

## **Dear Friends,**

You will notice it's all change at the parish magazine this month, as Fiona Kirker takes over the reins for February's edition of the parish magazine. Thank you so much Fiona for being willing, and also to Lorraine and Wendy for all their hard work in the past, and now for supporting Fiona over the next few editions. Welcome Fiona! It's also all change at St Peter's too as we move our traditional Book of Common Prayer service to the first Sunday of the month from February, and welcome a new service of Morning Worship on the fourth Sunday. We hope that you will continue to feel very welcome at all our services at St Peter's, and we look forward to seeing you. We are also excited about new lights that will be installed this month too!

It's nearly Lent, which means pancakes (at the start at least) and it also means Love. Lent can also act rather like a spiritual MOT for some. As I write it's early January, and driving around the villages I notice many more runners about, maybe taking the opportunity of the New Year to start a new habit. Perhaps some of us have given ourselves a physical MOT, recognizing that it's time we get fit, or make a new start with those good habits that have fallen by the wayside. In the Church's calendar, Shrove Tuesday is always followed by Ash Wednesday which heralds the start of Lent. This year Ash Wednesday also falls on Valentines Day. To me this is perfect. The observance of Ash Wednesday for Christians is a time for saying sorry and for self-examination (perhaps that's where the MOT comes in) – so it is fitting that love will be celebrated that day too as for Christians, that day and the whole of Lent takes us back to the very heart of God, and the love shown through Jesus dying on the cross for all of creation, for you and me as we then celebrate Easter and his resurrection. So I say, Lent is about love.

For Christmas I asked for two things: the film *Educating Rita* on DVD, and a CD full of my favourite tunes for listening to in the car. As I drive about and listen, one of those tunes – nestled between Dolly Parton, Florence and the Machine and Stormzy(!) – is the Black Eyed Peas singing “Where is the Love?”.

When I despair at the cruel conflicts around the world, and the words and actions of some of our world leaders' and the poverty in our midst and beyond, I do ask, where is the love? Cheesy as it may sound, as I pray for things to change – I must look at myself first and ask the same question, is my heart ready to love? Lent is the perfect opportunity to reflect again for ourselves on that question. Do check

out the Church of England #  Heartready social media campaign and find out ways in which you can be heart-ready for Lent this year.

So enjoy the pancakes, and I pray that as Valentines Day unites with Ash Wednesday, may you be heart-ready and find love at the very heart of Lent.

With much love Becca

*Revd Becca Gilbert, Vicar to Lordsbridge Team*

## **Church News**

Thank you to all who contributed so generously at our Christmas services; we have sent been able to send £664 to the Children's Society.

**Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup> Pre-Lent Soup Lunch** in the village Hall from 12 noon. There is no charge but we invite donations for WaterAid, a charity providing safe water and better sanitation for poor communities, saving some - mostly women - long walks to collect water, which is often dirty and contaminated. We serve a variety of soups and bread, so do come and support us and help WaterAid.

**Joint Lent Discussion Group** our joint Lent Discussion Group will start on Wednesday February 21st at 7.30pm in the Baptist Church. More details will be available in the churches early February

### **Churchyard Wall**

You may have noticed that part of the churchyard wall, near the car park in School Lane, is close to collapsing. It has been agreed that, under the architect's direction, much of the demolition and rebuilding is a task which can be tackled by village volunteers. It is hoped the work will be undertaken in the Spring, once all the necessary permissions have been given. The work will involve: wall demolition and cleaning of bricks for re-use; trench excavation; shuttering and other preparations for concrete foundations; re-building, using lime mortar, as per architect's plans; general assistance and completion aspects.

The writer would like to assemble a small band, of say up to six folk, who are prepared to do this job, as a voluntary contribution to the village. Their input of time, on say two or three days per week for about a month, can be agreed mutually. If you are interested, please contact me on 262845 or [johnboocock@btinternet.com](mailto:johnboocock@btinternet.com).

*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**

In January 2001 the then Baptist Church secretary Freda Thynne wrote in her annual report, "A tremendous amount of dedicated work has been done by our faithful members and friends in an effort to foster the love and fellowship between us and to make Jesus known in our village" I echo her words as I do have recently written the secretary's report for 2017. Freda grew up in Barton and her father was Baptist minister here at Barton Baptist from 1937-1948. Freda started to come to the Baptist church when she was 17 yrs. She trained as a primary school teacher and taught all her life in Cambridge. When her parents passed away Freda and her

brother Gordon continued to live in the family home which their parents had built. Gordon played the organ here at the Baptist church. During her retirement Freda looked after her brother when he became unwell and they both continued to give wonderful service to this little church. In her latter years (and when I got to know Freda) she had an ulcer in her leg which never completely healed. Freda continued to pray for the church and the village of Barton. Her Christian family and their dedication to the village of Barton are such a fine example to follow. Freda died aged 91yrs. Freda concluded her 2001 report with the following, “We must continue to give thanks to God for each other, for the gifts he gives to his people and for opportunities for service. And continue to pray for one another and especially for Brian and Mary” Again I echo her words. She closes with a wonderful verse which is as relevant to our lives now as it was when Paul wrote it in his letter to the Ephesians, “And now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever! Amen”

*Alison Foster*

**March 3rd Women's World Day of Prayer.**

Barton will not be hosting a service this year but there is opportunity to join others in the surrounding villages:

7.30pm St Mary's Church Comberton

6.30pm The Methodist Chapel Haslingfield with refreshments from 6.00pm

*Ruth Bond*

## **Parish Jottings**

### **County Councillor Lina Joseph**

Lina's latest reports can be accessed on the parish website.

### **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](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk) Barton Councillors continue to be involved with discussions.

**Bin collection dates:** also shown on parish website

Wednesday 7 February blue and green

Wednesday 14 February black

Wednesday 21 February blue and green

Wednesday 28 February black

### **Dog Mess**

This remains a problem in many parts of the village. Please use the Dog Walk along one side of the Rec and clear up afterwards!

**Financial review and setting of precept 2018-19.**

Over the last few meetings the Parish Council examined its financial position and was mindful of projects planned and of increased costs of services provided. It therefore decided to set the precept at £22,000, a rise of 5.55% or £3.00 per band D property. The Barton total per household of £56.98, raised from you, covers general maintenance in the village, grass cutting, upkeep and renewal of sports facilities and play equipment, some lighting, etc. It remains a modest sum in comparison with neighbouring villages. 2017-18 precepts in other parishes were: Comberton £65.04, Coton £64.81, Grantchester £83.07, Madingley £66.88.

**Upcoming elections, both Barton itself and the District:**

May I remind you that our Parish Council will be up for election this year on 3<sup>rd</sup> 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? Do contact any current councillor or the Clerk for further information.

**Hoarding – a message from local authorities.**

Hoarding is a serious and complex issue that goes far beyond simple untidiness. It is a recognised mental health condition requiring careful treatment. Hoarding is a widespread issue affecting between 2% and 3% of the population - approximately 1.2 million people in the UK. People who display hoarding behaviours excessively collect items such as newspapers, books, clothing, and in some cases rubbish, rotten food and animals, resulting in unmanageable amounts of clutter. This in turn can cause serious health problems, structural damage, pest infestations and serious risk of fire. If you discover someone displaying hoarding behaviours, you can find help and practical advice at [www.helpforhoarders.co.uk](http://www.helpforhoarders.co.uk) or contact South Cambridgeshire District Council on 03450450063 or contact the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service on 08009179994 or <http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk>

**Vacancy for Parish Clerk in Barton**

Do you want to be more involved in village life? Are you able to work flexible hours at home, currently 9 hours a week, and attend the Council meeting on the first Tuesday of the month?

You can gain valuable administrative experience and an insight into local government. Much of the work involves keeping Councillors aware by Email, drawing up agendas and writing minutes. You also administer financial transactions. Any training needed will be provided.

The post will fall vacant on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, but a negotiated start can be made earlier. You will find details of the Council's activities on [www.barton-cambs.org.uk](http://www.barton-cambs.org.uk) or for further information contact Patrick De Backer, the current Clerk, [bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:bartonpcclerk@btinternet.com) or 07771 923710.

**Next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 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>**

## **Village News**

### **Barton Church Jumble Sale - Saturday 17th February 2.30pm in the Village Hall.**

This annual event is a great fundraiser for the church and this year proceeds will help with the new heating system for the church. Please support by donating items to sell, Including Unwanted gifts and Bric- a -brac; children's toys and books; Books, bedding and soft furnishing; Shoes; Clean clothing- men's, women's, and children's as well as Nearly New. Take this as a good opportunity to de-clutter. Unsold items are gifted to Emmaus, Each and the Salvation Army so nothing is wasted. Setting up will be on the Saturday morning from 10am till 12 noon. Please bring donations then. Jumble can also be collected or dropped off before the day to the following people:

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

### **Barton Lunch Club – Friday 2nd February, 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 £3.00. 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.

*Helen Newstead*

## **PlayGroup**

Playgroup celebrated their last day of term before Christmas with a performance of “The Rainbow Fish” to parents, before having a party with a very special guest - Father Christmas. January brought with it some new arrivals at Playgroup, so the “All About Me” boxes were re-introduced to help the new children settle in and for others to learn about their interests.

Dinosaurs is our topic for this term - so we have and will continue to learn about them through literacy, numeracy and art - including dinosaur themed counting games, poetry and activities around archaeology.

*Bex Saunders*

## **Barton WI**

Our Christmas party, the usual medley of games, entertainment and food, went very well. At our January meeting we discussed the five resolutions short-listed for debate at the national Annual Meeting in Cardiff. A Committee member gave

a short presentation about each resolution and this was followed immediately by a quick discussion in small groups. At the end of the presentations and inter-member debates each member voted secretly for her preferred resolution. The results of the voting go forward to County WI Office to be collated and sent on the National Office where the nationwide votes will be amalgamated and the resolution with the most support will go forward for debate in Cardiff. Later in January we host a cookery demonstration on paella-making to which our sister WI, Wednesday Women, have been invited. The format of our February meeting, traditionally run by three or four members with no input from the Committee, remains a mystery. Most of us will arrive at the meeting to a surprise!

*Ann Killen*

### **Lost Property**

There are four umbrellas (two ladies & two mens), a pair of black gloves and a child's anorak left in the cloakroom of the village hall. If you have lost any of these items, please retrieve during the month of January or they will go in the next jumble sale. Key holders : Helen Newstead 262543, Patrick Coulson 262666 or Sue Clemo 264765

*Patrick Coulson*

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

There are very high crime levels in Cambridgeshire currently, and Barton is no exception. Please be careful to protect your property against burglary as best you can, as it is on the increase. Also, please be very careful about leaving items in your vehicle, especially if they are on view. Opportunistic vehicle crime is a particular problem now, and police are unable to prevent it.

*Keep safe, Bev Edwards*

### **Barton Gardeners**

Spring may seem a long way off and gardening may not be uppermost in our minds just now with the ground being so wet and the weather being far from inviting. However, I have seen snowdrops in bloom and it won't be long before crocus and daffodils appear, and we are tempted back out into our gardens and greenhouses. Before we know it we will be sowing seeds and preparing for the start of the new growing season.



**Potatoes** - We wish to encourage our budding horticulturalists, so if your children do **not** attend Barton Primary School or Playgroup and they would like to grow potatoes for the Junior Classes in the Show in July, please get in touch with Sue Clemo **now** to order your free seed potato which will be ready for collection in April.

*Many Thanks, BG Committee 264765 or  
[bartongardeners@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> February. In December our speaker was chef Alan Darby who demonstrated cooking with sweet pastry and showed us how to use it by making mince pies, cream slices and apricot tarts. Whilst they were cooking, he gave us the recipe and method for the pastry and we were all able to sample them once they were finished. They looked fabulous and tasted delicious! I'm sure many members will be trying this out at home. At January's meeting, we will be making chicken wire sculptures. For more information, please visit our Facebook page Wednesday Women WI, Email [wednesdaywomenwi@live.com](mailto:wednesdaywomenwi@live.com) or Phone Sara on 07810 663870

*Louise Gough*

### ***Barton Wildlife Group***

We had a lovely walk round the fields between Christmas and New Year, and I was surprised just how many of less common birds we saw - especially the Grey Wagtail and the Tree Creeper, in addition to those that we expected to see. Our next meeting is on **Weds 14th February, 10.00 - 12.00 in the Pavilion**. Do drop in for coffee and a chat, so that we can tell you more about what we are doing. See what is in an owl pellet, and find out how simple it is to make a nest box for the birds, among other things.

We aim to have a meeting each half term and school holiday, and have planned several meetings over the coming months, so why not join us?

**Weds 11th April, 4.00 - 6.00pm Blossom, Birds and Bees in Barton Orchard**

**Weds 30th May, 3.30 - 5.00pm Flowers and Insects along The Drift**

**Weds 8th August, 3.00 - 5.00 Dipping in the Brook**

We look forward to seeing you, and hearing of your wildlife sightings.

Also, if anyone is interested in "Beating the Bounds" of the Parish around midsummer, (approximately 9 miles) please get in touch

*Mary MacDonald*

### ***The Barton Ritz***

On Saturday 24th February: 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Barton's Ritz opens its doors once more.

Indulge the taste buds with delectable savouries and dainty cakes served in the opulent surroundings of The Palm Court Tea Room, £15.00 per person, Barton Village Hall.

Booking essential via Margaret (262353) or Ruth (262985)

*Ruth Bond*

## **Barton Drama Group**

Presents

# **The Ladykillers**

By Graham Lineham

**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](http://www.booking-bdg.co.uk)

[www.bartondramagroup.com](http://www.bartondramagroup.com)

### ***Comberton Ramblers Club***

The Comberton Ramblers Club walk on alternative Sundays. All walks start at 10.15 a.m. Walks are from 4 - 7 miles, usually ending near a public house! We are a friendly / informative group and new walkers are welcome to join us with up to 2 free walks, and if you enjoy our walks we request that you become a member. For further details please contact the Secretary: [stella.ramblers@hotmail.com](mailto:stella.ramblers@hotmail.com) or 01954 210049

*Stella Joyner*

### ***Comberton Library***

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

**Upcoming Rhymetime sessions:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February and 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March (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! More details at: <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library>

*Rosemary Pryke, Comberton Library*

### ***Homestart: Royston & South Cambs***

(HSRSC) helps families with children age 9 and under cope with post natal depression, illness, isolation, bereavement, disability, domestic abuse and much more, offering regular support and practical help. For more info see: [www.hsrsc.org](http://www.hsrsc.org) They are holding a **fundraising literary lunch with author Madeleine Reiss**, on Weds 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 12.15pm at The Old Bull Inn, Royston. Tickets £15 from 01763 262262 or [www.ticketsource.co.uk/hsrsc](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hsrsc)

*Tracy Aggett*