

Dear All,

January, with its short dark days, can still have the optimism of the lingering memories of festive cheer and the hope of new resolutions. February continues through winter but has the pragmatism of a life back in the swing of things, some resolutions kept but others broken, and with the daily repetition of tasks whilst bunkering down to wait in the dark for the lighter days to come.

People in some parts of the US will be celebrating Groundhog Day this month, a traditional holiday celebrated on February 2 that has become synonymous with a perpetual never-ending day, should the groundhog retreat back into its burrow.

The winter months can have that repetitive feeling too, especially if it's been a particularly bitter winter. Although as I write this we've been enjoying an unusually mild winter, the first snap of cold has finally arrived – where are my gloves and scarf!? Having not used them for the entire last few months of 2015, I have found myself unprepared for an icy windscreen and chapped skin.

Whilst we know that Spring will come, we do not know what exactly will bloom. We can hope and trust that certain things will begin to flourish – and in some cases they have already begun to! However each year brings different things, such is the richness of God's creation. Will certain birds reappear in our gardens, will the blossom bloom in abundance as last year – we just don't know but we can trust that Spring will come. When it feels like we are just getting through each day, energy is being stored to explode with life come March and April.

February for our churches means Lent. A very early Easter means that Lent begins sooner in these shorter, darker days. As we embrace this time of self-examination, we take stock, reflecting on the repeated patterns of behaviour that rob us from living fully, acknowledging the sin that entangles and the fear that holds us back, we believe that as we trust in this life giving process, God works in us. Although it might not seem much is happening, we can trust that Easter will come and bring life to us all, and life in all its fullness through Jesus' saving act of love on the cross.

So, as we trust in the process, I pray that we might be surprised and marvel again at the life that blossoms this Spring within us and around us.

Much love, Becca

Serving the parishes of Barton,

Coton, Harlton and Haslingfield in the Lordsbridge Team of Churches

Church News

We thank everyone for the very generous donations to our church service collections over Christmas. We have been able to send £575 to the Children's Society (Carol Service) and £375 to Christian Aid Refugee Appeal (midnight and Christmas morning); these amounts include Gift Aid.

We will again be joining with the Baptists for our Lent group, and these will start on Wednesday February 17th at 7.30pm in the Baptist church, and will continue on Feb 24th and March 3rd, 10th and 17th. All are welcome to join us.

Anne Coulson

Barton Baptist Church

On the five Wednesday evenings beginning February 17th and running up to March 16th we will meet with St Peter's for a series preparing us for Easter. We begin at 7.30pm in the Baptist church, have a short introduction followed by time for discussion which includes refreshments, concluding before 9.00pm. We have met together for several years both at Advent and during Lent. This year we will be looking at some of the 'I am' sayings of Jesus found in the gospel of John. They are a great time to meet together as fellow Christians and discuss issues relevant to our lives today. Please come along and share with us. Each evening will be on a separate issue, so if you are only able to come once, that's fine.

Our Tea and chats are on the 9th and 23rd, starting at 2.30pm. As the 9th is Shrove Tuesday, we will be making and serving pancakes. Yum. We have a great time together, chatting, laughing and sharing news and views. If you have never been before, this is your personal invitation. Please come along, it would be fantastic to see you. For more information, please do contact me.

Ken Jones C. 262583

Parish Jottings

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.

Proposed Western Orbital Consultation 8th February – 21st March

This has come upon us slightly earlier than expected. Any options concerning the south-western approach to Cambridge are bound to have an impact on Barton. It is important for Councillors to know your views, so that they can reply to the consultation with regard to the best interests of the village. So please do take a look www.tinyurl.com/hnt6u8k There are two technical documents by WS Atkins as well that give masses of background information; they are long, but useful

reading. Both are on the City Deal website at www.tinyurl.com/jqbscene We will try to organise a meeting in Barton where you can hear about some of the options and give your views. Please do not hesitate to contact your Councillors and tell them what you feel, and do reply directly too.

Questions which are particularly relevant to Barton:

Do you want a Park and Cycle site on the Barton side of the motorway, if not where?

Do you want a Park and Ride site on the Barton side of the motorway, if not where?

Do you want a better cycleway into the City?

Which is the best method of ensuring more rapid bus services along the M11?

Do you have fresh ideas you wish to put forward?

It is better to put ideas forward now at the early stage of the consultations.

Parish Council budget 2016-17:

Councillors were aware of the need to maintain a healthier financial balance, while conscious of the impact of any increases on fixed income households and of the need to seek external grants where possible. The Parish element was a small proportion of the overall Council Tax. All the expenditure proposed seemed essential, and Barton was still spending less than surrounding villages. Councillors resolved by a large majority to increase the precept to £20,000, an increase of 11.1% or £5.25 per band D property, making a total payment for the year of £52.54 approx.

County Councillor Stephen Frost

The County Council has been consulting about its proposed budget for 2016-17. Although the Chancellor's Autumn Statement allowed the County to increase rates by more than 2%, considerable pruning is still likely to take place because of rising costs for social services and care of the elderly. Lollipop ladies and mobile libraries may be at risk.

Neighbouring County authorities are likely to share services to save costs.. This was also behind the appointment of a joint Chief executive for both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

A change at 'The Hoops'

We thank Dave Saby for his hard work as publican at The Hoops for the past seventeen years and wish him well in the future.

Adrian Koe MBE

You will be pleased to hear that a Barton resident has been recognised in the New Year's Honours list. Adrian Koe, former Trustee of Downside Fisher Youth Club

in Bermondsey, South London, received an MBE for voluntary services to young people.

Road closures on Sunday 28th February

Saucony Cambridge Half Marathon in support of Cancer Research UK:

please be aware: from 8.30am-12 noon on Sunday 28 February you will not be able to drive from the Barton M11 roundabout through Grantchester to Trumpington; you will not be able to drive out to the Barton M11 roundabout from Cambridge along the A603. Queens' Road and the Fen Causeway will also be affected. Of course, you might want to enrol yourself!

<http://www.onestepbeyond.org.uk/cambridge-half-marathon.php>

Food Fair to be held at Cambridge Central Library 20th February 10.30-3pm

A variety of different groups and organisations providing top tips on food, eating healthily, growing your own – a fun and informative fair with tasty samples to whet your appetite.

Winter edition of South Cambridgeshire Magazine

As happened with previous editions, South Cambs and its distributor failed to deliver copies to Barton. This should have been remedied at the end of December. Please Email the Clerk, if you have not received the spring edition by 13th March. You can also read the magazine online: www.tinyurl.com/gt9qe52

UK Power Networks – Priority Services Register – Extra Help during Power Cuts

The elderly, those dependent on medical equipment or who have a disability or young children can register to receive: Regular text messages or phone updates during a power cut; A priority number that you can call 24 hours a day if you have a power cut; and, Extra support from our partners, such as the British Red Cross, to visit your home during an emergency (we'll check with you first)

You can also email: PSR@ukpowernetworks.co.uk or call: 0800 169 9970

Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council are consulting with anyone with an interest in the future of advocacy services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

They are seeking feedback on the draft specification for an integrated advocacy service in their areas. Both councils are fully committed to the principles and benefits of independent advocacy and want the new advocacy service to build on the success of current and previous advocacy services. There will be one contract for advocacy services in Cambridgeshire; one for Peterborough.

A three month public consultation opened in November 2015. For more information and to take part visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk and search for

‘Consultations’ to complete the online survey.

If you do not have internet access and require a paper copy of the consultation, or if you need it in an alternative format such as large print or Easy Read please contact: Carol Williams, C-706130: carol.williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

The consultation closes on Saturday 20th February 2016

District Councillor Francis Burkitt

The next consultation from the City Deal is called the ‘Western Orbital’ and has the potential to affect us all in Grantchester, Barton and Coton; less so Madingley.

The idea to get buses (and hence passengers) around the outskirts of Cambridge faster, and the Western Orbital is between Junctions 13 and 11 of the M11. There is also, on a slower timetable, as Eastern Orbital project, trying somehow to link the M11 (Jn 10 or 11) to the A14 round the eastern edge of the city.

Space is too limited to reproduce the concept maps here, but please see the Greater Cambridge City Deal: Transport: Western Orbital. While bearing in mind these are just concepts, I would highlight four aspects:

It is acknowledged that much of the problem is the peak-hours queuing at the slip-roads at Junctions 13 and 11, and that that needs fixing.

There is talk of a bus-way round the M11 between Junctions 13 to 11. This might be along the hard shoulder, or up on the edge of the farmland on either or both sides. I am not persuaded; I think that, if the junctions are fixed, that will be enough (buses are not allowed to go above 60mph, and I think those speeds will be achieved if the junctions are fixed)

As well as creating an orbital route, there is talk of putting a park & cycle or park & ride at Junction 12 to intercept traffic coming in from the A604. One of the maps (not those on this page) suggests one of the fields near the Barton rifle range: either the one next to and on the Barton side of it; or the field opposite it, in between the M11 exit slip-road and St. Mark’s graveyard.

Finally, there may be a bus lane or cycle improvements along the Barton Road. The consultation will start in late Spring, but we will want to start thinking about this now and be well-prepared.

Francis Burkitt

Village Defibrillator Appeal

Enclosed with this Parish Magazine is an appeal for funds towards a defibrillator cabinet to make the school's defibrillator accessible for the whole community. Please do take the time to read the letter and make a donation if you can. Many

thanks.

Recreation Ground Survey

We have written a survey to gather the views of villagers and other recreation ground users to make sure we understand what improvements people would like to see. You can find the survey on the Barton Parish website www.barton-cambs.org.uk under the Village Notice Board section on the home page. Please do take 5 minutes to fill this in if you can. We would welcome your feedback.

Alternatively, please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like a paper version.

Speedwatch Update

We now have 20 volunteers, 16 of whom attended training on 23rd January at Cambourne Police Station. We hope to have teams operating in the village very soon.

Sarah Thomas

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

Next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 2nd February, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Patrick De Backer 07771-923710 bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com

Village News

Barton Lunch Club – Friday, 5th February, 12.30 for 1pm, Village Hall

The Lunch Club on the first Friday of each month for Barton residents, currently costs £3 for a two course meal with tea or coffee, and is an ideal way of meeting friends – old and new – over a tasty meal – booking essential.

To book or cancel (or volunteer to cook) contact Anne Coulson 262666.

Our collection for Cambridge Emmaus at the Christmas Lunch came to £285.

Many thanks to everyone for their generosity.

Anne Coulson

Apple Day, October 2015 – Thanks

Burwash Manor's annual Autumn event raised £5,500 in aid of the Sick Children's Trust. Hundreds of families came to support this wonderful charity – and to have some fun in the countryside whilst doing so.

The Sick Children's Trust works to provide free high-quality accommodation for families with children in hospital. They believe keeping a family together significantly improves the recovery of seriously ill children

2016's Apple Day will fall on 8th October. For more information, or if you are interested in having a stall, please get in touch at info@burwashmanor.com

Barton Church Jumble Sale – Saturday 20th February, 2.30pm, Barton School

This annual event is a great fundraiser for the church so please support by donating items which you might put in charity bags to us for this event. Take the opportunity to have a good declutter! Unsold items are gifted to Emmaus, EACH and the Salvation Army so nothing is wasted.

Items are needed for Unwanted gifts and Bric-a-brac; Children's toys; Books; Bedding and Soft furnishings; Clean clothing – general and nearly new – men's, women's and children's.

Setting up will be at school on Saturday 20th February between 10am and 12pm. Please bring donations then. Jumble can also be collected or dropped off before the day to the following people:

Hugh Greenfield	114 High Street	262005
Anne Coulson	2 Mailes Close	262666
Ruth Barnes	33 Kings Grove	262114

Meta Greenfield

French conversation group

Fancy brushing up your French? Wouldn't it be nice to be more fluent? Come and join our friendly and informal French conversation group. All ages welcome (retired people, full-time mums, au-pairs...). Friday morning 10–11am in Barton. Please call 07546 932 562 for more information.

Barton Community Car Scheme

This community car scheme provides a local door-to-door transport for people with medically related appointments, for people who do not have the use of a car, and are unable to use conventional public transport. Passengers make a contribution towards the cost of the journey which is also subsidised by Cambridgeshire County Council. The drivers are local volunteers. The scheme is run by an organiser, Meta Greenfield, supported by Fiona Kirker. **New drivers are welcome!** Please contact Meta Greenfield for further information, C–262005.

Meals on Wheels in Barton again

I have been contacted by Enid Instone-Brewer from Care Network to enquire if anyone would like meals on wheels in Barton. CAMMS Meals on Wheels Ltd will consider delivering to Barton if at least 10 people wish to sign up on a regular basis. For further details contact Enid Instone-Brewer, Enid.I-B@care-network.org.uk / 01954 212100 or myself, C–262005.

Meta Greenfield

Barton School

The new term has brought yet more enthusiasm from our wonderful staff and pupils. We started our staff training day with a lengthy and muddy walk round Larkrise Farm with Kenny MacKay, the education officer. We also met Robin Page, who you will all probably know and who was an alumnus at Barton Primary! He had a few stories to tell us and he is coming into school to take an assembly in the next week. Staff were inspired by the many opportunities that can be had at the farm and they will be putting their thinking caps on regarding lessons more in the Summer Term when the weather cheers up.

The exciting topics we are looking at this term are:

Owl Class – Land of Hope and Glory: – inventions past and present: The class has already brought in inventions from home and created superb still life drawings.

Swallow Class and Kingfisher Class – Space: A visit from one of our Governors, Dr Margaret Penston inspired the Swallow Class last week and both classes are looking forward to visiting the Leicester Space Centre after half term. Following Tim Peake is also a must.

Robin Class – Superheroes: The whole class are having a ‘Superhero’ day this week, so we are looking forward to all the fabulous missions being accomplished! A highlight for us is the Young Voices concert at the O2, where 26 of our pupils will be performing with hundreds of other children. It will be a truly memorable occasion for them.

Although it is a short half term, there is no holding back with all the activities the children are involved in.

Claire Coulson

Barton Playgroup

We finished the Autumn Term with a party and a visit from Father Christmas – and of course, a wonderful play put on by the children called ‘Mr Gumpy’s Outing’.



This term we will be looking at the topic of ‘People who help’ which will include Police, Firefighters, Postal workers, Health workers and Dental workers amongst others – during January we’ve already had fun role playing hairdressing! We will also use this area of discussion to think about the idea of helping each other at Playgroup, concentrating on inclusion, turn taking and sharing.

If you are interested in reserving a space for your child at Playgroup, please see our website www.Bartonplaygroup.wordpress.com or call 07762 487650 term-time mornings.

Elise Fielder

Barton WI

Barton WI Edwina Mullins gave us an excellent talk on the charity Farm Africa. The charity has been working in East Africa for 30 years. She explained that the goal of the charity is to train, mainly women to produce their own food. The methods the charity use and their successful results made for a very interesting and inspiring evening.

The February Meeting is our Members evening.

Kathryn Wake

Neighbourhood Watch

Barton crime levels for the past four months have averaged two per month, which is about half our usual average.

Police are advising us to keep sheds and properties securely locked. There have been recent cases of burglars stealing garden tools to break into people's houses. Cash and Jewellery are the most vulnerable items. Items that a burglar can fit into a pocket are often preferred, as the burglar can get away without looking suspicious.

Police have a new burglary-prevention scheme, Operation Hunter. As part of this, there's a simple on-line tool for people to check the safety of their property (<http://tinyurl.com/bad-wolf-test>). It's certainly worth doing as it may point out some weaknesses in your household security.

Keep safe, Bev Edwards

Barton Friendship Club

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

BRIG Coffee Mornings at The Pavilion

BRIG holds a fundraising coffee morning on the second Wednesday of each month from 10am to 11.30am. Do join us for a cup of coffee and biscuits which are unlimited for just £2. There is also an opportunity to play table tennis if you feel active, or you can just sit and chat! All are very welcome.

Barbara Tomes

Barton WWWI

Wednesday Women WI started the year with Lizzi Franklin talking all things makeup. On February 17th we welcome Michelle Veenman who will be talking to us about the benefits of yoga both physical and spiritual. We look forward to seeing new members and guests at 6.30pm in the White Horse Inn.

For further information contact Sarah Massie on wednesdaywomenwi@live.com or 07791 668134.

Sarah Massie

Barton Gardeners

GENERAL APPEAL – Growing on Annuals for the plant Sale in May. If you can take some of these plants in and give them greenhouse or conservatory space and care from the end of March, please contact bartongardeners@hotmail.co.uk or Kathy on C-262792 as soon as possible.



Also, please remember, whilst you are tidying up your garden, to put aside any surplus plants that could find new homes in our **Plant Sale**. Thank you.

Tuesday 15th March, 7.45pm, Village Hall. Refreshments served from 7.15pm. ‘Gardens of East Anglia’ – a return visit from the very entertaining and knowledgeable **Simon White** (Peter Beales Roses), who will also bring plants for sale at a discount – not to be missed! All welcome; Members free; visitors £3.

Sue Edwards

Barton Energy Group

Heating oil prices are at their lowest levels for several years. The oil price is expected to drop further. However the changing international situation and the weather make this uncertain.

In 2015 *Which?* reported that the average annual cost of heating a house with oil was £538, compared with £609 for gas. At present, people with oil boilers are in a good position.

However, if you need a new boiler, and your house is quite well insulated, then why not consider a heat pump? Government incentives make these very cheap to run. If you would like to speak to a Barton resident who has a heat pump, to learn the pros and cons, please get in touch with me.

Bev Edwards

Comberton Library

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

Have you heard about the EngAGE initiative in Cambridgeshire? EngAGE is a partnership between Cambridgeshire Libraries and Community and Adult Services aimed at developing new and useful opportunities for people over 50 years old. It offers a variety of monthly social and information events at local libraries across the county and basic computer assistance for beginners provided by our Computer Buddies. It can provide new opportunities to volunteer and

support your local library as well as meeting places for Knit and Natter knitting groups. Locally monthly talks and Computer Buddies can be found at Cambourne Library, but if you would like to see small local events at Comberton please let staff know and we will pass this on to EngAGE organisers. All events are Free for anyone over the age of 50 (although some sessions ask for a donation towards refreshments). Look for details on the Library Service website or visit www.cambridgeshire.net and search for ‘EngAGE’.

Upcoming **Rhymetime sessions**: 8th and 22nd Feb, 7th and 21st March (10.30-11am). We are still interested in hearing from people who can volunteer to sing with the little ones at these sessions, please ask a staff member if you would like more details. Please note that although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too! Our ‘Dystopia’ themed rotating collection has been incredibly popular. Look out for our next collection about Creative Writing coming soon.

Hilary Spargo, Comberton Library

Comberton Sports and Arts – Events in February

6 th & 7 th Feb	Eden Dance presents Aladdin 2.30pm-5.30pm	http://www.wegotickets.com/location/3764
12 th Feb	Custard Comedy – Headliner: Noel James	www.custardcomedy.co.uk/comberton.html
13 th Feb	Splitz Dance Annual Show	
16 th Feb	Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living presents Access All Areas	http://www.cambridgeshirealliance.org.uk/
20 th Feb	The Polka Dots & Feathers Winter Charity Circus Ball	https://www.facebook.com/events/778081895651358/
For more information about any of our shows please contact Richard Brown, Arts Development Manager, Comberton Village College – 01223 264444 / rbrown@combertonvc.org		

Cambridge Past, Present and Future (Cambridge PPF) – February Events

Conservation volunteer activity: Hedge Laying, Sunday 7th February, 11.00am-3.30pm

Free event but booking essential. Meet at Wandlebury car park. Adults only.

Conservation volunteer activity: Coppice Products, Saturday 13th and 27th February, 11.00-3.30pm.

Free event but booking essential. Wandlebury car park. Adults only.

Healthy Walking – every Thursday, 10am or 10.30am to 11am

Meet at the Stable Rooms as 10am for a longer walk or at 10.30am for a shorter

stroll. All welcome, suitable for all abilities. Walks end with tea and coffee. No booking required but please arrive 10 minutes early to register.

For more information, email bookings@cambridgeppf.org, call 01223 243830 ext 207 or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

As well as emergency services, men and women on our frontline deliver important fire safety advice to dozens of different communities. From visiting schools to care homes, mother and toddler groups to community fetes, our firefighters play an integral role in keeping YOUR community safe. And we'd like **you** to think about joining us.

The role of a firefighter is varied and exciting, but most importantly it can make a real difference to people's lives. The next recruitment process for wholetime firefighters opens on **February 6th**. Find out more from www.cambsfire.gov.uk Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or call 01480 444500.

Home Start – Have fun creating your own Candlemas Table Arrangement, Tuesday 2nd February, 11am-1pm or 7pm-10pm, Abington Piggotts Village Hall. Tickets £12. Main materials provided but please bring sharp scissors, a coffee jar lid, and small-leaved foliage (not yellow) if you have some. Tea, coffee and delicious home-made cakes. See Barton Village website for news of HomeStart's April concert.

Booking and enquiries to Tracy Aggett, Office Manager, Home Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire, 01763 262262 or admin@hsrsc.org.uk

Cocks & Hens Tennis Club is moving to a new site behind Cambridge Rugby Club; by the summer the club will have a new clubhouse and eight all-weather courts, two of which will have floodlights. The Cocks and Hens Tennis Club is the oldest tennis club in Cambridge. It would be happy to hear from prospective new members; anyone interested should contact Patrick Hall on hallp1940@gmail.com or C-479105. The club's web site is at www.cocksandhensltc.com.

Please See Barton-cambs.org.uk for information on:

Spinal Injuries Association Annual Fish and Chip Supper Community Fundraiser – helping people rebuild their lives after spinal cord injuries.

Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) appeal for volunteers to help make everyday better for over 18,000 in our area with sight loss or blindness.

HealthWatch – which offers confidential help and advice to improve health and social care and remedy failings.

Hardwick New Mums and Tums Group – Wednesday 11-12.30; Come and chat, share experiences. Refreshments, baby equipment provided; donations welcome. Stella 07903 229 296

