

Dear Friends,

Have you heard the term: ‘What’s Mine Is Yours’. It sounds a bit like what a resigned husband says to his wife. Or like the Spanish saying: ‘Mi casa. Su casa’ (My house is your house.) Don’t forget your church is there as your second home.

This month, in our church, were going to explore this term a little bit more, as we welcome even more local people to use their church.

Our village church, is over 700 years old, and it isn’t just a pile of old stones, but it is a treasured and sacred place where people gather; in good times, at sad times, and at any time, in twos or threes, or as a full church, each and every day. It’s always there with its doors open, set at the heart of our village, for you to use, to enjoy, and to treat as your second home.

The Parish Church doesn’t get any financial, or other support from the Government, and we just rely on your support, good will, time and gifts as generous volunteers that enable us to continually restore, heat, to improve, and to keep our ‘doors open’. Thank you.

When you have visitors in your own home, I hope that you do aspire to share all that you have with them, in an open and warm way, and that you enjoy their company, friendship and support (that we both give and receive). So it is with our second home, (our local church) where you are always welcome to share, give and receive in a generous and fulfilling way.

So this Autumn, at a time of wintry chills, and of economic difficulties, don’t just shut the door, (so to speak) but do share the wonderful richness of warmth, love, fellowship and hospitality, and even of wealth of both your homes, with one another.

With very best wishes,

Michael

Church News

Parish Magazine mailing. Any ex-parishioner can receive copies of the parish magazine for 2012 by sending 10 postage stamps to:

Mrs J Page. 2, Mailes Close, Barton. Cambridge CB23 7BQ

Many thanks to everyone who supported our church coffee morning in October. We made £197 for church funds and the sale of cards for Save the Children Fund amounted to £236.62.

Church Jumble Sale – Saturday 18th February 2012

Please save unwanted items:- clothes, bedding and soft furnishings, bric-à-brac, toys and books for this event. NB: All unsold items are recycled if possible to Emmaus, and the Salvation Army.

Hugh and Meta Greenfield

Barton Baptist Church News

Once again the Advent Bible Studies are under way, the dates are 7th, 14th & 21st December. Please note that we have reverted to evenings at 7.30pm this year. Thanks to all who lead and participate.

Our Carol Service is on the Morning of 18th December and on Christmas day we will have a short service at 10am. On 8th January we will again be joining with St Peter's for an epiphany service, see below.

Epiphany Carol Service

In January there is a joint Carol Service with St Peter's and the Baptist Church for Epiphany on 8th. The service will be held in St Peter's at 4pm and will be followed by a tea in the Village Hall at 5pm. Epiphany is the time when the Church celebrates the visit of the Wise men to see the infant Jesus, so if you have a favourite Carol suitable for the occasion please let me know and we will try and fit it in. Do come and join us, see if we can raise the roof at St Peter's.

Brian West 264801

Barton Christian Fellowship

Come and join us for our Carol Service and tea on Wednesday December 14th at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. We hope that singing by children from the school will start us off and Ruth Bond will be the speaker.

In January we will meet on Wednesday 11th, 2.30pm in the Village Hall, when Rev Michael Matthews will be our speaker.

Cambridge City Food Bank – Can you help to provide food?

CCF has been functioning now for about a year. It gives short term emergency food to individuals and families in crisis. Care professionals refer people to the bank with food vouchers. At the food bank centres (St Paul's, Hills Rd; Our Lady & the British Martyrs and the C3 church) clients exchange their vouchers for food

supplies and also have a cuppa and a chat. There are leaflets available to direct them to any help they might need.

Barton Baptist Church will be a collection point from 18th January. The Church will then be open for donations on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 7.30pm to 8.30pm and the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 2.30pm to 4pm each month. A container will be placed just inside the front door. The food collected will be taken to the food bank store and sorted.

Food required (nothing perishable): Tins – Tomatoes, Sponge pudding, Rice pudding, Meat, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables. Milk (UHT or Powdered), Sugar (500g), Fruit juice, Soup (packet or tinned), Pasta sauces, Cereals, Tea bags, Instant coffee, Mashed potato, Rice, Pasta, Jam, Biscuits and snack bars.

Mary West 264801

Parish Jottings

County Councillor Fiona Whelan highlighted concerns about the possible siting of a new Cambridge United stadium at Trumpington Meadows, therefore in a rural location. Some progress is being made to secure the future of Comberton Library. Fiona was delighted to report that the Cambs CC Standards Committee has ruled that the recent increase in county councillor allowances was illegal.

A new county Highways policy will encourage the spirit of localism by inviting bids for minor improvements, backed up by a 10% local contribution.

District Councillor Francis Burkitt told us of alarm in Grantchester about likely traffic congestion due to football; they will ask for a repeat of the presentation by Grosvenor developers (there is also an alternative proposal for the northern side of the city). He saw a need for villages along the A603 corridor, to put down markers and fight to protect Cambridge's only green lung from future development. Barton Parish Council has invited Grantchester, Coton and Madingley councils to a joint meeting in January to discuss a concerted strategy.

Community Champions'

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) is launching a pilot scheme in South Cambridgeshire to encourage residents to carry out safety checks on their homes. The scheme is innovative in that it will rely on local volunteers to liaise with the community on its behalf.

Community Champions will be trained to speak to local community groups about home fire safety and escape plans, and to refer those people who are unable to carry out a check of their own home to CFRS for additional support. More information on the scheme can be found by contacting Lynda.bubb@cambsacre.org.uk or on 01353 865037.

Notice board and website

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

Next Council meetings: Tuesday 6th December

Tuesday 3rd January 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Patrick De Backer 262577 bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com

Village News

Barton Lunch Club – Friday, 2nd December Christmas Lunch 12.30 for 1pm in the Village Hall The January lunch is on Friday 6th

For reservations or cancellations, please contact Anne Coulson 262666

Thanks – Heather Chisholm

Thank you to all my lovely friends who kept my spirits up in so many creative ways following my recent operation. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Thanks – The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Collection 2011

Very many thanks to all who gave so generously to the 2011 Poppy Appeal.

The Barton Village Collection amounted to £1,422.57. With the tax reclaimed from the Gift Aid envelopes amounting to approximately £88.87 our total collection should come to a grand total of approximately £1,511.44

So once again thank you for your strong support for such a worthwhile cause.

To all our door to door collectors and the owners of establishments who gave up much needed counter space to the static boxes, a very public thank you for such terrific help and support.

Pat Magill

Thanks – Jaybees

We would like to thank everybody who attended the ‘Jaybees’ performances on 28th & 29th October, when we were able to give the charity £1,500! We were overwhelmed by the generosity of not only the audiences but the donations from people who could not be there. We could not have succeeded without the help and very hard work of our many friends, who so freely gave their time.

This year we have been able to give over £2,500 to charity, so once again many thanks for your help in raising this amount.

Judith Bowen and Pat Vaughan

WI News

The November meeting was a talk by Mrs Mary Ellis on the ups and downs of B&B, titled ‘Sheets and Sausages’. The December meeting is our Christmas party, where we play games, have a bran tub, are entertained by the WI choir and enjoy a bring-and-share buffet supper.

Julia Stibbs

Barton Gardeners

Mince Pie & Coffee Morning

Saturday 3rd December - 10am to Noon - Barton Village Hall

Come and enjoy a seasonal get-together and browse the varied gift stalls, which include some favourites as well as a Macmillan Charity card stall, plus a Great Festive Raffle.

Everyone is welcome to join us. Free entry

At the **AGM**, it was agreed that annual Membership subscriptions should be increased to £15 per household and £7.50 for single occupancy. It was also agreed that, due to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in June 2012, an Horticultural Show will be held in September 2012 instead of July. More details will follow.

Sue Edwards 262479

Barton Friendship Club

The sum of £184 was raised for funds at the coffee/bring and buy on 22nd October, many thanks to all concerned. On 6th December, the Christmas lunch will be held at 1pm in the Village Hall. No meeting will be held on 3rd January 2012. Next meeting will be on 17th January at 2.30pm with a Games afternoon of Hoy.

Members £1.50, non-members £2. (includes tea/coffee/biscuits). New members are most welcome.

Roma Patman-Wallis

Barton Playgroup



We started the school year with activities based around the Elmer books looking at colours, shapes, emotions and opposites. For the last half of term the children are learning about Autumn Festivals, and of course, Christmas.

Thank you to those of you who supported our Christmas Shopping Evening - we hope you enjoyed browsing the stalls and sampling maybe the first mince pies of the season! The new outdoor climbing frame purchased with the proceeds of The Best of British Day has now arrived, and the children are having great fun playing on it!

This term will close with our Christmas Party and a visit from Santa (if we are good!) Rehearsals are well underway for our performance for the parents - Drama Group watch out!

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

Wendy Guest

Diamond Jubilee

A heartfelt thank you to all of you who have given a donation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. We have been thrilled with the overwhelming positive response.

CHILDREN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE COMPETITION

In June 2012 Queen Elizabeth II will have been on the throne for 60 years and to commemorate this we are running a DIAMOND JUBILEE COMPETITION that all Barton children up to (and including) 16 year olds can enter.

We are asking you to design a picture for the Jubilee; the overall winner will have their design printed on a Jubilee mug and every child in Barton will be given that mug!

All the pupils at Barton School and Playgroup will be entered through the school or playgroup. If you don't attend either of these and would like to enter the competition please e-mail Sophia Smith on smith.sophia1@gmail.com before January 1st 2012 with your name, address and age and you will be sent more details. If you are in this age group and would prefer not to take part but would like a mug please e-mail Sophia with your name and address. Additional mugs will also be on sale later in the year.

Tea at Three

Our next traditional English Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall will be on Saturday, 4th February, at 3pm, this time to mark the start of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year. Come along to Barton's Ritz to enjoy an afternoon relaxing and chatting with friends over tea, as well as a selection of dainty sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, and delectable home-made cakes. To reserve a place, please contact one of us below, giving names, payment at £8 per head, and any dietary requirements. Profits will again be given to Cancer Research UK.

Margaret Winterbourne (262353), Ruth Bond (262985), Alison Brock (264985), Marjorie Pratt (262592).

Neighbourhood Watch

Police are urging residents to take extra security precautions now that the evenings are longer. During winter months many people will be returning home from work, school, or maybe shopping to find homes in darkness and may feel more vulnerable in the dark, especially those that live alone.

To ensure a home is as secure as possible:

- * Installing good lighting is an excellent way to deter a would-be thief, particularly by fitting exterior lights with dawn-to-dusk sensors. These are light sensitive and switch on automatically when it gets dark and off when it gets light.
- * Use timer switches inside the property. These can be linked to lighting or even a radio giving the impression that someone is at home
- * Close your blinds or curtains at night. This prevents people from looking into your home. If your children are home first from school encourage them to close curtains and blinds first.
- * Keep windows and doors secure, even if you are at home. The majority of burglaries happen because someone has left a window or door open.
- * Lock side gates. Potential burglars are less likely to try and break in from the front where they can be seen.
- * Fit an alarm – around 75 per cent of attempted burglaries on homes fitted with alarms are unsuccessful.
- * Do not leave spare keys hidden outside for children – a burglar will always look for these first.
- * Mark your valuables. Expensive electrical equipment can be marked with your postcode and house number, and garden and shed equipment can be marked with a spare can of paint or even nail varnish.
- * Do not leave car keys near the front door or anywhere easy to find.
- * Ensure all gates, external doors (including cars) are locked and secure in the evening.

Please report anything suspicious in the area to the police on 0345 456 456 4, or 999 if you believe there is a threat to life or property.

Keep safe, Bev Edwards

BRIG

Thanks to all who supported the Autumn coffee morning on 12th November and helped to make this another successful event.

BRIG is having a jam, chutneys, pictures, BRIG calendars and cards stall at the **Gardeners coffee morning on 3rd December** for all who missed stocking up in November.

Father Christmas at Burwash:- Saturdays 10th and 17th December. 11am to 4pm
£3 per child

This year BRIG is running the Christmas Grotto. Proceeds to further items needed inside the New Pavilion. Do come and bring children and grandchildren to support this venture.

Meta Greenfield, Lettings Secretary, C-262005 meta.greenfield@btinternet.com

Barton Energy Group

How much of your heat is escaping from your home? Where are the draughts?

We will be having the thermal imaging camera for use in the village for the weekend of 9 – 11th December. This can be used to identify poor insulation and heat loss areas in your home. If you would like us to use the camera on your home, please let either Bev Edwards (262479) or Mary MacDonald (262378) know, and we will try to arrange a suitable time. Depending on the weather, early evenings are best to do the survey, so we should be able to get to those of you who work too! We are expected to ask for a small donation for this, so will be requesting £5 per house, which will go to Cambridge Carbon Footprint, who own the camera.

Reindeer Evenings – Saturday 3rd December, Bird's Farm, 5 – 7pm

Monday 5th December, Burwash Manor, 5.30 – 7.30pm

featuring real Cairngorm Reindeer, Santa, Magician, Festive Catering

£3 Adults; £2 Children; Under-3s Free. All proceed to CRT

Comberton Ramblers – Join our friendly group for wonderful walks

Comberton Ramblers' Association walks an average of 5-6 miles every fortnight on a Sunday morning. We are a very friendly group who totally enjoy the lead walks in our beautiful countryside. There's time to take a rest break if needed or to simply stop and enjoy the view or visit places of interest along the way.

Our members come from many local villages and from within Cambridge itself.

Go on, give us a try, you'll have the benefit of an exhilarating walk plus the companionship of a group of like-minded people.

Membership is £7.50 per person for the year and people under 18 are free.

For more information and a further list of our walks, please contact the Secretary, Eileen Marsh on 262940 or email marsh.eileen@gmail.com
www.combertonramblers.org.uk

11th December – Wimpole 5.5 miles Beautiful undulating farmland and woods.

Meet at the Hardwick Arms 208802

FOCAL – Supporting Comberton Library

The Comberton Library is now open with self-service machines. Please try out the new system and encourage others to revisit the library. Membership increased over the summer as a result of campaigning, especially the WI birthday campaign; there were 15 new members in August and 16 in September. Perhaps budding journalists could write pieces for local press and parish magazines on why the library is important to them.

On Friday 2nd December at 8pm Comberton Cantabile's Christmas entertainment in Comberton Village Hall is in aid of the Support Comberton Library fund, tickets are £7 and there will be a raffle organised by members of FOCAL.

There are posts for volunteers to support the library in various ways, and we are hoping that Lynda Martin will come to a meeting soon to discuss these, but in the meantime, I am happy to provide details.

Suzan Griffiths, Chair FOCAL, 18 Barrons Way, Comberton

<http://friendsofcombertonlibrary.wordpress.com/>

Re-ablement – Being independent following an operation or illness

If you or someone you care for requires social care support following an illness or operation, there is now a new service, re-ablement, to support people who have poor physical or mental health following illness or an operation, or who need occupational therapy, to continue living in their own homes.

Re-ablement programmes can last for as little as a few days and generally don't exceed six weeks. The ethos of re-ablement is to encourage people to do things for themselves rather than having things done for them. There is no charge to the individual as long as they are participating in the programme.

You can find out more about re-ablement at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social

Comberton Leisure Centre Events – December and January

There is still time to enjoy events at Comberton Village College this festive season.

Tickets are on sale now for both our Christmas Concert, featuring seasonal music and readings, on Tuesday December 6th and our Winter Dance Showcase on Saturday December 10th. This is a fantastic opportunity to see the outstanding work that our pupils have been doing in dance this term. You will be amazed!

For over-18s, don't forget to check out our regular Custard Comedy evenings. Not only will have a laugh, but you'll get the chance to see some of the best established and up-and-coming comics on your doorstep.

For more information on these and any of the events at Comberton Village College, please visit our website www.combertonvc.org or call into either the school reception or the reception at Comberton Leisure.

Thursday 1 st - Saturday 3 rd December	Grease <i>All-action musical with pupils from all years.</i>	7.30pm (plus 2.30pm matinee on Saturday)	£6 & £7 (adults); £4 & £5 (concessions)
Saturday 3 rd December	Christmas Bazaar	11-3pm	Free admission
Tuesday 6 th	Christmas Concert	7pm	£5 & £3 (Concessions)

December			
Saturday 10 th December	Winter Dance Showcase A chance to see the outstanding work that our pupils have been doing in dance this term	7.30	£5/£3
Friday 16 th December	Custard Comedy	Doors Open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door
Saturday 14 th January 2012	Splitz Dance Show	TBC	TBC
Friday 20 th January	Custard Comedy	Doors Open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door
Saturday & Sunday January 28 th & 29 th	Empowerment Live Self-Help Conference http://www.empowerment-live.co.uk/		

More details of all our events can be found on the college website www.combertonvc.org or the Comberton Leisure website at www.combertonleisure.com

Learn to Sing A cappella Close Harmony – Encouraging Men to Sing

Supported by a national music educational charity, this course is being run to encourage both newcomers and those who have not sung for a while. You will learn within a group, which makes it less daunting. Come along – It's Free! – You do not have to be able to read music – No experience necessary – Men of all ages welcome. The six week course starts on 19th January 2012 at the Institute Abington. For further details and registration phone Stephen Brown Cambridge 833725 www.cambridgechordcompany.co.uk

Adult Education – Comberton Village College

Places exist in many classes in 2012. For further information phone 264721 email commed@comberton.cambs.sch.uk, or see www.commed.combertonvc.org It is often possible to join a class in term 2 but please come and try a session if unsure. Many classes start 9th January but please check.

Comberton Players present

Sleeping Beauty

Fun & sparkle for all the family at Comberton Village Hall
 Friday 9th December at 7.30, Sat. 10th December at 2.30 & 7.30
 Tickets £6/£4 available from 01223 262214