

# Bartons and Sandford Bulletin

## April 2023

**Bill Lawrie:** Sadly the long-serving former editor of this bulletin died early in March after battling illness for some while. He had edited the bulletin since 1998.

**Bartons History Group:** After a lengthy hiatus due to Covid etc, The Bartons' History Group has regrouped and has arranged what promises to be an interesting and entertaining talk on Friday 28th April at 7.30pm in the Alice Marshall Hall. The talk is entitled '1066 and all that - Oxfordshire's part in the Norman Conquest - A light-hearted Romp', given by Julie-Ann Godson who gave us an enthralling and amusing talk a few years ago. Tickets priced at £10, which will include a glass of wine, available from the shop or at the door. We hope to raise funds so that we can publish the next edition of *Bygone Bartons* which as you will know is distributed free to all households in the Bartons, so your support is essential to make this happen.

**Good Neighbour Scheme:** The Bartons' Good Neighbour scheme is here to help with all kinds of things, including lifts to medical appointments, collecting prescriptions, practical help in the home or garden and befriending. Please call Mary & Louise on [07486886971](tel:07486886971) or email us at [bartonsngns@gmail.com](mailto:bartonsngns@gmail.com) to find out more.

**Middle Barton drama club:** The next gathering/meeting of the drama club will take place on 13th April 2023. We are reading (and possibly recording) a ghost tale "Something Strange at Gramley Grange". If you've ever wanted to "have a go" at plays with no commitment to performances come and join our friendly group. Meeting at 91 Holliers crescent from 8pm. If you would like to attend please email Karen and Jeff @ [brown@jpandkbrown.plus.com](mailto:brown@jpandkbrown.plus.com). We'd love to see you there.

**Busy Bees:** The children have been busy this month playing together exploring the soft play, with the kitchen set up and making potions with cornflour. We have celebrated St David's day creating a sheep scene and eating Welsh cakes and have started celebrating Easter already with crafts and hot cross buns. Our Easter celebrations will continue on Tuesday 4 April when we will be hosting a bake sale at the AMH, between 10-12, to continue to raise funds for Will who will be running the London Marathon in aid of Busy Bees. Come join us for cakes and children's Easter Card making! All ages welcome!

**Pre-School:** Easter is the hot topic this month, a time for new life, fresh starts, and of course CHOCOLATE! In keeping with this theme, our little ones have been cooking up their own chocolate birds nest treats, topped with a sweet baby chick. If you weren't quick enough to see one before it got eaten, you can see a picture of their culinary masterpieces on Facebook. As well as being busy in the kitchen, we've been busy in the garden too. The children have been enthusiastically growing their own seedlings. We wish them well as they go to their homes to be "nurtured". Many a bird is starting to chirp as the air warms up (ever so slightly), and our garden is a lovely place for spotting some springtime warblers. We've equipped the children with a bird spotters chart for ticking off those that they see in the daytime, and have been teaching them all about the graceful Owls of the night. Save the date! This term culminates with our Easter Trail on Good Friday (7th April). Here our little bunnies will hop around the village collecting clues in order to find the stash of Easter Eggs at the end. Who knows, they may even catch a glimpse of the actual elusive Bunny! Tickets are £3, and are available from MB Stores, or from Pre-School. The trail will be open between 10:00 and 12:00. Get to the Pre-School gates anytime before 11:30 to pick up your first clue. This current term ends Friday 31st March, with the next term starting after Easter on Monday 17th April. If your child is over the age of 2 and you would like to register them for Pre-School, do please get in touch: [01869 347968](tel:01869347968) [middlebartonpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:middlebartonpreschool@gmail.com) so that we can send you a registration form. Registering your child in advance helps us arrange staffing requirements. We accept government funding for 15-30 hours if eligible. For further details, visit [www.middlebartonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.middlebartonpreschool.co.uk).

**District councillor:** This is simply a reminder that if you need any help or advice on any matters, please get in touch. I have built up useful contacts at WODC and OCC in my time as your councillor since 2018, and the parish councillors are also a tower of strength. Since last month I have been trying to help with overhanging trees and connecting to mains water (to name but two), as well as the constant reporting of the dreaded potholes. I am hoping to meet the OCC highways officer on March 23rd for a tour round the village, along with Roger Tyers from SBPC.

**Steeple Barton PC:** notes on SBPC meeting held in the Alice Marshall Hall on

Monday 20th March. There were 2 members of the village in the audience and 3 apologies Councillor Barry, Councillor Parry and School Governor Ali Umney. County Councillor Roger Tyers declared an interest in the Worton Road Project. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Reports from District Councillor Jackson who along with Councillor Tyers are due to go on a tour of the village with Chris Grain of Highways to discuss and clarify Highways activities. The Mullins will be discussed at the next Development committee meeting on Monday the 27th of March. Councillor Jackson is on Holiday so Councillor Graham will take his place. Councillor Graham is aware of the intricacies of the application and has attended the Community forum meeting. Councillor Jackson has shared recent discussions with him so he is now up to speed. There will be a site visit to re the Worton Road planning application and will be attended by Councillor Carter Windle. Donations to the Bartons History Group was approved and the Friends of Heyford Station although their second application was declined. *Traffic calming* Councillor Tyers said there were no further updates but work on Enstone Hill should commence shortly. Councillor Cox reported that cars were mounting the pavement when leaving the village between the garage and Holliers Road instead of waiting for on-coming traffic to pass. His suggestion was that the depth of the curb should be raised to act as a deterrent. This will be discussed with highways to gauge their opinion. The 50mph sign from the village to the Holt should soon be in place. *The Coronation* Councillor Carter Windle and Annette Fowler Clerk will attend the meeting at the club on the 29th of March

*Neighbourhood watch:* We are now looking for volunteers and a coordinator to set up the scheme if you would like to help please contact the clerk. *The School* Things are going well with the children joining in many activities including the World Book Day and Red Nose Day. There will be a scholastic Book Fair on the 28th March. The school choir also sang in Sandford Church for the Mothering Sunday service. *Dog Fouling:* It is an offence not to pick up after your dog. The incidents of people failing to do this is on the increase. We are lucky enough to have a dog bin on pretty much every road in Middle Barton so there are no excuses. *DONM* The next meeting

will be held on Monday 17th of April Alice Marshall Hall at 8pm.

**Church news:** We were saddened by the news of Bill Lawrie's death last month and are grateful for all the years he ensured that contributions from church and village organisations were circulated via the Bulletin. Sue remains in our thoughts and prayers and she would like to thank everybody for their support and help during this sad time. *Events:* we start the month with an opportunity for families to come to one of two events on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Destiny Breakfast Café from 9.30-12.00 in the Alice Marshall Hall and the Coffee Morning in Duns Tew from 10.30-12.30 will both have a 'craft corner' where children can make their own palms, ready for Palm Sunday the next day. *Palm Sunday:* We hope families will join us for a Palm Sunday Service on 2 April. We meet at The Rectory at 9.15 where George the donkey will be waiting to lead us in our Palm Sunday procession to Westcote Barton church. Children are encouraged to dress up like disciples and wave palms as we make our way to church. The service will be for all ages, and everyone is invited to stay for refreshments at the end. During Holy Week there will be Compline (on Zoom) at 9pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The link is available on our notice sheet, or from [zoom@bartonbenefice.org.uk](mailto:zoom@bartonbenefice.org.uk) or from Jane. *Maundy Thursday:* (6<sup>th</sup> April) there will be a service and hot supper in church at Sandford St Martin. Bartons Churches

Together will be hosting this and everyone is welcome. For catering purposes please let Kate Carter-Windle know if you would like to come and if you have any dietary requirements [kate.cw@btinternet.com](mailto:kate.cw@btinternet.com). *Good Friday:* (7<sup>th</sup> April) there will be an all-age Service in Duns Tew at 10am at which we re-tell the story through songs, hymns and readings from the Children's Bible. A Reflective Service will be held in Sandford St Martin at 2pm. On Saturday 8 April, Easter Eve, the Easter Vigil and service of light will be in Westcote Barton at 8pm, followed by celebratory refreshments. *Easter Sunday:* The Easter Sunday service will be in Steeple Barton at 9.30am and at 11am in Duns Tew, which will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. Sandford St Martin and Over Worton will also hold Easter services at 11.00am. *Other Events:* This month we are looking forward to some baptisms and a wedding. If you are thinking about arranging a special service, do get in touch with Jane. Coffee Morning in Duns Tew village hall on Saturday 1 April 10.30-12.30. Come and support this as we raise funds for the church. Coronation Celebrations Full details of the Coronation Celebrations will be in the May issue of the Bulletin but will include a special Benefice Commemorative Service on Sunday 7 May at 10.30am in Duns Tew. This will be followed by special refreshments and children's activities in the churchyard at 11.30. Everyone is welcome to one or both of these events. *Warm Hub Events:* Every Wednesday: The Wednesday Lunch Club, 11am-4pm, Alice Marshall

Hall. A two-course meal for £6, open to all. Every Saturday: The Destiny Breakfast Café 9.30am-12, Alice Marshall Hall. Drop in for food and chat at this breakfast cafe offering a warm, friendly space for all. *Foodbank donations:* Times continue to be hard for many. Thank you for continuing to support our local foodbank appeal. Donations can be left in the boxes which are in the porch of both Westcote and Steeple Barton churches. Our website has up to date details about events and services, or they can be found on our weekly notice sheet and notice boards. With that in mind, when there is no service in your own parish, we hope you will join us in worshipping elsewhere in the benefice. If transport is a problem, please get in touch: [frances@bartonbenefice.org.uk](mailto:frances@bartonbenefice.org.uk) or ring Jane 01869 340510 so we can help with lift sharing. Stay up to date with news of services and events: if you would like to be added to our weekly Notice Sheet email list please send an email to: [enquiries@bartonbenefice.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bartonbenefice.org.uk) Get in touch: Revd Jane Wright, Rector of the Barton Benefice, Tel: 01869 340510 [clergy@bartonbenefice.org.uk](mailto:clergy@bartonbenefice.org.uk) For general enquiries, please e-mail Clare Harper, Benefice Administrator [enquiries@bartonbenefice.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bartonbenefice.org.uk) [www.bartonbenefice.org.uk](http://www.bartonbenefice.org.uk) follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bartonbenefice/](http://www.facebook.com/bartonbenefice/)

Church services April	Westcote Barton	Steeple Barton	Duns Tew	Sandford St Martin	Nether Worton	Over Worton
2 April Palm Sunday	9.30am All Age Service Eucharist			5pm Evening Prayer		11.00am Eucharist
3,4,5 April						9pm Compline (Zoom)
6 April Maundy Thursday	7pm Eucharist & Supper at Sandford St Martin Church					
7 April Good Friday			10am All Age Service	2pm Reflective service		
9 April Easter Day		9.30am family Eucharist and Easter egg hunt	11am family Eucharist + zoom and Easter egg hunt	11am Eucharist		11am Eucharist
16 April	5pm Informal service Alice Marshall Hall		11am Eucharist	9.30am Eucharist		
23 April	5pm Evening Prayer	11am Eucharist	9.30am family@church			
30 April						11am Songs of Praise