SUMMER 2019

Hands on News

The FREE newspaper for Barton produced by Barton residents and community workers

A Royal Visitor



There was major excitement in Barton on Tuesday 14 May when new father Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex, officially reopened Barton Neighbourhood Centre following its £1m refurbishment by Oxford City Council.

After a busy morning spent visiting the Children's Hospital at the JR and then Oxsrad, the Disability Hub and Sports Facility on Marsh Road, the Prince arrived outside the Neighbourhood Centre shortly after 1.30 pm. An upbeat, animated crowd had been waiting for him for an hour or more, waving flags and watching the gradual build-up of police and the press.

Among them was Mary Agnes Jenner, who lives at Townsend House care home. She told Hands On News that she liked Prince Harry because "he's a true bloke, a true man", and was really looking forward to seeing him. Alongside her, also from Townsend House, was "big fan of the royal family" Cath. Pat Harrington and Miranda Roberts from Barton joked that they hoped he'd be "bringing his baby with him"; and chirpy former soldiers Brian and Bryan from the Oxford Veterans' Group stood at the barrier with a promotional poster they hoped would catch the prince's attention, because they "know he likes veterans".

The prince didn't disappoint. After exiting the official car, he spent some time moving along the line of waiting fans, shaking hands and chatting to individuals in the crowd (including Brian and Bryan). He made sure not to leave out the littlest ones, squatting down so he could talk to them face-to-face. A group of schoolchildren waving flags and chanting "Prince Harry! Prince Harry!" at the tops of their voices finally had their patience rewarded when they got the chance to give him their carefully hand-made cards. He soon had a great pile of them and had to hand them to an aide to look after.

Once inside the Neighbourhood Centre, the prince met young leaders from Thrive Teams past and present, and workers from the Community Food Bank and Eatwells Café. He also had time to take a look at the painted rocks that Claire Waldron, of Rock Solid Memories had decorated and laid out for him to see. He gave Claire a spontaneous warm hug when she presented him with a rock she had painted to commemorate the birth of his first child, Archie.

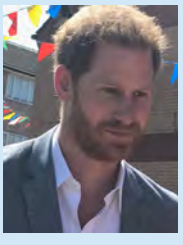
Prince Harry met the teams running the community café and the community food bank, and heard how they save tons of perfectly good food donated by supermarkets from being wasted every week by transforming it into nourishing meals at affordable prices. He spoke to a group of people enjoying a meal cooked by Mandy



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'Здравейте и добре дошли на нашите български говорещи читатели'
Hello and welcome to all our Bulgarian speaking readers!

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and the lighting throughout, which has been upgraded to be energy-efficient.

Barton Neighbourhood Centre, which first opened in 1992, houses not just the GP surgery, community café, community hall and sports hall. It's also home to an advice centre, youth club, community police office and other services and facilities. Found there too are the offices of the Barton Community Association (BCA), which arranged for Prince Harry to perform the opening ceremony when they heard of his coming visit. It was quite a coup.

Ian Brooke, Oxford City Council's Head of Community Services, said: "We were delighted that Prince Harry was able to reopen Barton Neighbourhood Centre. Our aim with the refurbishment was to create a vibrant and welcoming centre that meets the community, health and wellbeing needs of the existing and new residents of Barton."

Sue Holden, Secretary of Barton Community Association, said: "We are delighted to see the project come to fruition. There have been times when it's been hard going for everyone, but looking at the finished result, the pain was well worth it. It's a great facility for the community to enjoy".

Government data has shown that Barton is one of the 10 per cent most deprived communities in England. The Barton Healthy New Town project has provided a range of grants to local community groups and health professionals to help address health inequalities, encourage healthy lifestyles, and find innovative and local solutions to the issues. As well as the refurbishment, recent developments have seen improved allotments and a network of parks and green spaces, as well as free-to-use outdoor gym equipment, either planned, or already completed or installed.

The BCA, among many other things, provides subsidised exercise classes and activities, the much-loved annual Barton Bash, and coach trips to the sea, Christmas markets and the Oxford Street lights in London, and, with the help of the Cities4People project, to supermarkets. Other services include the provision of free pre-school breakfasts, and community projects such as the Barton Mural, a collective enterprise which has brightened up the area behind the sports hall and celebrates the Barton community.

It's hoped that residents of the new part of Barton, Barton Park, will soon find their way to the BNC to join in, and to find out information about their new home, uniting the two parts into one new complete community.

The sparkling, refreshed Barton Neighbourhood Centre and the visit of Prince Harry show that Barton is far from forgotten, but instead is very much on the up. ■

Sandhills Update

It has been a very exciting couple of weeks for pupils at Sandhills Primary School. On Tuesday, all of our children from Year One and Year Two walked to Barton to watch Prince Harry open the Barton Community Centre. The Prince spoke to several of our children and two of our pupils presented him with cards to celebrate the birth of his new baby. Last week Key Stage One children took part in a lovely music festival at the Oxfordshire Music Centre which involved singing lots of very entertaining songs with the musician Nick Cope.

The whole school came together at the start of May to celebrate May Day. We just about escaped the rain and enjoyed watching all the classes perform their dances before joining in with a barbecue organised by our fantastic PTA.

Children in Year Six are doing their SATs this week and we are very proud of how hard they have worked towards these. They are looking forward to going away next week on their residential visit to North Wales - one of the highlights of their final year at primary school.

Unbelievably, we will soon be in the final term of the school year and beginning to think about transition to new classes and for our eldest children to new schools - lots more exciting times to look forward to!

Best wishes,
Sue Clark
Deputy Headteacher
Sandhills Community Primary School. ■

CPZ Update

The Cabinet Member for Environment (including Transport) on 25 April looked at the outcome of the informal consultation on introducing CPZs in Barton, Risinghurst and Sandhills.

Barton and Sandhills residents both responded with 44% support and 56% against and Risinghurst responded with 29% support and 71% against.

The Cabinet member agreed to keep Risinghurst under review (so no further work to be carried out at this stage) Risinghurst will be kept under review because of possible further developments on the Neilson site which may be designated a CPZ at a later date.

Barton will proceed to formal consultation at a later date (so no further work to be carried out at this stage) and Sandhills will be subject to further scheme development and formal consultation.

The reason why Sandhills needs further work is because of the proximity to the Park & Ride. It is difficult to know whether the cars parked in Sandhills belong to residents or drivers avoiding paying the Park & Ride charges.

The situation in Barton may change because the new development is a designated CPZ and there may be displaced parking as the houses being built move closer to the exisiting community. The opening of the Pavilion may also affect parking in the roads adjacent to the sport grounds.

To discuss please contact your local County Councillor Glynis Phillips at glynis.phillips@oxfordshire.gov.uk. ■

A Right Royal Welcome from Bayards Hill Students

Year 3 and 4 students and a small group of year 6 students from Bayards Hill Primary School had front row seats to meet and greet Prince Harry when he came to open the newly refurbished Barton Neighbourhood Centre on Tuesday 14 May.

We set off in plenty of time, armed with the cards the students had made to give to the Prince and Union Jack flags to wave on his arrival, and found our designated area to meet the Prince. Before he arrived we practiced our chanting and cheering and proved we were louder than Sandhills Primary School (who were stood opposite us). It was all friendly competition as we got more and more excited to meet Prince Harry.

When he arrived he was lovely and spoke to so many of our students, shook hands and asked questions. He also took each and every card that was made for him with great appreciation.

All in all it was a wonderful afternoon and a once in a lifetime opportunity for the students who had the opportunity to meet him.

Sometimes, pictures just do a better job than words at showing how we all felt about the experience… ■

Digital Support Worker

Our digital support worker has been appointed to help clients gain confidence with using computing skills and to show the new possibilities and opportunities these skills can bring.

Some examples of help given since the start of 2019 include:

- Creating and using a social media account
- Developing a free simple website
- Arranging NHS services online
- Learning Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access)
- Making mobile data last and making the most of WiFi hotspots
- Online shopping & paying bills
- Renewing your passport or driving licence online
- Searching the internet and creating an email account
- Applying for a blue badge or bus pass
- Managing your documents or photos and how to store them digitally
- Accessing and using your Universal Credit account
- Switching energy suppliers
- Device maintenance

Over 80 different topics have been covered in 2019 so we encourage people to contact us if they are curious to know what we can do for them.

The new Digital Support Service, funded by Oxford City Council, is the result of a partnership between four local advice agencies - Barton Advice Centre, Agnes Smith Advice Centre Rosehill and Donnington Advice Centre, and Citizens Advice Oxford. Appointments are available at all four advice agencies.

Appointments at Barton Advice Centre are on Wednesdays and Fridays.

With a relaxed environment and generous appointment lengths many clients have seen a great improvement in confidence with technology and how building knowledge across just one topic can open doors to new skills the client was unaware of.

The service is free and inclusive of all people in the Barton area with no requirement to own a device. The service also caters to those who would like to further their own skills and to clients that may just need a refresher of IT skills.

Many clients have never touched a mouse or keyboard before and the satisfaction of seeing a client pursuing a new passion can be greatly rewarding.

The doors are always open to new clients and we hope to see you soon.

For more detailed information on this service please contact the digital support worker on 07889561192 or email at: dsw@oxfordshirewelfarerights.org.uk ■

The Agnes Smith Advice Centre · citizens advice Oxford · Oxfordshire Welfare Rights · Barton Advice Centre · Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre

Increase your Confidence in Technology

If you wish to learn any of the activities shown below or want to become more confident with the abilities you have please book an appointment with the **Digital Support Worker**.

- **Searching the Internet**
- **Applying for a bus pass online**
- **Uploading scans or photos**
- **Paying bills & shopping online**
- **Online banking**
- **Applying for Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reductions**
- **Arranging NHS services online**
- **Creating an email account**
- **Applying for a Blue Badge online**
- **Creating a social media account**
- **Accessing Universal Credit account**
- **Learning Microsoft Office**
- **Organising your device**

This list of examples is by no means extensive and we can discuss further possibilities within the appointment.

Many services are moving towards being accessed exclusively through the internet. Confidence with accessing these services either through your phone, tablet or PC can be invaluable. If you have a phone or tablet and you are not comfortable with your device please bring it with you to the appointment and we can help to get you familiar with it.

Gaining skills in technology can really improve your outlook, creativity, employability and allow you to access many avenues you might not have known existed. Please book an appointment if you would like to know more.

I am available at multiple sites for appointments. Please check with reception if you are interested in this service or contact me directly on 07889561192.

You can also email me at dsw@oxfordshirewelfarerights.org.uk

Availability
Monday: Oxford Citizens Advice
Tuesday: Agnes Smith Advice Centre, Blackbird Leys
Wednesday: Barton Advice Centre/Oxfordshire Welfare Rights, Barton
Thursday: Rosehill & Donnington Advice Centre, Rose Hill

BEN BAKER – Curate at St Mary's, Barton

For those of you who haven't already, it's time to meet the curate of St Mary's Church, Barton. Let us introduce you to Ben Baker.



Firstly, just to explain, a curate is like a junior or 'apprentice' vicar. That means that Ben is here, having completed his training at Wycliffe College in Oxford, to learn on the job, and to support Eric Bossward in his role as vicar of St Mary's.

Ben started by shadowing what Eric does, and has gradually been taking on duties such as conducting church services and preaching. He's also been finding opportunities to get involved with all the other activities the church carries out in Barton. He loves working here, and partnering Eric.

Ben loves working in Barton. He told HON "I've received really warm welcome from the moment I turned up. There are some really great people around." He found the Headington church and Barton dwellers supportive and friendly, and the same goes for the Barton Community Association and its chair, Sue Holden. He's also very taken with the idea of "Beautiful Barton", and thinks it's a great way to describe the estate. "It's something that's really hit, and that's how we like to talk about it, because I think it's really important to talk positively of your community."

Ben and his wife Johanna, who's a doctor, came to Oxfordshire about three years ago, living in Yarnton until they moved into Barton Park last June. They were some of the earliest people to settle in there, and for a few months were the only ones living on their street. "That felt a bit random," Ben says, "but we got to know the builders quite well! It was fun". They soon found that other people had begun to move into the flats, though, and gradually the community began to grow.

Ben and Johanna made a point of trying to get to know their fellow Barton Park pioneers, holding "Meet the Neighbour" events, and generally helping to knit the new community together. The events have been very positively received, and as the flats and houses fill up, Ben hopes that because he works in Barton but lives in Barton Park, he'll be able to help residents in the new part to integrate with those in the older part to form a united, larger Barton community.

As if moving house and starting a new job weren't enough, Ben and Johanna have become parents for the first time. Their baby, Sophia, arrived on 11 February, and Ben says they can see how she is growing all the time and how she is developing and finding her way in the world.

He finds it very exciting. On the subject of whether he's getting much sleep, he laughs and says "Not really. It's hard work! There are days when we think 'Oh yeah, we can do this', and then there are days when we're 'Oh, this is so hard!' But on the whole it's a great joy, and we're loving it". No doubt

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other parents in Barton recognise that rollercoaster feeling.

Asked if he wants to send any message to the people in Barton, Ben says "That's such an open question. I guess what I want to say is that part of our role – mine and Eric's and the role of the church – is to love and serve this community. We want to see God's best for this community, and so we want to partner with people wherever they are to seek the best for Barton.

"We hope that people will engage in what we're doing in the community as well, and really connect and partner with us. Not everything we do is specifically religious. We want to see Barton be a thriving place mentally, emotionally, physically as well as spiritually. That's what we're about, really.

"Everyone is invited, everyone is always welcome to come to anything that is going on in the church, and we plan to be out and about in the community as well so please come and say hi to us when we are".

It looks as though Ben has made a great start here, and St Mary's has made a good choice in appointing him. ■

Merlin Porter – Art Project – Barton Mural

Merlin Porter is the Oxford artist who helped the Barton Mural to its bright, colourful conclusion on the wall at the rear of Barton Neighbourhood Centre.



Everything that Merlin does in his working life is related to art. He teaches, takes commissions, and does "live painting" - that is, painting at weddings and concerts and other events. He helps with youth projects, community projects - you name it and the chances are he'll say "Yes, I can!".

Being involved in art sessions in Rose Hill with Lenny (Leonard Sackey) of Youth Ambition led to Merlin being asked to help the youth club in Barton to design and paint the two murals in its space downstairs at the BNC. The process went swimmingly, and was so well received that Lenny suggested they plan one for the whole community to enjoy. The outside wall of the sports hall round the back presented the perfect canvas, and the idea evolved from there.

Firstly, questionnaires were given out to anyone within the local area who might have an interest asking them what they'd like to see in a piece of community art. Then Merlin took the feedback and from the answers did an initial design, including all the elements the respondents said they wanted, and sketching it on to the wall as a basic outline. He made sure to leave gaps so that people could embellish it with their own details and designs. Finally volunteers from the residents of Barton estate came along to help paint it. Merlin reckons the finished article is a 50-50 effort between himself and the community artists, a true collaboration.

Working with the residents was a fantastic experience for Merlin, especially some of the youngsters. "They were great. I mean quite young, eight or nine-year-olds, they really went for it – you couldn't stop them! They really helped out a lot…you had the whole range [of ages]. People were very friendly, there was a nice community atmosphere. You had everyone working on the same project together, and it's something celebrating the area, and I hope it's a focal point for that".

Everyone working on the picture supported and encouraged each other while they were on the job. When asked if anyone showed any tendency to critique others' efforts he laughs. "Well, there were a couple of youngsters - you know, teenagers - who had big opinions… Which is fine!"

Merlin is very pleased with the result, and thoroughly enjoyed the whole process. He likes the fact that the mural has so many things about Barton in one space, and is happy about the excellent feedback from the public. All he wants is for people enjoy it, and maybe start to think more about Barton and come up with new ideas for things to do. He believes there's definitely potential for more art of this sort, and is impressed that we have such an enthusiastic community with loads of energy for making things happen.

For instance, there might be space for a smaller mural on the front of the building, and during this summer Merlin's hoping to set up a new project in the area next to the big mural. It might be temporary boards for people to paint on, and maybe to turn into prints or cards – the details still have to be worked out. But it's a great location, he thinks, especially because it's right next to the countryside with "all of that nature nearby". Because of the neighbourhood's worries about potential plans to build houses on Barton's Green Belt, Merlin feels the countryside definitely needs to be celebrated. "Maybe we could do an afternoon of painting the scenery," he suggests.

We leave him making a short video of the fields and woodland on his phone to take away and contemplate while he thinks about what to create next in Barton. ■

CRIMESTOPPERS FREEPHONE NUMBER **0800 555111**

Beautiful Barton

The Beautiful Barton project, created following a successful small grant application to Oxford City Council is almost a year old, so what have we been doing?

The aim of the project is to improve the natural environment of Barton.

We hope that you enjoyed the fantastic display of daffodils around Barton this spring. The bulbs were planted by volunteers and children from the BCA Art and Craft Club last autumn, and we have had lots of lovely comments from local residents.

"We live in a flat and don't have a garden so this is the next best thing. My kids love seeing the daffs while we're waiting for the bus."

"Why have we had to wait so long to see spring flowers around the estate, other than in people's gardens. The displays are glorious and hopefully this will be an annual treat for us all."
(Resident, William Morris Court)

"These flowers make me smile."
(Colin, Local Resident)

"I have never seen Barton look so beautiful."

We have been picking litter up around the estate and organised a cleaning of the Brook. These events have been joined by all of our local Councillors and local residents, and have been fun to do, if not a little smelly and muddy (Brook clearing).

We have removed bags and bags of rubbish. From the Bayswater Brook, we removed 5 bikes, 2 scooters, 2 children's tricycles, masses of roofing felt, a shopping trolley, traffic cones, sofa cushions, a table, chair, duvet, barbed wire, a toy gun, tyre and many other bizarre bits of rubbish. We hope the wildlife in and around the Brook is happier now.





Children have designed badges, which we give away to everyone who comes and volunteers on any of our projects. Like a Blue Peter badge- helping on the project is the only way you can get one!

So what next and how can you help?

We have some lovely cotton bags to give away to 50 residents who commit to keeping the area around their homes tidy by doing litter picking in their street. The bags will have a pair of strong gloves, litter-bags and information about reporting fly tipping.

You can help by not dropping litter or fly tipping, picking up after your dog and picking any litter up that you see in the street.

If you want to find out more about what we're doing, we have our own Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/BeautifulBarton/). We welcome any residents who would like to join us to come along and help make our estate as Beautiful as the Countryside around us.

Thank you to Oxford City Council for starting us off with the project! ■

Barton Easter Adventure Walk

This Easter we organised a lovely walk in the countryside that joins Barton. The route took in some of the places that are under threat from a proposed housing development and a new road. The land currently owned by Christ Church has been submitted for development, by building 1100 executive homes from Elsfield to Bayswater Road, with a new road connecting them to the A40 and has been included in the South Oxfordshire District Council Local Plan.



We walked from the Barton Neighbourhood Centre, along the Brook, then up Bayswater Road to see where the proposed road would be. Then we walked to join the Roman Road, pausing to look towards Sydlings Copse, which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), which we believe would be threatened by the proximity of the planned housing which would both increase footfall and bring an increase of domestic animals potentially causing irreversible damage. We headed back towards Barton, taking a detour to Wick Farm to look at the Roman Well. When we walked down towards the Brook again, the children on the walk spotted two deer in the field, which caused great excitement, as they had not seen deer before!

We then had home made cakes and drinks, supported by Barton Community Church before heading home.

We launched a petition to Christ Church, to urge them not to build on our Beautiful Greenbelt. We have over 1000 signatures, you can sign a paper copy at the Neighbourhood Centre or online at: https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-green-belt-destruction-in-oxfordshire

We hope to make this walk an annual event, so watch out for dates. ■



CIVIL ENFORCEMENT TEAM

If you need to report an illegally parked car in your area then please call the Civil Enforcement Officers on 03453371138 who will respond as soon as possible

A DAY TO REMEMBER















Wow! How did that all happen? Who would have thought that we would be able to improve on our visit to Barton by David Beckham when he visited Ali`s Chippy? Im still asking myself that very question, but regardless of the answer the community created some amazing and long-lasting memories on Tuesday 14th May when Harry met Barton!

We have put together a collection of photos taken on the day by local people, and hope that you enjoy looking through and maybe even spotting yourselves smiling at the camera. We are planning on creating a photo album so that we can archive the event and showcase it through photos to visitors and users of the Centre for years to come.

These events don't just happen by waving a magic wand, and without the total commitment of those involved in the run up to the day as well as on the day itself Barton would be much less rich with memories.

The teams involved in organising the event are endless, but I would like to give special thanks to everyone who sponsored the day, Oxford Direct Services, Savvy, Arcadis, OCC Communities Team, local councillor Martyn Rush and a special mention to everyone who worked so hard on the ground: Mike, Ron, Nick, Bob, Ben,



– my personal thanks

Ian, Dan, Dave, Natalie, Brendan, Aladdin and Paul as well as everyone whose names I didn't find out on the day! Sincere apologies if I have missed anyone. BCA illustrated team work at its very best with Sharon, Tanya, Mandy, Emma, Claire, Kelly, Sarah and Linda who made the impossible possible.

Also thanks to the trustees who worked behind the scenes and also made it on the day. Also, I want to offer a huge thank you to Sarah at Thrive for enabling this to happen at all. I have to mention my lovely neighbour Jennie, together with her mum, who came along on both Monday and Tuesday and worked tirelessly and unconditionally and made a huge contribution towards the success of the day. I'm sure many of you will have witnessed Jennie doing her "warm up act" before the arrival of Prince Harry. She came into our community for the first time on Monday, but she will be part of it for a long time to come. She is now an honorary Bartonian! But most of all I would like to thank the community of Barton including Bayard's Hill and Sandhills schools together with St Mary`s Church who turned out on Tuesday to make sure the Prince received a very warm welcome. This is what continues to make me proud of Barton.

Sue Holden ■

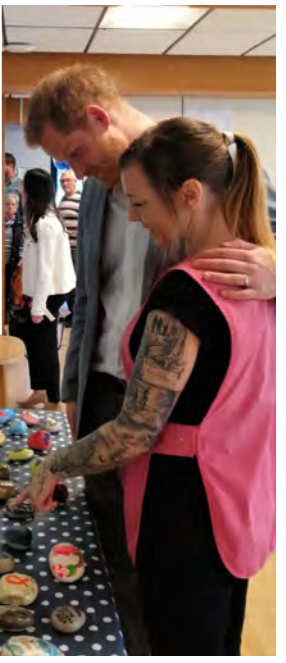


























Keeping Barton, Sandhills & Risinghurst Safe – Community Police Report June 2019

On 15 March Barton police arrested a 50-year-old man of no fixed abode for stealing a purse from an elderly person. In custody he was found with a stolen debit card in his knickers, on which he had spent £1,400. He was remanded in custody and appeared in court on 9 May. Her received an additional 23 weeks' imprisonment for the second offence. This man phoned his 91-year-old victim pretending to be the bank and got him to reveal his Personal Identification Number (PIN), which he then used to make the fraudulent transactions. Please don't ever give anyone your PIN. Banks will never ask for it. If someone asks then always treat it as a scam.

On 9 April a 51-year-old woman from Barton was arrested by Barton police team and charged with two assaults on shop staff and a public order offence. She is due in court on 29 May.

On 15 April a 53-year-old male from Barton was arrested and charged with shoplifting.

On 26 April a 39-year-old male with strong links to Barton was arrested by Barton police team and charged with several incidents of shoplifting.

In early May Barton PCSOs confiscated a moped from a young lad on Collinwood Road in Risinghurst after the bike was ridden in an antisocial manner. Please note that if mopeds are being ridden in an antisocial way they will be confiscated.

"Have Your Say" meetings continue to be held at Barton Community Centre and the Amp PH Risinghurst monthly on Saturdays.

If anything is worrying you don't hesitate to contact your community police on:

Phone: 101

Twitter http://www.twitter.com/tvp_oxford

Facebook http://www.facebook.com/thamesvp

Email: OxfordBartonRisinghurstNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Emessage or get regular updates about your area. Register on https://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/ or download the app from Google Play or iPhone App Store

Check out http://www.youtube.com/thamesvalleypoliceuk for safety information and videos.

Your local police team are: Inspector Chris Simpson, PC Jonathan Kelly, PC Ian Lucas, PCSO Tom Tatford, PCSO Annabel White, PS Andrew Poole. ■

Lives as PCSO's

This month, Hands On News went to have a chat with the neighbourhood's Police Community Support Officers Tom Tatford and Annabel White. Firstly we asked them what exactly a PCSO does.

"We deal mainly with antisocial behaviour issues and low-level crime. Predominantly most of our role is engaging with and being in the eye of the general public. Our powers are very different from those of police officers, and also of Special Constables."

Being a PCSO is a full-time paid role, but unlike police officers, and Special Constables (who are voluntary and part-time), they don't have full powers of arrest. However, they can detain people for a short time for certain actions while they deal with a situation or call a police officer for support if that's necessary.

It's challenging trying to get people to interact with the PCSOs, Tom and Annabel say. "From conversations…with the general public, there seems to be a negative impression of the police down here. Whether that's because they've had bad experiences, or it's just a general dislike…?"

It's a shame, because the whole of the community police team, no matter what their role, wants to make life better for the people of Barton. It's why they're here. But they can't do their job properly if people don't feel they can report their concerns for fear of being branded a "snitch". Nothing can be done about a situation that needs sorting out, the officers emphasise, if people are reluctant to open up to them.

Both Tom and Annabel like getting out and about. Annabel was finding her job a bit dull when she saw the advertisement to become a PCSO. What she likes about Barton is the variety of people that she comes across, because it makes her working life so much more interesting. Tom was a PE coach before joining up, so he's used to working with young people, and he certainly couldn't see himself doing any kind of desk-bound work. The job suits them both very well, and as they get to know the community they hope more and more to have a positive impact.

The police team makes a point of connecting with young people in particular. They go to the Jason Carbon holiday courses to play football with the kids, which they and the children both love. Tom says "We've won twice in a row, got to get that in, just to make sure they know, 'cos they give us a bit of banter!" They also play table tennis and other games with them.

PCSOs go into schools to give talks to the youngsters on subjects such as cybercrime, to help them be safe online. They've even had a superhero day with the Year Ones. It made them feel like actual superheroes with their capes on, and the youngsters loved it! This kind of interaction helps the



children to realise that the police are just normal people they can have a craic with, like anyone else, rather than scary people to be wary of. They hope the kids will learn that they can approach them at any time to talk about anything. For the older residents of Barton & Sandhills there are regular Have Your Say meetings, as well as Coffee With Cops, advertised on the Barton Community Facebook page, in the Neighbourhood Centre, and elsewhere.

Do the PCSOs think they make a difference? The response is a bit muted. They don't feel they have enough powers to deal with some of the things they come across. And they are, naturally, frustrated in that they would like more people to confide in them and help them to do their job, which is to make Barton a safer place to live in. Everything they are told is kept confidential. The only time anything is passed on is if another agency needs to be brought in, and the team will make it clear if that needs to be done.

On the whole, though, Annabel and Tom do feel they have a positive effect on the area they look after. Walking or cycling around and getting to know a few folks around the estate means that people can see they are there if needed. The police team has an open door policy, and residents can either go down to the office when it's open, or call on 101. Or they're simply available to speak to when they're on the streets. But they would like more people to be comfortable enough to walk up to them and say hi. Or, "They can come and have a coffee with us if they want to, simply for a chat or if even if they're just feeling a bit lonely."

If anyone fancies becoming a PCSO, Annabel and Tom have this advice: make sure you have a bit of life experience before you apply, and be approachable and know how to talk to people in all walks of life. Search on line for "Become a PCSO in Oxford" for details.

Community policing is the best kind of policing, where the officers, whether full police officers or PCSOs, get to know their community and can act accordingly, rather than being "helicoptered in" without knowing anything about an area. Barton is fortunate to have such a dedicated bunch of people looking after its interests. They're always happy to listen to your concerns. ■

Beckley Primary School

Beckley Church of England Primary School
Church Street, Beckley, Oxford, OX3 9UT • Tel: 01865 351416 • Email: office@beckleyschool.org
Website: www.beckleyschool.org • Headteacher: Mr Mark Szortowski

PRESS RELEASE

BECKLEY SCHOOL

We are a primary school offering an excellent education in a happy, secure and stimulating learning environment where Christian values are embraced by all. We have high expectations and our ethos both encourages and promotes an atmosphere where children can be themselves and achieve their very best. With approximately 120 children on roll, we serve the villages of Beckley, Elsfield, Horton-cum-Studley, Stanton St John and Forest Hill. We also attract children from Headington and other areas of Oxford. The village of Beckley itself is situated six miles north east of Oxford and lies in a quiet lane close to the Parish Church, surrounded by picturesque countryside. We offer parents the option of wrap-around care, from 8am to 5.30pm. We are delighted to be a part of the River Learning Trust, which offers many opportunities for support and challenge and enables us to continue to work closely with other schools in our partnership.

ONLINE SAFETY AMBASSADORS

Six Year 6 pupils visited Wheatley Park School, to complete Online Safety Ambassador training, delivered by Sixth Form students. Upon their return, the pupils prepared and led an informative assembly, sharing the important messages they had learnt. You can find the presentation the children delivered in assembly on the Online Safety page of our website: https://beckleyschool.com/information/safety/

JUNIOR CITIZENS

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Oxford's central fire station, where they were presented with a number of challenging, 'true-to-life' scenarios calling for them to make decisions and take action around their own safety and the safety of others. They responded to scenes in the home, at the water-side, at road and rail junctions and when approached by strangers, and each took turns in making their own '999' emergency call. This was an incredibly valuable and memorable trip, and we were very proud of the children's maturity.

BOTANIC GARDEN AND PITT RIVERS

Years 4 and 5 enjoyed a superb visit to the heart of Oxford. Pupils participated in hot art in the tropical and desert glass houses of the stunning Botanical Gardens. According to the children themselves, a memorable highlight involved seeing bananas, oranges, lemons and cacao plants growing. At the Pitt Rivers Museum the children relished in the opportunity to fully explore the incredible array of artefacts on display.

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Little Egret and Lapwing Classes visited Oxford's brilliant Natural History Museum. Highlights included viewing fossilised dinosaur skin and coming face-to face with a T-Rex jaw bone! ■

Barton Fields Allotment Association

www.bartonfieldsallotment.co.uk

We are writing this during a very cold snap following a heat wave – from the warmest Bank Holiday on record to the coldest. It is hard to see any clearer proof of global warming than our extremely changeable weather patterns. This poses intriguing problems for the gardener. How do we prevent tender plants from the alternating frost, strong winds and heavy rain; where is it safe to plant particular vegetables some of which prefer sun, some shade; when is it safe to plant out seedlings; how do we cope with giving our vegetables and flowers sufficient water if we have a prolonged dry spell? The gardener is always looking at the weather forecast and making a judgement! Much depends on the type of soil - clay or sand – and the location whether north or south facing. Plants have to be chosen carefully for the varying conditions.

Recent visitors to the allotments will have noticed a sprucing up of the plots and surrounding grassy areas in preparation for the developments to take place later this year when our new shed arrives and additional car parking.

In line with the centenary this year of the Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations, Barton Fields will be taking part in the city-wide competition for the best allotments overall and best individual plots. We also plan to have an open day for anyone who would like to visit, consider taking on one of our starter plots or just admiring the fruit and veg. We would like to run a competition for children on painting stones to advertise the allotments. More details to follow…

Does anyone have any information about the Vic White Cup that was presented to the Barton Secton of The Headington and District Allotment Association? Won in 1947 by E. Parker. Anyone know E. Parker? We would love to find out some more details.

Broad beans are traditionally one of the earliest crops to harvest and versatile in the use as well as extremely nutritious. Try them in soups, salads, or as vegetables accompanying meat. Rhubarb is one of the earliest fruits and is delicious in crumbles, pies, stewed (add a bit of ginger for extra flavour), as chutney or you can even buy it in gin and vodka!

Now is the time to consider growing herbs which can be undertaken in the smallest garden or on pots on window-sills in flats. Parsley, basil, thyme, mint, coriander, dill are all easy to grow from seed and will brighten up any meal.



Here's looking forward to an excellent summer's growing season!

Janette Washington, BFAA Chair
Jenny Wright, BFAA Secretary ■

Barton Community Association Trustee Profiles



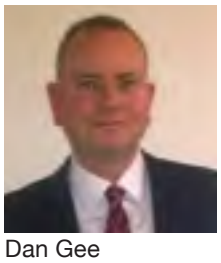
Angela Dickinson

I have lived in Barton for over 25 years, having moved to Oxford from Yorkshire to work in Oxford's hospitals. My favourite thing about Barton is the access it gives us all to the countryside for free which I love exploring with my dog, Wags. I help out with the children's Art and Craft Club as a volunteer which I enjoy as I can share my love of all things craft with a new generation. Last year we successfully applied for a small grant from Oxford City Council to start a small project "Beautiful Barton" which aims to improve the physical environment of Barton. So far we have planted daffodil bulbs around the estate, and organised litter picking events. We have plans for more activities so watch this space and get involved with your community



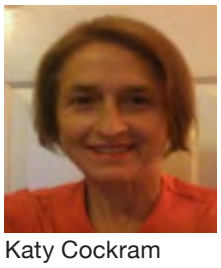
Dr Dan Farley

I'm a trustee because I love the Barton community family. I've lived in Barton for 9 years and have previously helped run the Job Club (JC: Barton) and the Christmas Wonderland. I continue to support the BCA as a trustee because I can see how funding that we are continually being awarded from both Councils and charities is positively impacting the lives of Barton residents. It's great to be part of an association that genuinely has the benefit of its residents at the centre of all that it does



Dan Gee

My family and I have been residents since June 2011, and I have never felt more at home and more a part of any place than here. I love being involved in St Mary's Church where I play the organ as well as being involved in the Barton Community Association. I see the BCA doing a lot of good in the community and am chuffed to be part of it



Katy Cockram

I became a trustee with Barton Community Association because I wanted to get involved in decision-making that would benefit the Barton community. I work with children and young people so I am particularly interested in youth services. I'm also involved in the local Neighbourhood Watch scheme



Dr Simon Heap

While I have been a BCA trustee for the past 16 years I have also been its honorary treasurer for most of that time. I have a background in international development work, but feel it is important to work in our locality, helping the community of Barton advocate in matters of common concern, and making sure the BCA gets sufficient money to fund its activities



Pippa Gwilliam

I've been a trustee of the BCA for quite a number of years and I regularly write for the Hands-on News as well as running the BCA`s Facebook page. I'm also on hand every year to chronicle the Barton Bash in photographs. I'm proud to be a member of an organisation that is working all the time to make Barton better for its residents



Louise Williams

I joined the BCA because I am interested in my local community and care about its future. Being a trustee enables me to learn more about local issues and initiatives and allows me to make a positive contribution to the wellbeing of our community



Rod Shepherd

I have worked in Barton for more than 8 years assisting many who are requiring advice and support with job search and their personal ambitions for achieving a successful future. My background in business and team building has helped me to always be seeking out the good in others and affirm their potential. This is why I believe as a BCA trustee I can be well placed to assist and work with others for the continuing well-being and future potential of the Barton community



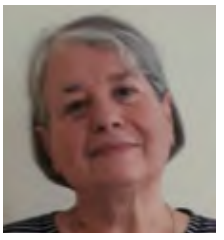
Tim Patmore

I am a trustee for BCA in order to help fix local issues and do my bit to build a strong community in Barton. Working in education technology means I am keenly aware of the impact good facilities can make in the lives of young people, and so I have the desire to help provide local excellent facilities as well



Christine Gerkin

I've been a BCA volunteer for almost 55 years and currently hold the post of President. During this time, I have run lunch clubs and weekly bingo sessions as I think it's important to provide social activities for the community. I have lived in Barton for 73 years so am thoroughly embedded in my community



Sandra Palmer

I have lived in Barton for twelve years and I have always wanted to be involved in trying to make life better for the Barton community. BCA works hard to get the best deal for Barton people and I am pleased to be part of its efforts



James Bloice Smith

For a good life you need a good community. By joining the BCA I can do my little bit to help the community in which I live.

BARTON COMMUNITY UPDATES

SHOPS & SERVICE IN BARTON

We want to hear your views about the shops in Barton. Do you use them? What you do like about them? What other shops or services would you like to see? Have you got any other comments about shopping in Barton? Please get in touch with Tanya either on 07929 868284 or at tanya@bartoncommunityassociation.com or pop into the BCA office in the Neighbourhood Centre.

BASIC PLUMBING

Would you like to learn some very basic plumbing skills such as how to stop a dripping tap? We have a tutor who would like to teach these types of skills to a very small group, for a couple of hours a week for about six weeks. If you're interested, please get in touch with Tanya either on 07929 868284 or at tanya@bartoncommunityassociation.com or pop into the BCA office in the Neighbourhood Centre.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Do you know Barton Community Association is on Facebook? This is a really useful place to find out what's going on in Barton and has lots of up to date information on it. Please go to www.facebook.com/bartoncommunity

We're now also on Instagram. You can find us at www.instagram.com/bartoncommunity. Please use the hashtag #bartoncommunity for your Barton photos.

LOCAL FACILITIES FOR FAMILY WAKES

Did you know that you can hire space at the Barton Neighbourhood Centre for your family Wake. Very convenient venue for the Oxford Crematorium and local churches with plenty of available free parking and regular bus service. We also offer catering facilities at affordable prices. We can tailor our menu to meet your individual requirements. Please get in touch for further details and room hire charges. Email Sharon@bartoncommunityassociation.com or sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com or call Sue on 07866460446

Contact us

BCA Office First Floor Neighbourhood Centre, 01865 761987 www.bartoncommunityassociation.com / www.facebook.com/bartoncommunity / info@bartoncommunityassociation.com
Sue Holden (Company Secretary) 07866 460446 or sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com
Sharon Keene (Senior Administration and Bookings Manager) 07495 875591 or sharon@bartoncommunityassociation.com
Tanya Field (General and Hands on News Administrator) tanya@bartoncommunityassociation.com

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO REPORT A CRIME?

Obviously if you need an emergency response for example a crime is in progress or someone's life is at risk then call 999, otherwise you need to call 101.

101 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You should call 101 if you want to talk to your local police officer, get crime prevention advice, or report a crime that does not need an emergency response, for example: if your car has been stolen. if your property has been damaged.

Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day you call, or how long you are on the phone. The 15p cost of the call goes to the telephony providers to cover the cost of carrying the calls. The police and government receive no money from calls to 101.

UPCOMING COACH TRIPS AND EVENTS

Sat 22nd June	**Wellesbourne Market**	Depart 8.00 return 2.30pm	£10 per person
Tues 25th June	**Moreton-in-the-Marsh market and Fosseway Garden Centre**	Depart 9.00 return 3.30pm	£2 per person
Wed 10th July	**Bourton on the Water**	Depart 9.00 return 3.00pm	£2 per person
Frid 2nd Aug	**Weston Super Mare**	Depart 8.00 return 7.30pm	£10 per person
Wed 7th Aug	**Southsea & Portsmouth**	Depart 8.00 return 7.00pm	£10 per person
Thurs 15th Aug	**Brighton**	Depart 8.00 return 7.30pm	£10 per person
Frid 23rd Aug	**Weymouth**	Depart 7.30 return 7.30pm	£10 per person
Sat 31st Aug	**Bournemouth (Air show)**	Depart 7.30 return 7.30pm	£10 per person
Wed 30th Oct	**Blackpool Illuminations**	Depart 6.30 return 11.30pm	£16 per person
Sat 30th Nov	**Birmingham Xmas Market**	Depart 8.30 return 6.30pm	£10 per person
Sat 7th Dec	**Wellesbourne Market**	Depart 8.00 return 2.30pm	£10 per person

All return times are approximate depending on traffic

Sat 28th Sept — **Barton Bash** — 12 noon – 4.30pm
Free event for everyone with live music and loads of free activities + bingo

Sat 12th Oct — **A Night at the Races Barton Neighbourhood Centre from 6.00pm**
Name your own dog, place your bets and hopefully be a winner!

Sat 9th Nov — **Sagalouts from 7.00pm – 11.00pm Tickets £3 including free refreshments**
A great night of nostalgia with music from the magical 50`s and 60`s

For more information and further details please contact Sue on 07866460446 or sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com or Sharon sharon@bartoncommunityassociation.com

USEFUL INFO

Health

Barton Surgery 01865 227788
Bury Knowle Health Centre 01865 227788
Manor Surgery 01865 762535
Churchill Hospital 01865 741841
John Radcliffe Hospital 0300 304 7777
Nuffield Hospital 01865 741155
NHS Direct 111

Local Dental Practices

310 Dental Care
310 London Road, Headington 01865 766975
Bury Knowle Dental Practice
207 London Road, Headington 01865 308400
Euro Dental Practice
61 London Road, Headington 01865 308865
John Miller Dental Practice
6A The Parade, Windmill Road, Headington, 01865 308050
Kennett Road Dental Practice
3 Kennett Road, Headington 01865 761965
Manor Dental Practice
7 Osler Road, Headington 01865 750056
Studental
Oxford Brookes University, Colonnade Building, 3rd Floor, Gypsy Lane, Headington, 01865 689997

Local Chemists

Barton Pharmacy
6 Underhill Circus, Headington 01865 763106
Boots Pharmacy
96 London Road, Headington 01865 762518
Boots Pharmacy
Bury Knowle, Headington 01865 765559
Roundway Pharmacy
3 Roundway, Headington 01865 766994

Schools

Bayards Hill Primary School 01865 761656
Cheney Secondary School 01865 765726
Sandhills Primary School 01865 433000
Wheatley Park Secondary School 01865 872441

Local Shops

Chippy 01865 761712
Spar 01865 763606

Other Useful Numbers

Age Uk 01235 849400
Childline 0800 1111
Gas Emergencies 0800 111999

Other Useful Numbers (contd.)

Thames Valley Police Non Emergency 101
Oxfordshire County Council 01865 792422
Oxford City Council 01865 249811
Oxford City Council
Out Of Hours 01865 252900
Samaritans 08457 909090
City Council Tax Team 01865 249811
Free collection of up to 3 bulky items
0800 227 676
Furniture Recycling 01865 763698
Social Services 08450 507 666
Social Care Safeguarding Team
To report a concern about a child/vulnerable adult call 01865 323048 (out of hours number is 0800 833408)
Residents Parking Permits 08456 344 466
Planning Application Updates
For live updates to plans in the local area go to http://ox.planningtracker.co.uk

MP

Anneliese Dodds
Unit A Bishops Mews
Transport Way, Oxford OX4 6HD
or House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
01865 595 790
anneliesedoddsmp@gmail.com

Services

Barton Community Association
01865 761987
Christians Against Poverty
(Free service) 0800 3280006
Leisure Centre 01865 467290
Barton Pavilion 01865 452616
St Mary's Church 01865 604263
headingtonstmary@gmail.com
Oxford Mail 01865 425262
First Homecare 01865 744174
Barton Advice Centre 01865 744152
Getting Heard
(Oxfordshire Advocacy) 0300 3435718
Barton Family & Children Centre
01865 764952
Police – Emergency 999
Police – non emergency 101
Recycling and Waste info 01865 249811

Councillor

County Cllr Glynis Phillips
01865 422380 / 7929 659902
glynis.phillips@oxfordshire.gov.uk
City Cllr Mike Rowley 07827 532445
cllrmrowley@oxford.gov.uk
City Cllr Martyn Rush 07804 636541
cllrmrush@oxford.gov.uk

Oxford Green Week 8-16 June 2019

POP UP GREEN EVENTS ACROSS OUR CITY!
Are you ready for Oxford Green Week 2019?

Oxford Green Week is a city wide festival celebrating sustainability and inspiring people to take action against climate change.

The festival will kick off on Saturday 8 June with Oxford's Big Green Day Out – a family friendly event on Broad Street, with events and activities taking place every day until Sunday 16 June.

This year, the festival - which is now in its sixth year -, will explore the theme of One Planet Living.

Oxford Green Week is organised by the City Council and partners, Community Action Groups Project- CAG Oxfordshire, Good Food Oxford, Oxford Brookes University, Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust, University of Oxford, and Oxford Festival of the Arts.

You can find out more at www.oxfordgreenweek.org

OXFORDSHIRE REUSES
Oxfordshire Reuses is an exciting addition to Oxford Green Week. It is a one-of-a-kind zero waste festival where you can love your clothes and household goods and give them a new lease of life!

This FREE event welcomes anyone who is up for a great buzz, saving money, helping the planet, and features:

Swap shop – bring any unwanted item in good condition that you can carry and take as many new ones

Repair café – bring any one poorly item that you can carry such as electrics, clothes, or small furniture and Oxfordshire's skilled volunteers will try to fix it. You'll be encouraged to observe and assist the repair so you can learn new skills!

Clothes upcycling demo – professionally hosted demonstration for how to go beyond clothes mending towards jazzing them up

Kids' upcycling workshop – pop-in for either "If Bins Could Talk" or "Recycle a Poem" workshops and enjoy making new stuff out of old with the family

Food Surplus Café – enjoy tea, coffee, refreshments and cake crafted and sold by a local youth club using fresh surplus food

Stalls – waste-free products sales and information from local charitable, non-profit, independent and grassroots organisations

For more information on the event, contact waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MANOR SURGERY
OSLER ROAD
HEADINGTON

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY

MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

ALL MEETINGS ARE BETWEEN 6.30PM – 8.00PM AND ARE HELD IN THE SURGERY WAITING ROOM AREA

ALL PATIENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

"HELP SHAPE YOUR SURGERY"

Nothing says summer like strawberries

Families from Cowley, Barton and Cutteslowe are invited on a free Pick-Your-Own strawberry day out as part of Oxford Green Week

On Saturday 15th June, Oxford residents will be offered a free bus ride to Rectory Farm with the Oxford Bus Company, where they can pick their own strawberries. There are pick-ups in three Oxford locations: Temple Cowley, Barton and Cutteslowe.

Strawberries are a must for a proper British summer. Finding the juiciest, freshest, sweetest fruits isn't always easy in the shops. That's why an opportunity to pick straight from a local family farm makes all the difference.

The trip is organised by Good Food Oxford and in its fourth year.

"Last year's event was a huge success! We welcomed 100 people on two double-decker buses to the farm and everyone had a brilliant time picking fresh strawberries to take home" says Hannah Fenton, Good Food Oxford Manager.

"We are so grateful once more that our friends at Oxford Bus Company are running this Special Service. For those who love the fresh taste of in-season strawberries, but can't get out to the farm, this is a once-a-year treat and not to be missed!"

With reports suggesting that as many as a third of the UK's children don't know where their food comes from, picking fruit directly from the fields couldn't be a more beneficial learning experience. It's an eye-opening step towards natural and healthy food.

On arrival at Rectory Farm, the first 100 people will get a voucher for 20% off their first punnet of strawberries, thanks to the team at Rectory Farm.

For those who are interested, all the details, including bus timetables, can be found on the Oxford Green Week website: oxfordgreenweek.org

Fresh and seasonal, just-picked local fruits are the best possible choice for health and the environment, and the perfect start to summer. Thanks to the Oxford Bus Company, Take a trip to Rectory Farm to spend a day in the fields soaking up the fresh air and farm life.

Interested? Contact Hannah Fenton at: mail@goodfoodoxford.org



To report a loan shark please call the IMLT helpline:
0300 555 2222
Email: **reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk**
For more info about the work of the IMLT please contact Dave Benbow,
email: **david.a.benbow@birmingham.gov.uk**
Visit our website at **www.stoploansharks.uk**
For updates on the campaign visit **www.facebook.com/stoploansharksproject** or twitter: **@loansharknews**

