

BARFORD NEWS

June 2015
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It's time for the Big Lunch

**You are invited to a very special street party
on 7 June, 1pm to 3.30pm, in the Village Hall**

.....in the garden hopefully. Anyone living in, working in or travelling through the Barfords is invited. Bring friends and family, some food and drink. The Big Lunch a very simple idea.

The aim is to get as many people as possible across the UK to have lunch with their neighbours once a year in an act of community, friendship and fun. For more information contact Gunilla on 01295 720521.



Well done and many thanks to all who responded to the Nepal earthquake appeal by bringing your clothes, blankets and tents down to the Village Hall last month.

Sorted!.....



...and collected!



Barford Carpet Bowls Club

We have just finished another enjoyable season, and welcomed four new players, who haven't been scared off yet.

The winning team last season was Colts, and the highest scoring lady on the target mat was Sheila Taylor, and Martin Archer was the highest scoring gentleman. We ended the season with a delicious meal in the Village Hall, thanks to Anne Pearson and her helpers. Plenty of wine and much laughter, and a good time was had by all.

Thanks to Bob, John and Martin for putting the mat down each week, to Diana for refreshments, and all the ladies who help with drinks and washing up.

We always welcome new members, so please come along and see what fun we have in the Village Hall on Tuesday nights.

The next season starts on Tuesday 15 September at 7.15pm.

Margaret Churchill



Scarecrow Competition to be judged on Saturday 13 June



Entry forms for the scarecrow competitions will be delivered to all those who have taken part in previous years.

If you are having a go for the first time please contact Mariann on 338570, email mariann.young@btinternet.com

Traditional free-standing figure or a group scene. Not necessarily human, but must be capable of scaring birds! This is a fun competition so please GIVE IT GO and give our garden visitors something to smile at.

Competitions for adults and children

Barford Village Market in the Village Hall 10am - 12noon *Saturday, 20th June*

Wooden planters and garden sundries (weather permitting), seasonal plants - all at silly prices.
Preserves and chutneys, artisan breads, Meat Joint, fairtrade goods, books, handicraft items,
beauty products Paul's great selection of cards and papers
Country Diaries' delicious cheeses, yoghurts, etc

Bacon butties/bacon and egg butties
add a sausage for a breakfast buttie
Not forgetting tea and coffee

Please come along have a cuppa with friends and support our local market

All profits go towards Village Hall maintenance

A big thank you

to all who came to the coffee morning at St Michael's Church on 9 May, to those who made such wonderful cakes, donated plants and helped in any way.

Couldn't have managed without any of you. It was a lovely morning and the weather was better than expected too!

On top of all this we raised £410 for church funds so another big thank you.

Jan Elvidge

BARFORD ST. MICHAEL
BARFORD GREEN GARDEN CLUB

**OPEN GARDENS....
and MORE**

SUNDAY JUNE 14th

TRADITIONAL SCARECROWS
PHOTOGRAPHS
Plants for sale

ENTRY AT THE VILLAGE HALL
2 - 6 pm

TEAS



Cuppa girls find a way



Thanks to our three wonderful cuppa girls, who found an alternative venue for our cuppa morning on election day and treated us all to refreshments at The Mill Cafe, Bloxham.

BBQ BBQ
BBQ BBQ

The date is changing

The annual Village Family Sports and BBQ will now take place in July with sports from 3pm and the BBQ and bar opening at 4pm.

See enclosed flier for date



Maggie's 50

The (4th year) 50 mile cycle ride is on 13 June. The route is the same as last year. Meet at 12:30pm for 1pm start from the George. It's a circular route with a half way stop off at Boycott Farm shop near Stow School for refreshments. £20 entrance fee including BBQ.

The ride finishes back at the George. Martin has given permission for cyclists to park their vehicles in the pub car park.

The BBQ starts at 7pm at the George and includes a vegetarian option. 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.

The proceeds will be donated 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 2 June at 8pm to discuss details and distribute maps and instructions. Contact George Williams on 07801 956642 or email gseleg@gmail.com

The Most Noble Order of Crusaders

“ACM” writes...

After the village celebration of St George at the coffee morning it has occurred to me that the following story would be of interest to readers.

When my father died many years ago there came into my possession a small bronze medallion. The full story and significance of this item was never explained during his lifetime and like so many other events in his life, remained untold.

In more recent times it is now often emphasised how important it is to collect all the information one can whilst the opportunity remains.

Last summer I made an attempt to trace the origins of the medallion via the magazine “This England” and much to my surprise I was contacted by two ladies who thought it was familiar and wrote to inform me that they had also inherited one and the same. From later correspondence it transpired that in both cases their father had belonged to the society to which the medallions were badges of membership.

The society was known as the Most Noble Order of Crusaders and was started after the First World War, in 1921, by Col Walter Faber and Capt Robert Gee VCMP. It grew to have many branches, known as conclaves, in towns and cities all over the country, and some in what was then the British Empire. The members were largely from what today we would probably call the establishment, ex-army officers and the gentry. They included the Duke of York who later became King George VI.

The Society was non-political and formed mainly as a charity to give assistance to ex-service personnel and their dependants who required assistance after the end of hostilities.

It continued as a separate organisation until it was affiliated into the Royal Society of St George in 1949.

I would like to think that “we three” are not the only ones left who have memories of this piece of this piece of history. “Sic Deus Vult MXMXI” “It is the Will of God 1921”

Down on the farm

May is my favourite month. It beats my second favourite, September, because it heralds in new growth, new beginnings, nesting birds and fresh opportunities. September, although often spectacular, forecasts a winding down to winter.

Everything looks wonderful in May; it is the month before arable crops are besieged by weed, pest and disease problems, a month of bright colours that fade into the greens, browns and pastel shades of summer, and a month when young cattle and lambs thrive before the need to ward off scours, fly strikes and other ailments.

It would be nice to have May all year round, or like the Mayfly for a lifetime, although I would prefer to live longer than the Mayfly's span of around 24 hours! It can, of course, be a devious month with periods of hot and cold and a residue of April showers. ‘Neer cast a clout ‘till May is out’ as the old saying goes: I am not sure whether this means the month or the May blossom, but prefer to think it is the latter since our rural ancestors were more likely to react to things they saw in changeable seasons than fixed periods of time.

Nesting birds can be a bit of a problem. Some years ago I decided to move the old combine into the barn for a bit of pre-harvest TLC only to find a robin nesting in its toolbox. So the job had to wait until they fledged.

This year I went to get the angle grinder from its shelf in a cabinet in the workshop and

found that a blackbird had decided to use it to support her nest. She eyed me warily, possibly frostily, until I went and found something else to do. The workshop is now largely out of bounds although she doesn't appear to mind the occasional intrusion.

I used the wet days in May to get to grips with Government paperwork to do with surveys and the latest and re-styled RPA (Rural Payments Agency) forms. They change these most years to make life less bearable.

The system is now firmly positioned towards environmental aspects. I have no quarrel with this except that it is now sufficiently complicated that we felt the need to go to explanatory seminars. This was followed by a complete malfunction of the DEFRA multi million £ computer system. As a result they have had to postpone their draconian penalties for not getting the forms completed in time.

Despite taking advice I discovered too late that we had not enough 'greening' points. So I have had to rip up five acres of spring barley to put into fallow in order to qualify. If readers look towards Iron Down they will be able to see the resulting brown patch on the hillside.

Actually the crop was poor in that area, and I can re-sow it with grass (as long as I don't use it for anything until August) which was the original intention anyway. So apart from the cost of establishing the barley in the first place, no great loss.

Tony Collier

**Thank you
to two village families**
who have each made a very
generous donation of £50 for BN
funds. We have also been promised
a grant from our parish council,
which will see us through to the end
of 2015. However, we do need
continued support from our readers.

**Monthly printing costs are now £189,
so every donation is greatly
appreciated.**



Fernhill Club news

6 May: We started our new year off with a meal out at Robin's Nest, lovely as always, with choice of seven or eight different main meals – Two courses for £7. We played bingo the following week.

On 20 May we had a talk about fires in the home, by the spokesman for Fire and Rescue in Oxfordshire. Although a serious topic, it was presented in a more light hearted way and gave everyone food for thought about our own safety at home.

We are looking forward to June; on 10th we have a lady coming to talk about New Zealand after the earthquake. On 17th we have a film, yet to be arranged, and on 24th we are planning a trip to Wyatt's Farm. Our new programme is available now. Phone Mary on 01295 252298 or Maggie on 01869 338938.

Tuesday Lunch Club

16 June

Main course

steak, ale and mushroom pie served with
minted new potatoes, mashed carrot, swede
and spring greens
or

sweet and sour pork served with
rice and prawn crackers

Dessert

rhubarb and raspberry fool
or
mango and passion fruit meringue roulade

Price £5

**Please ring Anne and Mick on 01869
337074 by 9 June.**



The latest from KHH

Annual midnight walk

On 4 July around Banbury. Book your place to make this year better than ever. Register at www.khh.org.uk or phone.

Tadmorton Heath Golf Day

2 June. Tee off 8am. £220 secures a team of four golfers, a meal and entry to the yellow ball competition. Phone 01608 737278 or email secretary@tadmartongolf.com

Deer Jam Music and Beer Festival

5 and 6 June. The Reindeer Inn Banbury. Fundraiser for KHH and Banbury Rotaract. Guest ciders and ales.

Jenners Charity Golf Day

12 June. Teams of four, £35 per player. Email jennersgolf@outlook.com

Charity Fitness Day

13 June, Banbury Rugby Club. Boxercise, metafit, kettlebells, zorbs, kids fitness and fun run. Adult sessions £5, children's £3, Visit www.justgiving.com/

A Midsummer Evening's Musical Gala

21 June, Tudor Hall School. Featuring Young Musicians of the Year. Tickets from Fashion Fabrics, Parson's Street, Banbury or on the door.

Katharine House Hospice Festival of Open Gardens

Various locations throughout June. Details on the KHH website.

New phone number for the Katharine House fundraising office. Get in touch on 01295 816484.

From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

I have now been here just three months – and it feels like a lot longer than that, which is, I think, a good thing!

I arrived just at the beginning of Lent - a tricky time to start a new role with Lent, Holy Week and Easter services and activities to plan. Still, it kept me quiet and out of trouble - indeed, despite being very busy and fairly exhausting, Holy Week and Easter were wonderful.

As I write, it is Ascension Day and I have just got back from leading a 7am service from the top of the tower at Deddington church – amazing! More amazing was that 17 other people joined me up there. It made me realize that only a few short months ago I was a bit like those disciples, feeling alone and abandoned. All the time I was looking for my first post, I was frustrated because nothing seemed to be advertised that I could see myself doing. But then this post came up – and although I felt sure I wouldn't get it, here I am - and I can truly say that deep in my heart, it feels the right place for me to be.

Life does that though doesn't it? It hands us challenges which we often struggle to cope with; experiences that we were not expecting – or even if we *did* know they were going to happen, leave us with an anxious feeling of inadequacy for being able to complete the task. I am always comforted though knowing that none of us do these things on our own – that God is always with us, and that we always find ourselves in the right place in the end.

Life is an adventure, and we should face the challenge of change with courage and expectation and so I look forward (admittedly with a little trepidation) to what happens next. I hopefully have a long ministry in front of me here, and I am looking forward to every moment of it, including the challenges, so that I can embrace this next stage of life in all its fullness and diversity, and meet, with grace, all that it throws at me. I also want to thank you for the warm and friendly welcome I have received and look forward to sharing the highs and lows of village life with you all.

With every blessing, Revd. Annie

Making history with the W.I. A celebration of 100 years



Did you wonder why a splendid old baker's van was parked near the Village Hall at about 11am on Sunday 19 April? It was all to do with the WI! This year is the centenary of the National Federation of WIs and the centenary baton has been travelling throughout England and Wales, visiting as many WIs as possible. Our slot was a few hours that Sunday morning when we hosted a coffee morning for our local group of five WIs. In keeping with the early WIs, we were all encouraged to wear a hat and many of us rose to the occasion with some wonderful creations.



From Barford, the baton travelled on to Bicester in the vintage baker's van, waved on its way by us all. Barford St John and St Michael WI was formed in 1949 with Margaret Woolgrove as president. It was an afternoon group in those days, with the member's pre-school children coming along too. Now we meet on the second Wednesday at 7:30pm with an interesting annual

programme, which is always advertised in Barford News. Check us out on the village website www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk under village groups.

Four Legs and a Tail
Local vet Alan Walker
Shares his experiences
7.30pm

Wednesday 10 June
in the Village Hall

Please come along and join us at
our WI meeting

Visitors £4.

Check us out on the village website,
www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk
under village groups.

The
BARFORDS'
VILLAGE SHOW
Barford Village Hall

Bank Holiday Saturday
29 August

Entries 9-10.30 am

Judging 11am
Viewing and prize
giving

2.30pm for 3pm
Entry forms in August's
Barford News

Nature Notes 139

I closed the last Nature Notes in mid-April in what can only be described as a minor heat wave. Most nights ranged between 3° and 6°, even dropping below freezing point. But here, on the 15th, we were talking of days at 23°. Not for the first time was the temperature in the low twenties; it had peaked there at the end of the first week. Unsurprisingly, the reason was a large, nearby area of high pressure.



Many hedgerows were a glorious froth of white Blackthorn blossom (rather late) preparing the bushes to yield a good sloe harvest. At the bottom of Hempton Hills two male blackcaps were competing for territory in wonderful bursts of song. The intensity and purity of the notes achieved by blackcaps is not surpassed in the world of bird song.

Over the next few days the temperature dropped a little to the mid-teens as a chilly wind adopted a ME direction, but it remained generally warm. Blackbirds were everywhere listening for the movement of worms near the soil surface and catching them to feed their nestling young. Robins, dunnocks and wrens were in fine voice preparing nests, as were greenfinches, goldfinches and chaffinches. The rooks on Steepness were cawing loudly to their new families and beyond Irondown, three buzzards and a kite were soaring on the breeze.

On 20th the day temperatures climbed again to the low twenties, under an almost non-existent ME breeze as low pressure to the north and south of Britain sandwiched a ridge of high pressure across the country. A negative aspect of this was to produce a couple of nights at, or just above, freezing. This reduced bird activity and probably indicated the loss of some early broods. There was certainly a reduction in insect activity, with various fly and hoverfly species in prolonged 'warming-up' sessions on walls and ledges. The same applied to nest-building solitary bees.

A feature of this period was the appearance of a roe deer doe below Steepness; this occurs every year and the doe is completely at ease wandering around and nibbling the grass,

Often she produces a family of one or two fawns, so Pete and Audrey Turner will be keeping a look-out. Also 20th saw the presence of two stock doves at the bottom of Hempton Hills. These beautiful birds go almost unnoticed - they are faster, more direct and often higher flyers than wood pigeons. They are also smaller, more blue-grey, darker and have no white on neck or wings. The sides of the neck have a stunning area of iridescent green and the breast is quite heavily toned purple-magenta. I hoped they might remain and breed but were gone next day.

On 23rd two house martins were reported over St. Michael by Buzz Murrey, probably headed for their homes in the north. A green woodpecker called sparingly from below Steepness and a buzzard also made an appearance as it hunted westward, higher up. On the gorse bloom in my garden I was a little surprised to come across one of the big cuckoo bumblebees. It was *Psithyrus rupestris*, the infrequent red-tailed one that lays its eggs in the nests of the bumblebee *Bombus lapidarius*, which also is big and has a red tail, but is much more common.

After another warm day on the 24th, the wind changed to SW as the high pressure moved away eastward and low pressure approached from SW. This brought overnight rain and a rise in night temperature to 11.5°. The movement continued on 25th as the LP moved over with a corresponding drop to 16.5° by day. Bas Butler reported a very rare female hen harrier flying south over St. Michael toward Hempton.

On 26th the wind moved through NW and up to due N and, with the air at 17°, the roe doe slowly ambled around below Fernhill. All nearby birdlife was very quiet and most creatures seemed listless. Once again the night temperature dropped to -1°. Cloudless with a virtually nonexistent NW wind, the sun rose over a white grass frost. Small white cloud started to build from 10am becoming a heavy overcast by 4pm. Ian Hobday spotted a little owl peeking out from its hide to the west of St. Michael.

On 28th, with the LP moving away, a cold, moderate NW wind developed. Everywhere was very dry and both farmers and gardeners

were becoming uneasy. A barn owl was seen quartering the fields below Fernhill at daybreak; later on I observed a tight group of three kites flying around pasture below Radwell Hill at Hempton. I imagine they expected to find carrion, perhaps a ewe's afterbirth.

A cloudy, chilly 29th brought showers on a moderate SW breeze. And so, as we started to become sandwiched once more between LP areas to NW and SW, April 30th was bourn away on a small ridge of high pressure; but not until she had left some pleasantries. On a day of 17° Bas Butler had spotted two kites over St. Michael and another at Swere Villas on the Deddington road. I watched three buzzards circling over Townsend/Horn Hill, but Bas stole the day once more by spotting three swifts flying fast, silent and directly northward. And to top things off, a friend of mine listened to the cuckoo singing on the road from S. Newington to Wigginton.

Thus welcome May. Cloudy with sunny spells on a fresh E breeze (15°), repeated on the 2nd with the wind slightly veered to SE. Sunday 3rd dawned on a wet morning, clearing to give a sunny day, the breeze continuing to veer to SW, with a heavy rainstorm at 6pm. A female hen harrier was spotted at S. Newington, seemingly in these days of illegal slaughter over some northern moors, to be a fairly regular annual or passage refugee. I spotted a pair of kites near Turnpike Cottage at B4031-A361 junction - but in great excitement, I also spotted a house martin at my artificial nest!

From 4th a big LP system was moving NNE over Scotland producing strong SW air currents over middle England. It was a warm, pleasant day of 17°, but with rain setting in by evening, it became very heavy overnight, resulting in patches of badly flooded roads on the 5th.

The 5th was a day of SW wind at gale-force, moderately easing by sunset through a sunny afternoon. A gusty SW blow and a few spots of rain saw off the 6th into the 7th, The temperature reached 20° but from late morning until mid-afternoon there were savage rainstorms. These ended quite suddenly and the evening was pleasantly calm. A cool, light breeze under a bright overcast with a few

showery spots over mid-day characterised the 8th. At this point I noted that the foliage on the oak trees was far advanced compared to that of the ash, many of which had barely begun to show flowering shoots, let alone leaves. so:

If the ash before the oak, then we must expect a soak; but, if the oak before the ash, then we can expect a splash. We shall see!

Sharp showers over mid-day on 9th did not deter the green woodpecker on Steepness from chortling, and a sunny but stiff W breeze on 10th brought some good results from our annual summer bird species count for the Banbury Ornithological Society. The count takes place by a number of teams each covering habitats over their own 10k square of the B.O.S area. The Barfords are almost at the centre of our Square (O.S. SP43). The Barfords were covered between 6am and 9.30am and we recorded 47 species, which is around average for the Barfords.

In addition to the birds, we observed more roe deer, including a stag, in the north of the parish, but the prize winner was an amazing eleven hares chasing, feeding and boxing. I've never seen that many, not even on Otmoor.

Unfortunately, I am concerned because house sparrows seem to be combating the house martins for the use of the artificial nest on my house. Since 10th the weather has been reasonable, warm on 11th and 12th (17°) and with a SW direction, and the 14th produced some much needed, if light, rain throughout much of the day.

Now as I prepare these notes I have to say I don't understand what is happening in nature since the 10th. All nature seems to be very quiet. Bird song is generally suppressed and is nowhere easily audible, nor are birds easily visible. There are occasional calls from the green woodpecker, the blackbirds are searching the lawns and the roe deer is still wandering the pasture but where are the songs of our summer visitors, and our own resident birds? They are not nearly as strong as they should be at this time of year. A big thank you to everybody who has sent me their sightings this month.

Ron Knight

Parish Council notes

The Annual Meeting of the parish council took place at 7.30pm on 6 May in Barford Village Hall and was attended by Cllrs Hobbs, Best, Hanmer, Campbell, Turner, Mrs Watts (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) and county Cllr Fatemian (part). Apologies were received from cllrs Styles, Eden and district Cllr Williams.

Election of Chairman: the Parish Clerk welcomed those attending and opened the meeting as the first item on the agenda was the election of the Chairman. The Clerk asked for nominations. Cllr Turner proposed that Cllr Hobbs be asked to be Chairman for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr Hanmer and, there being no other nominations, was passed unanimously.

Election of Vice-Chairman: Cllr Campbell proposed that Cllr Turner be asked to be Vice-Chairman for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr Hanmer and, there being no other nominations, was passed unanimously.

Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer: the Parish Clerk was asked to stand again as Responsible Financial Officer for the coming year.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting on 1 April were unanimously resolved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

First aid courses: a second parish council St John Ambulance first aid course took place on 9 April. There is still a waiting list and a third course is being arranged.

Proposed wooden play equipment for West Close: At the Annual Parish Meeting a parishioner kindly shared documentation that indicated that Cherwell District Council (CDC) has been incorrect in informing the parish council that planning permission would not be required for a scheme. The pre-application advice enquiry with CDC will be reopened as a result to clarify the position, although it seems that if a proposal was to be formulated, then despite what CDC had previously advised, the express permission of the planning authority will be required in the form of planning permission.

Litter in Bloodybones Lane: residents have complained about the amount of litter and dog faeces in Bloodybones Lane. Councillors unanimously agreed to purchase a dog bin for the area in the first instance.

Debris in stream in Mill Lane: there is some debris in the stream in Mill Lane. The Parish Clerk has reported the matter to the Environment Agency.

Allotments: The Parish Council recently provided a skip to enable allotment users to clear the area of accumulated rubbish.

Speeding South Newington Road: a report of vehicles speeding in this area had been received from a resident.

Planning applications/TCAs received by the Parish Council since the March meeting:

- 15/00102/TCA St Michael's Church – T1 x Yew. Crown lift to 4m. No objection.
- 15/00398/F The Old Chapel, High St, StM – single storey glazed verandah to rear. No objection.

Planning applications/TCAs Granted by Cherwell District Council:

- 15/00214/F 6 Summer Ley, StM - Single storey side extension to provide annexe accommodation. No objection.
- 15/00092/TCA Dove House, Lower St, StM – Various tree works. No objection.

End of year accounts (2014-2015): the Parish Clerk presented councillors with end of year accounts before the meeting. They were approved unanimously and will now be passed to the internal and external auditors.

S137 grant applications: Two grant applications were considered at the meeting. Grants of £600 were made to both Barford St Michael's Church and Barford News.

The **Parish Council website** can be accessed on www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk

Fix My Street – residents can report defects in the highway to Oxfordshire County Council on <http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk> Once verified, OCC's contractor pledges to fix potholes within 28 days, 24 hours in an emergency and within four hours for a severe category.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

From The Fire Station



There have been a lot of changes for Oxfordshire fire and rescue over the past month. Three counties have now merged into one control room. Before every station had an area. Now they will send the nearest fire engine to an incident. Communication is done through the computer in the front of the appliance.

Even though it has been a challenge, it has improved the service. The control centre knows where a fire engine is at any one time and can now direct it to an incident saving valuable time.

Another change is our breathing apparatus (BA) procedure. The crew has done well with all the changes and I know that it's because they are the type of people that can adapt quickly to sudden changes.

The biggest incident we attended this month was the Randolph Hotel in Oxford. The fire started in the kitchen and got into the extractor ducts. What prevented the loss of the whole building was the fire doors being shut. It is

important to remember to shut all your doors even if they are not fire rated before you go to bed. It's the difference between us having to put out a fire in a room or your whole house.

It's been a busy month for charity events and we would like to thank all our crew for the many unpaid hours they have given to support our community.

So far we've attended Lower Heyford fete, the lighting of the VE Day beacon on the Hempton Road and the marshalling for the four farms challenge - a massive undertaking to raise money for our fire fighters' charity and Deddington Primary School. The organisers for this event were Chris Fenemore, Neil Skinner, Juliet Morris and Lucy Sydenham. The work that they put in was impressive with 270 people running the course. My Watch Manager, Chris Fenemore, had to write over 15 risk assessments for the event. I apologise if we have not been able to attend your fete as we get inundated with requests and can't attend them all.

We have water training at the end of the month which involves rescuing people from open water, rope techniques, wading and using our life raft. Barney Alton has now been given a date for his BA training and that means all the crew are BA qualified. The rest of the month will be taken up with learning new BA search techniques.

Don't forget to check your smoke alarms every week.

**Crew Manager Tim Parker,
Deddington Fire Station**



Bedding plants for sale

- salvia - firecracker – red
- impatiens - busy lizzies - mixed colours
- begonia - mixed colours with green or bronze leaves

£3 per pack of six or £2.50 per pack for two or more packs. In aid of church funds.

Contact Jan Elvidge on 338214 to order or view plants before you buy.



Jazz in July at Rousham Park Gardens

Age UK Oxfordshire is holding a jazz picnic Rousham Park Gardens near Steeple Aston on 3 July.

Bring a picnic and enjoy a fantastic summer evening with George Huxley's Jazzmen in aid of Age UK Oxfordshire. 7pm until 9.30pm. Tickets £15.

For more information phone 0345 450 1276 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire.



Adderbury Party in the Park



Adderbury's ever popular live music festival is on 20 June from 12.30pm until 11.30pm. This year's lineup of bands is:

Truck stage:

The Meanies, Shooter, Alphabet Backwards, Young Causeway, Two Crows, Zurich, The Next Hot Thing, Cosmosis, Kate and the Mooncats.

Acoustic gazebo:

FiddleBop, Sam Martin, Molly Davies, Gospel Bell, Ellie Sian.

Entry to the field is free, but please bring some chande to put in the collectors' buckets – it's only through your contributions that the festival can keep going. For more details:

<http://www.adderburypartyinthepark.co.uk/index.html>



Above - The Meanies

Below – Shooter





Update by Sgt Becky Fishwick

On 29 April between 9-9:30pm a man knocked on the door of a property in Hopcraft Lane, Deddington. He informed the occupant he needed to check the property as next door was experiencing flooding. The occupant went with the male to look over the property and it is believed that a second offender then entered and stole jewellery.

In this area these offences are rare and CID is working on the investigation with the full support of the neighbourhood policing team to identify those responsible.

Please don't open the door to anyone before you've checked who it is - look out of the window or use a spy hole in your door. If you open the door, keep the chain on while you find out what they want. If you don't know them, don't let them into your home, no matter what they say to you.

If a caller is genuine they will understand your concerns. If someone claims to be from a company, such as a gas or electricity provider, double check their identity via phone call to the company they are saying they are from.

If you have any concerns about someone who has called at your door, call the police immediately. Try to note what they look like and any vehicle they have with them so that the police can investigate but don't put yourself at any risk.

If you would like a visit from the neighbourhood team for crime prevention advice email us on BanburyRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or phone 101.

Follow us on Twitter @_ThamesVP
of Facebook at
<http://www.facebook.com/thamesvp>

Get free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by signing up at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk

For further crime reduction advice you can also visit our website www.thamesvalley.police.uk or call the 24-hour police enquiry centre on 101.

Deddington PFSU and Village Nursery

The first half of the summer term is over already and the time for most of our children to move on to their new schools and settings is on the horizon.

We will be holding two open afternoons for the children and families moving up to the PFSU on 7 and 8 July, offering an opportunity to have a look round and meet the staff, and there will also be a 'move-up' afternoon in July for the new children to spend time in the PFSU.

Our joint sports day will be held on the Primary School field on 26 June at 11.15am. Bring your lunch afterwards for a picnic in the PFSU garden.

The PFSU held a well-attended parents' evening which we hope everyone found useful. If you missed it and would like to view your child's profile folder then please ask the staff.

Thank you to everyone who supported our spring hamper raffle which was drawn at Deddington Farmers' Market on 25 April. We raised over £400. Our summer masquerade fund-raising party will be held on 11 July and tickets will be on sale soon. Don't miss what promises to be a great evening.

Lucy Squires 337484

1st Deddington Scout Group

Cubs

The Cubs made woggles for St George's Day and practiced for the parade. George was chosen to play St George, only right and he fitted the costume! The parade went well although we were short on numbers due to a clash with football. We are looking forward to camp at Horley; let's hope for sunny weather and tired Cubs.

Jo Churchyard C.S.L. 01869 338071.
jochurchyard@hotmail.com

Scouts

Scouts continued with their fundraising efforts for Special Effects and spent an evening litter picking for the great village clean up; it's amazing what's thrown from cars on the Hempton Rd.

The Scouts formed the head and body of St George's dragon and did well considering that only the head could see where they were going! We visited the church before re-taking our promise in Market Square. Coming up – 24 hour camp, aqua camp and geocaching.
Pete Churchyard S.L. 07793013046.
pete.churchyard@btinternet.com

Spartans Explorer Scout Unit

We gave out flyers to attract more helpers at the parade; no luck yet but we're hoping. We helped with the village litter pick, clearing the main road to the depot and back.

During Easter some of the Explorers staged a gaming marathon and raised £121 for Special Effects, a charity assisting young people to participate in activities that the able bodied take for granted.

VE Day saw three of the Explorers helping in the beacon lighting. They helped the veteran and talked to him about his wartime experiences. They were a credit to the organisation.
Janet Duxbury G.S.L. 01608 737959

Brownsea Island – We took thirty five to Brownsea, a mixture of Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and parents. It was a fine day, if an early start and we all had a great time. The boys skimmed stones, climbed trees and rolled down banks much like the original scouts at the first camp there. Many thanks to the market for the donation towards the trip, which was free to everyone who came.



Want to see the Barford News photos in colour?

Then take a look at the magazine's website version: <http://www.barfordnews.co.uk/>



And don't forget you can keep up to date with village events on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/pages/Barford-St-Michael-St-John/76830272830

Deddington PTA

We have been a busy bunch since I last wrote. Some of us completed the Monster Race in April and then the Four Farms Challenge in May. Thanks to everyone who joined us at the Four Farms Challenge. We were lucky with the weather and were delighted with the number of runners and supporters who were there. They made good use of our BBQ, bar and tuck shop. Thank you to all the volunteers from the PTA, PFSU/nursery and fire station who made this event so successful and gave up numerous hours in planning and running the event.

We are holding a summer term disco for children of Deddington Primary School on 5 June. This is normally a popular event and the children enjoy showing off their moves, along with some of the staff too.

Finally we are already busy planning the school fete, which will be from 12.30pm on 4 July, at Deddington Primary School.. We are still organising stalls and attractions. Please contact me on deddingtonpta@gmail.com if you can help and please put the date in your diaries and join us for a fun-packed afternoon.

We continue to use the funds we raise to support the school and have recently given the annual £500 to each class to spend on equipment of their choice. Most classes used the money to buy books to support the new reading scheme and some has been used to buy a camera and to help fund the Year 6 leavers' book.

Thank you for your continued support.

Julia Jackman, co-chair, Deddington PTA. deddingtonpta@gmail.com

Deddington Festival 12 to 20 June

The 13th annual Deddington Festival is a fun-filled eight days of musical, magical and mirth-filled moments this year. The summer festival offers from choral to jazz, rock and baroque; a magical morning for children with the Clive & Dave magic act, the Cotswold Comedy Club, and other performing and visual arts events. For more information visit www.deddingtonfestival.org.uk,



Girlguiding UK
girls in the lead

The St. George's Day parade in Banbury revitalised by Girl Guiding was a huge success, well supported by many Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Young Leaders and Leaders. A terrific turnout of girls and a large crowd on a sunny afternoon, all celebrating St. George and Guiding.

Congratulations to Catherine Blackburn, a Deddington Guider who was the lead organiser. At a surprise presentation in the church she was presented with the Oxfordshire Lozenge (Badge) for good service. Well deserved, a proud moment for us all. Making the presentation was the Guide County Commissioner, who attended, with her County Standard. Keeping up the Deddington connection, Tilly Neal, a Young Leader with Deddington Brownies, carried the standard with two Deddington District young leaders from Middle Barton.

As a district, we gave our presentation on the history of Guiding, 104 years in five minutes. It was lively and fun: it finished on a high note with over 60 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section on stage singing. Well done to the guides for their super, smart turnout, mainly in the new uniform which we love. Special well done to Amy Upson, Chloe Boxhall and Libby Morris for starring roles on stage or as flag bearers.

We started the term with a quiz around the Market Place, some real brain teasers. Then our first cookout. Aah, the smell of the wood smoke! We were impressed with how accomplished our guides are at organising themselves, firelighting and cooking.

We also practised putting up tents, ready for summer and our senior guides shopped and prepared supper on a budget.

Our hike from Steeple Aston to Upper Heyford was on a beautiful evening, we loved the stunning views of the surrounding countryside too.

Guiders Catherine, Marion and Maggie, and guides from over 10 villages. All girls over 10 are welcome.

Is it an emergency?

Barford based vet Sophie Hanmer writes:

Every pet owner is likely to have faced this dilemma at some point. Your pet has been a little off colour all week, it's now 11pm on Friday, the surgery is closed and things have taken a turn for the worse. You're not sure if it warrants an out-of-hours visit but you want to do the best for your pet. What do you do?

If in doubt it's better to contact your vet. In most cases discussing your concerns over the phone is enough to establish whether your pet requires an emergency appointment or if it can wait until the following day. Out-of-hours visits to the vets are invariably at anti-social hours and will be more expensive than a normal visit but in some cases it could make the difference between life and death for your animal.

This list gives an idea of some of the things classed as an emergency;

- poison ingestion; anti-freeze, rat poison, slug bait etc
- trauma, excessive bleeding, or a suspicion of fractured bones
- difficulty breathing
- collapse, difficulty walking
- straining to urinate; especially male cats but also dogs and less frequently female animals. This can indicate blockage of the urinary tract
- persistent vomiting and/or diarrhoea, especially if there is blood present
- unproductive retching and a bloated stomach; this could indicate gastric dilatation and volvulus, a potentially fatal condition of mainly large breed dogs.
- heat stroke
- fly-strike; a common problem affecting rabbits in the warmer months
- seizures
- eye injuries
- signs of extreme pain, such as whining, shaking, and hiding away
- cold back feet, stiff hind-limbs and signs of pain in cats can often indicate a thromboembolism

- difficulty giving birth; strong abdominal contractions lasting 1-2 hours without passage of a puppy or kitten, a resting period during active labour more than 4-6 hours, a bitch or queen in obvious pain, or abnormal vulvar discharge.

Most veterinary surgeries will have their own out-of-hours service, or if not they should be able to direct you to an alternative practice that provides 24-hour care. Emergencies are often stressful so don't wait until something happens before finding out the out-of-hours arrangement of your normal practice. You may have to go to a different surgery than you are used to so keep a note of the telephone number and directions to the practice next to the phone.

Some practices have staff on site overnight; it's best to call ahead rather than just turning up so things can be prepared in advance. Don't worry about waking the vet up, even if it's just for advice. That is what we are there for and we would rather see an animal immediately after an incident as treatment can be more successful if instigated early. You may never be faced with such a situation but it is always best to be prepared.

Masquerade Party

Raising funds for Deddington PFSU and the village nursery. 11 July at the Windmill Centre.



7.30pm until 1am. Live music from **Bring the Noise!** Food, late bar, auction. Tickets from PFSU, nursery and www.deddingtonnurserryandpfsu.co.uk

The Friends of Deddington Library

Our subscribers are now up to 95. Our goal still remains 200 subscribers which is vital to secure the future of the village library. Subscription forms available at the library or via our website.

'Cash for Trash' is gaining momentum; this is a fundraising initiative to collect used inkjet and LaserJet cartridges for recycling; we are also able to include old mobile phones and will be pleased to receive any that you have abandoned in favour of more modern handsets. We have collection points in the library, Hamptons in the Market Place and the Farmers Market.

FODL then drop them a line or give them a nudge in our direction - just a thought.

Or latest FODL prize draw winner is Mr Christopher Hall, so congratulations to Christopher and thanks for his continued

Sign up for a subscription - you could be next!

Name the Rag Dolly raised £50 for library funds – her name was Esmeralda! Grateful thanks for Meriel Flux for making Esmeralda for us, she proved hugely popular.

During the coming months we are hosting a number of literary events to commemorate the end of World War Two: more in our next update. November will see another Cotswold Comedy Club event to liven up our winter evenings, when a date is confirmed we'll publicise on our website.

If you've any famous friends who you think may be willing to be associated with the As ever thank you for your continued support, spread the word and encourage a friend or neighbour to become a Friend of Deddington Library, it costs as little as £2 per month; less than the price of a coffee.

Keep up to date at:
www.friendsofdeddingtonlibrary.org



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For more information please contact Rodney Hobbs (BSc, PhD, DO, DHP) at: Pear Tree Cottage | The Green | Barford St Michael. Tel: 01869 338078 / 07931 584184 or email peartree.clinic@gmail.com