

BARFORD NEWS

JUNE 2023
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BUMPER, COLOUR CORONATION EDITION SPONSORED BY THE
PARISH COUNCIL



BARFORD VILLAGE SHOW



**It's time to start taking
photographs out and about,
baking, growing, sowing, painting,
drawing or maybe jamming as the
Barford Village Show is on
Saturday 9th September – see
page 5 for the schedule**

BARFORD NEWS

With our sincere thanks to the Parish Council who awarded Barford News a grant of £900 for this year.

We thought that this edition might have been the only colour edition but we may be able, with your kind donations, to squeeze out another for the Barford Village Show edition.

**The Team
Lucy, Mariann & Caroline**

Parish Council Notes

A meeting of the Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 3rd May 2023 at the Village Hall and was attended by Cllrs Sandi Turner (Chairman), Rodney Hobbs, Chris Charman, Ray Cox, District Councillor Bryn Williams, Oxfordshire Councillor Arash Fatemian and David Best, (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). One member of the public attended the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting: It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2023 were a true and accurate record (unanimous).

Public Participation: None

Allotments:

Rent letters - These have been issued.

Water – This has been turned on and a leaking tap replaced by the Clerk.

Skip – A skip will be ordered for allotment holders to get rid of rubbish.

Parish Matters:

Defibrillator - This will be installed in the week beginning 8th May.

Annual Parish Meeting – This will be held on Wednesday 31st May at 7.30pm

Bridge complaint to Victoria Prentice MP – The reply states that the bridge repairs are scheduled for the summer 2024.

S137 Grants – A grant of £900 was agreed for the Barford News

Dog Bin in Barford St John – This will be installed in the week beginning 8th May.

Woodland Trust hedging for West Close – This has been delivered and will be planted in May by Pete Eden and the clerk.

Road safety improvements at the American Air Bases – The Department for Transport has sent a copy of its report to the clerk who has emailed OCC Highways to enquire when the work will be carried out, but no reply has been received.

Planning:

23/00001/F – 3 Summer Ley – porch and extension –CDC granted 15/ 03/2023.

23/00680/F – 1 Redroofs – Timber framed car shelter – PC has no objection.

23/00665/LB – Barford House – roof refurbishment – PC has no objection.

23/00801/F – 1 Old Council House – two storey extension – PC has no objection.

23/00937/F – 3 Summer Ley – re-submission of 23/00001/F – PC has no objection.

Finance:

Payments - The Clerk gained approval for payments totalling £2,947.30 including £900 to Barford News, £388 to Thomas Fox for grass cutting and £537 to Zurich Insurance.

Next Meeting:

Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 5th July 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Please note that this is a summary of the minutes from the meeting. The full minutes can be viewed in the Parish Council noticeboards or at www.thebarfordvillages.co.uk in the Parish Council meetings page.



CHURCH MATTERS



Last month, we reflected on the story of the Last Supper and the symbols involved in the Service of

Communion that we celebrate every month.

Our communion service celebrates the sacrifice that Jesus made for his people on the cross on Good Friday. At the communion service, we remember that sacrifice and celebrate that he rose again on Easter Sunday.

There are many different symbols that you might recognise in the church.



Family Service @ 10:30am June 18th

Celebrating Father's Day.

The dove represents the Holy Spirit. We meet it in the story of Jesus' Baptism. It also symbolises hope and peace. The story of Noah's Ark tells us of the dove returning with an olive branch, letting Noah and his family know that the floods had passed and life could start again – peace fell over the land. The crucifix reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made, while the empty cross celebrates the risen Christ. The heart – simply love! Love of God for his people, love for our family and friends – LOVE!

When we visit a church, it is these symbols that often bring us comfort, peace, hope. We light a candle, which can show that Jesus is light of the world, a light in the darkness. It can equally remind us of loved ones, focusses our prayers and thoughts. The familiarity of stories, symbols, places can lead us to a place of peace, an understanding of others in a world that is often so busy. It can help us shut out the 'noise' and see what is important.

New pattern of Services.

Fourth Sunday – Family Communion Service
From June will be at 10:30am at St Michael's Church.

Fifth Sunday will be Holy Communion at
Barford St.John@9am

Coffee Church

We welcomed around 12 people to our morning in May, which is pleasing as the coronation event was also on that day. It was wonderful to hear the buzz of conversation and the share the company of so many. Please do come and join us next month. There will be cake!

Coronation Picnic Sunday 7th May

It was so lovely to be part of the celebrations on Sunday. Thank you to all of those who made it something truly wonderful. Thank you to Mariann, Caroline & Nick Belson, Mary and Roger (Sally's mum and dad!) and all those who donated raffle prizes for the children's raffle. It was so wonderful to see so many families enjoying the craft table and the candy floss machine was very busy!

PCC – new members

After a successful APCM in April, we are so pleased to welcome two new members to our PCC team. Thankyou and welcome to Joanna Cooke-Yarborough and Alison Vannozi. We are excited about the year ahead and value the support and enthusiasm we know that they will bring. Together, we hope to further the work that we have begun, to strengthen the presence of our church family.

Church opening times

The church will now be open on Wednesdays and Sundays between 10am and 4pm. If you should require entry at other times, please contact the churchwardens.

Sue & Sally

barfordchurches234@gmail.com

BARFORD MARKET

Saturday, 17th June

10.00 – 12.00 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Come on down to the village hall to see what our stallholders
have to offer – New This Month, Artisan Breads,**

**Plus established favourites bringing Cakes, Plants, Hand-made glass,
Knitted Garments and Toys, Greetings Cards, Beautiful Fabric Bags, not forgetting
top quality Bird Food**

DELICIOUS BACON BUTTIES PLUS TEA AND COFFEE SERVED ALL MORNING



**Ukraine Trip - April 2023
Barford St. Michael Village Hall
at 7:30pm on Wednesday 28th June**

You may have heard about a recent trip to Ukraine to deliver humanitarian aid and vehicles by some dodgy geezers from Barford and surrounding villages. Five guys from Barford St Michael, one from Deddington, one from Hook Norton and an ex Hempton gent, who now lives in France, made up the group of 8 that undertook this adventure.

Did it go without a hitch?.....

Did any of the vehicles nearly set on fire? (can't possibly comment)

Did we get any hassle crossing the borders?.....

What happens to the vehicles when you deliver them?.....

How is life in Lviv during this time of war?.....

Did the population of Lviv alter much because of the war?.....

Lots of questions are being asked and what we plan to do to answer them all is have an evening at the village hall where we will present photos of all the planning, the trip, the meeting with guys from the front line, the city of Lviv and a whole heap more.

We are not charging admission to this event; however, we would encourage you to bring some cash along as you may want to donate towards future trips and the purchase of vehicles and aid etc. You might even want to get involved in this cause in the future. There are many roles that all go into making these things happen, so please do come and join us.

LSD

BARFORD GREEN GARDEN CLUB
Notes from our Potting Shed – June 2023

18 members recently enjoyed a wonderful visit to an incredible garden at Heythrop (see photo above). A full report and photos will follow in next month's BN.

Annual Plant Swap, Thursday 1st June, 7.30pm

We're looking forward to seeing you in the Village Hall garden. This popular social event is a great way to pick up lots of interesting cuttings, plants, vegetables and shrubs for no cost.

If you wish to bring something along from your garden, that's great but don't feel obliged. There is always a lot to choose from and it's great fun selecting something you know nothing about and watching it take hold, grow and flourish. It's always nice to have the memory of where you picked up that particular plant from too! Tasty refreshments will be served - please bring your favourite tipple.

Nosy Gardens - Thursday June 29th, from 7pm

It's such a pleasure to visit a delightful village garden you may have walked past many times but never seen! Members will get the opportunity to do this at the end of the month.

There will be four or five gardens to visit and two of these are close together and featured below, one at the end of Summer Ley and the other on the corner of High Street with Summer Ley.

Langley is home to Jean and Ben and they are passionate gardeners! Although they have only been in the village for a couple of years, they have made a huge difference to their large tree-lined wrap-around garden. They have done this by creatively forming new beds and adding shrubs and lots of herbaceous perennials.

Lorraine, her husband Richard and their two sons have lived in Summer Ley for 17 years. In fact Lorraine was born and grew up in the house, leaving for a few years only to have the opportunity to buy it from her parents so they could move into a bungalow. They built the annexe for her dad who has been back with them for 7 years now.

Lorraine has been working for a long time to turn her garden into a wildlife haven for birds and such like. They have two ponds, 10 chickens, a fruit cage, trees and raised beds etc.

We'll write to members shortly letting them know which other gardens will be open for this popular event.

**Trip to Ball Colegrave, Adderbury,
Thurs 20th July**

We're very fortunate to be able to visit this unique horticultural business. Ball Colegrave (formerly Colegrave Seeds), is the UK's leading wholesale distributor of seed and plants to commercial growers and local authorities and was founded in 1962 by the late David Colegrave and his wife Nancy. David pioneered the introduction of the first F1 Hybrids to the UK market, a significant turning point in the history of ornamental bedding plants.

The company soon became a shining example of a successful family owned horticultural business that grew from a humble garage operation in West Adderbury selling packets of flower seeds to growers, to becoming the UK's largest supplier of flower seed and plants to commercial growers and local authorities.

The Trial Grounds are spectacular with more than 25,000 annual and perennial plants bedded out in the summer trial and display beds. In addition, over 5,000 pot plants and 2,000 patio baskets/containers are planted up for the event.

We'll contact members shortly with specific timings etc. It's an opportunity not to be missed.

Where there's muck, there's brass Don't forget you can get horse manure for your gardens from just up the road in Townsend. Kathryn Wheeler has kindly bagged this up so help yourself – it's round the back of her home, Western House, Townsend and there's a container for you to leave your donation for Katharine House Hospice.

Here are some jobs for June:

- Hoe borders regularly to keep down weeds.
- Position hanging baskets and containers outside.
- Mow lawns at least once a week. Consider leaving some areas uncut for wildlife.
- Plant out summer bedding.
- Stake tall or floppy plants.
- Prune many spring-flowering shrubs.
- Shade greenhouses to keep them cool and prevent scorch.

If you would like to join us, please contact Trevor on 338403, email: trevorstevens49@hotmail.com or Sue on 338900, email: sueandles45@hotmail.com
We wish you lots of warm gardening during June!

Spade and Fork

BARFORD VILLAGE SHOW SCHEDULE			SATURDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2023	
Vegetable & Produce Classes			Cut Flower Classes	
1	Three Beetroot, tops cut to 10cms (4ins) approx.		34	Three gladioli
2	Three Carrots, long, tops cut to 10cms (4ins) approx.		35	A Sunflower in a vase
3	Three Courgettes		36	Three Dahlias
4	Three Onions		37	Three Roses
5	Five Shallots		38	Four Fuchsia heads in water
6	Three Potatoes of one variety		39	Three Pelargoniums
7	Three Runner Beans with stalks		40	Five different flower stems from your garden
8	Five French Beans with stalks		41	A Single Rose
9	Five Cherry Tomatoes		Crafts	
10	Three Round Tomatoes		(NB Crafts must not have been entered previously)	
11	Three Peppers or Chillies (same variety)		42	An Item crafted from natural material (wood, bone, leather, etc)
12	A Pair of Vegetables (same variety) not in other classes		43	A hand knitted or crocheted article
13	Five Single Assorted Vegetables		44	A piece of needlecraft (embroidery, tapestry, patchwork, cross-stitch)
14	A Cucumber		45	You Made It, Let's See It (Handmade article not covered in other classes)
15	Three Apples of one variety, eating or cooking		46	Drawing or Painting: any subject, any medium (mount/frame optional)
16	Dish of one variety of soft or stoned fruit		Photography (unmounted)	
17	A Mis-shapen Vegetable		(13cm x 18cm or 5" x 7")	
18	3 Eggs (same size and colour)		47	A Common Object from an unusual angle
Cookery Classes			48	My Pet
19	A Bakewell Tart (shop bought pastry allowed)		49	An Aspect of my Garden
20	Six Pieces of Brownie		50	A Butterfly or Moth
21	Six Pieces of Flapjack		51	A Garden Gate
Children's Classes				
22	A Victoria Sponge, (Raspberry jam, no Cream)		7 Years and Under (age to be marked on all entries)	
23	A Carrot Cake (Men only) Recipe in August Barford News			
24	A Carrot Cake (Ladies only) Recipe in August Barford News		52	A Colouring Picture (published in July's Barford News)
25	A Jar of Jam		53	4 Pieces of Rocky Road (Biscuit Confection)
26	A Jar of Marmalade		54	A Decorated Egg (Hardboiled)
27	A Jar of Chutney		55	A Lego House
28	A small pot of Lemon Curd		56	You Made It, Let's See It (Handmade article not covered in other classes)
29	A Homemade Alcoholic Beverage (small bottle)		8 - 15 Years (age to be marked on all entries)	
Flower Arranging Classes (flowers may be purchased)			57	A photograph (Any Subject, 13cm x 18cm or 5" x 7")
30	An arrangement using 5 flowers (of one type) & any foliage		58	An Origami (folded paper) creature
31	A foliage arrangement		59	A Carrot Cake (as classes 23 & 24) Recipe in August Barford News
32	A miniature arrangement (10cms/4" overall)		60	A drawing or painting (any subject, any medium)
33	A 'Memory' Arrangement (inspired by a toy or photo)		61	You Made It, Let's See It (Handmade article not covered in other classes)

WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB

14th June @ The George

12:30pm for 1pm

MAINS

- Chicken and chorizo cassoulet -

OR

- Gnocchi ala norma -

Seasonal veg served for the table

DESSERTS

- Gooseberry Fool -

Shortbread

OR

- Cheeseboard -

Stilton / Seasonal Chutney / Grapes / Crackers

Tea & Coffee

Price £12 per person

*Please ring Anne & Mick on 01869 337074, or email mickpearson1@outlook.com
by Friday 9th June to book.*

*Please Note: if you do not receive a reply to your email, we haven't received it so please
call us.*

**** WE CAN CATER FOR ALLERGIES & INTOLERANCES - PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR
EMAIL ****

First Village Defibrillator at The Village Hall



The Parish Council is very happy to report that a defibrillator has been installed on the outside wall of the Village Hall. The costs of the device and its installation have been met by the Parish Council. It is on the wall just round the corner to the left of the main entrance door. (Above the bike racks) This area is covered by the outside light on the hall which comes on when anyone approaches.

In the event of someone suffering a cardiac arrest time is critical, the chances of survival drop dramatically after just a few minutes. The defibrillator sends an electric pulse or shock to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat. They are used to prevent or correct an arrhythmia, an uneven heartbeat that may be too fast, too slow or irregular. In these cases defibrillators can help to reset the heart into a normal rhythm.

Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) such as ours, are now found in many public spaces, and have been used to save the lives of many people experiencing cardiac arrest. These are located in locked cabinets and it is important to call 999 first to get help on the way and to get the unlock code which will be supplied by the 999 call handler. *(Note: Ours is in an unlocked cabinet)* Full details of where to attach adhesive pads are given, the device analyses the heart's rhythm and, if it is safe and appropriate to do so, delivers an electric shock through pads aimed at restoring the normal heart rhythm. Spoken instructions are given to guide the user throughout the procedure. Even untrained bystanders can use these devices safely. There is nothing to be afraid of and it's better to use the device than do nothing and watch the patient die.

In the event of someone suffering a cardiac arrest first call 999, remove the device from the case, and follow the instructions. It is fully portable and full details are given as to where to place the pads and how to operate the device. If there is any delay in using the AED it is important to commence CPR until it can be used. CPR (chest compressions) maintains the supply of oxygenated blood to the brain and other major organs whilst the heart is not beating.

The defibrillator will only deliver a shock when it detects an arrhythmia that can be corrected.



We will be arranging CPR and AED training sessions which we hope a high percentage of village residents will come along to. There are also videos on YouTube and more details will follow in due course. Longer term we would like to install 2 more devices, one in Townsend and the other in Barford St John. The challenge with these is providing an electrical supply to the cabinet to keep it heated and charged and ready to use. Solar or wind operated posts are available but they are not a perfect solution and can be targets for vandals. They also increase the cost dramatically. When (if) we find a workable solution we will look at organising a fund raising effort to get them installed.

We hope the device will never need to be used but having it available is an insurance policy we need to have.

Cllr Rodney Hobbs



TONY'S DAHLIAS 2023

Available Late May – June
from the bottom of the drive
The Old Post Office, High Street, BSM

New varieties of **Dahlias** as well as old favourites.

We will also have **Perennial Plants** and **Tomato Plants**

All for outdoor or greenhouse planting

Gardener's Delight - a very popular easy to grow cherry tomato

Pomonore Noire - a sharp tasting tomato with dark skin/flesh

San Marzano 2 – a large plum tomato, very popular with Michelin chefs and home cooks

Proceeds to The Barford Churches and FareShare

Contact Tony Elvidge for more details and to pre-order

01869 338214 elvidgetony@gmail.com



DEDDINGTON BOOKWORMS

Our latest book was **The Darling Buds of May** by **H. E. Bates**.

The Darling Buds of May written by Bates as a short story was first published in 1958. It was the first of a series of five books about the Larkin's, a rural family from Kent and is a quintessential feel-good country romp. It will have you falling wholeheartedly in love with the Larkin family and their carefree way of life.

It starts with the Larkin's - Pop, Ma, Mariette, Zinnia, Petunia, Primrose, Victoria and Montgomery – returning from an outing for fish and chips and ice cream one May evening. Here, amid the rustic charms of home, they discover a visitor: one Cedric Carlton, a tax inspector, arrived to investigate Pop for non-payment of tax.

It goes without saying that by the time Pop and Ma have manipulated him in to staying, by plying him with excellent food, cocktails and then proceed to talk him in to calling in sick, to help with strawberry picking and the local village gymkhana which, has been relocated to Pop's meadow, he has become transfixed by Marietta, the eldest daughter.

Ma and Pop encourage their relationship at every opportunity, hoping that a naïve Cedric will declare his devotion to her ensuring a distraction from the precious tax form. In fact, soon he can't see any reason to return to the office at all . . .

Bates ability to paint a picture with his descriptions, in such a short story is a gift that we all relished reading even if most of us had read the book in our youth.

Perfick.

Our next book is by **Gillian Hornby – All together Now**.

Deddingtonbookworms@gmail.com

BARFORD CHARITIES

The Barfords are very fortunate in having two charities that can support villagers.

The Shepherd and Bakehouse charity was pleased to give grants of £400 to 8 students last year. People may get a total of £1,200 in grants and we hope that most youngsters will apply whether they are going on to further education or starting work related training. Although the charity primarily supports people of 16 – 25 years we would be happy to consider applications for work related courses being undertaken later in life.

The Hall and Fernhill Trust can be quite flexible and most grants are in the region of £200. Grants have been given for a broad range of needs and the Trustees are happy to have informal discussions as to whether particular applications might be appropriate. Very few applications come from the individuals themselves with most recipients being nominated by a friend or neighbour but we would like to see more people coming forward.

Shepherds & Bakehouse Charity

Barford St John and St Michael - Charity Commission Registration No: 309173

Grants are made annually at the Trustees discretion for villagers over the age of 16 years who are undertaking educational or vocational courses.

Applicants or their parents should be resident in the parish of Barford St John or St Michael for at least three years. Applicants should be aware that there is a lifetime limit on the amount an individual can receive so a maximum of three grants can be given, Applicants should consider at what stage of their education a grant would be most beneficial.

Please give the following information on your application:-

1. Your full name, age, address and length of residence.
2. Full details of your course / qualification and where you are planning to study.
3. How you hope to use the grant.

Address your application to the clerk

carole.coppin@hotmail.co.uk

Applications must be received by 30th September



DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have been having an eventful and exciting time here at Deddington Primary School, since we sent in our last newsletter.

We are extremely proud to announce that one of our Year 2 children was the winner of a charity competition to design a book cover to celebrate King Charles III's coronation. Arthur May-Coates won some amazing prizes, including a collection of classic children's books, colouring pens/pencils, and a notebook with his design on, in this exciting national competition. This had been organised by Scrivens Opticians & Hearing Care for the purpose of World Book Day. Children who entered were asked to send in their royal-themed entries, and all proceeds from the £1 donation given, went towards the Alzheimer's Society. It was FANTASTIC that Arthur was the winner of this competition. We are all so incredibly thrilled for him here at school and this has clearly demonstrated Arthur's immense talents.

Our Year 4 pupils travelled on their School Journey to Hill End, a multi-purpose and residential centre near Oxford. Over the two days, they enjoyed shelter-building in teams, learning how to make fire with flint and steel (and toasting marshmallows over the fires they made), pond-dipping to find lots of different pond-life including a great crested newt! They learned about natural camouflaging as well as seeing slow-worms and grass snakes in their natural habitats. During the evenings they enjoyed a sensory walk and singing and games around the campfire.

On Friday 12th May the children wore clothes in the colours of red, white and blue and brought in a snack to have during the afternoon session in school. Each class teacher also organised a fun activity for their class to join in with, as a way of remembering this incredibly special event. Towards the end of the day, the school assembled on the top field to witness the planting of a tree, which had kindly been donated by our wonderful PTA. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people involved in our PTA. All parents were invited to attend the special celebration assembly and many of them enjoyed this special occasion.

We are now looking forward to beginning our rehearsals for our end of year musical performance, organised and produced by Alicia Rumsby and Seb Heffer. Watch this space for information regarding tickets for this performance, later in the term.

With best wishes from all of us here, to all of you in our fabulous community.

Denise Welch



FROM Deddington Fire Station

Back in the 80s, a bonkers Icelandic singer named Bjork produced a fabulous single "It's oh so quiet" and it has certainly felt that way at the station. We have had more shouts than thought, 9 , but nothing sticks in the mind – I am sure we have spent more time training.

Steve and Corrie have now both passed their LGV driving, and will soon be looking at getting their blue light training completed which will allow them both to drive to emergency call outs. Louis has passed his BA and both CJ and Barney continue to attend further RTC, IEC and water rescue courses.

Our watch manager, Chris Fenemore, recently received his much deserved 20 year good conduct long service award at Blenheim Palace – and it is with sadness that we bid Adam Franklin a fond farewell as he explores pastures new with his young family. We had a fantastic response to the fire fighter charity car wash and raised just under £1000. Hopefully the sun gods will shine on the Four farms Challenge this month!

James Greenwood FFD,
james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk



VILLAGE CORONATION CELEBRATIONS ON SUNDAY 7TH MAY

Well, What a Day!! The sun shone and Barford turned out in numbers to celebrate.

Thanks are due to so many people for such a successful event.

Our Village Hall Committee for the setting up marquees, gazebos, tables bunting etc. and the Church



Wardens for the popular children's craft table, raffle and candy floss, plus others who turned up unannounced to help. Later a similar band of helpers just jumped in to help with the dismantling of everything and meant that it was all cleared by early evening..

Thanks to our Parish Council for providing the tree, which was planted in West Close with the help of village children, also for the commemorative coins given out as mementoes at the picnic.

Particular thanks to The George for their generosity in providing, complimentary drinks served at the bar by the lovely Maria, who was kept very busy pouring Pimms, Prosecco and soft drinks all afternoon.

Finally, a mention must be made of the appearance of King Charles III himself who proved a huge attraction for children and adults alike. (Actually he appeared by kind permission of those well-known party animals, Angus and Lucy Norman)









THE GARDEN CLUB HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR A COLOUR EDITION TO SHOW OFF THE LOVELY PICTURES BELOW.

Thanks to everyone who entered, donating £111.50 to Katharine House Hospice, and to professional photographer Ben Nicholson for kindly agreeing to judge. All the entries received made an impressive slide show at the Garden Club Autumn Plant Swap evening.

Garden Club Photography Competition

Our photography competition was judged by professional photographer Ben Nicholson. Overall winner, **Barford Photographer of 2022**, is **Vicky Stevens** for her lovely portrait of Trevor with their impressive pumpkin crop. Congratulations, Vicky! Our thanks go to Ben for judging and to everyone who entered. 97 photographs were submitted, raising valuable funds for Katharine House Hospice.

GARDEN CLUB PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION – RESULTS!

Overall Winner, Barford Photographer of the Year: Vicky Stevens



Category Winners and some of the runners-up, with comments by judge Ben Nicholson

1. Barford landscapes



WINNER: Nick Belson. "Wonderful, soft, early morning spring light and a hint of the church tower in the trees beyond."



COMMENDED: Joanne Turner.
"Dynamic crop, spectacular light, super."

Also: **Nick Belson**

2. Portrait of a gardener

WINNER and OVERALL WINNER: Vicky Stevens (at top). "I just love it – it makes me smile."



COMMENDED: Gunilla Treen.
"Thought provoking and moody."



COMMENDED: Nick Belson. "A happy, joyous photo."

3. Fruits, leaves or flowers in close-up



WINNER: Caroline Belson. "Clever and beautiful. Coldness and warmth in one picture."



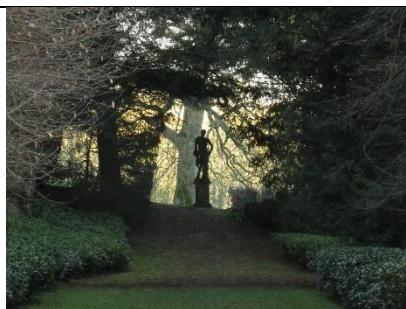
COMMENDED: Nick Belson. "Nicely composed - good vignetting focusses attention on the flower head."

4. Sculpture or architectural detail



when the blossom and light were just right."

WINNER: Linda Newbery.
"Sublime. Been trying to get that shot for years and never been past



COMMENDED: Linda Newbery. "Great composition and exposure. I want to walk up there and see what's beyond."

5. Wildlife in the garden or countryside



WINNER: Joanne Turner.
"Beautifully executed shot of a natural event that I've never seen in real life."



COMMENDED: Gunilla Treen. "Bath time. If you could speak blue-tit, I bet the conversation this lot are having would be fun."

Also: **Joanne Turner**

Almost the entire unit joined in the Division event held at The Warriner school grounds, celebrating Guiding in Cherwell and St George's Day, with some amazing activities to try and free ice-cream and a chance to meet other Guides .

During the meetings we have taken part in a Quiz around the village, games including tracking and Scouts pace, remembering important messages , various forms of camp preparation and most specially our first cookout of the year. Aah! The smell of the wood smoke. Thank you to the Fenemore family for their kind hospitality.

We also had a lovely residential weekend at Oxfordshire's Guide House near Beckley. Beautiful surroundings and a very well provisioned hall. We had a lot of fun with indoor and outdoor activities and challenges. Our favourite was being taught how to make a trebuchet by the county Pioneering team. Once each team had mastered the knots and skills and machine was ready we had great fun firing wet teabags at each other until everyone was pretty wet and brown.

We are looking forward to more outdoor activities as the term progresses.

Maggie Rampley and Marian Trinder

"An Introduction to Sourdough"

by Sue Brown.

Forge House Bakery is run by Sue Brown, owner and passionate baker with a background in Food Science, and many years experience of working in the Food Industry.

Sue's Bakery specialises in naturally slow fermented sourdough breads. Her fundamental belief is that everyone should be able to eat good quality, nutritious and great tasting bread, free from unnecessary additives. There is a great pleasure in creating something wonderful from just three ingredients: Flour, water, salt.

Wednesday, 14th JUNE

in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

'All visitors very welcome (£5)

for more information please contact

Christine 338659

barfordwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



200 CLUB DRAW

MAY

£15	004	Joanna Cooke-Yarborough
£10	121	Fred Lovell
£5	207	Martin Archer

The draw took place at Coffee Morning in the Hall



A bridge too far.... or so it seems ?

A resident has asked us to print his most recent correspondence with the head of Oxfordshire County Council and our local MP. He is not sure at all if anything is being done but wanted to set out what he has found out. The continuing prevarication from all those who should be getting things done is very sad. However, you will see his plea and we live in hope!

From: Newell, Hannah - Oxfordshire County Council <Hannah.Newell@Oxfordshire.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** Cllr Liz Leffman
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 4:33 PM
To: angus.norman@btinternet.com; Cllr Liz Leffman <Liz.Leffman@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>
Cc: victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk; davidbest.barfordspc@gmail.com; Cllr Andrew Gant <Andrew.Gant@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>; Cllr Arash Ali Fatemian <ArashAli.Fatemian@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: The bridge situation in Barford St Michael

Dear Mr Norman,

I am sorry to hear that you are dissatisfied with my response.

The resources of the County Council are limited, which requires the difficult job of balancing the many and often competing needs for investment across the county.

We seek to take a risk-based approach to the prioritisation of schemes in a way that best safeguards not only the network but also those using it.

Where the Barford Bridge is concerned, it is considered that the bridge can be safely kept open by the mitigation measures imposed to limit only the largest and potentially most damaging vehicles from using it. Unfortunately, a persistent minority do continue to displace the protective measures introduced on site which risks not only their own safety, but also that of any person who might subsequently follow.

The County Council will be seeking to enhance those measures and, should it be necessary, enforcement action may be pursued against those responsible for their unlawful interference.

The programme to undertake repairs to the bridge will be developed and acted upon as soon as it is possible to do so with the resources available, and commensurate with the other competing priorities and commitments of the service.

Kind regards

Liz

Councillor Liz Leffman, Charlbury and Wychwood
Leader, Oxfordshire County Council

And the resident's response....

Dear Cllr Leffman

Do allow me to respond to your reply below.

I have to say that the opinions I expressed remain and in fact are reinforced by the information I now have regarding our bridge in the Barfords.

Not being content with your last response I made a Freedom of Information request (Fol). This has revealed several facts which reinforce my views:

- *In the Fol I requested sight of your latest bridge programme of works. The programme provided does not include our bridge. Furthermore your engineers' estimate that it would take at least a year to complete design work for the repairs. This does not really tie in with your summer 2024 works date, see the next point*
- *From the Fol it seems clear that there has not been any agreement as to what works are to be carried out. The latest "draft" feasibility study dated April 2023 lists five options none of which have been selected to take forward into design. I also note that correspondence with Cherwell District Council Deputy Director of planning sets out several concerns in relation to the repair options. This is a "listed" bridge in a conservation area and the options outlined by your engineers were considered to cause "substantial harm". The alternative proposed which would cause "less than substantial harm" includes the building of a completely new secondary bridge. Clearly there is no conclusion as to what is to be done and, furthermore, Cherwell planning directorate also recommended that options should be discussed with our parish council. To my knowledge this has not happened. Therefore, I think I can be forgiven to doubt your view on when these works can start.*
- *My Fol request asked for sight of budget estimates for the repairs. I have not seen any budget showing these works. I also note that there is some discussion as to where it should be accounted for (Revenue or Capital). From this I conclude that no repair work has been provisioned.*
- *You will note from my initial email to you that I pointed out that the temporary road restriction measures were ineffective in that the concrete bollards had been pushed back into the verge allowing full access to all vehicles. This is still the case and the arrangements are therefore no more than an eyesore and indeed are probably causing risks in their own right. One would have thought, given the points above re conservation, that perhaps the temporary works could have been designed a little more sensitively than the mess we see every day.*
- *Furthermore, you say that the measures are necessary to preserve the 3 tonne limit on the bridge preventing further damage. You may understand my surprise to find that the bridge inspectors report from as far back as 2013 stated that the bridge was damaged and that the safe working load should be 3tonnes. So, it seems that this situation has been known about for the last 10 years. The 2013 Structural Records Review listed several items of "high priority" repair. These included "Impose a 3t weight limit" and "repair the north barrel dropped stones and pointing". I note that your definition for "high priority" is "to be done in this financial year". My Fol does not show that any works or weight restrictions have been imposed until June 2021*

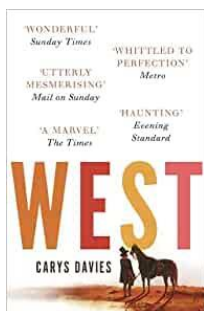
From my Fol request I can see that high priority repair works and weight restrictions have been known about since 2013. Clearly, due to the lack of action in the intervening period, the bridge is in a much worst condition and gets worse by the day.

I conclude that there is no programme to do the repairs and indeed no definition, at this point, of what the works will entail. Furthermore, the "high priority" defects and 3t weight limit were known about as far back as 2013.

Cllr Leffman, putting all the history to one side and in the spirit of moving things forward, can I make a plea for you to appoint someone to be personally tasked with driving the repairs forward. A Project Manager with the right empowerment, in conjunction with our Parish Council and your term contractor, could possibly get the bridge back in 2024.



READING RECOMMENDATIONS



West by Carys Davis is short enough to read at a sitting, yet has an epic feel. St Louis farmer Cyrus Bellman, intrigued by dinosaur bones found on the President's Expedition of 1804-6, sets off in search of the monsters he believes are roaming a Kentucky swamp. Recruiting a Shawnee boy (known as 'Old Woman from a Distance') as his aide but with little knowledge and only the vaguest plan, he leaves ten-year-old daughter Bess in her aunt's reluctant care while he goes on this Quixotic journey. The dangers, mystery and promise of the unknown west are set against the resignation of the native American boy to the fate of his displaced people: "Like a dark, diminished cloud, they had moved west across the landscape across what had been theirs ...". We're shown the viewpoints of Bellman, the boy, and Bess, left to face her own predators, in this tale of discovery, survival and exploitation. **Linda Newbery**

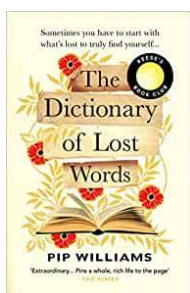


Coffin Road by Peter May. A man is washed up on a deserted beach on the Hebridean Isle of Harris. He has no idea who he is or how he got there. The only clue to his identity is a map tracing a track called the Coffin Road. He doesn't know where it will lead him, but knows he must follow it. DS George Gunn crosses rough seas to a remote rock, where three lighthouse keepers mysteriously disappeared more than a century before, and finds a man bludgeoned to death! A teenage girl is desperate to discover the truth about her father's death. Two years after the discovery of the pioneering scientist's suicide note, Karen Fleming still cannot accept that he would abandon her. And the more she discovers about the nature of his research, the more she suspects that others were behind his disappearance. **Coffin Road** follows these three perilous journeys towards one shocking truth. **Paul Freeman**



Coronation by Paul Gallico. The Clagg family, of Great Pudney, Sheffield, travel to London for Coronation Day, 1953. They have tickets - little works of art - guaranteeing prime seats for the procession. For parents Will and Violet, and the children Johnny and Gwendoline, the trip is the fulfilment of a romantic dream. For this they have sacrificed their annual seaside holiday. Granny Bonner, Violet's mother, has put aside her disapproval and suspicion of the whole enterprise. She is to be the living link between Queen Victoria and the new young Queen. The day does not go as planned - the dreams come tumbling down.

All is not lost. Indeed, it's found. Three objects return with the family, freighted with significance, infusing the crushing disappointments of the day with radiance and hope. **Jenny Greeves**



The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams. A novel about the compilation of the first Oxford Dictionary might not sound that enticing, and the first chapters were rather hard going. But quite soon I was gripped. It is set in Oxford and evokes the locations beautifully; the streets of Jericho around the Oxford University Press, the covered market, the quirky house and gardens along the Banbury Road where the dictionary workers toiled. The novel ranges from the late eighteenth century until 1928 when the final volume is published and is not only a fascinating story about words and which ones we choose to painstakingly record, but also has a lot to say about women in this period, the emergence of the suffrage movement, the impact of the First World War on communities. And at its heart is a touching love story and an exploration of family and loss. **Suzanne Franks**

Reviews are compiled by Linda Newbery. For a book recommendation every Monday, all by writers or independent booksellers, follow **Writers Review**: www.reviewsbywriters.blogspot.com

GREEN THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

BARFORD ENVIRONMENT NETWORK is a friendly, informal group that looks for ways of greener living in our villages. To join or learn more, contact **John O'Brien**: john@lcmb.co.uk

*



The Great Big Green Week, 10-18 June, encourages community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. **Biodiversity Bloxham** offers an impressive programme of events: **Saturday 10th: The Great Big Plant Swap & Sale** 11:30-3:30, Elephant & Castle Garden. Vegetable plants, herbs, flowers for pollinators, annuals, perennials, succulents and houseplants plus seeds, gardening books/magazines, pots etc. Pints, ploughmans, hot drinks and more served by Elephant & Castle. **Wednesday 14th: Walk and talk. Walk From Meadow to Mill.** Meet at St Mary's Church at 6pm for a tour of the church meadow

and then walk to Bloxham Mill. Followed by:

Talk by writer, biologist and broadcaster Colin Tudge: **'What is Biodiversity?'** 7-9pm, Bloxham Mill, Barford Road. Colin is the author of many books on natural history, food and farming, including *The Secret Life of Trees* and his new book, *The Great Re-Think*. Time for discussion afterwards. Refreshments and parking available.

Thursday 15th: Seasonal Flower Arranging Workshop, 7-9 pm, Hunt Bespoke Interiors, using locally grown flowers and sustainable techniques by local florist Melissa from Bunch. £50 including all materials and refreshments. Only 10 places; to book one, contact hello@bunch-uk.com. More info at www.bunch-uk.com

Saturday 17th: Green Community Market 10-1:30 at Ex-Servicemen's Hall. Stalls with local food, flowers, plants, crafts, green products; animal boxes and garden items from Restore; nature-based activities; refreshments

Saturday 17th: Film Night and Meal, 6:30-9:30 pm, Ex-Servicemen's Hall. *The Economics of Happiness*, 68 mins. While governments and big business continue to promote globalisation and the consolidation of corporate power, people worldwide are resisting these policies. The documentary explores the building of economies on a more human scale, based on ecology and localisation. The film will be followed by a vegetarian meal (provided) and an opportunity to discuss and network.

Find out more by joining the mailing list: email biodiversitybloxham@gmail.com or see posts on Facebook and Bloxham Online for the latest events.

*

Deddington Environment Network also has a programme of events including

- an evening farm walk at **Fenemore Farm** in Clifton, June date to be confirmed. If interested, email Debbie Macaro, debbiemacaro@gmail.com.

Wednesday 21st June: Swifts walk and talk by local specialist Chris Mason. Meet on the green outside Deddington Co-Op at 7pm if you'd like to learn more about these beautiful summer visitors. Contact Tammy Marrett if you plan to go: tammy.marrett@gmail.com.

Sunday 11th June: Charity Open Day at Berry's Orchard. Many of us know Janet and David through their plant and produce stall at our village market – now we can see their orchard and wildflower areas for ourselves!



"We aim to provide local, environmentally friendly produce and at the same time create a safe habitat for wildlife. We also love to share the results with you, so join us at Berry's Orchard to raise money for Cancer Research."

Presentations and demonstrations throughout the day; refreshments available. Tickets are free, but please book a place: Berrysorchard@gmail.com. A £5 charity donation per person on the day is suggested. Find out more on Facebook and Instagram.

Hope there's something here to entice you!

Green Thought of the Month is edited by Linda Newbery. If you have a green idea to share, or would like to announce a local event, please email L.newbery@btinternet.com.

THE OLD CHAPEL Garden of Remembrance



The graveyard/Garden of Remembrance is always open. It is a beautiful spot to sit in the summer. Angus and I look after it and love it but, it is not part of our property so, please, never feel you are intruding. Lucy, Editor



1st DEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP

Cubs - Following the Easter holidays, we have finally been able to get outside, playing games like Capture the Flag – a favourite with the cubs. Some important dates fell during the last month – St George's Day and the Coronation. Activities for St George's Day centred around the creation of puppets of George, the Dragon and St George's horse. Four groups worked independently to create their puppets and then the following week the Cubs wrote scripts and performed a short play using their puppets – some were more violent in their endings and others more romantic. A surprising number of dragons survived to fight another day! On the Saturday Cubs and Scouts paraded from the Windmill Centre to the Market Place (making as much noise as they could with pans and whistles) where they renewed their Promises on the green. For the Coronation, Cubs made Union Jack Poppers using balloons and toilet roll middles which were filled with 'leaf' confetti – less mess!

Paul Honess deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts - For our last meeting before Easter, we took the Scouts bowling, nothing like chucking a huge ball at some sticks to burn up some energy! On that note they also went for a rather soggy hike & made short films to illustrate The Countryside Code, definitely not for public viewing. Plumbing came next, a visit from Ian Anthistle who showed them how to change a tap washer, bend some pipe & suck their breath in through their teeth while shaking their head! They also learned how to change a car tyre thanks to my car having a puncture – great timing.

pete Churchyard deddingtonscouts@gmail.com



Please come and support Deddington Nursery & PFSU at Deddington Primary school Summer Fete on Saturday 17th June 12pm-3pm where we will have our hook a

duck game! There will be plenty of games and activities for all the family plus a bar and BBQ run by the School PTA. See you there!

Charlotte Witka
PFSU Deputy Manager

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- ✿ Watch pizza cooking in our hand-built cob oven
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Contact Victoria:


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	Mr R. Cox	01869 337736
	Mr. T. Lovell	07760 162593
	Ms. M. Appleby	07867 848881

Parish Council meetings are held Bi-monthly in the Village Hall on 1st Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm

This is an opportunity for parishioners to bring questions or concerns to the meeting in person

CDC website: www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk – Parish Council minutes at www.cherwell-local.com

ALLOTMENT QUERIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK

VILLAGE AND LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

Diary dates to the editor by 15th of each month please

Church of England JUNE

FIRST SUNDAY

10:30 Coffee & Chat St Michael's

SECOND SUNDAY

09:00 Holy Communion St Michael's

THIRD SUNDAY

10:30 Family Service St Michael's

FOURTH SUNDAY

09:00 Family Holy Communion St Michael's

FIFTH SUNDAY

09:00 Special Service St John's

Rev. Annie Goldthorp, Vicar, Deddington with Barford,
Clifton & Hempton. 01869 336880

email: vicar@deddingtonchurch.org.

Church Warden: Sue Addison 01869 338017

Methodist Chapel

For details of services contact:

Mr Robbie Pilkington ☎ 01295 811367

Roman Catholic

Holy Trinity Catholic Church,
26 London Road, Chipping Norton, OX5 5AX
Phone: 01608 642703

Parish Priest: Father Tony Joyce

Email: holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com

On Call: Rev. Deacon Robert Hughes

Tel: 01295 720869

Mobile: 07766 711984

Masses:

Saturday - 6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday – 11.00am Mass

Weekdays Normally 9.15am can be subject to
change

Regular Weekly/Monthly Events

Mondays	Beavers (Deddington) Boys Brigade Band Practice
Tuesdays	Guides (Deddington) Carpet Bowls (September-March)
Wednesdays	Brownies (Windmill, Deddington) Parish Council, 1 st Wednesday, Bi-Mthly WI, 2 nd Wednesday Boys' Brigade (Deddington)
Thursdays	Village Hall Post Office Open Cuppa Mornings Cubs (Deddington) Scouts (Deddington)
Fridays	
Saturdays	Village Market, 3 rd Saturday <i>(except January and august)</i>

DIARY DATES

JUNE

11th Berry Orchard Charity Open Day
14th The George Village Lunch
14th WI – Talk about Sourdough
28th Ukraine Talk in the village Hall
17th Village Market
17th Deddington Primary School Fete
28th

Police contact numbers In an emergency call 999

Non-emergencies call 101

Textphone 18000

Banbury office 01295 754 541

Thames Valley Crime-stoppers

0800 555 111



BARFORD NEWS

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Editor: Lucy Norman 01869 337678

Dep Editor: Mariann Young 01869 338570

barfordnews@gmail.com

Treasurer and adverts: Caroline Bird

caroline.bird@sectorglobal.com

☎ 07500 672144