JUNE 2014

Hands on News

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

Summer fun in the Park!



HEADINGTON churches are delighted to announce a Funday on 19 July in Bury Knowle Park. The event is free, there will be bouncy castles, face painting, entertainment and lots of fun activities for all the family, and, as ever, the wonderful cakes and tea in the tea tent! The local churches put the event on every year as a way of showing love and service in the local community. Last year around 2500 attended. So, come along, have fun and enjoy an afternoon in the sun!

WHEN: Saturday, 19 July, 2 – 5 PM
WHERE: Bury Knowle Park, Headington
COST: FREE





Eyes Down every Tuesday

BARTON Community Association runs a weekly bingo session every Tuesday evening at the Neighbourhood Centre. Doors are open at 6.30 PM and Eyes Down at 7.30 PM. including a Prize Raffle.

Why not pop along and give it a go. It won't break the bank and a warm welcome awaits you. You may even leave with more than you came with!

■ **For further information please contact Sharon on 01865 761987**

Barton Park Oxford
Website launch and first site activities

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

Today's website launch, www.bartonparkoxford.com, marks a significant milestone, kick-starting a range of physical activities that need to take place on site before house building can begin.

Over the next few days, some trees and hedgerows will be removed to create the space for a junction to the A40 providing the new gateway in to the site. Signage promoting Barton Park will also be erected.

Today also sees the start of a range of consultation events which runs until 8 April, which will be asking the local residents to inform the designs of the park and green spaces.

■ **Please do visit www.bartonparkoxford.com and see the link to Barton Community Association via the Amenities tab.**

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.



The Barton Bash is back!

Turn to page 3



Young Entrepreneur Interview

Turn to page 7

PAGE 2 . . . . . Your local councillors
Summer Holiday Activities
Barton Community Association
PAGE 3 . . . . . Lunch Clubs
Barton Neighbourhood Centre
PAGE 4 . . . . Barton Park Consultation
Eatwells Community Café
Happy 100th, Dorothy!
PAGE 7 . . Bill Dibber's Seasonal Recipes
Kick-boxing
PAGE 8 . . . . . Community Partnership

Barton Community Association (BCA)

New BCA website now live

AFTER some initial delays due to the change over from one host to another the new BCA website is now up and running.

New content will continue to be added in the coming weeks and months as well as existing content being updated so make sure you save it as one of your favourites and check back regularly.

New to the website will be information and features about the new housing development to the west of Barton that will be known as Barton Park. These updates will keep you informed of the development, what it will look like and how it will integrate with the existing Barton.

We'd like you to become involved in the website so if you have any ideas for the site or would like to contribute either information or photographs please do so by contacting Martin on the email address below.

Eventually we'd like the site to contain all you need to know about Barton and act as a source of information and support for all residents and with your feedback we should be able to achieve that aim so let us know what you think.

The next addition to the site will be the facility to sign up to Hands on News by email and also receive regular updates and information by subscribing to the website online.

■ **Remember the website address and add it to your favourites list! www.bartoncommunityassociation.com**

■ **Email martin@bartoncommunityassociation.com with feedback and ideas.**

Free computer access for job seekers

WE HAVE two computers in the foyer opposite the doctor's surgery that are free to use for anyone job searching, applying online for jobs and following up job applications.

You can access the computers anytime the centre is open and on Wednesday mornings until 12 noon a member of the Job Club team will be available to help you if required.

Most people now have to prove that they are looking for work by using Universal Job Match or other search tools and we can provide support with this at the Job Club drop-in sessions on Wednesday evenings.

The computers will allow you to use most of the job search engines, the most popular email services such as Hotmail, google mail and MSN and also access many of the employers websites in Oxford.

But please note it is unlikely you will be able to use the computers for any other use as the websites that can be accessed is restricted to job search activity only. This is to ensure that those people who need support looking for work can use the computers when they need to.

Summer Holiday Activities in Barton:

JUST some of the great activities on for Young People in Barton this summer:

- **JSC Sports** at Bayards Hill between 9 AM–3 PM, Mondays – Fridays, from 21 July – 15 August. £1 per day per child.
- **Inspired** for Young People, 27 May – 30 May, 12 noon – 2 PM at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and 2.30 – 4.30 PM outside by the Cage.
- **Inspired** for Young People, 23 July – 19 August, 12noon – 2 PM at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and 2.30 – 4.30 PM outside by the Cage.

Keep you eyes open for details of additional activities that will take place during the school holidays!

SHOPPING TRIPS

WE WILL be using the minibus to visit local supermarkets including Aldi and Asda. The cost per person will be £1 for the round trip, and we will be leaving the Neighbourhood Centre at 10 AM on Thursday 19 June to visit Aldi at Botley Road.

We will allow approximately two hours to shop before returning to the Neighbourhood Centre.

■ **Please contact either Sue on 07866460446 or Sharon on 01865 761987 to book a seat on the bus, and make sure you leave a contact telephone number so that we can contact you if necessary.**

It's going to be a HOT Summer with Headington Oxford Tennis!

ANYONE for Tennis? Wimbledon is almost upon us and its a great time of year to practise tennis for real, not just with the Wii. Got an old racket? Even a new one? Come and join the fun – tennis on Sunday mornings at 11.30 AM, for around £1. Contact Dan Gee on 07540 780290."

COUNCILLORS

YOUR local councillors are here to represent your concerns. Contact details for Barton councillors are:

Glynis Phillips
01865 760346 or 07929 659902
glynis.phillips@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Van Coulter
07767 496409
cllrvcoulter@oxford.gov.uk

Mike Rowley
07510 099028
cllrmrowley@oxford.gov.uk

Liz Brighouse
01865 766995 or 07710 451769
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COACH TRIPS 2014

All coach departures will be from
Barton Neighbourhood Centre
at
8.00 am and return to Barton by **8.00 pm**

All seats including
children and babies **£9.00**

All passengers must be members of Barton Community Association
Under 16`s Free – Over 16`s £1

Our Savings Club
is now available to help spread the cost of the trips

For any further information please contact
Sue on **07866460446** or
Sharon on **01865 761987**



COACH TRIPS



Tuesday 5th August
WESTON SUPER MARE



Wednesday 13th August
BOURNEMOUTH



Thursday 21st August
BRIGHTON



Friday 29th August
WEYMOUTH



Sponsored by
Barton Community Association

The Bash is back!

BARTON BASH will take place this year on Saturday 28 June between 12 noon – 4.30 PM at Barton Neighbourhood Centre.

The date has been chosen in honour of Dorothy Peace who will be 100 years old on the day and still actively volunteers for the Community Association.

There will be plenty of free activities for children together with entertainment and food opportunities galore! We will have some of our old favourites returning such as the Hog Roast, Candy Floss and face painting together with some new and exciting additions to our range of activities for you to try.

This year for the first time the Thames Valley Police Horse team will put in an appearance so you can see them up close and personal. You'll also be able to treat yourself to some weird and wonderful concoctions in our very own Mocktail Bar.

Put the date in your diaries and come along for a fun filled afternoon for everyone. Bring along your friends, your family, your neighbours – everyone will be welcome. Let's showcase what is great about Barton – our community!









Improvements for Barton's streets

By Van Coulter
Councillor, Barton and Sandhills

THE City Council is seeking improve Oxford's suburbs because council tenants not only need an affordable decent home, but also need a decent neighbourhood.

Through funding made available from the City Council's housing rent account, improvements are being made in Oxford's social housing estates – including Barton.

Well-kept avenues with trees and verges certainly add to the attractiveness of neighbourhoods. But, when too few spaces are available for the growing number of cars, what were visual assets quickly become unsightly blots that spoil the street view.

It's somewhat disappointing that the view into Barton through Burchester Avenue has not been what it should be. Happily, the "Great Estates" programme is providing for the refurbishment of the verges along Burchester Avenue.

Appreciating that cars are being parked on verges because nowhere else is available – the City Council is putting down protective mesh, refreshing the top soil, seeding new grass and by doing this is securing the verges as green spaces whether or not cars park over the established grass. It should be the end to unsightly, muddy spoilt verges on Burchester Avenue.

Added to this, vulnerable tree roots are being protected. And, while three trees which have become too damaged to save – three new trees will be planted to maintain the appearance of the avenue.

Other local works being actively pursued include improving parking in Bernwood Road and the much needed resurfacing of Northway, Barton Village Road and Fettiplace Road.

A slice of summertime fun for Barton youngsters

YOUNG people aged eight and above can enjoy a wide range of activities in Barton this summer, so come out and get involved! Activities include, sports, dance, arts and crafts, trips, help to access employment and much more.

Brought to you by Oxford City Council, Barton Community Association, Junior Sports Clubs (JSC), Thrive and the Inspired Young People's project.

■ **For a full programme of activities visit www.bartoncommunityassociation.com**

Barton, Risinghurst & Sandhills Neighbourhood Police Team

On your bike!

By PCSO Libbie Stiff

RECENTLY there have been a couple of bikes and/or bike parts being stolen from the estate. The descriptions of the bike/parts have been brilliant however please make sure you record your frame number. This is the number on the underneath of the main bike frame which is normally printed into the metal. The frame number is specific to your bike and is the only way to confirm the bike is the right one.

On one occasion a bike was seen and believed to be stolen however without having the frame number of the stolen bike it was impossible to prove this was the case.

If you need any help with this please pop into our Community Beat Office at Underhill Circus or stop one of the Neighbourhood Police Team while we are out on our patrols. We're here to help keep you safe but we need you to help too.

Illegal money lending

EXTRACT from the recent newsletter produced by the Trading Standards Illegal Money Lending Team:

The England Stop Loan Sharks Team have identified over 2,000 illegal lenders, offered support to over 23,070 loan shark victims and written off over £55 million of illegal debt.

This is money that would otherwise have been in a loan sharks pocket! The team have completed 313 prosecutions leading to 198 years' worth of custodial sentences. We could never have achieved these fantastic results without the support, commitment and knowledge of our partners in the communities we work in, together with the co-operation of the victims themselves.

There is a very strong message contained within this report so please don't hesitate to contact someone from the team if you are being harassed by or a victim of a loan shark. Maybe you know someone who is a loan shark victim, and if so please pass on this article to them. The confidential hotline is 0300 555 2222 or you may prefer to send an e-mail to: reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk

Come on down to the Barton Neighbourhood Centre...

Did you know...?

EVERY Friday (term time only) we have Hip Hop and Gymnastics sessions at the Neighbourhood Centre in the sports hall starting at 5 PM. Each session lasts an hour and costs just £1 per person. These activities are suitable for children aged between six years old to 13 years old.

Marcus, the tutor, is happy for you to pop along and try out the sessions, and if you enjoy then you will be welcome at the weekly sessions. A great way to keep fit as well as learn a new skill.

■ **For further information please contact Sue on 07866460446 or Sharon on 01865 761987**

Games Night for over 18s...

HOW do you fancy either a Friday or Wednesday Night Games Night? We are planning to hold informal Games Evenings at the Neighbourhood Centre from 6 PM – 8.30 PM. We would like to include Dominoes, Scrabble, Crib, Card games, Draughts or anything else that takes your fancy.

You could even try your luck at Tiddling your Wink! Some of us may be a bit rusty when it comes to playing Crib but if there's anyone out there who would like to teach a group of us then please get in touch. We will provide light refreshments. Starts early July.

■ **Please let us know of any other ideas you may have and if you would like to come along and join in then please contact either Sue on 07866460446 or Sharon on 01865 761987.**

Community Lunch Clubs

- **Every Monday, between 11 AM – 2 PM.** Co-ordinated by Age UK. Cost for two-course meal is £4. No need to book – just turn up. Weekly raffle
- **Every Wednesday, between 11 AM – 2.30 PM.** Co-ordinated by BCA. Cost for two-course meal is £4 followed by raffle and bingo. No need to book – just turn up.

Currently we are able to offer lunch club participants groceries received from the Oxford Food Bank.

■ **For further information please contact Sharon on 01865 761987 or Sue on 07866460446**

Streets for people

HOW do you fancy holding a real old fashioned party in the street where you live? Or maybe you would rather use the space for street games, skipping, hopscotch, marbles, space hoppers or anything else your imagination comes up with. You can now apply for your street to be closed to traffic for a number of hours so that this type of event can take place. We have been advised that Sunday afternoons during September are the most favoured times for Street parties and Street games.

If anyone is interested in the idea then please contact us at Barton Community Association as resources are available for you to use, and we will offer support where possible, but we are unable to co-ordinate any events.

■ **Sue Holden 07866460446 or Sharon on 01865 761987**

Eatwells Community Café

WHY not call in and try a tasty baguette, a bowl of wholesome and nutritious home-made soup or indulge yourself in a Full English. Also available "Dish of the Day" and home-made cakes together with hot and cold snacks.

Are you interested in volunteering as part of a small and friendly team? Why not call in and have a chat with Mandy. Volunteer hours can be tailor-made to suit your availability

Eatwells Café celebrates its 6th birthday this month so congratulations to everyone who has made this possible including staff, volunteers and customers alike. Thanks to you all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EATWELLS!

Eatwells Community Cafe will be celebrating its 6th birthday this month. When the shutters went up on 18 June 2008 no one was quite sure just how long the café would exist, but here we are six years later still opening the shutters at 9.30 AM Mondays – Thursdays.

Each week Mandy and her team provide the food for the lunch clubs on Mondays and Wednesdays as well as cooking meals for Northway Lunch Club. They are also responsible for providing refreshments for the Art Club, Homework Club, Tuesday Bingo as well as all catering orders both in house and outside. Eatwells always receives high ratings with our catering clientèle including Oxford City Council and Greensquare Housing Association.

Well done Eatwells and here's to the next six years!

■ **Eatwells Community Café is located in the Barton Neighbourhood Centre. Open Mondays – Thursdays, 9.30 AM – 1.30 PM**

■ **For all catering enquiries please contact Sue on 07866460446 or Sharon on 01865 761987**

Baby Boogie is coming!

Sunday 29 June, 11AM–12.30PM. FREE

A FUN event for children five years and under and their families (older siblings welcome too). Learn some funky moves from a professional dance tutor before taking to the disco floor! In addition there will be face painting and craft activities throughout the afternoon. Why not get creative, get down..and boogie with your toddler!

■ **Booking is essential as capacity is limited. To book your places please email Rachel Gildea: rgildea@oxford.gov.uk or contact Sue Holden on 07866460446**

■ **This event is part of Dancin' Oxford. For more info please see: www.dancinoxford.co.uk**

Happy 100th, Dorothy!



LOOKING happy, and with a readiness to laugh, Dorothy Pearce opens the door to her flat at Meadow Brook retirement house, where she's lived for the past eight years. She was born in Plymouth on 28 June 1914, and though very young, she remembers growing up in wartime with a father in the Marines.

World War II saw her on the domestic staff of the All Saints Sisters convent in London. "We used to keep a 'fleeing case'", she says, "in case we were turned out and had to go somewhere else. We slept on mattresses in the basement, in our clothes."

Around 1941 she moved to Oxford as housekeeper and companion to the sister of one of the nuns, and moved on through various households until she retired. She chose not to marry, enjoying her work and exclaiming "I like my own life! I've had plenty of work to do, and plenty of friends, but they've all gone now. I'm the last, although I have made some new friends. Anyway, I've lots to do – jigsaws, the computer and my iPad. I'm on Skype twice a week to my niece".

Dorothy loves to go on outings, either when someone takes her or on coach trips, first researching on the internet where she's going, such as for a recent trip to Moreton-in-Marsh market. She's also looked the history of Headington, and enjoys the old photos of the area she finds on line. She finds the iPad useful for accessing her emails. It also takes "lovely photos", and she can't wait for better weather so she can get out there and snap away.

If someone tells Dorothy she can't do something, then she instantly wants to see if she can, and that's been her approach all her life. She says she always looks forward to learning new things.

Dorothy takes the way things have changed with great equanimity, but one thing has upset her a lot: the closure of the local Post Office. In fact, she's furious about it. "I can't get my pension. I've got to let it run up and then get somebody to fetch it for me from Headington. That's my headache. " She uses her scooter to get to the Community Centre for Lunch Club and to vote, which is something she believes in.

Dorothy likes watching Question Time and other current affairs programmes. She enjoys comedy and drama "but not murders. There's enough of that in real life". She keeps fit by walking up and down with her walker, and twisting to keep supple. "I have a go. I won't give in to any little ache and pain. That's one of the things that keeps me going. I think I've always had a positive outlook on life.

"I'm not miserable and I enjoy every day. I take things in my stride. What keeps me going is being happy and contented; that's what I attribute my long life to."

Mounted Section visit



ANYONE walking the streets of Barton the last month might have felt they had stepped back in time with police on horses patrolling the streets like the Sheriffs from a Wild West film.

Alas not it was officers from the Thames Valley Mounted section performing one of the many valuable roles within their remit. With a newly posted Sergeant to the Barton/Risinghurst/Sandhills area a fresh face and style of policing has arrived.

With links to the Tactical Support department there will be an increased presence of uniformed officers and specialist units in the area with a single goal in mind of making the residents feel safe and supported and anyone wishing to commit crime having to be mindful of who could be patrolling the streets.

When the mounted section took time out from their busy schedule they were able to attend and not only deal with some criminal incidents but show a side to their department the public don't often get to see.

Whilst the Mounted section are a vital resource for policing of public order events and the night time economy they have a key role within neighbourhood policing helping us engage with our local community. Anyone passing the shops on the 25 February and 14 March 2014 couldn't help but stop and say hello to Trojan and Pluto (and the police officers sat upon the horses). Many took the chance to pat them and even have their pictures taken with them including members of the Barton Community Centre team. Whilst on patrol members of the public would stop and wave as the mounted officers patrolled the estate.

During their time on the estate whilst not only being photographed by the public and taking opportunities to speak to the public the mounted section managed to catch an unlicensed driver and deal with people acting in an Anti social manner. All in a day's work for the modern day Sheriffs and quoting Sergeant Kervin from the mounted section. He said: "We were very pleased by the warmth of feeling shown towards us by the majority of residents of Barton. Some were not so pleased to see us but they were the ones that we were dealing with for Anti Social Behaviour, Anti Social Driving (Excess speed, mobile phones etc) and the one guy who thought it was perfectly acceptable to drive without a valid licence or insurance!

"The team look forward to returning to Barton in the very near future. If you cannot wait that long to see the horses again, follow us on Twitter @TVP_horses"

The Mounted section will be returning to Barton for the Barton Bash on the 28 June 2014 and keep your eyes peeled as they will be making guest appearances when you least expect it!

FREE TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY JOURNALISTS

Are you looking for a new challenge?

NEW Community Journalism course for YOUR area starting in July.



These training sessions, run by Leys News, will cover writing and interview skills and will provide a basic introduction for anyone who is keen to work in newspapers.

After completing the training we offer Community Journalists the chance to write stories and articles for your local community newspaper.

To find out more and to register for the workshop please email editor@leysnews.co.uk
We look forward to seeing you!

Barton Park Consultation

THROUGHOUT April, public consultation has been undertaken across Barton and Northway on the park and open spaces which will form part of the Barton Park development. The areas this includes are the Linear Park and greenways and also the community garden.

The consultation sought to understand the main reasons why the local community would use these spaces, what equipment they would like to see provided and how it could be made inviting as a key asset for the community both new and existing. The details of the consultation are due to be submitted as part of the first reserved matters application.

The communities local to the Barton Park site (Barton and Northway) were consulted in a number of ways including public consultation events, posters, questionnaires, exhibitions and meetings.

The consultation engaged local groups including amongst others, Bayard's Hill Primary school council, Thrive youth group, Cheney Secondary school and Barton Leisure centre.

Community groups such as swap shops, bingo groups and sports groups were engaged and Exhibition boards were displayed at the events giving a very visual representation of where the park and open spaces will be located, how large these areas will be, how they compared to known spaces in Oxford and suggestions as to what might be provided within the spaces.

Visitors to thee groups and to events held at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and Northway Community Centre were encouraged to provide feedback by placing coloured stickers on the boards against the pictorial examples of equipment, activities and features they liked, writing comments on post-it notes and submitting questionnaires. Representatives from the consultant team were on hand to answer questions and obtain feedback.

The Barton Park website also displayed the posters and an online facility for submitting comments was available. Approximately 3,000 leaflets were distributed prior to the public consultation events across Northway and Barton to inform local residents of the various activities taking place.

The consultation exercise was successful in engaging with a broad section of the local communities. Overall there was a good level of attendance, in comparison with previous events which were more general in nature, and responses by a range of ages.

The stickers proved very popular and a total of 56 questionnaires were submitted. Just over 100 people attended the public events with the Saturday event attracting the greatest number of people. For each of the consultation exercises here is a summary of the key themes, messages and results:

Public Consultations:

The key messages from the public consultation events, questionnaires and sessions with Thrive and Bayards Hill School were:

☐ Providing a range of active play equipment for children to play and in particular climb on;
☐ Maintaining clean open spaces that are well managed with particular regard to dog control;
☐ A space that can be used for relaxing and opportunities for being near a cleaner Bayswater Brook and water; and,
☐ Somewhere that should be easily accessible by all including those with push-chairs and wheelchair users.

Looking in more detail at the responses from the questionnaires, the public consultation events and the sessions with Bayards Hill and Thrive, the key themes from each are described below.

Questionnaires

Visitors to the three public consultation events were encouraged to complete questionnaires. Questionnaires were also provided where posters were on display, at the community hall at Cheney School and at Barton Leisure centre. In addition to this, an online facility for submitting responses was available on the Barton Park website. The top responses to the questions posed by the questionnaire can be summarised as follows.

Question 1 – What will be the main reason why you'll be visiting the park?
1. To play
2. For relaxation
3. To exercise

Question 2 – What do you think is important to include in these spaces?
1. Play equipment for children
2. Keeping the park and open spaces clean and well managed.
3. Support the creation of paths both cycle and pedestrian routes within the park and links to both Barton and Northway.

Question 3 – How can the park and open spaces be made inviting so that you want to use them?
1. Keeping the park and open spaces clean and well managed.
2. Somewhere that is accessible for all and well signed.
3. Providing play areas for children.
4. Linkages between the community garden and the main park through the greenways both in terms of physical routes and possibility for nature trails linking areas where there may be more wildlife (such as western end of the park).

Responses to question 4 – Do you have any other comments? The responses referred in equal measure to:
☐ Playing;
☐ A garden for everyone to use;
☐ Well managed spaces;
☐ Dog control;
☐ Good quality and sized play equipment;
☐ Tennis courts.

Consultation Boards: Sticker Analysis

Visitors to the public consultation events and the Bayards Hill School council were encouraged to place green stickers against those images they particularly liked and red against those which they favoured less. Overall, active play with opportunities to climb and explore were very popular. Being able to enjoy wildlife and water also received good support, especially fishing and platforms that allow park users to get close to the ponds. The idea of using of chunky, wooden material for play equipment was well received. In terms of the images that were most popular, these were:

☐ Sports pitches
☐ Fishing
☐ Climbing
☐ Outdoor gym.

Mixed results were received for the more natural looking habitat creation image and the willow arch. The results are presented in the charts below and grouped according to the themes on the consultation boards, which are:

☐ Park and Open Space – general images;
☐ Sports and Healthy Living;
☐ Play; and,
☐ Wildlife and Water.

Conclusions/Results:

Overall, all events were well attended and the proposed design ideas very well received and supported.

Feedback through all channels and from all age groups indicates that providing good opportunities for children to play is a prime consideration. Delivering a variety of equipment that can be climbed on was a prominent message, especially from all of the children who gave feedback.

Keeping the park and open spaces clean and well maintained was also a principal concern including providing dog control measures. Delivering a place that can be used for relaxation was also popular. In light of the results, and ahead of submission of Reserved Matters Application – 1, further consideration and design development regarding the following is recommended.

☐ Proposed play areas including equipment that climbed on, slides and swings.
☐ Sports equipment, catering in particular for cyclists, football and running/walking.
☐ Outdoor gym provision.
☐ Path surfaces to allow for easy use of pushchairs, wheelchair users and mobility scooters.
☐ Features providing opportunities for wildlife to flourish naturally and be explored by adults and children.
☐ Methods by which dog control can be enforced.
☐ Opening up of Bayswater Brook and creating access to the new water bodies.
☐ Areas for relaxation.
☐ Requirement for a strong narrative on management proposals for all spaces considered in this consultation.

Next Steps:

Following the consultations a document was released on 13 May outlining 'Frequently Asked Questions and Answers from the recent Park and Open Spaces Consultation' and this document is available on the time-line section of the Barton Parks Oxford website:

Check it out at www.bartonparkoxford.com/ and keep up to date with all the stages of the process and next steps on the time-line, as well as access to the reports and plans, videos, photographs and other documents relating to the development.

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SMOKEFREE

Hi teenagers of Barton!

We have been given this blank half a page to write about the things we like and what could improve Barton, as well as our interests. Whether your interest is music, sports or computers, or you have done something you and your family are proud of, we want to hear about it.

If you want to have a say about the way the page looks and what goes in it also want to hear your points of view.

Look forward to printing your articles in the Autumn edition of Hands On News.



…So what do you think?
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Young Entrepreneur Interview

Morgan Williams from Thrive project Barton won the prestigious award of Entrepreneur of the Year at the Youth Awards Ceremony at the New Theatre in Oxford last month. The young man has been mentored by Jem Todd through the Thrive project.

Interview by **Emmanuel Odwar.**



Young entrepreneur Morgan Williams (*right*) with mentor Jem Todd.

Emmanuel Odwar: Morgan, how did you feel when your named was announced as the winner of the prize at the award ceremony?
Morgan Williams: I didn't want to walk on stage.
Emmanuel: Why didn't you want to go up on stage?
Morgan: I was nervous.
Emmanuel: Why were you nervous?
Morgan: Because I didn't want to go up on stage in front of everyone.
Emmanuel: Ok, so how did you get your award?
Morgan: I had to go up.
Emmanuel: Did you go up with company or did you go up by yourself?
Morgan: I went up by myself.
Emmanuel: How did you feel when you went up to collect the award and then walked back?
Morgan: I was shocked after receiving it and still in shock on the way back.
Emmanuel: What did you do to celebrate your success?
Jem Todd: We went for a milkshake then a sushi didn't we?
Morgan: Yeah
Emmanuel: How did you start out as an Entrepreneur?
Morgan: Jem, you're very good at this; you've said it many times.
Jem: Mate, you need to say it in your words, come on.
Morgan: You're better.
Jem: Come on. What was the first business idea you pursued?
Morgan: A pop up restaurant.
Emmanuel: What's a pop up restaurant?
Morgan: We cook food for people at a place then serve it to them.
Jem: It's a restaurant which is at a venue for one meal or one day and we're at the restaurant for some hours. The reason why we did that was because Morgan wanted to learn about business and he thought why wait while I'm at college or until I finish school, when I can do that now.
Emmanuel: What did you learn from the experience?
Morgan: Keep on trying, even if it's hard.
Emmanuel: What aspect of working at a pop up restaurant, did you find hard?
Morgan: It was when one of the shifts I did was very long and the work was non stop.
Emmanuel: When did you begin your business venture?
Morgan: We started at one pop up restaurant, where was it?
Jem: We did an event for 20 people serving curry and Chocolate Brownies in Kidlington. Didn't we do one at the church, for 60 people, wasn't it?
Morgan: Yeah.
Jem: What was that, what did we cook? Remember?
Morgan: Chocolate Brownies.
Emmanuel: What are your future plans?
Morgan: I haven't got any.
Jem: Yeah, you have, you liar. You're the worst interviewee ever.
Emmanuel: How and where did you meet Jem?
Morgan: It's better, if you say it.
Jem: Morgan was referred to Thrive Barton by Social Services because he was computer gaming too much and wasn't really leaving his house. So, I started to hang out with him and for the first year, he was mainly grunting at me and telling me to go away. Then we established a relationship and began to have fun and that developed into having conversations about life, success and what that looked like.

Then Morgan said that he wanted to start learning about business and completed led by him; he decided that he wanted to do cooking and that led to cooking at events and we managed to raise £600. Sometimes, we receive orders and customise food for events. Don't we?
Morgan: Yeah
Emmanuel: What were the reasons for you choosing those fields?
Morgan: I've always enjoyed cookery and cooking for big events.
Emmanuel: What exactly is it about cooking that gets you going?
Morgan: The different tastes that you can get from different flavours.
Emmanuel: What's your next event and when will it be?
Morgan: We might be doing breakfast for 120 people.
Jem: The event will be in a couple of months but I don't know where it will be. The event will be a breakfast for a conference and we've been asked to do it.
Emmanuel: Are you employed, self employed or a bit of both?
Jem: We are commissioned by the hosts of the event.



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, use up your not so prize wining marrows (they can't all be!) for an easy to make microwaved marrow and tomatoes or pick your own strawberries and have them baked with honey whipped cream, lipsmackingly good.

Microwaved Marrow with Tomatoes (quick and easy)

Ingredients for 2

- 1 small marrow about 450g/1lb
- 150ml or quarter of a pint of passata
- Half tsp dried oregano or dried mixed herbs
- Salt (to taste)
- Freshly ground black pepper (to taste)

1. Peel away the thick skin from the outside of the marrow with a potato peeler. Cut the marrow into 2.5cm or 1 inch thick slices. Cut the slices into half and remove the seeds.
2. Place the slices flat into a buttered microwave-proof dish and spread them out to fill all the space.
3. Heat the passata to just below boiling and stir in the herbs. Then pour over the marrow and season with salt and pepper to taste.
4. Cover the dish with cling film and cook on a high setting for six minutes, turning the dish halfway into the cooking. Test is the marrow slices are tender and if not put them back in for another 30 seconds and repeat if necessary.
5. To cook in a conventional oven you can preheat the oven 190*C, 350*F or gas mark 5. Place the marrow slices in an oven proof dish, pour over the tomato mixture and cover with foil. Bake for 35–45 min, until the marrow is tender.

Baked Strawberries with Honey whipped cream (June onwards)

Ingredients for 2–4

- A punnet of strawberries, as local as possible
- A knob of unsalted butter
- 3tbsp sugar (brown and fair trade is best!)
- Half a mug of whipping cream
- 2tbsp runny honey
- A splash of vanilla essence
- Mint leaves to garnish (Grow it on your windowsill, tastes better fresh!)

1. Pre-heat the oven to 190*C/375*F/Gas mark 5 and remove the tops of the strawberries
2. Melt the butter in an oven proof frying pan, add the sugar and give it a little stir before adding all the strawberries, tossing them to coat them in the mix.
3. Put the pan in the oven for five minutes and then remove and turn the strawberries over and pop them back in for a further five minutes.
4. While they are baking, whip the cream until it starts to peak, then fold the runny honey through the cream and add the vanilla.

Add the dollops to bowls amd then remove the strawberries from the oven and place them on top of the cream, drizzling the pan syrup over them.
5. Garnish with mint leaves and serve.

■ **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

Try adult kick-boxing for six weeks this June!

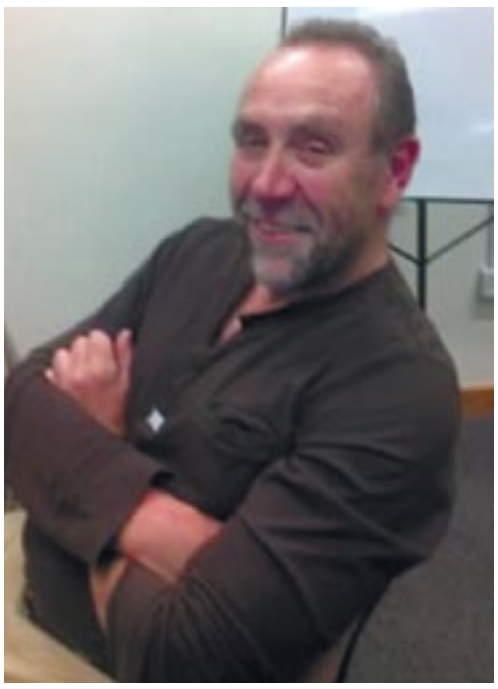


A GREAT way to de-stress, improve fitness and have fun! This brand new adult class is designed for complete beginners or those who haven't had a go for some time; it will teach you all the basic moves and show you how to use them safely. If you want to burn calories, build strength and develop some flexibility this is the class for you!

Replacing the previous Beginner's Martial Arts class this new session will run on a Saturday morning at Barton Neighbourhood Centre from 11 AM – 12 PM starting on 14 June and will cost just £2 per class or £10 for six weeks. There will be no need to book, just turn up on the day, although places may be limited.

■ **For more info contact Vicki on 01865 252720 or at vgalvin@oxford.gov.uk or pop in and speak to Sue Holden.**

Call to get involved in the Community Partnership



Phil Jones

PHIL JONES may be better known to some of you as that tall chap who works down the Neighbourhood Centre; in actual fact Phil has been working for the City Council for more than 20 years and has been based in Barton since 2001.

Phil originally came to Barton to pull together the funding bid for what is now the Barton Leisure Centre.

He says that he liked it so much here that he decided to stay! For many years he managed the Barton Neighbourhood Centre and is proud that this management function is now ably accomplished by the staff and volunteers connected with the Barton Community Association. The more engaged local people become in determining their future the better it is for everyone concerned.

He is now responsible for developing the Barton Community Partnership and he really wants your help to make it work!

Because he has been in and around Barton for some time, Phil is aware that some local people are sceptical about just how much they can influence local decisions or have any real say or sway in what's going!

However, somebody famous once said that 'Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time.

We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek – It is this local engagement and involvement in the community partnership that Phil and the folks already playing a part really want to encourage!

In essence The Barton Community Partnership wants to improve the quality of life for local people by developing local solutions to local problems and encouraging people to work together to make Barton a better place to live!

Phil said so far there have been around twelve or so local people taking an active part in the Community Partnership process – most of whom are involved in one or more of the five sub-groups focusing on Health and Fitness, Housing and Environment, Employment and Learning, Youth activities and Community Safety.

Some of the things these local people have already significantly and positively influenced include the reintroduction of a full time Sargent to lead the Barton Neighbourhood Police team, the delivery and coordination of a full programme of youth activities during most school holidays and the engagement of an employment coordinator to provide one to one support for people wanting to improved their job prospects.

If we can achieve this with just a few people involved imagine what we could do with more!

Finally Phil said that Community Partnership is keen to establish two further focus groups to look at issues relating to Older People and Education Attainment and desperately needs local people to get involved and influence future decisions and service provision.

■ **For more information or to get involved call Phil Jones 07712922091 pmjones@oxford.gov.uk or call in to the Neighbourhood Centre**

Inspired Young People's Project

WE HAD a fantastic week during Easter with over 30 different young people coming to our activities. The activities included cooking, football, basketball, table tennis and workshops.

In May we would love to have more young people come down and join in our project. The activities are youth led, and staff work with group to shape the programme. We also have a trip budget and will be planning an outing during May.

Dates: 27 – 30

12 – 2 PM Youth Club. 2.30 – 4.30 PM Sports

■ **If you require more information please contact: Adam French, 07743 874162 adamfrench1@gmail.com Facebook – InspiredYPP**

Join the Strawberry Fayre Majorettes!

THE Majorettes are taking on new members from the age five years upwards, with no age limit. Training takes place every Wednesday in the Barn, Nightingale Avenue, Greater Leys.

- Tiny Tots group for ages 5–7 years, 6.05–6.50 PM. £3
- Eight years and above is from 7–9.15 PM. £5

■ **For more information please contact the Manager Eileen Filer on 01865 717781 or visit the website: www.oxfordmajorettes.co.uk You can also find the group on Facebook.**

Easter eggs galore!

THANKS to the generosity of Sainsburys at Heyford Hill many children were surprised to receive an unexpected Easter Egg when they attended the Stay and Play sessions at Barton Neighbourhood Centre and the training sessions for the younger teams at Barton United. It was smiles all around at both venues, and we would like to extend our thanks to Sainsbury's for making this happen and for the kindness shown to the children.

OXFORD HINDU TEMPLE AND COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT
www.oxfordhindutemple.org

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