

Dear Friends,

I read an article recently about the value of spending time in the natural world and how just 20 minutes a day can have a positive impact on our well-being. This is interesting at a time when the practice of mindfulness is receiving a lot of interest. There are numerous books on this, including colouring books to help one focus on something while allowing one's mind to settle and leave behind some of the demands of the day. You can find colouring books to suit all interests: nature, patterns, Star Wars, Sherlock to name but a few!

All of this got me thinking. How much do I rush through the day with no regard for the natural world of which I am a part? I've now started to try to listen more. When you do that, it's surprising what you hear. I particularly have in mind birdsong. I stood in the garden one early morning in my dressing gown the other day (apologies to the neighbours) and just *listened*. It was amazing the variety of song I heard. Staggering!

My paid work is in a company whose office is next to the cemetery on Mill Road. It's not as creepy as it sounds! I try to take time each lunch to walk round the graveyard listening to life and appreciating the gift that it is, although I don't always feel this way about it when times are stressful.

The really interesting thing is that there is so much more going on than we think. I was told that birdsong is much more complicated and rich than we can realise because much of it is at a frequency that we can't hear.

I do feel better for the experience of appreciating and being attentive to the natural world. I hope I remember this over the coming months as the summer joins us. It also whispers to me of a love that is beyond me and for me as it is for you. A love I believe is rooted in God.

Enjoy the coming months

*Revd Corin Redsell
Associate Minister to Lordsbridge Team*

Church News

From the registers

Cremation and service of Thanksgiving 6th April Ken Verney

Funeral and Cremation 7th April Roy Norman

Thank you to everyone who supported our Open Garden Teas in the church last month. The weather was kind to us and we made £280 for church funds.

The Generous Slice Cafe will be 'open' again on Wednesday May 3rd from 8.45am in the village hall. Open to all, so please call in and enjoy fresh coffee or tea, warm croissants or toast and a chat with friends and neighbours.

Anne Coulson

A future date for your diaries: **Saturday 3rd June, Morning Coffee** in St Peter's Church from **10-11.30am**. Good company, fine coffee, scrumptious biscuits and - books. The perfect Saturday morning. All exceedingly welcome.

Calling all businesses and leisure organisations in Barton!

St Peter's Church invites you to Decorate a Duck to be displayed at Barton Village Day on 15th July.

Show off your business or organisation, etc.

The public will vote for their winning choice at the Village Day. £1 Wooden Ducks provided

Further details from Ruth Bond on ruth.bond52@gmail.com or 07787 538 983 and the June edition of the Parish News

Ruth Bond

Barton Baptist Church News

As you probably know we are a very small church building and very small congregation. Our numbers do not justify a full time minister and indeed we could not afford one! So we rely on lay speakers to come and take our services. This means we have lots of variety and no excuses to doze off as each speaker has a different style, delivery pattern and voice! We are so appreciative to these people because without them we would not be able to continue as a church here in Barton. We are aware that with full time jobs and busy lives they are sacrificing a lot to serve the Lord in this way. Because we are a small congregation we are eager to encourage new folk to join us on Sunday mornings. So if you are free one Sunday morning and at a loss what to do you know where you will receive a warm welcome!

Our other monthly activities continue as before with Bible studies on the 3rd and 17th of the Month. Everyone is welcome to join the meetings at 7:30pm in the Church. Brian Mills is going to lead us through a study on Old Testament

Miracles. The foodbank Collection point will be open at this time. The other Wednesdays are prayer meetings which are open to everyone. The tea and chat are on the 9th and 23rd starting at 2:30pm. The men's Meeting is on the 26th May at 7pm. John Ireland will be speaking about Chaplaincy

Alison Foster

Parish Jottings

City Deal consultations

Please keep your eyes open for any developing news either through the Cambridge News or the Cambridge Independent or the City Deal website <http://www.gccitydeal.co.uk> .

Barton Councillors continue to be involved with discussions. There will be an especially interesting meeting of the Local Liaison Forum on Tuesday 16th May, venue TBC. The meeting will focus on the Western Orbital route which may have an impact on Barton; residents are encouraged to attend. Thoughts are also moving forward with regard to the Greenways Project for improving local cycle routes.

Elections Thursday 4th May 7am to 10pm Village Hall

Do take the opportunity to vote. Barton always has a high turnout!

You can choose a Mayor for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, a very powerful post.

The seven candidates are:

Paul Bullen	UK Independence Party (UKIP)
Rod Cantrill	Liberal Democrat
Peter Dawe	Independent
Stephen Goldspink	English Democrats - 'Putting England First!'
Julie Howell	Green Party
James Palmer	The Conservative Party Candidate
Kevin Price	Labour Party

You can also elect a Cambridgeshire County Councillor for the Hardwick division which includes Barton. Our previous Councillor, Stephen Frost, is standing down.

The four candidates are:

Philip Allen	Liberal Democrat
Norman Crowther	Labour
Anna Gomori-Woodcock	Green
Lina Joseph	Conservative

Hedge trimming adjoining footways

Time please to get those hedges and trees trimmed with the new growth. That will make life so much easier for those walking around the village.

Some confusion about bin collections

Some bins were not collected by SCDC on the correct day in recent weeks. Do leave your bin out because they are then usually collected the next day. There is usually a tweet shown on the front page of the South Cambs website which tells of missed collections.

www.scambs.gov.uk

Owing to bank holidays there seems to be a different pattern at times, so do please check the day.

Thursday 27 April	black
Thursday 4 May	blue and green
Wednesday 10 May	black
Wednesday 17 May	blue and green
Wednesday 24 May	black
Thursday 1 June	blue and green

Next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 2nd May 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Patrick De Backer 07771-923710 bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com

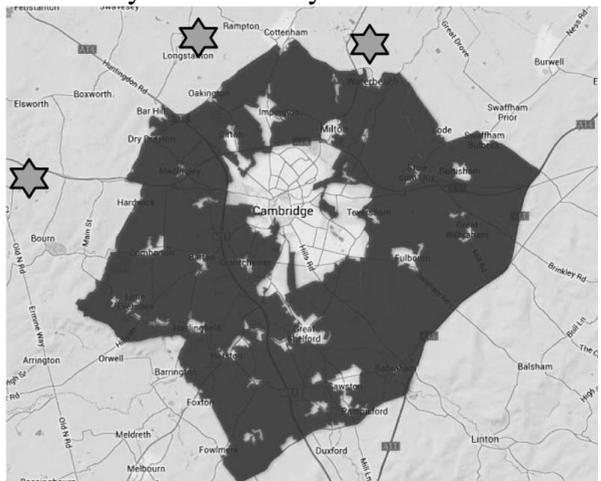
Official notices and agendas and minutes of meetings can be seen on the notice board by the pond or on the Website <http://www.barton-cambs.org.uk>

District Councillor – Frances Burkitt

New Communities

As you (I hope!) know by now, the over-arching philosophy behind South Cambridgeshire District Council's and the City Council's joint Local Plans is that most of the required new housing will be built in 'satellite' **new communities** that will be 5-10 miles away from the City.

They might have as many as 5,000–10,000 new homes each – so each is in effect a small new town. There is lots of evidence that it's better to make a new community bigger rather than smaller, so that it can then justify a secondary school, sports centre, doctors' surgeries, supermarkets and shops etc... and you then get less commuting to and from them as they are more 'sustainable' in their own right.



Importantly, these new communities will be *outside* the Cambridge Green Belt, so that the Green Belt itself (see map) can be preserved and not built on. The first three are (1) Cambourne, which may be enlarged with West Cambourne and Bourn Airfield; (2) Northstowe, near Longstanton, where construction is now at last getting underway; and (3) Waterbeach. Why these? Partly because they fit the philosophy, but also partly because these are brownfield sites: either former airfields or barracks.

Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield planning application

In the last month, the developers of Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield have submitted their planning application to SCDC.

The first military presence on the site was the Royal Air Force station built in 1940, operating under Bomber Command, and then transferred after the Second World War to Transport Command. The Barracks were built from 1966 when the airfield was transferred to the Army, becoming the base for 39 Engineer Regiment and later 25 Engineer Regiment. Military use ceased in March 2013.

The application site is a huge 725 acres, of which about 250 will be kept as public open space. The development is described as:

- ‘up to’ 6,500 dwellings, which is about 16 houses per acre (600 of these houses will be specifically targeted towards elderly residents);
- business, retail, hotel, community, leisure and sports uses;
- three primary schools and one secondary school;
- green open spaces including parks, ecological areas and woodlands.

A key aspect is access. There is already a train station at Waterbeach, but this may be made bigger and perhaps even moved slightly. The A10 will be turned into dual-carriageway between Cambridge and Waterbeach, and that is something that the City Deal will be looking at.

A428 : Caxton Gibbet to Black Cat roundabout

This project is not actually the responsibility of the District Council or the City Deal, but I thought I would mention it here as it is of topical interest.

Trunk Roads are looked after by Highways England, rather than local councils, which is why the A428 is a national project. Highways England naturally takes account of local issues, but its main remit is to create and improve major national routes across the country, particularly for lorries and business, so as to improve the economy and provide jobs.

On 6th March, Highways England published its long-awaited consultation document on how to improve:

- the single-carriageway stretch of the A428 between Caxton Gibbet and the Black Cat roundabout; and
- congestion suffered by east-west through traffic on the north-south A1 between the A428 and the Black Cat roundabout.

This project has been championed by a lot of people for many years, but Jonathan Djanogly MP (for Huntingdon) has been particularly behind it.

Highways England's plan is bold: to build a brand new road between Caxton Gibbet and the Black Cat roundabout. It wants to discuss three possibilities, as shown below.

Consultation closed on 23rd April, but please see [highways.gov.uk/projects](https://www.highways.gov.uk/projects) for the suggested routes. The preferred route will be announced this summer, and work might start in 2020.

The most connected City in England?!

The amount of 'connectivity' that is currently focused on Cambridge is huge – and, whilst exciting, is a potential source of worry for those of us who want to preserve the specialness of our area.

As well as the ***A428 upgrade*** discussed above, the ***A14 upgrade*** is now being built. We will soon hear of plans for the ***East-West Rail***, first from Oxford via Milton Keynes to Cambridge, and then extending further east into Norfolk and Suffolk. The main train line (King's Lynn to London) is getting a new station at ***Cambridge North*** and perhaps another at ***Cambridge South***.

Connectivity is great when it helps people move between their homes, work and leisure activities. If it helps *share out* the current growth of Cambridge, that will be good, as I have long argued that the City can't be a "silicon pin-head" but must in future spread its activity wider around the region – that's one reason why I welcomed devolution. But if the opposite happened, and if it further concentrates growth in Cambridge, that will be bad, as the City is simply not big enough to accommodate this growth within the City boundary, and that would put further pressure on the neighbouring Green Belt.

Francis Burkitt, District Councillor

Village News

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

The Lunch Club on the first Friday of each month is for Barton residents, booking essential. The cost is £3. To book or cancel (or volunteer to cook) contact Anne Coulson, 262666.

Try a New Sport – 4 sessions free! – Lawn Green Bowls.

We are a small, friendly club in Barton, Cambs. If you would like to try, or have bowled before, you will be made most welcome. As well as bowls, we have a busy social side, a pavilion and the club atmosphere is safe and supportive. All coaching and equipment provided (please wear trainers).

Open Night, with free BBQ, Thursday 25th May at 6pm. Then Thursday 6.15pm throughout the summer. Bring family, a friend or come on your own.

To register your place or enquire, email m.seymour@orwellsbureau.co.uk Please also visit our website www.bartonbowls.co.uk

Barton Playgroup

At the end of last term we were visited by David from Lion Learners who brought in animals for us to see. We handled guinea pigs, rabbits, chinchillas, giant centipedes, tarantulas, bearded dragons and snakes! This half term we are learning about where we live and houses around the world. We will build dens, make junk model houses, build with real little bricks and learn about different materials.



Helen Durrant

Barton WI

Our March speaker, Rex Freeman, a former teacher with a deep interest and considerable expertise in music and drama, gave a talk entitled "Growing Old Disgracefully". He began by telling a story about someone who had set out to grow old gracefully – a decision which turned out to be a complete disaster. Rex went on to give us much thought-provoking advice on the dos and don'ts of coping with the effects of aging, both mental and physical, illustrating his points with witty anecdotes making laughter a notable feature of the evening. Rex himself appears to have coped admirably with aging and still has new projects in his sights. At our April meeting Pat Blanchet and Ray Goodwin are to give us an evening of "Musical Memories". We always welcome visitors.

Ann Killen

Neighbourhood Watch

Although you personally may not become a target, you should be aware of a police warning that an increasing number of criminals relieve people of their money using scams, rather than take the risk of being caught when burgling or stealing.

Around 3 million people are scammed each year in the UK. The average age of victims is 75. Many are people who live alone, and those who suffer from dementia are particularly vulnerable. Victims are often ashamed to confide in relatives or friends and may therefore be scammed repeatedly. Criminals share "suckers lists" to make it easier to identify vulnerable people.

There are several types of scam, including telephone, doorstep, online, copy-cat websites and postal scams. We have to be suspicious of any stranger who asks us for money, no matter how credible they may seem.

The County Council publishes a helpful booklet called "The Little Book of Big Scams" that is available at various outlets, including Conkers. Also, if you have access to the internet, information and advice is available on www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk.

Please report suspicious activity to the police on the 101 number, or 999 if you suspect a crime is in progress.

Keep safe, Bev Edwards

Barton Gardeners

Plant Sale and REAL Coffee Morning is on Saturday, 6th

May – Everyone welcome. Please would you pot on any unwanted seedlings or surplus plants for the Plant Sale. All should be labelled and, if possible, delivered to a BG Committee member. Alternatively, by 9.15am on the day to the Village Hall. Many thanks.



Plant Sale and Real Coffee Morning
Saturday, 6th May
10a.m. – 12 noon
Barton Village Hall
Everyone Welcome
Free Entry

Come and enjoy an inspirational morning of plants and coffee! Tables of plants of all descriptions at very reasonable prices. Those of you who have potted on and labelled surplus plants can drop them off **before the day to any committee member** or **by 9.30am at the Village Hall**. If you would like them collected, please get in touch.

BG Summer Outing – Saturday, 3rd June to Sheringham and Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk. The Rhododendrons and Azaleas will be at their colourful

best. Tickets are £18 for BG members and £20 for non-members, non-National Trust members pay £9.20 extra. **Payment due at the Plant Sale on 6th May.**

The **Show Schedule** accompanies this month's magazine. Look through it to see which classes you are inspired to enter. Please keep it for information and your Show entries. This year's Village Day will be held on the Recreation Ground on **Saturday, 15th July.**

Many Thanks, BG Committee

264765 or email bartongardeners@hotmail.co.uk

Barton Tennis Club Open Tennis Afternoon & Family Barbecue

Barton Tennis Club will be holding an open tennis afternoon, followed by a barbecue on Sunday 14th May, starting at 2.30pm. The courts and pavilion will be open to members, their guests, and local residents interested in learning more about the club. There will be informal coaching for children from 2.30pm, followed by a family barbecue at 4pm. With food and refreshments provided. All are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS for the 2017/18 are now due. Membership fees will remain the same as last year.

£25 for individuals, and £40 for family membership.

The lock on the courts will be changed on the 1st May.

Please contact either David Ireland-263991 or Alec Tompson- 262683, to pay your membership, and obtain a new key.

David Ireland Tennis Club Chairman

Barton Friendship Club

On 4th April we held our AGM. All Committee Members were willing to carry on and were voted straight back on as they have been doing an excellent job! We are in good financial condition, but could do with more members - why don't you come and join us, we would welcome you all. Brian West then gave us a Quiz - he said it was easy, some did well, but not others! On Saturday 8th April, we held our Bring and Buy Sale which raised £96 so we gave £40 to the Arthur Rank Hospice, and the other £56 went into club funds. Thanks to all that helped out, and also to the people that brought and spent.

Our next meeting is on 2nd May at 2.30pm in the Village Hall when we have our Birthday Tea, to which members will contribute and Louise Herriman from Wood Green will give us a talk. Members £2; Visitors £3.

Harry Baines

Telephone Library

The Library seems to be running well. We are putting about 20 different books in there every 4-5 weeks at the moment. Thank you to all the people who have given

us books for this, but we are always in need of others. We are quite short of children's books so if you have any spare books laying around we would be glad of them. Contact numbers are 263512 and 262683 - could collect if wanted.

Harry Baines

Barton WWW!

If you would like to know more, please contact Sarah Massie on 07791 668134 or check out our Facebook page.

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

Sarah Massie

HELP!

Barton Drama Group is in urgent need of somewhere to store its equipment. We have to vacate the barn we currently use by the end of June 2017. Do you have a barn, outhouse, garage, or something else that we could use/rent?

If you can help please contact Geoff Nicholls, 01223 262720.

Barton Wildlife Group

On a chilly evening in April, a few hardy souls enjoyed a sausage sizzle down by the Burwash Ponds. While it was rather too cold for the bats to come out, there were tadpoles aplenty in the ponds, and skylarks and the evening chorus from the birds alongside the rifle range provided background music. Our camera traps provided evidence of the badgers and Muntjac deer in the copse.

Looking ahead, we will be looking at Meadow Plants and Butterflies on the Leys on June 1st, time (to be decided). Further events are being planned for the end of July and the end of August. At one of these, we hope to get the Mammal Society to join us with some live animal trapping. More details to follow in due course.

Mary MacDonald, 262378

Up with the Lark...? (or the Wren, Lapwing, Dunnock, Robin, Blackbird, Yellowhammer, Chaffinch, Linnet...)

Join The Countryside Restoration Trust at Lark Rise Farm on **Sunday 7th May** for our Dawn Chorus and Cowslip walk, as part of International Dawn Chorus Day. Led by trusted CRT volunteer and ornithologist, Roger Buisson, you will learn why birds sing at dawn, what it means to them, the difference between song and calls, the timetable of the chorus and how some species have mostly finished their song periods early in the year, while others are just arriving from Africa and singing at full throttle. Enjoy the early morning silence as the first birds start to sing then take a gentle stroll round the area stopping at different habitats to try to get a good range of species as the morning unfolds. Free of charge to registered Friends of the Trust, it is a great opportunity to immerse yourself in the sounds of nature, whilst having an expert on hand to identify each songster and answer any

questions you may have. Members of the public are also encouraged to attend, but a small fee of £2.50 will be charged to non-Friends. Stay with us for a spot of breakfast and then take a guided walk through the farm's beautiful Cowslip meadow with CRT founder and Chairman Robin Page.

Meet at Bird's Farm, Haslingfield Road, Barton, CB23 7AG

4am for a 4.30am start

BOOKING ESSENTIAL (by Friday 5th May)

www.crtuk.org / 262999 / info@countrysiderestorationtrust.com

On the weekend of The Great Get Together, 17th June, 3-5pm

Afternoon Tea at Barton's Ritz

will whisk you into the splendours of Versailles, the palace of Louis XIV, the Sun King, and later, that of Queen Marie Antoinette, who encouraged the people to, "eat cake".

Barton's own 'Hall of Mirrors' will highlight sumptuous savouries and dainty morsels of sweetness in the French style.

£15 each individual setting

Booking essential: call Margaret 262353 or Ruth 262985

Any profits will go to the Jo Cox Foundation which supports Loneliness, the Syrian conflict, Women In Public Life and Protecting Civilians in Conflict

Comberton Library

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

As part of the Cambridgeshire Libraries Health and Wellbeing offer, we are pleased to promote Ergsy, a not for profit organisation founded and run by the over 60s, providing a free online library of self-help videos on subjects relevant to their age group. All the videos have been vetted for accuracy, are UK sourced, and have been made by trusted professionals. Where appropriate, the videos are supported by written downloadable transcripts. There are various topics covered, under the headings of health, legal, money and welfare & care. Full information and access to the videos can be found at www.ergsy.com.

We are delighted to announce that the Norris Museum at St Ives is going to run a family activity session at Comberton Library on **Thursday 1st June**, entitled 'Toys from the Past'. This will be a drop-in event running from 2 – 4pm, so do put the date in your diaries now. There will be toys to handle and play with and a chance for the children to make their own thaumatropes. It promises to be a fun afternoon for families during the half-term holiday.

The Library will be closed on Bank Holiday Mondays 1st and 29th May.

Upcoming Rhymetime sessions: 8th and 22nd May and 5th and 19th June (10.30 - 11am). The session on 5th June will be linked to National Bookstart Week, which this year has the theme 'Let's Go Outdoors'. Please note that although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too!

Rosemary Pryke, Comberton Library

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Do you own or run a business locally? Attend one of Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service's FREE business seminars and 'keep your business in business'.

On average there are 165 fires in business premises each year and many of those businesses don't go on to trade again. Attend a FREE seminar with Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service and get the support you need to keep your business safe from fire. We are determined to support and inform business owners across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on fire safety legislation and to help you put together a FREE Fire Risk Assessment to protect your business. Whether your business runs out of a small industrial unit, is a side-street coffee shop or a licensed premise, our FREE workshops will help you to understand important legislation and build a comprehensive risk assessment to protect you and your business.

Seminars run across the county in various locations and can additionally be arranged ad-hoc to requirements wherever possible.

Contact us today - for more information on upcoming seminars or to book a place, phone 01480 444500 or book online at www.cambsfire.gov.uk. Sign up to email alerts and find us on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook.

Need to find local health services quickly? New 'MyHealth' app for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

A new app to help Cambridgeshire and Peterborough residents find local NHS services available to them has been launched.

Quick and easy to use, the 'MyHealth Cambridgeshire & Peterborough' app will direct you to your nearest appropriate NHS service. This includes local GPs, pharmacies, minor injury units, and dentists, based on your location or postcode.

Free to download and available in five other languages, including Polish, Latvian, and Lithuanian, MyHealth provides up to date information on current services including directions, opening hours, and contact details.

The app is available to download for iOS via Apple Store, Android via Google Play, and Windows phones via Microsoft Store by searching for 'MyHealth C&P CCG'.