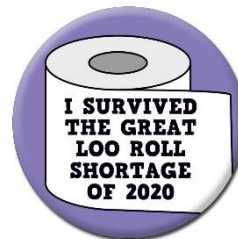


PRICE: 50p where sold



Village Clean Up Morning – Saturday, 1st April



Village Clean-Up Morning. Once again enthusiastic adults, children and dogs turned out for the clean-up morning, Some new faces, and some from many previous years. Several sent apologies while others, not pictured, did their own patches. The weather was kind, and the sun came out for us. There was very little litter within the village this year but some of the outer areas, Fernhill, Barley Lane and Hempton Road were quite bad. Volunteers were rewarded with the traditional delicious doughnuts on their return to the hall.

Pictured: First home, Top Left, Andy & Hazel Neal greeted by PC Chairman Sandi, also pictured are parish councillor Maureen Appleby, Paul & Ishbel Freeman, new residents Phil & Olivia M-Watkinson with baby Dougie and dachshund Winnie, Linda Newbery, Tony Ecclestone and the family group of Mel Doyle, Sinead Nicholls with Teddy and Florence plus their little pooch. Other volunteers who dodged the photo call were Trevor Stevens, Mick Pearson, Tony Bastable, Councillor Ray Cox and Vicki Wolfe, hopefully, everyone is listed here. Huge and grateful thanks to everyone involved.

Coronation Tea Party

Sunday 7th May from 2.30pm onwards

Bring your picnic along and join friends and neighbours
in the Village Hall & Garden

Candy Floss

**Coronation Crafts
Fun**

Children's Raffle

Donations for prizes to Sally or Sue
Barfordchurches234@gmail.com

Commemorative mementos
will be available on a
'first-come' basis

Life Size
Cut-out of
King Charles III
for family Photo
shoots
opportunities



Best Dressed Royal Competition
Open to All Ages
Prizes for entry and winners



Complimentary



Pimms - Bucks Fizz - and Fruit Juices
Courtesy of The George



**BARFORD
MARKET**

Saturday, 20th May - 10.00 – 12.00 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Come on down to the village hall to see what our stallholders
have to offer**

AND

to enjoy our delicious bacon butties at bargain prices
TEA AND COFFEE SERVED ALL MORNING FROM THE BAR

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

*

Swifts! It's May, and that means swifts will arrive very soon - look out for their exhilarating arrowed flight and listen for their shrill screams. Sadly, though, these wonderful birds are in serious decline. **Chris Mason**, of **Cherwell Swifts Conservation Project**, is mapping their roosts and collecting information from all the local villages, so he's keen to know when and where you first see them. You can email either me or Chris himself at candomason@outlook.com. Other ways to help: put up a swift box (available from the **RSPB**); let Chris know if you think a nesting site is at risk from planned building work or development; find out more from **Action for Swifts**: www.actionforswifts.blogspot.com



It's also **No Mow May** – leave a patch or larger area of your lawn or verge for the grass to grow long, to let wildflowers grow and encourage pollinators. Even better, leave an area to grow for the entire summer, allowing butterfly and other larvae to develop. There's much more information from **PlantLife**: www.plantlife.org.uk and on Twitter at **#NoMowMay**.

*

Could you manage without your car? Or second car?

Most households in the Barfords own, insure, tax and service at least one private vehicle. Yet many cars are used on average for an hour a day or less; most spend 96% of their time parked on driveways or in garages. Will the future see us less dependent on private car ownership – and how, in villages like ours?

Here are two local initiatives that could help you to move away from car ownership and all the costs that go with it, *and* drive an electric vehicle instead of a petrol- or diesel-powered one.

Oxfordshire County Council and **Cherwell District Council** have launched an electric car club pilot scheme, with cars obtainable from car parks across the county, including two (Calthorpe and Windsor Street) in Banbury with cars provided by **Co Wheels**. Club members can hire brand-new electric vehicles from £5.95 per hour, including insurance, plus 12p per mile. Read more at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/electric-vehicle-pilot>.



Another local enterprise will bring a fully-charged car to your door! Banbury-based **Zimbl**, with a small fleet of brand-new EVs, doesn't require you to join a club: just register via their app. You can hire by the hour or the day, with charges for the length of time and amount of battery used, at a competitive rate. Insurance and breakdown cover are included, and the Barfords are within the area covered by Zimbl for free delivery and collection. One-way trips are also possible. Find out more at www.zimbl.co.uk.

Could schemes like these be the future of transport for our villages? It's estimated that one hire car could replace twenty privately-owned vehicles on the roads, as well as helping more of us to avoid petrol- and diesel-fuelled driving. Worth a try? At the very least, these schemes could help those households with more than one car to reconsider whether owning the second or third one is essential.

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



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



KEEP
CALM
AND

DON'T FORGET
YOUR ID CARD

DISTRICT ELECTIONS - 4TH MAY, IN THE VILLAGE HALL

You'll need one of the following types of photo ID to vote:

- a UK or Northern Ireland photocard driving licence (full or provisional)
- a driving licence issued by the EU, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Isle of Man or any of the Channel Islands
- a UK passport
- a passport issued by the EU, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or a Commonwealth country
- a PASS card (National Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- a Blue Badge
- a biometric residence permit (BRP)
- a Defence Identity Card (MOD form 90)
- a national identity card issued by the EU, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein
- a Northern Ireland Electoral Identity Card
- a Voter Authority Certificate
- an Anonymous Elector's Document

You can also use one of the following travel passes as photo ID when you vote:

- an older person's bus pass
- a disabled person's bus pass
- an Oyster 60+ card
- a Freedom Pass
- a Scottish National Entitlement Card (NEC)
- a 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
- a Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
- a Northern Ireland concessionary travel pass

INFORMATION TAKEN FROM

www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/photo-id-youll-need



BARFORD GREEN GARDEN CLUB

Notes from our Potting Shed – May 2023

We were thrilled to welcome 30 people to our first Talk of the year – ‘Gardening in a Changing Climate’. Our speaker Chris Day took us through the need to adapt our gardening to global warming and temperature extremes, including plants which might be advisable to introduce in the future. To minimise negative impact on the planet, he emphasised the importance of ‘green’, chemical-free gardening, particularly to encourage the reappearance of declining numbers of insects.

Part of the answer lies in soil management by mulching to enable plants to be strong enough to withstand stress from weather and pests. We were encouraged to make our own compost. He also suggested adding vermiculite to aerate the currently unsatisfactory peat free compost on sale, when sowing seeds. He also warned us of an olive tree blight which is raging in Europe and could kill plants of Mediterranean origin here. Olive trees are best avoided it seems.

Practical suggestions to counter global warming also included shade planting, green walls and using water butts. We were encouraged to relax about lawn weeds (good for insects) and he pointed out that No Mow May leads to very hard work in June! He encouraged rethinking and opening up hard landscaping in driveways to encourage drainage while adding small plants which again help insects. Hedges are preferable to fences, as they are cheaper to establish, making better windbreaks and sound baffles while housing wildlife, he argued. Planting ideas for larger evergreens which are reliably tough in different weather conditions included arbutus (strawberry tree), eleagnus, photinia, garrya and evergreen clematis armandii.

The topic of hard frosts included advice to prevent expensive earthenware pots cracking in frost by cramming them with plants in (unrecyclable) black pots with gaps between them. Asked about plants suffering from the recent weather he advised waiting until the end of hard weather before trimming back dead plant material. Scrape the bark for signs of vitality before cutting back to living plant material. Seaweed feed encourages root regeneration meanwhile. Or, he suggested, dig out the sorry shrub and start again!

This was a most informative and practical talk with hardy shrubs for sale at the end. If you missed the talk, Chris Day can be found on You Tube in a monthly discussion called Dig It. **Our thanks to Janet Payne for this report.**

Visit to Chivel Farm Garden, OX7 5TR, Saturday 13 May, 2.45pm.

(4 miles east of Chipping Norton, off the A361).

We’re delighted to be visiting this beautiful country garden just up the road at Heythrop and we hope you can attend. It has extensive views and has been

designed for continuous interest that’s always evolving. There are colour schemed borders with unusual trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. The owner, Rosalind Sword will give us a tour for about an hour, commencing 3pm and afterwards we’ll enjoy tea and cake. The cost is a donation of £10 per person, most of which goes to charities via the National Garden Scheme. Rosaline is looking forward to welcoming us. She told us:

Everything is late this year so it’s hard to say what will be in flower. The magnolias have started so quite a lot will still be in flower. There are daphnes and alliums. The deer seem to have eaten some of the tulips but hopefully not all. As they are late starting, our wild flower area with cowslips and camassias should be at its best. Every year is different but this one seems to be harder than normal to predict.

Please park in the farmyard, so bear left as you come down the drive. If you need a lift, please contact Sue Lane by email: sueandles45@hotmail.com

Where there’s muck, there’s brass Once again, Kathryn Wheeler has bagged up horse manure for the benefit of our gardens! You can 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. Thank you Kathryn.

Annual Plant Swap, Thursday 1 June, 7.30pm We’re looking forward to seeing you in the Village Hall garden (inside if wet). It’s a great way to pick up lots of cuttings for no cost. You take some along for others and select other plants for your garden. Refreshments will be served.

Here are some jobs for May:

- Watch out for late frosts, protect tender plants.
- Earth up potatoes and promptly plant any still remaining.
- Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month - except in cold areas.
- Water early and late to get the most out of your water, recycle water when possible.
- Mow lawns weekly, check for nesting birds before clipping hedges.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring flowering bulbs.
- Tie in climbing/rambling roses as near to horizontal as possible. This will restrict sap flow causing more side-shoots to grow along the length of stem.
- Tubs can be planted up with summer bedding in milder areas.
- Winter bedding plants can be sown from now.

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 May!



Spade and Fork

Not exactly what you would expect to find in Banbury.....



outingadvisor

reviewed by
Lucy Norman

Where did you go? **Himalaya Salt Cave & Spa**
Unit 1A Upton Lodge
Buildings
Astrop Road
Middleton Cheney
OX17 2PJ

info@himalayasaltcave.co.uk

☎ 07761 910 658

RATINGS

Value ★★ ★

Atmosphere ★★ ★

COMMENTS:

Whenever I have family visitng I try to think of something a little bit different to do....and this was it.

"It is the most natural form of self-interest to look after your health and skin. It is not a matter of superficial beauty, although we all know we feel better when we look better. More importantly it is about happy healthy living, looking after our bodies so that we can live more fulfilled lives. This is not a modern fad it is wisdom that has been passed down from age to age. We aim to help to improve people's health and well-being".

I cannot claim, personally, that it has healing effects but it was a bit of fun and we all sat there chatting, nobody on their phones, yes, I am talking about you, Georgia, niece, 14 and John, nephew, 16.

If you have a suggestion for any restaurants or outings for kids, or adults, that are fairly local, please send me details at barfordnews@gmail.com



A reminder that we will be
choosing our RESOLUTION to put
forward to national

at our meeting on

Wednesday, 10th MAY

followed by a board game or two

in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

'All visitors very welcome (£5)

for more information please
contact Christine 338659

barfordwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



DEDDINGTON FIRE STATION

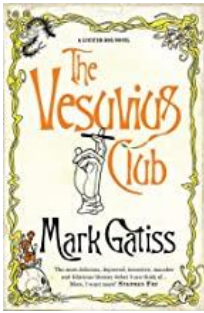
Well it has all been a little quiet at the station this month with only 8 calls recorded, mainly for alarms which proved false. We did however enjoy an evening by the river in Somerton simulating a search and rescue for missing persons. Upstream haste teams in full dry suits were tasked with searching both sides of the river in failing light using torches and thermal imaging cameras to locate possible casualties, whilst down stream spotters rigged a temporary dam to catch any possible individuals floating down stream, using the hose inflation kit.

We were also called out in the small hours of the morning to our first chimney fire this year, requiring removal of the chimney inspection cover and glowing ash and embers, and then climbing the roof to inspect the chimney and rodding the whole flue. Fortunately, it was fully lined and there was no fire spread into the loft space or roof beams.

Charity event for your diary coming up –Sunday 21st May is running time with the Four farms Challenge – see page 11

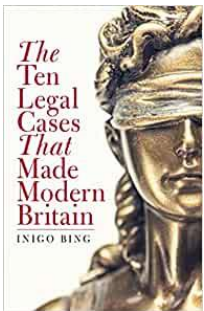
FFD James Greenwood, james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk

READING RECOMMENDATIONS



The Vesuvius Club is the first of three "Lucifer Box novels" by the actor, screenwriter and author Mark Gatiss. The style is historical, hysterical, camp detective fiction. As such, it will either endear you or repel you. The setting is an undefined period in British history between

1800 and the 1920's. The novel consists of a sequence of frenetic set pieces involving peril and flight and flippant dialogue. The protagonists have names such as Charlie Jackpot, Venus and Quibble, each of whom is the slenderest of types: despite much chasing and fleeing they never develop into credible personages. During his subsequent career, the talented Mark Gatiss managed effortlessly to rise above this lightest of novels. **Trevor Arrowsmith**



The Ten Legal Cases that made Modern Britain by Inigo Bing: "Enemies of the People" screamed the Daily Mail during Brexit, when the Court of Appeal merely had the honesty (and courage) to reaffirm a long established and important rule of law - established 400 years before - that Government cannot

overrule legislation made by Parliament. Perhaps because, having no written Constitution, few of us appreciate the crucial constitutional role judges have always had in defending our civil liberties against excessive executive/Government power. It has long been their duty to spell out and protect our inherent but unwritten rights - such as freedom of speech in the Thalidomide case. At the same time, immediate technological or social changes can often require the Courts to address urgent ethical dilemmas long before Government or Parliament is in a position to do so, as in the decision to separate conjoined twins.

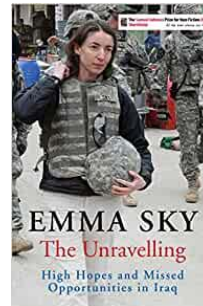
This excellent book, in examining ten critical cases of the last 80 years, demonstrates how the Courts are equally significant in shaping our society as Parliament, underlining their crucial importance to each and every citizen. **Christopher Murray**



Dracula by Bram Stoker: Jonathan Harker travels to Transylvania to meet Count Dracula to assist him in real estate affairs. He realises he is being held captive in the castle and that Dracula is a vampire. "I saw the whole man slowly emerge from the window and

begin to crawl down the castle wall over the dreadful abyss, face down with his cloak spreading out around him like great wings".

Harker escapes the castle and makes his way to Budapest before collapsing with a "terrible brain fever" from shock. His girlfriend Mina, hearing of his illness goes to him, they marry and travel back to England. Meantime whilst sailing to England, Dracula is shipwrecked near Whitby. Harker, Mina and friends face several tasks in order to bring down Count Dracula. I enjoyed the novel although it is a little drawn-out in areas, but this does not detract from the story. **Ishbel Freeman**



The Unravelling by Emma Sky. It is now twenty years since the US invasion of Iraq and much has happened in that benighted company since the troops went in. Although there are elections it would be difficult to view it as a liberal democracy on the western model as George Bush sought to

introduce. There is rampant corruption. What I had not been able to find was a book about what it was like on the ground over the period since the invasion, until I read Sky's account. She is British and was working for the British Council during the invasion and signed up to work for the Coalition Provisional Authority in Kirkuk. She was then advisor to the US General Odierno. She writes with passion and compassion about ordinary life as well as the big political events. If you want to discover what life was like for ordinary Iraqis, read this book. **John Bowers**

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

WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB

17th May @ The George

12:30pm for 1pm

MAINS

- Pea & Mint Risotto -

Shaved Parmesan

OR

- Hake -

Petit Pois a la Francaise / New Potatoes

DESSERTS

- Vanilla Panna Cotta -

Strawberry Compote / Lemon Shortbread

OR

- Cheeseboard -

Cheddar / Seasonal Chutney / Grapes / Crackers

Tea & Coffee

Price £10 per person

Please ring Anne & Mick on 01869 337074, or email mickpearson1@outlook.com

by Friday 12th May 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 ****



DEDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

The time flew by so quickly last term, it seems incredible that we have already celebrated Easter and are now heading towards summer.

We had some brilliant and exciting news early in March when a Year 5 pupil applied for new young trees from The Woodland Trust, to be planted in our school grounds. We were then informed that our pack of trees would include the millionth tree planted by The Woodland Trust! This was utterly fantastic and as a result, the BBC came to school and filmed the planting of this tree for an episode of Countryfile. John Craven joined the filming which took place on our top field, on Wednesday 22nd of March. It was a truly wonderful day and the filming of this was due to be shown on Countryfile on Easter Sunday. It was a fabulous day and one we will all remember for a very long time to come. We will of course always be grateful to our Year 5 pupil, with all the efforts she put in to make this happen.

The F1 children made their own Easter gardens in our quiet area on the school playground. They brought in their own flowers, plants, branches, stones and more, to create their gardens. Each child made a cross to go in with their plants, to recognise its significance in the Easter story. They had a lovely time together whilst making these outside. The Year 1 children held an Art exhibition in their classroom. Parents and carers were invited in to celebrate the wonderful artistic skills that our Year 1 children have been constantly demonstrating in school. It was a fabulous after school event that was loved by all. Year 5 had a science day at Tudor Hall and the day was excellent. The children benefited from everything they experienced. Year 3 pupils enjoyed swimming lessons every Thursday afternoon and their water skills improved immensely throughout last term.

As you can see, in Term 4 life in our school was as varied and exciting as it always is. We sincerely hope now that the coming summer terms will be warm and sunny for everyone to enjoy with their families and friends.

With best wishes for now, from all of us to all of you.

Denise Welch



DEDDINGTON BOOKWORMS

Our latest book was **And the Mountains Echoed** by **Khaled Hosseini**.

The majority of the Bookworms were newcomers to Khaled Hosseini's novels and most were enraptured by 'And the mountains echoed', his third novel. His novels are concerned with family relationships. This one is no exception, beginning with an adoring brother's love for his baby sister. As the story expands wider family relationships and their circumstances come into play. It is obvious when reading Hosseini's biographical details that he has drawn heavily on his own dislocation from his homeland of Afghanistan.

The strong point of the novel is it's vivid descriptions of Afghan life and culture; of the stark difference between the harsh and strictly religious life of the poor in provincial areas compared to those of a citizen living in the morally relaxed and wealthy capital, Kabul, in the early 1950's at the start of the story. It's weakness, it was agreed by Bookworms, was that the generational expansion of the tale meant that the later characters lost form and the novel cohesiveness.

Our next book is The Darling Buds of May by H. E. Bates.

Charity Open Day

Berry's Orchard



Deddington

Sunday 11 June 2023

11 am – 3 pm

Tickets: suggested £5 donation
(All proceeds for Cancer Research UK)

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 and have a look around behind the scene at Berry's Orchard to raise money for charity; a warm welcome awaits.

- ✦ Take a stroll around fruit trees and wildflowers
- ✦ Hear how our apples are used to make cider
- ✦ Watch pizza cooking in our hand-built cob oven
- ✦ Find out about herbs
- ✦ Refreshments available
- ✦ Presentations and demonstrations throughout the day

Further information Berrysorchard@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook or Instagram for latest details



1st DEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP

The Scout Group held their AGM on March 23rd, 2023, at The Windmill Centre, these are

excerpts from the minutes

Cubs

In the last year we have held two camps: a one-nighter and a two-nighter, both at Horley campsite. There is a District Cub camp planned for the weekend of the 19-21 May. I am working towards getting my 'Nights Away' Permit to reduce the pressure on Jo to attend camp. While Horley is a beautiful site, activities there are limited so we may need to look at going to a different site to get access to some more challenging activities. We are delighted to note that we have two cubs who have met the requirements to be awarded their Chief Scout's Silver. Several others are close to completing their requirements, that attending another camp should significantly help complete.

We enjoyed an evening at Orinoco in Banbury where Cubs worked on making bug hotels out of repurposed materials. The resulting large bug hotel was presented to Deddington Primary School at its Friday Celebration Assembly and will be placed in their extended wild/forest school area.

We will also be starting a new Facebook page (members only) so that parents can see what their cubs get up to. We are looking forward to the warmer weather and lighter evenings so that we can move activities outdoors again!

Paul Honess deddingtoncubs@gmail.com

Scouts

We currently have 15 Scouts in the troop. Over the past 12 months we have taken part in a wide range of activities. These include: 24-hour Hike and Camp Expedition to Horley, 2-night Summer Camp at Horley, many evenings spent at Daeda's Wood cooking on open fires and shelter-building as part of the Survival Badge. Our fundraising for the charity Toilet Twinning raised enough for five toilets in Central Southern Africa. We attended parades for St George's Day and Remembrance Sunday. Other activities included: Swimming, making whistles, an evening dedicated to Japan & a Ninja-themed Christmas Party. The Scouts have also recently elected a Scout Council to give them greater involvement in how the troop operates. One Scout has earned his Chief Scout Gold Award.

Pete Churchyard deddingtonscouts@gmail.com

AN INVITATION



TO JOIN US



**Village Cuppa
Mornings
10.00 ~ 11.30
Every Thursday
In the Village Hall**



A 5K AND 10K RUN AROUND THE PICTURESQUE PARISH OF DEDDINGTON.
THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL AND HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER
EXPERIENCED RUNNERS, FUN RUNNERS AND FAMILIES, ALIKE.

SUNDAY 21ST MAY 2023

For more information visit

www.fourfarmschallenge.run



CHURCH MATTERS



Last month, we celebrated Mothering Sunday at our family service. It truly was a fantastic celebration of family and all that

is special to us. We reflected on the many roles of mothers in the Bible.

Mothers who risked everything such as Moses' Mother who left him in the bulrushes to save his life. The mother who stood up for child and did not give up. She insisted that Jesus help her when everyone else wouldn't. Most important, of course, is Mary. The mother who encouraged Jesus to perform his first miracle at a wedding. Even though he said he wasn't ready, she knew he really was, and encouraged him to do his first ever miracle, by turning water into wine. She also never gave up on him, even when he was on the cross. She stayed with him right to the end.

We are truly thankful for the amazing people in our lives who encourage us, who stand up for us, who make us laugh, who give us hope, who love us no matter what.

New pattern of Services.

Family Communion



In the last article we wrote about two of the family services that we will be having

each month. On the Fourth Sunday of each month, we shall hold a Family Communion Service. We have created a shorter service that we hope to be more family friendly. We have printed out new service booklets for the occasion.

We invite everyone to join us at this service and wish people to know that the intention of the service is to welcome families young and old. We are hoping that the more relaxed service will help to grow our church family. That family includes the young and old, aunties, uncles, grandmas and grandads, family by blood and just by friendship. We hope that children will want to engage with the message and the service, but also want you to know that children are free to wander, to sit in the children's area or dip into the Mini Worshipper bags that we have created.

We hope to make the service more accessible by changing it to 10:30am in the coming months.

Please join us at 9am on Sunday 28th May at Barford St Michael Church.

Barford Churches Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 30th April at 3pm
St Michael's Church

If you would like to find out more about the PCC or are interested in joining, please contact us at the email address below for further information. If you wish to become involved in the church in another way, we would love to hear from you.

Sue & Sally | barfordchurches234@gmail.com



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Easter trail at the beginning of April. We raised £459. Thank you to the Crown and Tuns for their continued support.

Come along and see us at the **Deddington Four Farms Challenge** on **Sunday 21st May** for our next fundraiser!

We will be running lots of fun children's activities including a fun run word scramble, children's outdoor yoga, woodland medal making and face painting.

**Painter and decorator based in
Deddington**

Competitive rates

Fully insured

**Please call Kat Onions on
077 599 735 35**

Or email katonions@hotmail.co.uk

No job too small

SNBeauty Studio

BASED IN DEDDINGTON
HIGH STREET DEDDINGTON OX15 0SL
FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL 01869 226522

GEL NAILS
BIAB NAILS
LUXURY PEDICURES
LASH AND BROW TREATMENTS

**BROUGHTON CASTLE
SPORTIVE 2023**

Don't miss out on the cycling event of the summer

Sunday 9th July

Historic Venue

**Four Major Routes Starting and Finishing at
Broughton Castle**

100 miles, 75 miles, 50 miles, 20 miles, plus a 5 miles Family Fun Ride,
all through the wonderful Cotswolds countryside.

Broughton Castle Trophy: A team event for teams of four to six riders
who participate in the 100 miles, 75 miles, 50 miles routes.

For more details and registration visit our website
www.broughtoncastlesportive.co.uk

Event organised by the Rotary Club of Banbury Cherwell

All profits to local and nominated charities

Rotary Club Banbury Cherwell



Girlguiding UK
girls in the lead

**DEDDINGTON
GIRL GUIDES**

The latter part of the Spring Term was taken up with rehearsing and organising our annual entertainment, in order to raise money for charity.

The Guides entertained their families with a variety of acts. Some of the girls created dance routines others played instruments having written their own music. We also had a display of football skills. Running through the show were spoof TV shows which were a lot of fun. We also held a raffle and a cake stall and with kind donations raised £70.

The guides had voted for two charities to share the money. Katharine House Hospice and Banbury Young Homeless Project
So, thank you for your support and very well done Guides.

Maggie Rampley and Marian Trinder
Guide Leaders



**"A luxury once
enjoyed,
becomes a
necessity."**

C. Northcote Parkinson,
quoted in The Guardian



200 CLUB DRAW - APRIL

£25	120	Angus Norman
£15	198	Lorraine Langland
£10	010	Mariann Young
£5	075	Martin Gannon

**The draw took place at
Coffee Morning in the Hall**



This article first appeared in Barford News in June 2013. Adrian Greeves moved to Barford St. Michael in 1979 and died here in 2016. He loved Barford very much. These are his memories of taking part in the Coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

It is now sixty years since the Coronation. At that time I was doing my National Service, between leaving School and going to University: this enabled me to have a very small part in an historic event.

Some months before the Coronation, a number of us from RAF Hullavington (in Wiltshire) were chosen to march in the parade.

Most of us were reasonably tall, and I am just over six feet: people of similar heights, however, can have different lengths of natural stride, whereas for purposes of group marching a regulation stride is required. My own natural way of loping along means risking either kicking the person in front, or leaving a heel to be thumped by the person behind – or both: but, obedient to the common cause, all my marching was undertaken wearing an imaginary tight skirt.

That extra elegance apart, however, the change was very welcome. Several times a week, initially, we downed spanners or typewriters or whatever, and assembled to march, sometimes singing, along the leafy roads and lanes of Wiltshire. Being out of camp during working hours, we had a sense of licensed truancy, and even when the going was tiring we formed a pretty merry bunch: on the road to Malmesbury there was (and still is) a shop on a bend by a stream, and there we would often pause, buy an orange or whatever, and loll on the banks, resting.

Those directing us were firm in the manner of an adroit orchestral conductor – aiming at a really crisp performance while being perfectly reasonable. With

no great strain, we became increasingly fit and, once we began to carry rifles, increasingly adept and synchronised while “changing arms” as the weight on one shoulder became too much. We were, after all, working towards a round trip of some thirteen miles.

The times given to this preparation increased, until about a month before the Coronation itself we moved to RAF Northolt to join up with contingents from all over the country. Flight Tech Smurthwaite (of blessed memory) was in immediate care of us, and I rarely travel on the London Underground without having an image in my mind of this tall quiet ginger-haired man pecking among us like a mother hen, to make sure that we were each O.K. Doubtless he was almost unconscious of his characteristic concern, but it has stayed with me all this time.

Over the next weeks we steadily increased our expertise, and gradually lengthened the distances we did. Officers with growing quantities of “scrambled egg” (gold braid) on their caps surveyed us, and huddled together in groups chewing over (I assumed) every possible contingency: the fact that in the event they were to omit a few matters of which a child of five could have warned them, didn’t reduce at the time the feeling that we were caught up in something quite momentous.

It was good to be near London, and I personally went into London on numerous evenings to see a play or go to a concert.

Then, about ten days, maybe, before The Day, we moved to Earls Court – where some nine thousand of us slept (on straw-filled mattresses). We were drawn from all the Services, and from the Commonwealth as well as this country. Some of us were to march, and others to stand to attention lining the route – a strain and tedium I was glad not to have to face. Strangely, I have absolutely no memory of where (or, indeed, whether) we ate.

Throughout the whole of this time we were, as may readily be imagined, inspected, so that not a mite travelling piggy-back on our shoulders would have been missed. For The Day itself we were issued with new boots – and no-one appeared even to glance at us. I remember discussing with the person next to me whether “they” would have noticed if we had marched forth in pyjamas. The issuing of new boots achieved two things: a polished appearance and, if

my own case is any guide, eighteen thousand pulverised feet.

In fairness, we didn't have to be inspected, because the whole atmosphere had become one in which we took responsibility for a cheerful and willing participation as A Part of History.

But, though we had become something of a single machine, the trouble with creating a machine is that it is possible to forget that a programmed machine has to make its way through unforeseen conditions.

The first condition was rain: for this we had to take our cape/groundsheets to keep ourselves presentable until the parade itself. That was fine: on arrival at our starting-point, however, we were told to put these in a heap designated for the RAF – the entire RAF. At the end of the day we were given the order, "collect groundsheets." "Yes, Sir!" No kit inspection after that was free from the fear of one's service-number on it being seen to be wrong.

In the years since that day I have met with three other people who had taken part: one was the Colonel of his Regiment, and another a man who had lined the route: with the latter, who had been in the regular army, I confirmed what happened to the sailors. For these men, plonked like bollards along the way, the unanticipated rain had a joke in store: their hats had been smartened with Blanco – and as the rain descended, the Blanco ran down their faces until these heroes were gradually transformed into clowns.

Another small matter had been overlooked by these grave impressive seniors who had troubled over us at Northolt. Although we had become superbly in unison in our "changing arms" (that is, shifting rifles from one shoulder to the other), so that the manoeuvre looked like a single machine, on The Day itself some people had (strangely) turned out to watch: not a window, not a ledge, not a pavement-space behind the troops, seemed to be without its occupant; moreover, most unexpectedly these people, young and old, cheered and clapped and hooted for joy. Fine and dandy – except that what happened to our changing of arms, on which so much time and effort had been expended, was that no word of command was remotely audible. What we did (ever-enterprising) was to look ahead and think, slowly, "Oh, gosh; they seem, don't they, to be changing arms. Ah. Well perhaps we'd better do so

too." Which, independently, we did: one can only imagine that a close-up film of this long-rehearsed drill movement will reveal something like a drunk porcupine deciding slowly to fall from one ditch to another.

None of which, of course, mattered. The Wing Commander who should have been calling out our commands, and who for all I knew was doing so, abandoned protocol, drew his splendid sword, and waved it towards the prettiest girls on the rooftops.

We were never quite sure where Her Majesty was in relation to us, and though we travelled the route she took, we were some of the few people there that day who saw absolutely nothing of the event itself. It is interesting to reflect that this may have been the case of most participants in many of the famous events in history: things which "every schoolboy knows" must have been unknown to almost everybody there. At the Battle of Hastings, how many noticed an arrow falling into King Harold's eye?

Eventually we returned to Earls Court and flaked out, with our sand-papered feet, onto our bunk beds and straw. Our reward was a rum ration: this was no "tot", but a regally generous ration delivered into our tin mugs – and so there my memories end.

SAC John Adrian Greeves. 3138479



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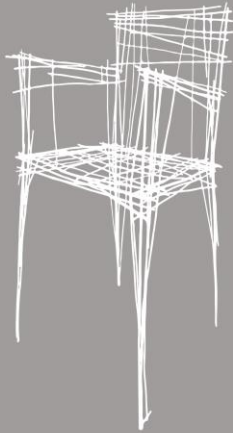
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Parish Council meetings are held Bi-monthly in the Village Hall on 1st Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm

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

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VILLAGE AND LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

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

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MAY

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

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Wednesdays Brownies (Windmill, Deddington)

Parish Council, 1st Wednesday,

Bi-Mthly

WI, 2nd Wednesday

Boys' Brigade (Deddington)

Thursdays Village Hall Post Office

Open Cuppa Mornings

Cubs (Deddington)

Scouts (Deddington)

Fridays

Saturdays Village Market, 3rd Saturday

(except January and august)

DIARY DATES

MAY

3rd Parish Council meeting

7th King's Coronation Picnic – Village Hall

10th WI Resolution Meeting & Board Games

13th Garden Club visit to Chivel Farm

17th Village Wednesday Lunch Club – The George

20th Village Market

21st Four-Farms Challenge

BARFORD NEWS

Copy deadline 15th of each month

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