

BARFORD NEWS

MARCH 2014

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Price 30p where sold

Parish Council Notes

THE MEETING TOOK PLACE at 7.30pm on 5th February 2014 at Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllr Hobbs, Cllr Best, Cllr Bullard, Cllr Eden, Cllr Styles, Cllr Turner, Mrs R Watts (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Fatemian and one member of the public.

Apologies for absence: District Cllr O'Sullivan

Defibrillator: Cllr Hobbs welcomed Dick Tracey from the Ambulance Service. Mr Tracey gave a defibrillator demonstration, emphasising that the machine will not operate if a heartbeat can be detected. The cost of a unit is £1,295 + VAT (reduced to £840 + VAT if ordered through the Ambulance Service). A security box will cost £550 + VAT and this must have a power supply to ensure that the defibrillator battery remains frost free. Batteries last for 4 years or more or after 220 'shock' treatments; a replacement battery costs £150. Disposable electrode pads cost £16. Councillors thanked Mr Tracey for the demonstration.

Cllr Hobbs proposed that the Parish Council initially buy one unit. This was seconded by Cllr Styles and agreed by all Councillors other than by Cllr Turner, who abstained. Cllr Hobbs will formally ask the Management Committee of the Village Hall if the box can be fitted to the outside wall of the hall. The Parish Council will pay the £30 annual running costs (electricity supply to box).

First Aid Courses: Cllr Hobbs has spoken to training officer Kirsty Hawkins and will obtain a cost per delegate. County Cllr Fatemian provisionally agreed a grant of £600 from the 'Big Society Fund' towards the cost.

Parish Council Website: Cllr Hobbs welcomed Emma Best to the meeting. Emma demonstrated the website she had designed for the Parish Council, answering questions as they arose. Cllr Hobbs proposed that Emma be given permission to make the site live. This was seconded by Cllr Styles and unanimously agreed. Councillors thanked Emma for the work she had carried out so far.

The Rock – Road Closure: Oxfordshire County Council Highways has approved an application to close The Rock to allow essential work to be carried out to the rock face of Traherne House,

home of Mr & Mrs Greeves. The road will be closed from 24th March for up to 4 weeks. Warning signs will be put in place 2 weeks beforehand.

Coombe Farm, Deddington: Someone continues to remove public footpath signs from Coombe Farm, Deddington. Oxfordshire County Council is dealing with the matter.

State of Village Roads: Mr B Lane had written to the Chairman about the state of the road in Lower Street. County Cllr Fatemian will pass the details on to Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department for consideration. Concerns have been raised by another villager about the road surface up The Rock.

Turnstile House: Cllr Hobbs had received correspondence from Mr Jonathan Hindle expressing concern that the Parish Council had not received detailed drawings of applications 13/01407/F and 13/01408/LB for Turnstile House, even though he had submitted them to Cherwell District Council. Mr Hindle also asked for it to be noted that Cherwell District Council had confirmed that outside lighting and a flagpole comply with the law and constitute no nuisance. The Chairman had responded to Mr Hindle's letters.

Planning Matters

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

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

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

Planning Applications Received:

13/01867/F 9 Robins Close, Barford St Michael. Single storey rear extension. No objections.

Planning Applications Approved:

13/01721/F Crown House, Church Lane, Barford St John. Construction of swimming pool. Granted 16th December 2013.

13/01590/F Coombe Cottage, 1 Rock Close, Barford St Michael. Demolition of shed for replacement with new stone and timber-clad garage. Granted 10th January 2014.

Planning Applications Refused:

13/01407/F and 13/01408/LB Turnstile House, The Rock, Barford St Michael. Modifications to existing 2011 planning applications 11/01710/F and 11/01711/LB. Refused 20th December 2013.

TCA Applications Received: There were none.

Approved TCAs:

13/00393/TCA The Old Post Office. T1 x Ash – fell. Granted 31st January 2014.

A decision is awaited for the following:

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

Reports from Meetings: Cllr Styles attended a joint meeting of Parish Councils on 20th January with Oxfordshire County Council representatives Martin Tugwell (Deputy Director for Strategy & Infrastructure Planning), Tom Flanagan (Services Manager for Planning, Environment & Transport Policy and Lisa Michelson (Locality Manager). The main subjects under discussion were planning, infrastructure and the future availability of school places. Oxfordshire County Council responses to questions were disappointing. County Cllr Fatemian felt that future meetings would open up a better dialogue between the parties.

Any Other Business: Inconsiderate dog walkers/owners are asked to note that dog faeces are dangerous to the health of children and farm animals, especially lambs. They are asked to clear up after their dogs and dispose of the excrement in the dog bins provided or in their own wheelie bins. Failure to do so can lead to prosecution.

A resident had asked Cllr Bullard what criteria there is for grants being given by the Parish Council. Cllr Hobbs said that any local body or charity could apply in writing for a grant from the Parish Council stating the reason for the request. Each grant application would be considered on merit and in accordance with S137 regulations.

.The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 30th April, 2014

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>

**200 CLUB WINNERS
JANUARY DRAW**

£15.00 No. 191, Janice Johnson

£10.00 No. 34, Arthur Goffe

£5.00 No. 187, Mick Cook

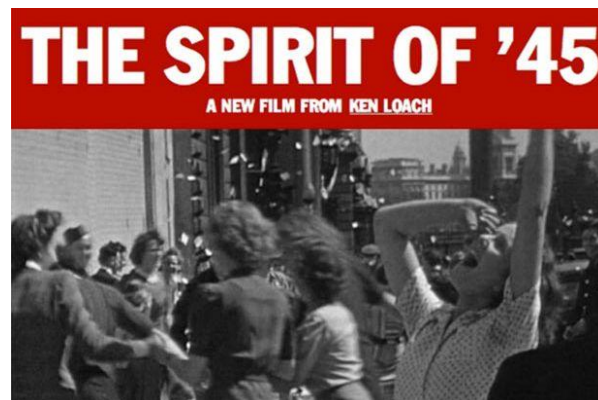
The draw was made at Carpet Bowls

BARFORD PICTURE HOUSE

Saturday, 15th March

The Spirit of '45

This next film will inform those who were not alive in 1945 or remind those who cannot remember, of political ideals, consequential actions and the following outcomes of their government's



actions.

The Spirit of '45 is a 2013 **documentary film** by British director Ken Loach, focused on and celebrating the radical changes in postwar Britain under the Labour government of Clement Attlee, which came to power in 1945. Relying primarily on archive footage and interviews, and without a narrative voiceover, the film recounts the endemic poverty in prewar Britain, the sense of optimism that followed victory in World War 2 and the subsequent expansion of the welfare state, founding of the National Health Service and nationalisation of significant parts of the UK's economy. The film documents the extent to which these achievements, as Loach sees them, have since been subject to attack in the decades that followed, particularly under the Conservative governments of Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s. Loach said that the model for the film was "oral history, with pictures".

Come along to your local cinema.....film starts at 7.45, doors open at 7.15. Tea and coffee served. Bring your own alcohol if you wish.



Mothering Sunday
Sunday 30th March
10.30 am Family Service
St. Michael's Church



Come along and collect spring posies for Mums, grans, aunties and friends!

We shall be making the posies at 10.30 on Saturday 29th March and would welcome some help.
We would also appreciate flowers and greenery to make up the posies.

From the Vicar:

ADVANCE WARNING: at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 28th April (do come: 7.30pm in St Michael's) Cubby Brett is intending to step down as

Church Warden - or perhaps I mean 'is hoping to be able' to step down! Cubby has been hugely efficient in a demanding role and will be a hard act to follow. In fact, I'm not sure we should ask any one person to take on all that Cubby currently does; my sense of things is that the time has come to think about sharing out the duties of Church Warden so that no one is burdened unduly - sharing jobs out is, anyway, in principle a good idea.

A lot of people already do a lot of different things for the churches, looking after the churchyards, clearing gutters, disposing of dead pigeons in towers, cleaning the churches, arranging flowers, opening and closing St Michael's in summertime, raising money and so forth - and thanks to all of you. Running the churches is already very much a co-operative enterprise. If, though, anyone feels they might be able to help with communicating with builders and the diocese about repairs and filling in application forms for grants and the permissions that are sometimes required to undertake work in the churches (part of Cubby's brief at the moment), do please be in touch.

Maybe the most important thing, however, is to establish a group of people who would be willing to share the responsibility of making sure the services happen as they should - which would mean individual members of the group committing to being at certain services (in accordance with a rota) and doing the

necessary. If we could create a team of half a dozen, say, who would be up for sharing this essential task, we would have taken a big step forward.

So that's one ask. Another will be found in the letter you'll get with this issue of BN. Yes, more begging, I'm afraid. Again, if the load is shared it won't be too onerous for anyone. £1 a week more from each household in the Barfords would transform church finances. And do please think about a standing order and a Gift Aid declaration- such a declaration needs only be filled in once and covers all your giving to the Barford Churches.

And now the good news. David Benskin, the Deddington Children's and Youth Worker has started work in Barford. He is involved in the Family Services on the second Sunday of the month but is hoping to be able to start an activity with the young people of the village in addition to this. If you have any thoughts on what you would like to see happening in the village for younger Barfordians, please let us know.

Please note the Ash Wednesday Service in St John's (March 5th, 7.30pm) and that on Mothering Sunday we shall be having a 10.30 am service in St Michael's instead of the usual 5th Sunday 4.00pm Communion service in St John's.

If you'd like to join a Lent discussion group in Deddington, please let me know. Lent, austere as it is, is good news too and worth keeping in whatever way seems appropriate (fasting? praying? giving?). If you are fasting though, note that Sundays aren't in Lent. Every Sunday is a remembrance of Jesus' resurrection, the best news of all and fasting on Sundays is therefore just not on!

Hugh

vicarhugo@gmail.com; 01869 349869

Quiz & Curry Night

A BIG 'THANK YOU' to all who attended the Quiz and Curry night (Sat 25th Jan).

An even bigger thanks to Spencer Richards (pictured right) from "The Buffet Company" for the fine catering and generous donation of the food. The curries were superb, and as Pete Eden pointed out, no plates went back with any grub left on them!



The hall was packed, and judging by the comments, we think everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good night.



The evening raised £846 after costs have been taken out. This was also on account of the winning teams not wishing to take their winnings, but donating them back to the fund. This will go a long way in the Kathmandu Kids home - so thank you all again.

'tcommittee

LSD

I asked the committee what sort of things that orphanage youngsters went on to do, and received the following reply by email from Nurje, one of the former students there. I think it speaks volumes - Ed.

Hello!!! Namaste!!!

MY NAME IS Nurje Sherpa, I am 20 years old. I was born in Kanku (a village in Solukhumbu). I was brought to H.C.M.C. in 1996 AD. In a group of some other childrens. I will always be grateful to H.C.M.C. for creating such a pleasant and right platform for the children who are orphans or helpless from poor and weak economic backgrounds. Taking responsibility of 21 childrens is not a simple thing, but in fact they have sacrificed their happiness and dreams spending their time with such childrens and looking after them for years and years. They have gathered such childrens from a rural areas of all over Nepal and organized a huge family. They supported us physically, mentally and socially. And so we are able to get good education, shelter, health, clothing and fooding facilities. They also have encouraged us to involve in different creative and outdoor

activities like arts, musics, dances, sanitations, picnics and in different sports and games.

Now I I'm in grade 12 with Management Faculty in Nandit College. After my college time, I use to co-operate with the childrens in their studies. My dreams, future and the place where I am standing is beyond an imagination without of H.C.M.C., instead I would have been working in fields in my village.

I have heard Barford Village Community is supporting H.C.M.C.. So, I personally, would like to extend my very very thanks through deep down my heart and pray for both the H.C.M.C. and B.V.C. with a hope to see more and more supported childrens like me in future too.

Thanking you

Nurje Sherpa

A CUPPA FOR KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE



10.00 - Noon

Thursday 6th March

in aid of

Katharine House Hospice

Please join us

In the Village Hall for

Coffee, Tea, Biscuits and Cake

To help to raise funds for KHH

and support local patients

and their families

Also Fund-raising Raffle

Fernhill Club

ON 5TH FEBRUARY we had a lovely lunch at Banbury College. The 12th despite terrible day weather 8 of sat and had tea and biscuits and enjoyed friendly chat. 19th we were entertained once again by Alan Brewer who told us more stories of his life as an Air Steward for british Airways ferrying celebrities and royalty all around the world. On 26th we were practicing our skills at carpet bowls.

Coming in March, on the 12th we will have our birthday lunch, then ten-pin bowling in the hall on 26th.

Barford Village Market

In the Village Hall, 10-12noon

Saturday, 15th March

Preserves & Chutneys, Artisan Breads, Meat Joint, Fairtrade Goods, Home-made Ice-creams, Books, Handicraft items, Hand-finished Cards, Joan's beautifully gift wrapped chocolates – perfect Easter/Mother's Day gifts! Sushi by Momo (Just returned from Japan), Garden planters (weather permitting!)

**And of course, Tea, Coffee
plus those delicious
Bacon, and/or Egg and/or Sausage Butties lovingly cooked by Angus!!**

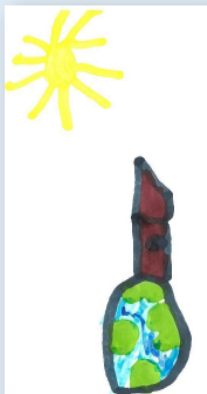
**Please come along and support your local market
All profits go towards Village Hall maintenance**

CHARITY LOCAL COMMUNITY CONCERT

St Peter and Paul's Church Deddington

Friday 14 March 2014

7.30 pm to 9.30pm



Rhythm is Life

a local choir directed by
Robin Martin-Oliver,
singing a selection of songs from
Gospel to Classical

Together with:

Sunshine Quartet

a local string quartet playing pieces by
Pergolesi, Schubert and Dvorak

Entrance £10 Concessions £8 on the door including wine or a soft drink

Ataxia UK is a charity providing research and support for people with ataxia, a neurological condition causing a range of mild to very severe progressive balance, co-ordination and mobility problems. www.ataxia-uk.org



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
BLOXHAM BRANCH



RUSTIC RUMINATIONS



A FEAST OF COUNTRY LEGEND, LORE AND LOVE
IN PARODY, VERSE & DITTY WITH A DISTINCTLY
BUCOLIC FLAVOUR OR IN OTHER WORDS
COUNTRY FOLK AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEM 'EM!!

FRIDAY, 21ST MARCH @ 7.30PM

BLOXHAM EX-SERVICEMEN'S HALL

£5.00 PER TICKET

(Including interval glass of wine)

On Sale From 21st February

Please contact

Rod Wallington – 01295 720385

Hugh Hinde – 01295 720220

Also available at Bloxham Country Market

And Barford Village Market on 15th March



**Please come along and support your local branch for what
promises to be an entertaining evening!**

Churchyard Regulations

OCCASIONALLY I AM ASKED about the regulations regarding memorials in the churchyard. If you go to the Oxford Diocese website at



<http://www.oxford.anglican.org/> and look for Parish Administration/Revised Churchyard Regulations, you will find the regulations set out clearly as to the type of stone to be used, the size and shape of the memorial and other relevant information. The regulations also set out what can be left at the grave with regard to toys, animals, plastic flowers, etc. These should only be left at the grave for a period of 12 months and silk flowers should be changed seasonally. Also the restrictions on the type of flowers or bulbs that can be planted on the grave are set out.

Everyone will agree that the churchyard should be a place of dignity and beauty, and if those who are thinking of putting a memorial in place could read the regulations it would be appreciated to save embarrassment at an emotional time, and care and consideration should be taken before ordering a stone.

Cubby Brett
Churchwarden

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

DURING THE FIRST TERM of 2014 the PFSU children have been finding out about animals. We welcomed lots of pets into pre-school, found out all about them and asked their owners lots of questions! Thankyou to all the pets and their owners who came to visit us. We also wrote to the vet and were pleased to welcome Juliet Owens into the setting to tell us all about her work. Thankyou Juliet!



We enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year at the end of January. We made lanterns and lucky money envelopes, created our own dragon dances, and walked to the May Fu II Restaurant to see their new year decorations and purchase a delicious Chinese meal. Thankyou to the May Fu II for making us so welcome again.

Our next fund-raising event will be a jumble sale at the Windmill Centre on Saturday 1st March between 11am and 1pm. Entry is free. Donations of jumble would be welcome and can be dropped off on the previous day between 9am and 2pm. We appreciate your support.

Lucy Squires
337484

Barford St. John & Barford St. Michael



Welcome to our village website.

The new village website is now available at:

<http://www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk>

There are pages available for all the village groups and events. If any groups have been missed out please can the organiser let me know, on below email and I will add them. The organiser of a group can supply me with any information they would like adding to their page.

If anyone has any other information relevant to the village that could be added to the website please let Emma Best know via email to:

barnes_emma@yahoo.co.uk



Reminder to All Members

Annual Meeting

7.30pm

Wednesday 12th March

In The Village Hall

CALLING ALL LOVELY, GORGEOUS & GENEROUS BARFORDIANS

We desperately need **Raffle Prizes** for our forthcoming Skittles night Fundraiser which is taking place at Sandford St Martin Cricket Club on **SATURDAY 22 MARCH @ 7:30** in aid of the **SPECIAL CARE BABY UNIT** at The Horton (see page 7 →)

If you do have anything it can either be dropped off at The Old Chapel or I'm happy to collect, just call me on

☎ 337678

Thank You
Lucy Norman

CHARITY SKITTLES & BUFFET NIGHT
Sandford St Martin Cricket Club



SATURDAY 22 MARCH @ 7:30pm

£7 per person (includes buffet) with ALL monies raised
being donated to the
SPECIAL CARE BABY UNIT at The Horton

Please reserve your place via Lucy Norman either on
lulu.norman@btinternet.com or ☎ 337678

**** There will also be a Raffle ****

*** The Pay Bar will be open ***

** BE QUICK AS PLACES ARE LIMITED **



Tuesday Lunch Club

18th March – Menu

*Chicken & Leek Cobbler, Savoy Cabbage,
Roasted Carrots, Parsnips & Sweet Potato
Buttered New Potatoes*

~ ~ ~

*Apricot and White Chocolate Bread & Butter Pud
Or*

Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce

~ ~ ~

Tea or Coffee

~ ~ ~

Water and squash provided, Bring your own wine

£5.00 per person (Cash payment on day please)

Pre-book by 11th March - 01869 337074

THE BARFORD BIG LUNCH

Sunday 1st June 2014

About The Big Lunch

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

Since starting in 2009, thousands of Big Lunches have taken place in all types of communities across the UK. Last year **3.65** million people took to their streets, gardens and community spaces for the fifth annual Big Lunch. This year's Big Lunch is on

Sunday 1 June 2014.

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. Having a Big Lunch with your neighbours can be great fun! Here are just a few reasons why you should get people on your street or community involved:The Big Lunch is a simple recipe to have fun with your neighbours and encourage friendlier, safer neighbourhoods, which will... Feed community spirit! As well as sharing a meal you'll be meeting new people, be making new friends and strengthening ties in your community which could see you... **Starting to share more** – from conversation and ideas to skills and resources –so we all end up richer in every sense, which can also help you to... **Discover common ground** across age, class, faith, race and the garden fence, and remind ourselves that charity begins at home, or just a couple of doors away, and remember... To make the third of us who live alone feel connected to their communities, and, before you know it, you've started to...

Change a neighbourhood for good, forever!
So, enjoying a Big Lunch is just the start– **it's what can happen after that really makes the difference!**

LAST YEAR WE HAD A WONDERFUL TIME IN THE GARDEN OF THE VILLAGE HALL...EVERYONE BROUGHT THEIR OWN FOOD, SAT TOGETHER AND HAD A GREAT DEAL OF FUN....COME AND JOIN US AND HELP WITH ORGANISATION AND IDEAS WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

Call Gunilla on 01295 720521 or email
gt.designs@btinternet.com



1st Deddington Guides

W^E WELCOMED
Milly, Connie,
Hannah, Sasha,



Yasmin and Amy this term and they have been very enterprising and founded their very own Penguin Patrol. They have been working together very well as a group.

We have been enjoying rehearsing our pantomime 'Snowella' – written and directed by senior guides Ellie C and Lorna. They have held auditions and conducted rehearsals just like professionals! Well done, girls!.

The performance, open to all, will be held on **Tuesday, 4th March at 7.30pm in the Windmill Centre.** We hope that you will come along and support us and our chosen charities. The girls have been putting a great deal of effort into it.

The guides have still found time to work on badges – traditions of guiding and world issues, and their patrol projects.

All girls of 10 and over are welcome to come along and join us – do let us know if you are interested as places go very quickly.

Guiders: Maggie Rampley, 01295 810069

Marian Trinder, 01869 340800

Catherine Blackburn, 01295 258008

Saturday 29 March, 7.30pm
Barford Village Hall
Teams of up to 6 people
£12 per person
includes your curry

Curry & Quiz Night

Tickets from Deddington PTA or Sue Brown 07584 666561 / 01869338740
sue@redhousecakecompany.co.uk
Download your team registration form at
www.deddingtonprimaryschool.co.uk/PTA
© Deddington C of E School PTA, Charity Number 1052715

Ed's Postbag

Dear All,

I am sending you a link to my giving page for the **Sports Relief Bike**

Ride that Sarah Andrews and I will be joining on Sunday 23rd March 2014.

I am not expecting anyone to sponsor me for this ride as I have always said that I ride my bike for pleasure and because I can. But on this occasion I would like to be able to offer the opportunity for other less fortunate people in the UK and across the world to get into sport and enjoy the pleasure of doing it alone or with others. So, if you would like to help by sponsoring do feel free!

I think you should really sponsor Jeremy as he has Volunteered!? to drive Sarah and I to London on the morning of Sunday 23 March for an 8.10 set off time which will mean him getting up and leaving Barford at about 6.00 am.

The link for sponsorship is:

http://my.sportrelief.com/sponsor/st-marys-ladies?utm_medium=email&utm_source=FROST&utm_campaign=event_confirmation

Regards, Glynnis



Barford Bikers

It's that time of year again—despite the wet cold miserable weather we have had. Spring is on the way. So it's time to dust off those bikes, check the tyre pressures and get ready to go.



"On yer bike "I hear you say....well...exactly that.

Barford bikers are gearing up for another go at getting fit, having fun and enjoying the countryside on a regular basis.

This year, in order not to clash with George William's Lycra lot, I am planning to go out on a Tuesday evening for a gentle ride at a sensible pace. This is for those of us who have not ridden for a while. This session is definitely not for those who wish to ride at pace but for us more gentle souls who like a steady pace with lots of stops. I know that there are many Barfordians who have bikes in their garages/ outhouses / barns etc...so come on, join us for rides on a Tuesday Evening. All you need is a bike, a helmet and a sense of fun. Meet outside the village hall at 6.30pm.



**Our first ride will take place on
Tuesday 25 March.**

It would be good to see a crowd go out. Hopefully I can persuade Jeremy to get on HIS bike.

Glynnis Eastwood



Closure of The Rock

Traherne House, The Rock..

Dear Mariann,

We hope that villagers will already have read in reports from the Parish Council that The Rock is due to be repaired. This letter is to up-date everyone, and to apologise in advance for any difficulties and disruption.

The Rock will be closed from March 24th to April 25th, and traffic re-routed through the village. The work will be carried-out by two local builders, Roger Hunt and Chris Wilkinson. Their superb stone-masonry is already part of the village landscape.

We hope that the work will not take as long as a month, but Highways has suggested this period to allow for any unforeseen events, and for possible bad weather. Signage will go up two weeks before work starts, and houses most directly affected will receive a letter from us. Please don't be offended by their formal tone – this is a Highways' requirement, and the form of words has to be agreed by them!

Time, weather, and above all traffic and salting, have eroded the rock-face, and it will be a huge relief to us to have it made secure. Thank you to everyone for the concern and kindness already expressed, and for the patience and forbearance which we know will be shown.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny and Adrian Greeves.

From The Fire Station

FIRE AND FLOODS! Being a firefighter at Deddington is starting to feel like a full time job, as we are being called out day and night for long periods of time. We have had more than our normal share of chimney fires and the flooding has started to stretch our resources to the limit. We went to a chimney fire at a very large manor house that was three storeys high. We were faced with the downstairs of the house filling up with smoke and I had to deploy two of the crew in breathing apparatus to start extinguishing the fire. What made matters worse was that smoke was seeping through the chimney into other rooms in the house. I quickly realised that this incident was going to need more resources and called for another crew which came from Charlbury. We decided to tackle the chimney using a two pronged attack. My crew gained access to the roof and worked from the top down and Charlbury worked using chimney rods and a stirrup pump to extinguish it from the bottom up. Finally after five long hours we managed to put it out. When we investigated hot spots in some of the rooms we found that there was charring on timber plugs that had been banged into the wall to fix the skirting boards onto. With an incident like this you have to be sure that the fire is completely out before you can send a message to conclude it. Even so you still have to leave it open to go back four hours later to re-inspect. We finally got back to the fire station at 1 a.m. but then had to go back at 5 a.m. to re-inspect. I can never sleep if we have a re-inspection. Please can you get your chimneys swept because chimney fires can quite easily turn into house fires. Your chimney should be swept at least once a year or twice if used extensively.

We have just come back after being out all night supporting the high volume pump at Abingdon Road Oxford, pumping water to keep the area from flooding and at this moment we are succeeding. As the rain keeps falling the main problem doesn't seem to be whether or not we can pump the water! It's where we can pump it to, so that we don't displace it to cause a problem elsewhere. That's where the high volume pumps come into play, because we can pump water miles away. We have also spent time pumping water from properties in Adderbury and Deddington and again we would like to thank the public for their help and community spirit which makes this such a great place to live and work.

We have now completed our fire behavioural training, honing our skills in real fires that we create in huge shipping containers. We build a fire in the container and get the temperature up to where it can flashover and then using very limited



water we cool the gasses to stop the flashover. As we are in the container we can't afford to use more than a few litres of water because at 500 degrees centigrade steam expands 3400 times in volume which can pressure cook you. With our modern equipment and training methods we can drop the temperatures from 700 degrees down to 200 using very little water.

Congratulations to FF Lewis Mahoney who has just successfully completed his basic Breathing Apparatus training meaning that we have now got twelve out of our thirteen crew that can wear B.A. leaving just FF Colin Smith who is booked on his course in June. I would also like to congratulate Crew Manager Graham Harding for passing his I.C.S. assessment (Incident Command System). All the managers are tested every two years to make sure that they have kept up with all the training and are competent to manage incidents.

On a final note I would like to tell you about the Four Farms Challenge which is a 5k and 10k run around the Deddington Parish farms. We are organising this event on Sunday 18th May in conjunction with the P.F.S.U. and the P.T.A. We would hope that everyone in our community will join us to either take place or support this event. More info at

<http://fourfarmschallengeco.ipage.com>.

Crew Manager Tim Parker
Deddington Fire station

Parish Council Elections

ELECTIONS FOR THE Parish Council are to be held on Thursday

22 May 2014 with the new council taking office on Monday 26 May 2014. All 7 places are up for election.

Full details of where to obtain nomination papers and the procedure will be published in due course but in the meantime anyone interested might like to give consideration to standing.

Parish Council meetings are held monthly in the village hall on the first Wednesday in the month (except August and not January this time). All meetings are open to the public so if you are interested to see how the council works why not pop along and sit in on a meeting. There is a 10 minute slot for 'public participation' as well.

Do contact the Parish Clerk or any councillor if you want any more information.

Rodney Hobbs: Chairman

Contact details for the Parish Clerk and all councillors are on the back page of every BN. Ed.



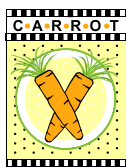
NOTES FROM OUR POTTING SHED

Our AGM was on 4th February, The question of actually continuing with the Garden Club was discussed and members unanimously decided to have a Garden Club. All members should have received the Minutes from this meeting. Membership fees now stand at £5 and cards can be collected from Jeff Elliott at Slate Cottage.

We usually aim to have 3 talks a year and 3 visits, often connected with the talks. The year includes an Open Gardens event.

Many suggestions were offered at the AGM and these will be considered by the Committee.

Members of the Committee are Trish Field, Linda Newbery, Annie Radford and Gunilla Treen. Stephen Bunce remains our Treasurer.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

MARCH 3rd Our last talk of the season will be by Tim Miles from Cotswold Wildlife Park, on 'Vegetable Growing'. This talk will not be free to members, as the last few have been.

We need to build up our funds in order to plan more talks by good speakers for you all. The talks will now cost members £3 and visitors £4.

MAY 15th PLANT SWAP at the home of David and Sarah Best, Street Farm, in St.John.

JULY 13th an OPEN GARDENS event

TIP OF THE MONTH...seem to be similar to February!! The weather has been mild but as you may have noticed...rather wet...making any sort of gardening rather limited. Keep off the garden if very wet, the soil will become compacted and difficult for future work to be carried out. The hard frosts, if we get any, will be good for breaking down the soil. Hellebores, really coming out now, can be better seen if the old leaves are removed. Some early spring flowers and bulbs are definitely making an appearance to cheer us up and remind us of the circular gardening year. It will not be long before the bees start flying to collect nectar. Continue to sow in pots...sweet peas and some vegetables. Prune roses and other shrubs and trees while the sap is down. Make good all fences and other structures. Stake all plants to protect from the wind. A good workout can be had and many calories can be burned! Do not forget to feed the birds.

CONTINUE TO DREAM of a nice spring and summer.



'Bye for now'
Spade and Fork



Maggies 50 - 3rd year. 50 mile cycle ride



Saturday June 14th 2014

Meet at 12:30 for 1:00pm Start

From The George

This is a circular route with a stop off at the half way point at Boycott Farm Shop near Stowe School for refreshments. The ride will finish back at the George Pub. Martin the pub landlord has given permission for cyclists to park their vehicles in the pub car park.

£20 Entrance fee including BBQ

BBQ 7:00pm at The George

Proceeds to Maggie's website:

www.maggieharveytrust.com

Set up to contribute to funding into brain tumour research.

There will be a meeting at The **George on Tuesday 3rd June at 8:00pm** to discuss details of the ride, and distribute maps, instructions etc. The route will be exactly the same as last year.

This is not a race. The riders in previous years varied widely in ability. Anyone who wants to cover the course in a fast speed can do so. The record time to complete the ride is 2hrs 17 minutes. Conversely last year the course was completed by two very young teenagers in just over 5 hours. **No one will be left behind** the slower cyclists will be accompanied. The main objective is to assist all the entrants to complete the course safely.

Support vehicles carrying first aid, top up water, and stirrup pumps in case of punctures, and they will be able to collect anyone one who struggles and feels they can't continue.

To assist with the planning can you please confirm your entry by email no later than 3rd June, or earlier if possible. Please bring your entrance money to the meeting on the 3rd June if you haven't paid before hand.

Training rides, weather permitting, Wednesday evenings & Sunday Mornings start in March. These will leave from the Barford village hall. (times to be confirmed)

BBQ arrangements have been improved to ensure a good service, and there will be a vegetarian option . We are hoping this will also be an enjoyable social occasion. Anyone who can't make the bike ride is very welcome to join us for the evening and pay for food at the BBQ. We will welcome your support!

Hope to see you!!!!

George Williams Mob 07801 956642

Email gselog@gmail.com

1st Barford and Deddington Rainbows

THE WEATHER HAS KEPT us firmly indoors so far this term, so we have recycled plastic bottles and tetra paks into bird feeders. We hoped they would encourage some birds into our gardens for the RSPB Big Bird Watch; the Rainbows had vain hopes of eagles and exotic species but I think it was mostly sparrows and finches that they attracted.



We celebrated the New Chinese Year of the Horse by making lucky red envelopes (filled with chocolate coins by the Young Leaders) and felt pencil toppers in the shape of horse heads.

W've spent a meeting learning how to tie knots. Some of the parents admitted they could do with some practice, so quite a large group learnt a simple overhand knot, a reef knot, and a clove hitch. The hitch was the trickiest but some of the girls mastered it (impressive for 5 year olds!) and everybody got the hang of the reef knot which they practised by putting slings on each other.



St. Valentine's Day was marked by learning how to weave Swedish paper heart baskets. They proved a bit fiddly but look very effective.

Hazel Neal
01869 337822
hmkn@sky.com

Another Email Scam

THE Business Crime Reduction Centre (BCRC) is warning people about a new email scam that threatens victims with court action.

Fraudsters have been sending out legitimate looking spoofed emails designed to trick recipients into installing malware.

The emails say you have been notified and scheduled to appear for a court hearing, and contains specific dates, times, locations and reference numbers.

It asks you to download a copy of the "court notice" attached. The downloadable.zip file actually contains an .exe file (a file that executes when clicked) containing a virus.

The email has no connection to the Criminal Justice System and anyone receiving the email should not download any attachments or click any links and report it to us by using our online fraud reporting tool

<<https://reportlite.actionfraud.police.uk/>> .

Thank you

To the
Couple from Lower Street
Who handed me
A very generous donation
Of £20.00
For Barford News funds

Monthly printing costs are now £205 for 28 pages and £185 for 24 pages which is our usual size, so every donation is greatly appreciated. Ed.

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs



The Cubs spent three weeks working towards their Chef's badge, they learnt the correct way to wash their hands & store food before successfully cooking a range of meals & puddings. The two late cakes by Owyn & Sam were very well received, right down to the last crumb!

We have now moved on to Emergency Aid (a coincidence) & are planning a junk modelling evening before competing in the District Scrap Challenge.

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

Scouts

Scouts have also been tackling Emergency Aid with a visit from our District trainer & local First Responder for an evening of CPR. They are now all experts & will wrestle you into the recovery position at the first sign of weakness – you have been warned!

We also spent an evening swimming at the Spiceball, Wednesday evenings are free for local youth groups, how good is that?

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

Explorers

For their first outing as a unit the Explorers went for a knock about at the driving range in Bloxham, brilliant fun plus chips afterwards.

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

St George's Day Treasure Hunt For All under 11's

The group is organising a children's competition (19th – 26th April) to coincide with St George's Day, a treasure hunt involving dragons! Entry forms will be available from Deddington Primary School & the library.

Our New Youth Worker Says 'Hello'

Hi I'm David, and I am the new Children and Youth Worker. I'm engaged to Alice and we get married this month in Deddington.

My journey to becoming a youth worker started in my local parish, with older members of the congregation feeling frightened of the youth standing around on the street corners. Feeling called by God to help in some way, I started a project reaching out to the young people of the village, many of whom were marginalised or troubled, from difficult or broken homes. This project focused on building bridges between the church and the young people of the community, and also involved taking food and juice to the young people, a simple but significant action as many would only have one or two meals a day.

I felt God calling me to go into youth work full time, so I walked away from my previous career, and decided to enrol with CYM on a three year degree course in Young People, Community and Practical Theology. Part of this course involved working part time as a youth worker in Claverdon, as a placement, where I worked closely with the local schools and ran the youth clubs. Having graduated and completed my three year contract, I was looking for a full time position, and secured a place here at Deddington.

As part of my job I will be doing some work in Barford, and I will be setting up and running some children's activity. I would very much like to meet up with some of the families to talk about what you all think the church and I could do in the village. Additionally,

if you would like to come to the next

**Family Service,
it will be taking place on
9th March at 10:30 a.m.**

I'm very much looking forward to meeting you all and being part of the parish life.

David Benskin
davidbenskin13@gmail.com

Katharine House News

BANBURY HARRIERS PAUL BITHELL

MEMORIAL FUN RUN together with

the **15 mile road race**, at Spiceball Park, at 10.40am on Sunday 9th March all ages are welcome. There are two options; a 1mile run (£1 entry) and a 2.5 mile run (£3 entry). To apply, call Mike Hughes on 01295 252839.

KATHARINE HOUSE ANNUAL SALE Come and browse for a bargain at our renowned Annual Sale, being held at the Institute, Adderbury on Saturday 15 March, 11am – 2pm. Good quality donated items, knitted goods, books, toys, home-made cakes and the lottery booth will also be present, Tea, coffee and soups available.

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION – Our first ever. We would love to receive designs from local artists and art students. Designs should appeal to the whole of our area and not be specific to any one district, and irrespective of faith and culture. The chosen design will be printed on a card 126 x 126 mm. Designs should be on square pieces of paper, but any type of medium can be used. Send your design to Katharine House Hospice (East End, Adderbury, OX17 3NL) by 31st March 2014. The winning design will be announced on 7th April and will be turned into a professional Christmas card to go on sale in September 2014 to raise vital funds for KHH. The café at Bloxham Mill Business Centre has kindly offered exhibit the top designs in their café area during April and May.

DIARY DATES:

ZUMBATHON 2014 - Saturday 26 April at Blessed George Napier School in Banbury from 2pm – 5pm. £10 entry, or £35 for a family ticket.

KATHARINE HOUSE MAY CHARITY BALL at Bloxham School, on Sunday 4th May (7pm start). Tickets £50 include A three course meal. To book contact Lucinda Lloyd on 01295 720623 or Margaret Sutton on 01295 262429.

Sarah Brennan Community Fundraiser

Help Wanted For Elections

POLITE AND PROFESSIONAL people are being sought to help turn the wheels of democracy during elections in south Northamptonshire and Cherwell District this May.

Presiding officers, poll clerks and verification staff are all needed for the European election polls and counts in both areas, and for the council elections at Cherwell District Council (CDC) on Thursday, 22 May, 2014. As well as playing an important role in the democratic process, successful applicants will also receive reasonable pay for their time.

Applicants must be confident they can work to a high level of accuracy and it is vital they are able to act impartially and maintain the secrecy of the ballot.

Attendance at a training session prior to the election is compulsory for all new presiding officers and poll clerks. Training for verification staff will be provided just before the count.

It is a legal requirement that presiding officers and poll clerks are over 18 years old.

Please note the recruitment team work for both South Northamptonshire Council and CDC and the **closing date for applications is Sunday, 20 April 2014.**

For full details of each role including; information on hours of work, necessary experience and pay rates visit https://www.everyroadleadstous.co.uk/job/Elections_staff/101151

If you have any questions, or want to return a completed application form email: recruitment@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or leave a message on 01295 221528.



Charlie Ross @ The Holt

15th March 2014

BBC TV's Charlie Ross will officially open the next Antiques & Collector's Fair at The Holt on 15th March.

Auctioneering and TV appearances aside, Charlie is an accomplished amateur actor and operatic singer, being a member of the Bicester Choral and Operatic Society, and a keen follower of cricket.

Antiques @ The Holt

Hopcrofts Holt, Steeple Aston, Oxon, OX25 5QQ

For more information tel. 01869 347356

Email: antiques@the-holt.co.uk

www.antiques-at-the-holt.co.uk

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Deddington CofE Primary School News

AS WE ENTER MARCH the school is still thinking, rehearsing and talking about this year's production of Beauty Beast. The children are working extremely hard as always and many even gave up part of their half term holidays to rehearse in the church. The dates for the performances are the 19th, 20th and 21st of March, tickets will be available from our school office.



This term we are also looking forward to the annual Fairtrade fortnight, our Fairtrade group have been busy organising a Traidcraft event and ensuring there are lots of activities for the children to take part in, including a raffle and an art competition. They will also be leading a Friday Celebration assembly.

We are going to be celebrating World Book Day on March 6th by everyone (including teachers!) dressing up as a favourite book character and doing lots of book related activities in class, culminating in a 'fashion show' at the end of the day. During that week we are also going to be having a visit from the Green Bus, where children will learn about aspects of the environment and the impact they can have on it.

Year 6 are working hard for their SATs in May but are going to be able to take a break from their books when they go on their weeklong residential at Yenworthy Lodge in Exmoor. This will take place the week following our production, which most of them are involved in, so I'm not quite sure what state they will be in by the end of a very busy fortnight! Exhausted but happy I should imagine.

Mrs Jane Cross, Deputy Headteacher

Down On The Farm

IVAGUELY RECALL my college notes telling me that one inch of rainfall equates to 100 tonnes of water per acre. On that basis our top fields, which add up to around 45 acres, off-load in the region of 4500 tonnes of wetness for every inch of rain that falls onto already saturated land. Small wonder our drive, which stands in the way of it flowing to our lower fields, has been partly washed away!

For those of you who have visited the farm or the Meat Joint in recent weeks I can only apologise for the state of the drive and say that it will be repaired - but not, unfortunately, until the rain has decided to fall elsewhere.

Frankly a fractured driveway is a small price to pay compared with the devastation in other areas. The misery caused to homeowners, farmers and businesses in those areas is beyond calculation. We, like many others, have offered help through the National Farmers' Union since we do have some surplus straw we could spare but such is the swell of offers that we are 'on file' against a worsening situation.

Main job this month is to get the breeding ewes into the big barn which is now full of strawed pens. We have left them out for as long as they seem happy (not easy to tell with sheep) but they now need to come in for extra food which dictates a round up fairly soon. The problem is that, ideally, they need to come in dry and finding dry days at present is a bit like finding an egg in a cockerel's pen; however we only need one (dry day that is) and the forecast suggests we shall get one or two shortly.

The malting barley seed is due to arrive any day but it will have to stay in its bags until we can get to plough the land. I had hoped to get it planted early to give it a good start but am now resigned to the fact that we must wait until field conditions are suitable.

The pigs meanwhile lie contentedly in their strawed pens heedless of what goes on outside. Incidentally don't ever share a bed with a pig - not that you would even contemplate doing so. I walked past one of the yards last night on my way to shut the chickens up and the racket was unbelievable; twenty or so pigs snoring in deafening unison! On my way back I was delighted to see a pair of barn owls fly out of the implement shed; we have not had barn owls here for two years since our last pair vanished and hopefully these newcomers will find the place to their liking and stay on.

Tony Collier,
Iron Down Farm

NATURE NOTES 125

WHAT A WINTER! Not a winter of cold (so far) but a winter of water. Despite my old weather-saw prophecies and a few chilly spells, this has been a very mild winter -just rain - and what rain! One cannot escape the premise that there is something uniquely significant about this winter's presentation.



According to many climate experts, the origin of the present conditions originates in Malaysia and Indonesia with long term extremely high temperatures. This has disrupted the normal weather patterns of the northern hemisphere by introducing large bends in the Jet Stream which have allowed warm air northward consistently over areas that would normally experience colder conditions. The deep southward bends in the Jet Stream have permitted more extreme incursions of arctic air, such as those which have recurred down the Americas. We, in the UK, are north of one of these steep southward loops of the Jet Stream, but the proximity of the Atlantic ocean (with, of course, the Gulf Stream) means we have been buffeted by constant 'warm' SW winds. Because of their warmth, these winds carry vast quantities of evaporated oceanic water, and when they are pushed up over land they cool, lose their capacity to support evaporated water and deposit it on us, as rain.

To this end, I have analysed the rainfall since October and annotate below the days of each month on which it has rained - and most of it has been of significant quantity.

Last month, I minimalised my notes on the weather to avoid boring repetition, but I hope you will agree that, given the last six or so week's conditions, especially for those poor souls in heavily flooded areas, some concentration on the subject is appropriate.

And so to what is happening amidst our wildlife.

Mid January, despite conditions, produced Green Woodpeckers making considerable noise below Steepness. Indeed, some Blackbirds and Songthrushes were in full song on brighter days. The 19th was one such day and this also brought a Buzzard soaring, and Rooks nest building on Steepness. As I drove home around midnight there seemed to be foxes, several in pairs, watching from the verges of the roads almost everywhere.

I have added the letters H (heavy) S (storm) and F (flood). The latter indicate only the day of rain which caused flooding at Barford Bridge, not its persistence.

Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	2	1	5	1	4
	3	2H	6	3	6H
	9	3SF	Six	4F	7F
	11	6	dry	5	8S
	12	8	days	6	9
	13S	9	13	7H	10S
	14S	11	15H	8HF	11
	16S	16	16H	13	
	18	20S	18S	15	
	19	21	19F	16	
	20H	High	20	18	
	21	pressure	21S	22	
	22	until	23F	23	
	25	Dec	26F	24	
	27S	4th	28	25S	
	28		29S	26	
			30S	28	
			31	29H	
				30HF	
				31H	
Total	16	10	15	20	7
	(mid days month) rain				

Rain causing road to flood heavily on 8 occasions.

I do hope that you agree that current conditions warrant the importance I have given them here.

Arriving home, there was a Tawny Owl hooting its beak off on Hempton Hills.

The Green Woodpeckers seem water and cold proof, being frequently noisy right into February. The Buzzard had another spell of soaring on Steepness on the morning of 25th January, but the dreadful afternoon storm put an end to all that.

In the evening many villagers enjoyed themselves at a quiz in the village hall; The warmth and noise, together with the delicious smell of food being served, brought a fine Peacock butterfly out of hibernation, to the delight of us villagers. The insect dived and swooped over the tables (I wondered if it was anticipating a share of the spicy dishes) for some time before finally disappearing. Where it went I don't know, but hopefully it found a cool, dark spot to continue its slumbers until proper spring arrives.

Finally, a very soggy, totally waterlogged January washed away and into February.

There was now very deep flooding again in the Rivers Swere and Cherwell Valleys, the road between St. John and St. Michael being closed to all traffic.

The floods between the two villages provided a wonderful spectacle of Gulls and other birds from the roadside footpath and along Blackingrove.

I checked them over and came up with the following results:-

2 Great Black-backed Gulls (quite unmistakable, these were present near the Milton gated road on our early January bird count).

75+ Lesser Black-backed Gulls.

50+ Common Gulls, which very unusually outnumbered the ever present Black Headed Gulls, of which there were about 30.

There were two Buzzards in beautiful condition, showing great interest in the edges of the flood waters, probably looking for distressed or dead animals such as Voles and Moles. The female Buzzard was a large bird with a pale breast, the male was noticeably smaller, plumaged in deep rich browns. There was a smart male Kestrel further along Blackingrove and on the surrounding dry (just!) areas there was a flock of about 120 Fieldfare (no Redwings) and 120 Starlings.

Next day was Candlemas Day

*If Candlemas Day dawns bright and clear, We
get two winters in one year.*

Well, of course we do, if you think about it, but it was always held to mean we would get a snap of hard weather in February or March, so watch out - think of the Arctic ice storms down eastern America - if that 'blip' translates across the Atlantic, we could get a dose! But Candlemas Day or not, that old Green Woodpecker was laughing below Steepness again! In the afternoon I was driving up over the lip of Irondown when, just in front of me, a rough looking Buzzard crossed over the road, no more than 300-450mm above the tarmac. He glided out of a gate from a ploughed field, through a gap on the other side of the road and out over Grove Ash. Another few yards and I would, sadly, have hit him.

People had started remarking on the Hazel catkins appearing on the hedge rows and even the Pussy Willow, here and there. There were not only Snowdrops, but Crocus, Daffodil buds and Aconites in their gardens, if that's what you could call the slurry that used to be soil!

On a heatless 3rd, 5th and 6th, Nature had crept back under cover (except you-know-who, laughing below Steepness).

On a bitterly cold, but sunny 7th, I watched two Ravens soaring, then suddenly diving out of sight over The Daedings in Deddington.

There was now heavy flooding again at Barford Bridge and really harsh storms with roaring gales. By the 12th, all the Rook and Jackdaw nests had been destroyed and blown out by the winds on Steepness. Huge rainfall had produced run-off from fields such that normally unaffected roads were flooded, even on high ground such as near the airfield approaching Bloxham.

Again there were huge deluges, driven horizontally on crashing gales through the 14th. Now, as I write these notes on the 15th, there are rushing squalls and the floods are high again at the Bridge.

It is a little milder however, and that perpetual SW wind has veered toward NW. The Met. Office is telling us over the television that there will be some relief from severe weather over the coming days. I think we are all for that, whilst still keeping a weather eye open on the snowstorms that have just occurred in America. Please can we have some more seasonal weather, but not that!

Ron Knight

Quiz Night @ The George

05/03/14

26/03/14

09/04/14

23/04/14

**The chance to win millions!!
Bring a team! Or join one here!**

