

# BARFORD NEWS

APRIL 2014

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## Parish Council Notes

The meeting took place at 7.30pm on 5th March 2014 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Bullard, Cllr Eden, Cllr Styles, Cllr Turner, District Cllr O'Sullivan and two members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Best, County Cllr Fatemian and Mrs R Watts (Clerk).

**Grants:** The Parish Council has been informed by Oxfordshire County Council that the grass cutting grant for 2015 will be cut by 50%, resulting in a reduction of around £700.

## Oxfordshire County Council Big Society Grant:

County Cllr Fatemian had approved a grant of £600 towards first aid courses for residents. Councillors thanked him for arranging this

## Members' Allowance Scheme 2014/2015.

Guideline for the Members' Allowance Scheme 2014/2015 had been made available. However it was noted that Barford St John and St Michael Parish Councillors currently elect not to claim any reimbursement.

**Spring Clean 2014.** Cherwell District Council had sent details of the annual spring clean. Cllr Hobbs confirmed that Bernard Lane is happy to co-ordinate village efforts again this year.

**First Aid Courses / Defibrillator Update:** Dr. Oliver Turner introduced himself and provided an overview of his professional qualifications and medical positions held, which includes the current position as Senior House Officer. Dr. Turner was present in order to answer any questions Councillors might have in relation to defibrillators in general. At the last meeting the purchase of a mobile device was approved following a presentation and discussion with Dick Tracy from the ambulance service. Since that meeting it has proved very difficult to progress the matter with Mr. Tracy.

Discussion moved onto a recent medical article that had been put before councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the article was beneficial in providing a more educated and balanced view of the use of defibrillators and the greater benefit of widespread CPR training. A key point in the article was that the most important factor in providing quality first aid and assistance

at a medical emergency is the ability to be able to provide CPR.

Dr. Turner was invited to present his thoughts on the appropriateness of having a mobile defibrillator positioned outside the village hall. A lengthy discussion ensued and concluded with the view that a defibrillator positioned outside the village hall is only likely to provide real benefit if there is a relevant emergency inside the hall or if there was a situation where a Lower Street resident requires the machine and more than two other adults are present at the scene. In all other instances it is generally believed that the benefit to the village would be negligible. In the case of a heart related medical emergency, the number one priority is the ability to be able to provide high quality uninterrupted chest compressions. With this in mind Councillors discussed the potential benefits of offering emergency first aid training to a greater number of village residents than was originally proposed.

The discussion also included the benefits of volunteers becoming community first responders. It was agreed that this would be of significant benefit to the whole village if people would come forward.

Councillors agreed to defer decision of whether or not to proceed with the purchase of a defibrillator to the next meeting.

## 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](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:

There were none.

## Planning Application Approved:

13/01867/F 9 Robins Close, Barford St Michael. Single storey rear extension. No objections. Granted 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014

## Planning Applications Refused:

There were none.

## TCA Applications Received:

There were none.

## Approved TCA:

There were none.

### **TCA Refused:**

14/00026/TCA, Orchard House, Lower St, Barford St Michael. Request to reduce an Ash tree by 30% refused by Cherwell District Council. TPO placed on the tree (TPO 2/2014).

### **A decision is awaited for the following:**

Appeal by Miller Homes – development in Tadmarton Road, Bloxham (60 houses).

### **Any Other Business:**

Although Oxfordshire County Council Highways has outlined sections of road for repair in Lower Street in white paint, the excessive amount of rain and mud means that these are no longer visible. The clerk will report this to Oxfordshire County Council Highways.

The footbridge at the end of Mill Lane is no longer passable as the river has re-routed around it. The clerk will report this to Oxfordshire County Council.

The narrow walkway from Mill Lane to the footbridge needs attention as overgrown vegetation on one side pushes people towards the barbed wire on the other side of the access. The clerk will report this to Oxfordshire County Council.

Erosion channels at the side of the road from Barford St Michael to and up through Barford St John are now very dangerous. . The clerk will report this to Oxfordshire County Council Highways.

The road drains from Street Farm to the gate are blocked in Barford St John. The clerk will report this to Oxfordshire County Council Highways.

Whereas Oxfordshire County Council Highways had provided a re-routing map for the Hempton to Chipping Norton Road closure, one has not been issued for the future closure of the Rock. A request will be to query routing plans for the Rock closure.

An agenda item for both District Councillor and County Councillor reports will commence on the agenda next month.

The Parish Council should distribute the rules and regulations to all allotment holders. This does not seem to have taken place. A list of allotment holders with addresses is needed from Geoff Elliott. The election of new Parish Councillors will take place at the end of April if the 7 seats are uncontested or at an election on 22<sup>nd</sup> May if there are more than 7 candidates.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.32pm.

### **The Parish Council**

### **Defibrillator/CPR Training**

**A**T THE ANNUAL Parish Meeting in 2013, Dr Hobbs, the Chairman of the Parish Council proposed that we should consider putting a mobile defibrillator at the Village Hall. This was considered a good idea by the meeting and the Parish Council were tasked to investigate and report back.



Over the past few months, we have taken advice from various charities and the Ambulance Service, and although a defibrillator and the other set up costs would be around £1,500, the Parish Council were encouraged to go ahead.

However, at the last meeting, a doctor who had lived most of his life in the village and has recently worked in A&E, advised that it would be much better to train villagers in CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) as it was unlikely that many would be able to reach the defibrillator in time for it to be effective. This was backed up by a recent paper from the British Medical Journal, which showed that CPR was a more important factor in saving lives than a defibrillator.

The Parish Council therefore intends to run as many CPR Training courses as there are villagers who wish to take part. These would be run in the Village Hall and would be entirely free to participants.

The Council have been given £600 from our County Councillor's 'Big Society' fund and this would be used for the training, with the rest being met by the Parish Council.

We shall be discussing this at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 30 April in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm and would welcome your participation.

### **Thank You to The Christmases**

The Kathmandu kids home would like to say a huge "Thank You" to Paul and June Christmas and all who attended the quiz night at The Duck on the Pond, for raising £65 towards the upkeep of the home.

Thanks guys.

T'committee

## July 2014 Ethiopian Educational Charity Project Update

I HAVE HAD a wonderful response since December when I took on the challenge of fund raising for an educational community project in Ethiopia for this coming July with my school – Headington Oxford. But firstly let me give you a little bit of background about the project, what I've done, and how much I've raised so far.

We are a group of 18 girls studying geography for GCSE and have been chosen to go on an educational programme, supporting education in Ethiopia. Our project is to help the 1800 students that attend The Hamle 19 school. Due to the large number of students the teaching day is split so that half are taught in the morning and half in the afternoon as this is the only way they can all receive a reasonable level of education. They are all so keen and motivated to learn so our support will be totally appreciated and will go some way to supporting their needs.

Sadly many of the school buildings are in desperate need of repair. Over the last two years our school has helped build a block of toilets and a brand new classroom. This year our time in Ethiopia will be to help with the repair of the library. It houses all the school books and other vital resources and at the moment is closed to the students, due to safety issues, and so hinders their educational progress.

So between the 18 of us we hope to raise £15,000 for the repair work, which means we each have to raise in the region of £1,000. Not a huge amount but still quite a chunk of money and obviously, if I can raise more this would be absolutely fantastic.

So what have I been doing?

Between the months of December and February I managed to raise £309.09. This was achieved by various market stalls, Christmas Fetes, selling scarves, marmalade, chocolate brownies, cake pops, etc. Then in February I did a marathon distance sponsored cycle ride helping to add to my total.

On 10th May I am going to be hosting a Quiz night in the Barford village hall, full details are in the advert opposite. Throughout the evening we'll have a raffle and some other enjoyable activities, so an event full of fun and laughter. Tickets will be available from Danielle, Paul or Veronique Semple. For further information and to buy your tickets please contact us on 01869 338050 or email [vpthimblehall@aol.com](mailto:vpthimblehall@aol.com).

I very much look forward to seeing you on the night.

Danielle Semple

Come and join us at our

## Quiz Night

in aid of Link Ethiopia  
Educational Charity Project



**7.30pm.**  
**Saturday, 10th May,**  
**in the Village Hall,**  
**£10.00 per person**  
**for the quiz and supper.**

**Chilli and jacket potato**  
**(with a vegetarian option)**  
**paying bar offering**  
**beer, wine and soft drinks.**

Raffle, other fun activities, a prize for the winning team and the traditional wooden spoon for the losing team!!

Teams of 6, but if you can't make up your own team we will be able to group people together.

For details contact either Danielle or  
Veronique Semple on 01869  
338050 or email  
[vpthimblehall@aol.com](mailto:vpthimblehall@aol.com).

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

## From The Vicar

**B**Y THE TIME you read this the winter we haven't yet had may have arrived, but just now it's spring. It was wonderful to arrive today for the service in Barford to warmth and blue skies and to the blossom in St Michael's Churchyard which looked and smelt heavenly.

Attendance at the service, though, was a bit down on the figures for heaven. Six souls (me and the Deddington organist included). A pity there weren't more today, especially since we were trialling a new and interesting service from Iona. And a pity in general, I think, since that kind of attendance is bound to mean closure of one or both of the Barford churches fairly soon.

Spring and resurrection go together, of course, and there could yet be a resurrection for the Barford churches (I wouldn't bet on St John's, which is little used and expensive, but you never know). That resurrection will only happen if people get involved in church life and, despite many invitations to you to do that, it doesn't seem to be happening. Barford is showing itself boringly conformist to the way things are going in the nation as a whole: we quite like the idea of a church in our locality but we can't be bothered to show up (attendance) and put up (money).

And, frankly, in the great scheme of things you could say that this doesn't matter a lot. Barfordians may soon have to go beyond the parish boundaries to worship regularly, as a number do already anyway, and to have children baptized, to get married and to have church funerals – but increasingly people don't want church funerals and it doesn't look as if Barford is going to buck that trend. This falling off from communal Christian observance in Barford perhaps doesn't much matter in the great scheme of things because Barfordians will only have to travel a few miles to get the Christian inputs they need and because, pretty clearly, Christianity worldwide is going to remain healthy for a considerable while to come even if the Church of England's corporate presence dies in Barford.

But then again, my leaving the parish, as I shall do in May (more on this next month), could help on the resurrection for which I and other churchgoers in Barford are looking. New ideas, new methods, a new touch from a new vicar could work wonders. I do hope you'll all give my successor your support (turn up, put up) and my prayer is that the CofE will continue in business in the village for many years to come.

Coming out of church today, the view was still splendid but the smell (chicken s.t) was awful. Until I got under the trees and their blossom where



there was only sweetness in the air. Something rotten in the spiritual state of Barford? – maybe, for all the evident healthiness in many respects of village life. But you still have those sacred spaces where the beauty of God is clearly to be sensed. If you are wise, if you don't want to follow the boring script written for you by the spirit of the age, you will cultivate those spaces.

Happy Easter. Happy resurrection (if you want it). God's new life is always available.

Hugh

01869 349869 [vicarhugo@gmail.com](mailto:vicarhugo@gmail.com)

## Roll of Honour in St Michaels

**I** WOULD LIKE TO THANK Jeff Elliott very much for restoring the lettering on the Roll of Honour which hangs in the south aisle of BSM church. The calligraphy is beautifully restored and some of the faded part of the border has been repainted and the whole Roll of Honour returned to its frame.

Your artwork is much appreciated.

Cubby Brett  
Churchwarden



## 1st Deddington Guides

**W**ELL, WE HOPE you did not miss our performance of



'Snowella!', it was a terrific success. Well written by our two senior guides Ellie and Lorna. They also held auditions, rehearsals and organised the whole show.

There were some super performances and a great sense of fun and having a go. The guides were then very busy running the raffle and serving refreshments.

Thank you so much to everyone who came!

We raised £167, to be shared between charities chosen by the guides – Katharine House Hospice, Dogs for the Disabled and a charity in India to build a school for deaf girls. Very worthy causes – well done guides!

Guiders: Maggie Rampley, 01295 810069

Marian Trinder, 01869 340800

Catherine Blackburn, 01295 258008



**CALLING ALL PETROL HEADS - - - - CALLING ALL PETROL HEADS**  
**EXCLUSIVE LOTUS F1**  
**FACTORY TOUR**  
**@ ENSTONE**  
**To be taken**  
**before 31 Dec 2014**



**The enclosed sealed bid form offers you the chance to win a Technical Centre Tour for two people at Lotus F1 Team's Enstone Headquarters. The tour is totally exclusive, you cannot purchase these tickets and it is not open to the public**

**SEALED BIDDING began at the Skittles Night on Saturday 22 March and will close on Saturday 12 April at 7pm**

**The proceeds go to the SPECIAL CARE BABY UNIT at The Horton to raise funds for a 'Giraffe Warmer Resuscitaire – Resuscitation Therapy to High-Risk Newborns'**

**Please complete the enclosed form and place your SEALED BID in the box at THE OLD CHAPEL before 12 April.**

**GOOD LUCK AND DIG DEEP – thank you**

***Barford Village***  
***Market***  
***19th April***

**In the Village Hall, 1000-1200**

**Wooden Planters & Garden Sundries,  
 Beautiful Alpines & Plants  
 all at silly prices.**

**Meat From Iron Down Farm,  
 Artisan Breads, Scones, Preserves,  
 Farmhouse Ice Cream,  
 Fairtrade Items Food and Craft Stalls  
 Greetings Cards  
 plus one or two new ones!**

**Bacon Butties/Bacon & Egg Butties  
 Add a Sausage for a Breakfast Buttie!!**

**Not forgetting Tea/Coffee  
 All at Bargain Prices!!**

**Come along and support YOUR local market  
 - All profits for Village Hall Maintenance**



**The Barfords**  
**Clean up Day**  
**Saturday 12th April**



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

This is always a happy and enjoyable community event. With a bit of luck there will be the usual enthusiastic attendance by Mums, Dads and children.

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

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

Please gather in the hall at 10.00am to be allocated an area for cleaning.

## NOTES FROM OUR POTTING SHED

### Talk by Tim Miles:

#### Delights of the Kitchen Garden

Tim Miles, Head Gardener at the Cotswold Wildlife Park, gave an engaging presentation to nineteen members. Focusing on familiar and unfamiliar vegetables, their cultivation and use, Tim also surprised us with a *Calendar Girls*-style photograph of himself holding a tray of sprouting broccoli, which he'd had taken for a talk at Malmesbury, famous for its naked gardeners.

Tim has had an interesting and varied career, from working with disturbed adolescents on a community project, to posts at the Lost Gardens of Heligan and now at the Cotswold Wildlife Park. As well as showing us techniques for our own gardens, and talking of the advantages of small-scale gardening (for instance harvesting courgettes while they are small and succulent, and prolonging the crop of calabrese by cutting side-shoots instead of the whole head) Tim showed traditional methods employed at Heligan, such as the growing of pineapples in specially-constructed pits. Finally, asked about the range of animal manures available at the Wildlife Park, he told us that zebra, camel and rhino dung are particularly good – not easily procured in Barford, however.

Tim also offers talks on his gardening at the Wildlife Park, so we hope to see him again. He told us of a special day there for gardeners on 10<sup>th</sup> September – see the Events page on the website for more details. [www.cotswoldwildlifepark.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldwildlifepark.co.uk)

This is the last of our talks until the autumn. If you have ideas for speakers, please contact one of the committee.

#### Dates for your Diary:

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, evening:** Plant Swap, hosted by David and Sarah Best, Street Farm, Barford St John.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July:** Open Gardens Event.

#### Tips of the Month:

- Prepare for the Plant Swap – sow extra seeds of vegetables, herbs and annuals.
- Increase watering of house plants
- Start to feed citrus plants
- Sow seed to repair bare patches on lawns
- Protect fruit blossom from late frosts.

Till next time - happy gardening.



'Bye for now'  
Spade and Fork



## 1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

**W**E CELEBRATED THINKING DAY with an International meeting. We spent it playing a game from Africa, making Lamingtons from Australia, which involves lots of



chocolate spread, making Welsh daffodils, and creating our own Mehndi designs (on paper not our hands).

Thanks to a generous donation, Experience Chocolate visited us for a really fun meeting. The Rainbows shaped chocolate truffle mix into lollies and then dipped them in white chocolate. They packaged them in cellophane bags and tied them with ribbon, making them look very professional. The lure of the bowl of soapy water led to lots of hand washing, so nobody got too messy. Well done to Simon for coping with Rainbows and WI in the same evening!

Fiona, one of the Rainbow mums, and her daughter Phoebe helped us make felted soaps. It involves lots of water, so it was fortunate it was a lovely evening and we could make them in the garden. We wrapped brightly coloured merino wool around a bar of soap and felted it, resulting in a colourful soap that's slightly exfoliating. The girls all went home extremely clean if a little damp...

Hazel Neal

01869 337822

[hmkn@sky.com](mailto:hmkn@sky.com)

('Thinking Day' is celebrated annually on February 22 by all Girl Guides and Scouts around the world. It is a day when they think about the their "sisters & brothers" in all the countries of the world, the meaning of Guiding, and its global impact.

The date was chosen as it was the birthday of both Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the scout movement, and of his wife Olave, who was world chief guide. Ed.)



## Deddington CofE Primary School

AT THE TIME OF WRITING we have been very busy preparing and rehearsing for our school performance of Beauty & the Beast. We are all very proud of our school production and we are looking forward to it. Joe Sydenham makes an amazing Beast but also brings a tear to your eye when he sings. Rosie Moss makes the perfect Belle, she has a beautiful singing voice and is just great for the part and Dominik Bagot is just a brilliant Gaston- he makes the perfect baddie and has an amazing singing voice too. I think we all want to say a massive thank you to Alicia and Philip Rumsby who have put all of their time and effort into doing this amazing show for us and we are all very grateful for it.



I have really loved being part of the tech team which as well as organising props I have been part of one! I have had to sit in a wheelie bin and be wheeled round the stage. It's been great fun and hard work and it takes a lot of commitment and I certainly didn't expect to be sat in a wheelie bin throwing out wooden spoons- now you don't see that every day!

Ami Harding, aged 11, Yr6

## Fernhill Club News

WE PLAYED BINGO on 5th march, the following week we celebrated Fernhill's birthday with a lunch at Banbury Catering College which was enjoyed by us all. On 19th we played 'Newmarket', but only for pennies! and on 26th we had a lovely game of ten-pin bowling in the hall.

On 2nd April Kathryn Wheeler will be coming to demonstrate some cooking ideas for us.

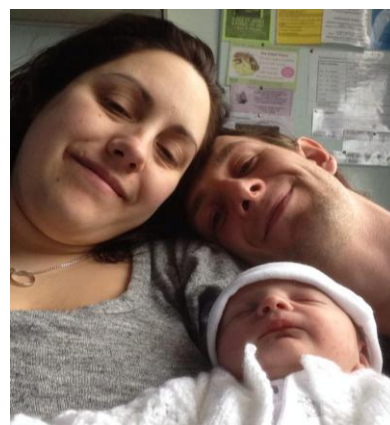
All over 55 welcome to join us at the village hall every Wednesday at 2.30pm – 4.15pm.

Mary Ashbridge 01295 252 298



## Congratulations

To Christina and David Cox



On the birth of  
**Sabastion Bently Glyn Cox**  
On Saturday 1st March  
Who weighed 6lb 7oz

We wish little Sabastion a long and happy life

## BARFORD PICTURE HOUSE

Village Hall

Saturday, 19th April



## ‘WADJDA’

Our last film of the season, one for the whole family. It has a PG rating.

You would need a heart of stone not to be won over by this film. This year it won a British Academy Award for Best Foreign Film.

Wadjda, an 11-year-old Saudi girl living in the capital Riyadh, dreams of owning a green bicycle that she passes in a store every day on her way to school. She wants to race against her friend Abdullah. In conservative Riyadh, we are told, girls do not ride bikes and are barely even permitted to laugh out of doors.

As the first woman to shoot a Saudi Arabian feature film, writer-director Haifaa Al Mansour has already assured herself of a small place in history.

Film starts at 7.45, doors open at 7.15.

N.B. The film has English subtitles.



## ITEMS FOR SALE



**IKEA Black Wooden Desk** in good used condition. It has 1 small drawer on each side ideal for a home office or study desk using a laptop/PC.

Dimensions: Height:73cm Depth:60cm  
Width:120cm      **Price £20.00**



**Hotpoint Aquarius Extra Washing Machine**, model WMA46. Variable spin up to 1300rpm.

Has not been extensively used and in very good condition.      **Price £100.00 ono**

**Buyer Collects      Contact: 01869 338133**

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**T**HIS WILL BE HELD in BSM church at 7.30pm on Monday 28th April. The object of this meeting is to outline what has been happening in our churches in the last year and how we stand financially, to find out what the people would like to happen in the churches in the coming year and to elect the churchwarden (preferably two) and the Parochial Church Council for the coming year.



Please come and support the PCC both at the APCM and by coming to services in the church, and also supporting it financially. You've heard it repeatedly I know, but the only way of keeping our churches open is with your help. There are no central funds, it is up to you to provide the funds and the people to run our churches or they will close.

Cubby Brett  
Churchwarden

**THANK YOU!  
FOR SUPPORTING  
OUR  
CUPPA FOR KHH EVENT  
ON Thursday 6th March**



The total raised on the day  
Was £375.60, which, with further  
donations came to a total of  
£420 for the hospice

Thanks to the cuppa morning girls for  
manning the urn, also for  
providing all the cakes for the cake stall.

We sold 177 strips of raffle tickets,  
keeping us busy writing names  
on all 885 individual tickets!

Thanks to everyone who donated raffle  
prizes, and thank you to everyone who  
supported us and helped to raise such a  
wonderful amount!



### **1<sup>st</sup> Deddington Scout Group**

#### **Cubs**

**T**HANK GOODNESS, the rain has stopped & we can start thinking about going outside. The Cubs finished their Emergency Aid badge & followed this with an evening of 'junk' modelling, producing some impressive models. We sent 4 teams to the district 'Make It' competition where they had to make catapults & then compete to see who could ping a paper ball the furthest. Although we didn't win, the boys all tried very hard & their models performed well.

Next – growing a bean in a jar & cress guinea pigs.

Jo Churchyard C.S.L. [jochurchyard@hotmail.com](mailto:jochurchyard@hotmail.com)



#### **Scouts**

**T**HE SCOUTS have been looking at Fairtrade Foods plus The Commonwealth to see how the two are linked. We visited the Co-op at Queensway to search the shelves & sample Fairtrade goods (mostly chocolate), they had a great time some even having a turn on a till! We also took the opportunity to invest Dominik – in one of the chillers.

Next – survival skills day & Sport Relief.

Pete Churchyard S.L.

[pete.churchyard@btinternet.com](mailto:pete.churchyard@btinternet.com)

#### **Explorers**

**T**HE EXPLORERS are planning to hold an auction in the village & were treated to a visit from an auctioneer from J S Auctions in Bodicote who gave them lots of valuable advice. We hope to hold this later in the year. They will also be helping at the Market with a footfall survey. In the planning stage – a bellringing experience.

Pete Churchyard S.L.

[pete.churchyard@btinternet.com](mailto:pete.churchyard@btinternet.com)

The group is organising a children's competition (**12<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> April**) to coincide with St Georges Day, a treasure hunt involving dragons! Entry forms will be available from the Primary School & the library.

Keep an eye out on Sat April 26<sup>th</sup> for our St Georges Day Parade complete with dragon & knight.

### **Avril Green**

I was greatly saddened to hear of the unexpected death of Avril on Sunday, 16th March.

She was a well known and respected figure in our villages and worked extremely hard over many years to contribute to village life.

There will be more about Avril in the next issue of BN, but for now, suffice to say that she was a good friend to many of us and will be greatly missed.

Mariann



### **Tuesday Lunch Club**

#### **15th April – Menu**

#### **Chicken Chasseur**

*Or*

#### **Braised Liver and Onions with Bacon,**

*Broccoli & Carrots,  
Creamy Mashed Potato*

*~~~*

*Chocolate and Baileys Roulade*

*Or*

*Peach Melba*

*~~~*

**£5.00 per person (Cash on day please)**

**Pre-book by 8<sup>th</sup> April- 01869 337074**

**Please say which main course you would like when booking**

### **200 CLUB DRAWS FEBRUARY WINNERS**

£15.00 No 12 G&F Parker

£10.00 No. 69, B. Twigg

£5.00, No 4. Miss Madge

The draw was made by 3 Rainbows

### **MARCH WINNERS**

£25.00, No. 123, Elliott Dyson

£15.00, No. 120, Angus Norman

£10.00, No. 198, Lorraine Langland

£5.00, No. 177, Mick Dyson

The draw was made by WI Committee

**Annual Parish Meeting  
7.30pm, 30th April  
In the Village Hall**

~ ~ ~

**To be followed by  
Annual General Meeting  
of the Village Hall  
Management Committee.**

These are both important meetings and we hope to see a big turnout at both.

**Deddington and District History Society**

**O**UR MARCH SPEAKER was Shaun Morley, who made a welcome return to talk to us about 'Oxfordshire's Swing Riots: rural unrest in 1830'. The introduction from the late 1820s of threshing machines deprived already lowly paid farm labourers of one of their traditional means of autumn and winter employment. Protests and disturbances broke out, especially in the south and east of the country, often in the form of threatening letters to farmers signed 'Captain Swing' accompanied by rick burning and machine breaking. Protests in Oxfordshire (which was less affected than other counties) took place from November 1830 to the following January, outbreaks being recorded locally at Hempton, Steeple Barton, Bodicote and Banbury. The authorities, thoroughly rattled, reacted savagely: nationally several men were executed and 483 were transported. The labourers gained little, the long-term effect being increased rural depopulation as desperate families moved to industrial towns or emigrated.

On Wednesday 9 April we welcome back another popular speaker, Martin Way. On this occasion he will speak on 'Roses and Castles', that is on canal boats and the people who worked and lived on them. No promises, but if past experience is anything to go by Martin will bring along some marvellous objects for us to look at and handle.

Some places remain on the trip that the Society is organising on 6 June to the National Arboretum, which commemorates all service personnel who have lost their lives fighting in wars from WWI to the present day. Anyone interested, please contact Moira Byast. All are welcome, though Society members will be given priority.

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

**Maggies50  
3<sup>rd</sup> year**

**50 mile cycle ride**



**Saturday June 14th 2014**

**Meet at 12:30 for 1:00pm Start**

**From the George Pub**

This is a circular route with a stop off at the half way point at Boycott Farm Shop near Stow School for refreshments. The ride will finish back at the George Pub. Martin the pub landlord has kindly given permission for cyclists to park their vehicles in the pub car park.

**BBQ to start from 7:00pm**

**at The George**

**£20 Entrance fee including BBQ**

**proceeds will be donated to Maggie's**

**website: [www.maggieharveytrust.com](http://www.maggieharveytrust.com)**

**Set up to contribute to funding into brain tumour research.**

There will be a meeting at

**The George in Barford St Michael on**

**Tuesday 3rd June at 8:00pm**

This is to discuss the details of the bike ride, and distribute maps, instructions etc. For those who did the ride last year the route will be exactly the same.

**Training Cycle Rides**

Just to let you know that we have started the Sunday training rides.

**We meet Sundays outside the village hall for a 10:00 am start.**

The Wednesday evening rides will start after the clocks change to summer time. The first ride will be on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**We meet outside the village hall for a 6:30 start.**

So far we have had a lot of interest for Maggies 50 event this year, and we are aware that there will be cyclists of varying ability. To cater for this we may split the training rides into two groups so that the faster cyclists can get the workout they feel they require, and the newer cyclists can get more support. As with the event itself no one will be left behind on the training rides.

Hope to see you!!

**George Williams. Mob. 07801 956642**

Email [gselog@gmail.com](mailto:gselog@gmail.com)

## Deddington PTA News

**W**ITH EASTER just around the corner, we are looking forward to an Easter Cake Sale at school with prizes for the best themed cakes. New PTA member and Year 3 teacher, Mrs Barber has organised a Easter Treasure Hunt and Colouring Competition for all the children to take part in.



At the end of the month The Deddington Howlers (fundraising jointly for the PTA, PFSU and Nursery) will be taking part in the WOLF run, all those months of training coming to fruition! The WOLF run is a real test of stamina and endurance and should you wish to sponsor the Howlers, please visit our justgiving site

**[www.justgiving.com/DeddingtonHowlers](http://www.justgiving.com/DeddingtonHowlers).**

Registration is now open for The Four Farms Challenge (a joint fundraising venture for the PTA, PFSU & Nursery and The Firefighters Charity) organised by a committee made up of members from the PTA, PFSU & Nursery and Deddington Firestation. Please visit the website at

**[www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk](http://www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk)**

for further information and registration details. This will be a chance to take part in the inaugural Challenge, with courses taking you through the beautiful countryside around the parish. All runners will receive a t-shirt and medal as souvenirs. It really will be an occasion not to be missed, an opportunity for serious racers, fun runners and families to get out and enjoy themselves together in the sunshine (fingers crossed!). Back at the Castle Grounds at the end of your race – you will be able to enjoy a BBQ, a refreshing and well earned cold drink from the bar, tea or coffee, cakes, treats and popcorn. Huge thanks must go to all the local companies who have so generously sponsored this event, County Insurance Services, Hook Norton Veterinary Group, A Plan Insurance and Cox's Garage and in particular to our main sponsors UK Sports Warehouse. Another massive thank you to Jo Watt for her amazing design of the Four Farms Logo and her considerable web design skills to get the site up and running.

Looking ahead to other events in this year, we are delighted to announce that the circus will be coming to Deddington on September 14<sup>th</sup>, a must for your diary. This is a really exciting event for the village, the school and the children. We are planning to begin our circus celebrations with the fete on the 5<sup>th</sup> July which will have a circus theme,

where everyone will have the opportunity to learn some circus skills, and watch some circus entertainers in action, as well as enjoying all the traditional fun of the fete.

As always for any information about School and PTA activities – please check out the school website on [www.deddingtonprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonprimaryschool.co.uk).

Lucie Sydenham  
Chair, Deddington PTA  
[luciesydenham@aol.co.uk](mailto:luciesydenham@aol.co.uk)

*Thank you  
to*

*some regular readers  
in Adderbury who gave  
£50.00 for funds.*

*Thanks also to the six families  
from B.St.M. who made  
generous donations  
for Barford News funds*

Every donation received is put towards our  
printing costs

## Aunt Sally Anyone?



**The George has 2 teams and we are always on the look-out for new signings of any age and ability.**

**Help us keep this traditional Oxfordshire game going, and have fun at the same time. If you think you'd like to give it a go, please come to our practice session on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm.**

**Matches are on Thursday evenings at 8:30 from Spring to Autumn.**

## Down On The Farm

**F**EBRUARY IS MY LEAST favourite month. It is invariably dark, cold, dank and wet; neither winter nor spring. March on the other hand, while it can be tricky weatherwise, heralds spring and already this year the rain lashed countryside is drying up, birds are cramming beaks with bits of nesting material and buds are appearing on shrubs and hedges.



Having the 4031 road closed while the Highways people repair its edges and potholes has not been good news for the butchery although some die hard customers have braved the barriers to pay a visit. It has, however, enabled us to get a drain under the driveway and start to repair some of the water damage using 'scalpings' from the roadworks. Also I managed to remove five trees that were leaning dangerously into the 4031; work that would have been virtually impossible had it been open to the usual traffic whose drivers mostly appear to be extremely late for wherever they are going.

The farming plan for the rest of this month is fairly hectic. We need to spread last year's pig muck on the fields for spring barley, plough and seed them, get the fertiliser on all the wheat and finish lambing.

The latter chore is going well enough after the usual poor start and, like other sheep farmers, we seem to be getting overburdened with triples and even the odd 'quad'. Getting lots of lambs is good for the percentage figures but imposes a strain on the lambing process with more lambs on the bottle and the need to yoke ewes with single lambs so that they will take a spare one from a triplet without beating it up.

Fortunately a ewe's memory borders on amnesia so a few days in the yoke is usually enough for her to forget how many lambs of her own she started with. More infuriating (and time consuming) are the occasional ewes that refuse to accept one or both of their own lambs; a lack of maternal instinct that causes tired shepherds to use less common adjectives.

Another tiresome problem is 'mismothering', which occurs when ewes that are about to lamb decide to short circuit the process by pinching lambs from those that have already done so. When they have their own lambs they then become uncertain as to which lambs are which and may well decide not to take to any of them!

It is a very good reason for constant attention; I recall some years ago taking a four hour nap to reduce some of the exhaustion and finding the shed full of mismothering. It took all morning to sort things out and resulted in some ewes being yoked

up because of the impossibility of identifying parentage.

As in past years, we have a Dutch student helping with lambing. They tend to be industrious and intelligent girls who are training either to be vets or vet nurses. Their spoken (and written) English is superb - far better than a lot of us - and this one is no exception. I write this in the safe knowledge that she will be back in Holland by the time this is published.

Incidentally I asked her why people from Holland are known as Dutch, since those from France are French and Germans are from Germany, etc. She replied that this is a peculiarly English term; elsewhere in Europe they are correctly known as Netherlanders. So there!

Tony Collier  
Iron Down Farm

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## Looking for a New Home Due To A Change In Family Circumstances 'Flo' and 'Des'



**Flo** (left) 8 yrs old Lakeland/Jack Russell. Very relaxed, good with children loves walks.

**Des** (right) 9 yrs old Jack Russell. Very sociable, loves people and cuddles. Enjoys long walks, lives with a young family now but a little nervous of children and strangers.

If you can give either of these lovely little dogs a loving home, please contact Louise on 01295 720713 or 07884 188630.



## From The Fire Station

THINGS HAVE STARTED to calm down now after the hectic time we have had since the beginning of the year with only two chimney fires so far this month. We have been called to a few nasty RTC's (Road traffic crash) one was between a car and a Luton van on the hill just outside Deddington going towards Adderbury. I have been asked by several people why we had three fire engines at this incident. At all incidents we will always over resource rather than under because you never know how an incident will develop and when lives are at risk we have to build in safety margins. To my knowledge we have never had someone that we have rescued ask why there was so many fire fighters there. We had to remove the roof of the car with two older adult casualties that went off to hospital. This all happened within the golden hour, which is the statistical life critical time in which to get a casualty from time of injury to hospital. The van driver who ended up in the field luckily managed to walk away without injury.

We were also called to a fuel leak at a local petrol station. The turnout ticket read "vehicle leaking fuel-1 vehicle has left the pump whilst still attached" What actually happened was the vehicle had a trailer and had caught it on the pump hose whilst leaving the station. The station attendant quickly managed to isolate the pump from inside building which made our job of cleaning up the spillage a much easier task.

We have also been doing quite a lot of RTC drills and training recently and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at Smiths recycling yard and Banbury Plant Hire for allowing us to come down and make a real mess of the cars there. They will bend and buckle them to make it difficult for us to gain entry. Without these guys it would make life very difficult for us do the training we need and they do it all free of charge, so a big thank you to them.

Watch Manager Chris Fenemore has just had his two yearly assessment on incident command and passed with an average mark of 90% which I can tell you is a very high pass mark for this kind of assessment. You have to watch a video of an incident which is interactive. You can walk around the incident and make decisions and deploy resources as you see fit. People play different rolls and the incidents are never straight forward. There is usually someone trapped in a burning building and there is always a moral dilemma by introducing a gas cylinder or a building in state of collapse. Something that will go against our policies and procedures. Our risk philosophy is, "In a highly calculated way we will take some risk to save saveable life. We may take some risk to save



saveable property. We will not take any risk at all to try to save lives or property that are already lost". So a big well done to him because if you don't pass you are can't take the fire engine out in charge until you have done lots of training and re-sit the assessment.

On a final note I would like to remind everyone about the Four Farms Challenge which is a 5k and 10k run around the Deddington parish farms. We are organising this event on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May in conjunction with the P.F.S.U. and the P.T.A. We would hope that everyone in our community will join us to either take part or support this event. For an application form and more info visit

[www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk](http://www.fourfarmschallenge.co.uk)

Crew Manager Tim Parker  
Deddington fire station

## Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

THE APPEARANCE of some Spring weather (at last) has turned our thoughts to the great outdoors. The PFSU children have been out on the school field looking for signs of Spring, and we also went for some walks around the village and took photographs of what we saw.

The Nursery are developing their mud kitchen for lots of messy play throughout the summer! Easter is fast approaching and we have a good take-up of places at our popular holiday club This runs from 7th to 11th April with lots of Easter-themed fun.

Our jumble sale was a great success with around £1,300 being raised for the PFSU and Nursery. Huge thanks to everyone who helped to organise it or who came to buy.

Watch out for us at the April Deddington Farmer's Market where we will be raffling an amazing Spring hamper. We are also looking ahead to the Four Farms Challenge on Sunday 18th May. This is a 5k and 10k and children's fun run around Deddington Parish organised in conjunction with the Deddington Primary School PTA and the Deddington Fire Service. It will start and finish at the Castle Grounds where there will be a barbecue, bar, tombola, cakes and popcorn. No excuse not to train now the rain has stopped!

Lucy Squires  
( 01869 ) 337484



## Quiz Nights @ The George

09/04/14

23/04/14

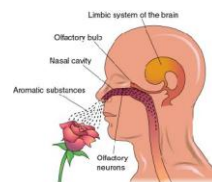
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**Wednesday 9th April  
In The Village Hall**

**Visitors welcome to join us £4.00  
At our WI Meeting**

### **Deddington Festival - 2014** **Deddington Writing Competition 2014**

**This year the festival is offering both adults and children the chance to put pen to paper and create some fiction or prose:**

#### **1. Open Writing Competition (adult)**

The competition is open to everyone with a £3 entry fee (per entry). There are two categories:

Flash Fiction: a concise story of up to 1000 words, on a subject of your choice

A poem in any form of up to 100 words, on a subject of your choice

These must be the author's original work and not previously published.

*\*Entry deadline is Monday 14 April*

#### **2. Junior Writing Competition**

The competition is FREE and open to children and young people in Oxfordshire in the following age groups:

Year 1-3, Year 4-6, Year 7-11. Entrants should write a story of up to 300 words or a poem of up to 50 words, based on a theme "The door opened..." for the primary school age children. Young people of secondary school age may use the same theme, but can also use a theme of their own choice.

*\*Entry deadline is Monday 7 April 2014.*

All entries will be read by members or associates of the Deddington Writers Group who will draw up shortlists so independent external judges can select the winners. This year's prestigious judging panel includes published authors and prize winning poets. The winning texts will be read out during an Award Ceremony on **SUNDAY 22 JUNE, 2.30PM, DEDDINGTON PARISH CHURCH.**

**Entry forms for both categories can be downloaded via <http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk/what-s-on/writing-competition/>. Email enquiries to: [writerscompetition@deddingtonfestival.org.uk](mailto:writerscompetition@deddingtonfestival.org.uk)**

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To for further programme information please visit [www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk](http://www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk). Follow on Facebook and twitter @DeddyFest.

## NATURE NOTES 126

**A** QUARTER OF THE WAY THROUGH 2014! I despair at the apparant passage rate of time. Why is so little time available? And why are we always in such a hurry?

We all conveniently say it is the modern condition of commerce and personal requirement, and there is so much to do. How true.

I am always trying to convince myself to slow down - that it's a state of mind, ease up a bit -take a breather, life is short as it is - and you spend a long time dead. I think that's partly the reason why I observe Nature - I see, and enter, a different time scale, not just in wildlife, but in the skies and often in the weather; talking of which:-

We have recently experienced a northward shift in the Jet Stream and lo and behold, warmer, more settled weather. Let's hope the Jet Stream holds its position for a while and doesn't permit too many incursions of arctic air, bearing in mind that the Blackthorn has yet to bloom (the Blackthorn Winter!).

Anyway, let's see what was happening in *Nature Notes* during mid-February. Well, preceded by interminable weeks of pouring rain with gales and floods, the road was again flooded at Barford bridge. However, after a brilliant moonlit night of 2°, the 16th was greeted by a flawless sunrise, a gentle westerly breeze and a beautiful sunny day of 10° to follow.

At last, Buzzards were soaring with mewing cries and birds seemed to be rejoicing in hedgerows and in the air, everywhere! At night, Rabbits, which seemed to have disappeared for weeks, were again browsing on the verges. I encountered a Muntjac deer near Pomfret Castle Farm and a Roe deer on Irondown. However the night was hazy and the moon had a distinct halo.

By the 17th we were back to normal - a succession of Low Pressure systems coming in off the Atlantic. It was overcast and showery, with a chilly S breeze all day. Nevertheless, the Green Woodpeckers were noisy below Steepness and here and there, Songthrushes were in full song.

The showery conditions (with intervals of warm sun) continued over the next few days, but the wind went up to a chilly WSW. In the soft earth it was easy to pick up the comings and goings of Foxes, Badgers, Muntjac and Roe, and here and there, the tracks of a Hare.

The 22nd saw a change to full sun by 9am, a day of long sunny periods with fair weather clouds and a brisk WSW wind.

But it couldn't last. On the 23rd there was a leaden overcast with stormy rain and a gusty wind, all

of which eased a little through afternoon. Birds of prey were well represented; I saw a Red Kite soaring in steady rain over Hangman's Hill near Ledwell and then another visibly dominating a Buzzard that was sitting crouched in an Oak tree at Ilbury farm! Meanwhile, Bas Butler spotted a female Kestrel in the trees at Barford Farm Shop;

Near dusk, I went down to Clifton to look at the Gulls on the largely subsided floods in the Cherwell Valley. The flock appeared to be almost entirely Black-headed Gulls and after 'sectioning' them, I estimated there to be over 2500 across the two meadows adjacent to the road - their whiteness quite awe inspiring in the gloaming.

The LP systems continued in procession until the end of the month. The 24th was cloudy, with a sudden crashing cloud burst with hail at about 4.30pm. It was of short duration, moving away as quickly as it had come, giving way to clear skies. Later on, I went round to Bas and Sylvie Butler for an hour, and on leaving, stood outside with Bas remarking on the huge orangey glow reaching from horizon to high into the sky above Banbury. We surmised it must have been a brilliant reflection of the sportsfield floodlights and orange street lights on some misty cloud. It wasn't until we both saw on the television, an identical display of the Northern Lights a little further north a couple of days later. We then realised just how brilliant and high in the sky our vision was. We had seen the Aurora Borealis!

During this period the day temperatures reached 11° (nights 6°) but the morning of the 26th saw a patchy ground frost (2°) then 0° on 27th. Steady rain, savage squalls and variable sun characterised the period. By now everyone was commenting on the stunning displays of Snowdrops, not just in gardens but along the road-sides! Crocuses were also in good form and were being avidly visited by the earliest Solitary Bees, gathering pollen, but since the deterioration of weather in the previous week, most creatures had sought shelter undercover.

The 28th was a cold, wet day (5.5°) with a slight breeze from NW. The rain and following overcast had cleared away by midnight, leaving a rapid rise in the R. Swere level, and by dawn, February had slid away on a white frost of -2.5°.

After the initial frost, March arose on a clear morning with warm sun, but having a cool, light breeze from NW. A female Sparrowhawk soared in circles from Hornhill to Fernhill, nonchalantly dismissing the Jackdaws that were trying to harry her. Soon after, a Great Spotted Woodpecker flew looping away from St. Michael up onto Steepness and, all the while, a small number of Greenfinches

were 'wheezing' from the treetops and indulging short, twittering flights to other treetops - and the Red Wagtails were back on roof slopes, winking tasty minute creatures from under tiles.

The LP areas were not finished yet however, and the 2nd was chilly and overcast (8°) with drizzle starting mid-afternoon. Undaunted, the Green Woodpeckers remained noisy from both Hornhill and Steepness. The rain became heavy and then torrential in the evening. The night was 3° and there was substantial flooding once more at Barford Bridge.

Gentle rain and showers were the order for the 3rd on a breezy SW at 8°. Night dropped to -1° Giving a light frost by morning on the 4th. Soon the temperature rose to 11° with bright sun and this brought a male Raven honking around Steepness. Despite substantial cloud over mid-day, the weather became clear and still by evening.

The 5th dawned (2°) on a slight frost preceding a persistent overcast. A clear starry night enticed a Tawny Owl to spend a while hooting below Fernhill. By now, the planet Jupiter was making a very attractive triangle as the apex to the stars Castor and Pollux, the twins of the constellation Gemini. It was going to be interesting to watch the triangle extend as Jupiter moved along his orbit.

The wet pattern of weather and SW breezes continued, but there was change in the air - temperatures were rising. On the 6th a pair of Kestrels perched relatively close to each other on overhead wires near to Buttermilk in mild sunshine, and on the 7th a cloudy start slowly cleared to give a warm sunny day of 17°. High Pressure was pushing in from NE.

The 8th saw a bright overcast with a SW breeze at 16.5° and the Steepness Green Woodpeckers reassuringly noisy. It also brought a Kestrel hovering near the Bloxham road close to St. John. From a flawless sunrise on the 9th, a positively balmy day arose, which was almost windless and delivered 17.5°. A Buzzard moved around the trees on Hempton Hills calling plaintively, and the Rooks were rebuilding noisily and well on Steepness, where their nests had been totally destroyed by the recent savage gales.

At last the people from the Met Office were telling us that the Jet Stream had moved north and we were now going to enjoy more settled weather.

Both despite and because of this shift, the next few days would be colder, dry and overcast but settled. This was because HP was pushing in from northern Europe on a NE breeze. There was also a dip in temperatures. This was so from the 10th to 13th which dropped to between 5° and 0° at night. Days dropped away from 17.5° on the 9th to 10.5° (11th)

but back up to 15° on the 12th. During this spell occasional deer were seen below Steepness.

There was heavy fog on the 12th, 13th and 14th, especially the 13th, with max. visibility I estimated at 70m. On all three days the fog lifted by 1pm to give a warm, sunny afternoon albeit with a light but chilly NE breeze.

On the 12th, I observed a large female Raven honking and flying somewhat erratically and very fast, as if hunting, straight at and through flocks of Jackdaws and Homing Pigeons and scattering them in a panic, just above rooftop height across St. Michael. I've seen the same behaviour on Steepness and believe that it is just devilish mischief - the joy of seeing other birds flee, squealing. I have never seen a Raven capture a bird, though I think it within their capacity if they wanted to, they are so cunningly clever and agile for such a large bird. Thankfully, they have a raucous, loutish sense of fun - I love it!

Next day, I saw a male flying quickly west, and croaking over St. Michael - a mate, I wonder.

The 14th saw the morning fog disperse by about 10am, giving a warm, hazy day with hazy sunshine, and the distant rattle of a Great Spotted Woodpecker drumming near Hempton. All else seemed quiet, that satisfying quietness of feeding together, billing and cooing, starting nests and broods - who could ask for more?

And now, as I write this on the 15th, the hawthorns along the hedgerow are tentatively breaking bud, a few already in 'bread and cheese' ; the earlier Bumblebees have joined the 'Solitaries' (and, a few Honey Bees) at the early garden flowers, enjoying the drying warmth of the soil - now, where's my spade and fork - It's 'sid' month (seed to the non-locals!).

*Ron Knight*

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