DECEMBER 2014

Hands on News

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

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

NOW IN ITS FOURTH YEAR – MORE AMAZING THAN EVER!



THIS SPECTACULAR community event is proving to be the largest Christmas Wonderland event you could ever imagine! Last year over 500 attended and more are being planned for this year on 21 December from 5 to 8 pm. Look out for a stranger walking around the estate in the afternoon announcing the latest news about this exciting occasion!

There will be many attractions including a spectacular winter wonderland walk to Santa's amazing grotto and of course, Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime by one of the UK's lead touring theatre company, Hurricane Productions. Look out to for Twistina and Twistopher of BBCTV fame with their musical organ and monkey tricks, and for the first time this year Circus performers from Oxford Entertainers.

The Carole Café was a great success last year, with lots of good food available and an exciting programme of local musicians, artists, singers and entertainers. If any local group would like to be part of the evening programme for 15 mins or so please contact us quickly to see if we can fit this into our programme.

We are also offering table-top stalls for any local organisations or individuals who want to display their products or services to the community. There is no fee charged but we require each stall holder to provide an interactive family game or activity so people of all ages can have fun visiting your stall. There will also be lots of Christmas Food Hampers in the raffle and loads of Tombola prizes to be won. Sponsoring hampers and tombola prizes are a great way to tell the local community about your organisation or group activities.

Christmas Wonderland is another great example of how the Barton community can have lots of fun together and enjoy the wonders of the Christmas story together in bringing peace and hope to all mankind, regardless of who we are or where we have come from. We are expecting this year to be the best event ever!

Book now in your diary to be at the Barton Neighbourhood Centre on 21 December 5 to 8 pm for lots of fun with family, friends and neighbours and a great night out at the start of your week of Christmas celebrations.

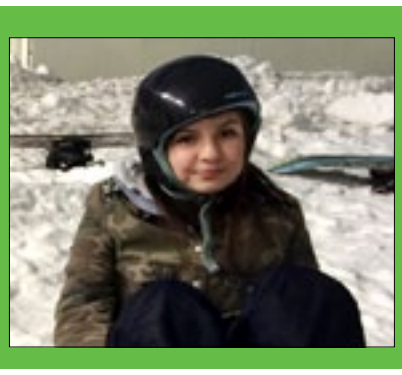
Many local groups and organisations will want to sponsor a games and prizes stall. Barton Christmas Wonderland is Organised by Job Club Barton in association with Barton Community Association and Emmanuel Church Oxford.

■ With space limited you should contact/text us quickly:
Rod Shepherd 07747 604992
rshepherd@emmanueloxford.org
Andy Hougham 07850 104723
info@bartonjobclub.org.uk
or Sue Holden 01865 761987
bartonnhc@aol.com



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Barton – Useful Numbers

SCHOOLS

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

HEALTH

Barton Surgery	01865 744221
Bury Knowle Health Centre	01865 308400
Manor Surgery	01865 762535
Churchill Hospital	01865 741841
John Radclifffe Hospital	01865 741166
Nuffield Hospital	01865 741155
NHS Direct	111

LOCAL SHOPS

Chemist	01865 763106
Chippy	01865 761712
Spar	01865 763606

COUNCILS/COUNCILLORS/MP

Andrew Smith M.P	01865 595790
Oxford City Council	01865 249811
Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422
Cllr Van Coulter	07767496409
Cllr Glynis Phillips	07929659902
Cllr Mike Rowley	07827532445

SERVICES

Barton Community Association	01865 761987
Leisure Centre	01865 467290
Barton Pavilion	01865 452616
St Mary`s Church	01865 761886
Oxford Mail	01865 425262
Civicare	01865 744174
Barton Advice Centre	01865 744152
Oxfordshire Advocacy	01865 741200
Roundabout Family Centre	01865 764952
Police – Emergency	999
Police – non emergency	101

BARTON ON FACEBOOK

What's going on in Barton?

For news, photos, and information go to...

facebook

and search for Barton Community to find out.

Do you enjoy reading **Hands on News?**

Then why not get involved in the next one?

We are always looking for local residents to write articles, send in pictures and help produce future issues of the newspaper.

07900 038305 clayton.lavallin@hotmail.co.uk

Oxfordshire Befriending for Life (OxBEL)

Could you use your experience supporting someone who has died to help others who may be approaching the end of their life?

Maybe you have cared for a loved one who died? Or are you a retired care professional? Do you hope to have a career in care? Or are you 'just' a special person who wants to help others? The lessons you have learnt and your experience and knowledge could make a real difference. Please volunteer to become a befriender.

Oxfordshire Befriending for Life (OxBEL) recruits and trains volunteers to befriend people who are facing the end of life and may be isolated and alone or just need someone to talk to. We are seeking volunteers for the next training course which starts in Oxford soon. We urgently need more volunteers as demand is growing for our services.

We offer top quality training, regular one-to-one support, bi-monthly peer support groups (well-attended – our volunteers get a lot out of connecting with one another), and the opportunity to really make a difference to someone's life.

The befriending relationship will also enrich the life of the volunteer. It isn't all about serious stuff. Part of preparing to die well involves living life well, and to the full, now. There can be fun and laughter as well as serious conversations. It can come as a surprise to some current volunteers just how rewarding the role turns out to be. Every friendship is unique.

■ **Why not ask for our information pack to find out more, and see if it would be right for you? Telephone or email us: Tel: 01235 849427 Email: enquiries@oxbel.org.uk We look forward to hearing from you.**

BARTON JOB CLUB

Where are you going to be next year?

Will 2015 be a year of opportunity for you to think differently about your future success?

Our dreams and aspirations often get squeezed out by today's overwhelming circumstances so how about taking control by deciding to think differently about your future life-style choices and desires for becoming financially independent? Would you prefer that you and your family are in a better place in 2015 than in 2014?

Why not come along and have a friendly, informal chat with us to explore more about your potential employment opportunities for making 2015 more successful than you could have ever hoped for! Why not decide now to make that important decision about your future by contacting us to arrange an introductory informal chat.

Barton Job Club is independent voluntary group established in 2010 to provide a personal confidential service for Barton residents.

■ **The Barton Job Clubmeet every Wednesday, 10am–12pm and 6–8pm at Barton Neighbourhood Centre. Call/Text Rod Shepherd 07747604992 or info@bartonjobclub.org.uk**

1st Barton Brownies: Now at Barton Community Centre!

1st Barton Brownies have moved their meetings into the Barton Community Centre after 46 years of meeting in St Mary's Church Hall. Brown Owl Mary McLean, who's led the pack for the past 26 years, said they were very excited to be moving to the heart of Barton, in the warm, comfortable surroundings of the Community Centre.

She added: "We hope that the Brownies will be able to join in with the events that the BCA puts on, and that the community will join in with things that we put on. That way we can build a similar bond to the one we've had with St Mary's. We look forward to it going on for at least as long and every bit as happily. We thank the BCA for a fantastic welcome, and look forward to a strong partnership."

You'll find 1st Barton Brownies every Tuesday during term time on the first floor of the Community Centre from 6–7.15pm. There are still some vacancies open for girls aged 7–10 years who want lots of fun, games and activities

There's also a vacancy for a new Brownie leader. No experience is necessary as full training will be given.

Potential Brownies and potential Brown Owls, what are you waiting for?

■ **To get involved, please email Mary on marymclean70@hotmail.co.uk or give her a call on 07403 007684**

Barton United Needs You!

Barton United is looking for girls to join there Under 10's Under 12's and Under 14's football teams. If you fancy showing the boys how it`s done then just contact Liam Gomersall on .....

Oxfordshire Advocacy
getting heard

Cancer, Older People and Advocacy project a new initiative delivered by Oxfordshire Advocacy (OA) to residents of Oxfordshire aged 50+. People affected by Cancer either as a patient or family member, friend or carer.

OA advocates provide one to one support, help and advocacy for anyone over 50.

To quote a friend who is undergoing a course of chemotherapy 'The chemo fog means I am unable to think clearly or quickly in respect of form filling to seek financial support or people asking me important questions at the hospital that impact my well-being."

OA advocates can find out whatever you need to know, come with you to medical appointments and find out what practical help is available locally, support you to make informed choices and decisions about treatment and care. They can help with those things that you are worried about allowing you to focus on your health and well-being, particularly if you are feeling unwell and undergoing or recovering from cancer treatment.

Is there a cost for this service?
No - it is free, independent, non-judgemental and confidential. A listening ear there just for you.

Think an advocate could help?
Contact Oxfordshire Advocacy on:
01865 230203
copa@oadg.org.uk
www.gettingheard.org

(The Cancer, Older People and Advocacy project is funded by BIG Lottery Silver Dreams Fund and MacMillan Cancer Support. OPAAL UK is the national project manager.)

Charity No: 1131403

BARTON COMMUNITY MEETINGS

DATES FOR 2015

BICEP (Barton Integration and Community Engagement Project) will meet on the following dates and will update and discuss in detail the progress of the new development. All meetings will take place at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and will commence at 10am.

20 January
3 March
14 April
26 May
7 July
18 August
29 September
10 November
22 December

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP will meet each quarter to discuss everything BARTON whilst identifying priority areas. All meetings will take place at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and will commence at 6pm.

16 March
15 June
14 September
14 December

If you have an interest in your community and would like to become involved in future decision making then please come along to any of the above meetings. We feel it is important that our voice is heard and our concerns are listened to.

■ **For further information please contact Sue Holden on 07866460446**

The Hands on News Team

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Young Achievers serve up a great night out



THIS year's Young Achievers Dinner was another triumph for the young people involved with Thrive Barton.

They helped prepare, cook and beautifully serve a three-course meal, besides having to deal with a small fire in the kitchen – which they handled with calm, good humour and common sense. There was excitement all round as guests gathered in the road outside for a short while between courses!

Back inside and comfortably full, the audience heard from sponsors of individual awards as they gave out certificates and spoke warmly of the achievements of the recipients.

The event is driven by Thrive Barton, a subsidiary of the charity, Innovista, who want to help young people bring hope to life in their community. Thrive is specifically focused on council estates and deprived areas, and the team in Barton was the first in this country. It's been operating for four years. Team members live in Barton so that they can build close relationships with the young folk by living in the same places as them, and being part of their community. The aim is to help the youngsters achieve their potential and increase their confidence, by means of workshops, discussions, mentoring and activities.

The Young Achievers Dinner is a showcase to demonstrate to supporters and other interested parties what they can do. But the real value is in the sessions beforehand, where a huge amount is achieved. Attending something regularly, committing to it, and understanding that if they don't turn up, then it has an impact on the others in the group, are all important elements.

Everything is driven by the ideas and creativity of the young people themselves. Sessions are mainly activity-based, after some early discussions about what they'd like to do. It might be for example, art or music or anything else needed to create a memorable event. It's about spending your time positively, and team-building. The dinner is the culmination of all that.

Thrive aims to build skills in the group members, giving them a taste of activities they might not have thought of, and encourages a sense of teamwork. In working together, they take complete ownership of and responsibility for the project, including designing artwork to decorate the venue and menus, laying up tables and preparing and serving dinner

This year, each participant had a dedicated table for which they were responsible. There was a personalised menu with every guest's name on, plus the name of the table server and a note of what interests them, and what they would like to do in life, making the evening really personal.

Whatever skills "Thrivers" already have are polished and included, which is why this year there was musical entertainment, with band members writing their own songs and performing them at the event.

By the end of the evening, the guests had had a great meal, excellent entertainment, a moment of disruption, an impressive account of the things that youngsters can achieve with the right stimulus, a good idea of the aims of Innovista and the Thrive movement, and lots of fun. It's something to be immensely proud of.

The biggest thing is the sense beforehand of "I can do it", and afterwards a sense of "We've done that", so that no matter what might happen in their lives, they can still look on it as something they did together, which people will talk about and say "We went to that and it was great".

But it doesn't end there. Afterwards there's a debrief, where individuals can say how they felt about the whole experience. They can join a leadership course, or they can keep in touch for help with finding other courses - some might have found a passion for food, for example, or for performing.

They can also ask for support with an idea they might have for helping or entertaining the community. The musicians who played at the dinner, for example, have gained enough confidence to play at a charity event to raise money for an operation for a child with cerebral palsy.

Thrive keeps an interest in the development of those who took part, and everyone is encouraged to keep in touch.

If you think you'd like to take part in something like this next year, or know someone else who might, then get in touch with Thrive. Also look out for flyers and notices in Barton. Preparations start in May, with more focused sessions in September. But get in touch now to register your interest – don't wait!



■ **You can go to the website thriveteam.wordpress.com/contact-us/**
You can contact Jem Todd: Jem.Todd@innovista.org 07581 794222
or Adam Overton: Adam.Overton@innovista.org 07896 972883

Barton is the place to be for young people!

IT MAY be cold outside, but don't let that stop you from getting out and enjoying the great range of activities on offer in Barton.

Young people aged 8 – 12 are invited to attend the Early Intervention staff at the Barton Junior Youth Club every Tuesday, 6 – 8pm. Activities include arts and crafts, cooking, team games and much more!

There is something for the teens and young adults too...

The Council's Youth Ambition programme and Early Intervention Service have teamed up to offer a cool edge to the Senior Youth Club session, which takes place every Thursday, 6.30 – 8.30pm. Anyone aged 13 – 21 are welcome!

If sports is your thing then join the leaders in the sports hall where you can play any sport that takes your fancy; football, basketball, dodgeball, cricket, circuits – we can offer it all! Leaders will also support you to take the next steps whether that is joining a sports club, getting a sports qualification and much more.

If sport isn't quite your cup of tea or you fancy chilling for a bit then the Senior Youth Club offers a space where you can do exactly this. Get support to enhance your CV, work through homework/course work, take part in activities such as arts and crafts or have a friendly chat with the staff.

Calling all girls

To top off your week and help you unwind for the weekend why not join us at the Girls' Night Out session every Friday, 6.30 – 8.30pm. Open to young women aged 14 – 25 this session offers female only space to socialise and take part in sports and other fun activities. Friendly staff are also around to host group discussions and be a listening ear.

All sessions take place at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and are absolutely FREE to For more information please visit www.oxford.gov.uk/communitysport or call 01865 252729. You can also download a free app called Bungee which will tell you everything going on in your area that you can get involved in!

■ **Remember to 'like' us on Facebook @ www.facebook.com/oxfordyouthambition**

After school arts and crafts club

OUR After School Club will finish on Friday 12 December and restart on Friday 9 January 2015. We meet each week, term time only, between 3.30pm – 5pm. All resources and refreshments are supplied free of charge and activities include art, jewellery making, card creation, clay making, seasonal, use of I-Pads to improve graphic design as well as much much more. We also take the children out each year for their Christmas Party as well as trips to places such as Cotswold Wildlife Park and museums. Please feel free to join us in the New Year for more fun filled sessions.

We are currently looking for someone who would like to become involved with the Club as a volunteer. The only thing we ask for is an interest in creative art as well as commitment throughout term time. This appointment can often lead to a paid post within the group.

■ **For further details please contact Sue Holden on 07866460446**

Back once again by popular demand!

Barton Christmas Wonderland

21st December 2014

Barton Neighbourhood Centre at 5pm

Featuring **Jack and The Beanstalk**

GIANT of a Panto for 3-11+ year olds

Hurricane Productions Leading Touring company



SANTA'S GROTTO

Santa is back with friends and treats for all ages!

Twistopher & Twistina (BBC TV fame)

AND **THE OXFORD ENTERTAINERS**

INCLUDING Musical Organ & Monkey tricks • balloon fun • Circus fun for all the family • Carol Café with entertainment, hot food & Christmas Hamper prizes to win! • Stalls with family games & prizes • Christmas glitter tattoos, face painting & body art • Festive music, carol singers & local entertainment groups • Costume photographs • Celebrity Oxford Town Crier, Anthony Church!



Job Club: Barton

Organised by Job Club:Barton with Barton Community Association & Emmanuel Oxford.
Event enquiries:
rshepherd@emmanueloxford.org or call/text 07747604992

Barry "Baz" Holden: 2014 – The Year of the Hug



I'M SURE most of you will know that Barry sadly passed away unexpectedly in August and I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one who has offered so much unconditional love, warmth and support to both me and my family during this extremely difficult time.

Baz became well known during his time as the local newsagent between 1980 and 2006. He thrived on the banter and camaraderie with his extensive band of loyal customers as well as being the person who gave several young people their first "proper" job delivering newspapers. Many of those young people are now parents and grandparents themselves and I know for many they gained values and life skills from their time spent with Holdens News. Many recalled their experiences of early mornings and late evenings counting out piles of newspapers before popping them through peoples` letterboxes. Barry was totally committed to his role within the community, never let anyone down with a paper delivery, and loved every minute spent behind the counter from 5am – 7pm seven days a week. He was at his happiest serving his customers as well as those who just popped in for a cuppa and a chat or came in just to say "Hello" to Dylan the cat. Everyone was made to feel welcome and valued. Barry truly earned the respect and love that was so much in evidence at his funeral service in August. I have learned so much about Barry during the past three months from various sources, and it leaves us all feeling very proud of him.

Barry became more involved with the Community Association once he retired, and regularly expressed his down to earth views at meetings with his usual no nonsense approach – "Say it as it is" was his motto – and he always strived to improve the quality of life for those around him.

As a family we really appreciated all the tributes received via facebook, twitter, cards, emails, texts, Oxford Mail hits as well as beautiful flowers. Not bad for someone who thought that "going viral" meant a visit to the doctors!! We all miss him immensely, and hopefully he will stay in the heart of Barton and its community for a long time to come. I used the title "2014 – The Year of the Hug" because this sums up how it has been for us, so thanks to all of you for your expressions of love and respect.

Here is an extract from Barry`s Funeral Service and I`m sure it will resonate with many of his customers - "Are you buying that newspaper or just reading it? It says Holden's News above the door not Holden's Library!"

Sue Holden and family

Help at hand for Oxford residents struggling to stay warm this winter

THIS WINTER, many Oxford residents will be worrying about how to pay their heating bills and may feel forced to choose saving money over turning the heating on. But keeping warm is vital to health and wellbeing and there are plenty of resources available to make sure you don't have to suffer a cold home this winter.

The Affordable Warmth Helpline on 0800 107 0044 is a one-stop-shop providing free, impartial and expert advice on grants and fuel payments, reducing energy bills, increasing home energy efficiency and switching energy suppliers.

For homeowners in Oxford aged 60 and over, on a low income or suffering from a long term health condition or disability, the City Council's Home Improvement Agencyprovides invaluable services to improve living conditions, such as the Flexible Home Improvement Loan for installation of insulation, central heating and new boilers. It also offers a Small Repairs Service to help people with smaller energy saving taskssuch asdraughtproofing.

There is help available for landlords in Oxford's growing private rented sector too to improve the energy efficiency of their properties such as the Landlord's Energy Saving Allowance and Landlord Repairs grants. New funding is also available via the Affordable Warmth Network to upgrade boilers install loft and cavity wall insulation in private rented accommodation where tenants are under 14, over 65 or on certain benefits.

And this winter Oxford City Council and the Affordable Warmth Network are also working with Everwarmto provide heavily discounted loft and cavity wall insulation in Oxford. In certain areas of the city, grants will cover the full cost of such insulation, meaning that it'sfree.

■ **Call the Affordable Warmth Helpline NOW on 0800 107 0044 and enjoy a warmer and healthier winter this year.**

Breast screening appointments

IF YOU have an appointment to attend the Breast Screening Clinic at the Churchill Hospital and you are struggling with transport arrangements or just want someone to sit with you whilst you're waiting to be called through for your mammogram then just give us a call and we will arrange to help you sort out this all important appointment.

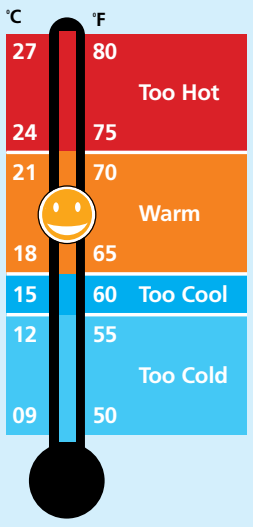
■ **Please call Sue Holden on 07866 460446**



Affordable Warmth Network

Helping all be warm and well

Does the thought of your next heating bill leave you cold?



If so, talk to us for free, impartial, expert advice about:

- Reducing your energy bills
- Heating your home affordably and efficiently
- Grants and financial assistance
- A free talk for your group

Working with your local council and health service

NATIONAL ENERGY FOUNDATION

0800 107 0044 awn@nef.org.uk

Visit our Christmas Grotto

Open every weekend, 10am - 4pm, and from Saturday 13th December open every day, 10am - 4pm, until Christmas Eve



TEMPLARS SQUARE Shopping Centre
www.templarssquare.com

For more details visit our website: www.templarssquare.com

129 Pound Way, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 3XH
Tel: 01865 748864

Barton Community Association Annual Report 2013–14

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Our trustees have worked hard during the past year to ensure that BCA moves forward in meeting their aims and objectives for the benefit of their community.

If you feel you have any skills or interests to bring to the Board please consider joining us as a trustee. We meet each month and work in close partnership with many organisations, agencies and local authorities.

PLANNED NEW DEVELOPMENT WEST OF BARTON

BCA has been meeting regularly with representatives from both Oxford City Council and Grosvenor (LLP) to try and secure the best possible deal for the existing community. Although some dates are now loosely in place such as the start of the access road from the A40 starting Spring 2015 with first residents hopefully moving in late 2016 the decision surrounding the management of the proposed supermarket is yet to be made public.

We are still not sure whether a hotel will be included within the plans, and although integration is at the top of almost everyone's agenda there still needs to be a great deal of work done to ensure this happens.

A great deal of time has been devoted over the past twelve months towards the new development. We are endeavouring to make sure that the voice of Barton is heard throughout the discussions and our views, concerns, opinions and comments are taken into consideration when decisions are made. Currently, road names are being discussed and we are hoping that former local community activists will be recognised through this process.

Through this development funding has been identified to completely refurbish the doctor's surgery, and Oxford City Council is currently looking at refurbishment within the Neighbourhood Centre.

COACH TRIPS

This year saw an unprecedented number of coach trips taking place throughout August as well as trips to Black Country Living Museum, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Bath Christmas Market, Westonbirt Arboretum and Birmingham Bull Ring. Some of these trips are subsidised in order to keep them affordable for all.

BARTON BASH

In August 2013 we held our annual community event and in June 2014 we combined two events, the Bash and Dorothy Pearce's 100th birthday. Both events were great community gatherings, bringing everyone together and giving local people the opportunity to illustrate their skills and abilities.

WINTER WONDERLAND

The Winter Wonderland event took place in December and included a panto for the younger children. Santa's grotto proved to be extremely popular and many of the activities were free of charge. This year's event will also take place on Sunday 21 December.

PARISH COUNCIL

BCA is currently considering applying to become a Parish Council and to move this forward we need the support of at least 250 residents who appear on the electoral role. This process would enable BCA to set their own local priorities and take control of the local budget. This way we can work towards the community getting what it wants and deserves. It is anticipated that the Parish Council will serve both the current community as well as the residents of the new development.

BINGO AND LUNCH CLUBS

Thanks to our President Chris Gerkin both bingo and lunch clubs go from strength to strength and have attracted high levels of new participants over the last few months.

Please come along on Tuesday evenings for a game of bingo and Wednesday lunchtimes for a tasty two course meal amongst good company.

ART CLUB AND HOMEWORK CLUB

Both clubs continue to run successfully and attract external funding to ensure their sustainability. Children who attend the Homework Club have benefitted from improved results within the school curriculum and the Art Club offers a safe and inviting environment to children who enjoy art and crafts.

Each child attending is offered qualityrefreshments each week and in May they were treated to a trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park.

Other rewards were offered during the year. I-Pads, Kindles, Smart Boards and Laptops are available to use during the homework club sessions, and this allows children to access technology on a regular basis.

We are keen to work with local schools to help raise standards and pupil attainment. During the year we have worked closely with Bayards Hill and Cheney who has now received preferred bidder status for the new school to be situated within the new development. Bayards Hill will become an academy within a Cheney-led academy trust during the autumn.

FUNDING

BCA has continued to be successful in attracting external funding including Youth Ambition, County Council and Social Inclusion funds.

This has enabled us to run many events and activities throughout the year including the half term activities during October and February as well as summer holidays.

We have recently secured funding to repeat the half term activities again in February 2015. Specific funding has included the Learn to Earn and Let's Cook It Barton projects.

COMMUNITY MINIBUS

The minibus continues to enable local groups to achieve a great deal within their own list of activities. This includes Barton United Football Club, Bayards Hill Primary School, The Roundabout Family Centre, Early Intervention, Thrive, local W.I Groups and more recently the BCA themselves who have started running regular "out of town" shopping trips for local residents.

EATWELLS COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Eatwells currently provides meals forboth our lunch clubs on Mondays and Wednesdays as well as Northway Community Association lunch club. Outside catering attracts a valuable income stream for the café, and the staff distributes supplies received from the Oxford Food Bank. People with learning disabilities are encouraged to volunteer on a regular basis and each year the café hosts several school children through the Work Experience programme.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

The Association will only ever be as successful as the staff they employ and volunteers they engage with. Thanks to everyone who contributes towards the day to day running of the Association and all it provides for the community.

BARTON BROWNIES

We have recently joined forces with our local Brownies group led by Mary McLean who has recently been made homeless by the closure of the Church Hall. The group is meeting at the centre each week and hopefully will become involved in future BCA events.

Mary says: "After 46 years of meeting at St Mary's Church Hall 1st Barton Brownies have relocated to the First Floor at Barton Community Centre. We will continue to meet on Tuesdays during term time from 6.00 pm – 7.15 pm. We welcome girls from 7 – 10 year olds and currently still have some vacancies. We thank BCA for a fantastic welcome and look forward to a strong partnership".

CHRISTINE GERKIN

Congratulations to Christine who celebrates 50 years this year working and volunteering for the Association. Thank you Chris for the hundreds of hours you have devoted to BCA over the years, and that's what happens when you offer to cover the cleaning for six weeks whilst the regular cleaner goes into hospital for surgery!

BARRY HOLDEN

Our vice president, Barry Holden, sadly passed away on 10th August this year, and will be sorely missed for his down to earth contributions and never to be forgotten one-liners both at BCA meetings and further afield.

Barton Community Association Working with the Community for the Community

Barton Community Association Updates

We have more recently started shopping trips for anyone who struggles to access larger supermarkets. These have included Aldi and Morrisons at Banbury where we stopped off for a lunch at Toby Carvery. A good time was had by all. We will be continuing with these trips so watch out for further details.

Barton Community Association Open Forum

We held our first Open Forum prior to our AGM in September. During this session questions were asked by members and we promised to report back the responses received from the relevant organisations and here they are:

Question: What is being done about the raw sewage that regularly floods outside Hillside Court and Brome Place?
Answer: After speaking to Oxford City Council it was identified that this was the responsibility of Thames Water who have been contacted and we are currently awaiting their response

Question: Can we please have a supply of Dog Poo Bags?
Answer: We asked and we got. They were delivered within a week and are currently available at Eatwells Cafe. Thank you Oxford City Council.

Question: Signage around the estate and at the Neighbourhood Centre desperately needs improving including Underhill Circus to prevent traffic going around the wrong way. Is anything being done?
Answer: Signage is high on the list of priorities at Oxford City Council and is being addressed through a wider project of regeneration/refurbishment. General signage is being referred to the Community Partnership

Question: Traffic approaching Barton from the crem is using the opposite lane to turn into Stowford Road rather than having to sit in a queue of traffic. Traffic coming down Bayswater Road from Green Road roundabout can be confronted by traffic on the wrong side of the road
Answer: Thames Valley police have been made aware of this problem

Question: Green Road Roundabout signage needs to be improved so that drivers can clearly see which lane they need to be in for their intended journey. Also traffic lights need to be better synchronised to avoid potential accidents with traffic coming from Headington appearing to jump the lights
Answer: This has been brought to the attention of Oxfordshire County Council

Question: In respect of the new development can we please have regular updates with dates of proposed consultations and progress reports especially once the developers are on site. Is there any guarantee that the spine road will be connected to existing Barton before the first residents move in so that integration can be encouraged from an early stage? Will there be any employment opportunities for local residents?
Answer: We have asked the developers to produce a quarterly report to be included in each copy of the Hands on News. The connection of the spine road will be on the agenda of the next Bicep meeting. Local residents will be encouraged to apply for jobs created as a result of the new development with support from the local Job Clubs. Apprenticeships for Barton residents will hopefully be available giving the opportunity to train towards long term employment. Further information should be available shortly

Question: What is happening with the proposed development at Bayswater Farm?
Answer: Due to access issues the developers announced in 2013 that further work needed to be done together with more consultation. There have been no further updates from the developers or SODC

Question: What is being done about irresponsible parking near Bayard's Hill School preventing parents with buggies using the pavements? Also parking along Northway opposite Cress Hill Place and Ellington Court especially by non residents.
Answer: The construction company involved have been spoken to about their employees and sub contractors parking in an irresponsible manner. Hopefully this has now been resolved. Parking along Northway is perfectly legal as long as the vehicles are insured and taxed

Question: My children are being bullied when trying to access youth sessions. What is being done to eradicate this type of behaviour?
Answer: We have been involved in conversations with Early Intervention who run most of the youth sessions. We are assured that they are addressing this problem and part of this was to hold several drop in sessions throughout October and November to speak to both parents and young people. We have been working in partnership with both Early Intervention and Oxford City Council to deal with these issues and the people responsible for the bullying. Appropriate action is being taken once the bullies are identified.

We are planning to hold a further Open Forum sometime in the New Year so that residents have the opportunity to bring their concerns to the attention of the agencies and organisations who will be asked to provide answers and resolutions.

We will publicise details once the date has been fixed, and in the meantime if you need any further information in respect of the above please feel free to contact us on 01865 761987 or 07866460446

A Golden Anniversary with a Difference

This year sees the 50th Anniversary between Chris Gerkin and Barton Community Association. Chris first became involved with the Association way back when she was just 21 years old and volunteered to cover the cleaning duties for six weeks whilst the regular cleaner was off sick. And the rest is history! Chris continued her cleaning duties for many years moving from the small hut accommodation to the current building. She currently runs the Tuesday night bingo sessions where numbers have increased considerably over the past few months as well as the Wednesday Community Lunch Club where everyone is welcome to come along and join in for a quality two-course meal followed by a raffle and a quick game of bingo. Having recently undergone hip replacement surgery Chris was very quickly back up and running, taking back the helm from her band of trusty volunteers. Long may she continue to serve!

2014 Coach Trips

August saw an unprecedented number of local residents take advantage of the trips to the seaside including Weston Super Mare, Brighton, Bournemouth and Weymouth. Almost 500 passengers went off for a day by the seaside and the weather was kind on most days. We continue to offer a savings club to anyone who wants to reserve seats without having to pay everything in one go. We also visited the Black Country Living Museum as well as a trip to Ikea at Milton Keynes.

Meet the Barton Community Association Trustees!

Hands On News proudly presents the Barton Community Association Trustees. Meet the people who work hard all year round on behalf of the whole Barton Community.

JAMES BLOICE SMITH



I have lived in Barton for nearly 4 years. I work as a minister of Headington Baptist Church which includes Barton Community Church started just five years ago. My wife Marion and I have 2 grown up children Dan and Naomi.

I believe community is important so joined Headington Action, organised Headington Festival, run Headington Fun Day. More recently I have been involved with groups looking at the plans for the new Barton estate, and now sit on the BICEP group working towards integration of both communities. Barton has a great deal going for it, and many residents have lived here for a long time and made Barton what it is. Being the "new boy" I hope I can do something useful by being a BCA trustee.

ROD SHEPHERD



I live locally to Barton and am a volunteer worker in the community as a member of Emmanuel Church Oxford. My main role is being a trustee of BCA and responsible for Job Club Barton since it started over 4 years ago. As a volunteer group we also started Barton Christmas Wonderland now in its fourth year and now recognised as a major community event.

With many years experience in the corporate sector and running my own businesses my aspirations are to support BCA using my business skills to help residents to develop their own personal skills especially those seeking work opportunities and a a brighter future. My commitment is to see Barton become an even better place to live as part of a much larger integrated community. I feel very much part of the Barton family.

JEM TODD



I live in Barton with my wife and 18 month old twins Noah and Isabelle. I moved to Barton four years ago when I started working for a local project called Thrive which runs youth work on the estate. Barton is the best place I have ever lived, the community spirit is second to none and I'm really excited to become a trustee of BCA. I'm especially looking forward to contributing towards seeing everyone have the opportunities, inspiration and tools to reach their own goals and for Barton to continue to grow into an estate we can all be proud of.

DAN FARLEY



I am a local resident of Barton since 2009 and quickly became involved in the community as part of the Barton Children's Project. As these activities eventually became absorbed into the BCA during this process I became a trustee. I'm also a co-founder of Job Club: Barton as well as part of the Christmas Wonderland working team. My wife Rachel and I are proud to be raising a family (two boys and counting ...) in Barton and feel more part of a community here than we did elsewhere in Oxford.

Our house will be very close to the new planned development, and we're looking forward to seeing new amenities in Barton that will benefit everyone. I am a research scientist working for 10 years at a Bio-tech company on the Science Park.

PIPPA GWILLIAM



I lived in Barton for 22 years, and during that time have been a trustee of Barton Community Association. More recently I have moved, but continue to have interests in the area which I still consider to be "home". I write regularly for Hands on News and am very interested in local issues. These include the new development, which I wish to see taking account of existing Barton's wishes and needs, and to make sure that the two areas will be well integrated into one, supportive community.

DAN GEE



I have lived in Barton for just over three years, moving here from London where I worked in Government. Both here and where I used to live I've tried to get involved in the local community because I became convinced I should make a positive contribution where I live. I'm a parent governor at Bayard's Hill School and am a member of the Parochial Church Council at St. Mary's Church as well as being a BCA trustee. I am interested in a number of local issues, and attend some of the Council hearings concerning the new Barton development.

SIMON HEAP



After a year away from the BCA Management Committee I have rejoined in 2014. I was a trustee between 2003 – 2013 occupying the role of Honorary Treasurer for a large part of that period. I work in international development, most recently for JICA, the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

My wife and I have lived in Barton for 14 years.

SANDRA PALMER -VICE PRESIDENT



I have lived in Barton for the last 7 years having move to Oxford from London some 40 years ago. I have been privileged to be involved with BCA for about five years and have enjoyed every minute of it. Now retired I previously worked locally as a residential housing warden and when I retired went to Ruskin to study Politics, Economics and Sociology and where I served as Student Union President. I now help to run the monthly Swap-shop (part of Low Carbon Barton) and regularly attend BCA meetings as well as serve on several sub groups including Housing and Environment, Bicep (new development), Low Carbon Barton and Community Partnership. Our latest interest group is a campaign to explore the idea of forming a local (Parish) Council for Barton. I really recommend getting involved with these local groups. We can genuinely make a difference by helping to improve life in Barton, and at the very least it keeps the brain ticking over.

JUNE KUFFOUR



I have always lived in Barton having been brought up in Waynflete Road and then bringing up my daughter in both Highcross Way and Stowford Road. I have been a trustee with BCA for many years and enjoy being actively involved especially with the annual events including the Barton Bash and Therapy Days.

The diversity and demographics of Barton have changed immensely over recent years and I am committed to making sure we embrace our ever changing community and ensure everyone is catered for whatever their culture or background. I work full time at the John Radcliffe Hospital within the Heart Centre.

CHRISTINE GERKIN – PRESIDENT



This year I am celebrating fifty years of involvement with BCA both as an employee and a volunteer. I started way back in 1964 when I "temporarily" covered for the then cleaner who was having hip surgery. And the rest is history! I currently run the Tuesday night Bingo sessions that are going from strength to strength, and we have recently welcomed many new faces each week. I also co-ordinate the Wednesday Community Lunch Club ably assisted by a group of committed volunteers. I have been a trustee or several years, and I hold the position of Lifetime President of Barton Community Association.

ANN BROWNE



I have lived in Barton for 10 years with my daughter, and moved here to make a fresh start. I decided very quickly to utilise my time whilst my daughter was at school by volunteering and offering my skills and experience within a community I knew little about. My first role was within the I.T Hub giving greater access to computers by offering longer opening hours. I was then offered a job as Administrator within the Oxfordshire Learning Communities Project, and this led on to my appointment as Co-ordinator of the Project. I have always been committed to supporting community development within Barton, and have held many roles including that of a youth worker.

I have been a trustee of the Association for four years and am particularly interested in the well being and educational attainment of the children and young people in Barton. I have completed a BA Hons Degree at Ruskin College and I am a strong believer that no matter what kind of difficulties you face with the support of a caring community positive change can happen.

RAY GUILLERY



I moved to Barton in 2010 when I returned to Oxford after 14 years post-retirement working part time in the USA and Turkey. I served a short spell as a Trustee of the BCA and continue to have an interest in the future welfare of the community. In particular, I am concerned to see Barton develop as a single integrated village, including the new development, and what is often, and wrongly, still referred to as "The Barton Estate". I hope that BCA and the community as a whole can successfully work to avoid the "Us and Them" feel that still haunts aspects of plans for the future development.

TRUDY ING



I have both lived and worked in Barton mostly in community development. I worked for BCA in 2002 where I supported local groups including the local play group helping them towards their Ofsted inspection. I graduated in September 2002 from Oxford Brookes University whilst bringing up my family of four children. I have also had to deal with my dyslexia.

Once I graduated I became manager of the local I.T Hub offering courses to all ages from the local community. During this time I completed my qualification to teach adults. In 2011 I finished my Post Graduate Diploma in Management and Leadership. Since 2004 I have worked at Brookes in my current role as Widening Participation Project Manager. I work mostly with under-represented groups who face social exclusion and disadvantage to encourage them to consider and progress to higher education. I am looking forward to the coming year and the challenges facing BCA.



HEADINGTON FESTIVAL WEEKEND 2015

A weekend of fun, food, festivities and sport!



Headington Festival Weekend will take place on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st May 2015

CAN YOU HELP?

We need help to organise this popular community event.
Would you like to help out?
If you are interested please contact us using Contact at the Headington Action website below, or email
headington.action@gmail.com

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Bill Dibber's Seasonal Recipes

Local Barton resident, Bill Dibber has kindly agreed to take a few hours out of his busy allotment schedule to share some seasonal tips on healthy home cooking from ingredients that can be grown in the garden, the allotment or your window box!

This month, Bill has got together some his favourite winter dishes to warm you up as you kick off your wellies and thaw out with your oven mitts to the ready.

Bacon and Eggs with Apple and Parsnip (Perfect brunch)

Ingredients for 4 people
- 6 rashers of bacon, diced
- knob of butter
- 1 onion peeled and diced
- 3 medium parsnips, peeled and diced
- 1 red pepper, diced
- 1 large or two small local apples peeled cored and diced
- 4 large eggs
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Pinch of chopped, fresh thyme

Recipe

1. Fry the bacon in a large frying pan over a medium heat until nice and crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen paper. Drain most of the fat from the pan.
2. Add the knob of butter and onion to the same pan and sauté for a few minutes before adding the parsnips. Cook this for about 10 minutes and be sure to keep the parsnips moving in the pan to make them nice and golden in colour.
3. Throw in the red pepper and apple, put the bacon back into the pan and give it a good toss around for another 3 minutes.
4. Meanwhile poach or fry the eggs keeping the yolks runny.
5. Season the apple and parsnip mixture with salt and pepper, stir through with thyme and serve with runny yolk on top. Delicious!

Apple, Pear and Brandy Crumble (Ideal Dessert)

Ingredients for 4-6 people
Top:
- 1 and ½ mugs of plain flour
- ½ mug of brown sugar
- pinch of salt
- 200g cold butter (cubed)

Bottom:
- 3-4 cooking apples, peeled, cored, cut into 1cm diced cubes
- 3-4 pears, peeled and chopped the same size as the apples
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp plain flour
- A couple of splashes of brandy or cognac
- Pinch of ground ginger
- Pinch of ground cinnamon

Recipe

1. While you are coring and peeling the apples and pears, pre-heat the oven to 190 c, 375f, gas mark 5.
2. Make the topping by mixing the flour, sugar and pinch of salt in a bowl. Slowly combine the cubed butter by rubbing it between your fingers through the mixture, this should form a crumb like texture.
3. Add the fruit, sugar and brandy to a lightly buttered baking dish and give it a good mix. Now sprinkle over the flour, ginger and cinnamon and give it one last toss. Even out the fruit mix in a baking dish and then sprinkle crumble over it.
4. Pop this into the oven for about 30 minutes until the fruit is simmering and the top is nice and brown.
5. Once done, serve it up straight away with some Cornish clotted cream and a nice sticky Sauternes.

For more Ideas of Seasonal recipes see:
- Cooking outside the box-easy, seasonal, organic, Abel and Cole, Collins books
- The Allotment Gardeners Cookbook, Ann Nicol, Silverdale Books

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Dates: 8 January 2015
Times: 10:00am – 12:00pm or 5.00pm – 7.00pm
Duration: 2 hours

Venue:

Barton Neighbourhood Centre

Learn how to:

- Deal with accidents
- Plan and deal with first aid emergencies
- Respond appropriately to injuries
- Recognise sudden illnesses
- Put someone safely in the recovery position
- Be able to carry out resuscitation

For further information or to book onto the course contact:

Sue Holden
Barton Community Association
Barton Neighbourhood Centre. OX3 9LS
Tel: 01865 761987/07886 460446
Email: susanholden@hotmail.com

IMAGINE...

IMAGINE sitting in a meeting with as many as seven professionals who are discussing your child and their Special Educational Needs, possibly using jargon you don't understand.



IMAGINE coming away, not clear what has been decided, unhappy that you hadn't felt brave enough to say what you really felt and wishing there had been someone there to support you.



Now, IMAGINE you are the person there to offer support. You've had a chance to talk things through before the meeting with the parent or carer so you know what they want to say. At the meeting you can encourage them to have their say, check with them they understand the jargon, perhaps even ask the questions the parent is reluctant to ask. Afterwards you can discuss the meeting with them, perhaps help them follow up what was agreed.

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Supporting youth ambitions in partnership with Oxford City Council:

Inspiring young people in Barton!

BY ADAM FRENCH



DURING the October Half Term, Barton Community Association teamed up with Inspired Young People's Project to offer some exciting activities for young people in the area. The three trips were horse riding, a stadium tour of Wembley and a snow boarding lesson in an indoor snow dome.

The trips were very well attended and offered fantastic opportunities for young people to try a new sport or see something they haven't done so before. The young people were impeccably behaved on these trips and all had a fantastic time, including one quote from a young person 'it was the best thing I have ever done!'

It was really great to see young people take on a new challenge, overcome the anxiety and then be really proud of themselves.

All the young people horse riding, were cantering by the end of the day and all the group snowboarding got their level 1 certificate. For the Wembley trip we had a group of football crazy lads who got to see the stadium and behind the scenes of where their icons play. I loved doing this half term with the young people from the area, they really embraced the programme and showed a real appetite to try new activities.

■ **For more information see the website: www.inspiredypp.org**

Making Space for Young people to grow in Barton!

BY JEM TODD

Gardening

We have worked with young people to explore ways that we can make the most of the space around the Neighbourhood centre and potentially incorporate some garden elements into it. Through the planning process we've been able to identify the walled area outside the police office as an area of significant potential. We've therefore been planning what we could do in that space and have come to the conclusion that we would like to beautify the space by building raised beds with climbing plants, seasonal bulbs and shrubs, Herbs and soft fruit plants. We are also exploring partnering with local schools to paint murals on the walls in the new year.

Trips and support

We have also been spending time out and about in the community with young people, playing football and other games. Through this contact we've been able to arrange trips with a range of young people going Wake boarding on a number of occasions. We've also be able to respond to the specific needs and circumstances of young people, providing one to one support to those most vulnerable or at risk of anti social behaviour.

■ **For more information see www.innovista.org**



Mandy's Signature Dishes: The easy way to anyone's heart

MANDY who runs Eatwells Cafe has kindly offered to take time out of the busy kitchen to share with the Hands on News two recipes to warm you this winter. The dishes are very popular, cheap and easy to make.

If you have a favourite recipe that you would like to share with others then please get in touch for inclusion in our March issue. You can send details of your favourite cake recipe, homemade soups, vegetarian options -in fact anything that you enjoy shopping for, prepping, cooking and eating.

■ **Please call Sue on 07866460446 or email details to susanholden@hotmail.com**

Cheese and Potato Pie

Ingredients:
10 large peeled and quartered potatoes
2 peeled and sliced onions
750 grams of mature grated cheddar cheese
Small amount of garlic flakes according to taste
Tablespoon of butter
2 Tablespoons of milk

Method:
Boil potatoes and mash with butter and milk
Gently fry onions in a little butter until transparent (do not allow to brown)
Transfer mashed potatoes to a large mixing bowl and add onions and garlic flakes
Add half of grated cheese – mix in well
Transfer to a suitable size pyrex dish
Sprinkle remainder of cheese over the dish
Cook in oven on 200 degrees for 20 minutes
Serve with fresh vegetables and grilled sausages.

Cheese and Bacon Quiche

Ingredients:
1 x pastry roll – puff pastry works best but shortcrust is ok
I packet of bacon pieces 750 grams – remove any fat
2 onions peeled and chopped
8 eggs
1/2 pint milk
750 grams grated cheese
Garlic flakes to taste
Mixed herbs

Method:
Remove pastry from fridge 30 minutes before using
Gently fry bacon bits and onions together then drain off any excess fat
Beat eggs and add 1/4 pint of milk. Sprinkle in mixed herb s and garlic flakes
Unroll pastry into baking tray and bake for 10 minutes according to instructions
Pour in bacon and onions and sprinkle in approximately 1/4 of the grated cheese
Pour over egg mixture and then sprinkle over the remaining cheese
Cook in oven on 180 degrees for approximately 30-40 minutes until set
Serve with Jacket Potato and Mixed leaf salad.

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'Pimp Ya Bike'
with'On Ya Bike'

is a project running on Wednesday 18, Thursday 19, Friday 2o February 2015, from 10am – 4pm.

'Pimp Ya Bike' is aimed at young people from 10–16yrs old and will give them the opportunity to work on their old bicycles, with a fully qualified mechanic, making them road worthy and bringing them back to life, with a funky pimped up frame!

A free Lock & Lights will be given with every 'Pimped' up bike

PARENTAL CONSENT IS COMPULSORY

CONTACT: Sue Holden at Barton Neighbourhood Centre
01865 761987

'Pimp Ya Bike'



What's your unique selling point?

UNION Street Early Intervention Service is now recruiting for its USP (Unique Selling Point) course aimed at 16 to 19 year olds in Barton and neighbouring areas who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET).

The programme starts on Wednesday, 14 January 2015 at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and will run for four Wednesdays altogether. Attendance will be from 10am – 3pm.

We will be aiming to develop our learners' employability skills through confidence-building activities, CV workshops, identification of available opportunities and interview skills training.

The emphasis will be on encouraging participants to recognise their individual skills and aptitudes and will be especially appropriate for young people who have found the job seeking process difficult or demoralising.

Completion of the programme will attract AQA Accreditation and we are able to offer a free lunch and payment of travel expenses to the venue. On completion of the course, continuing support will be available through the Early Intervention Service.

■ **Please contact Ray Starkie to register an interest on 07827947348 or email ray.starkie@oxfordshire.gov.uk**

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Barton Oxford LLP

IN OCTOBER 2013, Barton Oxford LLP (a joint venture between Oxford City Council and Grosvenor Developments) was granted outline planning permission for a development of up to 885 new homes, a park, improvements to allotments, a community hub including a primary school, sports facilities and shops including a food store.

Following public consultation events on the proposed park in April, Barton Oxford LLP will be submitting the first Reserved Matters Application for the site including full details of this Park, earthworks to prepare the site, drainage and utility arrangements together with the primary street and civic squares at the heart of the development.

Barton Oxford LLP and the project team will be on-hand to talk through the planning application contents and answer questions at the Barton Neighbourhood Centre on Tuesday 16 December between 4pm – 7pm. Subject to planning it is anticipated that construction activities will begin in Spring 2015.

The first house builder will be coming forward with a planning application for Phase 1 (200 – 250 new homes) in late Spring 2015. They will be holding Public Exhibitions in early 2015. Subject to planning, we anticipate the first new residents will be in their new homes in 2016.

Looking ahead to 2015, Barton Oxford LLP will be preparing future Reserved Matters Applications for the new sports pitches and the improvements to the existing allotments, as well as the new community garden.

■ **Further details and the latest news can be found on the Barton Park website at www.bartonparkoxford.com as well as the noticeboard on Barton Village Road.**

Barton Dog Show

BARTON'S Annual Dog Show was well attended again this year, with a huge mix of pooches from Chihuahuas to Great Danes and every size in between.

Organised by Hayley Davies of Edgecombe Road, who runs Mucky Paws Community Pet Care, the show was a hit with dog lovers of every kind, whether their pets were pedigrees or pooches.

Barton Dog Show is a great opportunity for dog lovers to meet and show off their pets, while it raises important funds for the charities Hounds for Heroes and Dogs for the Disabled. The dogs all seemed to get on well too, the great and the small.

Classes for pedigree and novelty classes alike were assessed by retired Kennel Club professional Allyson Giel, who travelled all the way from Shropshire to judge the event. Whether it was "Top Gun Dog" or "Dog with the Waggiest Tail", dogs and their owners enjoyed a fun afternoon. With entry fees and donations, the charities benefited to the tune of a whopping £305.76.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, whether by showing, donating, or just being there at a wonderful community event.

February fun for 5 – 15 year olds

WE ARE pleased to announce that we have been successful in securing funding for the February Half Term activities thanks to Oxford City Council Social Inclusion Fund. The activities will run from 10am – 3pm each day Monday to Friday and will include free refreshments each day. Children will be involved in all sorts of activities including arts and crafts, jewellery making, glitter tattoos, face painting, keep fit, sport, gardening, cooking, traditional board games, singing and they will be rewarded each day for good behaviour, effort and achievement. Registration forms will need to be completed on the first day of attendance and a register will be recorded each day. We can accept children and young people between the ages of five and 15 years old and would happily welcome any support from parents or carers. All participants will be encouraged to keep a daily diary and prizes will be given at the end of the week within each age range.

This is a time of the year when little else happens so instead of children sitting indoors glued to the TV why not bring them along for a fun filled week learning new skills, forging new friendships, and generally having fun.

■ **For further information please contact Sue Holden on 07866 460446**

Newsflash! Newsflash!

WE HAVE been informed that Friday 13 February is an inset day at Bayards Hill and Cheney so we will be running an extended Arts and Crafts Club at the Neighbourhood Centre and an opportunity to register early for the Half Term activities.

Eatwells Cafe will be open throughout the morning and early afternoon for light refreshments, and we will hopefully be offering other activities to keep the children and young people occupied between 11am – 3pm.

Come along with the children, let them join in the fun, fill in your registrations and have a bite to eat all under the one roof.



PHIL, its been a real shock to lose you from Barton. Your wisdom and experience in giving us a steer on proceedings and other matters is already missed.

An Open Letter to Phil Jones

We would like to thank you for your irreplaceable commitment and the support you have given to Sue and her team. To face the busy period ahead without your invaluable guidance will be tough.

You have been a pillar of counsel and wisdom for a long time, and your care and compassion for the well-being and general good of the local community have been exemplary. You have left a legacy to the community which we hope will continue to bear fruit for years to come. On behalf of BCA Trustees we thank you for all you have done, for your excellent, insightful advice and for the time you have given to Barton and its residents.

We know that your work in other communities will be their gain as much as it is a loss to BCA and the Barton community. We wish you every success in all you seek to do in enriching the lives of others.

With much appreciation from us all – on behalf of Barton Community Association Board of Trustees, Members, Volunteers and Staff.



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We'll help you find the right support for your mental wellbeing.

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www.dlhancock.co.uk

www.oxford.gov.uk
OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

TENANCY FRAUD:
OWN UP
OR
LOCK UP

Come clean on Tenancy Fraud today.

If you are sub-letting your social housing property you will:

- Face a two year prison sentence.
- Face a £5,000 fine.
- Be asked to pay back any profit made from sub-letting.



TACKLING TENANCY FRAUD

If you know of any illegal sub-letting contact the Investigation Team on:
01865 252025 | tenancyfraud@oxford.gov.uk | www.oxford.gov.uk/reportit
All information provided is treated with the strictest of confidence.

Building a world-class city for everyone

In partnership with:
Catalyst Housing

WEA
Workers' Educational Association

Communicate with Confidence

5 week course

Tutor:
Tanagra Jabu Nala-Hartley

Course Dates:
Friday 16th January to
Friday 13th Feb 2015

Times:
9.30-11.30am

Cost:
£30 or free if on income related benefits.

Venue:
Meadowbrook
59, Stowford Road
Barton OX3 9PP

Contact details:

Emma Carney –
ecarney@wea.org.uk or book your place on 07770 641359

Do you lack confidence? You want to try new things but are too nervous and don't know where to start?
This course is for anybody who wants to feel more confident about communicating with others and is designed to help you feel positive and confident trying something new.

You will learn how to:

- Talk assertively
- Listen actively
- Recognise body language
- Deal with stressful situations
- Be aware of your needs, identify your rights



We will look at real life situations and the ways in which communicating with confidence can be of benefit to ourselves and others. Come along and enjoy **finding your voice** and discovering more about ways to increase confidence in a supportive group.

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

matrix

The WEA is committed to equality of opportunity and inclusive learning.

Registered address: Workers' Educational Association, 4 Luke Street ,London EC2A 4XW www.wea.org.uk

The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) is a charity registered in England and Wales (number 1112775) and in Scotland (number SC039038) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 2806910)

RuskinCollege Oxford

Take the first step in a new career.

Ruskin College provides opportunities for students to study regardless of their background and qualifications.

- Academic excellence at Ruskin College - Ruskin offers highly qualified staff, who provide a supportive and enriching learning experience that will take you to the next level in your career
- Clear progression - You can start at a level that suits you
- Ruskin is a small, friendly and supportive residential college. You will join a community of like-minded people, studying alongside other adults who have all decided to make a positive change to their lives
- You will have regular access to a personal tutor to guide you through the course, helping you with any stresses or challenges you may face, and keeping you to realistic targets
- Ruskin offers short courses, a Access to Higher Education Diploma and Degrees.

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Friday 30th January 2015: 11am start
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