a lovely time to visit, with the Cherwell shaded by mature trees, the vegetable garden fully productive and the ancient apple trees loaded with fruit. As is usual there, we had the place almost to ourselves, seeing just a handful of other visitors. Rousham is unusual in being completely uncommercial; there is no shop, no tea-room, no staff in evidence, but for £5 entry you are offered the chance to wander, contemplate and picnic – which we did, In an arbour overlooking the river.

Olympian thoughts

Many people will have seen the wonderful plantings of the Olympic Park and those fortunate enough to have visited will have marvelled at the wild flowers planted to represent the four corners of the world. Eventually there will be public tours of the 2012 Gardens and it might be nice to organise a trip there. We must keep a look out on the website www.londonlegacy.co.uk

In the meantime create your own bit of wildflower planting, consult Sarah Raven among others for times of sowing seeds and times for cutting.

TIMOTHY WALKER, Horti Praefectus of the University of Oxford Botanic Gardens will be

coming to talk on November 6th. FREE to Members and £3 for visitors. "In the Not-So-Bleak Midwinter" is the title of the talk.

THE JUBILEE OAK is being looked after and an engraved plaque will be added soon.

TIPS OF THE MONTHS

Finish cutting hedges. Think about perennials for next year and sow seeds. Forget about the 2012 strange weather and hope for better vegetables next year and all those cups you could win at next year's show! Continue dead heading and take stock...think about whether plants are in their right position, whether they are too big or indeed whether they fit in with your garden plan...if you have one! Collect seeds from flowers, store in dry paper bags in the cool and plant later. Clear any vegetable beds and add COMPOST that you have all been making!

Welcome to the season of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness.



'Bye for now'
Spade and Fork.



Barford Village Market
Saturday, 20th October

In the Village Hall
10-12noon
All the usual stalls

Artisan breads, Eggs, cheeses, Preserves & Chutneys, Meat Joint produce, Cards, Plants, Jewellery, Fairtrade, Handicrafts
Plus something new each month
Not forgetting Tea/Coffee & **Bacon Butties**

3rd Saturday every month except August
Come along and support
YOUR local market
All profits for Village Hall Maintenance



A BIG **THANK YOU** TO EVERYONE

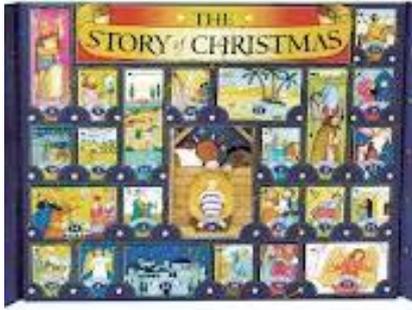


Who bought a cream tea,
made donations,
lent their china tea sets,
or their garden furniture,
made a cake,
mowed the lawn,
worked behind the scenes in the
kitchen.....

YOU ALL HELPED TO RAISE £291 FOR THE
CHILDREN'S HOME IN KATHMANDU.



The Barford Advent Calendar

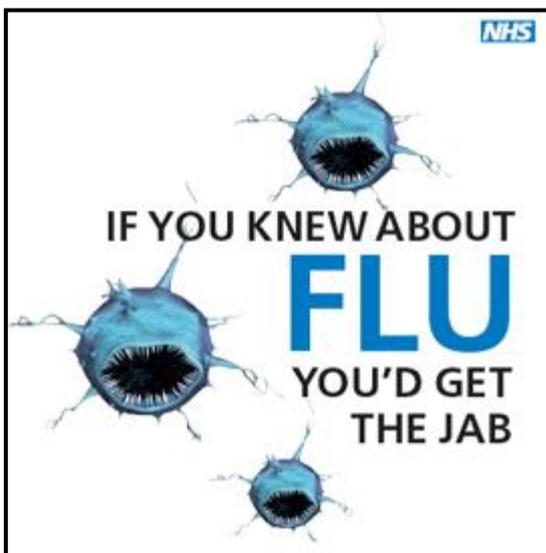


Although it's some time away, we're already planning some of Barford's Christmas jollity. Your curate's had a cunning idea, imported from Switzerland: **The Barford Advent Calendar**. Yes, it sounds strange, but the idea is that 23 houses in the village will host an Advent window – decorating one of their windows with a Christmas scene, preferably with some part of the Christmas story but not necessarily. The windows are then steadily turned on through the days of December until Christmas Eve (with the Church hosting the 24th window at the Crib Service). People will be able to then wander around the village, seeing the different windows as we get ready for Christmas. If we get enough takers, then I'll produce a map showing where each window will be around the village for each night.

We've already got 5 people signed up, so I need another 18 people to offer one of their windows for one of the days of Advent. If you'd like more information or – even better – to promise to host an Advent window yourself, please let me know! (curatedan@gmail.com/337893)

Also, if you're not already aware, Hugh is away until late December, so if you would like a visit or have another pastoral need, **please** do get in touch

Dan



Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

Welcome to the new school year, to the new children and families joining us this term, and to those who have 'moved up' from Nursery to the PFSU. We also have some staff changes this term. We say a sad goodbye to two long-serving members of staff, Sarah Inkpen and Sophie Nichols. We wish them every success with their future plans. Suzanne Stanley has also left us to go on maternity leave and we welcome Jacqui Moulder in her place to manage the Nursery. There will be a meeting for PFSU parents at the PFSU on Wednesday 17th October at 7.30pm. During the evening we will be explaining the profiles that we keep for your child, and introducing you to our approaches to the teaching of phonics and maths. Thank you to everyone who attended the Red, White & Blue evening in July - we managed to raise a whopping £8613 which we were absolutely blown away by - especially during tough times. We would like to say a BIG thank you to all of the sponsors, parents, committee members and local businesses who generously provided their time, energy, generous gifts, prizes and donations. Thank you also to everyone who responded to our survey on the future of the Nursery - watch this space for further news.

Lucy Squires
337484

Rainbows News



WE'RE STARTING THE TERM with lots of new Rainbows (Welcome to Ellie D, Jemima B, Ivy and Bella) and will be having some of the outdoor meetings that got rained off in July! First meeting is a campfire complete with toasted marshmallows helped by some of Deddington Guides- we can test out the sitters we made last term. This definitely qualifies for one of our Favourite Meetings of the year! Thank you to Vivien for allowing us to use her garden. We're looking forward to a walk between Adderbury and Bloxham, a visit to the fire station and some outdoor games before the colder weather drives us back inside. Let's hope the sunshine we've had so far holds...

Hazel Neal 01869 337822

Afternoon Tea with ‘Bubbly’ at The Village Hall

What a perfect afternoon we had!

Forty one members and guests of the WI were invited by the committee to a party in the village hall on a sunny Sunday afternoon in July. Dainty cucumber sandwiches, homemade scones and jam with cream, and delicious cakes were served. The sun shone brightly and we all sat in the garden to take full advantage of our good luck, the ‘bubbly’ flowed and so did the conversation!.

The time flew by and two hours passed in the



blinking of an eye! All too soon it was time to clear up and go home. A great time was had by all – how can we top it next year??



August Outing

In early August 16 members and friends visited Kelmscott Manor, the country home of William Morris. The sun came out as we drank coffee together awaiting our turn to tour this fascinating old house. Inside the whole place had a very special atmosphere and it felt more like a family home than a museum.



Each room brought something special, furniture, tapestries, beautiful Rossetti pastel portraits of Jenny and May, the two daughters of William and Jane, carvings etc. The ‘Willow Boughs’ design wallpaper in Jane’s bedroom was familiar to us all.



One outstanding exhibition was of the 12 figurative drawings by eminent Pre-Raphaelite and friend of William Morris, Edward Burne-Jones which were on loan from the collections of Tate Britain. Access to the attics via a split-stepped staircase had us wondering if we would ever get down again! But, fortunately, the exit route was via a ‘normal’ staircase, so we needn’t have worried!

A tour of the lovely gardens and a quick visit to the gift shop brought the visit to a close and we made our way home.

Deddington and District History Society

OUR 2012-13 SEASON got off to a resounding start with Martin Way's talk on 'Barley, Beer and Barrels'. This was Martin's third visit: his lively talks are always looked forward to by our members. He began by pointing out that the 'Real Ale' that we are fond of praising is a misnomer. Ale is an un-hopped brew, whereas what we have drunk since the 15th century (I don't think he was referring to any individual member of the audience at this point) is a hopped brew called beer. He made the cheering point that beer has historically been a much safer drink than water. With that he was off, relating to us the story of brewing in all its aspects. He had a number of fascinating slides of scenes dating from the 1890s. Of particular interest were those relating to the exodus of whole families each year from the East End of London to the hop fields of Kent and Sussex. Martin also reminded us of the many Oxfordshire breweries that were deliberately driven out of business by large breweries in the 1960s. The good news is the revival of local brewing in the form of micro-breweries which are now thriving. In a small way local brewing is stronger than it has been for many a year. Martin always brings with him a collection of memorabilia and tools relating to the subject of his talks; on this occasion pride of place went to his remarkable collection of coopering tools of strange shapes and even stranger names.



Our next talk, on Wednesday 10 October, will feature Col. Tim May and Mike Cross on 'The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Project', a new research centre and museum being constructed at Woodstock.

We welcome anyone who cares to come to our meetings, which take place on the second Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm at the Windmill Centre.

Chris Day (Chairman) 337204
Moira Byast (Secretary) 338637

August 200 Club Draw

£15.00, No.54, Paula Hancox
£10.00, No. 72, Harry Romain
£5.00, No 59, Preece Family

The draw was made for 5 year old Jack Stewart
at a Cuppa Morning

"Aunty Pat"
2nd September 2011



We are sending a dove to heaven
With a parcel on its wings
Be careful how you open in,
it's full of special things
Inside are a million kisses
Wrapped up in a million hugs
To say how much we miss you
and how much you are loved.

Karen, Dean, Chloe & Harriette
XXXX

1st Deddington Scout Group Cubs



We started the new term with four new members, Tom, Tom, Ben & Theo, let's hope they have a great time as Cubs. We also welcomed an old friend, one of our former Scouts Olly has chosen to do his D of E service with us. First topic was medals, the Cubs bought examples that belonged to them or their family, we copied them for a display at The Windmill.

The time has come for our annual display of guys at the market, this years theme '2012 Sporting Heroes'.

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

Scouts

New to Scouts this term, Dan, Richard, Ollie, Patrick, Ben, Toby, Max & Theo, they are very welcome, we hope they enjoy their time with us, but we are sad to say goodbye to some of our older boys who did not return after the holidays.

We started the term with The Great Egg Race, the scouts had to build carts to carry an egg around an obstacle course & followed this with a topic on Rubbish. Coming soon, pirates, peashooters, blowpipes, catapults, a county camp & an expedition to Stratford.

The Scouts have been set a challenge, to take £1 & make as much as they can for Shelterbox by Christmas, please support our budding entrepreneurs if you run into them!

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

1st Deddington Guides

AND WE'RE OFF! A super start to the term – catching up on all the news through the summer holiday and welcoming new girls.

Lots of ideas for the future – lots of exciting activities to plan.

Follow us through the Autumn term!

We hope to get outside still as much as we can, before winter really sets in

Guiders Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Catherine Blackburn

P.S. On 11th September 41 years ago, 1st Deddington Guides began with a small gathering of girls with their new leader the late Mrs. Jean Ward, in Maunds Farmhouse kitchen! So many guides have passed through the unit since then, and gone on to achieve so much!



Welcome
To
Stuart Jones and Renna Curtis
with their daughter
Thea

Who have just moved into
their new home in Lower Street
We hope that they will all
enjoy living in our lovely village.

Parking Space Wanted



Does anyone in Barford have somewhere
I can park my Motorhome?

A driveway would be fine, but be aware
It's 24feet long, 10feet high and
8 feet wide.

Initially I would need the space from now
until mid April or May, though it will be
away from mid October to mid November.

Willing to pay.

Please ring Mick Pearson on
01869 337074 if you can help.

THE POPPY APPEAL

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY this year is to be held on Sunday 11th November. Soldiers are still being wounded and killed in Afghanistan. Their families will need help. In addition there are servicemen and their dependants still affected by the 1939/45 war, Korea, Malaysia, Falklands, both Iraq wars and other smaller conflicts like Sierra Leon and they still need your help



Between Saturday 27th October and Saturday 11th November volunteers will be knocking on your doors asking for a contribution to The Poppy Appeal Fund. Your contribution will be used by the Royal British Legion to help Servicemen and their families who are in need.

In return for your generosity you will be given a Poppy to wear. Wear it with pride.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

There is one more appeal I have to make. I would welcome volunteers to collect in Horn Hill and The Green this year. That's about 20 houses in each location. If any Barfordian would like to help please ring me on 01869 338956 or email me on bernard@bernardlane6.orangehome.co.uk

B.E.L.

Poppy Collection Organiser for the Barfords

'Barford Big Sing! & CD'

I never really realised how much musical talent we have in the Barford villages!

The CD we are putting together to raise money for local Barford related charities is gaining momentum with some of the tracks already recorded!

The plans are well underway for the launch concert in the Church on

Saturday 1st December

so keep that date free.

There is still chance for you to appear on the CD and show off your own musical talents.

**The Barford Big Sing will be on
Wednesday 17th October, starting at
7.30 in the Village Hall.**

We will record as many of Barfords' Villagers that we can squeeze into the Village Hall singing an ingeniously simple but musically clever idea put together by Mike Horth. You do not need to be a Susan Boyle or an Alfie Boe, just turn up and sing enthusiastically is all we need!

Regards
Tony Elvidge

CAMP OUT APOLOGIES



Apologies to those that turned up to an empty churchyard on 31st August. Response for the scheduled camp out was disappointingly low - One family in total on the day of the event. - So a BIG THANK YOU to that family who enjoyed marshmallows and a small campfire in my garden!

Another Thank you to all those who contacted me to donate wood for the camp fire - it was much appreciated.

We will try the Camp Out again next year with a possible change of venue/date and will book good weather!

Many Thanks
Sophie Holmes

BARFORD PICTURE HOUSE

Saturday October 20th

HUGO

cert. U

Award winning film set in Paris

Doors open 7.15
Film starts 7.45

A wonderful 3D film by Martin Scorsese

Saturday 8th September in the evening..... Where were you?

For the ones that made it to the Barford Village Hall we know where we would rather have been.... Yes at the village hall.

Forget The X factor and any of the other stuff that is churned out under the misrepresentation of "entertainment" on weekend TV. **Well - you missed an absolute treat.** A three piece band called 'Bushfield Smith' brought us "real" entertainment. They did quite a few (12) of their own compositions and the balance was made up of laid back Ska, Blubeat, Reggae style music. Here are a few of the tracks they covered.

Harvest Moon (Neil Young)
Police and Thieves (Jnr Murvin/Lee Scratch Perry)
Senses working Overtime (XTC)
Walking on the moon (The Police)
The Model (Kraftwerk)
Itchycoo Park (Small Faces)
Folsom Prison Blues (Johnny Cash)

To mention a few.

These guys are very polished musicians that deliver the goods accompanied by a sense of humour that connects them with the audience.

Brilliant night. Thanks to all concerned for organising it and particularly the band, 'Bushfield Smith'.

Banbury Rural Neighbourhood Update

Burglary Dwelling

GOOD NEWS, there have been no reported



burglaries or even attempts to houses in our neighbourhood.

Crime News

There have been a series of cars being broken into in the northern The majority of these offences have occurred overnight but one has happened during the daytime where a handbag was left in full view on the front seat.. To prevent this type of crime please do not leave anything on display in your vehicle. Items stolen include coins, hair tongs, clothes and designer boots! Thieves will steal anything so please lock them in your boot or even better take them into your address with you.

Sheds have been broken into with the following items being stolen, good quality mountain bikes, ride on lawn mowers, power tools and general gardening tools including a fork and a spade stolen from Hook Norton..

Offenders Brought To Justice

PC Miller has charged a scrap metal collector with actual bodily harm after he was involved in a fight with another scrap metal dealer in Blackwood Place, Bodicote. This argument started over the collection of a washing machine! The team have arrested two males on suspicion of theft from Alkerton Tip. During a subsequent house search a large amount of amphetamine and cannabis was recovered along with several air weapons. The value of the drugs have been valued at around £7,000 and included almost three quarters of a kilo of amphetamine. These offenders are on Police bail but will be charged with various offences when they return to Banbury Police Station later this month.

Cropley Music Festival passed fairly peacefully. The neighbourhood team were on patrol for all three days of the event. There were only a couple of minor crimes reported including one car being damaged and a couple of thefts. The most serious offence was an assault during a domestic dispute. The female offender was arrested and cautioned for this offence.

Should you have any problems or concerns please phone the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 101 or e-mail BanburyRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. In an emergency please dial 999. You can follow us on Twitter at [tvp_banbury](https://twitter.com/tvp_banbury)

Autumn at Upton House and Gardens

AS AUTUMN APPROACHES Upton House and Gardens has a positive plethora of events happening for visitors. The list below outlines most of these events and much more detail is available on our website and our face book account.



October 27 Civil War Event
Oct 27- 4 Nov `Enchanted Halloween Trail with Rags the Raven
Oct 27 – 4Nov NT Walking Festival & Competition
Dec 1 & 2 Christmas Market, Wonderful Stalls for All
Dec 3, 7,10,14,17 & 21 Amazing Christmas Lunches from only £15 with waitress service
Dec 1,2,8,9,15,16,22,23 Visit 'Father Christmas' £3.50 per child

Upton House and gardens are now open 6 days a week and will be closed on Thursdays.

The Gardens, shop and restaurant are open from 11am till 5pm

The House is open from 1pm with taster tours available from 11.00 am

For further details call Upton House and Gardens on 01295 670266

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse

YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

What a difference the volunteers made at London 2012 and at the Paralympics too, people couldn't praise them enough, they were called the 'Games Makers'.

It might be too late to volunteer for the Games but it's certainly not too late to make a difference as a **Volunteer!**

If you are:

- ✓ a good listener
- ✓ some free time
- ✓ reliable
- ✓ approachable
- ✓ persistent
- ✓ aware of need for confidentiality
- ✓ not afraid to ask questions
- ✓ empathetic

Then you are just the sort of person we at Parent Partnership Oxfordshire would love to have as a **Volunteer Independent Parental Supporter. (IPS)**

What does an IPS do? Besides make a huge difference?

Parents of a child with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities really appreciate having support at a meeting or help with sorting out paperwork and most of all, the chance to talk things through. Sometimes it takes little more than a phone call to make a great difference to a parent who has worries about their child's education.

It might be too late to be a 'Gamesmaker' but not too late to be a 'gamesend' as some parents describe the volunteer IPS who have helped them. **You too could make a real difference!** FREE Training is provided, so you're not thrown in at the deep end. ALL expenses paid so you won't be out of pocket.

Interested?

For more information and dates of next training course available,
phone **Parent Partnership Oxfordshire**
on **01865 810516**
or e-mail parentpartnership@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Katharine House News

Make a Will Week - 15th – 19th October 2012

Sixteen local solicitors and will writers are generously donating their time and expertise and will write a basic or standard Will or update your existing Will free of charge in return for a donation to the hospice. There is no obligation to remember Katharine House in your Will, but if you choose to do so, the hospice will be extremely grateful as legacies are a vital source of income.

It is so important to make a Will to ensure that your wishes regarding your property and possessions are followed after your death and, if you have young children, to enable you to choose a guardian. You never know when something will change your life so act now, make a Will and at the same time benefit Katharine House.

Details of participating solicitors and will writers, from Sheila Norton on 01295 812161 or visit www.khh.org.uk

Banbury Camera Club Exhibition

9am – 5pm Tuesday 23rd - Friday 26th and 11am – 4pm, Saturday and Sunday 27-28th October, Michael Heseltine Gallery, Chenderit School, Middleton Cheney

Exhibition and sale of photographs taken by talented club members. Donations and percentage of sales to Katharine House.

5 Ways Barbershop Chorus Concert

The nationally acclaimed Chorus will perform a fantastic evening's entertainment in aid of the Hospice on Friday 2nd November (7.30pm) at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, Banbury.

Founded in 2003, the 5 Ways Barbershop Chorus has quickly established itself both locally and nationally as a chorus dedicated to the enjoyment of acapella 4 part harmony. Their infectious enthusiasm is guaranteed to put a smile on your face with a programme ranging from 19th century minstrel songs through to popular songs by the Everly Brothers, the Beach Boys and Walt Disney!

For more information, see their website at <http://5waysharmony.org/> Tickets are £8 (concessions £6) and can be purchased by calling the Fundraising Office at Katharine House on (01295) 812161.

Christmas in November

Hospice supporters, the Crafty Ladies, will be holding their annual Christmas in November craft sale on Saturday 3rd November at Middleton Cheney Village Hall, between 10am and 4pm. On offer will be a fabulous range of home-made items, including cushions, Christmas tree decorations and bags, as well as hospice Christmas cards and calendars. A raffle and tombola will also be held. Entry £1 to include refreshments.

Calling All Knitters!

If you would like to knit our mini Christmas puddings, robins and Santa hats, please call Fundraising on (01295) 812161 for a pattern. Our pattern booklet is also available to download from our website at www.khh.org.uk.

Hospice Christmas Cards

Our fantastic selection of Hospice Christmas Cards (sixteen designs) and our 2013 Calendar are now on sale from Hospice reception and our charity shops. Prices start from £3.95 for a pack of 10 cards. All designs can be viewed online at www.khh.org.uk

Save the Date! 2012 Santa Fun Run

Our third annual Santa Fun Run is set for Sunday 9th December, at Spiceball Park, Banbury. Entry forms are now available to download from www.khh.org.uk or you can call Fundraising on (01295) 812161 Sarah Brennan Community Fundraiser

Autumn Return of the Compost Giveaway

THIS AUTUMN sees the return of Cherwell's annual compost giveaway. Over 30 tonnes of locally sourced compost was given out last year and we will look to hand out even more this year.

Residents will be able to pick up one bag per household, whilst stocks last, from 9am until 1pm at one of the three events being held in October. Working in Partnership with Agrivert, the company that produces compost from Cherwell residents' food and garden waste, there will be over 2500 bags available.

The council's recycling team will also be on hand to answer questions and give advice, along with "love food hate waste" information from the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership.

Councillor Nigel Morris, Cherwell's lead member for clean and green, said: "The success of the food and garden waste recycling scheme is down to the excellent efforts of Cherwell residents. This is one way we can say thank you to them.

"And this year we're running a competition alongside the compost giveaway. It's for local school children to design a compost bin, and the best entries will be shown at each event."

So take the opportunity to grab a free bag of compost, chat about recycling and take a look at the innovative compost bin designs.

Three events will be held at:

The Cooper School, Churchill Road, Bicester, OX26 4RS. Saturday 6 October.

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX15 1AB. Saturday 13 October. In partnership with Kidlington vs Climate Change.

Bodicote House, Whitepost Road, Bodicote, OX15 4AA. Sunday 14 October

Residents must live in Cherwell District and are limited to one bag per household.



Museum First For Photo Exhibition

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC Society's international print exhibition has a reputation for excellence going back 155 years. Now Banbury will be the first venue beyond the capital to stage the 155th Royal Photographic Society International Print Exhibition.

The exhibition, sponsored for the fifth year by international legal practice Allen & Overy LLP, showcases established, emerging and amateur photography taken by some of the world's most talented photographers. The judging panel viewed more than 3000 prints from nearly 800 photographers worldwide. The best 123 prints were selected for the exhibition.

Cherwell District Council deputy leader Cllr George Reynolds, said: "Banbury Museum has a fine track record of putting on fabulous photographic exhibitions and this one will be no exception. I'd like to thank the Royal Photographic Society for selecting Banbury to be the first venue outside of London to get a look at these photos. I'm sure museum visitors are in for a treat."

The Society's International Print Exhibition is the longest standing exhibition of its kind in the world, having been staged almost every year since 1853. The exhibition is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, from 15 September to 10 November. Entry is free. For further details phone 01295 753752 or visit www.cherwell.gov.uk/banburymuseum



Knitting Wool Still Wanted

Any length, colour or weight.

For making into
Jumpers for African children
After completing 38 I am getting short of wool
so any donations will be gratefully received.

Brenda Twigg,

1 Broad Close (if not home leave in porch)
338 313

Thank you for donations already received

Browse And Buy

THE SECOND Banbury Arts and Crafts market will take place on Canal Day, 7 October and promises to be much bigger than last year. The market runs from 10.30am to 5pm at Chamberlain Court Car Park near The Mill. There'll be a host of hand-crafted yet affordable work on display and available to buy.

Many of the stall holders are local including Bloxham potter Graham Mant, traditional green woodworker Martin Damon from Great Bourton and Banbury silversmith Kirstie Reynolds. Other artists and crafts people from Oxfordshire, Malvern, Hereford, and Ledbury will be on hand to display their work. It's a chance to discover, direct from the makers, the techniques used to create each unique piece and marvel at their dedication, patience and skill.

The canal side Arts and Crafts market is supported by Cherwell District Council and the Oxfordshire Arts Partnership.

Films in Bloxham 2012/13 8 films for £8!

Another great programme is planned for our 7th season. We've tried to choose something for everyone – new films, old black and white films, animations, sci fi, foreign language films, Oscar winners. As we have accumulated some excess funds over the years we have decided to slash membership fees so it will be only £8 for 8 films or £15 for two adults living at the same address. A real bargain as it now costs a staggering £8.25 to see a film at your local cinema. Everyone is always welcome as a guest for just £2.00 per person

We start the season on **Friday 14 September**

And when did you last see your father?

Director: Anand Tucker 2007 92 mins Cert:12A

The story of a son's conflicting memories of his dying father. Starring Jim Broadbent, Colin Firth and Juliet Stevenson

7.45pm at the Ex-Servicemens Hall, Bloxham

Refreshments to buy or bring your own

Forthcoming screenings:

12 Oct Le placard (The Closet)

9 Nov Como Agua Para Chocolate (Like Water for Chocolate)

18 Jan 2013 The Long Good Friday

22 Feb La Vita è bella (Life is beautiful)

22 March Witness for the prosecution

26 April The Fountain

17 May The Angels Share

If you are interested in receiving more details of our programme for the new season, or wish to be on our mailing list, please call John Groves, tel: 01295 720513, email filmsinbloxham@yahoo.co.uk

www.filmsinbloxham.net

NATURE NOTES 109

WE ENTERED JULY with little hope and many misgivings regarding any improvement in the weather. And we were right, as yet another low pressure area loomed in from the west. In the first seven days of the month it rained on six; the 1st was dry, the 3rd, 4th and 5th were showery (the latter in the small hours only) the 2nd saw over twelve hours of steady rain, the rest had torrential squalls, with rumbles of thunder in the evening on the 4th. The wind was SW, sometimes cold, sometimes hot and humid. Temperatures ranged from 16.5° to 24° (day) and 10° to 14° (night). The exception was the 5th; an early overcast broke slowly to reveal a rather humid day of warm sunshine (26°) and a pink sunset – a Summer's day!

As can be imagined Wildlife was not much in evidence during these continuing sodden conditions. A Sparrowhawk ventured a sudden dash after avian prey below Steepness on the 1st. Whether she was successful is anyone's guess! On the 2nd I wrote in capital letters in my notes "No butterflies yet (Meadow Browns, Ringlets, Whites or Blues)" which should have been on the wing for seven to ten days in a normal year. Then, on the 3rd as if to confound me, my first Meadow Brown of the year appeared from the long grass in my wild garden!

This first week was observationally 'wrapped up' by a Red Kite soaring on thermals over St. Michael in the heat of the 5th.

The second week was a repeat of the first. Rain on five days; showers and lashing storms on the 8th, 10th, 11th (huge thunderclaps) and 14th. Steady rain for about twelve hours set in at 3pm on the 12th. The 9th and 13th were rain free but humid and rather warm.

Having been at SW, the wind rose on the 8th in the E and, during the day, backed through N to W. Similarly, from NW on the 12th it backed to S. and then veered to a chilly NE by sunrise on the 14th. These vagaries were induced by the passage of cold fronts.

Temperatures ranged from 19.5° to 23° (day) and 6° to 12° (night).

Again, wildlife notes were very sparse, but it was becoming obvious by the absence of fledgelings – and adults – of the disastrous breeding record of many small birds, Tits in particular.

Green Woodpeckers seemed to have been rather more successful. Everyone seemed to note the huge quantity of ants' nests in their lawns, and the numbers of Green Woodpeckers digging them up for the larvae and cocoons as well as the adults.



In the invertebrate world the Ringlet butterflies were just starting to emerge. I noted how very dark (a real sooty brown) the wings of the males were and wondered if this were a response to the cool, wet weather as, of course, the darker the wings, the more (sun) heat they would take up. By the 13th both Meadow Browns and Ringlets were in

better numbers.

By now, I was being amused by the short dashes made by the little Zebra jumping spiders, (*Salticus scenicus*) as they hunted tiny flies that settled on the warm stones of my house. Meanwhile high in the herbage of the wild garden, the silken tents of the much bigger *Pisaura mirabilis* spiders began to appear, as their 'tear-stained' builders guarded their egg clusters beneath.

The first day of the 3rd week, the 15th was, of course, St. Swithun's! Now it's supposed to rain on this day to 'christen' the apples, and having done so, it then rains on the next forty days. Well, the saint did his best for us, and his feast day was a pleasant, warm day of 19° and NO rain, the wind backing to SW.

On this pleasant day, four House Martins were desperately trying to coax their youngsters from 'their' artificial nestbox. It was now seven weeks since they appeared to have settled down to serious brooding (see *N.N.* 107 for 18th May). How many false starts and suspended activity periods (if indeed, these birds experience such phenomena) occurred during this time I cannot imagine. However, it does indicate the terrible scarcity of flying insects through this Spring and Summer.

On the 16th the wind returned to NW and dithered within that quarter for the rest of the week. Rain started again in the early hours of the 16th and continued all day apart from about an hour and a half in later afternoon. The silence and obvious emptiness of the nest meant that the adult House Martins had coaxed the youngsters out into the big wide world. How many? I don't know, but I would hazard that only two fledged. The 17th was a pleasant sunny day throughout and, in late evening, a conversational twittering from inside the House Martins' artificial nest indicated the return of the birds! Were the youngsters roosting in there too, or was this the start of a second brood – or both?

The 18th was overcast, with misting drizzle turning to steady rain, It stopped at midday and a warm, sunny afternoon ensued, but rain returned in the evening.

The 19th and 20th were overcast and cool but the 21st had warm sun with variable cloud and a NW breeze throughout the day.

Temperatures in this third week ranged from 19° to 24° (day) and 9.5° to 14° (night).

Several resident bird species were responding to lost or delayed breeding attempts earlier on. These included Robins, Dunnocks, Gold and Green Finches and Chaffinches, a few Tits and of course, Thrush species, amongst others.

At this point I'd like to describe something I haven't seen before – a Great Spotted Woodpecker perched *across* a twig (a thin, exposed twig at the top of a small conifer). There were many small passerines around including Starlings and at first I didn't notice the bird. It was only its sharp 'keck' that drew my attention. I waited until it kecked again and I then worked my way slowly round for a sideways view. Sure enough, there was a black and white bird with a red undertail, sitting across a twig, its tail in a perfect passerine posture! Its legs and feet naturally, were hidden in its belly feathers. Finally, it 'kecked' again and bounded away in looping flight!

But to return to the last week of July. At last, a week of dry, warm Summer weather! The 22nd was sunny with variable cloud, but a clear night dropped the temperature to a chilly 5.5°. The wind at NNW backed to SW during the day and there it stayed for the rest of the week.

The 23rd and 24th were cloudless and hot, reaching 26° and 31° respectively, with a very light breeze. Nights were 9.5° and 10.5°.

The morning of the 25th was cloudless, but from midday it became hazy, humid and hot at 32° with cloud building and a gusty breeze that struggled to back SE, but failing to do so. A high, lumpy overcast with tiny glimpses of sun gave way to a clearer atmosphere around midday on the 26th, with an afternoon high of 29°. This, in turn, gave way to areas of mackerel sky in the evening. This was repeated on a grander scale after a hot morning (27.5°) on the 27th. An overall covering of mackerel cloud could be seen approaching, very slowly, from the west at about 4pm. By 6.30pm its edge was overhead, and at nightfall, a ribbon of clear sky was still visible beneath its edge, far to the east. From the 25th night temperatures fell away from 11° to 9.5° on the 27th.

The 28th was clear and hot with a scatter of fairweather cumulus clouds drifting across the sky, a lovely Summer's day to end the week.

Through this warm dry period there were, at last, good flights of both the Brown (*Satyrid*) and the colourful (*Vanessid*) butterflies. There were also good flights of moths in the evenings. Two other insects which caught my eye were a Lesser Stag Beetle (with sharp pincers!) and, as last year, the parasitic solitary Ruby Tail Wasp (*Chrysis ignita*) frantically searching old nail holes in brickwork for the larval nests of small solitary bees for its own grubs to eat. This little insect is exotically brilliant

with its iridescent ruby red abdomen, contrasted by an even more reflective turquoise thorax.

Altogether, it appeared that invertebrates were now doing rather better.

A Buzzard took advantage of the recent thermals to soar over Steepness, Woodpeckers were to be seen all over the place and much depleted Blue and Great Tits seemed to be producing the occasional replacement brood here and there.

The last three days of the month were characterised by sharp showers and a continuing SW wind.

Cloud building at the end of a hot morning, in which Gatekeeper butterflies started to come on the wing in my wild garden, produced showers which became heavy on the afternoon of the 29th, with a chilly night of only 6°.

The 30th was a repeat, but the quickly growing cumulus clouds developed iridescent ice-streamers and a much reduced temperature of 18°.

Blackbirds were in a very sorry plight of moulting, two males that visit my garden were actually devoid of any feathers from beak to nape! In contrast, Woodpigeons, plump, sprightly and decadently over amorous, were still building new nests.

Mild and gently raining around dawn, the 31st closed on a generally overcast day, refreshingly cool at times and humid at others. But, it took July to show us that there could be beautiful weather, even in this dreadful dank and dreary summer! Will August follow suite?

Ron Knight

Volunteers needed for Oxfordshire Dentistry Survey

The Oxfordshire LINK is recruiting volunteers to carry out a survey of information provided for patients by NHS Dental Practices. The survey will be looking at information on the range of services offered, the charges relating to those services, and about entitlement to receive certain services on the NHS. LINK volunteers who conduct the survey will find out if the information is clear and helpful to patients and highlight areas of good practice. If you want to help with the survey please contact the LINK:

Telephone 01865 883488

Email link@oxonrcc.org.uk

Web www.oxfordshirelink.org.uk