

# BARFORD NEWS

MAY 2013

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## Parish Council Notes

The meeting took place at 7.30pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Best, Cllr Bullard, Cllr Eden, Cllr Stiles, Cllr Turner and Cllr Woolgrove. Also attending were Mrs R Watts (Clerk).

**Bridge at Barford St Michael:** The Clerk reported the damage to the culverts by the bridge to Oxfordshire County Council Highways in February. The engineer has contacted her to say that he would be inspecting the area but no repairs have been carried out to date.

**The Scrapes:** The Clerk has reported damage to the footpath along The Scrapes to Oxfordshire County Council Highways. Their Task Team went out on 25<sup>th</sup> March with the intention of removing the sleepers floating in flood water. However, Cllr Woolgrove reported that he had stopped them doing this because it would then be impossible for walkers to get over the ditch. The workmen consequently replaced the sleepers.

**Allotments:** Cllr Hobbs tabled a draft tenancy agreement for Councillors to consider. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that Cllr Hobbs will discuss the agreement with Chris Cox.

**Defibrillator:** Cllr Hobbs tabled details of a scheme which would enable the Parish Council to purchase a defibrillator for use by residents in an emergency. The cost would be in the region of £2,500. Councillors agreed that they needed more details before coming to any decision about this, perhaps by accepting the offer of a free demonstration. It was agreed that Cllr Hobbs will discuss the matter with residents at the Annual Parish Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> April to gauge interest. Cllr Styles suggested that Basic First Aid courses for residents would be a better use of funds. Cllr Hobbs will speak to St John's Ambulance and the Red Cross to ascertain costs.

**Dog Bins:** Barford News has received a letter from a resident complaining about dog owners using the Village Hall wheelie bin to dispose of dog faeces. Following a discussion it was agreed by 3 votes in favour to 4 abstentions to purchase a new dog bin for the junction of Church Street with Lower Street. Residents are asked to refrain from using the Village Hall wheelie bin for the disposal of dog excrement.

## Planning Matters

Details of planning applications can be found on the Cherwell District Council website [http://cherweb.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/applications\\_searchform.aspx](http://cherweb.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/applications_searchform.aspx)

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

### Planning Applications Approved by Cherwell District Council:

13/00088/F Gannon, 3 Townsend Cottages, Barford St Michael, two storey side extension and single storey rear extension, remove chimney, erect porch, replace flat roof at rear with pitched roof and form parking/turning area to front of dwelling and new access. Granted on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

### Councillors were asked to note the following:

- a) Appeal by Mintondale Developments, land south of Milton Rd, Bloxham (85 houses)
- b) Appeal by Gladman Developments, land off Barford Road, Bloxham (75 houses)

Bloxham Parish Council's application to defer these Appeals until after the decision has been made by the Secretary of State on the Taylor Wimpey Appeal for land off Bourne Lane, Hook Norton has been refused. The 4-day Appeal by Gladman Developments will therefore take place at Bodicote House on 16<sup>th</sup> April. The 4-day Appeal by Mintondale Developments will take place at Banbury Cricket Club, Bodicote on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

- c) Miller Homes – potential application for a further development in Tadmarton Road, Bloxham.

### Any Other Business:

Cllr Woolgrove complained about the amount of dog excrement being left in the fields leading to Barford St John mill from Summer Ley and along The Scrapes. Residents are asked to note that dog faeces are dangerous to the health of sheep, especially lambs and to children. Owners are asked to clear up after their dogs and dispose of the excrement in the dog bins provided, or in their own wheelie bins.

Cllr Bullard reported that the play equipment in the Village Hall garden needs cleaning. Councillors unanimously agreed to pay to have this done.

Councillors were asked to locate a suitable contractor and send details to the Clerk.

Cllr Styles reported that a resident had complained about some hirers of the Village Hall not having Licences to supply alcohol to the public. Cllr Hobbs will speak to the Village Hall Committee about this.

Cllr Hobbs had received a cold-call from a company offering to carry out a 'security survey' of his property. He had reported the matter to the police.

Cllr Hobbs said that the police are warning villagers to be aware of a spate of domestic oil theft from properties in the Cherwell area.

Another scam is someone calling at your door saying that they are locked out of their premises and that they urgently need to 'borrow' money to get a locksmith. Do not give them any money.

Councillors were reminded that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. This will be followed by the AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO....

Bernard Lane and Lisa Styles who stepped down as Acting-Chairman and Treasurer respectively at the recent AGM.

Les Hall has taken over as Treasurer and we are now searching for a **new Chairman** so if you think you've got the **dedication, sensitivity, impartiality, decisiveness and devilish good-looks** that this post necessitates, then please contact Lucy Norman on ☎337678

thank you  
Village Hall Management Committee  
April 2013

#### Barford Green Garden Club

##### NOTES FROM OUR POTTING SHED

**O**UR VISIT TO SUE BEDWELL'S garden in Bletchington, called Monks Head was postponed due to the late arrival of Spring! We will rearrange for later in the season.



##### TIP OF THE MONTH

Our new **Summer Assortment** day on July 14th is being planned. Once again we will be raising money for village charities. (see separate article). All final details will be given in June Barford News, together with entry forms for the various competitions. **PLANT YOUR CONTAINERS; TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS; THINK ABOUT SCARECROWS; SORT OUT SPARE PLANTS** you may have for the Plant Stall ; **FIND ANY GARDENING BOOKS** you no longer want and **START PREPARING YOUR GARDENS** . This summer is going to be fantastic, warm and full of colour. We have been in touch with the 'powers that be'.

Deadhead bulbs but leave the leaves to die off ; Deadhead all pansy flowers to encourage more; Plant lily bulbs in pots, ready to move around as and when; Divide primroses, hostas and plant bulbs that you had indoors out in the garden for their new home; feed all trees, roses, vegetables, fruit and yourselves! Plant chitted potatoes; Can carrots and beans be combined with flowers in a pot? Of course they can and other vegetables too.

##### DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARIES

**MAY 16th** Members Plant swap at Sarah Best's in Barford St.John.

**JUNE 23rd** A Sunday visit to Kiftsgate, meet there at 2.30

**JULY 14th** Summer Assortment organised by Garden Club

**JULY 24th** Ball Colegrave Summer Open Evening

**OCTOBER 5th (Saturday)** A visit to Waterperry Gardens to look at apples and autumn plantings. Time to be confirmed.

HAPPY GARDENING, KEEP DRY...



'Bye for now'  
Spade and Fork



## 1<sup>st</sup> Barford and Deddington Rainbows

**O**UR LAST MEETING of the Spring term was at Home Farm in



Clifton, in the coldest visit to see the lambs that we have ever had! Thank you to Naomi Fenemore for showing us around again. We do love coming, even in the sleet like this year! We sheltered in an empty stable to say goodbye to Harriet, Anna Grace, Poppy, Heidi and Rosie, who will be moving up to Brownies. We also said a very sad goodbye to Nikki Bruce, who has been Assistant Leader as 'Mouse' for the time that Heidi has been in Rainbows. We've had lots of fun and will miss her a great deal.

Happily, Kayt Griffin takes over as 'Bee' and Elen Squires ('Ladybird'), a Deddington Guide, has also joined as Unit Helper this term as she works towards her Baden Powell Award.

Isabella, Lottie, Abi and Amy join the unit as new Rainbows. We started by learning the National Anthem ready for St. George's Day Division parade in Banbury and also thinking about ways we could help the planet on Earth Day (April 22<sup>nd</sup>). We talked about turning lights and taps off and recycling, but the girls nearly all felt that litter was the biggest problem, especially when it affects wildlife. We look forward to an exciting term, including visits from the emergency services.

Hazel Neal

01869 337822 hmkn@sky.com



**Barford Rainbows marching in the St. George's Day Parade in Banbury**



5<sup>th</sup> May

## Rogation Sunday

**Our service will be**

**Family Eucharist**

**At**

**Calcutt Farm, Hempton**

**10.30 am**



## Fernhill Club

**O**N APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> we had an afternoon playing cards in the hall. On the 10<sup>th</sup> we spend a lovely afternoon with Kathryn Wheeler, who made four items of food, 2 savoury and 2 desserts, all within an hour. Then, best of all, we got to taste them all.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> we headed to Banbury College for lunch, as usual, everything was lovely. Every so often the college have special offers, e.g., two meals for £10. These meals consist of three courses plus coffee, very good for £5 each!

The 24<sup>th</sup> was our AGM, the end of our year and the end of our current programme. A new programme is being prepared at present for the next 12 months.

Each month we aim to have one speaker/entertainer, one outing or meal somewhere with either bingo or cards in between.

If you would like a programme please contact

Avril on 01869 338381 or Mary 01295 252298

You would be most welcome any time you care to come. We meet every Wednesday at 2.30pm in the village hall in Barford St. Michael.

Mary Ashbridge



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

**T**HANK YOU to everyone who supported our fundraising entertainment evening – We raised £120 to be shared between Cancer Research and Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital – at the guides request.

We finished the term on a relaxed note with some crazy games which involved winning and sharing Easter eggs.

We are looking forward to the (hopefully fine) summer term with a variety of outdoor activities, cooking on open fires, hiking, stream walking, exploring, shelter building and then leading on to camp...

Maggie Rampley 01295 810069

Marian Trinder 01869 340806

Catherine Blackburn 01295 258008



Girlguiding UK  
*girls in the lead*



### Can You Help With Churchyard Mowing?

**C**ould 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 powered 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](mailto:the_bretts@btinternet.com)

## VILLAGE HALL MAINTENANCE DAY SUNDAY 19 MAY 2013

10:30 – 12:30



We'll be painting, cleaning, washing, fixing, de-cluttering, sorting and weather-proofing the Village Hall & Garden. There's plenty to do and your help would be enormously appreciated

If you can spare any time on the day please contact Lucy Norman on ☎337678 or [lulu.norman@btinternet.com](mailto:lulu.norman@btinternet.com)

thank you  
Village Hall Management Committee

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

### Cubs

This was a short month for us, the Cubs spent a couple of weeks either side of Easter looking at St George in preparation for the parade in Banbury. They made St George flag badges from safety pins & tiny beads – very effective, we followed that with dragon drawings & games. Coming soon – District Camp, theme detectives! Welcome to Owyn who has just joined us.

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

### Scouts

The Scouts finished their art badge by drawing silhouettes of each other, &, amazingly, they actually looked like them. The younger boys have started the Guide badge while the older ones planned an evening hike for them all.

We also had a great evening bowling in Banbury.

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





## Christian Aid Week



**T**HIS YEAR Christian Aid Week is 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May which, as always, falls the week after Red Cross Week finishes. Envelopes will be delivered to your house early in the week and one of the collectors will call to ask for your donation later in the week. The important point to make about using the envelopes is that Gift Aid can be added to your donation, if you have filled in the form on the back, and last year Christian Aid raised over £1 million extra during Christian Aid Week through Gift Aid.

Thank you in advance for your donation and the money is used to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world to lift themselves out of poverty.

Cubby Brett  
Churchwarden

## FOUND

in Lower Street



Calvin Klein prescription spectacles with anti-scratch coated lenses. Black with tortoiseshell effect under lenses.

Call 337228

**Coming Soon**

## Barford Village Show

Will be held  
in the Village Hall  
in late August

The date and full schedule details  
will be publish in BN next month.

**Welcome**

To

New arrivals

**Chris and Alex O'Hanlon**

With their daughters

**Corey & Katie**

Who have just moved in to

7 Church Street

We wish you a happy time with us

In our lovely village

Thanks

**To Paul & June Christmas**

For donating the £60+ proceeds

From their Paddy's Night

To the Kathmandu

Orphanage



## Deddington PFSU and Nursery

**W**E HAD A FUN Easter holiday club and are now enjoying the long-awaited milder weather of the summer term. We hope to spend lots of time outside finding out about the world around us. Dates for your diary include our PFSU and Nursery



**Sports Day on Friday 21st June,**

and our famous

**Summer Ball,**

To be held on

**Saturday July 13th**

at the Windmill Centre.

This year the theme will be Swinging Sixties and the evening will include a live band, a 2 course dinner and an auction. As ever, we're always looking for more volunteers to help us organise the event. So please let us know if you'd like to help out. We'd like to say thankyou to the Semple family of Barford for their generous donations to the Nursery - these were much appreciated. We welcome Liza and Florence who join and return to the staff team.

Lucy Squires  
337484

## Down On The Farm

**A**T THE TIME OF WRITING (early April) we are looking at an exceptionally late Spring. Not much sign of grass, hedgerow bloom or the warmth that will cause them to throw off their dormancy. But as with all late springs everything is silently waiting. A rise in temperature will see sudden and dramatic transformation of the countryside.

In the meantime, with lambing here completed, ewes and lambs alike are long overdue for some green grass and a bit of sun. The ewes don't milk well on winter rations - which are running short anyway - and lambs are suffering as a consequence.

The Gloucester Old Spot pigs don't seem to care about the weather. They grow a few more bristles and another layer of fat and will happily stand a chill east wind that drives all else to shelter. The downside of course is 'the extra layer of fat' because this costs money to put on and butchery time to cut off. So a rise in temperature is desirable on that front too!

My mention in the last issue about our increased pig litter averages turned out to be premature (smugness never pays!). A week later a careless sow (Snowflake) lost all but one of a litter of nine. Another sow (Mary) farrowed a few days later so we gave her the odd one; apart from the fact that he is a bit bigger than the rest he's doing fine!

In the meantime Snowflake is paying a visit to the boar. Unlike cows and sheep which respectively moo or baa their heads off when calves or lambs are weaned sows never seem to miss their progeny; if anything they appear to be pleased to see the back of them. Judging by the way their piglets rarely even bother to look round when eight weeks have expired and their mothers are taken away the feeling is entirely mutual!

Tony Collier  
Irondown Farm



## Babysitting!

Hi, I'm Tilly and I am available for  
babysitting,

I live in Broad Close Barford St Michael.

I am 1<sup>st</sup> Response First Aid trained.

You can call me on 01869 337822 or on my  
mobile at 07557 095681.



the **WI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

## HISTORY OF PINewood STUDIOS

A talk by  
**Mike Payne**

7.30pm  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May**  
**In The Village Hall**

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

## Village Life

**S**hould we always be in such a hurry?  
I am saddened that so few residents bother to support or take part in village life.

This is beyond my comprehension. Why live in a village if you don't use it?

We have a wonderful range of events and activities taking place, most of them run by enthusiastic volunteers, but if not supported these will disappear.

Who will be moaning then?

It would be difficult to find another village like ours, we chose to live here, how lucky are we?

If you don't support things we will surely lose them – The monthly markets, village hall events, our Garden Club, churches, WI, coffee mornings, The George Inn, Whist Drives, Fernhill club, our village Post Office etc. Get out there and enjoy and be proud you live here.

I believe that we residents are very fortunate to experience life in such a wonderful village. Newcomers are always welcome here, and visitors and campers who come here admire what we have and turn green with envy.

Perhaps it's the fresh air, or the wide open spaces in which to exercise, or maybe it's simply the friendliness of the residents and the wonderful village spirit that prevails. Whatever it is ... if you value it.... Then get out there and support **YOUR VILLAGE** and help to keep it the **GREAT PLACE** that we have here!!

On top of all this, living in a village appears to be good for you. According to an official report, villagers are likely to live longer than town dwellers!.

## BARFORD GARDENS SUMMER ASSORTMENT

On SUNDAY July 14th 2013

from 2.00 until 5.00 pm

As you know, this year we have decided to change our usual Open Gardens. As usual we are raising money for various Village charities...

### OPEN GARDENS and FRONT GARDENS

Open whole gardens for those that wish to. Or, Open front gardens only, as an option. A paved area with pots or a porch with planters/baskets could be displayed

**PLUS THREE COMPETITIONS** Fee for each competition entry, 50p Adults, 20p Children

**1. Containers / Hanging Baskets...** Adults 'Flowers / Herbs COMBINED with vegetables.

Under 12's 'Your own choice of things planted yourself'

These should all be put in front of your house or gardens. Any containers can be used, re-cycled buckets or tins, basins etc., car tyres or more conventional containers. They will be judged on Saturday 13th July, by a professional gardener. Small Prizes for each category.

**2. Traditional Scarecrow** A single free-standing figure – not necessarily human! But must be capable of scaring birds!!

Separate competitions for Adults and Children. They will be judged by a farmer

**3. Photographic Competitions.....**

#### **Adults**

- 1) Detail of any plant; a close up
- 2) An interesting view of your garden or someone else's garden not open to the public.
- 3) Municipal planting.
- 4) A Garden visited by the Garden Club.
- 5) A person or people gardening.

**Under 12's....** 'My favourite garden place'

ALL THE PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE SHOWN ON SCREEN IN VILLAGE HALL as a presentation, 'Winners' will be printed and displayed. A professional photographer from Oxford will be judging. Small prizes for each category.



### IN ADDITION WE WILL HAVE.....

**Plant Stall** . Please help by donating plants.

**Gardening Books and Magazines.....**for sale in Village Hall (proceeds to Church)

Please search out any suitable books you may have.

**Delicious Teas....**will be in the Village Hall garden, or inside if wet!

**Parking....**will be in the field beyond the church as usual.



### DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES.

1. **Entries for container/hanging baskets by 6th July** so start planting now!
2. **Entries for Photographic Competition by 6th July** so get your cameras out!
3. **Entries for Scarecrows by 13th July** so test them out on the birds!

More details and entry forms in June Barford News together with details of preparing and submitting your photographs.

### CONTACTS FOR EACH EVENT.....

**Open Gardens..**Tickets and publicity...Gunilla on 01295 720521 or gt.designs@btinternet.com

**Books/Photographic Competition** ..Linda Newbery on 01869 337526 or L.newbery@btinternet.com

**Container Competition....**Janet Payne on 01869 336265 or janetpayne311@btinternet.com

**Scarecrows/Plants Stall:** Mariann Young on 01869 338570 or mariann.young@btinternet.com

**Teas....**Trish on 01869 338820

**Eds Postbag** - Received via email



Dear Ed,

**Oxford Covered Market Threatened by Huge Rent Increases for Traders**

I wanted to draw your attention to this important petition that I recently signed:

**"Save The Oxford Covered Market"**

[http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/save-the-covered-market/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=system&utm\\_campaign=Send%2Bto%2BFriend](http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/save-the-covered-market/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=system&utm_campaign=Send%2Bto%2BFriend)

I really think this is an important cause, and I'd like to encourage your readers to add their signature, too. It's free and takes just a few seconds of your time. Thank you

(Name supplied)

Dear Ed,

**Village Hall Wheelie Bin Smells Disgusting!**

As a regular user of our village hall I am shocked at the disgusting state of the green wheelie bin which is just outside the main doors. However, I must point out that this is not the fault of our VHMC!

The bin is being used by dog owners (some of whom live close to the hall and others returning from walks along Mill Lane) to dispose of green bags full of dog excrement. Over the two week period between bin collections, the wheelie becomes very unpleasant for hall users. The smell is quite offensive at the moment and this can only get much worse over the summer months.

There is also dog poo in the bin on Townsend next to the bench... This is equally disgusting and makes the bench virtually unusable in summer.

Dog Owners, please put the poo bag into your own green bin or take it to one of the council bins which have been provided for this purpose. Maybe this is a case for a council bin at the end of Mill Lane?

(Name supplied)

Dear Ed,

I thought it may be worth highlighting to residents that they can use any broadband provider to fast broadband.... Basically we chose BT as they are the only provider to offer up to 160mb/sec. However, other providers can offer up to 76 mb/sec.... which is a huge improvement on the service we currently get on copper and should be sufficient for most requirements.

BT are dealing with a huge demand at the moment, and ordering from another provider could result in a shorter waiting time.

(Name supplied)



**Proposal to Allow Safe Access & Limit Damage to The Green**

**A**S I LOOK OUT of my window on Easter Sunday I can see 7 cars parked on or around The Green. It is a constant problem for cars, commercial and emergency vehicles to negotiate the Green due to residents and visitors cars, parked at random. In doing so, it is damaging our Green and making its economical up-keep an impossibility, despite gallant efforts from Bernard Lane. The problem is even more exacerbated during periods of snowfall.

As there is no pavement, pedestrians, dog-walkers and even equestrians are at risk from cars coming around the corner from the direction of Townsend. Vehicles are suddenly confronted by either cars parked with little room to pass, cars coming the opposite way head on, or pedestrians on the road with no room to pass. The current arrangement is an accident waiting to happen.

It would, therefore, be common sense to regulate the areas in which parking is permitted in order to preserve the historic centre of our village and maintain a safe environment for its inhabitants.

I am, therefore, raising a petition for the painting of double yellow lines (as indicated on the diagram by heavy black line). If you are in favour of this proposal, please email me at: [onetwoone@live.co.uk](mailto:onetwoone@live.co.uk)

I will then put forward a proposal to Oxfordshire County Council, Highways Department.

Alan Wilson  
The Nook, The Green  
Barford St Michael





### About The Big Lunch

**T**HE 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.

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  
BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC . IT MAY  
BE ON WEST CLOSE OR IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL, DEPENDING ON THE  
WEATHER.**

All help with setting up or organising games! would be appreciated. Please contact Gunilla on 01295 720521 or Veronique on 01869 338050

### *"JOIN - US " FOR BREAKFAST*

*Full English  
Buffet style Breakfast  
including Tea and Coffee  
to be held at  
The Joiners Arms , Bloxham  
9am to 11am  
on 25<sup>th</sup> May and the  
last Saturday of each month  
Hope to See you there -  
Cost £6.00 per person  
Raising funds for St Marys Church  
Bloxham "Building our future" project*

Our last film of the season....  
**DO YOU SUFFER FROM VERTIGO?**  
If so come to Barford Village Hall, on Lower Street!

**for  
BARFORD PICTURE HOUSE  
May 18th 2013**

At 7.30 in the Village Hall we will be showing the famous Hitchcock film

### **VERTIGO**

made in 1958 with a cert. PG

This film is a psychological thriller, starring stars [James Stewart](#) as former police [detective](#) John "Scottie" Ferguson, who has been forced into early retirement due to disabilities (vertigo and clinical depression) incurred in the line of duty. Scottie is hired as a [private investigator](#) to follow an old friend's much-younger wife,,played by Kim Novak, all the while becoming dangerously obsessed with her.

The film received mixed reviews upon initial release, but has garnered acclaim since and is now often cited as a **classic Hitchcock film** and one of the defining works of his career.

See you there.....

Thank you all for supporting our Picture House. Thank you also to Age UK for providing the films. After we have paid rental for the Village Hall we are able to give a generous donation towards the necessary upkeep of the Hall.

Our new Season will begin in October when we hope to bring you another scintillating assortment of all types of film.

## Village Clean Up Morning



Thanks to the 24 Adults and children who turned out on the morning of Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April to take part in the village clean up morning. It was quite amazing to see the variety and amount of litter that was collected this year, motorbike parts, drinks cans and cartons, a bucket of paint and lumps of wire netting among them. The largest haul was brought in from Barley Lane by Chris and Gunilla Murray, closely followed by George Williams and Christine Hall who worked along Fernhill and Nether Worton Road. Thankfully, not a lot was found actually within the village residential areas.

No group photo this year as our 'litter pickers' returned at different times to enjoy their doughnuts and gingerbread men before leaving for home. However we managed to snap most folks, but 3 or 4 escaped the before the camera came out!

Top left Tony & Beth Parish;

Top Right l to r: Kim Hobday, Jeremy Eastwood, Mary Brodey, Glynnis Eastwood, Cathy Peacock, Bernard Lane, Emma, Philip and William Brodey and Theo Hobday in front..

Bottom Left l to r: Maggie Eden, Tricia Field, Sophie Lowe, Simon Hanmer, George Williams and Christine Hall.

The ones that got away- Jeff and Carolyn Elliott, Karen Gardner and Chris and Gunilla Murray:



# *Barford Village Market*

**In the Village Hall, 10-12noon**

**Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**Home-made Scones, Preserves, new laid eggs  
Artisan Breads, Cheeses & Olives and  
all the usual food and craft stalls**

**Ridgway's Farmhouse Ice Cream from Tysoe,**

**Home grown Plants - Fairtrade items**

**Hand-finished cards & gifts**

**Freshly baked Pasties and Sausage Rolls**

**New stalls and traders each month**

**Not forgetting Tea/Coffee & Bacon Butties**

**We hold markets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday every month (except August)**

**Come along and support YOUR local market**

**All profits for Village Hall Maintenance**

## **Katharine House News GRIMETHORPE SUCCESS**

Following a wonderful and powerful performance from the band to an absolutely packed St Mary's Church in Banbury over £7,000 was raised from the concert on 16<sup>th</sup> March - over £700 of that from the raffle on the night. Thank you to everyone who volunteered - your help was much appreciated and ensured that the night went smoothly. We have had lots of positive feedback, with MacArthur Park coming out the favourite piece so far!

### **Festival of Open Gardens**

We have three gardens open this month, beginning with Wildwood in Farnborough on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Wardington Manor will open as part of this festival on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>, this unique garden rarely opens to the public and there will be some fabulous teas served too! There will be 19 gardens in all opening for Katharine House this year including our own here at the hospice on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, for more details see our website.

<http://www.katharinehouse.co.uk/opengardens.pdf>.



## **KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE PLANT SALE & SPRING FAIR**

This year, our Annual Spring Fair and Plant sale will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, between 9.30am - 3pm at The Great Barn, just outside Aynho (OX17 3AY). As well as fantastic plants, there will be a range of original and unique home accessories, furniture, leather goods, gifts, jewellery, craft items, clothing, food items and much more! Entry is £4 and light refreshments will be available for a small charge. A lovely day out!

### **Are you following us on Facebook and Twitter?**

Our Twitter and Facebook pages are gaining followers and are an excellent way to keep up to the minute with our news, events and lottery winners. Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/katharinehouse](http://www.facebook.com/katharinehouse) and our Twitter you can follow us @khosp. Come and visit and say hello!

### **2013 Collections**

We have the dates now for our street and supermarket collections, various dates in June in Banbury, Chipping Norton, Bicester and Brackley. If you can spare an hour and a half to hold a tin for us, please call Wendy in the fundraising office on 01295 812161. Last year our collections raised £3,433!

Thank you,  
**Nicky Hanson**, Community Fundraiser

The Friends of St Mary's, Bloxham present

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adventures.

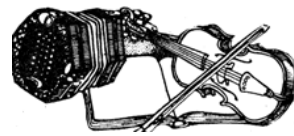
Includes extracts from the works of Sue Townsend, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore, John Betjeman, and Miles Kingston, and songs from Noel Coward, Flanders and Swann and Cole Porter -- and many others

**SAM KAHN MUSIC ROOM  
BLOXHAM SCHOOL  
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### 'The Prince of Wales Folk Club'

Re-union at

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**at 8 p.m.**

**on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

Further information from

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#### BARFORD ST. MICHAEL CARPET BOWLS CLUB FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR ENDING 31.3.2013

##### INCOME

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| OPENING BALANCE       | 956.49        |
| MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS | 468.30        |
| BIG LOTTERY GRANT     | 669.00        |
| MEMBERS ANNUAL DINNER | <u>135.00</u> |
|                       | 2228.79       |

##### EXPENDITURE

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| HIRE OF VILLAGE HALL     | 450.00      |
| MEMBERS ANNUAL DINNER    | 287.10      |
| REPLACEMENT BOWLS CARPET | 689.90      |
| REFRESHMENTS             | 13.00       |
| MISCELLANEOUS            | <u>1.20</u> |
|                          | 1441.20     |

##### SUNDRY SECTORS

0.00

##### LIABILITIES

198.00

YEAR END NET POSITION = 589.59

BANK POSITION AT 31.3.2013 = 738.49

CASH IN HAND 49.10

787.59

A.HAND  
TREASURER  
1.4.2013

### Live Meal Worms For Sale



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07866 808626

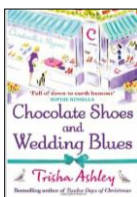


## Book Reviews

### Chocolate Shoes and Wedding Blues

by Trisha Ashley

**T**ANSY POOLE leaves her long term partner, Justin, on discovering his guilty secret and goes home to 'Nan' whose shoe shop is failing. It's just the thing to make Tansy forget, if only Justin would let her and she throws herself into running the shop selling specialist wedding shoes and shoe shaped chocolates. 'Home' is the village of Sticklepond where we meet old friends from previous books and Tansy meets her next door neighbour, an old flame. OK. So much is predictable but there are surprises and Trisha's writing always seems like a personal letter rather than a book. An enjoyable and amusing love story with recipes.



### A Horse in the Bathroom

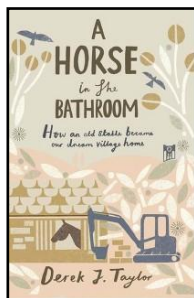
by Derek J Taylor

**T**HIS IS AN AMUSING TALE of the author's time spent converting an old Cotswold stable into a home. At least, that's what you might think by reading the Blurb.

In fact, it's much more than that. During the mammoth and occasionally regretted task that the author and his partner, Maggie, take on in converting a block of old stables down Back Walls in Stow into a the perfect home, Derek does a Bill Bryson job on a wide range of country matters. He wonders just what makes a village tick and asks this question of Blockley, Bledington, Aston Magna, Swinbrook, Stow, of course, and many more. For some strange reason he fails to mention Bourton but does investigate the oddly named Packingham-in-Stayle instead. I wonder how much they paid him to leave them alone!

He braves the Gypsy fair and town planning departments with equal courage and has interesting opinions on both. Along the way, he makes many a pointed remark about country people and their villages but does so with such wit and good humour, that I'm sure nobody will be offended. However, you might like to see if you get a mention! Or perhaps someone you know.

Yes, there's lots here about oak beams and officialdom but the book is consistently interesting on a wide range of subjects, and it's very well written, witty and often 'Three Men in a Boat' kind of funny, that is, very funny indeed.



### Bloxham May Festival

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May**

The free festival, which includes music on three stages from 11am to 11pm, also features Morris dancers, crafts, foodstalls and children's entertainment. Bands this year include Freeway Jam, Chameleon, Shooter, Stone Cold Mary and Folklaw.

More details from <http://www.bloxfest.org.uk/>



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## Children Plant Trees At New Country Park

**W**ORK HAS BEGUN to plant 27,000 trees at Banbury's first country park as efforts to transform the 27-hectare site begin to move forward.



On Thursday, 21 March, representatives from Cherwell District Council were joined by pupils from St Leonard's Primary School in Banbury in planting the first of thousands of trees at the park adjacent to the M40, north of the Wildmere Industrial Estate.

The tree planting has been arranged by the council in partnership with the Woodland Trust to create a new Jubilee Wood which will honour the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

Cllr Nigel Morris, CDC's lead member for clean and green, said: "I am delighted we have been able participate in this scheme. It was fantastic to see the enthusiasm shown by the children as they planted the first of 27,000 trees, which is the beginning of our new community woodland. This is the first country park in Banbury so it is great to combine this historic occasion with that of the Queen's own historic celebrations."

The council approved plans for the site in May 2012. In addition to the woodland areas, the park will allow public access to walks through wildflower meadows, wetland areas as well as providing valuable habitat for wildlife.



Children from St Leonard's School were invited to take part after being approached by the Woodland Trust and showing the most enthusiasm for the project locally. Other schools can sign up to take part in further community planting at the site next year as only about one quarter of the overall project has been undertaken this week.

John Tucker, Woodland Trust director of woodland creation, said: "The Jubilee Woods Project has been incredibly successful in creating links with communities across the country to help us towards our aim of increasing native woodland cover across the country. It's also great to get the public out planting trees, hopefully providing them with an experience they will take away forever."

For more information on Jubilee Woods visit [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) To sign up for future tree planting events at the country park contact Paul Almond, street scene and landscape manager for Cherwell District Council on 01295 221705.



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## NHS 111 - When to use it

You should use the NHS 111 service if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation.

Call 111 if:

- you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency
- you think you need to go to [A&E](#) or need another NHS urgent care service
- you don't know who to call or you don't have a GP to call
- you need health information or reassurance about what to do next

For less urgent health needs, contact [your GP](#) or [local pharmacist](#) in the usual way.

If a health professional has given you a specific phone number to call when you are concerned about your condition, continue to use that number.

For immediate, life-threatening emergencies, continue to call 999.



## NATURE NOTES 115

**T**HE BITTER COLD OF MID-MARCH continued through the second half of the month. Perhaps you will remember my observation that we endured 33 consecutive nights below freezing from the 1st February to the 6th of March – we were now to endure *a further 24 consecutive nights below freezing* from the 15th March until the 8th of April, the lowest being – 9.5° on the 30th of March. This, I believe, was probably the spell of seasonal cold we call the ‘Blackthorn Winter’. It usually occurs when the Blackthorn is in full bloom – except that this year the Blackthorn was so shriven that it was still in the tightest bud and is only now (15th April) starting to show patches of white flower on the hedgerows!

I could go on about the harsh weather but that would be simply tedious, so I will minimise it.

Commencing about 9.15am, a half-blizzard on the 17th produced 35mm (1.5") of laying snow by 10.45am! It was immediately followed by an extremely rapid thaw, the roads inundated by torrents of melt water. A sunny afternoon then gave way to a night of heavy frost and freezing fog.

You may remember all this was being caused by huge High Pressure areas over Northern Europe hurling bitter east winds across us, whilst equally huge Atlantic Low Pressure areas were pushing eastward across our south. The contact between frozen H.P. air with warmer L.P. air caused the latter’s moisture to condense out and fall as rain or snow. Having said that, a very light westerly breeze on the 18th, brought a fine Barn Owl out from its roost near the Nether Worton road where Andrew Murrey had a good view of it hunting. Long sunny spells on the 19th similarly brought a Kestrel hunting at the junction of the Park with Barley Lane.

Next day, the 20th, was the Vernal Equinox. (Oh dear, halfway to the longest day already!). Unfortunately it was a gloomy, dank day, but it brought out a Red Kite to hang motionless on the wind near S. Newington.

Periods of sleet and snow followed over the next two days, but that didn’t stop the Steepness Green Woodpeckers from calling through hissing snow driven on a bitter E wind. On the 22nd I had a great surprise as I entered Murrey’s lane from Lower Street at 6.15 in the evening. I could see in front a big loose ball of brown and pale feathers on the road. ‘Oh no!’ I thought ‘someone has run over a Tawny Owl!’ I slowed, intending to get out when the feather-ball gave a sudden wrench. With blazing eyes, a big hen Sparrow



Hawk stood up and, grabbing the Wood Pigeon she had just killed,

took off and, in extremely laboured flight, flew up the bank and through the trees into West Close! I could not believe my eyes; the pigeon was so much bulkier than the hawk! Judging by the feathers and liquid blood on the road, it had been a real struggle, and I’m still amazed at what I saw!

After flurries all night, heavy snow around 5am on the 23rd produced another 38mm, drifting on a savage E wind. A Reed Bunting at my feeders bore testament to the shortage of wild food. Next day, for the first time ever, a pair of Yellow Hammers came to my ground-feeding area. I was astonished at the aggression of the male toward the female! He would not allow her to feed, rushing at her with spread wings and chattering shrilly. Eventually the female disappeared with several other small birds, and left the male feeding alone.

By now another huge H.P. system had formed over the Baltic, driving bitter air from Russia and Northern Europe on its southern edge across the Britain. This persisted until the end of the month.

The 25th was a day of thinning overcast with spells of heatless sunshine. A very slow thawing continued and two Kites and a Buzzard went searching for road-kill near S. Newington. Amid little flurries of snow on the 27th, I went outside with the bird food, and was greeted by the glorious, wild, abandoned singing of a Mistle Thrush, hurling his defiance and the joy of nesting at the wind. He was in full song from a conifer top in the grounds of Barford House. Wonderful! There has been concern generally about the apparent decline in numbers of this iconic ‘Storm Cock’ – our largest member of the thrush family.

Next day, a little milder than of late, Bas. Butler was glad to see a Brimstone butterfly in his garden, along with two Red-tailed Bumblebee queens (*B. lapidarius*) house hunting. There was a big drop in temperature through afternoon, with a hard night frost (–7.5°) and more snow flurries.

The Baltic HP continued to lambaste us on the 30th with flurries of snow, a cold NE breeze, and a daytime max. of –2.5° that became –9.5° overnight! Even so, a Kestrel sat expectantly watching the ground from the wires opposite the airfield main gate at St. John. Late in the afternoon, three Buzzards made their way toward Hempton, calling as they flew low across St. Michael, and the Mistle Thrush continued his paeon of victory from the tree tops.

The 31st saw a clear sunrise with but little rime following such frost, indicating the intense dryness of the air. Many individual Fieldfares could be seen about the Barfords, and indeed, occasional large flocks, to remind us that Winter was not yet finished. But with a NE wind and small white clouds against a chilly blue sky, it was a pleasant day on which to close another bitter month.

And so, welcome April! This first day was overcast and cold, with a breezy NE wind. Even so, Bas. Butler watched a pair of Mistle Thrushes feeding in the horse paddock opposite Manor Farm entrance and later, a pair of Kites circling between Rignell and S. Newington.

After a hard night of frost, the Barn Owl again appeared in the Nether Worton road, at 5.15am as Andrew Murrey set off to work. The day was one of beautiful sun with a few small white clouds in company, albeit with a bitterly cold NE wind. A noticeable rise in the afternoon air temperature brought peals of laughter from the Steepness Green Woodpeckers. Later however, the tingling silence of the starry night breathed an even sharper frost this time ( $-5.5^{\circ}$ ).

The 4th was overcast and everyone I met remarked that it was a truly *evil* wind that blew. It was NE, it was gusty with a great chill factor and it cut right through clothing and skin to one's very core. Even so, a Kite was scavenging roadkill near Great Tew, and excitingly, there was a tentative sighting of a Hen Harrier near S. Newington!

In contrast, the 5th was a real Spring day, provided one kept out of that NE wind! A Buzzard soared over the road at Wykham Mill. Next day, on an easier wind, the temperature reached  $11^{\circ}$  – double figures for the first time this year!

The 7th was similar, but the wind had veered to SE and was much milder, with sunshine becoming hazy through the afternoon. Bas. Butler, tending his allotment, became concerned when three Kites, which had been circling slowly nearby, started performing some low aerial manoeuvres that disturbed a Little Owl at his roost, from whence he flew off. However, Bas was excited later on to see the long wings and tail of a Hen Harrier, flying toward S. Newington, a flight path that was much used last year. (We wonder if this year she will move up to the far north to breed).

By now the big Atlantic Lows pushing east had squeezed the Baltic High Pressure area northward. Now they were battling a ridge of high pressure that had formed over the Irish Sea.

H.P. systems revolve clockwise in our climatic region, so those moving east across northern Europe deliver cold, dry air on their southern edge in winter and usually hot dry air in summer with settled conditions.

The Lows were now gaining the upper hand and so as they moved in, the weather became milder but wetter. Thus the 9th was overcast and showery on a very light SE breeze. At night, attracted by light, one of my favourite Spring moths was trying to get in. It was a Hebrew Character moth, so I knew the Pussy Willow was in bloom, a favoured nectar source for these moths. I brought him in (his feathery antennae indicated he was male) to look at under a magnifying glass. In the light he soon became still and I was able to inspect him at leisure. His 'plumage' was a soft chestnut and bronze with black wing markings that give him his name; his back and wing 'roots' covered by a thick cape of long brown fur. I gently placed him in a jar, then released him back into the night to find a mate and ensure offspring will come to see me next year.

And what else? . . . This was the first night to stay above freezing point since the 15th of March!

Thus the days continued; cloudy with bright spells;  $13.5^{\circ}$  on the 10th then  $12^{\circ}$  thereafter until the 15th. Kites were much in evidence, seemingly everywhere! Bas. was delighted that 'his' Little Owl was back at its roosting location.

Showers, real April Showers, usually short, some lashing down, were now the norm. General rain set in on the 13th, increasingly so after noon.

For a long time the Jet Stream, that high speed, high level river of air that controls our weather, has been stuck much too far to the south, more or less centred over Gibraltar. Now an item on the Weather Forecast was telling us that it had moved northward and was now flowing across the British Midlands. Sure enough, on the 14th, that endless easterly wind direction had gone. There was now a mild, boisterous blow from SSW!

As I write these notes on the 15th there is quite a gusty SW blow. It is sunny and warm with variable cloud – a real Spring day – and a temperature reading of no less than  $17.5^{\circ}$  ! . . . There are a few butterflies on the wing – Brimstones and Small Tortoiseshells, also a big, booming *B. terrestris* Bumblebee and a much smaller red, yellow and black *B. pratorum*. There are also a few Solitary Bees collecting nectar from the *Pulmonaria* which is just coming into bloom.

Is this Spring? . . . How we all do hope so!

Ron Knight



## Final Chance To Comment On Draft Local Plan

**R**ESIDENTS ARE BEING invited to submit feedback to Cherwell District Council regarding the latest changes to its draft local plan.



Last August, a six-week public consultation was held for people to view the proposed document for the first time and submit comments to the council.

Since then council officers have reviewed the responses and obtained further evidence which has resulted in some changes being made to the original draft document.

A second six-week public consultation has now begun for people to comment on the amendments, prior to a final draft proposal being submitted to councillors for approval in June.

Cllr Michael Gibbard, lead member for planning, said: "We are only asking people to comment on the changes made to last year's draft document, not on the local plan as a whole.

"We had a great deal of feedback following the initial consultation period last year and we have taken on board a lot of comments which were put to us to enable us to create this revised document.

"The local plan will play a key role in outlining and setting guidelines for developments in Cherwell over the next 20 years so we would encourage as many people as possible to view the changes as this is the last opportunity for the public to make comments ahead of councillors voting on its adoption in the summer."

The majority of changes to the document relate to text revision and clarification relating to the initial wording. However some major changes have been proposed regarding development sites in Banbury and Bicester.

Maps for both towns have been redrafted to provide greater definition to make it clear how any growth will avoid coalescence with surrounding villages. This includes altering proposed green buffer zones surrounding existing, future and favoured development sites to the edge of the towns.

In Bicester, proposed development at South East Bicester has been brought forward to help address housing delivery while the plan has also had to reflect the fact that planning permission at Gavray Drive (500 homes) has been quashed by the High Court\*. The site is now unassigned.

Also in Bicester, a range of options are still being discussed with Oxfordshire County Council regarding the suggested relief road to the south of the town. Therefore a specific route has not been included on the local plan as no single preferred route has been confirmed.

In Banbury, changes have been made regarding the quantity of dwellings to be accommodated at preferred edge-of-town development sites,

including at land north of Southam Road. Initially a total of about 800 homes had been planned across two sites to the east and west of the road but this has been reduced to approximately 600. This is due to the number of homes proposed for the western site falling from approximately 350 to between 60 and 90. The eastern site is still designated to accommodate about 500. Some additional development has been allocated to a site North of Hanwell Fields.

All other major development sites across the two towns remain largely unchanged.

Cllr Gibbard said: "The production of this local plan is the result of several years' hard work by Cherwell District Council's planning officers who have tried to take into account existing and future developments across the district.

"Government guidelines mean the council is required to provide a certain number of new housing opportunities each year. With this in mind, this draft local plan has been created with the intention of providing suitable development sites in Banbury and Bicester which meet that need, while protecting villages which have been subject to many large scale applications in recent years."

The latest consultation period will run from 28 March until 9 May inclusive. Documents are available to view online at [www.cherwell.gov.uk/localplan2013](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/localplan2013) or hard copies are available from district council offices and libraries.

Following the end of the consultation, council officers will review the responses before submitting a final draft document for councillors to vote upon at a meeting in June. If approved, the local plan will then be forwarded to the Secretary of State for examination before it is formally adopted in the autumn.

### Note:

\*Gallagher Estates Ltd obtained permission on 12 July 2006 to develop Gavray Drive following a local inquiry in March 2006. An application to renew the permission was made in November 2010 and permission was granted on 14 February 2012. However, following a legal challenge on grounds related to the processing of the planning application, the High Court issued an Order on 15 January 2013 that the planning permission be quashed, leaving an extant (yet to be determined) application to extend time for the implementation of the original permission. Unless or until that application is granted favourably to the applicant, there is no planning permission in place.