

# **BARFORD NEWS**

**JANUARY 2021**  
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**Wishing you and yours and very happy,  
healthy and peaceful 2021**

**From The Barford News Team**

## MEMORIES OF TONY COLLIER

15<sup>th</sup> July 1937 – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **An Extract From January 2019 Article – A lovely man, who will be sadly missed**

I feel fortunate to have witnessed the changes in agriculture from reaper binder and threshing machine to the combine harvester and all the other advancements over the decades.

My Grandfather had one of the first tractors on the Yorkshire Wolds. It was a Fordson, and jealous neighbours said he only got it for the wartime petrol allowance.

Later he added an American built Case tractor under the Lease-Lend arrangement; it was an orange colour with wide mud wings and a hand operated clutch.

Not long after my eighth birthday he hitched a roller to the Case and took me with him to roll a twenty acre field seeded to grass. I sat on the mud wing while he rolled the headland and then, to my surprise, he sat me in the seat and showed me how to operate the controls and make the turns. After a couple of these he muttered: 'you'll do: I'll bring you a sandwich at lunchtime'. And to my astonishment he jumped off the tractor and I watched his retreating back as he walked across the field to the farmyard.

The terror of advancing headland hedgerows slowly passed; there was no power steering in those days and it took all my strength to make the turns. It was tedious work; the roller was an old converted horse roller not much more than 2 metres wide and with the shafts bent together and a tractor drawbar bolted to the ends. It seemed the field would go on forever.

By lunchtime I advanced the accelerator a couple of notches to speed things up whereupon Grandfather arrived and shouted at me to slow down: "you are going too fast to let the roller do its job", he yelled. And he stormed off, forgetting to give me the promised sandwiches. By three o'clock an East wind had sprung up and I was chilled to the marrow. That evening I was slowly thawing out by the kitchen range when I heard my mother, who had been away for the day, giving Grandfather a

piece of her mind. 'The little beggar would only have wandered about getting into mischief', he retorted. 'So, I put him on the tractor, so I knew where he was.'

I rolled a field of my own last autumn with an eight-metre-wide roller and a tractor with cab, heater and power steering. At the speed dictated by my Grandfather all those years ago (and never forgotten) it took just over two hours.

Tony Collier  
Iron Down Farm

### **QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS with Tony Collier From December 2017 Barford News Quoted by the vicar at Tony's Funeral Service**

#### **Guilty pleasure?**

Glass of malt whisky and a good Trad Jazz band

#### **Who would play you in a movie of your life?**

Stephanie reckons Tony Hancock, her brother thinks Benny Hill, but I plump for John Cleese

#### **Biggest bug bear?**

BBC News: I just need to know what is happening in the world without a succession of opinionated 'experts' who translate it to their own agenda

#### **Dream dinner party guests?**

England Rugby Union team

#### **Advice to teenage self?**

Go easy on the electronic gadgetry, see and hear what is going on around you – get a life!

#### **Cat or dog?**

Dog, preferably a Border Collie (sorry Bonnie – our Jack Russell!)

#### **Top of your bucket list?**

Trans-Siberian railway or Machu Picchu, Peru

#### **Where would you time-travel to?**

Back to the swinging sixties please

**Happiness is...**Wherever you care to look for it.



**JIM BOOTH**  
**11<sup>th</sup> October 1963 – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

Jim was the only child of Joe and Margery Booth. He grew up in Oxford, first in a flat on the Banbury Road, then in a house on Sunderland Avenue.

He went to St Phillips and St James Primary School, followed by New College prep school then Magdalen College School. As an only child, Jim made many life-long friends at school and found his love of walking there as well as cementing his passion for rugby. He rebelled against the “Oxford” life, seeking jobs on the doors of the city’s night clubs then on to the building sites of the area. In due course, he decided to study town planning at South Bank Polytechnic.

Once in London, through rugby, rugby netball and music, as well as his course, he forged solid friendships that stood the test of time. He house-shared with a group of Australians and New Zealanders for a while which would lead to his adventures Down Under. It was also during his time here that he sustained a permanent leg injury, resulting in his wearing his distinctive bandage, often seen in the summer months.

He graduated in 1989 and took off on his travels, spending a year working and travelling in Australia, living in the Sydney suburb of Balmain where he discovered the distinctive orange and black kit of the Tigers, and returning home via Russia and China on the Trans-Siberian.

Returning to the UK in 1991 he worked in the building trade and recruitment until he found a job working for his first water treatment company, Housemans, via his best friend. During this time we also met at a gig with mutual friends and starting dating.

After a couple of years in various rental flats, we bought our first home in 1996, in Peckham. Jim continued playing rugby and working for the water treatment industry in London until 2001. By this time, I was expecting Ella, and after much discussion about the destination, we left London and moved to Oxfordshire, first renting for 6 months in Banbury, before moving to Two Ways in Barford St Michael. After a couple of years, managing some contracts in London and doing a weekly commute, Jim retrained as a building site carpenter, working for himself and various building companies in Oxfordshire. He then did a stint at the BMW plant in Oxford, before returning to the water treatment industry, where he continued to work up until shortly before his cancer diagnosis in November last year.

Moving to Barford was one of the best moves we made and the village has become home. Jim was a regular in The George, where he enjoyed a good pint and a laugh. He played Aunt Sally for one of the pub teams for many years, as well as being part of the Village Hall Management Committee for a while. He loved being asked to take care of friends’ dogs, and earlier on enjoyed his morning walks to the farm shop for his daily paper and a catch up with one neighbour, friend or fellow Barfordian or other.

When his diagnosis eventually came, he faced it with humour, pragmatism and a concern for those around him, rather than for himself, and was still smiling and joking even at the end.

Jim was a big bear of a man, with a hearty laugh, a warm smile and always the time to talk to people. He was a loyal friend who accepted people for whom they were, unless you tried to over-charge for a taxi, a pint or a small plate of food. His passion for rugby, politics and social injustice was well known, but he was always modest and humble about his skills and personal qualities.

He was a very proud Dad, a loving husband, a solid friend, a hard-working, just and kind colleague and a gentleman. He leaves a big Jim shaped hole in the lives of all those who loved and knew him.

*Ella and I would like to thank everyone who turned out on the day of his funeral, to pay their respects and to say goodbye, and for the cards and messages of condolence. It has given us a great deal of comfort to know how much love and affection was felt for both Jim and for us.*



**Aggie**

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

A meeting of the Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 using Zoom Video Conferencing and was attended by Cllrs Turner, Hobbs, Eden, Cox, Charman, Best, Cosgrove, District Cllr B Williams, County Cllr Fatemian and Mr Best, (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Five members of the public attended the meeting.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were a true and accurate record (unanimous).

### **Report from County Councillor Arash Fatemian:**

**The Oxfordshire County Council budget** – work on this has halted temporarily.

**Oxfordshire County Council Track and Trace** – The follow up of people by OCC who couldn't be traced by the national programme has been highly successful. Approximately 800 people who could not be traced by the national team were referred to OCC. Approximately 500 of those were traced by the local team the rest are students.

### **Report from District Councillor Bryn Williams:**

Cherwell district has come out of lockdown into tier 2 and the number of infections is reducing. A local testing station has been set up in Wood Green Leisure Centre. There are still some District Council funds available to support COVID\_19 initiatives.

### **Public Participation:**

Five members of the public attended the meeting with an interest in the Mead Farm Planning application (reference 20/03053/F). Mr Richard Warner, representing the applicant, reiterated that plans had been scaled back and they have tried to alleviate concerns with the previous application. Two members of the public who keep horses at the current livery facility advised the Parish Council that the facility provides reasonably priced livery to local residents. They confirmed that they had never had any issues with the Mead Road junction either on horseback or driving trailers in or out. Councillors asked about the floodlights and Mr Richard Warner advised that they had never received any complaints on the current floodlights in the last 20 years and that people using the facility normally leave by 6.30-7.00pm. Another member of the public was interested whether there would be increased traffic with 12 new stables as the stable owners would probably want to rent out all of them

to recover the building costs as it is believed that the current stables are not rented out to capacity.

### **Parish Matters:**

**Mobile Post Office** – The telephone line for the post office in the Village Hall has been installed and the post office will open Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Dog Bin Opposite Church** – The clerk has put in a new post as Cherwell District Council had not been out to repair it and people were leaving poo bags by the side of the bin.

**Bottle Bank relocation** – No suggested locations have been received via the village Whats App group. The clerk received a suggestion that Cherwell are asked to collect bottles from houses with the recycling collection. The clerk has asked Cherwell Environmental services but has not received a response.

**External Audit of 2019-20 Accounts** – The clerk has received confirmation that the accounts were in accordance with the Proper Practices.

**Christmas Tree Lights on The Green** – The battery power supply was connected on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, but the lights did not illuminate. It is believed that the timer is faulty. This will be checked, and it was agreed that a replacement will be purchased if needed.

### **Planning:**

20/02654/F – 20 Broad Close – Cherwell Planning decision – Permitted on 23/11/2020.

20/02909/F – 1 Red Roofs – The Parish Council voted to support the application.

20/03503/F – Mead Farm – The Parish Council voted to support the application (majority in favour with one Councillor abstaining as a neighbour of the applicant) but with strong reservations on road safety and floodlights.

### **Finance:**

**Payments** - The Clerk sought approval for payments totalling £2,174.27. This was agreed unanimously. £1,422 of this expenditure is for the Village Hall which will be repaid from a grant from Viridor.

**2021-22 Budget** - The draft budget was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Highlights of the budget were presented. The Excess of Income over expenditure at the end of the next financial year is forecast to be £353 with an increase in the Precept of £250 (2.6%) to £10,000. The budget and the precept increase were agreed by a majority vote.

**Next Meeting:**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall if restrictions have been lifted or by video conferencing if they are still in place.

Please note that this is a summary of the minutes from the meeting. The full minutes can be viewed in the Parish Council noticeboards or at [www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk](http://www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk) in the Parish Council meetings page.

Members of the public wishing to attend video conferencing meetings are reminded that they should email the Clerk [davidbest.bardfordspc@gmail.com](mailto:davidbest.bardfordspc@gmail.com) who will email back the log-in details.



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## DECEMBER Draw

£100, 150, Jenny Pietruszkiewicz  
 £50, 077, Ann Beesley  
 £25, 175, John Langland  
 £15, 103, Wolfgang Alt  
 £10, 005, Robin Cox  
 £5, 104, Barbara Alt

the draw took place at the  
 Thursday Zoom Coffee Morning



## DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Here at Deddington Primary School during the whole of Term 2, our children have once again been amazing. We have recorded our Nativity plays and Christmas singing in all year groups and hopefully everyone will enjoy watching these videos repeatedly over the Christmas period! We had a wonderful Christmas lunch cooked for us by our Fresh Start staff and the children enjoyed it all, as well as pulling Christmas crackers together, within their Bubbles. We would like to thank everyone who helped make the lunch time so very special for the pupils and all the staff.

We would like to wish all people in our community/readers of Barford News a restful Christmas. We hope too for a more peaceful 2021.

With our very best wishes  
 The staff & children, Deddington Primary School

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## NEW YEAR.....

**"Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to".....**

**"My new year's resolution is to get better at pretending to know the words to Auld Lang Syne".....**

## VILLAGE 200+ CLUB

The 200+ club is a fundraising scheme which supports the village hall.

Tickets at £8.00 each are still available for 2021 and members may hold as many tickets as they wish. Half of the total value of subscriptions is retained for hall maintenance; the remaining 50% is paid out in monthly prizes.

There will be 12 monthly draws with prizes of £5, £10 and £15. In addition, there will be a £25 prize every other month and a £50 prize every quarter. At Christmas there will be a bonus prize of £100. More members mean increased prize money and more money to keep the hall running; £8 for each annual subscription is such a small price to pay towards supporting our lovely hall. So, if you are not already a member of the 200+ club then please join. For just under 70p a month you can make a difference.

If you would like to join please contact Les on ☎ 338659 to reserve your tickets. 200+ club members must be 18 years or over.



From Alan Maddison

I would like to express my appreciation of the kindness shown to me by the friends in the village and to thank them all for the cards they have so kindly sent.

It is, I am afraid out of the question for me to return the kindness this year.



to a lovely, lovely couple, in Townsend who have donated £20 to Barford News, thank you so much.

The Team



to the wonderful lady from Barford St Michael who has donated £20 to Barford News, we are very grateful.

The Team



to the very kind and generous couple in Lower Street who have donated £50 to Barford News, it really is appreciated, thank you.

The Team

# CHURCH MATTERS

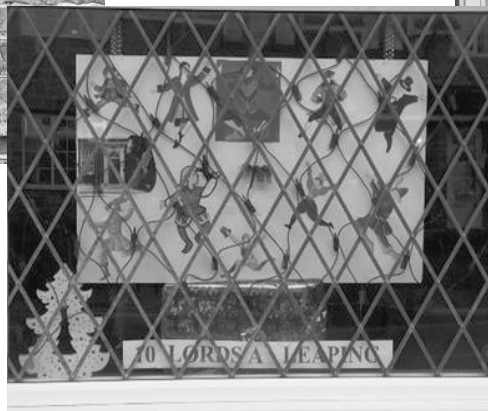


Many thanks to all the families who have participated in creating a 'Living' Advent calendar in the Barfords during December. If you have walked round the village and looked at these windows you cannot fail to have your spirits lifted by the imagination and originality shown in these designs.

Images of some of the windows are shown here (in no particular order). Don't think that you have been forgotten if your window has not been included, more will be shown next month!







**What is Epiphany?** The Epiphany is a Christian feast day, also known as the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas, which falls on 6<sup>th</sup> January – Twelfth Night - and marks the official end to the festive season. The word Epiphany comes from the Greek and means ‘manifestation’. The ancient celebrations mark the visit of the three Wise Men, understood as where Christ is ‘revealed’ to the Gentiles. The Gospel of Matthew says the three kings followed a star across the desert to Bethlehem, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold represented his royal standing, frankincense his divine birth and myrrh his mortality.

It has been celebrated in Europe since the 4th century, associated with the Magi or three Wise Men. Up until the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Epiphany was as big a celebration as Christmas Day. The season of Epiphany is an apt season to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. The feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, appropriately falls in the Epiphany season, as does the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.



**Sue Addison, Churchwarden**



## GREEN THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

From John O' Brien:

### **Barford Environment Network (BEN) - come and join our new group!**

Happy New Year to everyone! Here's hoping that 2021 will be less dominated by Covid and that we'll all have the time and energy to focus on other, more enjoyable, matters.

In last month's Barford News we shared how the Deddington Environment Network (DEN) group is working with our local communities to help us all become more environmentally sustainable and reduce our climate change impact.



Word is quickly getting out about our Refill Station at the Farmers' Market. Thank you to all our customers who have supported us over the last few months. Sales were up 25% at the November market, which adds up to lots of plastic waste avoided. That is really good news, but it would be great to try and increase this so don't forget to hang on to any empty spare containers you have and bring them along for filling at this month's Market with washing up liquid, hand wash, non-bio laundry liquid, fabric conditioner, window and glass cleaner, all-purpose cleaner and white vinegar. They don't have to be plastic containers; as long as they have a tightly fitting lid so that they don't leak all over the rest of your shopping, it should be fine. We do always try to have a small supply of containers just in case you do forget to bring yours.

Did you know that...

- Recycling a single plastic bottle will save enough energy (against making a new one) to power a lightbulb for three hours, each time it's reused!
- Recycling five plastic bottles creates enough insulating fibre to fill a ski jacket!



Dan, at the Zero Waste shop **Nothing But Footprints** in Banbury, has updated his website which is now far more shopper-friendly. If you've visited his shop in Castle Quay you'll have noticed he's also massively increased his product range. He is trialling free home delivery on orders over £30, but if you don't want to spend that much or are happy to wait, he's happy to drop off orders at the DEN stall at the Farmers' Market each month.

DEN is working to support our communities to become net zero carbon by 2040. This means that we must reduce the carbon emissions from our homes, farms, businesses, buses and cars to zero or remove their emission by other activity, such as tree planting, by this date. Cherwell District Council has also made a commitment to achieve this outcome for their activity by 2030 and the UK Government by 2050. While this may seem an awfully long way off, if we start taking simple steps today, we will get there more quickly, reducing the increase in global temperatures and the impact of climate change on our lives and those of our children and grandchildren.

To support our residents and community in Barford St. Michael and Barford St. John access practical help and support, we are proposing to create a sister organisation to DEN called Barford Environment Network (BEN). Creating the group will allow us to access some modest grant funding to support our communities with the way forward. If you are interested in becoming part of this new group, please drop me an email explaining your areas of interest.

We are aiming to organise a virtual meeting to launch our group in late January or early February and it would be great to have you join us.

Contact John O'Brien, Barford St. John resident, at [john@lcmb.co.uk](mailto:john@lcmb.co.uk) or the DEN team at [info@deddingtonenvironment.net](mailto:info@deddingtonenvironment.net) or [www.deddingtonenvironment.net](http://www.deddingtonenvironment.net) to express your interest in our existing or new group.

### Veganuary!

It's becoming ever more clear that the planet can't sustain meat-eating as the norm in affluent countries. If you do eat meat and dairy produce, are you thinking of cutting down (or out)? Could you take the **Veganuary** pledge to eat only plant-based foods for a month? A recent Oxford study said that becoming vegan is the single biggest thing you can do to reduce your environmental impact; but if that's too big a step to take, you could cut down. Mike Berners-Lee says in his book ***How Bad Are Bananas?*** that the average person in the UK could cut his or her personal carbon footprint by 25% simply by *reducing* meat and dairy in their diet. If you want to carry on eating meat, you could reduce your impact by eating less of it, but buying locally-produced meat to support farmers and reduce transport emissions.



See **Veganuary** ([veganuary.com](http://veganuary.com)) or **Meat Free Monday** ([meatfreemondays.com](http://meatfreemondays.com)) for recipes, advice and inspiration.

**Green Thought of the Month** is compiled and edited by Linda Newbery. If you have a green idea to share, please email [L.newbery@btinternet.com](mailto:L.newbery@btinternet.com).



### **THE POPPY APPEAL: A RESULT**

As usual all Barfordians have been very generous towards the Poppy Appeal in restricted circumstances. The total collection from static points and donations amounted to a substantial £707.87. Given there was no door-to-door collection this really is a wonderful result and every one can pat themselves on the back. Because there was no door-to-door collection the contributions were raised at three static points and through donations. The static points were at The George, in the porch of Lucy and Angus Norman's house and in my hall way where casual visitors were dunned for money. The St. Michael and St. John PCC donated £188.00 from the Remembrance Day Service at St. Michaels and the Parish Council gave a £50.00 donation. Thank you all for what has been a very satisfactory Appeal.

I must mention Lucy and Angus's static point. They suggested they could have a tin and Poppies in their front porch. There would be no problem with security because they had CCTV, they would chain the tin to the wall during the day and Lucy was in most of the day. Lucy would also advertise the static point in the Barford News. It all worked a treat. They took £337.38!

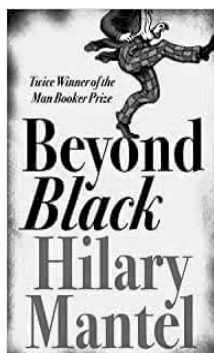
I thought the Remembrance Day Service around the War Memorial was a very fitting tribute to those who had given their lives in war. The last Post and Reveille sounding out over a very quiet Swere Valley were truly moving.

I am sorry to say that Anno Domini has finally caught up with me so next year the Appeal will be in the capable hands of Lucy and Angus who have kindly volunteered to take over from me. Please give them as much support as you have given me over the years.

Lastly, I wish to thank all Barfordians who have supported the Appeal over the years I have been the coordinator. From those who knocked on doors to those who dug deep into their pockets I have had nothing but great support. Thank you all.

**Bernard Lane**  
**Poppy Appeal Coordinator for the Barfords**

## Reading recommendations from **BARFORD BOOKCHAT**



***Beyond Black***, by Hilary Mantel, is a sharply-observed dark comedy. Ageing medium Al (Alison) plies her trade around theatres and similar venues. Although she is the real thing, she has to manage her insightful powers to suit her audience: older citizens who want her to intercede between this world and the next, to convey messages in both directions and above all, the approval of their deceased loved ones.

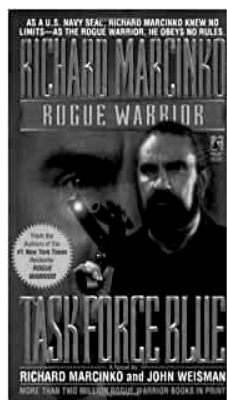
Worn down by incessant travelling and her own position among the spirits, Al has a rogue demon, Morris, whose uncouth comments and disruptive high jinks keep her on edge. Her chief support is Colette, part dresser, part friend and partial confidante.

Mantel gives as vivid account of the spirit world as she does of the surprisingly mundane life of Al and Colette. As Al's backstory is revealed in gruesome detail, the tale takes on an engaging, certainly multi-faceted quality where almost anything literal and virtual may occur. **Trevor Arrowsmith**



***The Woman in Black*** by Susan Hill: Dark winter evenings are a time for ghost stories, and this is one of the best.

All the familiar tropes are here: the youthful, inexperienced narrator; the uninhabited house surrounded by fog-shrouded marsh, its silence broken by strange sounds; the pale, emaciated apparition, with her aura of menace. Terror grows and recedes, and grows again, and the shocking dénouement comes like a blow to the stomach. On second thoughts, it might be cautionary to read this book on a warm summer afternoon, with your pet at your feet, and living humans nearby. The ghost is not a friendly one. **Jenny Greeves**



***Rogue Warrior Task Force Blue***, by Richard Marcinko. Part of the genius of the late Clive James was his refusal to see art as highbrow and lowbrow, dividing it instead into good and bad. This novel would be sniffily dismissed by some as airport fodder. It is certainly terrific fun, but it is also insightful and wise.

Before writing novels, Richard Marcinko set up US Navy SEAL Team 6, who later found fame for killing Osama Bin Laden. In this thrilling story he and his men have to stop terrorists from establishing their own government. The action is fast and fabulous, yet we also enjoy musings on working-class America, politics, logistics, psychology, and the best bit of self-defence advice you'll ever read. **Tom Greeves**

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Reviews are compiled and edited by Linda Newbery. For a book review every Monday, all by writers and independent booksellers, follow **Writers Review**: [www.reviewsbywriters.blogspot.com](http://www.reviewsbywriters.blogspot.com)



## from the fire station.....

Busy, busy this month at the station – 13 shouts and a lot of training has been keeping Deddington's crew on their toes. 7 stand bys, 3 fire calls, 2 alarms (false) and a serious RTC on the M40 comprised the callouts.

An electrical fire in Duns Tew fortunately caused little damage to the property in question – a lot of smoke, two days without power and that acrid electrical stench probably being more inconvenient than the fire itself. The family were deeply appreciative and visited the station, socially distancing of course, to say a big thank you.

The RTC saw Deddington and 3 other crews extract 2 casualties from a car that had a tyre blow out in the outside lane of the motorway, the motorway was kept open to ease traffic flow, with the hard shoulder being used, Deddington marshalling 4 lanes into one.

Training wise, Deddington took part in a further scenario day at Moreton Fire College and a full days water training at Minster Lovell. A big congratulations to Adam Perry for passing his competency exam and finally being able to delete that lower case "d" after those capital Fs!

Whilst writing this, a further flurry of calls have come in, with Deddington being called out to the nursery fire in the centre of Banbury, 2 caravans near the station. And Deddington has singularly saved Christmas as they were able to free Dasher (yes, a deer), stranded down a storm drain!

Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year everyone.

**James Greenwood, FFd, [james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk](mailto:james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk)**



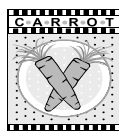
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BIRD SEED

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 Sunflower hearts £2 per Kg	 Niger seed £2 per Kg	 Black sunflower seeds £2 per kg
 Cheaper mix seed £1 per Kg	 Nut granules £2 per kg	 Peanuts £2 per Kg

Free delivery within 3 miles of Barford st Michael. For more information please contact Lorraine Simons : 01869 338048 or MO: 07866 808626



**BARFORD GREEN GARDEN CLUB**  
**NOTES FROM OUR POTTING SHED**  
**January 2021**

**Vita Sackville West** wrote about January.....

The shortest day has passed, and whatever nastiness of weather we may look forward to in January and February, at least we notice that the days are getting longer. Minute by minute they lengthen out. It takes some weeks before we become aware of the change. It is imperceptible even as the growth of a child, as you watch it day by day, until the moment comes when with a start of delighted surprise we realize that we can stay out of doors in a twilight lasting for another quarter of a precious hour."

**Cobwebs**  
**Patience Strong**

I went in the garden this morning at dawn  
And there in the grass on the shimmering lawn  
Were hundreds of cobwebs  
Like fairy nets spread  
Bejewelled with dew  
I was fearful to tread

For here was a thing that no human had made  
And breathless with wonder, I stood still, afraid  
That beauty so fragile would vanish from sight-  
This miracle wrought on my lawn - overnight

We build great air-monsters with huge steely wings,  
We build guns and cities and marvellous things  
And yet could we make overnight, with our hands  
This network of delicate, gossamer strands

And I think I'm clever to work a design, with  
needle and silks  
Just to follow the line, marked out by a transfer  
Quite simple and plain  
The spiders must think we are terribly vain

**JOBS TO DO IN AND AROUND THE GARDEN** January is often the coldest month. It might be the middle of winter but as the days lengthen the garden starts to grow. Now is a great time to plan for the coming gardening year and to order seeds and plants. Enjoy the fresh air, on dry sunny

days, and check your winter protection, stakes, ties and supports are still working after any severe weather.

Also put out food for birds and leave some garden areas uncut, a little longer, to provide shelter for wildlife in your garden.

Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch, or as I read the other day save some needles and make TEA with them!. Clean pots and greenhouses ready for spring: Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already;; Disperse worm casts in lawns; Inspect stored tubers of *Dahlia*, *Begonia* and *Canna* for rots or drying out; Prune apple and pear trees; Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season; Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds.

Sow seeds of *Begonia*, *Lobelia*, *Salvia* and *Pelargonium* in a heated greenhouse or propagator to provide early plants. Sweet peas can be sown this month. Sweet peas sown earlier in the autumn can now be potted on taking care not to disturb the roots too much. Place them on a sunny windowsill, or on a high shelf in the greenhouse that gets plenty of light. This is the last chance to sow seeds that need frost in order to germinate (such as native tree and shrub seeds, and alpine plants). Plant lily bulbs in pots and in borders during mild spells. Summer bulbs, seed potatoes and onion sets will be available to buy from the middle of the month. Cut off old leaves of hellebores that produce flowers from ground level to expose the flowers.

**All these tips are taken from RHS Website. More information can be found there**

**SEED ORDERS** for members. Linda will email when they have arrived.

**AGM** this is normally held in February but maybe not in the usual way this year. Your membership cards will be carried through to the 2022 AGM. News about all this to follow.

**FUTURE TALKS and VISITS**, we are hoping that some of these will be able to go ahead this year.

**HAPPY JANUARY GARDENING**, maybe from your armchair. Keep warm.



We wish you all a **PEACEFUL NEW YEAR** and let us hope this year, 2021, will be a bit more normal.

**SPADE and FORK**

**BURNS NIGHT.....**In March 1985 the first village Burn's Night supper evening held in the village hall, inspired Frank Graham Miller, into the following verses:-

"I dream of my ain Highland lass  
With rusty nut brown hair  
She swirls among the whisky fumes  
And prances through the air.  
For Robbie Burns was naer so true  
His heart bled nae so sad  
For where has Bonnie Jeannie gone?  
She's driving Frankie mad,  
She roams among the heather,  
The bracken and the green  
For't Tadmerton you will find her –


Not in Bonnie Aberdeen.  
Her voice is soft and gentle  
Like a cappercaillie's call  
It floats across the meadow  
Near the mountain waterfall.  
In the gloaming you may glimpse her  
Shimmering through the mist  
And now it's time to leave you  
For most probably I'm (on my way home!)

#### HAGGIS. NEEPS & TATTIES

The Haggis is an animal with a black and shaggy face  
You hunt it in the Lowlands and serve it after Grace.  
The parsnip is a wirey chap with virile knobbly knees  
He's sweet and kind and gentle and with everyone agrees.  
I love that old potato 'cos it's waxy pink and fat  
It reminds me of my husband - he's very much like that.  
And after all that whisky I've tried to name a few  
Of those Gallant Highland Clansmen –  
What kind of man are you?  
I'm a bloody-minded Graham,  
from a proud old Highland clan...  
Our motto is "Ne Oublie" we'll help you if we can.  
We choose to live with honour and to repay any slight  
But it may take 40 years or more to put the matter right!

*Frank lived in Rock Cottage with his wife Jean and their family. (Jean still lives in the cottage).*

Portrayals




David Hockney "Portrait Surrounding by Artistic Devices" 1965 Acrylic on canvas 60 x 72" © David Hockney  
Photo Credit: Richard Schmitt  
Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London

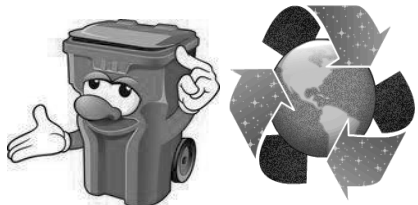
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This exhibition was made possible with a grant from the Horizon Loan Programme with Art Fund

Art Fund  



### RUBBISH & RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES *{always a Thursday}*

7 <sup>th</sup> .....	green
14 <sup>th</sup> .....	blue 'n' brown
21 <sup>st</sup> .....	green
28 <sup>th</sup> .....	blue 'n' brown

**A**s you know I set myself a challenge to run daily 5km (November 5th to December 5th) and I have completed it! What an experience it has been! In total I achieved a total distance of 205.97km and a total elevation of 2123 (equivalent to climbing both Snowdon and Scafell Pike)! This challenge was so rewarding both keeping myself motivated during this lockdown but fundamentally it has been a way of fundraising for my Three Peak Challenge I will be undertaking in July in aid of the wonderful charity Born Free. Born Free's mission is to ensure that all wild animals, whether living in captivity or in the wild, are treated with compassion and respect, which is something that is particularly close to my heart!

I really can't thank those enough who have donated so far. It really does mean so much!!

I am still trying to raise my funds to meet my target of £680 for the Born Free Charity. If you have not already and would still like to donate please do go to my JustGiving page which can be found:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/maise-bird>.

– Maise Bird





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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

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Victoria holds regular surgeries for constituents in supermarkets and her office, and visits pubs across North Oxfordshire as part of her Pub Tour. Please check the website or call Victoria's office for more information about upcoming dates.

### Victoria Online:

 @victoriaprentis  
 @victoria\_prentis  
 /victoriaprentis  
[www.victoriaprentis.com](http://www.victoriaprentis.com)



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### Contact Victoria:

#### Constituency:

 01869 233685  
 Orchard House  
Hopcraft Lane  
Deddington  
OX15 0TD

#### Westminster:

 020 7219 8756  
 House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

[victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk)  
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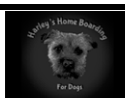
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## **Barford St. John and St. Michael Parish Council**

Clerk: - David Best  
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Barford St. John  
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01295 720566  
[davidbest.barfordspc@gmail.com](mailto:davidbest.barfordspc@gmail.com)

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Vice Chairman:	Dr R Hobbs	01869 338078
Councillors:	Mrs. S. Best	01295 720566
	Mr P Cosgrove	01869 337552
	Mr. C. Charman	07796 544363
	Mr R Cox	01869 337736
	Mr. P. Eden	01869 338835

Parish Council meetings in the Village Hall. 1st Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm  
This is an opportunity for parishioners to bring questions or concerns to the meeting in person  
CDC website: [www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk) – Parish Council minutes at [www.cherwell-local.com](http://www.cherwell-local.com)

## VILLAGE AND LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

Diary dates to the editor by 15<sup>th</sup> of each month please

### CHURCH SERVICES

#### Church of England

#### January

Revd Annie Goldthorp, Vicar, Deddington with  
Barford, Clifton and Hempton on 01869 336880  
Email: [deddingtonchurch.org](mailto:deddingtonchurch.org)

#### 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](mailto:holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com)

On Call: Rev. Deacon Robert Hughes

Tel: 01295 720869

Mobile: 07766 711984

#### Masses:

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Sunday – 11.00am Mass

Weekdays Normally 9.15am, can be subject to change

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#### Regular weekly/monthly events

<b>Mondays</b>	Beavers (Deddington) Boys Brigade band practice
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Guides (Deddington) Carpet bowls – Sept - Mar
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Brownies (Windmill - Deddington) Fernhill Club 1 <sup>st</sup> week parish council (not August) 2 <sup>nd</sup> week W.I. meeting Boys Brigade (Deddington)
<b>Thursdays</b>	Open cuppa mornings Cubs (Deddington) Scouts (Deddington)
<b>Fridays</b>	Rainbows Whist alternate weeks
<b>Saturdays</b>	Village Market 3 <sup>rd</sup> week (except January or August)
<b>3rd Wednesday</b>	Village Hall Management Committee

#### DIARY DATES

#### JANUARY

6<sup>th</sup> PC Meeting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall if restrictions have been lifted or by video conferencing if they are still in place

#### 14<sup>th</sup> onwards

**Post Office OPENING EVERY THURSDAY**  
2:45pm – 4:15pm

### BARFORD NEWS

Copy deadline 15th of each month

Editor: Lucy Norman 01869 337678

Dep Editor: Mariann Young 01869 338570

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Treasurer and adverts: Caroline Bird

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