

Dear Friends,

Within our country there have been some celebrations to mark the centenary of women over 30 receiving the vote in 1918. Quite a milestone but it seems that in the Church, March is a month that celebrates women.

St Perpetua and St Felicitas known as two joyful African martyrs are remembered on the 7th. Perpetua had become a Christian but this was forbidden under the emperor Septimus Severus of Carthage. She was thrown into prison where she encountered Felicitas, a slave, who gave birth to a baby girl in prison. They were to be thrown to the wild animals but Perpetua had devoted her time to prayer and praise, Felicitas too and they sang hymns of praise while waiting to be killed. No animal did kill them so Perpetua guided the gladiator's knife to her throat; not sure what happened to Felicitas and her baby, but their memory still lives on: eight episodes of Perpetua's life are represented on a 14th century altar frontal in Barcelona.

There is an old Jewish saying that God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers. Mother Church, Mother Earth, our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' held on the fourth Sunday in Lent and celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century. In Roman times, great festivals were held every spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods and other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church. During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. This year it is on 11th March. Then there is the Annunciation, the announcement to Mary that she will be the mother of Christ; the day set aside for this is the 25th.

And finally on March 2nd the annual Women's World Day of Prayer is held quite literally across the world. It is service for all, men as well as women of all ages, but it is compiled by women. This year it is focussing on God's creation which is always good, but "it is time to think seriously about what we have done to God's creation" say the women on Suriname. A few years ago I spent a day with women whose Pacific island home was under water and they had been relocated to the mainland. Another encounter was with Marianne from Uganda who walked 9 miles each day to collect water – not knowing if there would be water in the water hole. All the women and situations mentioned have been continually laid before God with the plea for His help. His grace, His mercy and His blessing.

Whether male or female we all cry to God for help as did Jesus as he hung on the cross. No situation is too small for God's care and no person is ignored by him – ever. "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it".

Ruth Bond, Licensed Lay Minister

Church News

From the church registers

Monday January 22nd Memorial service: Jocelyn Verney

Saturday January 27th Memorial service/interment of ashes: John Sockett

Joint Lent Discussion Group will continue on Wednesday March 7th, 14th and 21st at 7.30pm in the Baptist Church.

Churchyard Clean Up will be from 9.30am, Easter Saturday, March 31st. If you can spare an hour or two please join us to help put the churchyard in good order for the spring and summer; please bring a few basic tools e.g. rake, shears, secateurs etc. Coffee and biscuits mid morning.

Generous Slice Cafe. Wednesday March 7th in the Village Hall from 8.45am.

Please join us for a coffee, tea, toast or croissant - we would love to see you - all ages welcome - no charge.

WaterAid

Thank you to everyone who supported and helped at our Soup Lunch for WaterAid last month The amount raised was £336 and as always it was a lovely social occasion.

Anne Coulson

Wall weepholes?

In preparation for rebuilding a part of the churchyard wall, we are in need of about 20 old clay drainage tiles (pipes) – smaller size (3” diameter x about 12” length).

If you have any spare, perhaps at the bottom of your garden, please get in touch.

They are for ‘weepholes’ at the foot of the wall to allow any water on the side with higher ground to escape to the lower side. Also, they need to be in a material suiting the old bricks in this conservation area – hence clay, rather than plastic.

Incidentally, a crew of at least six folk have volunteered in response to last month’s invitation. We await final permission (a Faculty) before we can start work – hopefully in April, after Easter. Contact John Boocock 262845.

John Boocock for Barton Volunteers (BeaVers)

Church rotas.

Altar flowers	Janet Ireland	263117
Church cleaning	Sue Carpenter	01954 252979
Coffee Making	Julia Stibbs	262527
Lesson Readers	Anne Coulson	262666/Hugh Greenfield 262005

Barton Baptist Church News

A hundred years ago in this country, women were given the right to vote. It was a long, hard and difficult struggle. It is easy to forget that many of the rights, freedoms and privileges that we enjoy are the result of others sacrificing much. There are still many countries where women cannot vote and are not considered

equal with men. In the Bible there are many instances where Jesus interacts, heals and encourages women. A couple of my favourites are; Jesus and the Samaritan woman. Jesus was thirsty and on reaching a city called Sychar had come to a well to take a drink. He struck up a conversation with a Samaritan woman who was fetching water and though we do not know her name or age the chat they had together is the longest one-on-one recorded in Scripture! Another of my favourite Jesus / Women moments is the incident when Jesus, on attending a wedding, was notified by his mother that the wine had run out. Maybe it is because I have a wedding business that I can imagine and relate to the horror of running out of wine! Here again Jesus listens to this woman, his mother, and seeing her anguish and the embarrassment and humiliation of his hosts changes the water into a vintage wine! Here at our little chapel we are all equal in God's eyes. As an aside we look forward to March 11th, "Mothering Sunday", when we give thanks and celebrate a very important woman in all our lives. We look forward to our Lent Bible studies with St Peter's and our prayer meetings are on the 7th and 21st of March. You are very welcome to join us.

Alison Foster

Parish Jottings

County Councillor Lina Joseph

Lina has circulated a January report which is on the parish website. She highlighted the problems revealed by a dementia awareness course; she mentioned the "Chance" programme bolstering the mental health of children, as well as Lifeline 0808 808 2121; she encouraged residents to look at her frequently upgraded social media pages.

Other areas she has been involved in recently: the first Cambridgeshire Culture Steering group to look into the idea of a Culture Card; visiting and supporting Cambridge Women's Aid; spearheading the Council's strategy on Human Trafficking and meeting with the Chief Constable, Alec Wood, and a couple of charities; one of her key interests is fostering and adoption; the number of children under Cambs CC care has been increasing, so one challenge that we have ahead of us is to recruit more foster families; building stronger partnerships between the Citizens Advice Bureau and Libraries.

"The County Council had agreed a 2.99% increase in general rates, with an additional 2% to be allocated to adult social care. The County has low reserves at present with an increasing population. It is advised that we do it this year and the following. In 2020 we should be back to 0%. Most of our budget goes to supporting vulnerable Children, Adults & Older People. We are investing a considerable amount of resources in developing innovative projects in order to deal with these pressures. It's still early days but we have already seen a return, for example in our Neighbourhood Cares pilot scheme there has been £20m saved.

Another point regarding this is the fact that we are one of the fastest growing economies in the Country and the third worst funded for Adult Social Care. The Leader of the Council, Steve Count, has been working relentlessly to press government, and lobbying MPs, and our Mayor, for a fairer funding formula. This work is going to continue, as we have proven to government that we are one of the most cost effective Councils in the area. “An independent report came to that conclusion.” She reminds you that the public is very welcome to attend committee meetings and Full Council.

Greater Cambridge Partnership

There is a lot going on – discussion of park and ride sites, restriction of city parking, public transport options. Please keep your eyes open for any developing news either through the Cambridge News or the Cambridge Independent or the website. www.greatercambridge.org.uk Barton Councillors continue to be involved with discussions.

The Combined Authority has voted to approve spending £600,000 to develop a strategic outline business case and an options appraisal report for the Cambridge Autonomous Metro (CAM) proposal. This is a network of bendy buses running on dedicated busways and will include tunnels under the city. However, several people are disappointed with the plans, as the Girton Interchange is not part of the proposals. Barton councillors agreed to the suggestion of the Chairman that the four QTSQ councils should send a joint letter to the Combined Authority and Greater Cambridge Partnership rejecting the existing busway plans between Cambourne and Cambridge and reiterating our support for a P&R at the Girton Interchange and a metro route through there instead. It fits in so much better with the national plans for Cambridge to Oxford links.

Bin collection dates: also shown on parish website

Wednesday	7 March	blue and green
Wednesday	14 March	black
Wednesday	21 March	blue and green
Wednesday	28 March	black
Friday	6 April	blue and green

Upcoming elections, both Barton itself and the District:

May I remind you that our Parish Council will be up for election this year on 3rd May, as both parish and district council elections will now occur every four years simultaneously. Nominations need to be in for checking well before the deadline of 6 April. Why not join in the democratic process and become a candidate? If you want to be more involved in the village, please make yourself known. Do contact any current councillor or the Clerk for further information.

Road Closures

The Saucony Cambridge Half Marathon is set to take place on the 4th March 2018 and will be in its seventh year. It will have 9000 entries. The course will remain the one lap loop, as it has for the previous two years, starting on Victoria Avenue with Midsummer Common being the main event hub. The course heads through the centre of Cambridge; past the Round Church, Kings College, Fitzwilliam Museum and along The Backs. The new section sees the runners head out of the city along Trumpington Road through Grantchester and back into the city along the Barton Road. The road through Grantchester to Trumpington will be closed from 9.00 to 11.30, the A603 from Cambridge will be closed from 6am until 1pm, as will key city centre routes.

Internet Club?

At our last meeting a Barton resident extolled the virtues of the Coton Internet Club, for which Sara Godward made a presentation: the weekly club had been successful; it encouraged independence and social cohesion in a warm and cooperative atmosphere; it needed no particular technical expertise; plans were afoot for a number of villages to make a joint bid to the Cambs Innovation Fund. The Parish Council is keen to support such an initiative. If you are interested, please contact Margaret Penston.

Reporting non-emergencies online

Non-emergency situations can now be reported to the police online if people would rather do so than call 101.

In October last year Cambridgeshire Constabulary re-launched their website with added functionality to report non-emergencies via specially designed forms or a live webchat. This option enables people to communicate directly with a member of staff in the control room, just as would be the case when calling 101. Online forms are processed in the same way as a call and the person reporting can expect a response within 24 hours. Due to the high level of demand there are often queues when calling 101. Reporting online is quick, easy and free of charge. To view the online reporting section of the constabulary's website visit www.cambs.police.uk/report/. The live webchat function is available by clicking on the green icon on the bottom right of the page.

Next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 6th March 2018 7.30pm, Village Hall
Patrick De Backer 07771-923710 bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com

Official notices and agendas and minutes of meetings can be seen on the notice board by the pond or on the Website <http://www.barton-cambs.org.uk>

Heidi Allen, MP

Heidi's January Newsletter is available on the village website. Her next surgery will be on 3rd March 10am–12pm at Caldecote Primary School, Highfields Road, Caldecote, CB23 7NX. All are welcome, she runs a “no appointment necessary” system. To contact her, please email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk You can also phone her Westminster office on 020 7219 5091 about national issues or her constituency office on 01223 830037 for local concerns.

Village News

Coffee

For some years now villagers who live alone have been meeting on various different occasions to be together for company & chat etc. It has come to my notice that there may have been some misconception about calling ourselves Singles. It appears that it has been thought of as a dating agency!! Far from it, we are just people who live alone but enjoy the company of others in a similar situation. So please feel free to join us at any of our advertised events. One regular & popular one is Home Alone coffee at Burwash on the third Saturday of the month from 10am. For more information contact Barbara 262692

Barbara Tomes, Home Alone Group

PlayGroup

Last term's topic on dinosaurs proved to be a great success. The children enjoyed researching facts about dinosaurs, as well as reading dinosaur themed stories and writing their own poems. Activities to aid motor skills, such as dinosaur jigsaw puzzles, were also thoroughly enjoyed, as well as fun and innovative art activities including printing with toy dinosaurs, creating bubble wrap footprints and making fossils from plaster of Paris. The children even made delicious dinosaur shaped biscuits! This term we will be learning about Chinese New Year as well as focusing on activities around the book, “Can't You Sleep Little Bear?”



Bex Saunders

Lunch Club

Barton Lunch Club. Friday March 2nd 12.30 for 1pm in the Village Hall. The Lunch Club on the first Friday of each month is for Barton residents, booking essential. The cost is £3.00. Please note that if you wish to cancel a booking or add your name to the list please telephone Helen Newstead 262543, if possible by the Monday prior to the lunch.

Anne Coulson

Barton WI

Members' Evening began with a short demonstration of pancake making followed by a competition to find our best pancake flipper! The term "pancake" then led us on to the development of modern make-up and to a make-up specialist, who used one of our members as a model to demonstrate a day-time make-up. As she worked, Rachel gave us hints about application techniques, adapting colour and texture to older skin and finding the most effective personal tools from the huge variety of equipment available. A fun and informative evening! At our March meeting, once the Annual Meeting business has finished, Peter Pilbeam will give a talk on "Searching for Snow Leopards".

Ann Killen

Neighbourhood Watch

Barton is a safe place to live, and suffers from less crime than in many other villages throughout the UK. However, burglaries occur frequently. On average, one house in Barton is broken into each month. It's reassuring to know that this means we can each expect to go for 30 years between burglaries, but it would be advisable for us to take reasonable steps to protect our properties. At present, there is massive rise in burglary in Cambridgeshire, but a reduction in the number of offenders being caught. There were more than 6,000 burglaries in Cambridgeshire in 2017, a 30% increase. Only 5.7% resulted in a suspect being charged.

We need to keep vigilant.

Car crime is also an ongoing problem. Please don't leave anything in an unattended car if you can avoid it, especially if it is on view to tempt a passing thief. Opportunistic crime happens everywhere.

Keep safe, Bev Edwards

Barton Gardeners

Spring is almost here and there is much to do in the garden.

As we leave winter behind we can maybe think about bringing some cheer into our gardens next winter by planting snowdrops whilst they are in leaf or 'in the green'. Daffodils and tulips will soon be delighting us, and there is still plenty of time to plant summer flowering bulbs such as Gladiolus and Alliums to follow on from the spring bulbs.

We are starting to plan for the Barton Gardeners Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on May 12th 2018. With this in mind we would be most grateful if you would put aside any surplus plants you may have for rehoming at the plant sale – Thank you.

Margaret Waddy will be coming along to talk about 'Propagation' on 12th April 2018 in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.45pm. Refreshments will be served from 7.15pm. All are welcome. Members Free; Visitors £3. To be confirmed.



Sunflowers – Calling all our budding young horticulturalists! This year there will be a new Junior Class for the Tallest Sunflower Plant at the show in July. If your children do **not** attend Barton Primary School or Playgroup and they would like to grow sunflowers for this competition, please get in touch with Sue Clemo **now** to order your free sunflower seeds which will be ready for collection in April.

Many Thanks, BG Committee 264765 or bartongardeners@hotmail.co.uk

Barton WWWI

The Wednesday Women are a fun, friendly, informal and active Women's Institute. We meet at The White Horse, Barton on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Our next meeting will be on 21st March and our speaker will be Sue Bailey who will be speaking about 20th Century food – Science, frivolity and feminism. In January our speaker was Will Ashley-Norman from Chicken Wired who showed us some of the wonderful sculptures he makes using chicken wire. Will provided us with the materials and templates to make our own bird sculptures. There was a great deal of concentration as we busied away and Will was on hand to help with any tricky bits. An excellent time was had by all and some members purchased Will's sculpture kits to take home.

For more information, please visit our Facebook page Wednesday Women WI Email wednesdaywomenwi@live.com Phone Sara on 07810 663870

Louise Gough

Barton Tennis Club

Barton Tennis Club will hold it's AGM, on Thursday March 8th at 7.45pm in the Hoops. The meeting is open to all members, and anyone who is interested in playing tennis. Please come along, and help us develop the Club. We want to appeal to as wide an age range as possible, and any new ideas and suggestions would be welcome.

For further details please contact:- David Ireland on 263991, or Alec Tompson on 262683.

David Ireland, Tennis Club Chairman

Barton Wildlife Group

Thank you to those who came to our coffee morning, and have shown interest in our activities. We have received reports of a woodcock in the village, and more Bramblings. One of the village gardens is an animal highway, with Muntjack, foxes, rabbits, and badgers among the regular visitors. What visits your garden? Our next activity is during the **Easter holiday, 11th April, 4.00 - 6.00pm**, when we will be looking at **Blossom, Birds and Bees in the Barton Orchard**, next to the path to Grantchester. We hope you will be able to join us and/or get in touch: bartonwildlife@gmail.com.

Mary MacDonald

Barton Bowls Club

Jumble Sale, Saturday 10th March 2pm in the Village Hall

Have a spring clean and donate items such as unwanted gifts, china, & other Bric a Brac, ladies, men's & children's clothes, soft furnishings and bedding, children's toys and books, (no electrical items please). Contributions gratefully received. Jumble may be left at 114 High Street, Barton or collected (ring Meta Greenfield 262005) or brought to the hall from 12 noon on the day. Unsold items are gifted to charity shops.

Meta Greenfield

Barton Bowls club Quiz night-- Sat 21st April 2018 in Barton Village Hall

6.45 for 7pm. Up to 8 people per team includes full ploughman's and desserts. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Come and join us for a great evening For tickets Contact: Ken Gifford: 263237/07557049238/ kenpat.gifford@btinternet.com
Hugh and Meta Greenfield 262005/ thegreenfields114@gmail.com
Martin Carter: 07500898345/ mcarter@ntlworld.com

Meta Greenfield and Ken Gifford

TRY A NEW SPORT: LAWN BOWLS

3 free coaching sessions for all ages (11yrs and over)
Equipment provided, please wear trainers

April 12th, 19th & 26th

Barton Bowls club
Barton Recreation Ground
To sign up contact:

Meta Greenfield 262005
M Seymour 07557 638480

Comberton Library

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

More details can be found on the Library Service website at:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library>

If you are ever in need of information about adult care and support services in Cambridgeshire, we have copies of the 2018 Guide available to pick up from the library. The publication is full of useful information on a range of topics from staying independent to housing options and paying for care. The Guide contains lots of useful contacts, but, if you have a specific question you need answering, the library staff will be pleased to help point you in the right direction to obtain the information you require.

During the school Easter holidays we will be running a **hunt the Easter Bunny game** in the library for children. Each bunny will be holding an egg with a book title on it and we hope that the children will have fun finding all the bunnies and book titles. There will be a prize at the end of the holidays for two lucky young customers, drawn at random from the completed entries. Full details are available from library staff.

Upcoming Rhymetime sessions: 15th and 19th March and 23rd April (10.30 -11.00 am). Please note that although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too! If you haven't been to a session before, please do come along with your baby, toddler, or pre-schooler and give it a try. We have a lovely volunteer running the sessions and it is great fun for both children and adults.

The library will be closed on Good Friday, 30th March, and Easter Monday, 2nd April, but will be open as normal on Saturday 31st March. We wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Rosemary Pryke, Comberton Library

Barton Village Day

If you would like a stall please contact us on bartonvillageday@hotmail.co.uk or phone Jenny on 01223 262055. The cost is £20 per pitch, which includes a 6 foot table and chair. Members of the organising committee for this year's Village Day are Sue Clemo, Amy Winterbourne, Fabienne Posseme-Evans, Mike Stead, Sarah Thomas and Jenny Hardacre. If you can help with planning and organising the day, please call Jenny on the number above.

Jenny Hardacre

Village Shop

Barton Village Store and Post Office is under the new management of Chamara and Deni and we warmly welcome them to Barton! They have stocked the shelves with a great range of produce, have an off licence, fresh bread, sandwiches and a dry cleaning service is available. They give a lovely welcome to customers and we are lucky to have a post office when so many villages have lost theirs, so do please pop in and support them.

Fiona Kirker & Sarah Thomas

Charity Ceilidh Evening

There will be charity Ceilidh Evening in aid of Homestart Royston and South Cambs at Melbourn Village College on Saturday 17th March, doors 7.15pm, start 7.30pm. Live entertainment from The Cyriacs. Tickets are £15 including supper. There will be a licensed bar and raffle. Tickets available from the Homestart Office on 01763 262262 or email admin@hsrsc.org.uk or online via www.ticketsource.co.uk/hsrsc

Tracey Aggett, Homestart

Barton Drama Group

Presents

The Ladykillers

By Graham Linehan

Weds 21 – Sat 24 March 2018

The Village Hall, Barton, Cambs CB23 7BD at 7.45 pm

Tickets £9 (£7 concessions) available by phone from:

Norma Eaton (01223) 263561

or

Online booking from 7 Mar www.booking-bdg.co.uk

www.bartondramagroup.com

Comberton Ramblers

Do you want to keep healthy? Meet friendly interesting people?

Enjoy nature and the outdoors? Spend a Sunday morning out in the open?

Enjoy the fresh outside air? Join us in a walk and see if you like it!

We give you 2 free walks and if you like us we would appreciate that you become a fully paid up member. Membership fee is £8.50 per person.

For further details please see www.combertonramblers.org.uk or

contact The Secretary – Stella via stella.ramblers@hotmail.com 01954 210049

Stella Joyner

Addenbrookes Charitable Trust

Make a will, help transform patient care: Making or updating your will can seem like a big challenge. However, it can be a lot more affordable and straightforward than you may think. Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust's annual Make a Will Week takes place this year from 23rd to 27th April. A group of local solicitors and will-writers have kindly agreed to waive their usual fees and write or update a simple will, in return for you making a donation to change patients' lives at Addenbrooke's and the Rosie hospitals. To find out more, simply call Alice on 01223 254841, email hello@act4addenbrookes.org.uk or visit www.act4addenbrookes.org.uk/makeawill.

Comberton Sports and Leisure

Check out our website for more information at <http://www.combertonsa.org>

Cambridge Past, Present and Future

Healthy Walking, Wandlebury Country Park, A1307, CB22 3AE

Every Thursday: 10am or 10.30am to 11am

Join our sociable group every Thursday for a lovely spring walk around the park. Meet at the Stable Rooms at 10am finishing around 11am with tea/coffee. All welcome, free event. Please arrive 10 minutes early to register if it's your first session. Parking £3 per vehicle or free for members.

Spring Clean at Coton Reserve, CB23 7PZ. Sunday 4 March: 12.30pm to 3pm

Join The Great British Spring Clean campaign to clear up the litter that blights our towns, villages, countryside and beaches – and at the same time enjoy getting outdoors, active and meeting new people. Meet outside The Plough pub on Grantchester Road in Coton. All equipment and tools provided.

Spoon Carving and Whittling, Wandlebury Country Park Saturday 17 March: 10am to 2pm

Develop your dexterity and skills with this satisfying and relaxing woodland craft for adult beginners. Booking essential, £30 (members £25). All materials and tools provided. Parking £3 per vehicle, members free.

Cambridge Symphony Orchestra Concert, West Road Concert Hall, CB3 9DP Saturday 24 March: 7.30pm to approximately 9.45pm

Listen to the City of Cambridge Symphony Orchestra and support CambridgePPF at the same time, the charity will receive half of the proceeds from ticket sales using the special code CPPF. Performance includes the symphonic poem Tintagel by Arnold Bax, Penderecki's fascinating Horn Concerto and from the ballet Job: A Masque for Dancing by Vaughan Williams. **Booking:** adults £18, concessions £16, students £8, under 14s £5. **Please quote 'CPPF' when purchasing from ADC** at the box office Park Street, Cambridge CB5 8AS; or telephone 01223 300085; or use the booking enquiry form at www.cambridgeppf.org/events/city-of-cambridge-symphony-orchestra-concert

Sunday 25 March: Drop in anytime between 11am to 3.30pm

A day of discovery for all as part of the Cambridge University Science Festival. Investigate the amazing senses of bats, birds, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates and even plants whilst exploring the woods and grasslands on a sensory adventure. Children to be accompanied by an adult. Free event, no need to book. Parking is £3 per vehicle, members free.

More info 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on

Mary Nealon