

# **BARFORD NEWS**

**JUNE 2010**

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

Price 30p where sold

## **BARFORD OPEN GARDENS**

**With Scarecrows!!!**

**Sunday June 20<sup>th</sup>**

**2.00 to 6.00pm**

**(in aid of Barford Charities)**

~ ~ ~

There is still time to register if you would like to open your garden however Small, just contact a member of the Garden Club committee

~ ~ ~

**We would be very grateful if you could donate a CAKE  
for the Teas at the Manor  
and/or donate your extra PLANTS for sale at the Plant Stall  
Please bring cakes to the Post Office and Plants to Barford Cottage  
(opp. Village Hall)  
on the morning of the Open Gardens**

~ ~ ~

*Also - please get to work on those Scarecrows, – the more we have,  
the more visitors we can attract - Competitions for Children and Adults*

~ ~ ~

**Make a Note of the Date in Your Diaries!!  
tell your friends and relatives too!**

**C**HAIRMAN RODNEY HOBBS opened the meeting by welcoming the assembled company and outlining the programme for the evening.

He introduced the current Parish Council and apologised for the Parish Clerk's absence. The Parish Council is elected every 4 years. This year 2 Councillors are standing down and are being replaced by Lisa Styles and Sarah Best. Rodney thanked John Langlands for his contribution to Parish Liaison over the past 4 years, and thanked Bernard Lane for his work as Chairman for many years and, in addition to his work on the Parish Council, Bernard has written the council notes for the Barford News every month and sat on very many other committees on behalf of the Council. He also thanked Tracey for her work with the Neighbourhood Actions Group and Ray Jelf and Paul O'Sullivan for their efforts on our behalf with Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council respectively.

The new council will take over on 10 May and the first meeting will be on Wednesday 19 May, thereafter reverting to the first Wednesday in the month.

Rodney had taken over as Chairman from Bernard a year ago and since then a new Clerk had been appointed. Ro Watts works at Cherwell District Council and is proving to be an excellent Clerk. The Parish Council had held 11 meetings during the year, with a special meeting to discuss a specific Planning Application which had caused a lot of public comment. There is a 10 minute slot for Public Participation each month and the council welcomes comments from members of the public. Rodney added that, several times over the last year, valuable points have been made in these sessions.

**Planning:** From minor tree pruning to large house extensions, each application is considered carefully. Safety in the village is very important and Bernard, Ray Jelf and some of the village parents had recently met 2 people from Highways to discuss the safety of the Broad Close/Nether Worton Road junction. Steve Wood will be setting up another speed monitoring exercise through The Rock shortly.

**Housing:** We have been trying to get Exception Housing, but CDC were felt to be unreasonably obstructive until our Council representative spoke up at a meeting on the subject, after which they became more amenable. At present we require 4 houses, and CDC have recommended that we do a housing survey every 4 years. However, nothing has happened since the the last one (or the one before that).

**Schooling:** Deddington and Bloxham Primary Schools are very close to capacity. The Parish Council has been concerned that, if they become full, our children will be sent elsewhere. There is an on-going strategic review of school needs by the county council and we were assured that this would not happen. With regard to the Warriner, we have been given absolute assurances that there will be enough places for our children.

**Finance:** The precept for the village was held at last year's rate of £7,000.00. Parish Councillors do not claim expenses. Two items of expenditure required more explanation: the Parish Clerk and Grass Cutting. It was necessary to pay the Clerk a reasonable rate, plus her expenses, as there was an increasing amount of time spent on queries and form filling. The budget for grass cutting was £2,500 this year. This is always a difficult topic, but it was felt by the Council that cutting West Close more frequently this year would encourage more use of it by villagers (16 cuts at £85 per cut).

**Other items:** We looked at school buses using The Park ("Conker Alley"). Dog fouling is still a problem and it is disappointing that people are dumping plastic bags in the hedges. Potholes are a big problem and fly tipping on the Bloxham Road is becoming more frequent.

The pleasant appearance of the village is frequently commented on by visitors and the Parish Council would again like to thank Mick Cook for his wonderful displays of daffodils in the Spring, and Bernard Lane for continuing to mow the village green to such a high standard.

George Parker then gave a short summary of the two village charities, the Shepherds & Bakehouse Trust and the Hall & Fernhill Trust.

The Shepherds & Bakehouse had supported 15 students under the age of 25 who had lived in the parish for 3 years or more at a cost for 2009 of £3,000. Income was £2,864 and was invested in the Charities' Investments Fund. Unfortunately, very little interest was being earned at present.

The Hall & Fernhill Trust had made 26 Christmas gifts of £20 to households in the parish and supported the Deddington Health Centre Minibus scheme. Rent from the Fernhill field was £550 pa, with increases set every 3 years.

**Royal British Legion Awards:** Rodney made 4 awards to parishioners of the Barfords for their sterling work in supporting the annual Poppy Appeal. The team of 7 volunteers goes round each year, and over the past 15 years they have collected around £4,000. The 4 volunteers who were given awards have between them raised £2,400. Static collection boxes are also stationed at The George and the Village Shop. An RBL Poppy Brooch was awarded to Helen Honour, Ann Budd and Verna

Lane, whilst Bernard Lane, the collection co-ordinator, was awarded a medallion lapel badge.

**Open Forum:** It was asked if the Council would consider putting a dog bin on the corner of Mill Lane as waste is being put into the green bin at the Village Hall. This was agreed to be put on the next Agenda.

Repairs to the winter's damage to the roads; cyclists in particular were in danger. Bernard said that some of the pot-holes in Lower Street had been pointed out to Highways at the time of their recent visit and this would be taken further.

The Road Safety Group: it was asked who would be the point of contact on the new council now that Bernard was retiring? This would be the Parish Clerk or the Chairman.

West Close: was it possible to flatten the slope any more to enable a larger football-playing space? This will also be added to a future Agenda.

Road-side verges in Barford St John were being eroded away. It was agreed that the Council would request Highways to have a look at this. It was also agreed to request the owner of the hedges by the roadside to cut these back so that vehicles can pass each other safely.

If speed monitoring is being done in St Michael, why is it not being done in St John at the bottom of the hill? Tracey offered to take this up with the police at the next NAG meeting.

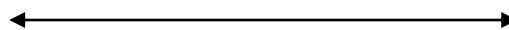
It was asked what power does the Parish Council have over planning decisions by the CDC? The Parish Council has 21 days from the application date to make comments and these are always sent back in time. The Planning Committee is supposed to take our comments into consideration. However, minor amendments to applications are not sent back to the Parish Council. The Parish Council is supposed to be informed if the decision goes against our recommendations. The Planning Committee will take on board any comments it receives from parishioners, however it does have to stick to planning guidelines. It was agreed to discuss this as an Agenda item.

Robin Woolgrove spoke about the Site of Scientific Interest which has been established between Deddington and South Newington, where otter, snipe, lapwing, woodcock and other species are being encouraged and monitored by Defra and the Council for Rural England. The RSPB have said that we have one of the most diverse bird populations in our valley of anywhere in the Midlands. We also have 4 different species of deer. He asked dog owners to be particularly careful of letting their dogs interfere with nesting birds during the season, as we need to keep encouraging these diverse species to make their homes here.

Rupert Moulton gave a vote of thanks to the outgoing Parish Council for their hard work and

this was endorsed with a round of applause from the audience.

SRT



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



**W**e now have three new members to the pack, Callum, Richard & Dan, we hope they will enjoy being with us.

The Cubs have been busy lately, they have sewn seeds to grow plants for our planter at The Windmill, this year they are all veggies, we would like people to help themselves to any courgettes, parsley & beans that appear. Easter nests were another topic, messy (very) but yummy, although I'm not sure many made it home!

We all turned out for the annual St George's Day parade in Banbury, with Philip proudly carrying the flag for Cubs & Shaun for the Scouts.

We then took a team to the Banbury District activity day at Sibford, the Cubs went on a hike & along the way had a go at, pond dipping, pancake making & pioneering.

Jo Churchyard C.S.L. 338071  
[jochurchyard@hotmail.com](mailto:jochurchyard@hotmail.com)

### SCOUTS

**D**an, Olly & Harry have made the great leap upward to join the Scouts & threw themselves in at the deep end by attending the District Survival Camp, which we mostly survived! Rabbits were skinned, pigeons plucked & fish prepared. They made & slept in 'bashers', it was a bit cold, & learnt all about axes signalling, water, firelighting & many other things. They were a great team & we were very proud of them- even though they moaned a lot.

We have also been climbing at the Dewey Centre, something everyone enjoys.

Their astronaut contraptions will be on show at our AGM, I don't think NASA should worry too much about the competition.

Pete Churchyard S.L. 338071  
[pete.churchyard@btinternet.com](mailto:pete.churchyard@btinternet.com)



## Village Market on The Green

Congratulations to all concerned with the May village market held on The Green, in particular to Peter, Dave and their helpers who put in a lot of hard work to make it happen.

The atmosphere was terrific, the weather perfect, and everyone seemed to be having fun.

Thanks to residents around the village green who pitched in and helped set up the stalls, offered refreshments and allowed us to use their electricity, and thanks to all who lent gazebos, tables and equipment. Thanks also to The Blue Coyotes who played and sang throughout the morning and raised £33 for Katharine House Hospice. And finally thanks to Barbara Alt for the loan of her tables and to Martin Winter for opening up his car park for stallholders.



Photos by Maggie Eden and Dave Wheeler. Our next market will be held at the home of Avril Green, Ayot Croft, in Townsend.

## Deddington PTA News

**A**S YOU READ THIS, the 6th Annual Deddington Walk will have come and gone. Hopefully the run of beautiful warm sunny weather we have been enjoying will last through the weekend and, once again, we will be basking in sunshine after the exertion of the morning's Walk! Whatever the weather, I am sure everyone will have enjoyed themselves and thanks must go to our marshals, Alan Rampley our First Aider, the Co-op and all those businesses who so generously sponsored our Walk and everyone else who helped make it a successful day once again. A huge thanks must also go to all those who turned out on the day and to those who have kindly sponsored our children – it is you who make the event happen – we could not do it without you!!

The next date to ensure you have etched on your calendar is our annual Fete which will be held on the school field on Saturday 19th June from 2pm. This is promising to be an exciting event with another brand new attraction this year – Sheep Racing!!! The ever popular quad bikes will be here again along with “Lane Change Digital Scalextric Racing”. Amazing Animals are coming along again too – what will they bring this year?? Each class will be organising and running a stall as usual so do come and support our children and have a fun afternoon!! There will be delicious cream teas, a licensed bar and a wonderful sizzling barbecue to feed your appetite!.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Fete and thank you all for your continued support.

Janet Watts  
PTA Chair



## The Annual Barford Duck Race will be held on 18th July First race 2pm.



**Y**ES – WE'RE AT IT AGAIN. It wouldn't be Barford without it. Mad Brits on a summer weekend. Still it beats sitting in the car in a traffic jam in the rain.

The annual Duck Race is on – it will be Sunday 18th July in the usual venue (for Duck Race Virgins – try and work out the venue). Ok – the river behind the George Inn. Dave and Sue Jelfs have kindly let us trample all over the beautifully mown field yet again.

First race 2pm – building up to the champions final – followed by the “Run What y’brung” and the “Footwear” races, and finally the Powered Race. The powered race is – any vessel using power – but it goes up stream instead.

We will have the usual – BBQ, Bouncy Castle and Tombola.

If you want to sit down – please bring a rug or folding chair, as this year we don't have straw bales – unless you know where we can borrow some? If you do please ring 338835 and let Pete know where to collect them.

All profits go to the Barford Playground funds.

See you there.

T'committee.

## Fernhill Club News

**N**OW THAT SPRING has almost disappeared, it will hopefully get a bit warmer.



The Fernhill Club is in the process of putting together a new programme, details will be in next month's issue. But, like having a new programme, we would also love to attract new members with new ideas!. So how about coming to our next meeting with your ideas. Give us a try on Wednesday afternoons in the village hall (unless a trip has been arranged). We meet from 2.15 until 4.15pm. We always have a break with a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits, and sometimes even have cake if it's someone's birthday.

Recently we were invited to a talk at the Deddington Club with afternoon tea, and were made most welcome.

We are a very happy group, not at all formal.

If in doubt, give me a ring, we are hoping for some new members, with new ideas. Fellas and Ladies, 55+?? Look forward to meeting you soon.

For more information ring:

Maureen Holden 337138

Or Avril 338381

## THEATRE DIRECTOR WANTED FOR PANTOMIME

Unfortunately, Gwen and Austin cannot direct this year's panto due to work commitments.

The panto has been provisionally booked for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of December. So if you would like to have a go or to chat further about the role please contact:

Jill on 01869 337729,

Pete on 01869 338835,

Tracey on 01869 337369

or Leon on 01869 338061.



# “Fancy a Cuppa” Mornings a great success

Between 20 and 30 people have been attending week on week during the trial period, and with such a great response, we are, of course, going to continue to run these sessions every Thursday morning at the Village Hall..

As the summer is approaching (dare we say it) we have been outside in the garden whenever the weather was good, where the kids can have fun on the climbing frame and people are able to enjoy their drinks and a chat in the sunshine .

As from 3<sup>rd</sup> June we will be **starting at the slightly later time of at 9.30.**



**So Come On Down To The Village Hall  
Any Thursday between 09.30 and 11.30**



**£1.00 buys you a cuppa and biscuit, with refills free!**



### Birdies, bunkers and barkies

**E**VER WANTED TO try out golf? Now's your chance as Cherwell District Council has linked up with three local golf courses to offer free taster sessions for anyone aged 18 or over.



Drayton Leisure Golf Club, Bicester Country Club and Kirtlington Golf Club are offering the sessions between now and 28 August.

Not only are the sessions free, but they include use of clubs and balls. And after you've played a round you'll be given the chance to sign up for four lessons at a bargain cost of only £20.



Cherwell District Council's portfolio holder for environment, recreation and health, Councillor George Reynolds, said: "We want to break down some of the preconceptions that people have about golf clubs and encourage more people to play the game. This offer will mean more people can access the sport, become hooked on it and then continue to play and improve. The council has struck a great deal with these three clubs and I hope Cherwell residents will take advantage of it."

For more information contact Cherwell District Council's senior recreation and sport development officer, Sue Pearson on 01295 221718 or email [sue.pearson@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:sue.pearson@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

### Deddington Primary School Annual Summer Fete

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010 from 2 – 5pm

\*\*\*\*\*STOP PRESS \*\*\*\*\*  
Sheep Racing!!



Music &  
Dancing



Crazy Golf  
Hook a Duck  
Bouncy



Mouth watering  
afternoon teas,  
with cakes and  
scones, or a  
delicious variety  
of ice creams



Late  
afternoon  
BBQ &  
Karaoke

Entrance at the School  
Gate

£2 Adults; £1 Children;  
£5 Family Ticket. £1 OAPS;

Exotic reptiles and  
more....!!!!

Quad bikes &  
Scalextrix



### Reel to Reel Tape Recorder Wanted to Borrow

Does anyone out there have an old reel to  
reel tape recorder I could borrow, please?

I would only need to borrow it for  
a couple of hours.

If any one can help please call  
**Mick Pearson on 337074.**



### Shetland Round Britain & Ireland Race

**O**N 6TH JUNE 2010, sixty yachts will set off from Plymouth to race two-handed around Britain & Ireland. Organised by the Royal Western Yacht Club of England this is one of our classic yacht races. And on the start line will be one of the land-locked residents of Barford St Michael - Richard Palmer.

Racing clockwise around the coast, there are stopovers at Kinsale in Ireland, Barra in the Hebrides, Lerwick in the Shetland Islands and finally Lowestoft, before returning to the finish at Plymouth about 2,000nm and one month later. It is the festivities during the 48 hour stopovers that make it a gem of a race.

Co-Skipper Trevor is raising money for the charity "Alliance for Rabies Control" which promotes awareness of rabies, health education and preventative vaccination of animals and people. Any donations gratefully received and can be made at [www.justgiving.com/TrevorDrew](http://www.justgiving.com/TrevorDrew)

Positions throughout the race will be tracked via Satellite. To follow the race and keep in touch with events as they unfold, Richard & Trevor's Blog will be posted on [www.jangada.co.uk](http://www.jangada.co.uk)

Richard Palmer & Trevor Drew  
*dos Jangadieros*

## **The Ian Brooks Golf Day - Ryehill Golf Club 22.04.10**

The Trouble with Television is that it promotes a false image and I don't know what it was that the lovely Nancy had expected to see as she sat in the buggy at the first Tee, but from the look on her face it most certainly was not this bunch of Neanderthals that comprised what Ian had said were his 'Fellow Georgians and Friends.'

Nancy's mental picture of a Golf competition is probably based on watching 'The Masters' from Augusta, 'The Open' from the various beautiful venues around our septic Isle and maybe the World Matchplay from Wentworth, the scene that confronted her however did not bear any resemblance to what her Imagination had painted onto that portion of her brain that goes under the medical term of 'More Fool You.' Ian had shrugged his shoulders in defiance as she cast him a withering glance and he was just about to offer up the long prepared excuse(s) for the state of his 'Mates' when all of a sudden and to his( Ian's) huge relief a new arrival trotted up onto the Tee. Sent by Martin at The George (no fool he) with the story that 'it would be all right, just go on up to Ryehill and tell them I sent you,' our new Chum arrived on the scene and brought the proceedings to a complete standstill, Nancy took one look at him and her spirits soared, she reflexively glanced over to the Club House, Hoping I think to see the arrival of the BBC outside broadcast cameras and to hear the dulcet tones of Peter Alliss and Sam Torrance as they set up to broadcast the 'Norm a la Nancy.'

Our New Chum clad as he was in Powder Blue golf slacks (proper ones) and a Cerise Top set off with a Magnolia Cravat and white (clean) Golf shoes was a showstopper indeed, Lily the Pink (June Christmas) fainted at the sight and only revived when her subconscious heard Councillor Langlands offer to give her the Kiss of Life and /or the Heineken manoeuvre if she promised to vote Tory at the forthcoming General Election.

When a new dog joins a pack there is a lot of sniffing, growling and teeth flashing as they all try to adjust to the arrival and his position within it. Eric, for it was he, was surrounded by everybody else. 'How long is the Tee booked for?' Eric enquired, 'for as long as it takes' growled Pete Floyd in reply, 'Martin sent me up' Eric added, smiling nervously as the pack of hyena's sidled ever closer to him. Just then some wag was heard to say that he thought that Eric was the New Chef at The George, this changed everything and with the pressure off, albeit temporarily, Eric climbed aboard Keith Taylor's Buggy, lit a Cigar and unwrapped his new Titanium shafted driver bought on special offer at poundstretchers, buy one and get a free Barbecue with 300kg of charcoal. His euphoria dropped as he realized that Martin at The George knew about the Barbecue and the Charcoal.

On the first Tee it was an utter shambles as Buggy after Buggy and there were a few, vied for position on the front rank, it was a bit like Wacky Races meets Brand's Hatch and Ian could only smile as he watched. Nancy had had enough of this by now and instructed Ian to set off in pursuit of the first match, hoping that she did not bump into anybody that recognized her. Ian girded his loins for the fray, pulled 'That Hat' tight onto his head and set off to enjoy the carnage that he knew would ensue.

This then was the preamble to Ian's Golf day, an outing organized by Ian for all his Fellow Georgians and Friends. The Venue was Ryehill Golf Club where Ian is a Member. Ian as we all know has not been well for quite some time and has fought and continues to fight doggedly and with huge resilience. Indeed he has fought the disease to a standstill but it is now the treatment that is causing him some issues as he fights his way through. If ever anybody deserves to get well it is Ian, his pragmatism and bravery in the face of his illness are quite frankly an example to everyone who knows him and all we Friends and Fellow Georgians Salute him and wish him well. 'Haste ye Back' Ian, we all miss the sound of your voice both on and off the Golf Course.

Out on the course all was not going to plan, the first game of Phil Alsworth, Gary and Rob Atherton had set off at a fast pace, big hitters all, they were booming their shots everywhere except where they were meant to, Now our Gary is well known for his patience in the face of adversity and by all reports even that was taxed to the limit as he wandered the course and more pertinently its perimeters in search of that Holy Grail called the Fairway.

Immediately behind this a traffic jam was building up as the trio of Steve Booth, Gary Fairclough and Sean Parsons proceeded to do their own thing, in their own time and at their own pace, Golf may have been on the agenda but it was only in there along with Mushroom hunting, smoking organic substances and discussions on various topics like, were Jaffa Cakes really biscuits, was the Bermuda Triangle Isosceles, who were the Moons of Jupiter and did they have an internet address. Sean Parsons had brought this particular discussion to a stop when he said that he didn't know anybody called Moon, never mind any place locally called Jupiter, but that he thought that it was maybe over near Steeple Aston. It was on the 16<sup>th</sup> Tee that the elastic band surrounding the brain collectively owned by our threesome finally snapped. They were seen beating the turf with their drivers by Bob Falconer and when questioned about this they said that they had seen a snake, variations on this ranged to it being a grass snake to it being an anaconda that had attacked and eaten Phil Alsworth. It was only a quick piece of thinking by Steve Booth (according to Steve) that had saved Phil, apparently he had told the Snake that Phil had carded 3 birdies and an eagle in the last four holes. At that



juncture (again according to Steve) the snake had spat Phil out and Steve had explained 'well it would wouldn't it, I mean not even an anaconda would swallow that story.

There were some excellent scores carded, with the results as follows;  
Best Individual Score, Horace Jeffcock; 31 points  
Second Place, Harry Romain ; 30 points  
Nearest the Pin 3<sup>rd</sup> Hole; Nick Barton 6 feet away  
Nearest the Pin 12<sup>th</sup> Hole, Mick Bullard even closer via the bunker rake

Finally it goes without saying that we all had an excellent day at Ryehill and each and every one of us who took part would like to thank Ryehill Golf Club for their generosity . More Importantly however is our thanks and appreciation of the gesture that Ian has made to his Fellow Georgians. He is an example to us all and we all take this opportunity to wish him and Nancy well and look forward to having the pleasure of his company both on and off the Golf Course and this as soon as is possible.

Well done Ian, it was a pleasure indeed.

Tommy; 14.05.10

### 1<sup>st</sup> Deddington Guides

**W**ELL DONE!  
To the trusty  
band who



**Girlguiding UK**  
*girls in the lead*

attended St. George's Day Parade in Banbury.  
Thank you to you all.

With our continuing arrival of new comers, we have enjoyed sharing the delights of our out-door meetings with them.

We began the term by preparing for the first cook-out of the year with a food hygiene session by expert Mrs. J. Webb. This was very informative and great fun. No undercooked bangers at our cook-outs and barbecues this summer!

We also learnt to make sitters and the safety rules around the fire. Our cook-out was then a great success! And we had time for fun and games afterwards in the gloaming.

Thank you to the senior guides and to Mr. & Mrs. P. Bouvierie for the use of their garden

Last week we had a superb evening at Wroxton College where we had an opportunity to walk in the beautiful grounds and under the guidance of 3 bat experts – saw and heard (with the aid of detectors) many bats as it began to get dark. We saw and heard several other birds and animals too – it was a great evening.

This weekend we are off to Blenheim for a centenary celebration 'Party at the Palace', if it stays fine we'll be sleeping under the stars!

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069  
Marian Trinder 01869 340806

### Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

**T**HIS TERM HAS seen the  
Nursery children  
finding out about  
Growth and the PFSU



children learning about Minibeasts. Both sites are watching as their tadpoles grow legs. The PFSU have caterpillars that are now chrysalises, and most exciting of all, the Nursery now have four delightful chicks and their constant cheeping is a happy background to all the Nursery activities. The PFSU children are also spending this term collecting postcards from around the world and finding out a bit about those places, so if you are going anywhere we would love to hear from you, whether you have a connection with the PFSU or not! Postcards can be sent to us at Deddington PFSU c/o Deddington Primary School and they will reach us. Thank you! We held successful parent's evenings at both sites earlier in the term, where parents were able to talk to their child's key person and see the detailed profile that we keep for each child. Looking forward we will be practising for our Sports Day on the school field on Friday 2nd July and also preparing the children for the big 'move-up' in the summer, some from Nursery to the PFSU, and for our PFSU children, into 'big' school. Don't forget the Casino Night at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 17th July. This is our major annual fund-raiser and we would welcome as much support as possible. It should be a good night.

Lucy Squires  
337484



The British asparagus season has arrived. Home-grown freshly picked asparagus is in a different league to travel-weary imports so make the most of every delicious bundle while you can; the season only lasts to mid-June.

### Rainbows

**W**E'VE SAID some more goodbyes as Laura and Teya move on to Brownies, but welcome Jemima, whose grandparents live in Barford, Becca from Robins Close and Harriet. We've been enjoying the warm weather after Easter, playing games in the village hall garden in between painting butterflies and making May Queen crowns.

We spent one lovely sunny afternoon in West Close playing cricket, which was highly competitive and involved lots of diving for the ball! and lots of running around games. In the next few weeks we're looking forward to learning Morris dancing (with thanks to Verna Wass) and a visit from the Wild Waste show, who will teach us how to make recycled paper. Later in the term is a visit from the Blue Cross and making our Scarecrow for the Open Gardens.

Rainbows are girls between 5 and 7 years old. Our waiting list is long, so please put any potential Rainbows names down as soon as possible; it doesn't matter what age they are.

Hazel and Gillian  
01869 337822



### Hair Models Required

Carolle would like to practice any aspect of hairdressing.

For more information or to book an appointment please contact:

**The Finishing Touch - Tel: 337833**



## Barfords W.I.

### Native Americans

A talk with slides  
By Andrew Lucero

Please join us at

7.30pm

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June

In the Village Hall



At the W.I. Meeting

Visitors £3.00



Today's Women working for  
Tomorrow's World

## Barford Green Garden Club OPEN GARDENS SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2.00PM TO 6.00PM

Another reminder of Barford open gardens with scarecrows. We still need offers of help PLEASE, if you have any unwanted plants for the plant stall, can make a cake, or help for one hour serving teas do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the committee. We look forward to seeing you on the day



## VISIT TO FIVEWAYS COTTAGE GARDEN , SHUTFORD JULY 16<sup>TH</sup> 7.00PM

Just to remind you of this visit. Cost £3.00, which includes a drink. We pay on the evening so no need to give me any money now. I shall need the final number of people

Wishing to come on this visit about 2 weeks before so will remind you again in July Barford news. I have a 6 page article on this garden and will circulate to all those interested before our visit. If you wish to attend / read the article please let me know

## BALL COLEGRAVE OPEN EVENING WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY 4.00PM TO 8.00PM

Only open for one day to the public this year. Tickets may be bought on the gate, cost £2.00. Light refreshments will be available to purchase but you are welcome to take your own food / drink

Jill Bunce

BGGC Secretary 337577 / email  
[jill@ridleymarreco.co.uk](mailto:jill@ridleymarreco.co.uk)

## 1st Deddington Brownies



WITH THE ARRIVAL of Spring (?) the girls have spent this month working towards their Gardeners Badge. They have planted potatoes and various seeds in Brown Owl's garden and are eagerly awaiting the results.

We took part in the St George's Day Parade in Banbury in April, parading to and from St Mary's Church with members of Guiding and Scouting from all over the area.

As part of the on-going Centenary celebrations we joined Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from all over Oxfordshire to celebrate at the 'Party at the Palace'. This was held at Blenheim Palace and circus skills, belly dancing, knotting and meeting owls were just some of the events available for us to participate in. The afternoon culminated with a picnic, sing song and a photograph of everyone present - quite an undertaking.

As always there is a waiting list for Brownies so if you think a girl you know would like to join when she is seven, please contact Brown Owl, Anne Kent on:

[the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:the1stdeddingtonowls@hotmail.co.uk) to be added to it.

Lucy Squires

## EXPANDING SUPPERS have begun.....

Have you been invited yet? Why not start your own?  
All donations go to Village Hall Funds.

Any information required? Ring  
Gunilla on  
01295 720521



## Singing For Pleasure



Still at it!!

June meetings are

June 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

In the Village Hall

Join us whenever you can!

No auditions, No solos

just lots of fun!!

Details from Mariann on 338 575



## Concessionary Travel: Changes in Eligibility

**T**HE NATIONAL RULES have changed on the age of eligibility for concessionary travel. It means that the qualifying age for a travel pass or travel tokens throughout the country will now rise gradually, from 60 to 65 over the next ten years.

The change will affect anyone applying for any type of concessionary travel whose 60th birthday falls on or after 6 April 2010. The age of eligibility will rise in stages, between 2010 and 2020. The earliest age for men and women to get bus passes will therefore rise from 60 on 5 April 2010 to 65 on 6 April 2020.

Anyone who already has either a bus pass or transport tokens or is already 60, will not be affected.

Cherwell District Council's portfolio holder for planning and housing, Cllr Michael Gibbard, said: "As the changes are being introduced in stages, the date of eligibility for concessionary travel will depend on the month people were born. For example, those born after 5 April 1955, will be eligible for a travel pass or travel tokens from the age of 65."

For more information phone Cherwell District Council customer services on 01295 2277001

## THE GEORGE INN

### Quiz Nights @ The George

With Quizmaster Brian Talbot  
On:-

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010

All Welcome (No Previous Experience Required!)

### World Cup Football 2010

11<sup>th</sup> June – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010

All England matches and other key matches to be shown on the BIG Screen! Come and cheer on your team!!



### Sandford St. Martin Cricket Club Fixtures



Date	Opponents	Venue	Start
<b>1<sup>st</sup> XI – Division 2</b>			
June 5	Long Marston	Home	1.00
12	Twyford	Away	1.00
19	Tiddington	Home	1.00
26	Leighton Buzzard	Away	1.00
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> XI – Division 6</b>			
June 5	Wolverton II	Away	1.00
12	Horspath II	Home	1.00
19	Cropredy	Away	1.00
26	Spare		
<b>Sunday Fixtures</b>			
June 6	Coventry Ramblers	Home	2.30
13	Southam	Away	2.30
20	Steeple Aston	Home	2.30
27			

## Deddington Fire Service News

**I**N THE LAST MONTH we have received 23 firecalls of various types. These have included two aircraft crashes, three chimney fires, a grass fire, two electrical fires, a wood shredder/chipper, two car fires and a road traffic collision along a few standby's to other stations.



The two aircraft incidents were at the Skimmingdish Lane airfield at Bicester, where the first light aircraft crashed into a crop field adjacent to the airfield, and the second one, a glider crashed into a garden and hedge adjacent to the A4221. Luckily, no one was seriously injured in either of these incidents.

The chimney fires were at North Aston, where a beam in a chimney caught alight at the White Lion pub in Steeple Aston, and the Red Lion at Stratton Audley, which also had a thatched roof. We were sent to back up the Bicester crews who were working hard to prevent the fire spreading to the thatch itself. We also required the use of the hydraulic platform to inspect the thatch and ensure that there were no hotspots left.

The grass fire - well, not much to say about that one. It was a fire, and it involved some grass! The electrical fires were both caused by light fittings. One was in the Castle Quay Centre in Banbury, and the other at an industrial unit on Overthorpe Industrial estate. In both incidents, nobody was injured, and damage was limited to smoke logging.

At Bainton, we attended a wood chipping machine used for crushing wooden pallets, which had caught fire, and then set light to the chipped wood which was piled next to it. We attended as the second pump, assisting a Bicester pump who worked quickly to setup a water supply and bring the machine fire under control. Our job was to tackle the tons of wooden chips that had caught alight and prevent the fire spreading any further.

Luckily, the landowner had a large pond where we could take water from, otherwise we may have needed more pumps to establish a water relay as the nearest hydrant was some distance away from the incident.

There were two car fires in one night at the Upper Heyford base, within an hour or so of each other, and this is suspected as being arson. Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service routinely works in partnership with Thames Valley Police in cases of arson and has been successful in bringing offenders to court in other parts of the county.

The road traffic collision happened just after midnight south of Deddington, where a male driver was trapped in his burning car. He was bravely freed by members of the public who attempted to extinguish the car; sadly, we understand that the guy has since lost the use of his legs below the knee.

On a lighter note, at the station itself we can congratulate Sharon Wilson on passing her Breathing Apparatus course and she had her first operational wear at the car fires mentioned previously. We are also preparing Richard Day for his 'fitness to ride' test before we let him loose on the appliance, and we are all keen to get him up to standard and "on the run" as soon as possible as his basic course was cancelled in January due to the heavy snows.

Martin Freeman has passed his emergency response driving test again and I suppose I ought to mention that I passed a Vector assessment which may allow me to go out in charge of the pump at sometime in the future. I'm told that Watch Manager Fenemore can't wait for this to happen so that he can book some time off knowing that the pump will still remain available in the daytime, whilst he tends to his harvest crops.

In terms of other news, we believe that we may have secured another recruit who has passed most of the selection process, and we hope to see him on his basic course by the end of the year. We will also be saying goodbye to our whole-time Station Manager, Paul Debling who will be leaving us in September as he retires from the service after many years. I know that I speak for the whole crew in saying that he will be sadly missed. He has had a positive influence on the station and crew and hopes to leave us in good shape, with good crew numbers, good skill competence and some fond memories of us hopefully.

As summer approaches, we hope to meet some of you at the local school and village fetes. As usual, the requests to come to these great activities are many, and we are trying to get to as many as we can, firecalls permitting of course!

The way things are going to date, I think we are going to have a very busy year. We have already had 100 firecalls by mid May, which is our normal half yearly figure.

At Deddington station, our average mobilisation time (from when our alerter goes off, to when we are driving out of the station) is a mere 4.8 minutes.

Considering that not only do we have crew responding from Deddington but also from Barford, Adderbury, Hempton, and Clifton, I think that that is not a slow response time by any means, we can soon be in attendance at any local incident, so please remember that if you need us, the sooner you call us the sooner we will be there, five minutes may seem a long if you are waiting, but I bet it's taken you that long to read this article ! (If the editor has not cut it)

F/F Graham Harding, Deddington Fire Station

## Garden Club Visit

### To Abbey House Gardens Malmesbury

**T**WENTY MEMBERS of the Garden Club visited Abbey House Gardens, Home of the 'naked gardeners' Ian and Barbara Pollard on Sunday 25 April. They are known as the naked gardeners because – you guessed it – they do not wear clothes when they are working in the garden on their own and very little when visitors are there. In 1994 when they bought Abbey House, the house and gardens were in a state of neglect so the couple set about the mammoth task of creating an incredible home and gardens which now attract people from all over the world. To keep the gardens looking at their best one full time gardener and three part time gardeners are employed. The garden has over 10,000 different plants including 2,000 roses. When we visited it was a bit overcast but the fantastic show of over 100,000 tulips in full flower brightened things up.

Not far from the main beds of Tulips is the old Mulberry Tree which is over two hundred years old. It is showing its age a bit and needs support, but all things considered it is doing very well and will probably last a lot longer than all of us.

Not only were we treated to a fantastic show of flowers, around every corner there were some marvellous pieces of art, like a huge fish catching a man, a statue of a monk in contemplation and various pieces of a more abstract nature. The topiary was excellent with Yews and Box trimmed superbly and a fantastic bush shaped into a human face.

The herb garden is surrounded by an almost circular walk way covered in fruit cordons, roses and clematis. In the middle is a pond with a fountain and Carp swimming around. A much larger pond with some huge and colourful Carp was near the refreshment area. It was here that Ann and Janet caught up with Ian doing a bit of weeding, fortunately he was wearing quite a long shirt and knee pads!

Jane and Erika took time out in front of the house for refreshments looking towards the topiary. On the North side of the house the garden drops away down a hillside and you can meander down through woodland plants to the River Avon. It is a tranquil area which is a fantastic haven for birds.

This really is a beautiful garden which is well worth a visit.

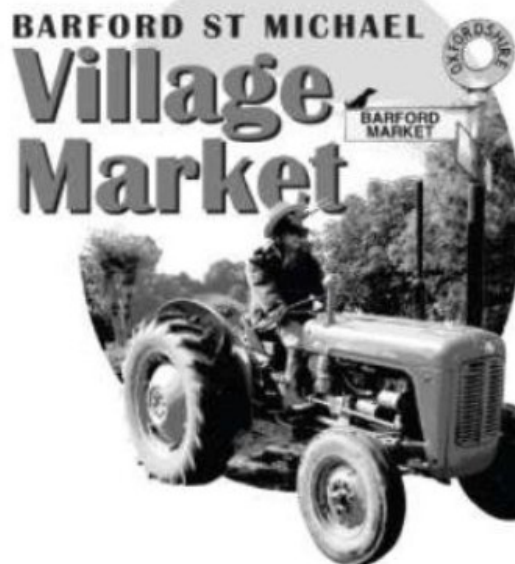
Hope to see you on the 16<sup>th</sup> July at Fiveways.

RS

(Photographs show The Face Bush; Ann and Janet talking to Ian Pollard; View of Abbey House from the North and Jane and Erika having refreshments).







**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Outside Ayot Croft, Townsend**  
**10.am - Noon**

With performances from  
 The Adderbury Morris Men

Speciality Breads & Cheeses, Locally Produced  
 Meat, Organic Vegetables, Home-made Cakes &  
 Preserves, Free Range Eggs, Plants, Gifts,  
 Cards, Crafts

**Something for Everyone!**

#### Deddington CE Primary News

**A**S WE ENTER June we are preparing ourselves for change. Our very much loved Head, Mrs Judith Tinsley, is moving on to another school and we therefore are in the throes of recruiting a new Head Teacher. Though change can be an unsettling time, it can also be exciting and throw open new opportunities, whoever gets the post will be received with a warm welcome and hardworking staff and children.

Meanwhile school life continues and this month we look forward to a number of activities. The P.T.A. have organised our annual summer fete, to be held on the school field on Saturday 19th June, there will be stalls run by the children and parents, entertainment and refreshments. We are also looking forward to our Years 5 and 6 taking part in The Warriner Partnership production of 'Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat'. Years 6 are also busy preparing themselves for the Community Concert, part of the Deddington Festival; their contribution will be based on World War II, an area which they really enjoyed studying in the Autumn Term.

Mrs Jane Cross, Deputy Head

#### The Question Of The Three Ms

**T**HERE COMES A TIME in a lot of mens' lives when they have a little more time, a little bit of money and more energy than is required for the DIY, gardening and other home based activities.

At this time the men may consider one of the three Ms. A big old Motor bike is some mens' choice but this can be expensive, high maintenance and you could fall off and hurt yourself. In the most minor cases there's the cost to repair the bike and the derision of your wife and family to put up with.

The second M is the Mistress, also quite expensive, doesn't accord with what remains of family life and of course you could fall off and hurt yourself.


The best M for a man of a certain age is Morris dancing. There is very moderate financial input, (so long as the new chancellor keeps down the tax on beer) and Morris injuries are seldom severe, there is a possibility that your wife and family will find out what you are up to (the bells will give you away) but the enhanced physical and mental health along with the great enjoyment you will get out of Morris will be enough to get you over the ill informed jibes you may encounter.

Come and see us and get more information at The Barford Village Market on Sat. 19<sup>th</sup> of June at 10.30am and the George at Twelve noon.

Trevor Stevens, Townsend  
 Adderbury Morris Men (The men in red, white & blue)

**Bloxham Amnesty International**  
 Group present:

**"PERSEPOLIS"**



WAR. REVOLUTION. FAMILY. PUNK ROCK.  
 ALL PART OF GROWING UP

**The extraordinary multi-award winning animated  
 feature film set against the backdrop of the  
 Iranian Revolution (cert 12)**

"TERRIFIC...A TRUE ORIGINAL" (*The Times*)  
 "ENDLESSLY CHARMING AND VERY FUNNY...BRILLIANT"  
 (*Empire*)

**VILLAGE HALL, BARFORD ST MICHAEL**  
**SAT 19 JUNE 2010**  
**Doors open 7.15pm, starts 7.45pm**

Bring your own refreshments  
 All welcome - admission by free ticket  
 Call 01295 810969 to book  
 Retiring donations in aid of Amnesty International

**A** LARGE GROUP assembled for the May WI meeting, with members and visitors from both Barford and South Newington. President Betty and Secretary Mariann dealt with the business part of the evening. This included the vote on the Resolution to be sent by National HQ to the government regarding the accurate labelling of food to show country of origin. (For example, at present a pork pie made in England using foreign pork can be labelled as British)

It was then time for our speaker, Adrienne Baba. Adrienne came to introduce us to home-made *sushi* (which translates as 'something with rice'). She lived in Japan for 6 years, married a Japanese and now runs her own food business and prepares sushi for sale at 'Bread & Milk' in Bloxham. Adrienne talked us through *kombu* (seaweed for stock) and *nori* (flat wrapping made of algae) which she made into rolls with vegetable fillings and then small oval shapes made of the special rice with smoked salmon coverings. The most interesting delicacy was made 'inside out' with an outer covering of sesame seeds.

Even the most sceptical were charmed by Adrienne and everyone very soon decided that this was the most delicious thing they had ever tasted (well almost!). Adrienne told us that most of the Japanese ingredients (sushi rice, pickled ginger, wasabi paste) were available from Sainsbury's, and the special rolling mat can be bought at a speciality shop or online from [www.clearspring.co.uk](http://www.clearspring.co.uk).

A terrific evening, with a lot of laughter and enjoyment. Erika won Flower of the Month competition (in aid of Associated Country Women of the World) with some Lily of the Valley.

Come and join us for our next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> June, when the speaker will be Andrew Lucero on the subject of 'Native Americans'.

SRT

### Marathon Woman

Hooray its over! What a great day - finished the marathon in 4 hours and 21 minutes!!!!

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported me, I raised over £2,000 for help the hospices and to all those who came to our curry night - we raised over £6,000 (between 3 of us) for charity.

All the hard work finally paid off and I am looking forward to getting my life back!!!



### Jewellery by Rebecca

Beautiful jewellery handmade by Rebecca Greeves. Available monthly at Barford Village Market and online: <http://rebeccajewellery.wordpress.com>



### Photos:

Top Sue with her children Archie & Poppy  
Bottom The Village Hall decorated in style for the curry auction fund raiser.

**CHURCH WARDEN REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010**

Tuesday 29 Apr 2010

**BARFORD ST MICHAEL**

1. **The Log book Terrier and Inventory.** The Log book Terrier and Inventory for Barford St Michael and St John are all up to date and available for inspection.
2. **New Aquisitions.** There are no new acquisitions.
3. **The Church Yard.** The churchyard at Barford St Michael continues to be maintained with regular mowing and tidying by the usual gang. One big clean up day was undertaken by Peter Bird and helpers, when quantities of wood and Ivy were removed opening the vista of the church. Thanks to all concerned.
4. **The Church Building.** A Maintenance Inspection was carried out on 12 Feb 10 under the supervision of the architect John Perryman, some small flaking was found in the lower rendering and some of the foot holds up the tower had become loose. A second inspection was made on 15 Apr 10 and these defects were all rectified. John Perryman was satisfied with the repairs and the final certificate releasing the retention, in the sum of £5058.42 was made. This is due for payment as soon as the VAT advice is received from the builder. There is still a final invoice to be received from John Perryman. Other maintenance items eg gutter cleaning have been carried out so that the maintenance plan, which has to be submitted to English Heritage for the next 10 years, can be completed. Now that all works in St Michael's church have been completed, it is time to have the organ tuned. It was not deemed a good idea while the work was in progress.

**BARFORD ST JOHN**

5. **The Church Yard** The Willis's continue to cut the grass and keep the church yard tidy. Our thanks to them.
6. **The Church Building.** The gutters have been cleaned out. The West window has further deteriorated and an estimate of £7802 + VAT has been received from Davidson Masonry Ltd, the firm which restored the West window so beautifully and also did the masonry work on St Michael's Tower. The VAT would be recoverable. It is hoped that we will be able to obtain a grant towards the cost. No further progress has been made towards the re-ordering of the church.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

7. The fire extinguishers have received their annual inspection and no replacements are required. St Michaels is open during daylight hours from March the clocks go back in October. It remains closed during the winter but the key is always available.
8. Finally, a personal thank you to Cubby Brett who has so valiantly and without complaint undertaken all the Churchwardens duties during the past few months while I have had to be away.



## **TREASURERS REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010**

The accounts presented are in draft form awaiting the Gift Aid calculation to be added.

#### **THE TOWER**

As mentioned in the Church Warden's Report, the final Maintenance Inspection was carried out on 15 Apr 10 under the supervision of the architect John Perryman, this was the second inspection. The first on 12 Feb 10 brought to notice some flaking in the lower rendering and some of the foot holds up the tower had become loose. These having been satisfactorily repaired, the final certificate was issued by John Perryman on 22 Apr 10 releasing the retention, in the sum of £5058.42. This is due within fourteen days of receiving the VAT details from the builder. There will also be John Perryman final invoice to pay when received. The estimated shortfall of £5,000 was probably under estimated and £6,000 was probably more accurate. We have already used up all that was in the Barford St Michael fabric fund. The VAT will be recoverable in due course.

The Tower is now looking superb and all the efforts have paid off, however the story does not end there. We have to maintain the church for the next ten years and submit a report to English Heritage showing that the church is being maintained to the required standard otherwise the grant is in jeopardy of being recalled.

#### **DEDICATED COLLECTIONS**

The dedicated collections on the fifty Sundays during the year were down again largely due to the reduced congregations. However £107.76 is awaiting to go to Ghana, with the next people who visit. Donations were also made to the British Legion and the Children's Society. Donations have been received from Whist Drives, Bingo Evenings and the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Also funds were received from the Open Gardens and car parking for weddings funerals and baptisms.

Two deliveries were made to Polly Preedy during the year in the form of goods and money from a regular fisherman who donated £5 on each of his visits. Unfortunately the amount of goods sent this year has been considerably less than previous years.

The Diocesan Quota of £9.566 was fully paid on time and we shall receive a bonus. The Deanery share of £350 and the Benefice Secretarial Share of 1/5 remains on average £50 per month are all up to date. The 1/5 calculation of the total Benefice Quota for 2010 will be £9,987 an increase of £421 over last year.

Unfortunately our income has gone down due to the death of some generous donors, the loss of income from Joan's wonderful Sales and now the Bingo has stopped, so there will be no more from that source. During this year we have received no donations from the Barford Market. However the Book Table at the Market run by Caroline Bird and her helpers generates about £40 - £50 of sales per market. There is a great deal of work involved in this and thanks to Caroline and her helpers for their dedication, it is greatly appreciated.

The Summer Concerts were successful and enjoyed by those who attended, but more local support would have been appreciated, as it was they were run at a loss. Fortunately the sum was underwritten by a generous donor, but the result was somewhat disappointing considering the amount of time and effort that was put in. There is a separate sheet showing the breakdown of income and expenditure. The Ghanaian evening was a huge success, well attended and enjoyed by all. Some members were dressed in Ghanaian costume and slides were shown by the Vicar and David Wheeler. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food that had been especially prepared. The amount raised for the Ghanaian school was £252.91.

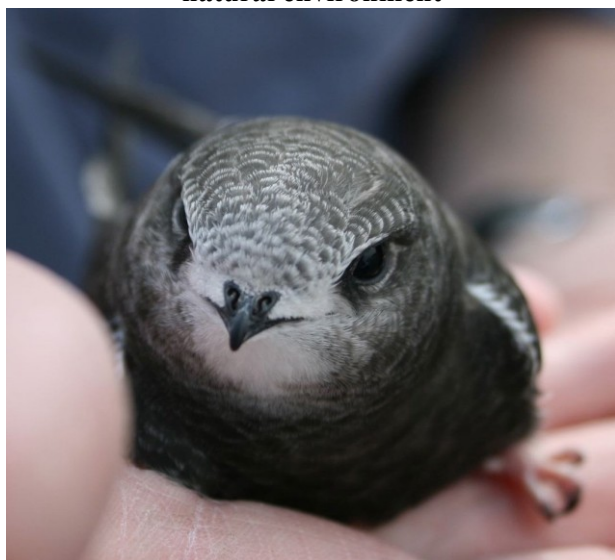
Our present financial state is just about holding its own, but we are now scraping the bottom of the barrel. As we are at the moment, we need £20,000 guaranteed each year just to run the church. By July we shall have the Curate in place and we shall be faced with his rent and expenses of approx £250 per month. Unless more income is forthcoming we shall be in the position where we may not be able to meet our outgoing expenses.

Many more people are needed to join the enveloped stewardship, or make direct monthly donations straight to the bank. All it takes, for example, is one less packet of cigarettes or one less bottle of wine per household per week. A small price to pay to keep our beautiful church maintained and running.

Thanks are expressed to those few dedicated to cleaning the churches and arranging the flowers and those who are willing to be on the Readers List. But they are too few and more people are needed to join them – too much is undertaken by too few.

We do not want to be faced, once again, with the possibility of church closure which is something that may rear its head again if more funds do not become available quickly. It's over to you all to respond.

## Protecting and improving Cherwell's natural environment



**Photo by Margers Martinsons**

Wildlife in north Oxfordshire will continue to receive vital support from Cherwell District Council. The council has just finished work on a new biodiversity action plan which sets out how it intends to protect and improve wildlife throughout its services. The plan aims to protect and improve habitats and species on property the council owns or has some influence over. The latest example is a new set of swift boxes which are to be installed at Bodicote House to increase the number of nesting swifts at the site. These add to the council's efforts which also include swift bricks and bat boxes integrated into construction of the new Spiceball Park sports centre. Such action is felt to be vital as these species are rapidly losing places to live and breed. Their new accommodation will give them the opportunity to thrive.

Cherwell's head of safer communities, urban and rural services, Chris Rothwell, said: "These are excellent examples of how support for wildlife can be integrated into council owned buildings. "We also support wildlife through partnerships with a number of conservation organisations. "The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group helps to protect, create and restore important habitats on farms and the RSPB provides specialist advice to local landowners on management for important species of birds.

"New legislation and planning rules mean all local authorities must carefully consider the impact of development on the natural environment." The new action plan is a significant document in making sure all those involved with the planning process are aware of priority sites, habitats and species. It will also help meet requirements of the government's Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and other legislation. Cherwell supports the Thames Valley

Environmental Records Centre to collate and provide wildlife data for use in the planning process.

Oxfordshire records centre manager, Gavin Bird, said: "We're involved in two ways, one is to provide information to the council about important sites, habitats and species and the other is to help the recording groups understand how their work fits in at a district level."

The Cherwell swifts conservation project is a successful community initiative that involves local people recording swift nest sites in their area. Cherwell's Biodiversity and Countryside Officer, Sue Marchand, said: "Over two years, more than 50 parishes have contributed to the project, recording more than 100 nest sites.

"The swifts are due to arrive again soon so I would encourage as many people as possible to get involved."

To find out more about the swifts project contact Sue Marchand on 01295 221707.

**The Fancy Stitch Group**  
Ingwavuma, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

**Coffee Morning and Sale**  
to raise funds  
for this self-help charity  
**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July**  
**10.00 - 12.30pm**  
**Banbury Friends Meeting House**  
**Horsefair, Banbury**

In a very remote part of South Africa, high in the Lebombo mountains, there is a small business run by a group of local women. From these humble beginnings, it now gives hope to over 420 ladies who are able to earn a small income to support their families. They call themselves 'The Fancy Stitch Group'. These women live in a poverty-stricken part of South Africa ravaged by AIDS – where approximately 42% of the population are HIV positive. The life expectancy is 39 years. There is almost no opportunity for employment, the ladies are forced to rear their children and orphans single-handedly on very little or no income. The Fancy Stitch ladies are very skilled, they make many beautiful things. These are sold via coffee mornings, sales and other events. Here in the UK we are all volunteers – all the money raised goes directly back to Ingwavuma.

### Katharine House News

#### Festival of Open Gardens, June 2010

We have had a fantastic response so far to our Festival of Open Gardens, with the first two gardens that opened in April, raising over £1200. This month we have **eight** wonderful gardens open, including the hospice gardens, as detailed below:

Sunday 6 June	KHH Gardens, Adderbury	2pm – 5pm	Maintained by the Simon Weatherby Garden Trust
Sunday 13 June	Sorbrook Mill, Bodicote	11.30am – 4pm	By kind permission of Anna Allott
Sunday 20 June	17 Twyford Gardens	2pm – 5pm	By kind permission of Jane and David Fletcher
Sunday 20 June	Placketts, Adderbury	2pm – 6pm	By kind permission of Dr David White
Sunday 20 June	Fairfield, Adderbury	2pm – 6pm	By kind permission of Mike and Val Adams
Sat/Sun 26-27 June	Wildwood, Farnborough	2pm – 5pm	By kind permission of Mike and Marion Hart
Sunday 27 June	Little Bridge House, Barford St Michael	2pm – 5pm	By kind permission of Patricia Field
Sunday 27 June	2 Church Cottages, Barford St Michael	2pm – 5pm	By kind permission of Erika Smith

Do come along and visit some of these unique and interesting gardens if you can. It is a lovely way to spend an afternoon and all funds raised benefit nursing care.

#### Midnight Walk, Saturday 19 June 2010 – more volunteers needed!

We have had a wonderful response to our plea for volunteers for our 4<sup>th</sup> Midnight Walk but are still looking for more helpers to act as Marshalls on the night. If you are interested in being part of a very special evening, please phone Valerie on 01295 812161.

Valerie Carter  
Community Fundraiser



### Visit to Wimpole Estate (National Trust) Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

#### DEDDINGTON W.I.



You are invited to join us on our visit to The Wimpole Estate (including the Hall, Park and gardens)  
On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

Departing:  
Hempton 0830, picking up , Windmill Centre  
And Town Hall.

Cost to include coach and entrance

**£24\***

National Trust members with card,  
**£16** for coach only)

Departing Wimpole approximately 16.30

To Book: Contact  
Yvonne Twomey 01869 337213

#### Save our Planet – Tip



**Avoid palm oil:** You will find palm oil in a huge number of consumer products – from conditioner to crisps – and such is world demand that large tracts of sensitive forests are being lost at an increasing rate. Vast palm-oil plantations are threatening the survival of the Borneo orangutan, so a big cheer for 'Scouse Soaps', the UK's first palm-oil-free soap. See [www.littlesatsuma.com](http://www.littlesatsuma.com).