

**Dear All,**

For those of you growing vegetables this summer, perhaps you're beginning to enjoy a good harvest, or you may be even facing a glut! I look around our garden, and although we sowed seeds and watered, life somewhat got in the way. Weeds have taken over a little, brambles have thwarted new life, and in some cases the plants never appeared, while in other cases little fingers got there first well before things got established! The promise of a glut hasn't materialised, however a few things have done well and we are enjoying the fruits of our labour.

It's certainly true: if you want to grow plants, you have to tend them, prepare the ground, add nutrients and provide the right conditions for them to truly flourish. This might be the case for my veg, but it is also true for ourselves. As we continue to enjoy the holiday season – or perhaps for you it feels far away – we have the opportunity to pause and take stock of ourselves, our relationships. Attending to ourselves is of more importance than our veg but in many cases, it's so easy to neglect ourselves in the busyness of life. If you get time to rest over the next month or so, then I encourage you to attend to your own flourishing. Are we grounded in a nourishing environment, are our relationships blossoming or do they need feeding?

Although for many of us September is no longer a new term, those of us who have children will be preparing for the start of another year. Our children are not at that stage yet, but nevertheless September to me can feel a little like a new year. May we all pause for a moment over the next few weeks, and take stock, attending to ourselves so that when it comes to harvest, we might all be flourishing!

Much love, Becca

*Rev'd Rebecca Gilbert*

*Serving the parishes of Barton, Coton, Harlton and Haslingfield in the  
Lordsbridge Team of Churches*

## **Church News**

**From the Registers: Funeral and Burial** 15<sup>th</sup> July Godfrey Floate

**Coffee in St Peter's – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August & 5<sup>th</sup> September – 10am – 11.30am**

Please do come along and have a coffee and biscuit and chat with friends and neighbours; our last complimentary coffee morning in church for summer.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm**

**Cam Saxophone Quartet.**

***We are pleased that this lovely group are returning to St. Peter's for another concert. Their last performance was very much appreciated so don't miss out and put the date in your diaries.***

***Entry is free but there will be a collection at the end for church funds.***

**'Ride and Stride' – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

The Annual sponsored walk or cycle from church to church to raise money for the church of your choice and for the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust. This Trust gives loans and grants to churches in need of repair and the money raised by this event is used to help parish churches with upkeep. If you would like to take part please contact Anne Coulson 26266 who has all the details

**Gift Day – 19<sup>th</sup> September.** More information about this later

*Anne Coulson*

### **Barton Baptist Church**

Our usual midweek meetings stop during August and recommence in September.

The tea and chats will be on 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September starting at 2.30pm. We invite you to come along and spend an enjoyable, relaxed time with us. Our bible studies at church will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September, when we will be beginning a new study, looking at the gospel of John. The foodbank collection point will be open at these times. The men's breakfast will be on 19<sup>th</sup> September in the pavilion, beginning at 8am. All are welcome. On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September we will be celebrating and giving thanks for the harvest. You are most welcome.

One final invitation, **Tea on the Green** 3<sup>rd</sup> August starting 3.30pm. We held our first one last year and it was such a success that we are repeating it again this year. Invitations will be delivered to all those who came last year, and if you would like to join us this year, please let us know and I will let you have details

*Ken Jones (262583)*

## ***Parish Jottings***

Barton Village website <http://www.barton-cambs.org.uk/> is now fully operational again and has lots of useful and up-to-date information.

Please contact Bev Edwards or Margaret Penston to make further suggestions.

### ***Hedges grow so fast***

Please make sure that hedges and plants do not obstruct footpaths.

### ***DOG FOULING IS AWFUL in many parts of the village.***

Please clear up after your dog.

### ***Protecting the Green Belt*** (with guidance from Francis Burkitt)

In their draft Local Plans SCDC and the City Council set out a joint vision for development between now and 2031. This was for 33,000 houses, of which 36% would be in Cambridge, 6% on the ‘urban edge’ (in effect, the Green Belt), 48% in ‘new settlements’ (e.g. West Cambourne, Bourn Airfield and Waterbeach Barracks) and 10% spread around the villages.

But the Council’s draft Local Plan needs to be inspected and approved by a Government Inspector. She has been ‘examining it in public’ for the past few months and has asked the Councils to think about a further 10,000 houses. She’s also asked us to defend our decision to put so few in the Green Belt and – surprise, surprise – many landowners and developers who own land in the Green Belt have said the same thing. The Councils are going to defend their positions.

This all has knock-on implications for public transport.

The Councils’ vision that half of the development between now and 2031 should be in ‘settlements’ that are 5+ miles from Cambridge, in order to preserve the green belt and countryside in between, will only work if there can be good transport links – mainly public transport links – between these new settlements and the City. The logic works like this:

- If you can create the public transport links, you can build the away-from-town settlements, so you don’t have to put houses in the Green Belt; but
- If you can’t create the public transport links, you can’t build the away-from-town settlements, so you have to put houses in the Green Belt.

For that reason, the Councils believe that the only way to save the Green Belt is to develop new public transport links through it. But they must be sensible and locally acceptable public transport links.

Therefore, the Councils, acting through their Greater Cambridge City Deal arrangement, have started preparing for a public consultation, to be conducted in the autumn, on a public transport link between Cambourne/Bourn Airfield

and Cambridge.

Two responses to this are gathering momentum:

1. a ‘protest’ campaign and petition, stating loudly and clearly to everyone that local residents support the Green Belt;
2. for us locally to draw up our own suggestions as to the best route for a bus/cycle link between Cambourne and Cambridge.

Note that the Highways Officers are very keen on what they call ‘off-road’ bus and cycle routes, which is rather like the guided busway with its adjacent cycleway. They do not favour ‘on-road’ bus/cycle ways – which effectively means squeezing a bus/cycle lane on the edge of an existing road. This is not just because there is often barely room to do the squeezing (e.g. down Madingley Hill), or because of cycle safety concerns, or because it would often mean chopping down trees along the side of the road. It’s because an off-road route has far higher capacity, speed and reliability: the guided bus now runs buses every five minutes at peak hours which zoom into Cambridge and never get held up by rain or car queues or crashes, etc.

***A Barton perspective:***

The Parish Council will work with neighbouring councils in the Quarter to Six Quadrant towards preserving the Green Belt and respond to official consultations on your behalf. Suitable solutions to transport problems will be explored jointly with other villages.

A ‘Save the West Fields Working Group’, based in Newnham, has been spearheading a specific petition, as copied below. They are concerned about two threats to the ‘West Fields’, which is the large open area of farmland between the back of the Grange Road houses and the M11, stretching down to Gough Way and Barton Road on the south side. These fields are top-rated Green Belt, and form an important part of the ‘setting’ of Cambridge as a ‘compact city’ with ‘green corridors’ from the countryside into the heart of the City. The threats are: 1. The current Local Plan proposes no development in this area, but the landowners, mainly colleges, have submitted objections, arguing for large-scale development of the fields. 2. There will shortly be a public consultation for a busway between Cambourne and Cambridge, and one possible route, option 1C, would go along the Coton footpath and through the heart of the West Fields.

‘We, the signatories of this Petition, call on the County Council and the Cambridge City Deal Board:

- To honour the democratically-arrived-at Local Plan, which provides protection for vulnerable areas against development.
- To preserve the West Fields as an important green corridor, from the Coton

Countryside Reserve into the city, as a much-valued amenity for wildlife, pedestrians, dog walkers and cyclists.

•To abandon Option 1C now and not waste our tax money on any feasibility study for this unpopular and inappropriate proposal, when other less damaging bus routes are available.’

You may wish to sign this petition online at <http://chn.ge/1H1aXn8>

### **Health Matters**

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group has published its summer 2015 newsletter, which can be found at

<http://emags.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk/ccgnews/summer-2015/front-page/welcome-from-dr-neil-modha-chief-clinical-officer>

The latest Safeguarding Adults and Mental Capacity Act Newsletter is for everyone who works with or supports adults, including family carers and those people who use services. It provides updates and information about current topics relating to Safeguarding Adults, the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

[http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20161/care\\_and\\_support/595/worried\\_about\\_an\\_adult\\_or\\_older\\_person/2](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20161/care_and_support/595/worried_about_an_adult_or_older_person/2)

### **Update on ‘Bourn Free’ – rediscovering the Bourn Brook**

Slipping through the countryside almost unnoticed, except for brief appearances at bridges and short sections of footpath, the Bourn Brook is a hidden treasure. It has many natural features other streams have lost, such as meandering bends and gravel shoals. The brook is home to numerous small fish, kingfisher, otter and water vole as well as forming part of barn owls' territories.

The Bourn Free project aims to tackle the various non-native invasive species which threaten the brook, particularly American mink, Himalayan balsam and giant hogweed, and to allow the brook and its native ecology to function naturally. In particular we rely on volunteers to help control Himalayan balsam. This plant forms dense stands where no other plants can grow, and dies back in winter leaving banks vulnerable to erosion.

If you were interested in helping with control of Himalayan balsam, we would love to have your help. There are various events over the summer. Most involve wading the brook (waders can be provided) so volunteers need to be physically able to get up and down the banks, but some work can be done from the bank. It would be helpful to know if you plan to come, so we will be sure to wait for you and make sure we bring waders in the right size.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August Kingston Old Railway Layby opp. nature reserve, 10am

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August Bourn Golf Course Golf club car park, 10am

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August Barton Birds Farm, 9.30am

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August Toft Golf Course Meridian car park, 10am

Ruth Hawksley: 01954 713533; 07545 423854;

ruth.hawksley@wildlifebcn.org

Vince Lea: 01223 262999; 07716 826972; [vincelea@btinternet.com](mailto:vincelea@btinternet.com)

### ***A puppy?***

Are you thinking about getting a dog or puppy in the next few months?

Perhaps you're unsure about whether to go for a pedigree pup or a rescue dog?

Or maybe you have no idea which of the hundreds of breeds and crossbreeds might be right for you! You may even already have your perfect breed in mind.

RDF Television is looking for people to film as they make this important decision, for an exciting new BBC2 science series.

So if you're considering bringing a dog or puppy into your life in the near future, we'd love to hear from you. Please email [Puppies@rdftelevision.com](mailto:Puppies@rdftelevision.com) for more info and an application form.

### ***Notice board***

Official notices and full minutes of meetings can be seen on the notice board by the pond.

***Next Parish Council meeting:*** Tuesday 1st September, 7.30pm, Village Hall

*Patrick De Backer 07771-923710 [bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com)*

### ***Village News***

#### ***Congratulations!***

September 2015 sees the Centenary of the Women's Institute so it is a very fitting time to congratulate Ruth Bond on being awarded an OBE in its centenary year 'for services to the WI and to the community in Cambridge.' Ruth joined Barton WI in 1976 and in 2000 was elected Chairman of the Cambridge Federation of Women's Institutes. In 2009 she was elected Chair of the National Federation of Women's Institutes, a position she held for four action-packed years, following the previous four years spear-heading the national campaigning arm of the WI. All in a voluntary capacity.

The Women's Institute was originally formed to educate and empower women and over the years has become the largest voluntary women's organisation in England and Wales. It now provides a unique role in providing women with educational opportunities and the chance to learn new skills as well as campaign on issues that matter to them and their communities. During Ruth's time as National Chair she has been inspired by what women have achieved within the WI, inspired by the belief people have had in her, and has herself

inspired others. She has felt privileged to be able to interact with women worldwide, in particular on a trip to Malawi exploring maternal mortality in respect of Millennium Development Goal no. 5. Nearer home she took important issues and campaigns to higher levels – Downing Street, the European Parliament, the House of Lords, the Foreign Office, Clarence House, the House of Commons – to further the causes espoused by the WI as well as attending special events by invitation.

The Cambridge Federation WI Office at Girton is a national award-winning innovative, eco-friendly building and Ruth was instrumental in its implementation in 2000. Among numerous campaigns, conservation and climate issues are particularly close to her heart, as well as those for justice, such as Care Not Custody, a campaign which calls for more care than custody in criminal situations for those with mental health issues. Indeed, this has led to her opening the first WI in a prison; a wonderful achievement. Ruth is proud to be part of a visionary organisation and is still a member of Barton WI after almost 40 years and is a dual member of the Wednesday Women WI, a new WI formed 4 years ago which meets in The White Horse, Barton. Both WIs are always pleased to welcome new members.

Ruth has been a very active figure in our community. In 1999 she was licensed as a Reader in the Church of England and since then has conducted approximately 200 funerals as well as many christenings and marriage blessings. When her children were young she was part of the leadership of the thriving Open Gate Sunday School and was much involved in the life of the Primary School, playing a major part in the acquisition of the Playgroup building, inaugurating The Friends of Barton School and serving as a governor and then Chair of Governors over several years.

Ruth, you are indeed an inspiring woman. Congratulations!

### ***Barton Village Day***

Alec and I wanted to say a big thank you for all your efforts organising and delivering such a successful Village Day on Saturday. As ever the Gardeners show was a complete delight, the quality of the exhibits was inspirational and it was wonderful to see so many children's entries.

We both felt that the whole event had a more lively feel to it and that great thought had gone into ensuring that there was something for everybody. Similarly the BBQ in the evening had something for all age groups; it was lovely to see so many families with children of all ages having a good time. Please pass our thanks on to Lorraine and the other Committee members, we appreciate that a lot of work is involved, but events like this keep Barton a real village and stop it becoming just another suburb of Cambridge.

**Barton Lunch Club – Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> August & 4<sup>th</sup> September 12.30 for 1pm,  
Village Hall**

Advance booking is essential as we do need to know numbers. For more information, reservations /cancellations/offers of help etc. please contact Anne Coulson. 262666.

**Barton WI**

Our guest speaker Yasmin Chopin gave us a talk on Designing with Colour. Yasmin an Interior Designer, showed us examples of colour and the affects in room settings. She gave us ideas on the use of colour and how to use a colour wheel when choosing a colour scheme to decorate. Along with her decorating tips her talk was interesting and useful.

August Meeting – Bring and Share Supper

*Kathryn Wake*

**Harvest Supper Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

Come and join us in the Village Hall at 7.15 for 7.30pm and enjoy a delicious supper of lamb terrine, rice and vegetables followed by Winter Crumble Tart. Wine, coffee and tea provided. Afterwards we shall be entertained by Eliza McClelland an actress on the subject *A Woman for All Seasons*.

Tickets £13.50 from Helen Newstead 262543

**Neighbourhood Watch**

This is a familiar theme, but Barton is still suffering from burglaries. Thankfully, other forms of crime are much less of a problem. Please do what you can to protect your property, especially parts that are hidden from view. After nearly five years in Cambridgeshire our Chief Constable, Simon Parr, has decided to retire from the police force. This is a great shame as he has managed to maintain police numbers in spite of heavy budget cuts, and he has presided over a period of falling crime in our County. He said ‘There is never a perfect time to leave a role that I have enjoyed as much as this, but with a new government in place, a new round of spending challenges to be met, and, no doubt, other unseen challenges to be tackled, this seems, in my judgement, to be the right time for me to hand over the stewardship of the organisation to someone who will lead the constabulary through the next five years.’

Simon's deputy, Alec Wood, will become Acting Chief Constable until a new Chief Constable is recruited.

*Keep safe, Bev Edwards*

**Barton WWI**

We have had a busy summer of crafting culminating in our very successful ‘Rag wreath’ stall at Barton Village Day. Our members entered into the 1940s theme, representing the fashion of WI members past. In July we held out open

meeting with a live performance by all-girl band, Gig-L, with our president Amy on bass guitar.

We take a formal break for August although some of us are thinking of a picnic at the Shakespeare festival. Our normal programme resumes on 16<sup>th</sup> September with an evening of exquisite millinery with Abigail Crampton. We meet at the White Horse Inn from 6pm. For more information check out Facebook page WednesdayWomen WI or contact Sarah Massie (secretary) on 07791 668134 or wednesdaywomenwi@live.com.

*Sarah Massie*

**Centenary Afternoon Tea at Three**

**Join us for a at Barton's Ritz.**

**Barton Village Hall.**

**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 3 – 5pm.**

**You are assured of a warm welcome.**

**£12 per client. Booking is essential via Ruth (262985)**

**Margaret (262353) Alison (264985) Marjorie (262592)**

**Barton Friendship Club**

We enjoyed a most interesting talk by Peter Clarkson on his work as a geologist in Antarctica. The Queen awarded him the polar Medal for his splendid work.

Our next meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August is a Games activity.

All meetings in the Village Hall at 2.30pm unless otherwise notified.

Members £2; Non-members £2.50 for tea and biscuits and a raffle.

*Richard Parker*

**Barton Drama Group**

We are holding open auditions for *Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel either on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September from 2-4 pm or Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September from 8-10 pm. Both at the Village Hall, Barton.

The play is a joyous evocation of the lives of five sisters living in rural Ireland in the 1930s. Wonderful parts for women (ages 20s, 30s, 40) and 3 men (20s, 30s, 50s). The production runs from 24-28 November 2015 and rehearsals start on 21<sup>st</sup> September, on Mondays and Thursdays.

Please look at our website for full details and a form to complete, to let us know which audition session you would like to attend –  
[www.bartondramagroup.co.uk](http://www.bartondramagroup.co.uk)

We are a friendly group, putting on two productions a year, playing to full houses. We always welcome new members, both on stage and for all aspects of back stage help.

*Val Watson*

## **CRAFTFORCE**

Many of us enjoyed a sunny afternoon with the pavilion doors open on to bowls on the green, while Dawn Kent showed us various techniques of silk painting and the wonderful colours and effects that can be achieved. We each came home with a unique coloured silk handkerchief! Needless to say, tea, chat and homemade cake were on the agenda too!

The July session will take place as usual on the fourth Wednesday, but the August session will be a week earlier (owing to a bowls match) on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup>. Do join us if you can!

*Margaret Winterbourne*

## **Barton Gardeners**

The 66<sup>th</sup> SHOW was a great success. Entries were down on last year probably due to inclement weather at the beginning of the growing season. However, the Marquee was still filled with a fantastic array of Produce, Flowers, Art, Home and Handicrafts. The Junior entries were particularly creative and gave a lot of pleasure. THANK YOU to all the talented exhibitors and everyone who helped with the planning before and on the day.



And now to get back to gardening! We are delighted to invite you to an enlightening talk by Peter Skeggs-Gooch, the owner of Thorncroft Clematis near Norwich, on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> September. The topic is *A Complete Guide to Clematis*. Refreshments served from 7.15pm for a 7.45pm start. All are welcome. Members Free, Visitors – £3.

*Thank you, Sue Edwards 262479, bartongardeners@hotmail.co.uk*

## **Barton Playgroup**

The children have enjoyed painting pictures to enter in the Village Day competition, and had great fun on the day itself with the bouncy castle and all the other family activities!

We also had our annual summer outing, visiting South Angle Farm Park in Soham where the children had the opportunity to meet a wide variety of animals including pigs, alpacas, rabbits and hens as well as some more unusual creatures such as a dragon lizard, giant millipede, tarantula and corn snake! The children were far braver than the adults and were quite happy to have a tarantula placed on their knee or help hold the corn snake! We also made our own bug houses and planted a pea seed to take home with us.



On the last day of term we held a party to say 'goodbye' to the 12 children who are moving on to school in September, and our leavers all decorated a tee-shirt to

celebrate! Good luck to everyone going on to school; we hope you will come back and say 'hello' to us over the fence!

For more information about Barton Playgroup or if you would like to see the fun things the children get up to, please have a look on our website

[www.bartonplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.bartonplaygroup.co.uk)

*Wendy Guest*

### **Grantchester Gallery Exhibition**

Saturday/Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 5pm

Six local artists, Naina Babbar, Tricia Taylor, Lynne Knight, Chris Lockwood, Prunella van der Hoorn and Elizabeth Hunt, exhibiting their work....paintings, collages, jewellery, and cards.

Please come along and support us.

Free entry. Refreshments available.

### **Festival of Farming, Food & Wildlife – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 11am-4pm, Countryside Restoration Trust**

Come and enjoy a celebration of farming, food and wildlife with free entry and parking! Activities will include: guided farm walks, tractor and trailer rides, sheepdog demos, Suffolk Punch horse demos, children's activities, a refreshments tent, demonstrations and talks, local food and craft stalls, a jam/chutney making competition judged by Jeremy Sallis of BBC Radio Cambridgeshire (open to all), and a Harvest Festival Service at 4.30pm at St Peter's Church.

[www.countrysiderestorationtrust.com](http://www.countrysiderestorationtrust.com) / 262999

### **Comberton Library**

**Monday:**10am-1pm, **Wednesday:**10am-1pm,2pm-5pm **Friday:**2pm-5pm **Saturday:**10am-1pm

We're pleased to see so many children signing up for our Summer Reading Challenge, it's wonderful to see so many enthusiastic young readers eager to tell us about the books they've read. We look forward to seeing many of the finishers at the presentation ceremony on 19<sup>th</sup> Sept.

If you have a keen interest in gardening please take a moment to peruse our latest Rotating Collection on the counter – Wildlife and Wildlife Gardening replaces our Humour collection and is a beautiful selection of books. They're only here for a few weeks so enjoy them while you can!

We will start Rhymetime again in September, please look out for future dates displayed in the library. Please note that although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too!

**Comberton Reading Group meets** on the first Wednesday of each month in the library, between 10.30 and 11.30am. If you are interested in joining a fun and

lively chat about a wide variety of titles, ask at the library for details.

For discussion on 5th August: *The Miniaturist* by Jessie Burton (change of venue for August, please ask at the library if you are interested in attending).

**Comberton Reading Group meets** on the first Wednesday of each month in the library, between 10.30 and 11.30am. If you are interested in joining a fun and lively chat about a wide variety of titles, ask at the library for details.

For discussion on 1st July: 'Prayers for the Stolen' by Jennifer Clement - a title from Cambridgeshire Libraries Brave New Reads programme.

*Hilary Spargo, Comberton Library*

### **Join Comberton Ramblers – get exercise; make friends!**

We walk alternate Sunday mornings – between 5 – 6.5 miles.

New walkers are welcome to join us with up to 2 free walks, and if you enjoy our walks we request that you become a member.

Our Autumn 2015 walk programme starts on the 6th September 2015.

For further details please contact Stella the Secretary.

stella.ramblers@hotmail.com

### **Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service -Bonfires, barbecues, candles, camping**

Be safe when you're outdoors having fun – especially if you're drinking!

[www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk) or call 01480 444500 for enquiries.

### **Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust (ACT) – Dragon Boat Festival,**

The Festival offers a full day of fun on land as well as water with plenty of activities on the bankside to entertain teams and spectators between races.

For further information and an entry form visit:

[www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk/cambridge](http://www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk/cambridge) or call Gable Events on 01780 470

718. For information about Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust call 217757 or

visit [www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk](http://www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk)

### **Cambridge Past, Present and Future (CambridgePPF) – August Children's Summer Holiday Activities at Wandlebury Country Park**

There are many organised activities for different age ranges, throughout August. Children and families can learn about wildlife, such as butterflies and water creatures, learn woodland skills and try new activities – like archery! Organised activities must be booked in advance and fees are payable.

**For more information: email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org), call 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit [www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on)**