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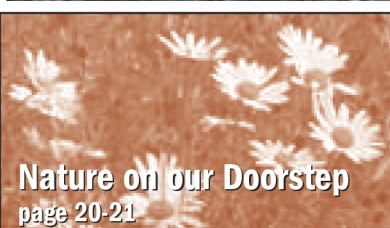
AUTUMN 2009

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Autumn – mists and  
mellow fruitfulness

PHOTO: IMAGI



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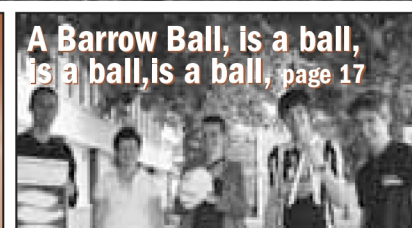


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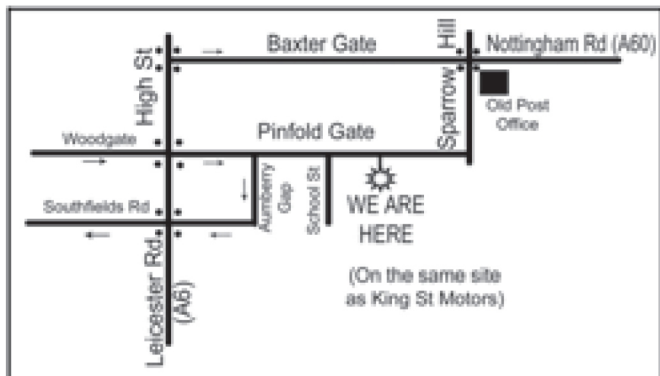


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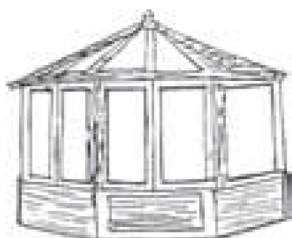
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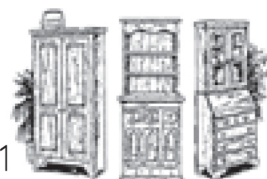
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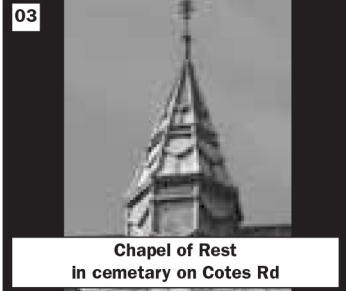

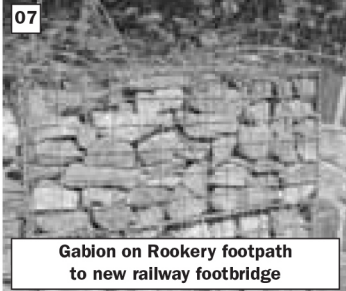









# Barrow Photo Quiz

Here are the answers to last issue's photo quiz, which can also be found on the website.

We asked if you could wander around and see how many of these Barrow features you could spot.

*How many did you manage?*

0-7 *You'd rather read BV* 8-14 *Keen wanderer* 15-22 *Barrow expert!*

<p>01</p>  <p>Bench mark on Holy Trinity Church tower low down</p>	<p>02</p>  <p>Bridge number by Mill Lane and Navigation Inn</p>
<p>03</p>  <p>Chapel of Rest in cemetery on Cotes Rd</p>	<p>04</p>  <p>Chimney at 53 Melton Road</p>
<p>05</p>  <p>Drain at Fishpool Brook - Melton Rd near Breachfield Rd junction</p>	<p>06</p>  <p>Entrance to Proctor's Park</p>
<p>07</p>  <p>Gabion on Rookery footpath to new railway footbridge</p>	<p>08</p>  <p>High Street Railway Bridge from new footbridge</p>
<p>09</p>  <p>Humphrey Perkins School, Cotes Road</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>Leaning seat, King George Playing field</p>
<p>11</p>  <p>Methodist Chapel North Street</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>Mill Lane Recreation Ground</p>
<p>13</p>  <p>Millennium Sundial</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>Navigation Inn on wall facing canal</p>
<p>15</p>  <p>New Railway footbridge</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Number 8 on Millennium Sundial</p>
<p>17</p>  <p>Part of shelter at King George P.F.</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>Plaque on garage 45 South Street</p>
<p>19</p>  <p>Post Box, Cotes Road</p>	<p>20</p>  <p>The Thrush eggs on Millennium Park</p>
<p>21</p>  <p>Tomb in Churchyard</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>Top hat ride at Mill Lane Recreation Ground</p>

# Barrow Focus joins Barrow Voice

**I**n this autumn edition, we welcome the inclusion of the Parish Council's 'Barrow Focus' pages. This two-page item will be a regular feature and can be identified easily by the Council's logo. This is a partnership between Barrow Voice and the Parish Council and we are pleased to be able to offer councillors the facility of a regular and consistent means of keeping the village up to date with its news and views. In return we are grateful for their financial contribution towards the running costs of the magazine. Readers should be aware that the PC pages represent the views of the Council and are not subject to the usual editorial controls.

As we start a new advertising year, we would like to thank our advertisers for their continuing support. We received some comments after the last edition about the balance of editorial versus advertising space. We very much appreciate feedback and will take these comments into account when planning future editions. However, advertising revenue is what enables us to continue to produce a free - and what we like to think is a quality - publication for every household. Thanks too go to Judith and Chris for their hard work in this area.

*Frances Thompson*

## News

# An identity crisis for Barrow?

**'V**illage fears it will be swamped by housing' ran the headline in the Leicester

Mercury in July and it comes as no surprise that the village in question was Barrow. Even before all the houses on the present David Wilson/Miller Homes Cotes/Nottingham Road site are built and sold, Jelison Ltd are reported to be testing the water at Charnwood Borough Council for a whole new housing project on a 38-acre site off Melton Road.

Barrow has a thriving centre with shops and services; it has regular bus and rail services and easy access to motorway links. It has an attractive riverside location and a strong community spirit. You can see why people want to live here. But can

upwards of another 1000 residents be accommodated without the village losing the very things which attract people to it?

One resident of Melton Road, who did not want to be named, expressed her concerns.

'Barrow has already grown too big. It's not NIMBYism to say 'no more', rather a desire to keep what is good in the village.'

At their August meeting, Barrow Parish Council passed the following resolution: **To write to the Developer to express concern and to request involvement at all stages and to notify County Council Highways of concern relating to traffic matters.**

## Have your say

Do you have fears about traffic, school or health provision or any other factors which will be affected by a significant rise in population?

Barrow Voice will be following this story as and when more information becomes available but we'd like to have your thoughts.

Email to [editor@barrowvoice.co.uk](mailto:editor@barrowvoice.co.uk) or write to 17 North Street.

We will print a selection of views in the next edition.



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# The Trap: what's happening to it?

**T**he article that was to have appeared here began:

"It is very sad to see various businesses closing down due to the current economic climate. The Trap pub on North Street has been closed for several months now. During July, the building was sealed up with shiny corrugated iron. Just a few weeks on and it already looks very desolate."

However, at proof-reading stage of Barrow Voice at the end of August, I noticed that the Trap was OPEN and doing business. So I went to have a chat with the new manager, Teresa Pritchard.

Teresa has managed pubs for Classic Pubs all over the country. She came out to Barrow on their behalf to look over the pub on August 19th and instantly fell in love with the village

which she finds most picturesque (not surprising for someone born and bred in Dudley). She took over the Trap the following week and opened it two days later. So there was no messing around!

Even though she had only been open for two days by the time I spoke to her, she was full of ideas to improve trade and get the Trap back on the map. As a mother of four kids and nine grandchildren, she wants it to be a family pub where all the family can enjoy themselves in a safe environment. She is eager to develop the garden and outside play area and feels that the indoor children's play area has huge potential for the community. She sees the Trap as an excellent meeting place for young mums with their toddlers to come for a coffee and a good chat while the kids play. She also intends to provide a pool table,

regular live entertainment and darts matches as well as to become a meeting place for village organizations.

Teresa has been overwhelmed by the response of previous regulars. She says she's never experienced such support and enthusiasm in all the time she has worked in the trade. People have flocked in, really pleased that the Trap has reopened. She asked me to say how much she appreciates this support. **She also asked me to mention that if anyone feels like volunteering to do a bit of gardening for her she would be hugely grateful. Just pop in!!**

The Trap has tremendous historic value to the village. It was given its name because men toiling in the lime workings up Nottingham Road spent much of their week's wages there on a Friday evening in the 19th century. So it is really pleasing to be able to report that it isn't about to be turned into another housing development or allowed to become derelict. We offer Teresa our best wishes for a successful re-establishing of The Trap.

*Judith Rodgers*







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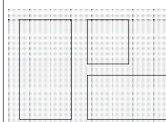
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# HPHS takes action to reduce sports hall noise



**S**ince it was first opened in September 2008, it was clear that there were noise issues arising from the use of the sports hall. The staff and governors at Humphrey Perkins High School are committed to making it as accessible as possible to the community as well as fully available for school use without upsetting residents who live nearby.

Following advice from an independent acoustic engineer, these measures have been put in place:

1. Rubber bobbins have been placed behind the internal rebound boards to

reduce the low frequency vibrations which result from balls and bodies banging into the boards. Measurement of noise levels indicates that the bobbins have reduced this noise nuisance.

2. 5-a-side football was discontinued until the installation of the bobbins was complete.

3. The standard five-a-side footballs have been replaced with much lighter foam versions. When these hit the rebound boards, the noise is noticeably less than before.

4. A muffler has been installed on the dehumidifier.

5. Shrubs and trees have been planted between the building and the neighbouring houses and more will be planted in the autumn.

6. Acoustic net curtains will be hung inside the sports hall to dampen the high frequency vibrations that arise when people shout and scream and generally use the facilities. This should take place during the summer holidays.

It is a marvelous new resource for both the school and the community. We are all now hoping that these measures will leave us with a sports hall that can be fully enjoyed by all.



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# Planning permission granted for Holy Trinity extension

Many readers will be aware from church publicity and previous articles in Barrow Voice that Holy Trinity Church is planning to build an extension to the church to provide improved facilities for all users. The new extension will abut the north side of the church with access from the nave via a door from the north aisle opposite the existing south door. The facility will include a hall, which can be partitioned off into smaller rooms, together with toilet and kitchen areas and a new boiler for both the church and extension. The new build will offer about the same area as the existing Church Rooms which it will replace.

Much effort has gone into the design of the extension since the first plans were produced in November 2004. Planning permission was recently granted by Charnwood Borough Council for the final plan (see illustration) and the project has the support of the Leicestershire diocese.

Detailed planning is now underway with a target for starting building in the Spring/Summer of 2010. Of course, the necessary funds need to be in place and so currently much effort is going into fundraising. The total cost of the whole project will be in the region of £530,000. It is hoped to raise nearly half of this sum from the sale of the Church Rooms. The remainder will be raised through fundraising efforts and grant applications

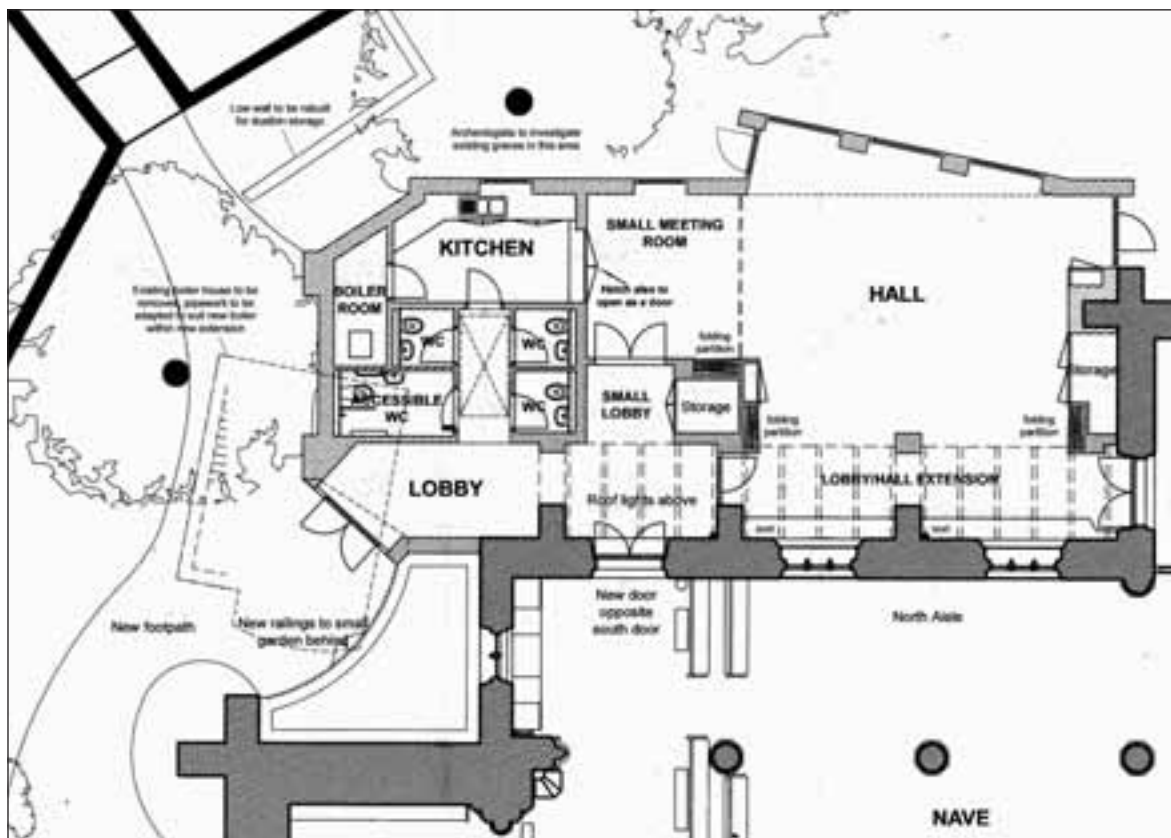
as outlined by Pam Brown, who is chairing the Fundraising committee, in her article in the summer issue of Barrow Voice.

This is an exciting time for all involved with this project which will provide a much improved facility for the whole village community.

Further information and updates on the latest news of the project and fundraising, can be viewed on the special display board in church and also on the Extension Project website:

<http://holytrinitybarrow.wordpress.com>

*Mike Neale*





# Jan Hind in conversation with Tina Long

**F**or this issue I have been in conversation with an amazing lady who, for over 20 years has contributed a great deal to the life of our village. Her name is Bettine (known as Tina) Long. She is, and has been for many years, a leading light in the activities and the running of the 'Bishop Beveridge Club'. She kindly agreed to talk to me for Barrow Voice about how the club started and also about the history associated with it.

Originally built as a Squash Court, and belonging to the Barrow estate, the building was taken over by the Village Adult School on July 18th 1952. At that time many adults had only received minimal schooling and the Adult School was designed to help them to improve their literacy. A general meeting was called in the School on July 18th 1952, to which representatives of all the main village organisations were invited. On the agenda was an item to consider forming a club for Senior Citizens in Barrow. Captain Huston, after whom Huston Close was named, presided at the meeting and there was a unanimous agreement that a club should be formed and run by the village.

In 1962, the Trustees of the Adult School, no longer feeling the need for the Adult School, decided to dispose of it. Mr Heseldine offered it to the newly formed Social Club for £300 + legal costs and it finally changed hands some years later. A meeting was held at the home of Mrs Frances Davis to decide on a name for the club; one lady wanted to call it 'the Darby and Joan Club' but, fortunately, was voted down in favour of 'Bishop Beveridge Club'. (It is still the only senior citizens club in the Borough of Charnwood to own its own premises and you need to be 60 to be able to join.)

Initially, a great deal of work was required to bring the building up to the necessary standard and Harry Perkins Builders did excellent work on the alterations. They put an extension on to the side of the Hall for a kitchen, which was later followed by another one, such was its success. Money for this work was donated by the Shuttlewood Clark Foundation, Charnwood Borough Council, Barrow Parish Council, BUSCA, the Jean Cope trust, and many more. It is fortunate that the Club does receive regular bequests and donations for its upkeep through the medium of wills and these bequests are very important and greatly valued.

At the very start of its new life as a club, various activities were tried. First there was the card and domino night on a Wednesday, (cost 3d each in old money!) which was a huge success, and gradually, more and more activities were included. Everyone was delighted with the club and work continued to be carried out to improve the building and its facilities - the whole 'makeover' took 18 months to complete. The fund raising for this project continued in and around the village and there was even a large 'money thermometer' at a nearby bus stop so that people could see how the fund was progressing.

All the groups in the village pulled together to raise the required money; there were stalls at Humphrey Perkins and all sorts of local activities. Virtually every group in the village made an effort to raise some money for the cause. Captain Huston put a great deal of hard work and time into fundraising. Frances Davis, a great friend of the village of Barrow upon Soar, was one of those extremely committed people who had identified the need for a social centre for elderly people and she had personally

put an enormous effort into getting it up and running. When Frances died, a concert was held in her memory, honouring her as a true friend of the Bishop Beveridge Club.

More recently, some of the money left to the club has been used to buy a lovely umbrella stand with the following words engraved upon it:

'In memory of Frances Davis, Founder Member and Trustee of the Bishop Beveridge Club.'

This will be a constant reminder of a wonderful woman who did so much, not only for the village in general, but also for the Bishop Beveridge Club and the umbrella stand will now hold pride of place at the entrance to the Club. Every year the group celebrate the anniversary of Bishop Beveridge's birthday as, without his efforts there wouldn't have been a club at all.

As well as talking to Tina about the history of the Bishop Beveridge Club, I also spoke to about her family - her late husband Chris, and her daughters, Jenny and Christina. Tina is quick to say that without the staunch support of her family, and particularly her wonderful husband whom she says was 'a brick' and who is still very sadly missed, she could not possibly have done all these things for the village, which she still continues to do.

Bishop Beveridge Club has 14 committee members, not all elderly, plus four others who represent the churches in Barrow. In addition, various societies make use of the facilities for their own group activities. The Club is a living, active, vibrant part of the Barrow Community and Tina Long is a very interesting and hard working lady who has many fascinating memories from

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 People
 

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*Photo (left) - shows Tina (on the right) with her daughter Charlotte and Marie Slater with the umbrella stand in memory of Frances Davis*

her years in Barrow. It was a pleasure and a delight to spend time in conversation with her.

Over the years, a great many people have contributed to the formation, funding and running of this excellent amenity in Barrow-upon-Soar, and if you feel that you too would like to help in some way, or would like to join the Club and spend some time with like-minded people, please contact Tina Long on

01509 412844. She will be happy to welcome you and point you in the right direction. Volunteers of any age are always warmly welcomed as are new members, remembering that the members (but not the volunteers) need to be 60 years old or older.



# THE BOAT HOUSE AT BARROW

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Other race dates are 13th December, 17th January & 28th February.

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### Dragon Boat Races

Following the race theme, advance notice of next year's Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday May 22nd.

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# Spotlight on Jez

**O**ur 'People' stories often turn the spotlight on older people in the village and their achievements over a long lifetime. **Ginnie Willcocks is pleased to redress the balance with her feature on Jez, who has already packed a lot into his life and has become a Royal Marine at the ripe old age of 24.**

When Jez left school he decided that he'd had enough of studying and wanted to see something of the world so left for a season of Summer Camp in America. He then travelled north to Toronto where he stayed with relatives and managed to find work to pay his way in Canada for five months.

He returned to the UK and did some part-time work at Loughborough University sports centre and managed to get some casual, paid work as a Life Guard at the Leisure Centre in East Leake. His enthusiasm for this work was noticed and encouraged by the offer of full time work as a Life Guard and was followed by the management offering him the opportunity to train as a Gym Instructor. Jez's career began to develop in the leisure industry but he wanted to have some time off to travel. This time Africa was to be his destination.

He spent a month in Africa, initially teaching English to African children through a link with a charity that his family support in The Gambia. Although this experience was a huge culture shock for him Jez felt completely safe. The people had very little in the way of money and possessions but he was made extremely welcome and was treated like one of the family. The children loved him, especially when they discovered that he was interested in sport, then all they wanted to do was play football. Jez recalls that they only had one ball and they would have crazy games of football with 50 boys and girls of all ages and sizes.

Jez returned to teaching PE and swimming and training on a part-time

basis for a Diploma in Teaching Exercise and Fitness but he felt that his life needed more so he investigated joining the marines. After virtually a year of having to prove his fitness, due to a health problem he'd had as a child, Jez was able to travel to the marines training centre at Lympstone for three days of very strenuous, very intensive, almost non-stop fitness training, to gain knowledge about the Royal Marines and for the marines to find out about him. This was an assessment, to discover whether a person can cope with the tough 32 week Marine's training programme, for the individual and the organisation.

Jez came home and waited for the phone call to tell him whether he'd been accepted. He heard from several of the friends he'd made during his trial days who had been accepted. Rather than just sit at home and wait, he returned to Africa for a week and came back to England on December 4 2006 at 2am. As soon as he landed he picked up a voicemail message telling him to report to the recruiting office in Leicester, later that same day. When he arrived there - a little jetlagged - he was given the start date for his Marines training which was to be January 22 2007.

Many of the recruits who started with Jez would be together for the next 32 weeks, they would learn to laugh with each other and at each other and would develop a rapport that would help them achieve their goal, the hard won 'green beret'. They would learn that endurance matters more than physique and that - if and when they successfully completed the 32 week training programme - they would be committed to a minimum of four years as a Royal Marine.

Due to a devastating injury to his ankle during a live firing exercise on Dartmoor just a week before his final test, Jez's training came to an abrupt halt. At the time, his comrades thought he'd been shot, such are the rumours among service personnel. It was five months before his ankle was healed and he was completely

physically fit to attempt the final week of assessments. The last trials consist of an endurance speed march, followed by negotiating two miles of tunnels, ditches and hills then another speed march back to camp, all of this within 75 minutes. Then a rest day. The third day a nine-mile speed march carrying a considerable amount of weight and rifle while Day 4 is the tarzan assault course showing your knowledge of how to use ropes. The final day consists of a 30 mile trek beginning at 4am, in the freezing cold, in only your shirt, carrying 21 lbs of webbing, a day sack and rifle. The course has to be completed within eight hours. Jez completed this with time to spare and a very sore heel caused by a blister that materialised during the first few miles.

At the end of the course Jez was overjoyed at his success, especially when presented with his reward, the precious 'green beret' or 'green lid' as they are affectionately called by the marines. Due to his elation at attaining his goal the pain in his heel was hardly noticeable on his journey by coach back to Lympstone. A week of 'drill', ready for the official passing out ceremony followed; this is affectionately called the 'fifth commando test'. This week also gives the new marines the opportunity to consume rather large, well earned, quantities of beer. Jez said it was his and his family's proudest moment when he officially received his green beret.

At the time I was speaking to Jez, he was a short time away from setting off on his first tour of duty to a destination which cannot be revealed. I'd like to thank Jez for taking the time to talk with me in a very modest fashion, giving me the opportunity to share his experiences. I was amazed at his achievements and I'm sure you'll join with me in wishing him every success in his career as a Royal Marine.

*Jez cannot be named and photographed for security reasons.*







## Barrow-upon-Soar Parish Council News

01509 416016

[clerk@barrowpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@barrowpc.org.uk)

# Barrow Focus

<http://barrowuponsoar.leicestershireparishcouncils.org>

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Cllr. W Woodhouse

## MEETINGS CALENDAR

### September

**16<sup>th</sup>** Care for the Elderly Working Party **11.00am**

**29<sup>th</sup>** Youth Council **7.00pm**

### October

**5<sup>th</sup>** Planning Committee **12 noon**

**6<sup>th</sup>** Full Council **7.15pm** commencing with Public Participation

**13<sup>th</sup>** Policy and Finance Committee **2.00pm**

**27<sup>th</sup>** Youth Council **7.00pm**

### November

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Planning Committee **12 noon**

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Full Council **7.15pm** commencing with Public Participation

**10<sup>th</sup>** Care for the Elderly Working Party **11.00am**

**12<sup>th</sup>** Policy and Finance Committee **2.00pm**

**17<sup>th</sup>** Playing Fields Committee

**19<sup>th</sup>** Millennium Park Committee

**24<sup>th</sup>** Youth Council

**25<sup>th</sup>** Cemetery and Other Grounds Committee **11.00am**

### December

**1<sup>st</sup>** Full Council **7.15pm** commencing with Public Participation

**8<sup>th</sup>** Policy and Finance **2.00pm**

SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2009

## Poppy Appeal 2009

The Parish Council has agreed to facilitate this year's Poppy Appeal. Volunteers are desperately needed to coordinate this mammoth task which includes distribution and collection of collection boxes to static collection points and also to house to house collectors and eventually the count. Please contact Lesley at the Parish Office.

## Christmas Lights Event 2009

Will take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December. A Road Closure Order will be in operation from 4.30pm to 7.00pm which includes High Street and Church Street.

Diversion signs will be in place during this time.



## The Slabs

We are informed that funding for this project will not be available during this financial year. We would however like to provide an update.

The County Council has no intention of closing the footpath but it does seek agreement of both Barrow and Quorn Parish Councils to a 3m wide 'multi user route' which could be surfaced in an appropriate manner. Cyclists would be advised to dismount at the bridge. Requirement for lighting is to be reviewed. A section of slabs at the Barrow end of the footpath is to be retained, so helping it to keep a link to the past.

Further to several meetings held with representatives of both Quorn and Barrow Parish Councils we have declined any additional meetings since we could not reach agreement. We are however talking to the County Council. Please let us know your thoughts on this matter.

## Improved access to Parish Council Meetings

At the meeting of Full Council in August our Echo Correspondent acted as guinea pig and was, with assistance, able to access the Parish Council meeting. A portable ramp on loan from Barrow of Treats facilitated this.

Purchase of a ramp and alteration to the actual door are to be considered at the September meeting. The ramp will be loaned again for this meeting.

## Rural Community Council Best Village Competition 2009

The Parish Council made application to Category 1 – Community and Category 2 – Business.

The Clerk and a member of the Council have been invited to attend the presentation evening which is to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Birstall Village Hall.



We will find out then if we have been successful again.

## 106 Agreement attached to David Wilson Homes/Miller Homes

You may be aware that when permission is given for development the developer is bound to provide funding toward infrastructure, thus an Agreement is formed under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act.

Due to the present economic climate some of this funding has been delayed and therefore some improvements are incomplete while some have not even begun.

Provision of cycle lockers adjacent to the entrance of Barrow station has been progressed by officers of the County Council although they were to be installed at the occupation of the 50<sup>th</sup> dwelling. Similarly improvements to bus stops throughout the village is a part completed project. A bus service was launched which serves the development by providing transport to Loughborough and Thurmaston shopping centre. Traffic calming schemes at Nottingham Road and at Cotes Road were to be implemented upon occupation of the 150<sup>th</sup> dwelling. The Cotes Road Scheme has (as part of the 'Safe Route to School') been undertaken and was presumably funded from this agreement. There is no new information relating to the scheme for Nottingham Road.

Funding towards health care is, we are assured, held at the Borough Council until the Primary Care Trust makes application for its release. This funding has to be spent in Barrow.

Areas of open space within the development are progressing and should be implemented prior to occupation of the 200<sup>th</sup> dwelling. Meetings have been held between the Borough Council and the developer, and the Parish Council has been assured that it will continue to be consulted as will our Youth Council. A scheme for Public Art should be approved prior to expiry of two years from commencement of the development or a longer period, subject to agreement of the Borough Council. Contributions to the Library Service has, we assume, been paid over. Contributions to the Education Authority are supposed to be made in tranches but they have actually already been paid over. Hall Orchard, HPHS and Rawlins have all benefitted.



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# A Barrow ball, is a ball, is a ball, is a ball...

**T**welve sports-mad young people from Barrow have been working with world experts in sports technology and artist Kathrin Bohm to design a ground-breaking new sporting product.

Over a seven month period, they attended workshops and brainstorming sessions at Loughborough University, the sports hall at Humphrey Perkins and King George V playing field with youth worker and BOSCAPS leader Alison Johnston. A short film has been made charting the development of their ideas over the seven months.

John Edwards from the Sports Technology Institute commented that the project had been a real eye-opener, not only for the teenagers but also for the team of sports technologists that worked with them. Both groups were free to let their imaginations run wild and the results pushed the boundaries of both sport and art and can be viewed and used as both a sports product and an object of art.

Their brain child, now to be called a Barrow Ball, consists of a second 'skin' for a

football. The easiest way to envisage what we're talking about here is to imagine a football-shaped fabric bag. The fabrics that I've seen have included tartan, bright yellow fur fabric, a hairy one that looks very like a wig and a shocking pink one. The bag may be given carrying handles so this skin becomes a football carrier bag, or the handles can be tucked inside and the ball used for practising all the usual football control skills. When you do this you find that the ball's bounce and roll qualities are strongly affected by the kind of skin. One of the group came up with the idea of attaching a skipping rope to the skin instead of the handles.

Once a real product range had emerged from all the fantastical ideas that came up on the way, the University had them made them up as kits so they were ready for the 'Launch' on June 14 as part of Loughborough University's Centenary Day. Kathrin Bohm's artists group 'Public Works' will create a specially designed shop unit in which the skins will be displayed alongside products that have been made by other equivalent collaborations in villages linked into an international rural network including

Bulgaria, Netherlands, Germany and Japan.

However, as Alison pointed out, the product was of secondary importance to the teenagers. What they relished was the sense of challenge and the cooperative response between all the members of the team. She praised them for their commitment and enthusiasm.

*Judith Rodgers*





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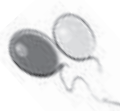
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# Inspiring mental well-being in schools

In May 2009 Humphrey Perkins School hosted a cutting edge conference to engage with the theme of 'Inspiring Mental Wellbeing in Schools.' The 80 delegates and presenters came from the school and health sectors, local authority, parent and governor bodies, local church and charitable bodies such as the Samaritans and Childline. It was an outstanding day seeking to raise the profile of mental health and wellbeing and also work towards structures facilitating a prompter intervention by appropriate professionals when significant mental health issues arise amongst the student body.

During the day some concerning insights were given, including some from the Church of England Children's Society's report: 'Good childhood - a question for our times'. Amongst the Western European Nations, the UK ranks lowest in how well our children are. This is based on

a scoring of risky behaviour such as drugs, drinking, smoking, sexual activity, teenage pregnancy, relationships with adults, health, relative poverty and children's self assessment. Nationally one in fifteen children and young people will self harm and there is one suicide attempt every 20 minutes.

One delegate was the Reverend John Whittaker who commented:

*"As a vicar in the Church of England I am very interested and concerned about our health and wellbeing including mental wellbeing. It is inspiring to be at a conference and see this important issue being taken so seriously by the Barrow group of schools."*

The head teacher of Humphrey Perkins, David Edwards said:

*"The wellbeing of all our young people is paramount. As a sense of emotional and mental wellbeing underpins the stability of*

*us all, young people cannot learn effectively if they are emotionally and mentally fragile. Our aim, with the support of our fellow professionals, is to offer the best possible support to students in need, and a model of good practice should serve as a benchmark to other schools and localities. After all, the issues identified are national."*

The first aim of the conference was to inform and inspire delegates about mental health and wellbeing and the care needed to support those suffering from despair, depression or other mental illnesses. The second aim was also to facilitate a more coordinated and quicker response to mental health needs in the student body amongst the school, health and social services authorities. The day certainly achieved the first aim and gave a good push in the journey towards securing the second aim.

WINNER

THE PULLMAN INN  
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## Winner of the Pullman Inn Competition

The lucky winner of the competition to win a meal for two to the value of £40 is Anne Shaw of Beveridge Street. We hope Anne and her guest have an enjoyable time.

*Many thanks to all of you who took part.*



# Nature on our doorstep

**A** bonus which came with the housing development off Fishpool Way was the Millennium Park. The provision of this recreational amenity was a requirement of the planning approval for the development. Many Barrow Voice readers will have enjoyed walks in the Park and it is certainly appreciated by large numbers of dog walkers.

In 1998 a 'Millennium Group' was formed to organise events throughout the Millennium year. The events which they organised raised £12,000 for the village and this was required to be used for a community project as a lasting memorial of the Millennium. The agreed project was for developing the Millennium Park for the benefit of the community. It included the sundial, giant thrush's eggs, perimeter path, native wild flower areas and native tree planting to add to the existing mature

trees. Village groups were invited to take part in tree planting to generate interest in the site.

The wild flowers sown or planted included primroses, cowslips and wild daffodils along the bank beside Fishpool Way; and bluebells and snowdrops on the side away from the road adjacent to the bridleway. A wild flower meadow was created on damp ground at the Melton Road end of the Park.



## People



Some surveys have been carried out to identify species of plants and other wildlife within the Park, and a portfolio of photographs is being put together to record the diversity of life which can be found there, including mammals, birds, invertebrates, grasses, mosses and lichens. Some of the photographs have already been used in exhibitions both within the village and elsewhere helping create some interest in the project.

Earlier this year the Parish Council and Barrow Community Association decided to sponsor a booklet to record the development of the park and its natural history with sample photographs to illustrate it. A small team has been established to guide this Barrow Heritage group project. We will be pleased to receive contributions for this from any readers who are interested. This could be in the form of photographs, surveys or other aspects of interest. Please send any contributions to:

***[www.burnaturalhistory@btinternet.com](http://www.burnaturalhistory@btinternet.com)***

Please keep an eye on the village website for dates when interested people can meet to help in the process of identification and recording:

***<http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/barrowuponsoar/local-events>***





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# Birds of prey, a common sight in gardens?

*'Mum! There's a dead bird in the garden'*

**T**his isn't so unusual; every so often some poor bird flies into the window, stumbles around dazed for a few moments, then continues on its way. Only occasionally does the bird not make it.

Samantha wasn't brave enough to go out and look properly, so I did. The bird was definitely dead, not dazed. And not only that, it was headless.

Trying desperately to think how a headless pigeon could be in our garden - surely our dog isn't that fast or ferocious - I placed a bucket over it and went back inside. I wanted Colin to see it and then check the dog over for feathers! A few moments later, when I was back in the kitchen, another bird landed on our fence. This was not a pigeon, blackbird, or anything I usually see in the

garden. This was obviously a bird of prey - although quite small - and not happy. It had dropped its supper, was looking for it and I had hidden it under a bucket. It sat there for a few moments then flew off in disgust.

I went back out, removed the bucket and then Sam and I sat quietly by the back door, camera in hand, waiting. After about 7 or 8 minutes the bird landed on the lawn and then on to the dead pigeon. It sat there for a moment or two looking very pleased with itself, then took off taking the pigeon with it, as if the poor thing weighed nothing at all.

Is this normal for Barrow? I see kestrels quite often flying over the fields, but have never seen anything quite like this so close. We kept a look out for it and it came back, just the once, to check it hadn't left anything and then flew off.

Is it a sparrow hawk? Where does it live? How does it kill a pigeon that size? All questions we would love to know the answer to.

*Linda and Samantha Vesty*



## The Allotment Diary - getting started

**I**'ve read the recent articles in the last few issues of Barrow Voice about keeping an allotment with interest and would like to share some of my allotment experiences with you.

I'm a relative novice as far as vegetable gardening is concerned but was delighted when, three and a half years ago I was offered a half share in a reasonably substantial sized allotment. I was so keen to grow anything and everything and thought all I had to do was dig, plant the seeds and in a few months time, hey presto! Fresh organic veg like I'd never tasted before. Wrong! If only it was that simple.

I was good at the digging and had plenty of energy for that. No-one told me about nutrients for the soil. I just thought that, as the soil hadn't been cultivated for a while, there would be lots of natural goodness in there! Wrong again. I bought a variety of different vegetable seeds, followed the

instructions on the packets, made the furrows to the required depth and gently dropped the seeds in neat rows, covered the seeds over, even marked the rows with a stick but no-one mentioned they needed a spot of water to give them a healthy start.

I went to the garden centre in April and asked for some early potatoes. I was so shocked when the assistant appeared to scoff at me and took delight in telling me I was far too late for earlies! I must confess I hadn't got a clue why potatoes had to be designated with these titles of 1st earlies, 2nd earlies and lates. I was under the impression that potatoes are potatoes and you stick them in the ground and they grow. Wrong! Well they did grow but not very well mainly because the soil needed a good dose of manure.

My first year was - I think you'll agree - a bit of a disaster. I did manage to grow a good crop of radish but then someone told me,

anyone can grow radish. The kidney beans were abundant and the perpetual spinach did fairly well. I had a lot to learn so bought a book about keeping an allotment, started to buy a monthly gardening magazine and began to have conversations with my allotment neighbours, probably the best decision I made but that's another story.

*Ginnie Willcocks*







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# Barrow's Got Talent



**O**n a scorching Saturday in June, Barrow Youth Theatre hosted Barrow's Got Talent. This very successful popular new venture in the village boasted 23 acts plus a few well chosen tunes from our talented Youth Theatre.

A packed-out Humphrey Perkins crowd of over 200 people turned out to watch the stars and starlets battle it out. Simon Cowell and friends were not able to make it but it was the encouraging and enthusiastic audience that made their vote count by voting for their favourite.

Ilea Cavner, a 10-year-old singer was easily the runaway winner singing the UK Eurovision Song contest entry 'It's My Time'. In second place was our dancing duo

Georgia Beck with Lauren Coulsell and solo dance act Megan Alderson a close third.

The event was organised by Carol and Gordon Kenneth as a charity fund-raiser to say a big thank-you for all the financial help and support that the Barrow Youth Theatre has enjoyed since its debut performance in March 2004. Our local businesses helped to boost the charity raffle on the evening, which helped the total proceeds to exceed well over £1000 for Rainbows Children's Hospice.

The response from the community showed that this was a success and the question was often asked: when is the Youth Theatre doing it again? Plans are in place for the event next year. So, if you missed out this year in performing or just coming along to join in the fun, watch this space next year.

*Gordon Kenneth*



*Pictured here is winner Ilea Cavner holding her "Barrow's Got Talent" trophy especially commissioned and designed by Kevin Harrison of The Candlestick Factory*

## Charnwood Orchestra finds new home in Barrow



**C**harnwood Orchestra was founded in 1973 by Jo O'Reilly, then Director of Music at Rawlins Community College, Quorn. He called it Quorn Orchestra and his vision was that of a community orchestra that would be made up of both local residents and students from Rawlins. For nearly 40 years it remained a Rawlins institution rehearsing in the foyer every Thursday evening during term time. Of course there were changes over the years: it improved in ability and scope and its members came from an increasingly wide catchment area. Some years ago it changed its name to The Charnwood Orchestra to reflect this.

However, the major changes in funding for community activity in the county made Rawlins a very expensive option for the orchestra and it was with regret that we had to move away from Rawlins and into Humphrey Perkins High School. Our new hosts are delighted: how fitting for an Arts College to have a full symphony orchestra based there.

The move has proved to be a great success and we feel very comfortable in our new home. The recent improvements to the facilities and appearance of the hall make it a light and airy place to rehearse. So much so that we will be presenting a popular family Christmas concert: 'A Night in Vienna' on Saturday January 16<sup>th</sup> 2010. More about that in the December issue of Barrow Voice.

Meanwhile, the orchestra will be giving its annual concert in Holy Trinity Church, Barrow on Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 7.45pm. The programme commemorates the bicentenary of Haydn's death with his Violin Concerto No. 1 in C (Nic Fallowfield will be the soloist) and Symphony No. 103 'The Drum Roll'. It will also include Respighi's 'The Birds' and Ravel's 'Pavane pour une infante defunte'.

Tickets will be available at the Paper Shop, High Street, Barrow or by contacting me, Judith Rodgers on 07718 153117 or [rodgers\\_david@hotmail.com](mailto:rodgers_david@hotmail.com). Full price tickets will cost £8.00 and concessions £6.00. Accompanied children of 16 and under will cost £2.00 each. Often people turn up at the door assuming that there will be plenty of seats available but to warn you, two years ago, we had to turn people away so don't risk it!

*Judith Rodgers*



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# Centre Stage in Barrow: 'Dancing in my Dreams'

HPHS Community Centre  
Friday 9 October, 7.30pm

**B**USCA is delighted that the professional Oxfordshire Theatre Company is returning to Barrow this autumn with another musical play: 'Dancing in my Dreams' by award-winning playwright Neil Duffield.

Kathleen loves dancing and Ginger Rogers & Fred Astaire but when the bombs fall, she must swap her life in London for the farms and fields of the countryside. Kathleen and her sister are evacuated, along with many of their friends, and find themselves sent to live with different families. Kathleen must cope with the trauma of separation whilst experiencing the jealousies and prejudices of her new 'family'. Escaping the daily reality of wartime Britain, she enters the fantasy world of her film idols, Fred and Ginger until an unlikely person comes to her rescue.



The play was inspired by the many children whose lives were changed forever by the experience of living in war time Britain. With songs from the 1930s (Top Hat and Dancing Queen), and movement inspired by Hollywood, this enchanting play embraces the harsh reality of being an evacuee but also exposes the newfound freedom and fun of life in the British countryside.

The show is suitable for families and young people aged 8+. Tickets will be on sale from the Paper Shop or by phoning Judith on 07718 153117. Full price tickets cost £8.00 (concessions: £7.00) but bought in advance £7.00 or £6.00 (concessions).

*For more information including details of special party rates, ring Judith (number above).*



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**L**ast summer, Network Rail closed the pedestrian and bridle crossing over the railway line that links Sileby Road with the fields at the back of Grove Lane and Breachfield Road. They did this on safety grounds after a train driver reported someone on the crossing as a train approached; apparently a near miss.

Network Rail conducted an excellent

public meeting last autumn at which much relevant information was revealed. For example, a usage survey had been carried out some years earlier and established this as a very well-used pedestrian route but a very little used route for horses and cattle. This finding means that Network Rail will be obliged to reopen a safe pedestrian route but might relocate the bridle way. A number of possible solutions were explained and the opinions sought of the

50+ people who attended.

Following this, there was a big meeting between NR, landowners and other stake holders in May. The options then went to the Network Rail investment panel at the end of July. We understand that a decision was made to build a pedestrian footbridge and that investigations have begun to look at the details of the solution.

*Judith Rodgers*

## Volunteer drivers needed

**C**alling all drivers! Could you spare about four hours per month to drive people who are not very mobile, but may have to get to the doctor or a hospital appointment, etc.?

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answer every request. We understand that volunteers are not always available, so we need to have a larger list to compensate when other drivers are on holiday / have family commitments, etc.

Mileage is paid and most insurance companies cover volunteer drivers at no extra cost - we provide the form to send to your own insurance company.

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# LINK - make it happen

**A**t the recent BUSCA Signpost evening, I got chatting to Ian Clowes who is an Engagement Officer for LINK which is a Local Involvement Network in Leicestershire?

What is LINK, I wanted to know? It is the collective voice of the people of Leicestershire on health and social care situations, I was told. There are LINKs in every local authority area in England and the Leicestershire one will be working in

partnership with those in Leicester, Rutland and adjoining counties. These local groups give you a voice in how local health and social care services are run. You can join as an individual member or as an organisation and LINK would be happy to come and talk to your group. LINK is interested in pursuing your concerns on issues as varied as: mental health services, patient transport to and from medical appointments and cancer care.



*Interested? Visit Leicestershire LINK at : [www.leicestershirelink.org.uk](http://www.leicestershirelink.org.uk) or phone 0116 234 1577.*

*Frances Thompson*

## Business

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*Carole Kouzaris*



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We publish 2,750 copies quarterly and deliver FREE to all households in Barrow

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# A big 'hello' to everyone in Barrow

**M**y name is Terry Lang. My husband Pete, daughter Nicola and I lived at 9 Beaumont Road, next door to Dee and Bob Chamberlain, from 1989 until 1997, when my daughter Nicola and I moved back to Greenock, Scotland. I loved it in Barrow and often think of my life there.

As ex-squaddies from Garats Hay Barracks, Old Woodhouse, we made our home in the village. When I separated from Nicola's dad, Nicola and I moved to be nearer to my family; however, I've never forgotten the friends I made in Barrow. Nicola was best friends with Charlotte

Shireffs, Catherine Llewelyn and Hayley and Mel Cornish. Nicola attended Sacred Heart Primary School in Loughborough and now works in Magalluf, Mallorca at BCM, the biggest nightclub of its kind in Europe.

Barrow is always in my thoughts and next May, I hope to attend the Royal Signals reunion in the village. I have always wanted to return and next year, I have an excuse to do so. Barrow holds many lovely memories for me. I once lost my purse, only to find, three weeks later, that it was sitting in the chemist's, waiting for me!! They knew it was mine, but didn't know my telephone number and were waiting for me to come

back. When I next went in, they asked me if there was something I was missing? How's that for service!

I sold Tupperware for a while (when I left the army) and also worked for Alliance & Leicester, at M&G Services, 6 High Street. I would have loved to remain in Barrow, but circumstances did not permit it. My good wishes to you all. I still have copies of the old Barrow Voice (I'm a hoarder) from no.53, Winter 1991 to no.70, Winter 1997.

Love to one and all. See you sometime in the future.

## BUSCA

# BUSCA

## BUSCA breaks with tradition to offer the village a New Year's Eve Disco Party

**F**or years, BUSCA has laid on a New Year's Eve Ball in the village. This year we felt like a change and with encouragement from our very own Barrow DJ, Ben Burzynski we want to invite the people of Barrow to join in an affordable and fun Party with the Big Taste Disco.

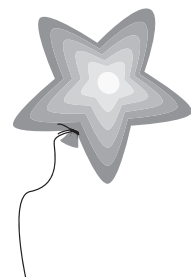
We'll have all the usual celebrations of a great New Year's Eve- bubbly at midnight, party poppers, giant cannons, Old Lang Syne etc

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*You can get further information from Judith on 07718153117, Betty on 416185 or Val on 413227.*



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**Advertising Deadline**  
17<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**Copy Deadline**  
17<sup>th</sup> October 2009

*Copy to:* The Editor  
17 North Street  
Barrow upon Soar  
Leics LE12 8PZ  
editor@barrowvoice.co.uk

## Village Diary

Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>	WI: Antiques Roadshow by Sheila Mosely; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	Gift Day for Holy Trinity Extension Fund Holy Trinity Church Coffee Morning; Church Rooms; 10.00am
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00 - 11.30am
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup>	WI Harvest Supper; 7.30pm; Bishop Beveridge Club
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Methodist Church Minimart and coffee morning; 10.00am BUSCA Autumn Dance with Just Us; 7.30 - 11.30pm; Community Centre, Cotes Rd; tickets from Paper Shop
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	New Horizons Bereavement Group; 2.00pm; Methodist Church Coffee Lounge
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council meeting; Parish Office; 7.15. All are welcome. Ramp for disabled access Holy Trinity Men's Group: "Loughborough Fair Charter" by Peter Legg; 8.00pm; Church Rooms
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Union: Sutton Bonnington United Choir; 2.30pm; Church Rooms Barrow Gardening Club: "Hardy Plants-Stranger than Fiction" by Anita Thorpe; 7.30pm; Community Lounge
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	Baptist Luncheon Club; BUSCA brings a Centre Stage production by OTC: "Dancing in my Dreams", a musical play by Neil Duffield; 7.30; Community Centre
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>	Charnwood Orchestra at Holy Trinity Church; 7.45, commemorating the bicentenary of Haydn's death; tickets from the Paper Shop.
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	WI: "A female in Fleet Street" by Deborah Brady; 7.30pm; Bishop Beveridge Club
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee morning in aid of Children's Society; Church Rooms; 10.00am
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup>	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00 - 11.30am
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	New Horizons Bereavement Group; 2.00pm; Methodist Church Coffee Lounge Holy Trinity Men's Group: "Remembrance - a meditational pilgrimage to the Great War battlefields" by Roger Wilson; 8.00pm; Church Rooms. This is an Open Meeting
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parish Council meeting; Parish Office; 7.15. All are welcome. Ramp for disabled access
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	Dr Jane Meadows: "Keeping fit in body, mind and spirit"; Church Rooms; 2.30pm Barrow Gardening Club: "A badger family history" by Pam Mynott; 7.30pm; Community Lounge
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Methodist Church Minimart and coffee morning; 10.00am BUSCA Winter Warmer Dance with Bob Hargreaves; 7.30 - 11.30pm; Community Centre, Cotes Rd; tickets from Paper Shop
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Service at Holy Trinity Church followed by Parade to War Memorial 11.00 2 minutes silence followed by laying wreaths.
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	WI AGM; 7.30pm; Bishop Beveridge Club
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Baptist Luncheon Club
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Theatre: The Wizard of Oz; 7.00pm
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	CMS Coffee Morning in Church Rooms Youth Theatre: The Wizard of Oz; 2.00pm & 7.00pm
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00 - 11.30am
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	Parish Council meeting; Parish Office; 7.15. All are welcome. Ramp for disabled access
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mother's union Mince pies, carols and readings; Church Rooms; 2.30pm Barrow Gardening Club: Annual General Meeting and party night; 7.30pm; Community Lounge
Thur 3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Trinity Christmas Tree Festival
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	Methodist Church Christmas Minimart and coffee morning; 10.00am Switching on of Christmas Lights and Street Market: start with carols outside Holy Trinity Church at 4.00
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>	New Horizons Bereavement Group; 2.00pm; Methodist Church Coffee Lounge Holy Trinity Men's Group Annual Dinner
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup>	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00 - 11.30am

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



**AUTUMN**  
Dance with  
'Just Us'  
**3<sup>rd</sup> October**

**WINTER**  
Warmer Dance  
with Bob Hargreaves  
**7<sup>th</sup> November**

Barrow Youth  
Theatre Presents  
'The Wizard  
of Oz'  
**20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>  
November**

**CHRISTMAS**  
Street Market /  
Parish Council  
Switching on the  
Christmas Lights  
**5<sup>th</sup> December**

**NEW YEAR'S  
EVE**  
Party with Ben and  
the Big Taste Disco  
**31<sup>st</sup> December**

BUSCA EVENTS