Barton Newsletter

FOR BARTON AND BARTON PARK **JANUARY 2025**

Barton Christmas Bonanza Brings Festive Cheer





City Councillor and Lord Mayor Mike Rowley with County Councillor Glynis Phillips

On December 7th, Barton came alive with holiday cheer at the Barton Christmas Bonanza, organised by dedicated volunteers Sherrie Neil and Julie Cordery. The event was a heartwarming celebration that brought the community together, offering a festive atmosphere for all ages. Local families enjoyed a variety of activities, including stalls featuring handmade crafts, delicious treats, and festive decorations. Children delighted in visiting Santa Claus, while music and entertainment kept everyone in the holiday spirit. The event was a true showcase of community spirit, with fun for all. Sherrie and Julie's hard work ensured that the Bonanza was not just a fun-filled day, but also an opportunity for community to come together. The event was a resounding success, spreading joy and generosity throughout Barton.



BCA Honours Local Heroes: Community Celebrates Volunteers for Their Unwavering Dedication



Barton Community Association held its annual Christmas party to thank its volunteers who enable so much good to happen in Barton & Barton Park. It was a joyful and heartwarming celebration of the incredible contributions made by those who dedicate their time and energy to making Barton and Barton Park a better place. Volunteers are the lifeblood of

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many activities held within Barton Neighbourhood Centre, and without their selfless support, essential activities like Stay & Play and the Larder would not be able to happen.

With around 45 volunteers, the Barton Community Association thrives on the collective effort of these individuals, who offer their skills and enthusiasm week after week. From supporting families at Stay & Play to ensuring that the Larder can serve its 225 members, volunteers bring a sense of community and belonging to every service. The volunteers help create a safe and welcoming space for everyone, young and old, and their commitment has a direct and positive impact on the lives of residents.

At the Christmas party, the mood was festive, with everyone coming together to share stories, enjoy food, and be celebrated for the difference they make. Lord Mayor, Cllr Mike Rowley, and Cllr Glynis Phillips thanked the volunteers, and Collinwood Road United Reformed Church from Risinghurst led on the festive Christmas carols and songs. It was an opportunity to recognise the vital role these volunteers play, as well as to thank them for their unwavering support. As the year draws to a close, the Barton Community Association looks forward to continuing its work, knowing that it is the dedication and generosity of these volunteers that helps make Barton and Barton Park such a special place to live.



For more photos and some videos of Christmas songs from the evening, please click here.

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Christmas Meal for Local Residents at Barton Neighbourhood Centre



On Saturday 14th December, we were delighted to welcome almost 50 of our local residents to a Christmas meal at the Neighbourhood Centre. The food was presented by chefs from St John`s College and throughout the afternoon guests were treated to some seated Zumba exercise, a few games of bingo, a visit from Santa who presented everyone with a gift and goodie bag, a chance to win some prizes from the raffle and the afternoon concluded with some festive songs from Oxford Contemporary Music singers. Thanks go to everyone who gave up their time to come along and volunteer on the day and fingers crossed we can repeat again in the lead up to Christmas 2025!

Lord Mayor's Christmas Reception

Representatives of organisations around Oxford who work to improve the lives of residents were invited to the Lord Mayor's Christmas reception on 16th December. This year, Mike Rowley, one of Barton's City Councillors is the Lord Mayor so it was particularly special. Here's Mike with representatives of Barton Community Association, Barton Community Church, and Love Barton.



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Sherrie



Sherrie with Pippa, Trustee and volunteer

On Tuesday 17th December, Barton Community Larder said goodbye to Sherrie, one of their volunteers who has given more hours than anyone can count to the Larder. For the past three years, Sherrie has managed the larder set up on Mondays, and has managed the stock, along with serving members in the Larder. Sherrie will be much missed and wish her all the best with her new job.



Sherrie with Julia, one of BCA's volunteers

Volunteer Focus

Pippa Gwillam

Volunteer and Trustee on the Board of the Barton Community Association



I arrived in Barton in 1990, and though I now live elsewhere, I still have connections in Barton, and I continue to serve as a Trustee on the Board of the Barton Community Association, which I've done for many years. That's one voluntary role which I would recommend to anyone who would like to help build on the successes of the BCA, which under the guidance of Sue Holden has grown from providing the occasional pensioners' lunch to the amazing range of super-value entertainment and activity it provides today.

The Barton Community Facebook page was set up by me, and I'm very pleased that so many people now look to it to tell them what's going on, what classes they can come to or what children's activities there are, especially in the holidays, what services other organisations offer, and lots more.

I can also be seen, for my sins – or yours! – helping out at the Barton Community

Larder on a Tuesday afternoon.

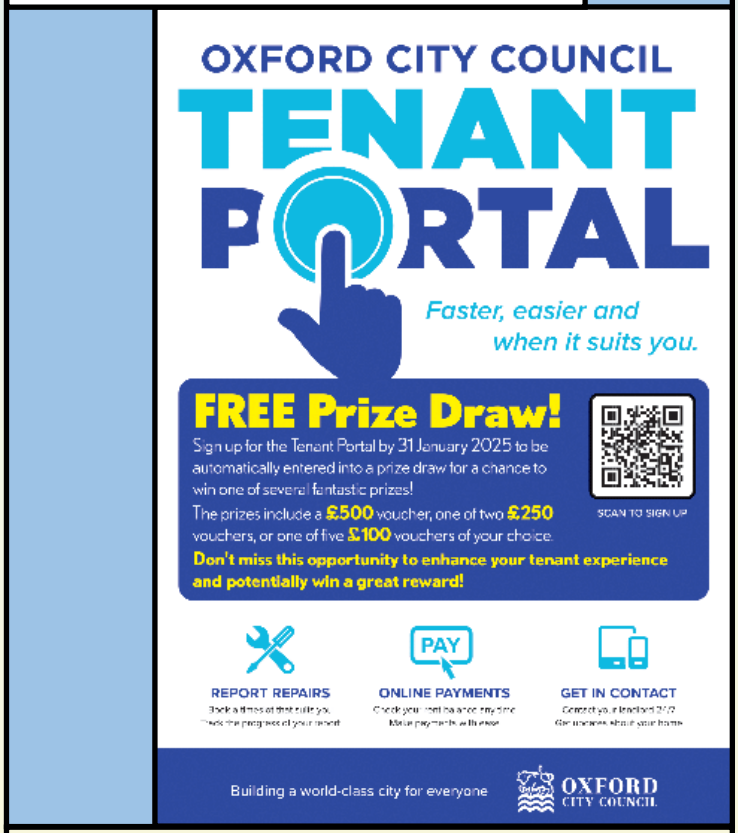
Volunteering can be very fulfilling, so if you have any time, long or short, that you think you'd be able to spare, or if you're interested in joining the Board of Trustees, give the BCA a shout. We're just waiting to hear from you!



FREE Very Brief Advice (for smoking) Training - Non-clinical frontline staff

Please see flyer above for more information.





Oxford City Council Tenant Portal

Please see flyers above for more information.

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Exercise Classes

Come and join for some fun exercise classes here at Barton Neighbourhood Centre! The following exercise classes are open to everyone.

Mondays

Zumba Gold 11.00am – 12 noon £5 for four sessions

Line Dancing 6.30pm – 7.30pm £5 for four sessions

Tuesdays

Yoga 6.30pm – 7.30pm £10 for five sessions – please bring a mat with you or we have them available for purchase £5 each

Thursdays

Zumba 6.30pm – 7.30pm £10 for five sessions

Saturdays

Body Toning 9.30am – 10.30am £10 for five sessions

All classes run term time only and all attendees need to have a current BCA membership costing £2 per year. This can be completed when you attend your first session if you don't already have a membership.
For further details please contact Sue on 07866 460446 or sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com

Exercise Classes at Barton Neighbourhood Centre

Come and join for some fun exercise classes which are open to everyone! For further details, please contact Sue on 07866460446 or sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com.

In order for us to continue the regular Zumba and Body Toning classes at the Neighbourhood Centre we are faced with increasing the cost to £2 per session (£10 payable for five sessions). After consulting with some of our attendees this unavoidable increase has been widely accepted and will be chargeable from your first payment due in the New Year. Having researched other classes in the area the cost still represents excellent value for money. Look forward to welcoming you all back in January

Restart dates:

Zumba Gold and Line Dancing restarting on 6th January

Yoga restarting on 7th January

Funkfit restarting 8th January

Zumba restarting on 9th January

Body Toning restarting on 11th January



Barton Community Larder

Barton Community Larder runs every Tuesday from the sports hall at Barton Neighbourhood Centre. The larder is open to everyone, and

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we welcome visits anytime we're open so you can look around and chat to volunteers to see if the larder will work for you.

The larder is now open from 10am to 7pm with no break. The larder café is currently open from 10am to midday, and again from 2pm to 4pm. The larder café is hoped to be able to also open in Spring 2025 from midday to 2pm to serve a basic, inexpensive lunch.

For further information or if you have any questions, please contact Tanya at tanya@bartoncommunityassociation.com or on 07929 868284.

BCA Website and Facebook Pages

The Barton Community Association website can be found on the following link: https://www.bartoncommunityassociation.com/

Contact Number: 07566 755544

The main Barton Community page can be found on the following link: https://www.facebook.com/bartoncommunity

The Barton Youth Activities page can be found on the following link: https://www.facebook.com/BartonYouthActivities



Volunteering

We at Barton Community Association are so lucky to have so many wonderful volunteers helping us in various ways, but we still have some areas that we need more help with. Please see flyer above for more information or contact Sue at sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com.

Bric-a-brac donations

We welcome limited donations of items such as books and toys for the larder, **but you must speak to Sherrie first to check we have capacity to take them or email**

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sherrieneil250@gmail.com .

Items need to be delivered on Monday mornings. Thank you. We sell items very cheaply, prices starting from 10p. **If you wish to buy items, please bring cash with you as we can no longer accept IOUs.**

Barton Youth Activities (Term time only)

Restart dates TBC

Art Club—Mondays 3:45pm to 5:15pm (For ages 6 to 11)
Science Club (by Science Oxford)—Wednesdays 4:00pm to 5:30pm (For Key Stage 2)
Junior Youth Club—Thursdays 4:00pm to 5:30pm (For ages 8 to 12)
Senior Youth Club—Thursdays 6:00pm to 7:30pm (For ages 12 to 16)
Cooking Class— Fridays 4:00pm to 5:15pm (For ages 11 to 16) FULL
Messy Jam—Fridays 6:00pm to 7:00pm (For ages 11 to 18)
For more information, please contact Kristine at kristine@bartoncommunityassociation.com.

Restart dates for all youth activities will be posted on the Barton Youth Activities Facebook page.



Knitting and Crochet Club

Free to attend Knitting and Crochet Club on Wednesdays 11:30am to 1pm at Barton Neighbourhood Centre. Please see attached flyer for more details or contact Sue at sue@bartoncommunityassociation.com.

Coach Trips 2025

Coach trips in 2025 will be booked for January. Please keep an eye out on the newsletter and on the BCA Facebook page.

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Coffee Mornings at Barton Pavilion

Please see above flyer for more information.

Birthday Cakes

Do you know a child who would love a birthday cake, but their carers cannot afford one for them? If so, Free Cakes for Kids may be able to help. Further details can be found here.



Eatwells Café

A variety of reasonably priced items is available on the menu. Please come and support the café. Grab a quick bite or a drink, or maybe use it as a friendly meeting place to catch up with friends and neighbours. There is a warm cosy space available in which to enjoy your food and drink. We are also looking for some volunteers to come along and help us run the café during opening hours. If you have a couple of hours spare, please get in touch with Kristine at kristine@bartoncommunityassociation.com.

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Unwanted Gifts Appeal

Do you have any unwanted new or nearly new gifts that you no longer need or use? We would greatly appreciate your generosity in donating them for us to use in various ways such as for birthday gifts for all ages or regifted through the Community Larder. You are welcome to drop them into the office anytime Monday to Friday between 8 am and 1 pm.

Thank you for your kindness and support!

Each month we would like to feature someone who volunteers in either Barton or Barton Park. If you are a volunteer who would like to be featured, or know somebody who would, please can you send Tanya a photo and a bit about them, so for example how long they've been connected with Barton or Barton Park, what voluntary work they do, what they feel they gain from volunteering, how long they have volunteered for, their advice to anybody thinking about volunteering etc.

Tanya's email is tanya@bartoncommunityassociation.com.



Community Activity Directory

Headington Action have complied a handy Community Activity Directory. For further details please see the flyer attached or click here.

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Throwback Photos of the Month



Barton Bash 2017 Atlas and Mallory



Barton Bash 2018