

**Dear All,**

'Spring has Sprung' and Lent will soon be here. The new green shoots are sprouting through the Autumn debris, the drabness made bright by the snowdrops and daffodils. Yet the Winter mists and frosts linger to threaten to smother their coming promise of the Spring and Summer.

The word 'Lent' comes from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning spring, because it fell at this time of the year. The term describes the season that precedes Easter, and for Christians it is a time of preparation and reflection. The period of Lent is the forty days, which is the time that Jesus spent in the wilderness; it was the time that he spent in preparing for his death and resurrection, and for the whole of his ministry. The Lent period culminates in the 'Passion', of Jesus Christ's Death and Resurrection at Easter. Jesus spent this time in fasting, prayer and quiet, and during this period today, many of us will be involved in study, prayer and abstinence as a spiritual and physical preparation for Easter and the year ahead. At this time we remove many of the flowers from Church and sing quieter hymns. Like the unpredictable March gloomy weather, some people consider that Lent is a rather sombre and gloomy time that gets in the way of spring's arrival. This is not so at all!

Lent is meant to be joyful. But it is a joy in a different way from the outward 'party' type joy of Easter or Christmas. Lent is inward looking time as we attempt to focus on the essentials of life. We discover that in our relationships with one another, and amongst each other, at home, at work at school etc etc and these are the places where we find the new shoots of deep rooted joy and love.

Jesus spent his time in the wilderness being reconciled to his Living and his Death. A period of illness, and death, reminds us to be prepared for the difficulties and loss in living, but to also be prepared to share with those we love, the new shoots of spring. This Spring we have said goodbye to many, and we still support many, yet we have also celebrated their lives and have been inspired by the new Life and Joy each one has, and continues to share with us.

Have a joyful Lent when it comes. We look forward to spring bringing a new light in the lives of all who feel sad and lonely. The spring flowers are deeply rooted and come back year after year despite the weather. Like God's love we can always be sure that Spring and Summer will come forth in due course in all its beautiful splendour. That's especially true in our gardens, on the hedgerows and in the lives of all in Barton.

With every best wish and blessing

*Very best wishes Michael, Vicar*

## **Church News**

**Annual Church Meeting** This will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 8pm, in the school. All parishioners are welcome to attend this meeting.

**NEW RESIDENTS' EVENING WEDNESDAY MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>  
IN THE SCHOOL HALL. 8 – 9.30pm.**

We invite all who have moved into the village during the last 2-3 years to join us in the school hall to meet members of the various societies clubs and groups who meet regularly. We intend to deliver invitations to any known new-comers but no invitation is necessary to attend!

We look forward to meeting you!

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Lent Lunch – from 12 noon.** A soup and roll lunch will be held in the Village Hall to raise some money for the charity WaterAid. Full details next month.

### **Barton Baptist Church News**

For our joint Lent Bible studies with the Parish Church we will be following a York Course entitled 'When I survey'. We will be continuing on Thursday afternoons for our Lent studies as we did for the Advent ones. They will be on 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March and 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April starting at 2.30pm. The topics for the five sessions are: 'Darkness at Noon'; 'Into great silence'; 'The Child on the Cross'; 'Outside a city wall' and 'Touching the Rock'. I hope you will be able to join us.

Please continue to pray for us and Elizabeth as we seek God's plans for our futures.

### **Women's World Day of Prayer**

How many loaves have you? This is the title of the service prepared by the Christian women of Chile. Although prepared by Women it is open to anyone.

This year it is in Coton, in the Village Hall (newly refurbished) at 7.30pm on Friday March 4<sup>th</sup>. The speaker is the Rev Alison Myers.

*Brian West 264801*

### **Barton Christian Fellowship**

Our speaker this month is Rev Mike Griffin, updating us on the work of the Leprosy Mission. Come and join us on Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm in the Village Hall.

*Mary West*

## Parish Jottings

**County Councillor Fiona Whelan** commented on the County Budget discussions taking place. £50 million is no longer available, so there are likely to be cuts in road maintenance and safety measures, bus subsidies, care of the elderly, SEN provision and school transport. Speed-activated signs may have to be maintained by parishes; the climate change team may disappear.

The future of Comberton Library is uncertain and the subsidies for no. 18 and 75 buses could be taken away. Do watch out for any further information because you may want to lobby the County Council on these issues.

She also mentioned that Comberton Village College had just become an Academy.

**District Councillor Francis Burkitt** gave his thanks for the major effort of sending letters, Emails and petitions about the reduction of speed on the A603. In conjunction with Fiona Whelan the call for reduced limits will now go to the Cabinet of the County Council. Lobbying of key County Councillors will take place.

### ***Why not become a Councillor?***

District and Parish elections will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> May. It would be good to continue having a wide range of people on the Parish Council. If you are at all interested, do come to one of our meetings and get in touch with the Clerk before April.

### ***Royal Wedding***

Is there anyone in the village who would like to come forward and organise something around 29<sup>th</sup> April? If so, please contact the Clerk.

### ***Notice board and website***

Official notices and full minutes of meetings can be seen on the notice board outside Conkers or on <http://www.barton-cambs.org.uk>

**Next Council meetings:** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2011 Annual Parish Meeting

[Patrick De Backer 262577 bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:Patrick.DeBacker.262577@bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com)

## **Village News**

### ***Village Day***

The Village Day will be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July on the school site and we hope that all village organisations will be able to participate by running a stall or side show for their own funds. Letters will have been sent to all groups who took part last year, but any other groups wishing to run a stall should contact Sarah Pitchford who will supply details. We do not want to leave anyone out. If anyone can recommend a craft stallholder we could approach we would be delighted to have details. Please contact Sarah Pitchford C-262756

### ***Barton Lunch Club***

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 12.30 for 1pm.** In the village hall. For cancellations or reservations please contact Anne Coulson 262666.

*Anne Coulson*

### ***WI***

February's members evening was a very interesting look back to the Second World War. We had stories from one member who was evacuated as a child to a school in Devon, away from her parents. Then a look at rationing, how would we manage today on weekly rations of 4oz bacon or ham, 2oz butter, 2oz tea, and one single fresh egg? There were also 'wartime' biscuits to sample. Excerpts of wartime diaries were read out, then we finished with a sing song of wartime favourites. There were also lots of items to look at, from gas masks to posters, ration books to cookery books.

Barton W.I. is 90 years old this year and Margaret Winterbourne had made and iced a cake to celebrate, the decorations on the cake were stunning, including every members name. The feat was even more amazing as Margaret had her right arm in plaster after a fall at Christmas. Ruth Bond came in to cut the cake, so the evening finished with tea, cake and biscuits.

The March meeting is the Annual Meeting which will include cheese and wine, so do come along.

*Sue Clemo*

### ***Barton Playgroup***

Good news! – Playgroup finally moved back into its premises mid-February. The children are very excited to be back, especially as it looks so smart following the recent improvements. We would like to thank all those who have been involved – the parents, staff, committee and villagers – in helping us to return to normality following the flood at Christmas.

And now that we are 'business as usual', **Toddler Group on Monday**

**afternoons from 1.15-3.15pm** has resumed for our under-5s (term-time only). There is a huge range of toys and soft play equipment to play with – ideal for these cold, wet afternoons. Entrance and refreshments costs £2 per family.

Our annual Coffee Morning will be held on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March** between 10am – 12pm in the Village Hall. There will be activities for the young, stalls for the old and cakes for all! This event is open to all so please come along to help us raise funds to replace some of our flood damaged resources.

*Jaszia Lindon*

### **BRIG**

The new Pavilion is growing fast; the roof is on, but there is still a lot of internal work to be done. The Committee is preparing a **wish list** of items required to complete the fitting out. We hope that you will be willing to help us by sponsoring some of these items:

◆ *Dusters* ◆ *4 Buckets & Mops* ◆ *5 toilet brushes & holders*  
◆ *Cooker* ◆ *Microwave* ◆ *Fridge* ◆ *5 Paper bins for toilets* ◆ *2 Kettles* ◆ *Vacuum cleaner* ◆ *Shoe & boot scraper (outside changing rooms)* ◆ *Plastic picnic tables & chairs* ◆ *Benches, to be placed overlooking over play area & bowls green. Sponsored benches may have a plaque attached as sponsor wishes* ◆

The Barton Gardens Open Days are Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April & 22<sup>nd</sup> May. We have a stall selling plants & preserves at both openings. A proportion of the money raised goes to BRIG. Donations are welcomed for these.

*Meta Greenfield, C-262005 & [greenfield@btinternet.com](mailto:greenfield@btinternet.com)*

### **Barton Friendship Club**

Our meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March will be a games afternoon starting at 2.30pm and on 15<sup>th</sup> we hope to have a speaker but this has still to be arranged as Brian Ross, who was planned to speak, kindly stepped in for us in January when the speaker who had been booked couldn't make it as she was expecting to go into Papworth. Anyone is welcome to join us for these meetings.

*Brian West*

### **Barton Gardeners**

We hope to see you at our next meeting on **Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.45pm** in the **Barton Village Hall**, when we welcome **Philip Whaites**, the Head Gardener at Wimpole Hall. He will be speaking to us on '**Wimpole gardens – past, present and future**'. It's sure to be an interesting and enjoyable evening. Visitors £3, Members Free.

A reminder to BG Members to get their plant orders in to Sue Clemo by 25<sup>th</sup> March, please. They can also be left in the BG folder at Conkers P.O.

### **Notice of new Classes in the Schedule for the Village Day Show**

This year in the Vegetable Section we will be adding a new class – **2 Cabbages**. The Photography Section will have a **Transport** theme. So get clicking!

*Happy gardening! Sue Edwards*

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

It has been difficult to know how we have been affected by crime in Barton recently as Cambridgeshire Constabulary has removed their detailed crime information from their web site. This has been replaced by the new Home Office system, which provides statistics only, and no detail. It is too early to say how reliable this information will be. I hope to provide some information in a future issue of Parish News.

The Chief Constable, Simon Parr, has made a number of films for YouTube that explain how the Constabulary proposes to deal with budget cuts. The proposals seem to me to be very encouraging and I suggest that they are worth a look – start at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvZBsmdz988](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvZBsmdz988)

Please be careful about giving out any personal information to callers. A Barton villager received a call recently about her telephone account, and asking for her age, address and other personal information. Fortunately, she became suspicious and refused to comply, and then the caller became abusive and threatening. The police, who arrived very quickly after this issue was reported, told the lady that there had been several of this type of call recently.

*Bev Edwards*

### **CVC Events**

ONE hundred lots will be up for grabs when Comberton's South Africa Volunteers host an Auction of Promises at Comberton Leisure later this month.

On March 24<sup>th</sup> a huge selection of items will go under the hammer to help raise money to pay for 12 students to go to work in Comberton's African partner schools in Pretoria, South Africa, and Maputo, Mozambique, after their GCSE exams this summer.

Included in the auction is a week in a holiday home in Spain, a year's membership of Cb3, the chance for two people to play a round of golf at the Gog Magog Club with CVC Executive Principal Stephen Munday and Deputy Principal Phillip Evans, a range of sports-related lots, a tempting selection of hampers and much more.

Everyone is welcome to come along – doors open at 7.15 – and there will be the opportunity to make sealed bids (more details on the CVC website). If you feel able to donate something to be auctioned, please contact Rachel Hawkes at CVC or e-mail [publicity@comberton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:publicity@comberton.cambs.sch.uk)

The week before the auction, two casts of pupils will share the thrills and pressure of performing Comberton Village College’s annual musical extravaganza, which takes place on March 16<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> with tickets from £4-£7 available now through WisePay if you have a child at the college, or from the Finance Office or Cb3 reception.

Date	Event	Doors Open	Price
4 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Festival Players’ Fantastical Musicals</b>	7pm	£5/£3
11 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Custard Comedy</b>	8pm	£8 adv / £10 Door
16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Copacabana</b>	7pm	£4-£7
24 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Auction of Promises</b>	7.15pm	More details on CVC website

### **Cambridge Cancer Help Centre**

***Do you have cancer? Are you caring for someone with cancer? Have you lost a loved one to cancer?***

Cambridge Cancer Help Centre is there for you, offering support and understanding. Taking that first step to visit us will not be easy, but once you step through our door you will be assured of a warm and friendly welcome. The centre also welcomes families, carers and friends. Most of the people there will have experienced what you are going through. Why not pay us a visit?

We are open on Mondays from 10am to 1pm and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm, or telephone us on C – 840105 and speak to our Coordinator, Ann Dingley. You will find us at The David Rayner Centre, Scotsdales Garden Centre, 120 Cambridge Road, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5JT.

***Disabled Children’s Access to Childcare (DCATCH)*** is a project of Cambridgeshire County Council, which helps parents or carers of disabled children to access suitable childcare; enabling them the chance of returning to employment and/or training. It is part of the Cambridgeshire Childcare Information Service (CIS).

The aim of DCATCH is to highlight that “a child with a disability and his/her family should have access to the full range of childcare options that are open to

other families” *Sure Start, 2005*

“A lack of information about the childcare services that are available, and confusion about the quality and potential benefits of using childcare, continue to create barriers for some parents”. *Department for children, schools and families, Dec 2009.*

The aim of the project is to work closely with parents, childcare providers and professionals, embedding the principles of DCATCH; ensuring inclusion into early years and childcare settings for all. A referral service to parents shows where to go for support and guidance with their childcare options via the Childcare Brokerage Service.

Once a family is identified we can then, through the CIS Childcare Brokerage Service, enquire about suitable childcare. This will include information on provision of childcare from providers, funding options, costs, specialist care and specialist facilities, if required by the provider.

The DCATCH project provides a service to families, which is free of charge and completely impartial.

If you would like further information on DCATCH then please ring 0845 04 54 014 and ask for Denis Green or send an email to

[denis.green@opportunitylinks.co.uk](mailto:denis.green@opportunitylinks.co.uk)

Alternatively check our website [www.familiesandchildcare.org.uk](http://www.familiesandchildcare.org.uk) and click on the DCATCH link.

### **AccessArt at Burwash – March Drawing Workshops for Children**

AccessArt is a local charity offering creative workshops to adults and children. Events are planned at Burwash throughout the year – look out for notices around the village.

On Tuesdays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, there will be two children's workshops: the first is for 8-to-12-year-olds. In **The Drawing Adventure**, participants will be encouraged to explore drawing through a series of fun and active exercises. Expect large scale drawing (and very small!), making your own drawing tools, learning how to look, drawing to music and group drawing. £8 per session; 4.45pm to 5.45pm.

The second workshop, also held on Tuesdays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, is for teenagers.

**Drawing Masterclass** aims to develop a portfolio of work using many different drawing techniques. £9 per session; 6.15pm to 7.30pm.

To book, contact Paula Briggs, Creative Director of AccessArt, on C-262134, or online [www.accessart.org.uk/events](http://www.accessart.org.uk/events)