

BARFORD NEWS

JULY 2012

Price 30p where sold

THE BARFORD'S BASH ^{IN THE} BARN

Sat July 14, from 6pm

Manor Farm, Barford St Michael

*The Silverfish
Ben Rogers
2 twenty 2
Shooter*

plus Gourmet Barbeque and Bar

Tickets £5 under 14s free

From the P.O. Barford St Michael from 1st July or on the gate

Overnight camping available



IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS

Parish Council Notes

THE MEETING TOOK PLACE at 7.34pm on 6th June 2012 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllr T Bullard, Cllr P Eden, Cllr S Turner, and Cllr R Woolgrove. Also attending Mrs R Watts (Clerk) and County Cllr R Jelf,

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R Hobbs, Cllr S Best and Cllr L Styles.

Thames Water - The Clerk has received a reply from Thames Water regarding tankers emptying effluent into the sewage works in Barford St Michael over the period of about one week at the end of March. Thames Water confirmed that the Contractor did not have permission to use the site for emptying their tankers on this occasion and that the matter had been raised with them. Thames Water offered their apologies for any inconvenience caused to residents. This does not however preclude authorised Contractors using the site in the future.

Thames Water – Allotments: Continuing with the saga of Thames Water and the allotments the Clerk reported that she has received a number of invoices from Thames Water in the last month, ranging from £1,500 to £268.09. The meter readings quoted by Thames Water bore little resemblance to readings taken locally. Cllr Hobbs has written to Mr Justin Hulbert, Escalation Team Manager at Thames Water, in an effort to resolve the matter.

Electronic Communications - Cllr Woolgrove proposed that communication of information relating to Parish Council business should be received by hard copy and not e-mail if requested. He said that it was discrimination to insist on Parish Councillors using e-mail as a way of communication. Furthermore he feared that to do so might prevent eligible candidates standing as Councillors in the future as not everyone is computer literate. Cllr Eden seconded this proposal. There were no objections.

POTHLES – On 3rd May the clerk reported to Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department that there are potholes outside The Manor House, Barford St John. She also reported three potholes at Townsend/High Street junction and one outside Swere Villa, Lower Street. It is noted that they have not yet been repaired.

Public Participation: County Cllr Jelf reported that Ian Hudspeth has been elected Leader of Oxfordshire County Council, with Rodney Rose being his Deputy.

Village Furniture - The new seat is in place outside the Village Hall. A plaque commemorating VE/VJ Day and the Diamond Jubilee will eventually be added. The remaining street furniture has been renovated by Chris Cox.

Mr. Cox's invoice was tabled by Cllr Bullard to be approved for payment at the next meeting.

Handrail at top of Murrays Lane - Cllr Turner reported that having inspected the site she is of the opinion that this is quite a steep slope into West Close and therefore a handrail is probably needed. The Clerk will contact Oxfordshire County Council to ascertain whether or not they would be willing to provide a rail.

Annual Inspection of Play Equipment - The Clerk reported that if the new goal post is to be included in the annual assessment, the inspection fee will double to £120 because it is on a separate site. It was unanimously agreed that rather than pay this additional fee, two Councillors will inspect the goal post each September and report back to the October meeting. Inspection results will be noted in the Minutes.

Planning Matters

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

http://cherweb.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx

This site does not include 'Notice of Intent' for tree works in a Conservation Area (TCA)

Applications:

12/00539/F – Langlands, 20 Broad Close, Barford St Michael – extension of time limit 09/00486/F - no objections

12/00518/F – Lovell, The Oat Barn, Church Lane, Barford St John – insertion of 2 windows, external door to replace window, 8 roof lights and alteration to west elevation - no objections

12/00706/F – Satchell, Crown House, Church Lane, Barford St John – construction of tennis court - no objections

Approved:

12/00297/F & 12/00298/LB – Coates, Rignell Farm, Barford St Michael – extensions, erection of orangery, conservatory, greenhouse, increase height to garage room

12/0022/F – Portman, Blackingrove Farm, Summer Ley, Barford St Michael; erection of garage

Approved TCA:

12/00080/TCA – Dodwell, 2 Rock Close, Barford St Michael, T1 Ash & T2 unidentified species - fell

12/00139/TCA – Hindle, Turnstile House, The Rock, Barford St Michael, 5 DAY NOTICE, 1 Sycamore - fell on grounds of safety (CDC notified 25 May and approved by them 29 May). The landowner is required to provide 1 Tree of an appropriate size and species as near to the location of works as is reasonably practicable.

Any Other Business

Cllr Eden reported that Rick Allen is arranging a village rounders match on West Close on 30th September.

Cllr Woolgrove suggested that Mr & Mrs Collier be given a small sum of money to cover the cost of holding the Jubilee Beacon on their land. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Woolgrove tabled an invoice from Cllr Best for cider and cheese for the Jubilee Beacon celebrations. To be discussed at the next meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 4th July 2012.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.



Barford St Michael & St John Annual Church Fete

THIS IS THE MAIN fundraising event for the Barford Churches and will be held as usual on the August Bank Holiday Monday, this year falling on 27th August. It is always an entertaining event in the Barford year and we need as many people as possible to help run stalls, games and set up the gazebos. So if anyone can help out, especially if they can run their own stall to improve the appeal of the fete, please do let me know. We seem to produce the same stalls every year so some new ideas for stalls and games would be terrific.

There will be people coming round the houses to collect items for the stalls the week before the fete, so please donate anything which can be sold to raise money for the running of our churches. We especially need items for the raffle, the bottle stall and the white elephant stall, but also cakes for the teas would be much appreciated.

Cubby Brett
Churchwarden.

Bakehouse or Shepherds Charity

Barford St John and St Michael

Charity Commission Registration No: 309173

Grants are made annually, at the Trustee's discretion, to young people attending College or University or undertaking an apprenticeship.

In order to qualify, applicants should be under 25 years of age and they or their parents should be resident in the parish of Barford St Michael or Barford St John for at least three years.

Please give the following information on your application:-

- 1) Your full name, age and address in Barford and state how long you have lived here.
- 2) Name and address of the College or University where you are planning to study.
- 3) Exact description of the qualification you are studying for, including length of course and subjects to be studied.

Address your application to:

Mrs Helen Honour
Clerk to the Shepherds and Bakehouse Trust
The Cottage, 5 Mead Road
Barford St John
Banbury
Oxfordshire
OX15 0PW

Applications must be received by 30th September 2012
at the latest.

Christian Aid Week

THANK YOU TO all those who generously gave to the Christian Aid Week in May.

We collected **£370** which is a record amount for Barford and the organisers have asked me to pass on their thanks to all those involved with Christian Aid in Barford St Michael and St John.

In particular, the money goes to farmers in poverty stricken areas around the world to provide tools to help them to improve their crops so that they can get a better price when they reach the market. So your contribution is much appreciated and improves the chances of these rural communities earning a living through farming with your help.



Cubby Brett
Christian Aid Organiser



**Helpless Children Mother Centre
Kathmandu
Barford Challenge**

**100 Mile Bike ride through 6 Counties
Saturday 7 July 2012**

The Barford Challenge this year takes the form of a cycle ride through six counties to notch up 100 miles in a day. The ride will start and finish at Barford St Michael Village Hall. Each team will be given a starting map and two observation clues to complete. There will be three check points on route where each team will hand in their map with the observation questions answered and be given a new route map with questions for the next leg. The midway point will be made known before the start so any friends and family can meet up with the cyclists and cheer them on, hopefully at a pub so the wait won't be too arduous.



This is a team event – with teams of between 3 and 5 members taking part. Entry Fee is set at £20.00 per person, payable on completion of an event entry form.

The start times will be staggered and run between 7.00 am – 9.00 am or until the last team leaves!! Timings will not be to the second but a record will be made of start time and finish time at each stage. This will allow for longer breaks if teams decide to stop and chat at a stage point.

This year any money made will be given to an orphanage in Kathmandu called Helpless Children Mother Centre. There is an account for HCMC with Santander in the name of Helpless Children Mother Centre, account number 40 561 4489, sort code 72-06-00. All monies – and that really means all, no administration fees or expenses are taken - raised for the centre, goes into this account and payments from this account go directly to the centre. There will be a plethora of prizes including i) Fastest Team, ii) Slowest Team, iii) Team that raises the most money.



Please remember that we are not professionals and that the most important aspect of the day is to meet new friends, greet old ones and have a great day doing something good for ourselves and others. We don't take ourselves too seriously and ask that you do the same.

If you are interested and would like more information please contact

Glynnis Eastwood:

barfordchallenge@btinternet.com

**PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES
FIND A CURE
JOIN US**

**CHARITY STALL AT BARFORD MARKET
SATURDAY 21ST JULY**

**Please support this very worthy cause
If you have any items you'd like to donate
Please contact Lucy Norman at
The Old Chapel
Or on 337 678**

With thanks, Lucy Norman

From The Vicar

THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS to everyone who made the Diamond Jubilee celebrations go so well, notwithstanding the lack of co-operation from the weather. It was all most enjoyable and a real demonstration of the community spirit of the Barfords.



There was a good attendance at the open meeting on the future of the Barford churches. I felt people were sympathetic and supportive and some helpful ideas were offered. I hope that the financial picture became clearer and that some concerns were allayed. We are very grateful that the churches will benefit from the Bash in the Barn and that Lorraine Simons is Losing It for church funds. Lorraine will be on her slimming programme until September, so there's plenty of time to sponsor her, if you haven't already done so. We are hoping to have a CD of Barford musical talent made for Christmas.

Discussion with the Diocese over the development of St John's as a place for quiet, reflection and prayer is ongoing. I should stress that whatever exactly happens at St John's, the church will remain available in the usual way for Sunday services and baptisms, weddings and funerals and the churchyard for burials.

Finally, congratulations to the Barford children admitted to Holy Communion by Bishop Colin on June 24th, Priyanka Kommu, Sanjay Kommu and Bethany Parish, and thanks to Sarah Green, our Youth Worker, for preparing them

Hugh White, Vicar
349 869, vicarhugo@hotmail.com,

The Lone Twin Boat Project is coming to Barford

Photos by Michael Austen

As promised in the last edition of the Barford News we are really delighted that The Boat Project boat, now named ***Collective Spirit*** will be visiting Barford on 30 July en route to Weymouth where she will be exhibited for the duration of the Olympic games.

Collective Spirit will be moored up at The George, from 12.00 mid-day on 30 July and between 14.00 and 19.00 the project team will be on hand to talk to you about the project and to guide you around the boat. If you donated a wooden object to the project last year the team will be able to pin point exactly where in this beautiful vessel your donation now is as well as pointing out other donations from the village and further afield. You will also be able to buy your copy of *The Lone Twin Boat Project book* which offers fascinating insights into the process of building the boat and that is also a beautifully illustrated full colour catalogue of all of the donations and their wonderful stories. Into the evening we'll be offering you some live music from Johny Lamb/Thirty Pounds of Bone; Johny is the artist/songwriter/musician who has been on board *Collective Spirit* as a member of the crew for the duration of the maiden voyage and writing a song for each leg of the voyage. To see what Johny has been up to and to download the Ship's Log tracks you can visit: <http://theshipssketches.tumblr.com/>

And around all of this The George is holding a 4 day Beer Festival so that in keeping with ancient maritime tradition we can toast *Collective Spirit* with foaming ales as well as song.

We hope to see you on 30 July; in the meantime visit www.theboatproject.com to track *Collective Spirit* as undertakes her maiden voyage along the coast.

The Boat Project is part of the London 2012 Festival, a spectacular 12-week nationwide celebration from 21 June and running until 9 September 2012 bringing together leading artists from across the world with the very best from the UK.



A BIG 'THANK YOU'



The Village Jubilee Committee would like to thank EVERYONE who helped in any way with our two days of celebrations on 3rd and 4th June.

An event like this cannot take place without A LOT OF HELP.....

putting up bunting.....mowing grass.... building the Beacondecorating the Hall.....flower displays in the church for the Jubilee Service.....setting up tables for our Big Lunch..... making a wonderful Union Jack cake for sharing.....organising a very difficult Quiz.....donating and planting the Oak Tree in West Close....allowing our Bouncy Castles to be inflated.....setting up for Games....organising a Nature Walk for over 40 people.....decorating Wheelbarrows.....making Crowns.....sewing a Banner.....standing in rivers and collecting ducks in the Duck Race.....being a good 'Games Mistress' and getting sacks, spoons, eggs and dressing up clothes.....keeping scores and checking positions..... guarding Bouncy Castles.....preparing food for the Children's Tea Party.....feeding the children.....giving out mugs and medals....clearing away.....cleaning BBQ's.....turning burgers and frankfurters.....

manning the Bar.... making sure everyone has enough food and drinksetting up for the Old Mettle Band.....dancing the night away.....joining together high up on Irondown Hill for lighting of the Beacon at 10.15pm precisely, accompanied by an almost full moon and a hot Jubilee Punch.....then bed.

AFTER all the festivities, many thanks to all those who.....tidied and cleaned the Halltook down gazebos....cleaned BBQs..... filled the rubbish bins and bottle banks.

The following Groups contributed to our celebrations.....Barford Green Garden Club, Cuppa Mornings, Fernhill, Playground Committee, Rainbows, Sewing Group and W.I.

Many thanks to Martin at The George for his electricity and hospitality, Dave Jelfs for the use of his field and Tony and Stephanie Collier for 'hosting' the Beacon. The Parish Council kindly funded the Jubilee Mugs and Cherwell District Council gave us a grant towards the festivities.

Throughout there were no accidents or need for medical attention....!

Our Big Lunch attracted over 100 people, 'picnicing' in the Hall due to rain. However the 4th June was DRY . Over 60 children came to the Tea Party and we were able to be outside well into the evening, with parents and children dancing for many hours.

We all hope you had some fun and enjoyed being a part of this special event.

Peter Leney, Lucy Norman, Gunilla Treen and Mariann Young.

Thank you to everyone for sending in their photographs of the various events. Extra special thanks to our very talented photographer, Gunilla, who prepared the wonderful colour souvenir of the celebrations.

Editor's Postbag Via email

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to the organisers for the wonderful Jubilee Weekend that again showed Barford and Britain to be places to be proud of.

Rick

Dear Editor

Mega Congratulations to all the committee who organised such a superb weekend. From start to finish it was amazing and thanks to you all for the months of planning, organising of folks (always the hardest part) and the sheer slickness of it all. You did the villages proud and the beacon was the fitting climax, I even got back to see Queenie light hers!

Please convey my thanks to all.

Diana

Just wanted to say a thank you for Monday - especially the children's tea party. The food and organisation was excellent - as it was rather hectic at the time I didn't get a chance to thank you personally. We really enjoyed the games too and can't quite believe we didn't get soaking wet!

We did manage to get to the early part of the ceilidh but Logan peaked around 8.30 so weren't able to go up to the bonfire/beacon but we were able to see it clearly from our bedroom window. It was a spectacular panorama for us as we leaned out of the window - a golden full moon rising to our left and the fire blazing away on the hill to our right.

Best wishes,

Vicky Stevens

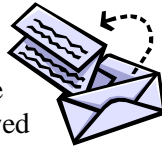
(PS Logan really likes his mug and took it home to Cambridge proudly)

To The Editor

I really don't remember enjoying a weekend in Barford as much as I did the Diamond Jubilee one - in spite of the diabolical weather. The usual friendly village atmosphere was evident. So much had been achieved by the organisers and their helpers. They must have been exhausted at the end of the weekend. Strangely enough I think the Big Lunch was more convivial in the Village Hall than it might have been in West Close. Could this perhaps become an annual event?

I would like to thank all those whose dedicated hard work contributed so much to a memorable weekend. We are lucky to have them in the Barfords.

Ann Beesley



To Chairman VHMC,
Peter, may we, through you say congratulations to all groups and individuals who together gave the Barfords such varied and memorable Jubilee celebrations - so enjoyed by all age groups.

The fitting finale was the moonlit lighting of our own beacon - unforgettable.

Rupert and Barbara

To All Concerned

Thanks and congratulations to everyone who made the Diamond Jubilee celebrations go so well, notwithstanding the lack of co-operation from the weather. It was all most enjoyable and a real demonstration of the community spirit of the Barfords.

Hugh White

To the Barford Diamond Jubilee Committee

Congratulations! And thank you on all the hard work put into organising a huge range of events for the Jubilee celebrations!

We really enjoyed being involved as part of the

Neal family

Thank you again

Maggie & Alan Rampley

~ ~ ~

Rounders Apology

DUE TO THE POOR WEATHER conditions we were disappointed not to play the Rounders Match at the Jubilee weekend. We had also planned a Rounders Quiz in the Village Hall during the Village Picnic but the popularity of this event meant there was no room for our 'props'.

We had some comments that folks were disappointed but the good news is we are arranging a **Rounders Match on West Close on 30th September 2012** so please put that date in your diary.

Congratulations to the organisers for the wonderful Jubilee Weekend that again showed Barford and Britain to be places to be proud of.

For those who want either the Jubilee Quiz questions or answers please e-mail me at rick.allen@allenschofield.co.uk

Rick Allen



SCARECROW RESULTS

A big thank you to everyone who made a scarecrow for the open gardens weekend.

The winners of the children's competition were:

- 1st: Fairyland - Amelia Best
- 2nd: The Queen relaxing in her bath – Ellie Alsworth and Charlotte and Rebecca Warner.
- 3rd: The Beekeeper – Connie Neal.
- Runner Up: Rapunzel – Ellie Dodwell

The winners of the adult competition were:

- 1st: "Relaxing" on a park bench. – The Brown Family
- 2nd: Bertie Basset – Cathy Peacock





Barford Village Show
Recipe for Banana Cake – Class 23
For Men Only

Banana Loaf

4 ½ oz self raising flour (white)
3 ½ oz s/r flour (light brown)
5 ½ oz Demerara sugar
Pinch of salt
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
2 large ripe bananas (peeled)
6 fluid oz orange juice
2 eggs, beaten
4 tablespoons oil
Honey, for serving



Pre heat oven to 180C gas mark 4. Grease and line a 1lb loaf tin.
Sift the flours, sugar, salt and spices into a large bowl. Separate bowl, mash the bananas with the orange juice, stir in the beaten eggs and the oil. Pour onto mixture and stir well.

Spoon the mixture into loaf tin and bake for 1 hour. Test with a skewer to see if it is cooked. If not bake for another 10 mins. When cooked leave to cool in the tin. When cold, turn out, cut and serve with honey.

About The Big Lunch

THE BIG LUNCH is a very simple idea from the Eden Project. The aim is to get as many people as possible across the whole of the UK to have lunch with their neighbours in a simple act of community, friendship and fun.

In 2012 The Big Lunch fell on the same weekend as The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations on Sunday 3rd June and as announced by Buckingham Palace **The Big Jubilee Lunch** was to become a part of the main programme of events over the central weekend of the Diamond Jubilee. A big thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's event a massive success! We estimate that a whopping 6 million of us came together for lunch with our neighbours last weekend. A Big Lunch can be anything from a few neighbours getting together in the garden or on the street, to a full blown street party with food, music and decoration that quite literally stops the traffic.

Since starting in 2009, thousands of Big Lunches have taken place in all kinds of communities across the UK and the best part of a million people get involved each year.

THE NEXT BIG LUNCH WILL BE ON SUNDAY 2nd JUNE 2013

As so many people enjoyed it we could make it an annual Barford event?



1st Deddington Scout Group
Cubs



This half term the Cubs have started working towards their map readers badge, we've looked at compasses, coordinates, walked on bearings & set a map. Still to come, contours, map symbols & ordnance survey games.

We made some crown shaped biscuits for the jubilee & these were eaten after the parade, as one of the Scouts commented 'they're so sweet they make your teeth itch', but they ate them anyway!

We will be making some 'bug towers' at the Castle Grounds, using the recently felled trees & a variety of bug friendly fillings.

Several of the older Cubs visited the Scouts at camp for the day, they made bivvies, played in the woods, lit a fire & drank nettle tea.

Coming soon – a trip to Scouting HQ at Gilwell for the annual Cub Funday.

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



Scouts

The Scouts recently spent an evening erecting the many new tents we have been given, without resorting to the instructions, impressive! Inspired by a series on the BBC we have been studying 'natural navigation', finding your way by observing the world around you using moss, lichens, churches & even satellite dishes.

George was invested in the Market Place but not before he searched for his necker, which turned up round the neck of a certain ex Scout in the Co-op.

Our annual 24 hour camp took place at Horley, having hiked from Broughton, the Scouts camped under the stars in the wood, Monty being the most comfortable in his hammock. We cooked our 'mystery tins' & thoroughly enjoyed a visit from Mike – The Axe Man who trained them to use axe & knife.

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

Thanks to all the boys who turned out for the Jubilee parade, did anyone spot our 1950's Cub with cap & Wolf Cub flag?.

Barford Green Garden Club Notes From Our Potting Shed



WE HOPE YOU ARE ALL managing to get out in your gardens despite the very changeable weather. Plants are growing apace as is the grass. Nothing in our climate is predictable it seems. It has been cold, windy, wet, hot, dry, frosts and some hail too! Plants are in flower with others that should have flowered earlier making for some interesting combinations.

Our annual **OPEN GARDENS** this year was on May 20th, earlier than normal. As a Committee we decided to give the whole event a fresh look, with more 'interactive' tickets and accompanying signs making the whole village look cohesive. There were 9 gardens open and 9 scarecrows entered the competition. Despite the cold, it was dry and we had more visitors than last year. The Plant stall made a record profit and teas at the Manor House were also popular. Thanks to all who made cakes. We must remember next year to include 'gluten free' cakes. The weather gave a very different view of our gardens. A **BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO OPENED THEIR GARDENS AND HELPED IN ANY WAY AND TO ALL WHO CONSTRUCTED THE SCARECROWS**, seamlessly organised by Maggie Eden. We did well despite the weather and monies have been distributed to village charities according to your votes.

JUBILEE OAK The Garden Club has given an oak tree to the village. This was planted in West Close and the final 'Dig In' took place at the time of the **BIG LUNCH** on Sunday June 3rd. The tree is to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and as it grows it will provide a reminder for future generations. Many children helped fill in the hole with compost, bone meal and soil. Many thanks to Jeff Elliot for digging the hole and the initial stage of planting. It had been carefully nurtured over the last few months and is now in full leaf. The Garden Club will provide an engraved plaque in due course to be placed beside the tree. We must make sure that it remains well watered. Go and have a look if you haven't already.

FORTHCOMING VISITS

Don't forget, on Wednesday 25th July, we are invited to **BALL COLEGRAVE TRIAL GROUNDS**, in Adderbury to see their spectacular displays of fruit and vegetables grown from seed. Admission is £2 and the Grounds are open from 4.0 until 8.0 pm. Members and non-members welcome.

ROUSHAM A visit has been organised for the afternoon of 16th August. We will give further details in next issue. Cost will be £5 each. We can share lifts and we could take a picnic tea to have in the flower gardens or in one of the historic garden

buildings overlooking the Cherwell. A good idea would be to read as much as you can about Rousham before we go. We will not be having a guided tour as some people who will go have been before and can give us a lot of information. More details in August BN. Not just for members, bring a friend.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Timothy Walker talk in November will be **FREE** to members, £3 to non-members.

'TIP OF THE MONTH'

If you have a camellia, water and feed well to encourage a good show of flowers next spring.

Weed, weed and weed.....tame the jungle that has appeared over the last few weeks! Keep on top of pests. Deadhead roses and other flowering plants and cut back where necessary. Dig out forget me nots unless you want them to spread!

'Bye for now'
Spade and Fork.

Open Garden Figures, May 20th 2012

Ticket Sales	= 104
Income from Gardens	£425.50
Income from Plants	£291.90
Income from Teas	£170.80
Total Income	£888.20
 Expenses	 £60.16

Distribution of funds:

Barford News	£132.49
Church	£154.02
Hall & Fernhill Charity	£79.49
Senior Citizens	£101.02
Shepherds & Bakehouse	£127.52
Village Hall	£233.50

Save our Planet – Tip

Use a Compost Bucket: Up to 70% of household rubbish could be composted instead of going into landfill where it forms a toxic sludge and emits methane. Vegetable trimmings and peelings will gradually break down to compost which can be used in the garden borders or window boxes. Or try the Japanese bokashi solution between layers of food waste, which breaks down in just two weeks. www.livingsoil.co.uk has more details.

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

THIS IS ALWAYS a busy time of year and 2012 is no exception. We have already had Jubilee parties and joined in with the Deddington Jubilee parade. You may have seen us with our flags, banner, and red, white and blue tied-died T-shirts. We hoped to have our Sports Day in the middle of June but as I write have postponed it due to the discouraging weather forecast. Hopefully we will eventually find a sunny morning for our races and picnic on the school field. The PFSU children are hard at work preparing for the First Sunday service on July 1st. We will be performing the story of Noah's Ark. On the fund-raising front our 'Red, White and Blue' event on July 7th promises to be a fantastic night out - please join us if you can. All this and of course we will be preparing most of our children for their move up from the PFSU to school or from Nursery to the PFSU. We say a sad goodbye to our Manager Sarah Inkpen in August. Thank you Sarah for everything you have done for both settings. You will be missed!

Lucy Squires
337484

Fernhill Club

IN THE PAST FEW weeks we have been entertained by Alan Brewer, an air steward, who has flown with many celebrities from Tommy Cooper and Frank Sinatra to Tony Blair and the Queen and had many amusing tales to tell including taking the Queen tea in bed!

A lady came from Woodstock Museum to talk about "The Country Village" and showed us artefacts from the past recalling what they were used for.

We watched the film "The Queen" and had our own jubilee tea. It was nice to see a couple of visitors at this session. We would like to have more of you join us.

Paul Carr, Head of Age UK, came to talk to us and what has now become an annual event our Strawberry Tea in Banbury.

Tim Williams will be giving us a lighthearted talk about wills entitled "Where there's a Will there's a Way" on 11 July.

July 18 – we are visiting Hill Top Farm, a garden centre, shops and lovely food. We went there last year and enjoyed it so thought we would repeat it.

July 25 – we are having a picnic at Avril's.



Barford's 'Bash in the Barn'

Saturday 14th July 2012,

from 6pm

A Village Party and Dance for all the family

Tickets £5 (under 14s free) from the P.O.

from July 1st or at the gate on the night.

Venue: The barn adjacent to the allotments. By kind permission of Mr and Mrs Alt at Manor Farm. Proceeds to the Barfords' churches.

The music kicks off with **Shooter** who are guitarist Dom O'Riley, plus Barfordians - bassist Tony Ecclestone and drummer Mick Bullard. Playing a mix of their own hard rock originals and 1970s covers. **2twenty2** from Brackley are a new and exciting Indie covers band consisting of Pete Parsons, Allan Phipps, Ed Witcomb and John Fell.

Next up is a singer **Ben Rogers** (finalist of ITV's Young Stars in Their Eyes) performing a mix of modern soul and jazz classics. Ben's grandparents Brian and Val live in Townsend.

To complete the evening we have Barford's very own **The Silverfish**. Steve Cook, Pete Parsons, Tex Elmore and Dave Snelling will be guaranteed to get you on your feet.

There will also be a bar selling a selection of Wines, Cider, Lager, Hooky ale and soft drinks.

Plus a gourmet barbecue with a few surprises. Proceeds going to the Helpless Children Mother Centre in Kathmandu, Nepal.

So please come and support these guys who are all giving their time and considerable musical talents to not only make this a fantastic evening but also raise much needed church funds.

Ask your friends along and if they want to make a week-end of it there is plenty of camping available too.

Bash in the Barn has its own **Facebook**

page where you will find much more information about the event, be able to keep up to date with all the excitement and find out who's going. So tell your friends.



If you are able to advertise the event by way of a poster, flyer or would like to paste an ad. on your Facebook page contact:

dave@wheeler18.orangehome.co.uk

Deddington PTA

I AM WRITING THIS just before one of our major fund raising events and can only hope for warmth and sunshine this coming Saturday – the day of our Summer Fete. Though judging by the view outside my window we will need our raincoats! So much time and preparation has gone into the event and I hope everyone has a fabulous time! I'd like to thank all those who have supported it in their many different ways. Many thanks in particular to the Deddington Market Group for the loan of the market stalls together with a superb raffle prize. Thanks also to the Deddington Arms Hotel for very kindly donating the major prize in our raffle. A huge number of other local businesses also contributed to our raffle or sponsored our fete magazine (thank you to Multiflow for the printing) for which we are very grateful. Special thanks also goes to Jenny Lewis for donating the fabulous Paper Jamz musical items. It is fantastic the way the whole community comes together to support our village school. Lastly, we must not forget everyone who gave up their time to help and for all the generous donations we received. It is very much appreciated. Thank you.

That is nearly it for the 2011/12 fundraising year, just the school disco to go on July 5 and ice cream sales at school on July 6 and 13. We have had a great time, worked extremely hard and we hope to raise in excess of £8,000 (including monies raised at the fete). This will be used to provide some outdoor seating, books and IT equipment. Confirmation of the final sum raised this year will appear in the next edition. Many thanks for your tireless support – we couldn't do it without you!

We will lose a number of the committee at the end of this school year, plus we need a new Chair and Treasurer. If you are interested in being a part of the team please let me know. In the meantime, have a wonderful summer break!

Melissa Chadderton

PTA Chair

01869 349936

melissa@rhubarbcreative.demon.co.uk



1st Deddington Brownies

THE BROWNIES celebrated the Jubilee with a party and looked very smart in the Deddington Jubilee parade. Well done girls! This term it is time for Olympic related activities. This is the last column I will write for the Brownies as my youngest daughter will be joining her sister in the Guides in September. I asked them both what they had enjoyed most about Brownies and the memories came flooding back - 'Sausage Sizzles' with the Guides, going to 'camp', games they had enjoyed, singing songs, Brownie Fun days. Thank you Brown Owl, Tawny Owl and Snowy Owl and all their helpers for giving up your free time to give our girls lots of fun, friendship and new experiences. They have loved every minute. Over and out!

Lucy Squires
338442



Rainbows News

MORRIS DANCING was a great hit; our visiting instructor managed to teach the Rainbows two local Morris dances in an hour, including one with sticks! No major injuries incurred, the girls had a wonderful time and we're very grateful to Verna Wass and her husband Stephen for taking the time to visit us. We made our scarecrow and were very pleased with Usain Bolt, complete with gold shoes and Olympic Rings, though no rosette this year in the Barford Scarecrow competition. Thinking caps on for a good idea for next year...

We took advantage of the brief spell of warm weather in May and spent one meeting making bubbles in the village hall garden. We experimented with homemade wands and kitchen utensils- some draining spoons with round holes were very effective as was Florence's wire multi-headed wand. And of course, bursting the bubbles is almost more fun than blowing them! We finished the term making crowns for a competition during the Jubilee. Well done to Amelia Best and Francis Roche who were awarded First and Second place respectively. Amelia has just joined us as a Rainbow as we said goodbye to Jemima after almost three years with us.

Hazel Neal and Nikki Bruce
337822 hmkn@sky.com

*A friend will always find time for you
in his diary.*

*A true friend does not need to consult
his diary first*

Maggie's 50

WOW WE DID IT!!! What amazing support which made an amazing day both with the ride and the BBQ afterwards.

We now intend to make this an annual event.

It was really good to see Maggie's daughter Ruth and Maggie's friend Nicky both there to see the riders off, and to attend the BBQ afterwards. We heard that Ruth got a little emotional after the riders had set off.



We believe we had over 30 riders! It could have been more but the intrepid Lance Armstrong Whitworth ushered everyone off as we were still counting people in and collecting some of the entrance fees so we are not sure. He is claiming 38.

A big thank you to all who turned up and cycled on Saturday including our friends from Bannatyne's and some of Simon's work associates.

Special praise must go to the newer riders especially Julia Streeter, Linda Wood and David Sewell who in the awful conditions suffered most as only new riders do, but battled on to finish the ride. Windy now has a whole new meaning!!! All bar one completed the ride. Luckily there were no incidents and no punctures.

We had two support vehicles driven by Tony Bastable and Steve Mascall (complete with amber flashing light) who carried spare water and inner tubes etc and were ready to assist if anyone got into difficulties which was very reassuring.

We also had a good attendance at the BBQ, but had to compete with a hen party for space.

Thanks to all who supported the BBQ and especially to James Whitworth for running it and providing the gazebos as shelter outside.

We didn't actively seek sponsorship but a number of people made donations which boosted the total collected. A big thank you to all who made donations. At the time of writing we haven't received all the money due, but we are hoping that we will be able to donate approximately £700 to Maggie's fund. The final total will be published in the next edition.

Once again many thanks to all.

George & Simon, No!!!, Simon & George

Deddington Fire Station News

SINCE OUR LAST ARTICLE we have had Two house fires in Bicester, RTC in Adderbury, Rtc M40 involving one HGV and three Cars, A lorry stuck down the embankment on the Twyford Road, A twelve Pump incident at Enstone Airfield and an RTC involving two cars and with Stand by and false alarms this brings our Annual total of fire calls to 82 so far for the year.

As you can see we have been very busy with Fire Call, We have also been busy with some big changes to our crew, Unfortunately we have had three of our crew leave with Richard Day and Gray Barnet both having a change in their primary jobs and Pete Taylor who has unfortunately decided to retire, he has given 15 years off commitment and service to our community, A great achievement. They will be missed by us all, On the positive side George Williamson from Adderbury and Tom Hall from Barford have both passed their basic training and are now responding to fire calls and we will hopefully have another recruit from Adderbury, Emma Glover so that will bring our numbers to Ten. But yes I still have empty Fire pegs at the station; five in fact, and with Gary and Pete leaving there are now only two people from Deddington who are on the crew, Martin and Rachel Freeman! Yes Deddington with a population of 2000 have only two on the crew, I am sure you all appreciate how lucky we are to have a Fire Station in Deddington and without a Crew you would not have one, So I am sure there must be plenty of people in Deddington who are up for the challenge to help keep our community safe, so please give me a call and be a part of a team that do one the most varied, rewarding and challenging jobs possible.

Chris Fenemore
Watch Manager
Deddington Fire Station
07767835738



A Huge
'Thank You'
To the family
Who sent me a £50.00 Cheque
For
Barford News funds
A very generous donation
Gratefully received
Ed

**SUMMER COOKERY
Demonstration
By Carrie O'Regan**



Carrie regularly tutors hands on cookery courses at the WI Cookery School along with demonstrating and leading Designer Days and Day Schools..

**7.30pm
Wednesday 11th July
In The Village Hall**

**Visitors welcome to join us £3.00
At our WI Meeting**



Barford Village Market

Saturday, 21st July

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

Artisan breads, Eggs, Cheeses, Preserves & Chutneys, Meat
Joint Produce, Cards, Turned Wood, Jewellery, Fairtrade,
Handicraft items,

plus Something new each month

Not forgetting Tea/Coffee & Bacon Butties!!

3rd Saturday every month except August

So come along and support YOUR local market
All Profits for Village Hall Maintenance



**Beer
Rocks!**

Cuppa Morning is
hosting a
"Grown-ups"
Beer and Band night.

Saturday 8th September

Keep the date free!



HOLY MOWSES?

Could you spare an hour or two a month to help with churchyard mowing at St Michael's? We need a replacement for one of our long-serving members who is unable to continue. Mower (with drive) and fuel supplied. Each member of the team of five takes a section of the churchyard, which needs mowing about twice a month between March and October, depending on the weather.

Please contact:

Adrian Brett: phone 01869 338300;

email: the_bretts@btinternet.com

OR

Peter Bird: phone 01869 338630;

email: peter.bird@glencore.co.uk



Fibre Optic Broadband For Barford St Michael*

ACCORDING TO THAT perceptive commentator Yogi Berra† ‘in theory there is no difference between theory and practice: in practice there is’. He was probably thinking of rural broadband.

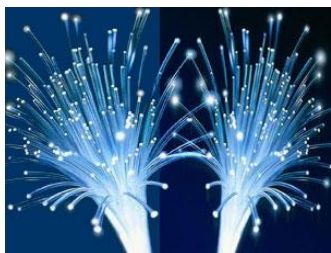
BT recently announced that Deddington exchange was being converted so that all subscribers could have fibre optic connections in place of the existing copper for their broadband. If you are observant you will have noticed that at the end of April a new manhole appeared at the bottom of the Hempton Road, next to the ‘historic’ GPO box. Technically this is known as Fibre to the cabinet [FTTC] rather than FTTP [to the premises], a distinction that will have little practical effect in Barford St Michael.

According to BT ‘The project will see every home and business in Deddington connected to fibre optic cables capable of delivering blistering broadband speeds of up to 300 Mbps ... The news has been warmly welcomed, especially as BT is upgrading the whole of the Deddington exchange area, including Barford St Michael, Aynho Wharf, Hampton [sic] and Clifton’. Indeed, the celebrations come second only to the Jubilee!

We are about 6 km from the exchange [which is at the south end of Deddington] and a lot of us get very low speeds as it is more-or-less at the limit for broadband delivered over copper. I believe that I am the second to last to be able get it in BSM and on ‘good’ days got 160KB/s [there have been no good days in more than a month and as I write I am back to the old ‘dial-up speeds’].

In addition to the GPO cabinet there a few manholes from which the copper is distributed to the more modern houses which seem to get their phone by conduit from them, while the rest of us get it from poles. The effect of having fibre in the village will, in theory, give ‘up to’ speeds as in the table below, though to get the very top speeds you will not only need to be near the cabinet[s] and pay for the extra-extra speed:

<i>Distance to cabinet</i>	<i>Estimated speed</i>
100 m	100 Mbps
200 m	65 Mbps
300 m	45 Mbps
400 m	42 Mbps
500 m	38 Mbps
600 m	35 Mbps
700 m	32 Mbps
800 m	28 Mbps
900 m	25 Mbps
1000 m	24 Mbps
1250 m	17 Mbps
1500 m	15 Mbps



On this basis everyone on the Deddington exchange should get blistering speeds if they pay for it as most of us are within about 500 m of the Hempton road ‘head’, and nearer if the fibre is run to the handful of manholes round the village.

However, your line will only be connected to the fibre if you pay for fast broadband. I’ve been in touch with Ofcom and oddly it seems not to be a regulatory issue: despite there being plans for a Universal Service Obligation to provide 2Mb/s there seems no requirement to do it at a universal price. No one will see any speed improvement unless they upgrade with their ISP [and get a new router] which will cost ±£100pa depending on what your ISP offers at which point your copper house wires will be connected to the fibre, cutting out the long copper haul from Deddington. Ultimately, with no competition, what it costs will depend on the rates offered by BT wholesale to ISPs including BT Broadband. In other words to get the ‘up to 8Mb/s’ we all pay for as standard [it is an age since my line has got even 0.5Mb/s, though in theory it is rated from 1-3Mb/s] we have to pay for something like a minimum of ‘up to 38Mb/s’ and probably take out a new 18-month contract.

fibre will run alongside the copper so that unless you upgrade your broadband there will be no effect, and of course none on phones [unless they cut the copper by mistake!].

*This only applies to 01869 numbers, 01295 numbers will have to wait for a similar upgrade in Bloxham, but the same rules will apply

†Perhaps this is apocryphal as it has been attributed to others.

CALLING ALL DOG OWNERS!

Does your dog have Barford's Waggiest Tail, or the Most Appealing Eyes? Can he or she perform a trick?



the Post Office.



Now is their big chance! A Companion and Novelty Dog Show will be held at Barford Church Fete, Monday 27th August. Entry in advance or on the day. Entry forms will be available from me, or

Hazel Neal,
25 Broad Close
01869 337822

'IN THE WAKE OF THE BOAT PROJECT*'

THE GEORGE BEER FESTIVAL

AN ODYSSEY OF BEER, BOAT, BANDS, BBQ & BANTER

ALES FROM THE JOURNEY CIDERS & PERRY

BEEF & LAMB ROAST

BBQ

FISH & CHIPS

QUIZ (£50 IN PRIZES)

BOUNCY CASTLE

OLYMPICS

FULL DETAILS TO BE POSTED IN THE GEORGE

FRIDAY 27TH JULY

SATURDAY 28TH JULY

SUNDAY 29TH JULY

MONDAY 30TH JULY

7.00PM - MIDNIGHT

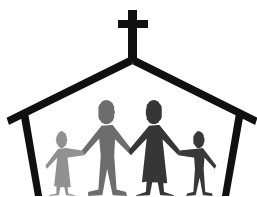
12.00PM - MIDNIGHT

12.00PM - 11.00PM

3.00PM - MIDNIGHT

***Please note the boat will only be visiting on the Monday!**

**Barford St Michael and St John
Church Fete**



starting at 2pm

**Monday 27th August
at The Manor House**

Bouncy Castle

Teas

Stalls

Plants

Raffle Games

Fun Dog Show

+ much more



**VILLAGE
BAR-B-QUE**

**BANK HOLIDAY
SUNDAY**

26TH AUGUST

6pm till late

In the village hall gardens

NATURE NOTES 106

NATURE NOTES FOR APRIL AND MAY weren't produced until now because of work, holidays and the like, so I'll attempt to catch up now, with apologies. A short review of March might be helpful, so here goes . . . March was as it usually is, full of surprises and about-turns with bright spells, high winds, driving squalls and wintry cold. Only this year March was rather dry – I only recorded rain in five 24-hour periods. It wasn't very cold either, the lowest temperature I noted was -4.5° overnight on the 31st! But it was *foggy* . . . from blowing mist to downright pea-soupers . . . on no less than six days! Unusual for March, which persuaded me to include the old weather saw of 'Fogs in March means frosts in May!' However, an area of high pressure produced a warm, sunny period from the 20th to month's end. Temperatures were mostly 16° to 18° but reached 20° on 28th and 29th as the wind from SE died, only to rise from NW.

So, enter April with high pressure retreating south-westward, its place being taken by an area of low pressure. This succession of 'highs' (HP) and 'lows' (LP) set the scene for the whole month, with winds accordingly encompassing large deviations in direction over short periods.

The month opened (as noted) with a frost of -4.5° , a N wind which, in the next seven days, backed to W, veered through NW to NE and backed once more to NW. Over the week, day temperature went from 15° down to 7° , with bitterly cold squalls of driving rain and sleet on the 4th. It then rose again to 13° on the 8th. Nights ranged from 5° down to -5° (on 5th) and back up to 7° on the 7th. Rather chilly for April! Nevertheless, the 1st produced the first Orange-tip butterfly in my garden and a Blackcap in my Lilac tree. A walk around St. John airfield revealed Skylarks in full song all over the area and surrounding fields, with Yellow Hammers finding many delights in the fresh load of manure in the SE corner. These occurrences are locally reassuring amid reports of seriously declining numbers in these, as well as many other bird species.

As this first week turned colder most wildlife went back under cover. The only note I made in the week was the calling of Red Legged Partridges from Steepness – more escapees from shooting releases I imagine. The second week was changeable as was the first, often with squally showers. The wind, at first steady SW, slowly veered to NE by the 13th producing day temperatures of 14° on 11th, 12th, and 13th. On the afternoon of the 11th, as I stepped outside, a



familiar silhouette flicked overhead – my first Swallow of 2012! The first sight and sound of this little Spring Messenger always produces a slight shock and thrill, no matter how many years you've experienced it, perhaps only equalled by the first call of the Cuckoo!

On the 14th two independent and almost simultaneous sightings of a female Hen Harrier (one of them in hunting mode, from Ian Hobday) were reported to the west of the parish. This sounded like two different birds. It was now many weeks since the last sightings and it was reasonable to assume that the birds had left for their breeding territories. They may well have been passage birds, but there was something distinctly familiar about their locations and behaviour.

As the daytime warmth improved much new wildlife started to appear, with various bees, hoverflies and ladybirds emerging all over the place. The Gorse bushes in my garden burst into glorious golden blossom, releasing waves of coconut scented perfume, much to the delight of the bees and many other flying insects.

Night temperatures were a different story however, six of them falling to 'grass frost' level and below, -5° on the 15th.

In summary, these first two weeks of April were showery – it rained on eight of the fourteen days. Breaks in the cloud revealed hot sunshine but almost always countered by very cold winds.

The second half of April turned out to be a very different kettle of fish and it could be well said that the weather 'took a turn for the worse'.

As April entered its third week a HP area to the north of the British Isles was funnelling cold air down from arctic regions across us. This quickly became a 'weather blocker' and a continuous succession of LP areas passed across the British Isles from W to E often drawing cold air down from the north. As the LP systems passed, the winds, gusty and cold, followed the circulation of the systems anticlockwise from NW. The first system backed 180° before returning to NW; the next system (starting on the 22nd) described a full 360° by the evening of the 24th and those following described 180° from NW to SE and SW to NE respectively.

On the 21st, the morning sun was slowly obliterated by towering storm clouds and lashing rain from late afternoon and into night. Before the onset of the storms, a lone Cormorant appeared flying W above Townsend at, I estimated, a height of about eighty metres. Suddenly, a Carrion Crow rose from close to its nest sight below Hempton Hills, and muttering aggressive, rhythmic little croaks, quickly achieved the Cormorant's altitude. The Crow launched repeated noisy passes, but the

Cormorant, appearing unconcerned, flew steadily on. Then, almost as if confronted by an invisible barrier (which was its territorial boundary) the crow broke off its attacks and descended in a spectacular headlong dive back to its look-out perch close to its nest. Next day, both Crows, almost screaming with rage, were seeing off a male Raven towards Horn Hill.

In the short periods of easier weather, passing Swallows twittered from the overhead wires behind my house, but these last sixteen days of April were so inhospitable that there was little evidence of any wildlife to report. However, a lull in the drenching rain of the 23rd encouraged a lone Blackcap to pour out glorious song from the shrubberies at Barford House and an unusually still night on the 24th had deer barking below Steepness.

A wind rising savagely from SE, brought slashing rain on 25th easing to give showers and sunny spells in the afternoon. These produced more sightings of two Hen Harriers well to the west of the parish.

On the 26th, Swallows were back at a traditional nesting site at The Green. Driving back from Deddington, I noticed a Heron flying southward over Hempton village, which to my mind is unusual for this species to climb so high out of its accustomed river valleys.

Steady rain commenced in the evening and continued all night, interspersed with heavier bursts, and on into the early afternoon of 27th. That is nearly *eighteen hours* of continuous rain!

Soon after the rain ceased, another of those significant Spring Messengers announced its arrival – the Cuckoo!! Mrs. Sylvia Butler reported him calling briefly around 2 o'clock from a little beyond Lower Street.

Ever more torrential rains arrived on the 28th, on cold, gusty SE winds. Quieter and drier later, Andrew Murrey spotted two more arrivals over St. Michael – Swifts! And Mrs. Diana Muirhead was lucky enough to have a close encounter with a Kingfisher beside the R. Swere at St. John. Quite often when perched in poor light, the Kingfisher can appear nondescript and drab because its brilliant colours are not created by pigments. They are refractive and totally reliant on light to produce the scintillating blues. This was the case with Mrs. Muirhead's bird and she only became fully aware of it as it took flight.

It rained lightly on the 29th, soon to become torrential on a roaring NE wind.

River levels were now well up with some flooding in the Cherwell Valley and tributaries. By now over the road at Barford Bridge, there was heavy flooding in water meadows all across the district.

During this horrible period night temperatures were at or below 3° on no less than eighteen nights. You may recall that I recorded rain in eight 24-hour periods in the first half of April – in the sixteen days to month's end there were *thirteen*!

As if in lame apology, the last day of April was pleasant and breezy, with two Buzzards soaring over Horn Hill. One wondered as to the predicament of the waterside nesting birds and the Kingfishers in their nest-tunnel. But, sure enough, April bid farewell on heavy overnight rain – a fitting tribute to the highest rainfall ever recorded for April in England!

I'll (hopefully) catch up on May next month!

Ron Knight

1st Deddington Guides



TO JOIN IN the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations some guides enjoyed a day out at Jubilee House. This is Oxfordshire Guides own centre – they had a great time taking part in a wide variety of activities.

Some guides took part in the Division Patrol Competition at Horley – again a wide variety of games and activities and experiences to choose from. We didn't win a trophy but loved the campfire and hot chocolate!

We then slept under the stars on a beautiful night. After breakfast with the other 140 guides and guiders who also slept out, we came home. A great experience.

Tuesday nights weather continues to be fine for us! The bat walk at Wroxton Abbey was lovely – with the bat detectors we picked up their "radar" sounds and saw many bats of 3 different species. It was interesting to see bats close up, being cared for by a licensed bat handler.

Our "Deddington to Clifton road" hike – again on a beautiful evening was an opportunity to practice some emergency skills on the way.

Lastly this month – our thanks to Janet and Brian Bond for allowing us to use their grounds for our outdoor cookout – Ready Steady Cook. Well done to Lorna and Ellie C who helped with the planning and the organisations on the night.

There were a variety of ingredients available and patrols opted on the whole for variations on a pasta dish and pancakes. One patrol tried pasta on egg y bread and declared it was very tasty!

Many more outdoor activities to come this term and of course preparations for camp underway.

Maggie Rampley – 01295 810069

Marian Trinder – 01869 340806

Catherine Blackburn – 01295 258008

Deddington and District History Society

OUR MAY SPEAKER, Matt Armitage, has run Tooley's Boatyard in Banbury since 1990. The boatyard itself is somewhat older, having first opened for business 200 years previously. It was taken over by the Tooley family in the late 19th century. The oldest dry dock on the whole of Britain's inland waterways, Tooley's had looked to be doomed when the Castle Quay development (which disastrously turned its back on the canal and its potential) went ahead. Fortunately, its forge (1788, the year that the canal reached Banbury) was listed and the yard was saved. Initially incorporated in Banbury Museum, it has been run as a private company since 2002. The forge continues to supply boat equipment, and it is also an 'artistic blacksmiths' making a range of goods and offering courses in smithy techniques. Tooley's Boatyard works on a range of craft, it recovers broken down boats, it offers boating and boat-painting courses, it houses art exhibitions, and it even operates an annual Theatre in the Dock. It stands as an example of an historic business that through sheer energy and enterprise has achieved unlikely survival.

By the time that this issue of the *Barford News* appears we shall have enjoyed a private visit to the Tudor Rycote Chapel and gardens, near Thame. Our final event of the season will be a special lecture by MP Chris Skidmore on the controversial (and convenient?) death in September 1560 of Amy Robsart, wife of Queen Elizabeth's favourite Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester. All are welcome to the lecture, at the Windmill Centre at 7.30 on 25 July. Tickets, to include refreshments, are £3 for members, £5 for non-members, profits going to Katharine House Hospice. Do come along for a fascinating lecture and for the support of an important local cause. Please contact Moira Byast.

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

200 CLUB WINNERS: June Draw

£50, No. 123, Elliot Dyson;

£25, No. 127, Sue Jelfs

£15, No. 75, Martin Gannon

£10, No. 12, George & Freda Parker

£5, No. 203, Daphne Spence

The draw was made at a Cuppa Morning

Oxfordshire Befriending At The End of Life

COULD YOU USE your experience supporting someone who has died



to help others who may be approaching the end of their life?

Maybe you have cared for a loved one who died? Or are you a retired care professional? Do you hope to have a career in care? Or are you 'just' a special person who wants to help others? The lessons you have learnt and your experience and knowledge could make a real difference. Please volunteer to become a befriender.

Oxfordshire Befriending at End of Life (OxBEL) recruits and trains volunteers to befriend people who are facing the end of life and may be isolated and alone or just need someone to talk to. We are seeking volunteers for the next training course which starts near Banbury in July. We urgently need more volunteers as demand is growing for our services.

We offer top quality training, regular one-to-one support, bi-monthly peer support groups (well-attended – our volunteers get a lot out of connecting with one another), and the opportunity to really make a difference to someone's life.

The befriending relationship will also enrich the life of the volunteer. It isn't all about serious stuff. Part of preparing to die well involves living life well, and to the full, now. There can be fun and laughter as well as serious conversations. It can come as a surprise to some current volunteers just how rewarding the role turns out to be. Every friendship is unique.

Why not ask for our information pack to find out more, and see if it would be right for you? Telephone or email us: Tel: 01865 791781 Email: enquiries@oxonbefriending.net We look forward to hearing from you.

Banbury Museum

'Royal Connections' Prize Trail

Until 20 July Available during museum opening times.

Suitable for children of all ages. Children under 8 years old may need a little help. £1.50 per trail booklet

Explore the museum to find Banbury's royal connections and claim your prize.

Art Cart Action: Make your own masterpiece

Until 14 July Drop in 10.30am-12.30pm and 2-4pm on Saturdays and every day during the Oxfordshire school holidays. Family drop in activity.

Suitable for children aged 4 - 12 years old. £1 per child. Feeling artistic? Drop in and create your own piece of still-life artwork to take home. Inspired by the 'Graduate Art & Design' exhibition. Self-service activity.