

Bartons and Sandford Bulletin

April 2019

Chipping Norton Flower Club: April 25th is a demonstration by Ann Anson entitled "Food for Thought". We meet in the Town Hall with doors open at 7pm ready for a 7.30 start. For more information, call Ann on 01608 683289 or email Elaine on snips59@icloud.com. Visitors always welcome at £4 per visit.

Coffee Morning for Our Bus Bartons: we will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 4th May from 10.30 – 12.30 at Duns Tew Village Hall to raise funds for Our Bus Bartons. This is the first May Bank Holiday weekend. There will be tea/coffee and homemade cakes available plus other stalls. The bus will run from the S& SC and back again when finished, times to be arranged (see posters for details). Hope to see you there.

District Councillor's Report: *Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS);* on 5th March, I had a meeting with two friends in Witney to discuss the possibility of creating a Bartons Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS). Such a scheme would encompass three broad areas – help with transport, befriending and simple tasks or errands. To canvass interest and to outline how a GNS might function, we are holding a coffee morning on Saturday 18th May at the S & SC. Please get in touch with me if you would like more information; Councillor Dave Jackson; skellgilldave@yahoo.co.uk

Environmental News Updates for Oxfordshire: For the latest news, events, training and volunteering opportunities, sign up to Wild Oxfordshire's environmental bulletin. Issued fortnightly, it's free and easy to sign up to at www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk.

FOMBS: A fun and laughter filled night was had by all at our St Patrick's Day quiz, expertly compered by the incomparable Lynda Webb. If you are looking to stock up on bedding plants for the summer, don't forget our plant and cake sale on Friday 17th May at 3pm after school. Please remember to 'Like' Fombs on Facebook for updates and details of our events.

Jubilee Club: we will be starting a new club soon – more details will follow shortly. Any queries or offers of help, please ring Lynne (340623).

Middle Barton Drama Group: present "Murder Gold FM". Who doesn't love local DJ, Gerry Cox, the Silver Fox? Well, someone doesn't because halfway through his Charity Triathlon he's lying dead - done to death by person or persons unknown. But whodunnit? Could it be his formidable wife Bridget? Rival DJs Kid Kidson or Jo Smiley, his daughter Sammi, or super fit Anna Daptor or Carsick Dave, the local pop sensation or scary superfan Mary Henshaw? There's only one way to find out – yes, it's another Drama Group's almost legendary solve-it-yourself Murder Mystery Nights! "Murder Gold FM" will be performed on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th May at the AM Hall. Ticket prices and availability to be announced soon.

Our Library: Do come along and view our selection of books in the cafe at Middle Barton Stores. One of our volunteers would be delighted to meet you and be of assistance if needed. We are open from 9.30 – 2pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. There are no time restrictions on the length of borrowing so you don't need to feel rushed. Thank you to those of you already supporting our village venture.

Oxfordshire's Citizen Science Waterblitz: the 8th Thames Waterblitz will take place on 26th - 29th April. This bi-annual Citizen Science event involves hundreds of volunteers carrying out quick, easy to use tests for phosphates and nitrates in local ponds, lakes, ditches, springs, streams and rivers. The intensive testing can help identify key pollution sources or clean water spots that act as refuges for some of our special wildlife that is sensitive to water quality such as the beautiful but rare fen violet. Registration is now open for the event on 26th/29th April. To request your free Freshwater Watch kit and register, please go to <https://ewgis.org/waterblitz-registration/>. Watch the video but don't forget to register before 21st April to allow time for testing kits to be posted.

Pre-school: The children have been enjoying a Spring themed term learning about the weather, garden birds, Mother's Day and Easter. There has even been a spot of birdwatching going on. The children have

also been watching frog spawn in a pond and eggs hatch in an incubator and observing how they grow and change - which they are all very excited about. If you are interested to see the changes, why not 'Like' our Facebook page where you can see updates. Our next event is May Day Fete, Monday 6th May, 12-2pm at the S&SC. The children will start the event with the traditional dancing around the Maypole. Lots of stalls, including welly wanging, hook a duck, penalty shoot out, adult and children tombola, bouncy castle and much more. Also food, drink and music for you all to enjoy. This is a great community event and your support will be really appreciated. If you have a child in the village or surrounding area and would like them to go to Pre-school, please call 347968 and arrange to pop in for a visit and collect an application form. It is important to get their names on the waiting list as soon as possible. You can use your funded hours and the staff are very happy to help if you have any questions. *100 Club;* February winners were Gill Chisnall, Louise Gustafson, John Madden and Lynne Benfield. If you would like to join the 100 Club, please speak to Liz Coates or a member of staff. We have to have an active committee to run and continue fundraising and are looking for new members to join the team. If you would like to be part of this, please speak to Lydia Holdaway or a member of staff.

Sandford St Martin PC: Next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 9th May at 7.30pm. This will be preceded by a Parish Meeting at 7pm. If you would like to present a short 5 minute report at the Parish Meeting representing a parish event or club, please email sandfordclerk@hotmail.co.uk. The village website is now live and can be found at sandfordstmartin.org.uk

Sports & Social Club: 3rd April; Bingo - Easter theme. Doors open 7.30. Next one on 1st May. 6th April; Karaoke night -8pm. 20th April; Easter Fayre and Egg Hunt 12 -2pm. Donations of cakes would be greatly appreciated. 4th May; The Dirty Earth Band – 8pm. £5 members/£7 non-members. 5th May; George Peedell Memorial Aunt Sally- from 1pm. To become a

member, please fill in an application form in the club.

Steeple Barton PC: Meeting held on 18th March; A member of the public commented on the No Parking signs and thanked the PC for putting them up. They seem to be working. The PC congratulated Our Bus Barton's on their new bus and the running of a growing and successful service for the community. Dave Jackson talked about establishing a Barton's Good Neighbour Scheme. Also a Community Connect – Social Prescribing being headed up at the Deddington Health Centre, to reduce loneliness and isolation in the community. *Jubilee Club*; a meeting was held at the S&SC with the idea to re-open this Club. It was headed up by Lynne Benfield and attended by the Clerk and Chair as well as Dave Jackson. Ian Hudspeth announced that as a result of a successful housing infrastructure bid in Didcot, an application for funds to upgrade the A40 is in place. *Village Walkabout*; the PC will undertake this on Sunday 24th March to assess trees, hedgerows etc. The village appraisal is now underway with all the questions finalised. The next stage is setting up the online survey and the design of the

paper one. *Next Meeting*; Monday 15th April, 8pm in the Alice Marshall Hall.

Women's Institute: The next meeting of Duns Tew WI is on 9th April starting 7.30 in Duns Tew village hall. Middle Barton's star baker, Becky Bishop, will be demonstrating cake decorating and will amaze us with what can be created. Visitors are very welcome. Any enquiries to Jenny (07968862257).

Roman Catholic Church: *Services:* St Teresa's, Charlbury. Sundays; Mass at 9.15am. Holy Days; Mass at 7.00pm.

Church News: Last month, I began by saying that March would be a busy month in our churches; it was! Extra activities included Lent lunches and evening discussion groups. Two lunches and two discussion groups are still to take place and if you would like to attend them, there's a sign up sheet at the back of all our churches or you can let me know. At the lunches, we are listening to some choral music and hearing a short talk about it. All details below with special thanks to all our hosts and speakers. March ends with our Mothering Sunday service in Steeple Barton on 31st and with April comes Palm Sunday (complete with donkey and palms) at 9.30, Holy Week and Easter with a service every day from Palm Sunday to Easter. At many of

them, one of our churches is hosting a service but congregations from all villages will join together for them. Everyone is most welcome at everything! Details below. This time of year is when our Annual Parochial Church Meetings take place. This happened during March for Sandford St Martin but Steeple Barton has theirs on 8th April and Westcote Barton on 14th April. Details are in the church porches. Soon after Easter, we will begin our confirmation preparation groups. A number of people (adults and children) have expressed an interest in attending but there is room for more. Please do contact me if you would like more information or would like your name added to the group. If you would like a visit, Home Communion or to discuss any spiritual matter, I would be very pleased to hear from you. If you have ideas for any other activities or services which you would like our churches to consider holding in the future, my contact details are below. *Lent Lunches:* Wednesday 3rd April, The Leys Farm, Steeple Barton – Handel's Messiah, speaker Carol Lister. Thursday 11th April, 2 Longfield, Duns Tew – Haydn's "The Seven Last Words of Christ"; speaker John Maksinski. Both lunches 12.45-2.15pm. *Lent Discussion Groups;* Friday 5th April and Wednesday 10th April, 8-9pm at the Rectory. The Revd Jane Wright.

Church services: April <i>** Lay-led Matins.</i>	Westcote Barton	Steeple Barton	Duns Tew	Sandford St Martin	Nether Worton	Over Worton
7 th April	9.30	8.30	5.00pm **	11.00 **	---	11.00
14 th April; Palm Sunday	---	---	---	6.00pm	-	9.30 Benefice Service
Monday 15 th April	---	---	9.30	---	---	---
Tuesday 16 th April	9.30	---	---	---	---	---
Wednesday 17 th April	---	9.30	---	---	---	---
18 th April; Maundy Thursday	---	---	7.00pm Service with Passover Supper	---	---	---
19 th April; Good Friday	---	---	---	2-3pm Reflective Service	---	---
20 th April; Holy Saturday	8pm; Easter Vigil, Eucharist	---	---	---	---	---
21 st April; Easter Sunday	---	11.00	11.00	9.30	---	11.00
28 th April	6.00pm**	---	11.00. 3pm Nones **	9.30	8.30	---

Mid-week Communion: Wednesday 10th April, 10am at 15 Washington Terrace, Middle Barton.

The Revd Jane Wright, Rector; tel 01869 340510. Email; clergy.bartonbenefice@outlook.com

For general enquiries, please email Clare Harper, Benefice Administrator; enquiries.bartonbenefice@outlook.com

I would be grateful if contributions for inclusion in the May Bulletin could please be sent to me no later than Saturday 13th April.

Thank you.

Bill Lawrie, New Grove, 83 North Street. Tel: 347641 email: blmid@freeuk.com

