

BARFORD NEWS

FEBRUARY 2016

www.barfordnews.co.uk

Price 50p where sold

Barford Village Market Saturday 20th February Back again after our Christmas break 10am – 12noon in the Village Hall

The Meat Joint prize winning faggots, sausages and meat.

Artisan breads, scones, preserves, Cold pressed Oil, Oxfordshire Mustard,
Gloucestershire Honey.

Green Lane Farm cheeses and yoghurts fresh eggs, also seeds, mealworms, sunflower
hearts for our feathered friends. Fairtrade items food and craft stalls, Hand-knitted
woollies and made-to-measure items.

Paul's Phoenix Cards, gift wrap, stationery and gifts

Bacon butties/bacon and egg butties, Add a sausage for a breakfast buttie!

Plus tea and coffee all at bargain prices

Come along and have a cuppa with friends and support YOUR local market

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council - S137 Grant Applications 2016

Barford St John and St Michael Parish Council sets aside a sum of money each year to grant to organisations in the parish for projects that will be of benefit to residents.

Any organisation wishing to receive a grant in 2016 will need to a) apply to the Parish Council in writing, b) give details of what the money will be used for and c) provide evidence of the financial status of the organisation (e.g. end of year accounts and/or bank statements).

Completed applications and supporting documentation should be submitted to the Chairman of the Parish Council (address below) no later than **15 February 2016**. Applications received by that date will be considered by Councillors at the March 2016 Parish Council meeting and will be approved or rejected by them at the April 2016 Parish Council meeting.

Organisations should note that submission of an application does not guarantee that a grant, or the full amount requested will be awarded.

Application forms are available from Councillor Rodney Hobbs, Pear Tree Cottage, The Green, Barford St Michael, OX15 0RN barfordparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parish Council Notes

A Meeting of the Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 6 January 2016 in Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllrs Hobbs, Eden, Hanmer, Styles, Turner, District Cllr Williams and Mrs Watts (Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer).

Paul O'Sullivan: Long-standing District Councillor, Paul O'Sullivan, sadly passed away on 3 December. Cllr Hobbs asked the meeting to stand and observe a one minute's silence.

Vacancy on Parish Council: David Campbell is moving from the village and has resigned from the Parish Council. Cllr Hobbs thanked him for his contribution to the Council. The Parish Clerk has set the legal wheels in motion for filling the vacancy.

Parish Clerk: Rosemary Watts, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council, has resigned after six years' service. Cllr Hobbs thanked her for her support and dedicated service to the post during that time. The position is being advertised and Councillors are considering the way forward in the short term.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 4 November 2015 were unanimously RESOLVED as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Report from District Cllr Williams: The Secretary of State has upheld an appeal by Gladman Developments to build 54 houses in Hook Norton in direct contravention of Hook Norton's recently adopted Neighbourhood Plan. Cherwell District Council has confirmed that it is to legally challenge the decision.

Proposed Wooden Play Equipment for West Close: Cherwell DC has responded to the Parish Council's application for pre-planning advice. A copy of the report can be found on the Parish Council website which can be accessed on www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk. A hard copy of the report will be posted inside the village hall porch. The next step is to put together a small scheme for consideration by villagers and the planning department.

Village Hall Management Committee: The Chairman, co-Chairman and Bookings Clerk have resigned from the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC). The VHMC was to have a general meeting on 20 January but this has now been changed to an open meeting on 21 January at 7.30pm in the village hall. Cllr Hobbs will chair the proceedings.

OCC has cleared the ditch east of the bridge. Despite the amount of rainfall, Councillors were pleased to note that the road has not flooded since the ditches and drains in this area had been cleared.

Telephone Signals: A resident has complained about lack of telephone signals in the village. Councillors advised users to contact their providers, either to get a booster box for their router or to get advice on how to change the settings on their 'phones to connect to Wi-Fi.

Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations: Villages are being encouraged to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday in June. Details will be passed to the Village Hall Management Committee.

Christmas Tree: A resident has asked if Councillors will consider providing a Christmas tree and lights on The Green next Christmas. District Cllr Williams has details of a supplier and costs, which he will forward to the Parish Clerk.

S137 Grants 2016 – 2017: The closing date for applications is 15 February 2016. Applications will be discussed at the March 2016 meeting, with a decision being made on grants at the April 2016 meeting. Please contact Cllr Hobbs in the first instance for details on how to apply for a grant.

Fix My Street – residents can report defects in the highway to Oxfordshire County Council on <http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>. OCC's contractor pledges to fix potholes within 28 days, 24 hours in an emergency and within 4 hours for a severe category.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL Parish Clerk Post

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that **David Best** from Barford St John, will take over the role of Parish Clerk from 1 February (Subject to contract)

We are delighted to welcome David to this position and look forward to working with him.

David can be contacted on **01295 720 566**
Email: davidbest.barfordspc@gmail.com

Rodney Hobbs
Chairman: Barford St John and St Michael Parish Council

Our New Year's Day Winter Walk

The biggest turnout yet, when 65 people plus lots of dogs turned up, some doing a short walk of 1 hour, the remainder doing the full 2 hours.

Very wet and muddy conditions meant that walkers and dogs returned in a rather mucky state.

The morning raised £275 for the Kathmandu children's home, that many in our villages support throughout the year. The game soup, made from donations of pheasant, partridge and left-over turkey proved to be a big hit! (well done Leon)

Thanks to Martin for allowing us to use the George for feeding the troops. To all who helped behind the scenes, and to everyone who came along and joined in. A very enjoyable, if rather muddy, morning!



Above – walkers and dogs assemble at the village hall.

Left: Lynn looking rather pleased to be staying behind to look after the soup!

Right: Through St. John and on to Bloody Bones.

Below:

Left – Soup at The George

Middle: Julia and friend – first home – but... did they do the whole walk???

Right: Sheila and Joyce take five little terriers by surprise with the hose pipe!

See these in colour at www.barfordnews.co.uk



Two Village Events Marking the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty



CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN

Saturday 5th March
VILLAGE CLEAN UP MORNING
Sponsored this year by our W.I.
With Tea/Coffee and home-made cakes & biscuits for all volunteers!
Please join us at the Village Hall to collect litter picking equipment and protective tabards etc.

The campaign is being launched by Country Life magazine in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy to clear up Britain in time for The Queen's 90th birthday, and includes this clean-up weekend on March 4–6.

As the national W.I. initially set up the KEEP BRITAIN TIDY campaign way back in the 1940's, it seems fitting that our village W.I. supports this new campaign, but we need your help too!

About 2.25 million pieces of litter are dropped on the streets of the UK every day. Thirty million tons of rubbish are collected from England's streets each year. That's enough to fill Wembley Stadium four times over.

The Highways Agency clears about 180,000 sacks of litter from motorways and A roads alone. There could be 46,000 pieces of plastic floating in every square mile of the ocean. About 80% of that comes from the land. Plastic takes at least 450 years to break down in seawater.

How long does it take to biodegrade?

- Paper bag up to one month
- Orange peel up to two years
- Banana skin up to two years
- Plastic bag up to 10–20 years
- Cigarette butts up to 12 years
- Plastic bottle up to 450 years
- Glass bottles and chewing gum are not biodegradable

How much is it costing?

- It costs taxpayers almost £1 billion every year to clean up litter from our streets
- The cost of cleaning up chewing gum from a town centre is up to £60,000
- Fly-tipping costs Network Rail more than £2.3 million each year
- Clearing litter costs Dartmoor National Park £20,000 a year
- According to a 2014 Keep Britain Tidy report, if we recycled 50% of items littered in England, it would have an economic value of at least £14.8 million

More details next month.



THIS YEAR OUR QUEEN CELEBRATES HER 90th BIRTHDAY. THERE ARE MANY OFFICIAL CELEBRATIONS BOTH AT WINDSOR AND IN LONDON.

WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO CELEBRATE IN THE BARFORDS TOO, BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER FOR A FUN AFTERNOON.

HERE IS THE PLAN

THE DATE	Sunday June 12th.
THE TIME	Afternoon
THE PLACE	Barford Village Hall and garden

DRESS CODE '1926' Fashion

FOOD...Afternoon Tea (Everyone to contribute towards the tea. Sandwiches of various types, small cakes, finger food, 'champagne' or equivalent!!!) And of course, **A BIG BIRTHDAY CAKE**.

MUSIC There will be music of the period, with dancing in the Hall.

Gunilla Treen and Lucy Norman are organising this event. Any offers of help with food, decorations and other preparations would be most welcome.

Please contact gt.designs@btinternet.com or lulu.norman@btinternet.com

THIS EVENT WILL REPLACE OUR ANNUAL BIG LUNCH. IT WILL BE A **BIG BIRTHDAY TEA** INSTEAD!.

Thank You

To the
 Anonymous person
 For the very generous donation
Of £40.00
 For Barford News funds

Adrian Greeves

Adrian, who loved Barford, died peacefully at home on the morning of 12th January, surrounded by his family.

Jenny, Tom and Becca would like to thank the village for the profound kindness, support and love you have given our family both before and since Adrian's passing.

The Greeves Family

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB

9th February 2016

Menu

Main Course

Traditional Beef Stew with Dumplings

Served with Mashed Potatoes

Or

Baked Salmon Fillet

with Asparagus, Lemon and Cream sauce

Served with New Potatoes

Both above served with Broccoli and French Beans

Desserts

Apple and Blackberry Pie

served with Custard

Or

Chocolate and Baileys Mousse

with a Macaroon Biscuit

Price £5.00

To book and notify us of your choices please ring Anne & Mick on 01869 337074 and let us know by Tuesday 2nd February.

PLEASE NOTE THE LUNCH CLUB IS A WEEK EARLIER THIS MONTH



BARFORD PICTURE HOUSE - February 27th 2016

The Salt of the Earth is a 2014 French-Brazilian documentary, directed by Wim Wenders and Juliano Ribeiro Salgado, about capturing humanity. The Salt of the Earth follows the career of photographer and ethnologist Sebastião Salgado, who has spent forty years documenting deprived societies in hidden corners of the world. His photographs depict the vanishing lifestyles of the world's indigenous people. Film locations include

Aimorés, Minas Gerais, Brazil (Salgado's hometown)

Wrangel Island, Russia (Arctic island), Yalimo, Papua, Indonesia (Yali tribe)

Pará, Brazil (Zo'é tribe), Vitória, Espírito Santo, Brazil (archive footage)

The Salt of the Earth won an Academy Award for the Best Documentary in 2015, several awards at the Cannes Film Festival in 2014 as well as numerous awards throughout the world.

Doors open 7.15 film starts 7.45

Maggies 50
Saturday June 11th
Meet at 12.30 for 1.00pm start

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

£20 Entrance fee including BBQ
BBQ 7:00pm at The George
Proceeds to Maggie's website:
www.maggieharveytrust.com

Set up to contribute to brain tumour research.

There will be a meeting at The George on Tuesday 31st May at 8:00pm

to discuss details of the ride, and distribute maps, instructions etc. The route will be exactly the same as last year.

This is not a race. The riders in previous years varied widely in ability. Anyone who wants to cover the course in a fast speed can do so. The record time to complete the ride is 2hrs 17 minutes. Conversely last year the course was completed by two very young teenagers in just over 5 hours. **No one will be left behind,** the slower cyclists will be accompanied. The main objective is to assist all the entrants to complete the course safely.

Support vehicles carrying first aid, top up water, and stirrup pumps in case of punctures, and they will be able to collect anyone one who struggles and feels they can't continue.

To assist with the planning can you please confirm your entry by email no later than **3rd June**, or earlier if possible. Please bring your entrance money to the meeting on 31st May if you haven't paid before hand.

The BBQ will include a vegetarian option. We are hoping this will also be an enjoyable social occasion, and anyone who can't make the bike ride is very welcome to join us for the evening and pay for food at the BBQ

Training rides, weather permitting, Wednesday evenings & Sunday Mornings start in March. These will leave from the Barford village hall. (times to be confirmed)

£6,072 has been raised to date!! 60% on the way to reaching our fund raising target of: £10,000

Contacts:

George Williams: Mobile. 07801 956642

email: gselog@gmail.com

Tony Shrimpton Mobile 07887 986862

e.mail tonyshrimpton@hotmail.co.uk

Rachel Reeves: Mobile 07914 843429 e.mail

r.reevesserby@gmail.com

See our website: www.Maggies50.org



28th February

**Join us at BSM village Hall
3pm – 4.30pm**

Activities, Chat, Food & Fun!

Please ensure, that for the time being children attend with a parent or allocated responsible adult.

We are currently unable to be solely responsible for a child due to Safeguarding, DBS checks and The Church of England laws for running public events.

Many Thanks for helping us to protect your children.

Ed's Postbag

Dear Editor,

I was interested to read the letter in the last edition of the Barford News that asked readers to support the village shop and I thank the author, who wished to remain anonymous, for their support.

A record 650 pubs and 400 shops are due to close in rural areas this year and village schools continue to disappear at a rate of one a month. These closures reflect a declining demand for services in villages – such a shame. In our own village the Pub, the Shop and Post Office continue, but for how long?

It's very easy now to order anything online and have it delivered to your door. So there is perhaps little need to keep local facilities going. In the case of the Village Shop we are making so little profit that closure is now seriously being considered. In fact if it carries on like this, it will soon be costing us money to stay open! Some villagers may think that we are only here to serve the older generation who find driving difficult and don't have a very good bus service to use. This is not really the whole story. We like to think of the shop as a meeting place for any villagers, somewhere pleasant to walk to, that offers a wide range of goods and services.

Villages in Oxfordshire that have a Pub, Shop and Post Office maintain higher property prices than those without. So if we are forced to close, the villagers will not only lose the Post Office, its banking and cash withdrawal facilities, the newspapers and magazines and of course the recycling facilities, they could perhaps lose a lot more..

I am more than happy to carry on running the shop for as long as I can, but I can't run it at a loss. So if we don't get a few more customers I shall be forced to close and find something else to occupy my time. Your readers will decide what happens, not me.

Best wishes,

Barbara Alt

(Barford Village Shop and Post Office)

From The Fire Station

Happy New Year to you all and thank you for supporting our fire station in 2015. We had 212 call outs last year which is down on previous years but we are still one of the busiest one-pump stations in the county. I feel the reason for having less call outs than in previous years is that Oxfordshire fire control went regional and this had an impact on our call outs for the first few months. The new mobilising system will now send the nearest available appliance to an incident. This can only be a good thing as it means that it is a more effective service. With all new systems it takes time for it to integrate and looking at our calls for the last quarter of the year, we will be up to our usual 250 plus for this year. Deddington fire station has been available for over 99% of 2015 and that deserves a very big thank you to the crew who put in a lot of extra hours to make this happen.

We have had more than our fair share of chimney



fires since my last report. Our advice is to get them cleaned once a year but that would be for light domestic use. If you use it on a daily basis or burn non-smokeless coal, then you should consider getting them swept more frequently. Your chimney sweep will be able to give you advice when to get it swept.

Deddington fire crew have been on call all over Christmas and have been called out every day over this period. We went to a large animal rescue on Boxing Day where a horse had thrown its rider at Nether Worton. The rider was unhurt and after calling a vet to sedate the horse we managed to pull it out of a very muddy ditch using heavy lifting equipment and a telehandler that a very kind local farmer brought to the incident from his farm. The Horse was clearly shaken by the fall but walked away unharmed. Without the assistance of local farmers who give up their time and equipment to help with all types of incidents we attend, we would have to utilise our resources which would add valuable time and may be the difference between life and death. A very big thank you goes to him and all farmers who help the fire service and local community.

I am sad to say that our crews have attended two road traffic incidents over the Christmas period where sadly a person at each incident lost their lives. There is no way to describe these tragedies and the impact that it has on their friends and families. For all the people this has touched, you are in our thoughts and prayers. I have been trying to think of safety advice to give you but feel that anything that I say would sound a little hollow after these events. For now, I will say when your loved ones leave for a journey give them a kiss and ask them to drive safely!



Training has been as intense as usual with our BA (Breathing Apparatus) annual refresher upon us. Half the crew have already completed this with the other

half having theirs in February. Most of our training happens in

Oxford but this will be changing to the fire college in Moreton in Marsh. This is a much better facility and we have already been using it for the past year or so. The brigade has changed our scene safety procedures for highways. This involves different traffic cone layouts including where and how we position our appliances at incidents. The crew have been going to the college to hone these new skills.

I would like to finish with thanking our community for supporting their local fire station. Our parish is very lucky to have such a very valuable resource right on their door step. Watch Manager Chris Fenemore who is in charge of Deddington fire station asked me to thank all the crew for their hard work in the past year and making our station one of the best stations in the county.

Tim Parker

Crew Manager, Deddington Fire Station

1st Deddington Guide Report

A little late Christmas News, in the holidays, 3 guides and a young leader came and helped entertain the residents at Wardington House Nursing Home with songs and carols. They helped with the party food, and chatted with the residents. Afterwards there was a quick tour, learning all about the background work that goes on in a Nursing Home. Well done to Emily, Jess, Connie and Tilly.



To get us going, at the start of the term, we had an action packed meeting of games, drama, dance, music and games. All part of our early preparation for our entertainment, in the aid of charity at the end of term.

We also honed our first aid skills and knowledge of flags, and took part in activities involving quick thinking responses.

At a slower pace, we enjoyed crafts, including making key ring fobs with stitch work and knitting, when those who could knit helped teach those who couldn't.

We've also reconnected with our badge work and welcomed several new girls to the unit who want to become guides

If you are a girl of 10 or over, come along and join in the fun

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Catherine Blackburn Banbury

BARFORD GREEN GARDEN CLUB NOTES FROM OUR POTTING SHED

We plan to have another **members only** event this year in the spring.. The second of a few 'private' **Nosey Gardens** visits.

There is one garden opening to date

If you wish to join us on the next visit, or would be prepared to open your garden for a peek Contact Linda Newbery onL.newbery@btinternet.com.....



A REMINDERWe are visiting **Steane Park Garden** in Northamptonshire this year. The date for our visit has changed. To be confirmed in March BN.

GARDENING TIPS for FEBRUARY

Well we all know how strange the weather has been so far this winter. MILD, WET and WINDY. Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover, chit potato tubers, protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches, net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off, mulch asparagus beds, prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering, divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green', prune Wisteria, prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges, prune conservatory climbers, cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter,

If the weather is warm, you may need to start mowing. Set the cutting height at its maximum, and only mow when the grass is dry. Re-cut lawn edges to crisp up the appearance of the garden and save work later in the season. Turf can be laid, provided the soil is not too wet or frosty. Work from planks, to avoid compacting the soil, then leave undisturbed for several weeks to allow new roots to establish. Continue to look out for moles. Their activity increases in February, as this is the mating and nest (fortress) building season. Remove the largest hills and re-firm the ground before overseeding with grass seed in spring.

Cut back deciduous ornamental grasses (such as *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Kaskade', left) and other perennials left for winter interest.

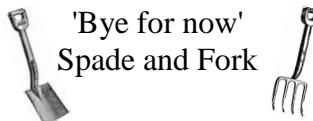
Continue to deadhead winter pansies and other winter bedding. Pansies will carry on into the spring and even to early summer, if attended to frequently.

Cut off old leaves of hellebores that produce flowers from ground level (including *Helleborus x hybridus* and *H. niger*) to expose the flowers and remove possible foliar diseases such as hellebore leaf spot.

At the end of the month prune back the stems of pot-grown overwintered fuchsias and place in a well-lit, warm place to encourage new growth.

So as you can see there is no time to 'stand and stare'...just get on with it if you can!

We hope you will soon be able to tread on your lawns and soil without being covered in mud!!!



Ash Wednesday

Benefice Service 7pm Wed. 10th February St. Michael's Church

When the congregation and choir of Deddington Parish Church will join us for this special service to mark the beginning of Lent.

BANBURY MUSEUM EVENTS

Ironstone Art Prize 2016

Exhibition runs 23 January - 12 March 2016

The Ironstone Art Prize, formerly known as 'The North Oxfordshire Open', is a competition run by Banbury Museum every other year. Artwork in any medium or mixed media is considered by a panel of independent judges with professional art backgrounds. For 2016, Banbury Museum welcomed Finlay Taylor, Senior Tutor in Fine Art Print at the Royal College of Art, London as a guest judge. Finlay has exhibited widely and his work can be found in collections including Tate Britain, the V&A, Yale Centre for British Art, USA, and the British Library.

We are very grateful to Senecio Press and Banbury Visual Arts for supporting the Ironstone Art Prize 2016

Family Fun with Bizzy Bags

*Every Saturday (plus Oxfordshire school holidays)
10.30am-12.30pm & 2.00-4pm £3 per child*

Don't forget about our wonderful collection of arts and craft activities for families with children aged 6+. The Museums **Bizzy Bags** offer an opportunity to keep the kids busy with craft activities inspired by the museums' collection. Take home fun memories, some interesting facts, and your own crafty creation. **Bizzy Bags** include 'Making a Scene', 'Castles and Cannons', 'Canal Puppet Theatre' and for a limited time only 'Multi Coloured Mobiles' inspired by our Frost, Family & Friends Exhibit

I Love Museums

Do you care about your local museum as well as those further afield?

Local and national governments are having to make tough decision about funding cuts. Through the **I love Museums** campaign you can add your voice to the thousands already involved to show how much cultural institutions mean to you and why they should remain intact.

Simply sign up via the **I love Museums** website and send your opinions to our politicians. **I Love Museums** is a campaign led by the National Museum Directors' Council to show public support for museums.

1st Deddington Scout Group Cubs

At the end of last term the Cubs made individual Christmas cards using their own silhouettes, made by drawing round their shadows. They had to sit very still – a feat in it's own right!



We finished early due to school commitments & started this term with three new Cubs, Tyn, Jack & Kieran, who, we hope will enjoy their time with us

We began this term with electronics & are making Morse keys, which we will of course use to practise Morse code.

Spaces are available at Cubs, please contact me if your child (boy or girl) would like to join.

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Three of the Cubs have moved onto Scouts, Ethan, Harley & Ben, they have blended in seamlessly. The autumn term came to a close with a night hike (lost no-one), a film night (Time Bandits) & skittles at The Legion where we invested Alec. Many thanks to them for a great evening.

The £1 Challenge raised £491.67 – we started with £21 &, including a small donation, we will be passing £500 to 'Dogs for Good', well done everyone! They did everything from cake sales to home- made dog biscuits & rabbit shooting.

This term – skills various & electronics.

pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

Spartans Explorer Scout Unit.

Continuing with the Chefs badge the ESU had an evening trying the cakes that had been made while deciding what they wanted to see in their programme for the next term. A good combination

Four took part in the Tour de Trigs. They all completed the 15 mile 'Lite Hike@ & came back looking pleased with their achievement.

We had another investiture. This time at the top of the climbing wall at the Dewey centre, Bloxham. Followed by another one at the British legion after playing skittles with the Scouts for our Christmas evening.

We are continuing the Science & technology badge by everyone learning how to maintain their bikes & starting on a project to help Re-Cycle. Look out for more information about this shortly.

Janet Duxbury 01608 737959.

Christmas card delivery raised £168 towards our kit insurance, thanks to everyone who used the service & to Eagles & Barford Post office for hosting the boxes.

Welcome

To new resident

Margaret Murdin

Just moved to her new home
in Townsend

We wish Margaret a happy time
Living here in our lovely villages

Fernhill Club

Sadly Brenda Twigg passed away on 5th December. She was a club member for many years and will be sadly missed.



We ended 2015 with a party in the village hall. Excellent entertainment came in the form of 'UKELADIES' who provided song sheets for the sing-a-long and a great time was had by all.

All our lovely ladies clubbed together with items of food, this we enjoyed immensely and it was clean plates all around!

New members are always welcome, so come on Barford, give us a try!! If you are interested or curious give Maggie a call on 01869 338938, or come along to one of our weekly get togethers or days out, who knows you may enjoy yourself and at least you will meet new friends and have a laugh.

Wednesday afternoons from 2.30pm in our Village Hall.

Maggie Blackhall

200 Club results

January draw

£15, No.69, Sheila Taylor

£10, No.206, Gill Archer

£5, No.145, Helen Honour

The draw took place at
A Cuppa Morning

Down on the farm

January is a dull, depressing month most years and no exception this time with the short days and constant rain. At least I found a way around the muddy eggs problem; simply leave the hens inside until 10.30am, let them out and collect nice clean eggs. I should have thought of it before!

The pigs gave us a bit of a scare a few weeks ago when I found a number looking worse for wear. We had suffered high winds from an unusual direction the evening before and they had clearly become chilled. A few days of TLC and extra straw mercifully saw their full recovery. I need to erect a screen to prevent a reoccurrence.

The ewes will come in to their lambing quarters soon so there is the barn to prepare in readiness. Their feed racks usually attract rats so we are making a special effort to find their hideouts.

Vermin control is a constant chore on any farm. It mainly encompasses mice and rats, but at certain times of the year will also include pigeons, rooks and other species that need to be encouraged to dine elsewhere.

Our own efforts are supplemented by employing a pest control officer; he used to be called the rat man but nowadays he wears a tie, sports a politically correct title, and charges twice as much. We need his regular visits and signed statements anyway because of the Meat Joint – a not unreasonable requirement of the Environmental Health Organisation.



Rabbits used to be a big problem in days gone by and they have returned in some areas, but we seem to get away with only an occasional sighting. Mind you it doesn't take much for an occasional sighting to become a plague when one considers that a couple of rabbits of opposite sexes can produce in the region of 20 offspring annually and become grand parents in the same year.

Fortunately because they are good to eat and the UK has a high population of both people and foxes, they never reached the epidemic proportions achieved in countries such as Australia and New Zealand. In Western Australia they erected a rabbit fence stretching for almost 2000 miles from north to south to keep the little blighters at bay; an astonishing feat in a rocky and near desert climate.

In New Zealand it took a century of trapping, shooting and gassing to quell the numbers and it was not until the advent of that dreadful disease, Myxomatosis, that they gained the upper hand. By that time, with six rabbits eating as much as one sheep, stocking rates had fallen dramatically.

I read somewhere that the rabbit was introduced to New Zealand in 1870. Mark Twain, who visited

that country in 1885, is reported to have said: 'the man who introduced the rabbit was banqueted and lauded; but they would hang him if they could find him now!'

The culprit is thought to be one William Frazer who imported rabbits to New Zealand in 1870. If so, his punishment was bankruptcy; by the turn of the century his sheep had all gone and even the rabbits were fighting over the next blade of his grass.

Tony Collier,
Irondown Farm



Village Carol Singing

Once again, our chosen charity was Spurgeons Young Carers Service Oxfordshire. Thank you to everyone who took part and to all who supported us, giving us a total of £240.00.

We took £117.00 singing in the pub and £123 carolling around the village, we didn't cover the whole village this year due to illness and a shortage of singers. Below is a letter of thanks from Spurgeons.

Glynnis

Dear Ms Eastwood,

Thank you so much for the wonderful donation, received yesterday, from your annual "Carols in the Pub" in Barford St Michael. I know you have very kindly supported us previously, so thank you for nominating us again to be recipients of your hard work carol singing. I hope you had a good turn out and everyone enjoyed the evening.



Since the change in the Care Act and Children's and Families Act in April 2015, where young carers were given rights to an assessment and to a support package, our referrals have increased by 135%. We are now receiving over 45 referrals a month to our service, which is keeping us very busy. We are working hard with local primary and secondary schools to make sure young carers in the classroom are receiving all the support they need, with the aim to help them reach their academic aspirations and life goals.

Although we do not run many respite trips anymore, we have kindly been offered tickets to Drayton Manor theme park from Banbury Cherwell Rotary club. Your donation will be used to pay for the minibus to transport Banbury young carers to the theme park, for what will hopefully be a great day out. This is planned for the Easter Holidays.

Thank you once again for thinking of us and we wish you all the best for a happy and peaceful year ahead.

With regards

Sarah Mills
Children's Service Lead
Spurgeons Young Carers Service Oxfordshire



Adderbury Food Market

Held every 2nd Thursday of the month
18.00 – 20.00 at

The Institute, The Green, Adderbury OX17 3NE

2016 Dates:

11 th February	10 th March	14 th April
12 th May	9 th June	14 th July
11 th August	8 th September	13 th October
	10 th November	15 th December

Wide range of local producers selling meat, poultry, eggs, savouries, vegetables, cakes & tarts, honey, coffee, gin & liqueurs, preserves and lots more.

Guest stalls provide monthly variety. There is a bar and hot food to eat in or take away.

6.00pm – 8.00pm

A not-for-profit community project

Our extends a warm welcome to the people of Barford. The market brings quality local food produce closer to your door. Details can be found on our website www.market.adderbury.org We look forward to seeing you there in February, March 10, April – or maybe all of them!



DOGS FOR GOOD

We're an innovative charity, exploring ways dogs can help people overcome specific challenges and enrich and improve lives and communities

with Pearl Watts



**Please Join us at our meeting
On Wednesday
10th February
7.30pm in the Village Hall
Visitors £4.00**

Shepherds & Bakehouse Charity

Charity Commission Registration No: 309173

The Trustees were pleased to award grants to six young people from The Barfords last year; we wish them well as they study towards their future careers.

The trust has supported local students to pursue a wide range of career paths. The original funding is invested and each year we use the income to provide grants.

Sadly low interest rates affect how much we can offer and we are conscious that students of today are likely to face substantial tuition fees as well as increased maintenance and travel costs.

WE NEED TO ADD TO THE SUM OF MONEY ON DEPOSIT IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE GRANTS WE CAN MAKE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. THE CHARITY CAN CLAIM AGAINST DONATIONS MADE THROUGH GIFT AID WHICH MAKES MOST DONATIONS GO FURTHER. COULD YOU CONSIDER

MAKING A ONE OFF DONATION?

SETTING UP A STANDING ORDER FOR A REGULAR PAYMENT?

REMEMBERING US WHEN YOU WRITE YOUR WILL?

Every pound received will directly help our local young people so please contact the clerk to the charity if you are interested in supporting us.

Carole Coppin - Barn Elms, The Green, BSM
01869 338937 carole.coppin@hotmail.co.uk

Having Fun, When The Hat Box came to our W.I.!!
Admire these gorgeous girls in colour at www.barfordnews.co.uk





Crime News:

We have seen an increase of crime in and around the Bodicote Area.

In the early hours of 4th December 2015 there was a burglary non dwelling to the Cricket Club, White Post Road, Bodicote. This investigation is currently ongoing.

Between 9th and 11th December 2015 there was a Burglary in Goose Lane, Bodicote and then on the 29th December 2015 a Burglary occurred at Park End, Bodicote.

In the early hours of New Years Day 7 vehicles were damaged in the Bodicote area, this appears to be mindless vandalism and may have been someone out having celebrated New Year. We are working to try to identify those responsible.

We are paying particular attention to the area and have increased our patrols and would encourage residents to be vigilant and report any suspicious activities to us on 101 or if it's a crime in progress via 999.

If you have any information about any of the above offences or have any information of suspicious persons or incidents please contact us via 101 or on our email BanburyruralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or alternatively via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

Have Your Say:

Neighbourhood Watch

Please consider joining your local Neighbourhood Watch. Neighbourhood Watch is all about people getting together with their neighbours to take action to cut crime.

How does Neighbourhood Watch work?

Neighbourhood Watch schemes are community initiatives owned and run by their members. They work by developing close liaison between neighbourhood households and the local police. It is an active partnership.

Neighbourhood Watch schemes can:

- Cut crime and the opportunities for crime.
- Help and reassure those who live in the area.
- Encourage neighbourliness and closer communities.

For more information on how these schemes work, their benefits, and running a scheme in your local area, please contact your local Watch Administrator Deb Hextall at Banbury Police Station, deborah.hextall@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

TWITTER and FACEBOOK

You can also follow us on Twitter @_ThamesVP or on our local Twitter Site @TVP_Banbury alternatively you can give us a 'like' on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/thamesvp>

Thames Valley Alert

Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by signing up at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk

Crime Reduction

For further crime reduction advice you can also visit our website www.thamesvalley.police.uk or call the 24-hour Police Enquiry Centre on 101.

Deddington and District History Society

Programme 2016

Wed. 10 February: Dr Simon Wenham, 'Salter's Steamers and Leisure on the Thames'.

Wed. 9 March: Dr Shaun Morley, 'Custom and Ritual in 19th-century Oxfordshire'.

Wed. 13 April: Dr Don Ratcliffe, 'Hook Norton Lunatic Asylums'.

The
CHURCH TIMES

Bloxham Festival of Faith & Literature

A literary festival with a theological slant



'All the World's a Stage'

Friday 19 - Sunday 21 February 2016 | Bloxham School, Oxfordshire

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sale**

The Bloxham Festival of Faith and Literature returns in February 2016.

Our theme for 2016 is 'All the World's a Stage' and many sessions will explore William Shakespeare's work, life and world-view.



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Daeda's Wood

In 1996, Daeda's Wood was created for us and for future generations.

If you 'go down to the woods today' you really are in for a big surprise, especially if you've not been recently. Please observe the [Countryside Code](#).

Once a nine-acre field of waving corn, Daeda's Wood is now a spread of 3,500 maturing trees; a stretch of path for the less able-bodied to stroll more easily down to the boundary river Swere; a couple of seats; open areas which are a tangle of wild flowers in due season.

Daeda's Wood was the very first in the Woods-on-Your-Doorstep Millennium project sponsored by the [Woodland Trust](#), with financial backing from the Millennium Commission and supporters such as the Cherwell District Council ... and not least the parishioners of Deddington. In order to qualify we had to raise £9000 in a very few weeks.



Deddingtonians - well over 100 of them - turned out with their spades at the tree-planting in near blizzard conditions in November 1996. A few months later, in rather friendlier conditions, we were out there again sowing seeds for the wild flower areas.

The wood's contorted northern boundary is formed by the River Swere. This dictated the riverine nature of the new wood, and thus the trees planted: ash, five species of willow, oak, alder, grey and black poplar, aspen, downy birch, osier, hawthorn, blackthorn and guelder rose. Some of the oak seedlings originated from the ancient oaks in Windsor Great Park.

But Daeda's Wood is no park. It will be allowed to develop as naturally as possible, so expect to see grass and rank vegetation left to provide habitat for insects and birds. As the trees mature, the resulting canopy will continue to change the habitat.

Because this is a developing new habitat, the variety of wild flowers will increase and change as the wood matures. Currently, from spring onwards you can expect clumps of red and white campion, pink threads of delicate ragged robin, the bold ox-eye daisy. Later come lovely mauve clusters of meadow cranesbill, purple knapweed, the scarlet splash of poppies and waving banks of rosebay willowherb. And later still there will be handsome rose-pink musk mallow, white or pink flowerheads of yarrow, and large white umbellifers of angelica. Purple loosestrife add their bright spikes to the Swere's banks and water lilies drift on the water itself.

The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) chose the Swere's banks as one of their sites for an

otter's holt. Sections of the river banks are also home to unusual populations of the Beautiful Demoiselle and Banded Demoiselle damselflies.

There is already a wide variety of birds. In winter sizeable flocks of visiting fieldfare settle on the surrounding fields or noisily in the mature trees. Along the river you may see the brilliant flash of a kingfisher, the flurry of mallard or moorhen, or a heron at lift-off. Flocks of yellowhammer are ever-present; often tree sparrows or groups of long-tailed tits flitting through the trees. Usually there's a kestrel on the hunt, possibly a great spotted woodpecker. As the trees have matured, there are increasing summer populations of warbler - whitethroat, willow warbler, chiffchaff, blackcap, garden warbler. And, hopefully one night, a nightingale.



4 June 2000 was a truly happy day when a Millennium Family Picnic attracted at least 100 picnickers of all ages, but especially families with young children. Most participated enthusiastically in the tugs-of-war and treasure hunt organised by the [Friends of Daeda's Wood](#). The weather gods were kind, the wild flowers at their multi-coloured best, not a radio or mobile phone in sight and, afterwards, not a scrap of litter to be found. On 22 October 22, a second wildflower planting event took place thanks to the anonymous generosity of a local resident. Two dozen enthusiasts (from 20 months to four-score years) planted 600 plugs representing eight species on a golden autumn afternoon.

A second midsummer family picnic took place in 2002 to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee Year with prizes presented by local TV celebrity, John Craven.

We also created a special display of photographs and text which will be expanded as the wood develops. This display was made available for several weeks at a time at local venues and one day events such as the county-wide Countryside Forum and Environmental Extravaganza. Over the years it has been on view at our local school, library and fine Parish Church.

In 2006, Daeda's Wood celebrated its tenth birthday. A family picnic was held on 11 June, complete with tug-of-war and treasure hunt, and some additional treats. A more lasting commemoration was the publication of *A Diary of Daeda's Wood*, following the wood's development from cornfield to full-blown woodland. It includes a diary describing the highlights of each year, features on Daeda's flowers, butterflies, animals, birds and river, and plans for the future. All lavishly illustrated. A 2nd edition of the book is planned for the Wood's 20th birthday in 2016.

Katharine House Hospice 25th Anniversary

2016 marks the 25th Anniversary of Katharine House Hospice, and the Hospice will be celebrating the occasion with events and campaigns throughout the year. To keep up to date with happenings, please visit www.khh.org.uk, or phone the Fundraising Office on 01295 816484



Festival of Open Gardens

We're organising our biggest Festival of Open Gardens to date. If you're proud of your garden, why not open it as part of this Silver Anniversary? Or get together with a group of friends from your street and all open on the same day? We will feature every garden in our 2016 Festival of Open Gardens booklet, to be sent out with our next newsletter. Please contact Community Fundraiser Sarah Brennan on 01295 816484 or email sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk to open your garden
Closing date to register gardens - Friday 19th February 2016.

Care for a Cuppa Week: 6th – 13th March 2016

Why not hold a coffee morning or afternoon tea for Katharine House between Sunday 6th – Sunday 13th March 2016 (or anytime convenient) Call the fundraising team on 01295 816484 to order your Care for a Cuppa fundraising pack or email sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk. Every penny you raise by organising a Care for a Cuppa event will make a tremendous difference to local patients and their families.

Local Lottery. Local Winners.

It costs £5,000 to run the Katharine House inpatient unit for one day. In 2016, the Hospice would like to raise enough money from the Katharine House Hospice weekly Lottery to fund that inpatient unit for one day each week.

By joining the lottery you can make a huge difference in your local community, and you'll be in with a chance of winning one of 20 prizes each week, with a top prize of £1,000!

Join today and next week it could be you! For more information call 01295 816484 or email lottery@khh.org.uk.

Katharine House Hospice on Social Media

You can follow us on your favourite social media channels to keep up to date with news from Katharine House Hospice. Join the conversation – we'd love to hear from you! Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/katharinehouse/> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/khhosp>

Katharine House Hospice Stall Sale: Saturday, 19th March 2016 – 11am – 2pm

Pat and Dot are having their annual Katharine House Hospice stall sale at The Institute in Adderbury. Browse for a bargain at this wonderful annual event, bric-a-brac, donated items, books, cakes and toys.

Items for sale



Early Learning Centre ELC wooden 3 storey dolls house with 2 patios. One careful owner! £35.00
The following bundles, 8 in total are available – 7 member family; family pets, pet utensils, beds, toys etc (24+/- items); kitchen & sitting room (25+/- items); children's & parents' bedrooms & bathroom (27+/- items); garden furniture (10+/- items); study (22+/- items). £20.00



Moulinex deep fat fryer in excellent condition. £5.00



Mothercare – flat pack baby dresser/changer antique finish. Single drawer and cupboard with two shelves. In good condition. £35.00

For further details please call 01869 338050 – the Semples

Deddington PTA

Father Christmas at the Farmers Market

We were delighted that Father Christmas was able to find time to visit Deddington at the Farmers Market on 19th December. We had wonderful feedback from all those who visited him.

We had plenty of elves on hand to help and together with the raffle, the face painting and general donations we raised over £450!

Of course many parents made this all happen and we would like to thank everyone who was involved. We would also like to say a particular thank you Lizzy Wyatt from Wyatts Garden Centre for the wonderful donation of the hamper and the beautiful cake by Sue Brown from the Red House Cake Company for the raffle prizes



School Disco

We were delighted to throw a school disco for the children in December which included sweets, popcorn and drinks. This was a gift from the PTA to the children and they had a ball! There was some brilliant dancing and the kids looked wonderful in their party outfits, it was a great start to the festive season.

Looking ahead

Our next event is a quiz night at the British Legion, Deddington on Friday 29th January 2016 from 7.30, £6 per person (max 6 in a team). We hope to see you there!

I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of the committee and the school to thank you all for your continued support.

Alex Elvin
Chair, Deddington PTA
deddingtonpta@gmail.com

NATURE NOTES 145

My hope for more rational weather over Christmas was not granted! The continued influence of air currents bringing warmth up from W. African waters ensured that the day temperatures for the 3rd week of December were almost constant at 13°. Nights were a little more variable, the chilliest being 7.5° on the 17th, but then achieving 13.5° on the 18th. Most days experienced airs from virtually windless to a light breeze. The early part of this week was subject to deep gloomy overcast with much rain; later on, sunny spells with a little blue sky intruded, and the 18th was wholly thus, with NO rain! Wildlife was very quiet but a Kestrel was watching the ground intently from his electricity pole in Barley Lane on the 17th, and a Kite circled, scavenging over St. Michael, on the 18th.

On the 19th a stormy, driving SW wind with ragged, streaming cloud, illogically produced another dry day. On the 20th, mottled cloud cleared to give blue sky and warm sun by 9.15 am. Then the approach of a cold front from SW precipitated a heavy half-hour rain storm as the warm air was pushed eastward. The temperature fell suddenly from 13° to 9° despite re-emergence of the sun. A chilly night of only 4° ensued.

For the next 4 days, including Christmas, we were assaulted by cold fronts from SW, temperatures remaining low (8°–10° day; 3°–8° night). Rain, from drizzle to lashing storms and short sunny spells prevailed, often with a clear sunrise and sunset. The 23rd was an exception. Apart from a brief cloudy spell over noon, the sky was very clear, with bright sun from sunrise to sunset (max. 10°).

Although seemingly devoid of mammals and insects, this period was very well occupied by birds. The 22nd brought a Raven fooling about in the trees on Hempton Hills. He was harried by Rooks and Jackdaws and disappeared quite quickly. Many smaller birds took advantage of the 24th :– small flocks of Long-tailed Tits (usually 8 to 10 birds) along the hedgerows; small flocks of Fieldfares ‘chacking’ and even smaller numbers of Redwings ‘queeking’ around the parish; a Kite scavenging around sheep below Steepness, and a beautiful pair of Kestrels watching from roadside trees towards Ilbury. Very satisfying!

On the 27th the weather had returned to gloomy, misty rain and drizzle on a WSW breeze. It was mild (12°) but by now the land was a quagmire of water filled hollows and hoof prints – but it didn’t deter that poor hungry Kestrel from his Barley Lane pole, watching through the rain for prey in the mud and grass.

The 28th was a better day and, at last, revealed two fine Roe deer, plus a Fox, at the top of Irondown. The 29th was a glorious day of sun, despite cloud starting to build from SW from mid-afternoon. Birds revelled in the weather – there were 9 Canada Geese, 1 Mute Swan (an old familiar) and a Heron at the manor; a Buzzard opposite the Airfield Main-gate; a Kestrel along Barley Lane and another below Hempton near

Snakehill; 130 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, 12 Herring Gulls, but only about 10 Black Headed Gulls also beside Snakehill; a Raven below Hempton; the usual small flocks of Fieldfares and Long-tailed Tits; and – especially in my eyes – there was a female Grey Wagtail skipping about close to the Sewerage main-gate!

And so December – and 2015 – slid away under a lumpy overcast, quite mild, with a little sun, and on a SW breeze.

Welcome 2016! a white frost, very still, overall sky haze, then a pale sunrise – that’s better! But it quickly clouded over followed by day-long rain. All very depressing, and the 3rd was the 8 hour bird count for the Banbury Ornithological Society! This takes place every year on allocated 10km by 10km squares across the 1200 sq. km. of the B.O.S area. Bas Butler, Ian Hobday and myself (usually with one or two friends) carry it out every year. Our square is Ordnance Survey SP43 with the Barfords not too far from the centre. So off we went in rain and stiff SE breeze from the Green at St. Michael at 8am to sample the Barfords, from footpaths and occasionally elsewhere with land owners’ permission. The rain and wind together hammered us, but we completed the Barfords by about 10am with, unbelievably, about 45 species! These included quite good sightings – Snipe, Lapwing, Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Jays, Ravens and a Redpoll – but especially, a Woodcock, and the now very rare Willow Tit!

We then moved on to Broughton, where we noted a Mistle Thrush (aptly the ‘Stormcock’) in full song, and then to Bodicote to list Coot and Little Grebe, plus two Red-legged Partridge.

And so, to finish up, down to Souldern Wharf and the Cherwell Valley. We were well rewarded with 8 species of wildfowl (including more Canada Geese plus many Greylag Geese) on the wonderful expanse of floodwater, and bordering the floods, more Lapwing plus a nice flock of Golden Plover .

As the rain eased on a drowned world, we started to make our way back beside the amazing Cherwell water-meadows at about 3.30pm, to arrive at the cars around 4 o’clock, looking forward to no rain and no wind – and a hot meal – Thank you ladies! As we checked our listed observations, we realised we had encountered an amazing (for our Short Day Count) 62 species!

In addition to the birds, we also encountered at least 4 pairs of Roe deer in our square, but they were the only mammals we saw.

The 4th of January was mainly windless with occasional light SW airs and a few showers. This brought a Kite over St. Michael about 8am, then after dark, a Tawny Owl set to hooting below Steepness.

A seemingly endless procession of Atlantic Low Pressure areas now set in. Temperatures started to fall away under very still conditions promoting sky haze. This dropped as mist, becoming moderate fog on the 6th, with a biting breeze rising from NNW in mid-morning. Even so, it remained misty – a cold, deeply gloomy day.

Overnight rain preceded bright sun until a little before noon on the 7th. Suddenly a crashing downpour exploded, and for about 35 minutes washed out everything! From SW, it ceased just as suddenly, to give an afternoon of sun! During this a Green Woodpecker took to calling below Steepness, and a Buzzard, resting from pulling up worms, sat hunched in the roadside hedgerow just Barford-side of Bloxham. A cold night followed with a white frost at -1.5° in the morning. After a clear sunrise, broken cloud developed on a light SW breeze for the rest of the day, at 7°. The Tawny owl had another hooting session below Steepness at 7pm until the night became cold and wet.

The 9th dawned on stormy cloud from SSW and, slowly improving, produced sun by 11.30 and a temperature of 8°. As usual, afternoon rain spoiled this, but it cleared by evening to give a night of 2°. In the twilight, as I drove south along the A4260 near Wyatt's Barn at Adderbury, I saw the silhouette of a Kestrel hovering about 6m above the centre of this busy road. What horrific risk – the bird must have been starving!

The 10th was a mirror image weatherwise, followed by another cold, wet night. On the 11th, a dry day with little sun, but an angry red sunset, I again drove along the A4260 in twilight near Adderbury, and again encountered the Kestrel. It was hovering above the road, just as before!

The 12th was another day with a clear sunrise that descended into showery spells. However, it produced a very strange weather effect near

sunset, very visible from Banbury and also well seen from the Barfords. A massive horizon to horizon belt of heavy cloud stretched across Banbury west to east. The northern edge was not visible, but the southern edge, directly over Banbury, was sharply defined, as if cut with a knife. The blackness of this formation was so starkly contrasted with the clear sky and colours of the sinking sun, that it was weird and unpleasant.

The 13th, were it not for the bitter NW breeze, would have been a beautiful day. Starting with a blazing scarlet sunrise, it was dry, with sun through variable cloud until it closed on a Yellow sunset. This was followed (inevitably, it seems) by showery rains at night, but not before the darkness and intense brilliance of the stars was displayed.

The 14th was grey and showery on a NW breeze. The cloud broke about 1.30pm to give a sunny afternoon at 3.5°. A flawless sunset followed by a black night, highlighted a Barn Owl quartering the A361 verge, east of Over Norton Common, in my headlights.

After a cold night of -1°, the 15th dawned on a light fall of snow (about 8mm). A bitter NW wind cleared most cloud shortly after sunrise, to give a bright, sunny day at 4°.

Now, as I close these *Nature Notes* on the 16th, it has been a deep frost of -2.5°, and I am looking at a flawless sunrise.

How good it feels to have some wintry weather at last!

Ron Knight

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Meet Victoria

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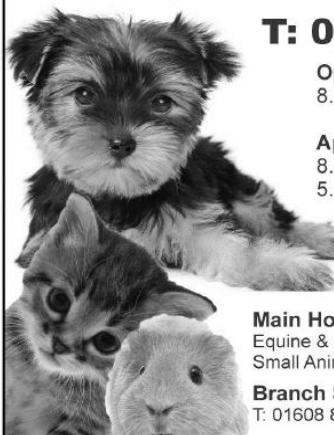
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Church services

Church of England February

6th 10.30 Family Service BSM
 10th 7pm Ash Wednesday Benefice Service BSM
 13th 9.00 Holy Communion BSM
 20th 4.00 Evening Prayer BSM
 27th 9.00 Holy Communion BSM

For details of Deddington and Hempton services phone
 Revd Annie Goldthorp, Vicar, Deddington with Barford,
 Clifton and Hempton on 01869 336880, email
anngoldthorp@yahoo.co.uk

Deddington Library (338391) Opening hours

Monday & Thursday 2pm – 5pm, 5.30pm – 7pm
Wednesday 9.30am – 1pm
Tuesday and Friday – CLOSED
Saturday 9.30am – 1pm

Methodist Chapel

For details of services contact:
 Mr Robbie Pilkington
 01295 811367

Roman Catholic

Holy Trinity Catholic Church,
 26 London Road, Chipping Norton, OX5 5AX
 Phone: 01608 642703
 Parish Priest: Father Tony Joyce
 Email: holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com

Masses:

Saturday - 6pm Vigil Mass
 Sunday - 10.30am Mass
 Weekdays Normally 9.15am, can be subject to change

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Deddington Farmers' Market

Fourth Saturday of each month
 (Third Saturday in December)
9am to 12.30pm

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 Mushrooms, fish, ,honey,
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**Details of rates from the booking secretary –
 Jess Romain on 01869 338 772**

Any day before 8pm

Police contact numbers

In an emergency call 999
 Non-emergencies call 101
 Textphone 18000
 Banbury office 01295 754 541
 Thames Valley Crimestoppers 0800 555 111



Diary dates to the editor by 15th of each month please

Regular weekly/monthly events

Mondays	Mobile library (alt. weeks) Brownies (Deddington)
Tuesdays	Boys Brigade band practice Guides (Deddington) Pool night (George)
Wednesdays	Carpet bowls – Sept - Mar Fernhill Club Pub quiz night (George) 1 st week parish council (not August) 2 nd week W.I. meeting 2 nd week – Deddington History Soc. Boys Brigade (Deddington)
Thursdays	Aunt Sally (George) Open cuppa mornings Cubs (Deddington) Scouts (Deddington)
Fridays	Rainbows Whist alternate weeks
Saturdays	Village Market 3 rd week (not Jan or Aug)

3rd Wednesday Village Hall Management Committee

Diary dates

February

9th Tuesday Lunch Flub
10th – Dogs For Good , W.I.
11th Adderbury Food Market
15th – Parish Council Grants – closing date
20th – Village Market resumes
27th Picturer House – The Salt of the Earth
28th - Messy Church

March

5th Village Clean Up Day

Barford News
Copy deadline 15th of each month

Editor: Mariann Young 01869 338 570
barfordnews@gmail.com
mariann.young@btinternet.com

Treasurer and adverts: Caroline Bird
 01869 338 630
Caroline.Bird@sectormarketing.co.uk

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Thursday - Heyfordian No.90
Revised service times
Dep. B St M 10.10am - Dep. Banbury 13.15pm

Barford St. John and St. Michael Parish Council

Clerk: - David Best
 Street Farm
 Barford St. John
 OX15 0PR
 01295 720566
davidbest.barfordspc@gmail.com

Chairman: Dr R. Hobbs, 01869 338 078
 Councillors: Mrs. S. Best, 01295 720 566
 Mr. P. Eden 01869 338 835
 Mrs. L. Styles, 01869 336 245
 Mrs. S. Turner, 01869 337 228
 Mr S Hanmer, 01869 337208

Parish Council meetings in the Village Hall. 1st Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm.
 There is a ten minute space for public participation.

CDC website: www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk – Parish Council minutes at www.cherwell-local.com