

BARFORD NEWS

JANUARY 2014

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To All From The News Team

Parish Council Notes

THE MEETING TOOK PLACE at 7.30pm on 4th December 2013 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Eden, Cllr Turner, Cllr Styles, Cllr Best, Cllr Woolgrove, Mrs R Watts (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Fatemian (arrived 7.47, departed 8.55), District Cllr O'Sullivan and one member of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Bullard

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Styles declared an interest in planning application 13/01590/F and Deddington Village Nursery.

Elections: Notification has been received from Cherwell District Council that all Councillors will retire on 26th May 2014. Councillors elected at the poll held on 22nd May 2014 will take office on 26th May 2014. The maximum cost for providing an election will be £892.10.

County Cllr Arash Fatemian joined the meeting. Cllr Hobbs welcomed him and introduced him to those present. County Cllr Fatemian apologised for the miscommunication between the two parties since May and confirmed that he would attend future Parish Council meeting whenever possible.

Parish Council Website: Cllr Hobbs welcomed Emma Best to the meeting. Emma had offered to design a website for the Parish Council. Following a general discussion it was unanimously agreed that it would be advantageous to both villages to have a village website, incorporating a Parish Council section. There would be a nominal annual cost to the Parish Council. Close liaison with the Editor of the Barford News was expected and Cllr Hobbs will discuss the matter with the Editor. Emma will produce a mock-up of a suggested design to be considered at the February meeting.

First Aid Courses/Defibrillator: Despite chasing Mr England, Cllr Hobbs had not received a formal quotation for a defibrillator. Cllr Hobbs had looked on-line and the cost of similar products ranged from £999 to £1,350 plus VAT. A box would be an additional £137.

Cllr Hobbs will contact St John's Ambulance Service to obtain quotations for First Aid Courses. Cllr Fatemian has a Community Fund of £10,000 which he can allocate to parishes to be spent on community projects. The Parish Council can apply for a grant of up to £500, to be spent no later than 31st March 2014. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council will apply for £500 to pay for First Aid Courses for villagers. Cllr Fatemian will send an application form to the Parish Clerk.

Neighbourhood Plan: Trevor Arrowsmith had emailed Cllr Hobbs asking the Parish Council to consider producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the two villages. The government introduced the community right to carry out neighbourhood planning through the Localism Act. It is a new way

for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work.

County Cllr Fatemian confirmed that more and more villages are producing neighbourhood plans. Cllr Styles had attended a joint meeting of Parish Councils in Bloxham and a number of parishes represented are indeed going down the route of producing plans. Without one, parishes have no say in how their village will evolve. The creation of neighbourhood plans is a demanding process. There is a cost involved and Councillors and volunteers have to be proactive if a plan is to be successfully drawn up. Cllr Hobbs encouraged Councillors to attend a free Community-Led Neighbourhood Planning Conference on Saturday, 25 January 2014 from 10am – 2pm at Exeter Hall, Kidlington.

Request for Play Equipment for Teenagers:

Cllr Hobbs had received a letter from Isaac Rolfe and the Parish Clerk an email from Lucy Williams and Chloe Thompson (all from Warriner School) suggesting that an area in Barford St Michael might be suitable for playground apparatus more suited to teenagers. Cllrs Hobbs had replied asking Isaac for more details of their proposals and the area they had in mind. Councillors welcome suggestions from any part of the community and hope that the teenagers will attend a future Parish Council meeting to put forward their plans.

Home to School Transport Policy: Read the proposals and respond online by 20th December at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/htspconsultation or attend an open meeting at Warriner School on 12 December from 7.00pm – 8.30pm.

Planning Matters

Details of planning applications can be found on the Cherwell District Council website http://cherweb.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx

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

Planning Applications Received:

13/01590/F Coombe Cottage, 1 Rock Close, Barford St Michael. Demolition of shed for replacement with new stone and timber-clad garage. No objections.

13/01721/F Crown House, Church Lane, Barford St John. Construction of swimming pool. No objections.

Planning Applications Approved:

13/01508/F Barn Elms and Stonecroft, The Green, Barford St Michael. First floor rear dual extension with associated internal and external works. No objections. Granted 26th November.

TCA Applications Received: There were none.

Approved TCAs:

13/00324/TCA 1 Bishops Close, Barford St Michael. T1 & T2 Lawson Cypress – fell. No objections. Granted 21st November.

13/00331/TCA 1 Bishops Close, Barford St Michael. T1 & T2 Lawson Cypress – fell. No objections. Granted 3rd December.

Councillors noted that a decision is awaited for the following:

Appeal by Miller Homes – development in Tadmarton Road, Bloxham (60 houses).

Cllr O’Sullivan had spoken with planning officers at Cherwell District Council about **13/01407/F & 13/01408/LB Turnstile House, The Rock, Barford St Michael** (modifications to existing permission 11/01710/F & 11/01711/LB. Demolition of outbuilding and garden wall, replacing with a one and a half storey extension with glazed link to original house). Although the Parish Council had not raised any objections to the original application, Councillors did raise concerns last month with Cherwell about a) the lack of detail in the revised application (modifications are not listed and sketches ‘not to scale’ are valueless) and b) the potential significant visual impact on surrounding properties and pathways. Mr Hindle has asked for his application to be considered by the full Planning Committee and this is being considered by officers. Cllr O’Sullivan had also raised concerns with planners about unauthorised lighting around the property which is causing a nuisance to neighbouring properties.

Reports from Meetings: Cllr Hobbs attended the Parish Liaison meeting at Bodicote House on 13th November. Updates of the meeting had been circulated to Cllrs by email.

Cllr Styles attended a joint meeting of Parish Councils in Bloxham to discuss, amongst other things, the central directive to build houses, the recent planning decisions by the Secretary of State, localism, democracy, education and the lack of support from Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department in establishing that existing road infrastructures are able to cope adequately with the expected increase in traffic from either approved or proposed developments in the area. Following that meeting, Bloxham Parish Council wrote to Sir Tony Baldry, Oxfordshire County Council and the Chief Executive Officer of Cherwell District Council expressing the many concerns raised by representatives.

Oxfordshire County Council has given Adderbury Parish Council delegated authority to remove estate agents’ ‘For Sale’ / ‘To Let’ signs from the highway.

Bodicote Parish Council is carrying out a village survey.

The next joint meeting will be held on 26th March 2014.

Budget 2014/2015: The Chairman had circulated a revised budget to Councillors before the meeting. The precept will remain at £7,000. Following a short discussion, Cllr Turner proposed that the revised budget for 2014/2015 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Eden and unanimously agreed.

Any Other Business: Cllr Best said that for no apparent reason, the number of HGVs travelling through the Barfords has increased considerably recently.

A resident had asked Cllr Hobbs if a salt bin could be put near Horn Hill/High Street. The Parish Clerk advised Councillors that orders for new salt bins for this winter had to be placed with Oxfordshire County Council by September and therefore this request could not be considered until next year.

A resident had asked Cllr Eden whether or not the salt bins in the village will be re-filled during the winter if supplies are used up. The Parish Clerk advised Councillors that due to cutbacks, Oxfordshire County Council only fill the salt bins once a year, at the beginning of the winter season. The salt bins are now full. Residents are reminded that salt from the bins is for use on the highway only. It is not there for private use.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5th February 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

The above is a report of the council meeting. Draft Minutes are displayed on the Parish Council noticeboard one week prior to the PC Meeting and until replaced by the next set. Full Minutes, once approved, are put on the Barford website at:
<http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/barfordpc/index.cfm?articleid=5334>

Found

Medium Size Flexi Lead

In the footpath field behind Broad Close

To reclaim

Contact Mariann, 338 570

Coming to a cinema near you...at last...by popular request

Barford Picture House

On January 18th

Skyfall



Certificate: 12A

Skyfall is the 23rd James Bond film. Produced by Eon Productions in 2012. Directed by Sam Mendes and starring many famous actors including Daniel Craig, Javier Bardem, Judi Dench, Naomie Harris, Ralph Fiennes and Ben Wishaw.

When Bond's latest assignment goes gravely wrong and agents around the world are exposed, MI6 is attacked forcing M to relocate the agency. These events cause her authority and position to be challenged by Gareth Mallory (Ralph Fiennes), the new Chairman of the Intelligence and Security Committee. With MI6 now compromised from both inside and out, M is left with one ally she can trust: Bond. 007 takes to the shadows - aided only by field agent, Eve (Naomie Harris) - following a trail to the mysterious Silva (Javier Bardem), whose lethal and hidden motives have yet to reveal themselves.

It has won several awards....the main ones being....

Academy Awards, and Golden Globe award for Best Original Song by Adele

BAFTA Awards Best British Film and Best Film Music

Tickets £4 on the door, money going towards the running of our village hall.

If you wish to bring your own alcohol and comfortable chair then please do.



OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice of Temporary Traffic Order

Bloxham, Barford Road

Prohibition of Vehicles

Coming into force: 13 January 2014

This Order is being introduced because of drainage overflow works which are anticipated **to take 3 days to complete.**

The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle proceeding or waiting in the length of Barford Road, Bloxham between its junctions with Manning Close and Milton Road.

Appropriate traffic signs will be displayed to indicate when the measures are in force. The alternative route for traffic affected by the closure is via the A361 south-westwards, the B4031 eastwards into Hempton, Barford Road and vice versa.

This Order will remain in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed whichever is the sooner.

Fernhill Club News

WE STARTED December with a Christmas lunch at the Red Lion in Adderbury with everyone enjoying a meal and each others company.



On 11th December we had a lovely afternoon in the company of Maddy & Mo, who kept us entertained with their singing and guitar playing, also telling funny stories. One of the sisters was so good at reading Pam Ayres poems you would think that Pam was actually in the room.

That was our last meeting this year, we start again on 15th January 2014, weather permitting.

We invite you to join us for our meetings which are every Wednesday at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. You will be made most welcome.

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

Mary Ashbridge
01295 252298



FINAL CALL WINTER WALK NEAR YEAR'S DAY



If you get your Barford News early then you still have time to come and join us on the winter walk. Not forgetting the soup and crusty bread at the end.

The walk leaves the Village Hall
at 10.00am Wednesday, 1st January

See you there!

Thank you!

To

The Broad Close couple
for their very generous donation
Of £25.00

To Barford News funds
which will be put towards the cost of
producing our monthly issues

1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

WE CELEBRATED Deddington's annual fair by making Deddington



Pudding-Pies. In the days when the fair was a mop for hiring servants and selling livestock, pudding pies were sold in large numbers. More recently it has become purely a funfair, so we did our bit to revive some local history (and very tasty it was too!) Our sleepover (for an hour!) was a huge hit as ever; the girls come in their pyjamas and onesies with their sleeping bags and we drink hot chocolate. Sleeping Lions is the game of the evening (we haven't quite managed to stretch it out for the whole hour...)



This group of Rainbows are very good at crafts and they made some lovely Mexican godseyes in festive colours. They're made by winding wool around a cross of twigs to create a diamond shape- they'll look great hanging from the tree. We're looking forward to finishing the Christmas Term with a party - lots of dancing, a pinata, party games and a pass the parcel very kindly made by Deddington Guides for us, all anticipated with much excitement!



We're also very excited (Squirrel especially!) that the Girlguiding has finally designed a flag for Rainbows to carry at parades and church services. We have been the only section (Guiding or Scouting) without a flag, so we're very pleased to be the same as everybody else. We should have it in time for the Mothering Day Service in Deddington and the Division St George's Day Parade in Banbury.

We'll meet again on January 10th.

Hazel Neal, 01869 337822, hmkn@sky.com



Above is a sample of the new flag which has the Rainbows logo on an orange background with the guide trefoil and name of the unit in blue. Also photos of lots of excited little Rainbows holding their party bags aloft!

Poppy Appeal: Final Results 2013

ONCE MORE there was another excellent result for the Barfords' Poppy Appeal. The 2013 total collection amounted to £720.86, nearly £100 more than last year



As to the sources of the collection: £556.36 came from door to door collections, the Post Office and The George, £104.50 from the Remembrance Service collection and there were donations of £35.00 from the Parish Council and £25.00 from The Fernhill Club.

The Royal British Legion thanks you all for being so generous towards the Poppy Appeal. Although the conflicts in which our armed forces are involved are diminishing there remains a responsibility for all of us to continue to care for the wounded, their families and the dependants of those killed. There are also still many who were involved in the 1939-45 war, Korea, Malaysia, Cyprus and Iraq and other wars who need help either for themselves or their dependants. A successful and bounteous Poppy Appeal provides this essential assistance, it will be well spent.

Thanks must go to those uncomplaining regular volunteers who yet again collected your money: John Langlands, Barbara Greenwood, Jim and Ella

Booth, Helen Honour, Peter Floyd, Lucy Norman, Alison Drummond (who stood in at short notice for Ann Budd, a long serving collector), Barbara Alt and Martin Winter. All were very persuasive in encouraging generosity.

Again thanks to you all.

Bernard Lane.

Poppy Appeal Organizer for the Barfords

New Year Quiz & Curry Night Village Hall

Saturday, January 25thth



Time to get your brains in gear.

Tickets are selling fast
So don't delay!

Bookings: via email barfordquiznight@gmail.com
text 07957 855454 or
land line 01869 338061

Please note the mobile number is for text messages
First come first served

Welcome

To

Neil & Michelle Scanlan

Who have just moved
From Sleaford into
their new home in
Robins Close

We wish them a
very happy time living here
in our beautiful and friendly village

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

With the help of a few willing mums the Cubs completed their 'Home Help' badge, they tried sewing, ironing & tea making & also helped at home. The Cubs then made some food for the AGM, cheese & pineapple on sticks & little sausages – yummy!

We finished the term by making wobbly tree decorations.



.Jo Churchyard C.S.L.

jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Some of the Scouts went to Youlbury to take part in Extreme Ox, an assault course set up by one of the oxford groups. It was great fun but they were disappointingly clean until the last obstacle where they had to crawl through a muddy trench!



We then spent a couple of sessions making gifts from knotted parachute cord – they turned out better than we expected.

Pete Churchyard S.L.

pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

1st Deddington Guides

WE SPLIT INTO 4
groups for our



Film Night! So that we could watch an age appropriate film – wearing Onesies and eating popcorn seemed to be the order of the day! Great fun had by all.

During our following meeting we prepared for Christmas with decorations to grace a table or glass painting to make a nice gift. We also wrapped many 'pass the parcels' that have gone to add to the fun of youngsters' parties around the village – our Christmas good turn.

We will also go to help at the Christmas party at Wardington House Nursing Home and entertain with some carols. We'll also be helping with the Christmas Post.

Our own party was fun, with lots of noisy and energetic games - musical chairs is still a firm favourite!

We will be back raring to go in January, the 7th to be precise!

Happy Christmas and Good Wishes for the New Year to all!

Guiders: Maggie Rampley, 01295 810069

Marian Trinder, 01869 340800

Catherine Blackburn, 01295 258008

It was Glynnis Who Did It! Not Me!

I have received several comments, all in defence of Glynnis, and complaining about the wording in the Carols in the Pub notice which appeared in the December issue of BN.

As a result, and to set everyone's mind at rest, I would like to make it very clear to the 'Glynnis Fan Club' that she wrote the article herself!

Perhaps I should have realised that her rather strange and somewhat self deprecating sense of humour might not be understood or appreciated by everyone. Perhaps I should have edited out the last two lines – hindsight is a wonderful thing – but, the fact remains that I left the wording as received from Glynnis and now hope that this will set the record straight.

We rely on Glynnis every year to 'get us singing' both in the pub and around the village and without her efforts neither event would happen, so a big HURRAH for Glynnis!!!

Ed. (a dedicated Glynnis fan).

Barford Village Market

No Market in January

Next one 15th February

In the Village Hall,

10-12noon

Thank you for your support in 2013

Hope to see you again in 2014!

Deddington CofE Primary School news

AS WE ENTER 2014 I think most of us at school are looking forward another busy term which may be nearly as hectic as December! At the time of writing our Christmas productions are nearly upon us and we are sure they will be a great success.



During December our School Council decided to raise money for victims of the typhoon in the Philippines, raising money with a non-uniform day and Children in Year 4 held a raffle with some lovely Christmas chocolates and biscuits, as prizes, which had very kindly been donated by the co-op in Deddington. Together as a school we raised £308.60, which we have sent to the charity "Shelterbox". 3 Year 6 children, Laura Burland, Olivia Shepherd and Imogen Mason, wanted to raise money for Children In Need with a sponsored silence and came to school wearing their pyjamas, they raised over £100! This week we are also raising money for 'Save the Children', we will all be coming to school in our Christmas jumpers and paying for the privilege- it promises to be a fun day.

As mentioned this term is also going to be busy due mainly to lots of children rehearsing for our school production which will be taking place over 3 nights in March. We are very proud of our productions and this year we are putting on a version of Disney's Beauty and the Beast- as always it will be all singing and all dancing!

Hopefully the weather will be kind to and any snow will cause minimum disruption.

Mrs Jane Cross, Deputy Head

Bloxham Village History Club

15th January

The Birth of Leisure 1800-1900

John Chaplin

7.30pm Jubilee Hall, Bloxham

Details from Ian Myson
01295 720951, 07801 200403

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

'My Life in Books'

A talk by
Linda Newbery



**Local author
and winner of the
Costa Children's Book Award**

**7.30pm
Wednesday 8th January
In The Village Hall**

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



Butterfly Meadows
Children's Centre

Did you know...Butterfly Meadows can offer support with finding work or training by...

Signposting to agencies such as colleges and local employers

Provide support with writing CVs and completing job applications

Help with interviews

Use one of our computers to search for jobs online

Provide opportunities for volunteering

If you would like to speak to someone about your options or if you would like some further advice then please contact the centre

Butterfly Meadows Children's Centre
Tadmarton Road, Bloxham, OX15 4HP
01295 722240

butterflymeadows@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Down on the farm

December is a month of routine chores, mending broken things and generally bemoaning the fact that it is getting dark by 4pm, which is a time of day the sheep will usually manage to short out the electric fence on the stubble turnips.

Having spent a large chunk of my life tending to sheep I can vouch for the fact that the hardest part is keeping them from escaping or becoming lame, sick or terminally ill; I defy the reader to find a shepherd who will disagree that sheep are born with a wish to separate themselves from life at the earliest opportunity.

Years ago I kept notes on the ways lambs found of committing suicide and only gave up when I ran out of paper. Top of the list were drowning in water buckets, hanging themselves from any convenient piece of bale string and lying where their mother intended to settle down and becoming smothered. Often they would die for no reason at all.

Occasionally a ewe will give birth to a pair of good lambs and then decide she doesn't like one of them. Unless she is tied up so the ignored lamb can suckle or it is removed and bottle fed it will perish.

In the field suicidal tendencies include becoming 'cast' which means they get on their backs, a position from which they are unable to get up and the gasses produced by their multi stomach anatomy quickly causes them to resemble a balloon. Unless discovered fairly quickly they soon expire. Alternatively they will stick their wedge shaped heads through a sheep netted fence in an attempt to strangle or starve themselves into the next world.

They also suffer from more than thirty diseases, most of which are potentially lethal unless treated and some of which cause sudden death without warning symptoms. Fly strike is a common summer problem when blow flies lay eggs on them which rapidly hatch into flesh devouring maggots requiring fast action before they do irreparable damage.

They also have a low stress tolerance. I have known them to become lifeless while being shorn and recall once turning out a ram into a bunch of ewes at mating time and watching him race towards them and falling prone before he got there. By the time I caught up he was a corpse, 200 guineas worth of heart failure - plus another tenner to get the knacker man (sorry, animal disposal expert) to take him away.

Don't get me wrong, I like sheep. I would not have squandered so many years tending them if I didn't. There is no better sight on a summer's day than a flock of sheep contentedly chewing their cud in a field of fresh grass. However, it is a sight to savour because by the evening it is on the cards that one of them will be dead and others may have unaccountably become lame.

Tony Collier,
Iron Down Farm



Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

As I write all the children are hard at work preparing for Christmas, always a busy time of year.

The PFSU children are getting ready for their performance of 'Prickly Hay' in Deddington Church. This involves all the PFSU and F1 (reception class) children. There are lots of songs to learn and we are making all our own costumes!

The Nursery children are holding an interactive performance of 'Journey to Bethlehem' in which parents are invited to get involved. We have also been decorating the settings, the PFSU children at two well-supported 'decorations afternoons' when we invited families to come and help us make the room look really Christmassy. And we have also been busy getting into the Christmas spirit by making cards, presents, biscuits and more. Glitter is everywhere but we have been having fun!

We hope your Christmas was as sparkly as ours, and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Lucy Squires
(01869) 337484



The Barfords Annual Christmas Lunch 2013

SIXTY PEOPLE ENJOYED another very successful Barfords Christmas Lunch on the 30th November. The menu was hummus, tzatziki and olives with pitta bread; lamb tagine with couscous and salad; fruit salad and cream; mince pies; christmas cake and coffee or tea. After the lunch, there was entertainment from Mike Horth and the Mill Town Singers (which was very well received again, as in previous years). The atmosphere was great, with the hall beautifully decorated by the vhmcc, the wine flowed freely and everyone seemed to enjoy the occasion.

A huge thank you must be said to everyone who worked so hard to make the day such a success. Firstly to Maggie Eden, Ella Booth, Philip, Emma and Will Brodey for setting out and laying the tables. Next, a very big thank you to all the waitresses, and 3 waiters, who gave up their day to serve the food and wine, and stayed behind to clear up. These were: Julia Streeter, Glynnis Eastwood, Liz Callow, Pat Evans, Lyn Daly, Sue Broughton, Tilly Neal, Ella Booth, Derek Styles, Brian Dodwell and Jim Booth. Another thank you to the Barford fruit salad makers: Hetta Nicholson, Sam Harding, Maria Rees, Veronique Semple, Lisa Styles, Tess Dodwell, Barbara Allen, Liz Callow and Lucy Warner. Also we are very grateful to Lorraine Langlands for making and donating the delicious christmas cake and Sandi Turner for making the excellent mince pies. Thanks to the Mill Town singers for their excellent entertainment. A big thank you to the garden club, and parish council for their financial donations; and to those who made donations following last year's lunch.

The final thank you goes to those who gave donations on the day, we were very grateful for these generous donations which will make a good start towards funding the lunch for next year. It is an enjoyable event, both for those invited, and for those who help to run it, and it seems to start off the festive season in just the right way.

Aggie Morrison-Booth, Sarah Best And Mary Brodey

And, on behalf of all those who attended the lunch I can add a huge 'thank you' to the three lovely ladies who organise and cook for the event every year – thank you Aggie, Mary & Sarah for a delicious meal and a happy start to the season! !! Ed.

Pictured

Top: The Mill Town Singers

Below:

Brian & Jim

Our two wine waiters

Looking suspiciously happy!

Bottom Right

The hard-working waiters & waitresses.

L to r:

Back: Derek Styles, Brian Dodwell, Jim Booth & Tilly Neal,

Front - Liz Callow, Lyn Daly, Aggie Morrison-Booth, Sarah Best, Mary Brodey, Glynnis Eastwood (lit up again!!) and Ella Booth.

Floor: Unknown reveller who couldn't find his way home!



Ed's Postbag
Dear Mariann,



AS PROMISED here is my article on my move to Farthinghoe.

After the initial decision to sell Dove House in early May, the idea of erecting a couple of additional properties on the site was explored if only on the basis that if the present owners didn't do it subsequent ones would. This took a couple of months & then, following advice from a developer who clearly knew his stuff, the idea was put aside given that the property is in a conservation area & Hamptons came to photograph & market the property. This took place on 9th July & by 15th the asking price was achieved from Mr & Mrs Craig whom I wish a very happy future at Dove House: you have some very exciting ideas for the place & I should be pleased to see them once completed..

So here I am in Farthinghoe: yes, it is a busy main road but indoors & in the back garden the noise is not an issue. The chalet bungalow is in very good order, I have a downstairs bedroom, en suite bathroom with office adjoining together with two reception rooms, kitchen, utility, two upstairs bedrooms & bathroom along with garage, plenty of parking & what is turning out to be very interesting rear garden, with pond, backing onto fields. The soil varies considerably from clay to sandy: I have a well established hydrangea in the front garden & it will be interesting to see what Spring brings.

I met up with my neighbours a little sooner than I had envisaged: within three weeks of arriving I found myself without power & EDF's agents came out, dug up the road, linked me up to one neighbour for a night until they found the faulty cable: three days of traffic lights meant that I introduced myself sooner than later but there seem to be no hard feelings.

The cats have settled in especially well & seem to enjoy the routine: at about 5 p.m. I sit down to watch 'Flog it!' & the two geriatric Birmans come & sit either side of me for about an hour. Then at about 2030 the four Maine Coons get their turn to do the same.

I did enjoy the seventeen years in Barford St Michael but with a very busy practice, the cat shows & the garden which, given the Barford climate, was a joy to create, I never did get to do the walks I had hoped for.

My thanks go to those of you who have shown such understanding these last six months & to those who have become clients during my time in Barford: normal service continues & I will travel to you of course although you are all welcome to call in as I am here most days. Special thanks to Sally Williams (7 years, I think) & Jeff Elliott (10 years) who have done such sterling work around the cats

& garden. I really appreciated the kindness shown to me by a particular couple during my last few weeks in the village & heartfelt thanks to the individual who has admitted praying for me these last six months: I still can't get over how smooth the transition to this place has been.

Stephen Bunce, Grenville House, Main Road,
Farthinghoe, NN13 5PA. Tel. (still, thanks to
VOIP) 01869 337550.

New Years Recycling Resolutions



It's an exciting time with a whole year ahead of you and all the possibilities to make it the best year ever. So why not use one of your resolutions to promise to recycle more. It will help reduce your impact on the environment, help keep service costs low and is much easier than giving up chocolate!

It is always good to give yourself a target with New Years resolutions so how about these to get you going:

1. Recycle all my plastic containers. Its not only plastic bottles that can be recycled. All plastic containers from the home can be recycled in the blue bin. Yoghurt pots, margarine tubs, fruit punnets, all plastic pots, tubs and trays. So think how much more you could recycle if all of your plastic containers in the blue bin over 2014.

2. Use my kitchen caddy every time I cook. It is always important to get into the recycling habit, and making sure your kitchen caddy is on hand is a great habit to have. All you cooked and uncooked food can go in there, so that's peelings before dinner, and leftovers afterwards (if the dog or tomorrows bubble & squeak haven't got there first). Remember, if you don't have a caddy you can get a free one by contacting the council on the details below.



3. Put my batteries out for collection. We can collect batteries in a clear plastic bag, on top of any bin. Some residents still don't know about this, so it's really important to remember when your batteries go flat, to recycle them at home, in any clear plastic bag.

There are lots more resolutions you could choose to be greener in 2014, but recycling more is one of the easiest, and one we can all do.

You can follow @CherwellRecycle on twitter, or visit the website www.cherwell.gov.uk for all the latest news on recycling in Cherwell.

Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxfordshire.
OX15 4AA. : 01295 227001

From The Fire Station

AS THE YEAR NOW draws to a close and I look back, I can see that it has been busier than previous years. However, that has not been because there has been more incidents, we have spent a lot more time supporting other stations. We are set to have been called out over 250 times, which is approximately 21 times a month.

We have been called back onto the M40 several more times this month. The most recent being a camper van that was towing a caravan. They had broken down and were waiting on the hard shoulder when it was struck by a lorry. The result was absolute carnage. Motorways are among the most dangerous places to be and I would like to remind people, if they do brake down, they should always get out of the safe side of their vehicles and stand behind the safety barrier and await recovery.

Christmas is upon us again and that prompts me to remind people that we are 'on call' over the whole holiday, but would rather have no call outs - and I'm sure our community would agree! A few safety precautions will aid us to achieve this. Candles are always a concern and we do love them at Christmas. We went to an incident where someone had a candle on the window sill seemingly away from anything. The doorbell rang and they went to answer it. They opened a door that had a coat on the back which was then close enough to the candle to catch fire. Candles as table decorations are always dangerous with napkins, party poppers and not to forget Christmas crackers to name a few of the flammable objects you may find at your table. More safety advice can be found on our website. www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

We have had a very intense training period over the past month with a massive success rate. Crew Manager Graham Harding and Fire Fighter Sharon Wilson have just completed their advanced driving course. They spent a whole week driving around Oxfordshire and by the end of the week they have a 'blue light run' driving test. Most people reading this would have taken a driving test at some point in their lives and can appreciate how hard it was. Now try to imagine your test being a week long, driving an 18 ton lorry at great speed through Oxfordshire's cities and villages, with flashing lights and sirens. At the end of it they are absolutely exhausted. This now means we have two more drivers making our availability a lot more robust, keeping us on call almost 100% of the time, which helps keep our community a safer place. Congratulations to Fire Fighter George Williamson and Fire Fighter Tom Hall for completing all the technical parts of their team leader's exams, and to Fire Fighter George Williamson for completing a



practical team leader's assessment. This is one of the toughest assessments you can do in the fire service and this means he can now lead his own team and fight fires in burning buildings.

Finally we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Tim Parker

Crew Manager, Deddington Fire Station



BritishRedCross

Red Cross Dance Competition 2014 comes to Banbury. Join in today

BRITISH RED CROSS calls for Oxfordshire young people to get their dancing shoes on for a good cause.

Dance: 'Make Your Move' is dedicated to bringing young people from local communities together and introducing pupils to dance as a medium to overcome cultural, social and physical barriers. The event is open to everyone regardless of ability. Young performers can enjoy dancing while raising money for the world's largest humanitarian network. Are you part of a dance club, run an after school club, or fancy encouraging your school to take part; we welcome anybody to sign up for the chance to perform at the Indigo Rooms at the O2, London in our National Final.

Where: Sibford School, Sibford Ferris Banbury, OX15 5QL

When: Saturday 21 June 2014

Contact: Cheryl Tree – Community Fundraiser
01235 552 680

ctree@redcross.org.uk
www.redcross.org.uk/dance

200 CLUB WINNERS

NOVEMBER DRAW:

£15.00, No. 144, Sue Nickell;

£10.00, No. 200, Ann Beesley;

£5.00, No. 34, Arthur Goffe.

The Draw took place at Carpet Bowls evening

DECEMBER DRAW

£100.00, No. 167, Glynnis Eastwood

£50.00, No. 156, Steve Nickell

£25.00, No. 193, Hazel Neal

£15.00, No. 175, John Langlands

£10.00, No. 005, Robin Cox

£5.00, No. 108, Paul Semple

The Draw took place at The Christmas Lunch

NATURE NOTES 123

WELL, POSSIBLE SNOW didn't materialise for us in November, although there were savage falls in the North; I think the Jet Stream has developed one of its loops further north and is therefore still protecting us from recent blasts of arctic weather. However, I think we must be wary of mid-January, given the very recent ice-storms in Texas and Mexico (!) and the usual delay before we inherit echoes of U.S. weather.

But enough of this conjecturing, let's return to what was happening in mid-November.

The 16th dawned bright, but an even overcast spread eastward just before sunrise and remained thus, windless, all day. The 17th was the same, but without the bright sunrise, plus hints of drizzle and rather mild. A pair of Tawny Owls set up a call and answer session from trees in Robins Close at about 5.15pm; early but perhaps fortunate as dense patchy fog developed later. The 18th was very similar, but a light, chilly NW air arose leading to a clear moonlit night.

For a little while now, there has been an increase in both Song and Mistle Thrush numbers, the latter identifiable by their relatively large size, harsh rattling cries and high, direct flight.

The 19th saw a clear dawn and sunrise with a white frost. At the time I was moving a lot of lumber around in my garage and came across several hibernating Herald moths. Quite often seen early in the year as they emerge from their slumbers, they do 'herald' the return of Spring. The Herald is a medium sized moth, attractively coloured with orange-red highlights on big russet patches over grey-brown wings.

On the 20th, showers started about Sam increasing to lashing rainstorms on gale-force NW winds in late morning. About mid-day the sun broke through suddenly to give a cold, clear sunny afternoon. A Buzzard (the first for some time) flew high and slowly west, frequently standing on the wind, much to the noisy consternation of Jackdaws below Steepness.

From now until the 27th the wind shifted restlessly and often between NW and NE; a cold, unsettled, often frosty period, despite stiff winds; true, late Autumn weather!

On quieter nights at this time, many November Moths were on the wing, flying slowly along our country lanes between higher hedges with trees. They are attractive, small and fragile with grey bands across their wings, and the females also



have wings, unlike the Winter Moths (which will be out through December into February) whose females are almost wingless. Amazingly, both species fly in quite hard frost despite their fragility.

On the 24th Pete and Elaine Blencowe watched a Kite foraging slowly, low over Townsend. Bas Butler carried out one of the BOS bird-counts around Hempton on the same day, and was quite amazed by the results! He encountered a flock of over 75 Gold Finches that seemed to be interested in quite well grown Rapeseed; a flock of over 22 Long-tailed Tits (about 45 in total) and a Blackcap in full song beside the road at the narrows!

By the 25th an area of High Pressure had settled over the British Isle and once more seemed to be trapped between Lows to the W and N, giving us relatively settled weather.

One of the Kestrels that occupy what is a traditional out-of-breeding-season perch, sat once more on the wires opposite St. John airfield main-gate. By the 28th the breeze had settled into NW and there was some sun, but the 29th developed heavy cloud producing a dark, gloomy afternoon.

After a red and gold sunrise over broken cloud on the 30th, November made its exit through a lovely day of Winter sunshine, with indeed, some real heat from the sun in sheltered places.

December made its entrance, after a dry night, on a repeat, red and gold sunrise over broken cloud. The air was very dry and a light NW breeze held the temperature at 8°. Peter and Audrey Turner watched two Roe deer peacefully browsing in the meadow behind Townsend, and at night Foxes seemed to be barking and screeching from all around the district. The temperature dropped to 0°, but in such dry air there was no frost. The 2nd was of similar conditions and, at night, a pair of Tawny Owls entered into an intimate 'sweet-nothings' session of soft, warbled hoots and squeaks below Fernhill.

The 3rd was similar, except that the air was cold, only 3.5°. There was little activity, except for a lone Raven, croaking as it flew NE from Steepness, and the usual village birds.

The wind continued in its directional vagaries, but the weather brightened over the next few days and Nature's activity increased once more. The 4th bore an afternoon of unbroken sunshine and a glorious fair-weather sunset. A Raven croaked for a considerable time, perched at the utmost tip of a

Barford House conifer, much to the consternation of local Jackdaws and almost everything else as well! Venus, as the Evening Star, was brilliant in the south at sunset, as a Green Woodpecker had a neisy session below Steepness. The Tawny Owls became noisy soon after, so I imagine they probably surprised the woodpecker as they awoke from the-day's slumbers.

The 5th was the day on which huge, hurricane force storms were forecast around the British Isles. We were very fortunate locally as although the winds grew to near gale-force through the morning, with huge gusts in the afternoon, there was little structural damage. Although the winds had not reached their full height, I was nevertheless surprised to watch two Kite soaring on the blast over Hempton village, at 9.30am.

Roads were blocked by fallen trees (mainly the A361) but were quickly and efficiently cleared by Council and Highways workmen. I was to discover how lucky we were in a few days time!

A cold, brilliantly starlit night brought out a dog-fox barking sharply at Barford St. John.

In the morning the sun arose fairly clear, on a light NW breeze, but it was a raw cold day, as was the next day, the 7th, which was also a day of low light levels. Activity quickly reduced once again, despite some lovely winter sunshine over the next two days, even with real warmth in sheltered spots on the 9th.

And here I must end these *Nature Notes* until the next edition of *Barford News* - because I took off with my old school-pal for a few days bird-watching on the north Norfolk coast - and that's where I witnessed how lucky we were to escape the real gales and storm surges around the 5th.

In the meantime, Thank You to readers for your support and reports of natural happenings around the Barfords. Have a Happy New Year of Good Experiences with Nature.

Ron Knight

From The Vicar

IT'S SUCH A SHAME we shut down Christmas almost as soon as it's begun. The festive



season, if you go by the church calendar, lasts right into February ending with the Feast of Candlemas, which recalls Jesus' presentation in the Temple at Jerusalem 40 days after his birth. I don't really understand why we don't observe this period as a season of celebration. British Januaries tend to be pretty uncomfortable and we could do with some ongoing good cheer in its dark and dreary days.

From a Christian perspective, the way we do things is pretty odd. We spend a lot of energy on celebrating Christmas before it happens (which is fair enough), but when Christ has actually arrived as the Light of the World we seem to shrug our collective shoulders and turn away to business as usual. Whereas the coming of Christ means precisely that it's not business as usual.

Everything changes under the Christmas perspective, because this perspective shows us that God loves us enough to enter - astonishingly - the world he created and become one of us, loves us enough to die for us on the cross in order that the power of sin and death shall be defeated and the way to heaven laid open to us. It is a perspective of hope under which we come to see that a new and good order of things is possible and that our

own selves are not tissues of meaninglessness doomed to non-existence at our deaths.

Short of leaving the country, we can't do much about the January weather and maybe we need to undergo the somewhat depressing January detox and dieting. But we can make the choice to live the 40 days after Christmas out of the Christmas perspective. Insisting on celebration in this period

will help us hold onto this perspective. We shall perhaps come to sense how to see the world, ourselves and God in the way Christmas encourages us to do enables us to live more fearlessly, more joyously, more generously

That's a way of living surely worth cultivating. So don't stop at New Year; go on enjoying your celebrations this whole Christmas season and use them to help you keep focus on what happened that first Christmas Day. If you do this, your 2014 is likely to be the happier for it!

Hugh White, Vicar, 01869 349869

New Year's Reality Check

Another year, another chance, To start our lives anew; This time we'll leap old barriers, To have a real breakthrough. We'll take one little step, And then we'll take one more, Our unlimited potential, We'll totally explore. We'll show off all our talents, Everyone will be inspired; (Whew! While I'm writing this, I'm getting very tired.) We'll give up all bad habits; We'll read and learn a lot, All our goals will be accomplished, Sigh...or maybe not. Oh well, Happy New Year anyway! *By Joanna Fuchs*

Katharine House News

CARE FOR A CUPPA – Sat. 1st – 9th March 2014

Brighten up the dark winter months by taking part in our brand new **Care for a Cuppa** fundraiser! We would like to invite you to organise a coffee morning or afternoon tea for Katharine House between Saturday 1st – 9th March 2014. Invite your friends and family around for a cuppa, cake and chat and we will provide you with a Care for a Cuppa fundraising pack complete with posters, balloons, recipes and top tips to make your event a success. Simply ask for donations on the day for coffee and cake, or hold a raffle or sweepstake for something a little different. You can hold your Care for a Cuppa at home, at work, at school or at your local club or society – the possibilities are endless!

We would also like to invite local cafes, pubs and restaurants to hold their very own Care for a Cuppa between Saturday 1st – 9th March 2014 – or even a Care for a Curry or Cocktail! For more information please call Helen Mariner on 01295 812161.

To find out more please call the fundraising team on 01295 812161 to order your Care for a Cuppa fundraising pack! Every penny that you raise by organising a Care for a Cuppa event will make a tremendous difference to local patients and their families. Thank you.

FESTIVAL OF OPEN GARDENS 2014

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to open their garden to raise money for the hospice in 2014. Your garden would be featured, along with all the others, in a programme that will be distributed to all our supporters with our Spring newsletter in late March/early April. Last year's festival raised almost £7,000 towards hospice care. We already have supporters opening their gardens in Broughton, Bloxham, Middleton Cheney and Farthinghoe and would be delighted to hear from anyone else willing to take part in our festival. For further information please telephone Nicky on 01295 812161.

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE LOTTERY

Our lottery is a vital income source for Katharine House, having raised over £1 million since May 2000. If you're stuck for a birthday present idea, we have a variety of Lottery Gift Membership solutions. For £1 per week you might get a phone call on a Friday morning from Wendy our Lottery Administrator telling you that you've won £1,000, Wendy loves making that call! For more information call the Lottery Office on 01295 812161 or email lottery@khh.org.uk.

SAVE THE DATE- MIDNIGHT WALK

Our Midnight Walk will be on Saturday 14 June, details and application forms will be included with our Spring newsletter despatched to supporters towards the end of March. They will also be available from Fundraising (01295) 812161 from March onwards. Last year this fantastic event raised almost £75,000, a fantastic sum!

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 and events. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/katharinehouse and our Twitter you can follow us @khhosp. Come and visit and say hello!

Thank you,

Sarah Brennan

Community Fundraiser



Survey seeks feedback

RESIDENTS ARE BEING invited to give feedback regarding energy and the environment for the chance to win recycling goodies.

Cherwell District Council is undertaking its second annual Energy and Environment Survey to find out more about waste, recycling and energy issues across the area.

The 20 questions will ascertain more information about residents' energy use and recycling habits while giving people the chance to provide suggestions as to how create a more environmentally-friendly district.

Cllr Nigel Morris, lead member for clean and green, said: "It is more important than ever for people to adopt a greener lifestyle, not just for the environmental benefits, but for the financial benefits this can also bring. By finding out just how environmentally-friendly our residents are and asking for suggestions as to how to improve, this will aid us in our ongoing efforts to create a cleaner, greener district for everyone."

As part of the questionnaire residents will also be able to suggest what measures the council should take to address energy and recycling issues in Cherwell.

The survey is available to complete online until **10 January 2014**. Everyone who completes the survey will automatically be entered into a prize draw and the first 20 names selected will win either a free blue recycling bin or five rolls of compostable bio-liners.

To complete the survey visit <http://consult.cherwell.gov.uk/portal>



Painting and Drawing Barford St Michael Village Hall Tuesday mornings 10.30 – 12.30



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email frances2.eason@virgin.net

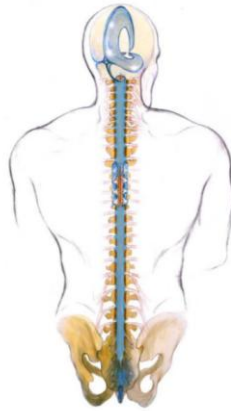
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- ❖ Respiratory disorders
- ❖ Stress related conditions
- ❖ Sports injuries
- ❖ Vertigo
- ❖ Sciatica



- ❖ Effects of cancer treatments
- ❖ Digestive problems
- ❖ TMJ (jaw) disorders
- ❖ Insomnia
- ❖ Depression
- ❖ Tinnitus
- ❖ Fibromyalgia
- ❖ Speech/voice problems

Caroline Smith
01295 768989 / 07940 582269

Ashcroft Therapy Centre
Hudson Street, Deddington

CranioSacral Therapy

The Healing Power of a Gentle Touch

Caroline Smith has recently joined the team of practitioners at **The Ashcroft Therapy Centre** in Hudson Street, Deddington. The centre has been an osteopathic clinic for the past 30 years and has now undergone a complete transformation.



Caroline qualified as a Physiotherapist in 1982 and is a member of The CranioSacral Society (CSS) and the IAHP (International Association of Healthcare Practitioners).

What is CranioSacral Therapy?

It is an exceptionally gentle, yet powerful, form of treatment that can create dynamic improvements in your life. Soft touch techniques are used to release tensions deep in the body to relieve pain and dysfunction and therefore improve whole-body health, performance and well-being. It is a profound healing process which can release the deeply held patterns of disease, both physical and psychological, which accumulate throughout life as a result of injury and illness.

Some common conditions that may be addressed.

CST may be effective for all ages and most conditions including: neck and back pain, headaches, migraines, sports injuries, stress, ME, vertigo, tinnitus, depression, jaw disorders, ear infections, to name a few.

If you feel that CranioSacral Therapy might be able to help you please call for a confidential discussion

Contact: Phone: 07940 582269 or 01295 768989

Email: carolinejsmith01@btinternet.com

web link: www.cst1.org



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