

# BARROW *Voice*



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SUMMER 2008

## SUMMER TIME in Barrow



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makeover** (page 23)



**A Good  
Man**  
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**HGVs out!**  
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# Volunteers – A powerful force in Barrow

**‘Lots goes on’, comments Judith Rodgers about the village in her article inviting newcomers to a welcome event at the end of June.**

The content of Barrow Voice bears this out - sport, community groups, youth organisations and so on. And there is a theme which runs through all these things - the good will of volunteers. The Scout HQ has been refurbished thanks to a grant but also to the hard work of many helpers. Some of Barrow’s youngest residents (a staggering 30-40 four to eight year olds) enjoy football on a Saturday morning because there are enthusiastic adults willing to give up their time. The thriving Heritage Group has another publication rolling off the presses and a new website where we can log on and find out about the life and times of Barrow.

Barrow Cricket Club mirrors Barrow Town FC’s commitment to encouraging young people in sport with its expanded junior section and coaching programme. It recently held a ‘Ground Force’ day with one of its objectives being the refurbishment of the clubhouse. Just as with the Scout HQ this was a superb example of what volunteers can achieve. How sickening then that only a month later the club was broken into and extensive damage done to the roof and new lounge ceiling.

‘Never volunteer!’ used to be a freely given piece of advice. It certainly doesn’t seem to apply in Barrow. Damage, theft and acts of thoughtless vandalism are costly both financially and to morale but I hope that the Cricket Club volunteers will be able to look forward to the summer season despite what has happened.

Without them Barrow would be a poorer place.

*Frances Thompson*

*Cover photo ‘Lost in Summer’ – taken by the weir*

# PC offers grants to community facilities

**This May, Barrow Parish Council set aside an amount of money specifically to assist village groups improve the facilities of the various community halls, rooms, meeting places etc in Barrow.**

Groups who manage these facilities will be able to complete an application form to request a grant towards capital projects which will make significant improvements to their community building. The application form can be obtained from the Responsible Officer at the Parish Council Office.

Each application will be considered on its merits by the Policy and Finance Committee at its next available meeting. Its recommendations will be referred to the full council for a final resolution at the next available meeting.

The applicants will then be notified of the decision made.

It is hoped that community groups will wish to take advantage of this financial support.

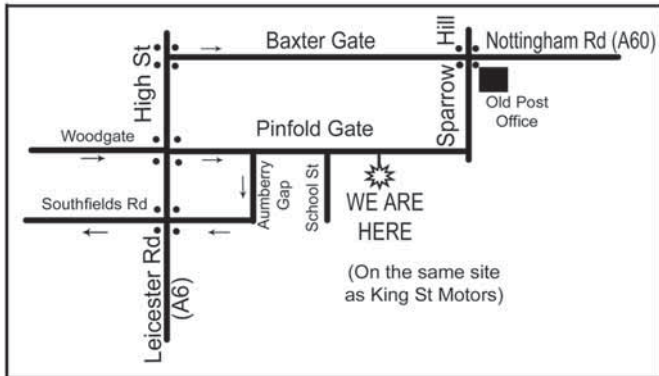


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## Replacing the Trilobite

On Friday, 4 April, a car left the road at the Beaumont Road mini roundabout. It collided with a garden wall, partly demolishing it. Unfortunately, this wall hosted the trilobite sculpture – the first sculpture on our Fossil Trail. The result of the impact was that the sculpture was broken into many, many pieces.

Happily, sufficient pieces have been recovered to permit a replica to be made. The Community Association has commissioned a Loughborough craftsman to undertake this quite challenging task. Martin Shackleton is a designer/maker who has a degree in three dimensional design, so he is well qualified for the job.

At the time of writing (May), his work is well under way and hopefully the replica will be ready to install when the wall is rebuilt. We are grateful to Mr. & Mrs. Cole, the owners of the wall, for their active assistance throughout.

The Fossil Trail continues to be as popular as when it was first created, 10 years ago. It is a unique feature of Barrow.

*David Rodgers.*





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# Shock news – Playground under threat

It is a well kept secret in Barrow that one of the playgrounds is under threat of closure - in this day and age when we are constantly encouraged to get our kids out in the fresh air too. The playground between Brook Lane and Heron Close used to be a regular haunt when I walked dog and kids on a daily basis. It is a pleasant, safe stroll from Melton Road, in the shade, by the brook, quick games of Pooh sticks on the bridges if there is enough water in the stream, the paths trimmed and grass regularly mown. Then there is the Playground area. The climbing frame and slide keep the kids entertained for long enough, the swings keep me entertained! The surrounding landscape there has always been a mess, however. No manicured verges and mown grass but scrubby bushes and nettles, and occasionally a good helping of litter.

Upon enquiry as to why this area is so neglected, when the rest of the estate is kept so smart, I am told a very sorry tale. David Wilson Homes owns the playground and provided it as part of the development of the Fishpool Way estate. They wish Charnwood Borough Council to adopt it, but drainage problems in the surrounding area have led to delay and prevarication for several years now. Finally on 24th January this year all parties agreed (and I quote) that 'the area should be opened up/landscaped and play equipment upgraded' following an 'intensive public consultation' of local residents'. Hurray! But only 96 homes were surveyed, seemingly part or all of the Fishpool estate. No attempt was made to invite responses from any other nearby residents, schools, playgroup etc. No mention of this process appeared on local notice boards, or in the Village News section of the Loughborough Echo, or in the Barrow Focus, Barrow Voice, or even on a simple sign at the Playground entrance! How is that remotely an intensive public consultation? To add insult to injury, the survey did not follow the minuted proposal as I have quoted above. Instead of landscaping and playground equipment, two alternatives were given:

\* **The area should be landscaped as an open space – 16 respondents chose this**

\* **The area should be refurbished to include play equipment – 9 respondents chose this**

The limited survey format and the lack of publicity surrounding this process make me wonder what hidden agenda there may be? Whatever your opinions on what should happen to the area, there should at least be an opportunity to share them. The Mill Lane playground is great, especially if you live around there. Same for the King George V playground if you live near there. I gather there will soon be a playground on the new estate too. Great if you live around there. But if you live around Fishpool Way, Babington Road area, the nearest playground is Brook Lane. Yes it is small, but with the desperately needed landscaping and regular maintenance of the whole area, it would be a more attractive place for children to play in, and overlooked from Brook Lane and Heron Close houses. Once a playground is removed it is much harder to get it reinstated. Come on Barrow residents - let's work together to improve what we have got instead of making yet another grassy area of which there are already many in the area!

**Megan Payne**

If you have views on this, please write to Barrow Voice, email [editor@barrowvoice.co.uk](mailto:editor@barrowvoice.co.uk), or contact your parish councillors to lobby on your behalf.

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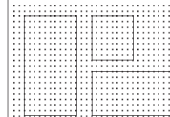
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# Sileby Road Speed Bumps

Karisa Krcmar asks you to consider your speed

Those of you who have travelled down Sileby Road cannot have failed to notice the recent installation of speed bumps spaced out regularly along the length of the road. Their appearance has caused mixed reactions.

One teenager I talked to, who regularly walks the route to and from school, believes them to be a good thing. "There's definitely less traffic," she told me. "And they're going more slowly. It's much easier and it feels safer to cross."

Another resident has also noticed the apparent decrease in the quantity of traffic. "People used this road as a rat run in and out of the village," she said. "Now it's not so quick, they seem to be choosing to use another route. Sileby Road feels safer."

To me, that's what it's all about, but some drivers don't like them. "They're ridiculous" and "they wreck your car" are just two comments I received. True, if you go over them too quickly, you will damage your suspension. So ... slow down. That's what they're there for.

Someone else commented that they make pollution worse as cars slow down and then speed up between the bumps. But the idea is that drivers maintain a slower speed and don't race between them.

Large vehicles like ambulances, buses and other commercial vehicles are not affected by them. That's a good thing when it comes to emergency vehicles, but Sileby Road has a mandatory 30 mph speed limit. If drivers kept to that, we wouldn't need speed bumps to slow them down.

Personally, I'm all for them and I'd like to see more done to slow the traffic throughout the whole village. I remember the uproar when people thought their civil liberties were at risk when drink-drive laws came into force. "One for the road" was what every good host offered his guests before they left. Now, only idiots think it's OK to drink and drive. It's taken a generation and a lot of deaths to get there. Sadly, it seems, it will take another generation and a lot more deaths before most drivers consider their speed.



## Answer to village traffic misery?

I was asked to investigate rumours that Slash Lane is about to be improved. Could this be the solution to the grid-locked traffic in Barrow during local flooding?



As you might have guessed, this is not the case. However, there are some investigations going on somewhere in County Hall to look at a flood-free alternative route onto the A6 south of Barrow. Apparently it might involve improving Slash Lane. Another possibility is that the top end of Betty Henser's Lane could be developed into a flood-free link to the Sileby Road end of Slash Lane. Betty Henser's Lane links the old and the new A6. If you travel towards Leicester on the new A6, you come to a roundabout that takes you down to Budgens. The left (first) turn at this roundabout takes you onto a very short stretch of tarmac road that peters out into fields. This is the top end of Betty Henser's Lane.

Whatever solution might be found, it would be a major project needing government funding. Personally, I won't be holding my breath.

*Judith Rodgers*

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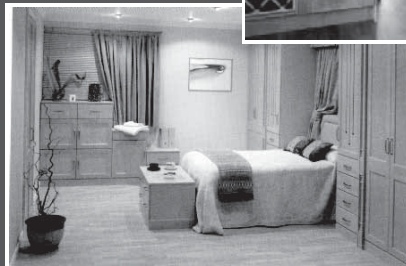
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# Help keep HGVs out of Barrow

When David Wilson and Miller homes started their building work on the Willow Way/Cotes Road development, a verbal agreement was made between the companies and the Parish Council that no heavy goods vehicles travelling to their sites would enter the centre of the village. Signs were erected in appropriate places to warn drivers to this effect.

Despite these signs, there is evidence that drivers are just ignoring them. A lorry loaded with bricks was seen entering the village via Soar Bridge. It proceeded along the High Street and onto the David Wilson development. There the lorry stopped and it was possible to point out to the driver that he had not only ignored the sign banning lorries travelling to the site, but also a 7½ tonne limit sign. The driver's excuse was that he didn't see the signs. It is very worrying that a driver can 'miss' signs, even more so when he is driving an HGV. What if the sign had been a warning sign 'Children playing in the road'?

Even more recently a fully laden 30 ton lorry was driven along the High Street to North Street. Its destination wasn't established; the driver could have been legally unloading within the village, but if the lorry was going to a building site on the outskirts of the village, the verbal agreement was again ignored and the driver had broken the law by ignoring the 7½ tonne limit signs.

## ***How many times are these incidents happening?***

If you see any HGVs travelling through the village you can notify the Parish Council Office or the Police. If they do not have business within the village, a law is being broken. If you report a lorry, you must have the registration number, the company name, the date and time it was seen. Even today as I write, it has been reported that three lorries loaded with bricks came through the village within the space of 10 minutes. Unfortunately no details were obtained and so nothing can be done.

**Val Gillings**



# Arthur Gardner

## – Renaissance Man extraordinaire

**In the words of a close friend, Arthur Gardner was simply one of the good men in life. He got stuck in! He got involved! He believed that we should all contribute to the community of which we are a part. He had a sharp and questioning mind. To Arthur everything was worthy of interest and investigation and he enjoyed sharing his knowledge. He was courageous; he was without inhibition; he was a true Renaissance Man in the fullest sense of the term.**

It was my privilege to work with Arthur on the editing and production of the later Heritage Lottery walks leaflets and it was great fun. His incisive mind, his dry sense of humour and his wide ranging collection of so many facts, whether important ones or simply ridiculous ones, made our editing sessions a real delight.

### Looking back

But let's take a look backwards, beyond the Arthur we all knew and loved and perhaps we can see other aspects of this clever and talented man.

The youngest of four children, Arthur was born, at home, in the small mining village of Delves Lane, near Consett in County Durham on 3 March 1943. By

the time Arthur was about eight, already equipped with his shock of bright red hair and his well-known cheeky grin, his brother Norman and sisters Amy and Sheila had already left home but they all recall that Arthur enjoyed a very happy childhood being cared for by his mother, whom he called 'mam', and who, in turn, was cared for by Arthur in her later years.

After Consett Grammar School, Arthur went up to Hull University in 1961. He had applied first to do zoology but found his qualifications and interests did not suit. At University they suggested he try the Psychology Department because, as he recalled, they told him 'they do have odd people there', and, by his own admission, he fitted in. Arthur considered

a PhD, but, after graduating in 1964, he opted to join the scientific civil service as an occupational psychologist, working mainly with the Royal Navy.

His love of poetry and words was one of the great influences in Arthur's life. He met Gill at a poetry club in Richmond and they married in 1966. They lived most of their early married lives in and around Teddington and Hampton in West London, but also spent three years living the 'good life' in Willingham, near Cambridge, in a run-down house with a wild garden where their three children, Ben, Jess and Josh, ran barefoot amongst the chickens. It was here that gardening and growing vegetables really took hold for Arthur, a skill he inherited from his green fingered mother.



**Think of it as a garden**

In 1983 there was the opportunity to leave London again for the countryside, this time further north in Leicestershire where the family moved in to The Willows, at 95 Cotes Road in Barrow-upon-Soar. On completion day of the sale, Arthur and Gill took down the fence that separated the formal garden from the two and a half acre horse field.

'Think of it as a garden', Gill told him, and he certainly did.

Hundreds of English trees – oaks, birches, dogwoods, willows – were delivered under a council planting scheme on Arthur's 41st birthday in 1984. Thereafter, year on year, the garden took shape, with much encouragement from the family boxer dog, Fred who could always be found playing somewhere near Arthur.

In career terms, Arthur's move from London involved a secondment to Loughborough University to write a handbook on the human factors in computer systems. He might have returned afterwards to Admiralty Arch in London, but the family had by then made a new life in Barrow. He resigned the Civil Service and was given a one-year contract by the University and £1000 cut in salary. The date, as Arthur liked to recall, was April 1st. He then had

11 successive one year contracts at the University.

In 2003, Gill was diagnosed with cancer and Arthur took early retirement and nursed her until her death in December of that year. By this time, he had also become 'Grampy' to Josh and Lorraine's first two children, Reiss and Harvey, and later to Lesley, Ben and Jo's daughter.

Retirement turned out to be one of the most active times of Arthur's life. In 2004, much to his own joy and wonder, he met again and fell in love with Julie, an old village friend. They were married amongst friends and family on 21st March 2005. For Julie, Arthur was 'her knight in shining armour' and living together the house was once more full of laughter.

Community participation was an immensely important part of Arthur's life in Barrow, with the Local Studies Society, Labour Party, Community Association, and the WEA. Retirement again brought new opportunities. He was so pleased to become Barrow's first Heritage Warden, then Chair of the Village Plan working party and, through the results of that work, he led a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund that has proudly delivered several new projects for the village, including new publications and a vibrant new heritage website. Part of his legacy

was to leave things in such a way that others could continue his work.

Arthur was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease in late 2007. Visits from friends, his children, grand-children and step-children, as well as the care of the nursing and GP community all helped to raise his spirits – though in truth it was more often the other way round, with Arthur making his visitors smile. He always found the right thing to say. His last years showed such promise with Julie and she was a constant companion in those last six months. Through the sadness, they made this a loving time together, with courage, laughter and tenderness. In his own words he would have liked another 20 odd years to share.

Arthur attended an Arvon residential poetry course in 2001 and friends and fellow poets who first met Arthur on this course had kept in touch, exchanging poems and comments. As soon as they heard about his illness, after the initial shock, they decided they must do something for the MND Association. A plea was sent out to poets all across the UK – no payment was promised – just the opportunity to raise money for MND in Arthur's memory. The response was overwhelming – the poetry poured in; the publishers gave permission and waived fees and the print run was funded by Arthur, and the resulting book is a tribute to the love and affection in which he was held by his fellow poets.

Without people like Arthur, enthusiasts with a genius for encouraging and enabling others to do better than their best, where would this country be? Arthur was a generator, a motivator, a facilitator and... more than all this... an all-round lovely, loving and lovable human being - in truth he was ... "A parfait gentil knight".

To close this article I have chosen the poem written by Arthur, which was included in the "Lifemarks" poetry collection.

**Jan Hind**

*"Blessings"*

*Sleeping, as we do, with the curtains open  
the sun, moon and stars peer in  
even Orion drops by without being invited.*

*Sleeping, as we do, with the windows open  
the sounds of trains, planes and cars pour in  
they all seem delighted.*

*We had not expected such attention.*

*We had not meant to put ourselves on show.*

*We merely thought to take and hold what we found good  
and let all others go.*



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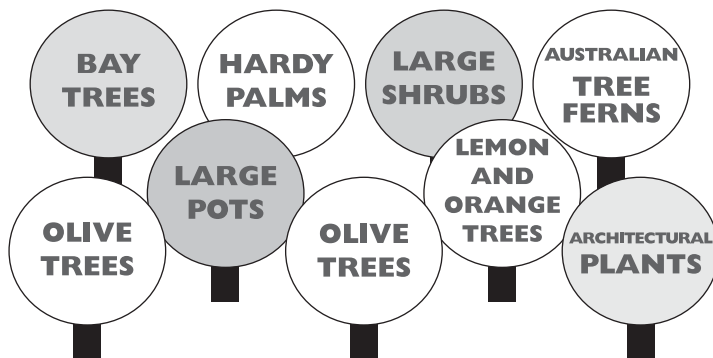
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# Barrow Business Update

We welcome two new businesses: Elegence Ltd and Seagrave Nurseries.



**Elegence (yes, that is the spelling) is a beauty salon offering a wide range of treatments and products including St Tropez spray tan and bio sculpture of nails. A major speciality is training of students in beauty care. The business occupies 68 High Street (where Vision First used to be). Co-directors Trisha Thurgar and Janie Hewitt have created beautiful facilities including a duo spa room upstairs.**

Trisha and Janie are a mother and daughter team. Mother-Trisha- was a publican for 20 years then worked with adults with severe learning difficulties – an interesting background for her new career. Her daughter Janie is very well qualified in the beauty industry and teaches students in Beauty Care to level 3 at the Heart of England salon in Leicester.

Bill Murdoch is expanding his business, Seagrave Nurseries by building a brand new site by the roundabout between Melton Road and Paudy Lane. He sells exotic hardy plants such as olive trees, shrubs, palms and tree ferns that he has imported from all around the world. So successful has the business been over the past 10 years that the Seagrave site is simply not big enough. He hopes to be up and running by July.

## Change at SV Dental Practice

Soar Valley Dentists is, of course, not a newcomer to Barrow. However, there have been some exciting new developments. After 13 years Dr Sunita Jassal, known to many of you as Sunny, decided to take a break from dentistry and spend more time with her family. In February Dr Ashvin Champaneri (Ash) bought the practice and took over patient care. Ash has been with the practice for six years and is now enjoying the challenge of being the Practice Principal. Ash will be supported by the same excellent and caring team of highly qualified and dedicated staff.

Veronica Hay is the Dental Therapist and she joined the practice in 1995 as a part time Dental Hygienist. In 2002 Veronica left to have a family and returned after a 3 year break. During this time legislation changed to permit Dental Therapists to provide dental care within General Practice. As a Dental Therapist, Veronica is qualified to complete an intra and extra oral assessment, all aspects of hygiene therapy, fillings, fissure sealants and impressions.



Ash and Veronica are also supported by Dawn Dickinson and Gemma Harrington. Gemma joined the practice in 2001 as a Qualified Dental Hygienist and worked for three years before returning earlier this year. Dawn, who is also a qualified Dental Hygienist, joined the team in 2006. Dawn and Gemma work together in the Dental Hygiene department to provide patients with the excellent care and service that SVDP prides itself on.

The majority of patients at Soar Valley Dental Practice are private but a small contract with the local PCT provides dental care for children and those adults receiving state benefits. All patients see Ash for their full mouth assessments where he discusses any treatment needs. Treatment will then be carried out by Ash, Veronica, Dawn or Gemma depending upon requirements.



Faye, spokesperson for SVDP says "We have now been seeing many of our patients for several years. They have improved their home care routines and their oral health is excellent so they have very few treatment needs. We therefore now have the capacity to accept new patients who are looking for high quality dentistry. If you know someone who may benefit from visiting us please pass on our details. We would love to see them."

**For further information about these businesses, see their adverts on the page opposite.**

*Keith Bennett*

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# Barrow Summer Watch



It's about now the cattle are being turned out after spending the winter in yards and sheds. Many years ago now, I would help my father at this time drive his beasts from the farm down Pawdy Lane through the village to the water meadows on Slash Lane where they would spend the summer on the lush grass.

These meadows had an abundance of marsh marigold, meadow sweet, and lady's smock, which like a damp environment. Lady's smock, also called milkmaid or gillyflower, produces a strong scent in the evenings. Violets used to be common along the shady banks of Fishpool Brook; less so now; probably due to fertiliser and pesticide use, although they can still be found. The violet was a favourite flower to be collected by the gypsies who would make small posies of them to sell for 6d.

Over the last few months I've been noticing a buzzard in the vicinity of the farm. I've never seen this type of hawk here before, and one of my friends says he has also seen buzzards; so there may be a few moving into the area. There is an abundance of young rabbits about, which the buzzards prey on. I also now, regularly see a pair of sparrow hawks; again unusual for me, as well as the more common

kestrels. Stricter control over pesticide ratification and use has undoubtedly aided the return of these raptors. There is an ash tree in the corner of one of my fields which years ago was struck by lightning; the centre is virtually hollow and for the past few years now a Little Owl has set up home there. This type of owl can be seen hunting during the day unlike some of its more nocturnal relatives.

*Dave Bird*



Violets



Marsh Marigolds



## Mother's Rabbit Stew vs. the Cretan Rabbit

To be frank I never really liked mother's rabbit stew although as a young boy growing up on a farm in the 50s it appeared regularly on my dinner plate, particularly during corn harvest when nets were placed along the edge of the field being bindered. As the corn was cut the rabbits would run out and get entangled in the net; consequently ending up on the dinner table.

Mother always boiled the rabbit and the smell of boiling rabbit I found off putting. As I grew older and became responsible for finding my own dinners, rabbit did not appear on my menu. That is until last year. I was in Crete having dinner in a restaurant with a colleague. He, inexplicably to my mind, ordered rabbit and I was so intrigued by this choice that I tried a little and was surprised how good it tasted. On further enquiry I found out how it was cooked. The rabbit is gutted, skinned, head and lower legs removed, then soaked for 30 minutes in cold water. Fat bacon is placed over the back, the whole thing wrapped in baking foil and baked for one and a half hours, then served with thick cider gravy, fresh green peas (in the pod if possible), and roast potatoes.

There are plenty of rabbits about all year in the markets and the ones currently chewing the bark off my young trees and taking the heads of my tulips better watch out.

*Dave Bird*

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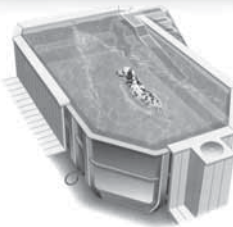


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# Heritage Group Produces a New Booklet: 'The Archaeology of Barrow'

As you go to work, shop, take the children to school, have you ever stopped to wonder what this area was like, in the distant past, before the village of Barrow was even thought of? This new publication may help you picture these different ages.

Were there dinosaurs roaming around the playing fields... mastodons stomping along the High Street... cave men stripping the fur off animals they had killed for food so they could keep warm? Many of the fossils which have been found in the Barrow landscape date right back to the Jurassic period 150 - 200 million years ago, but the first evidence of man in Barrow is much more recent and comes from the Paleolithic Age which started 'only' 800,000 years ago.

It's hard to get your head around such big numbers and it is also difficult to imagine...

- what the area looked like,
- what the people looked like, and
- what did they actually eat and how did they keep warm?

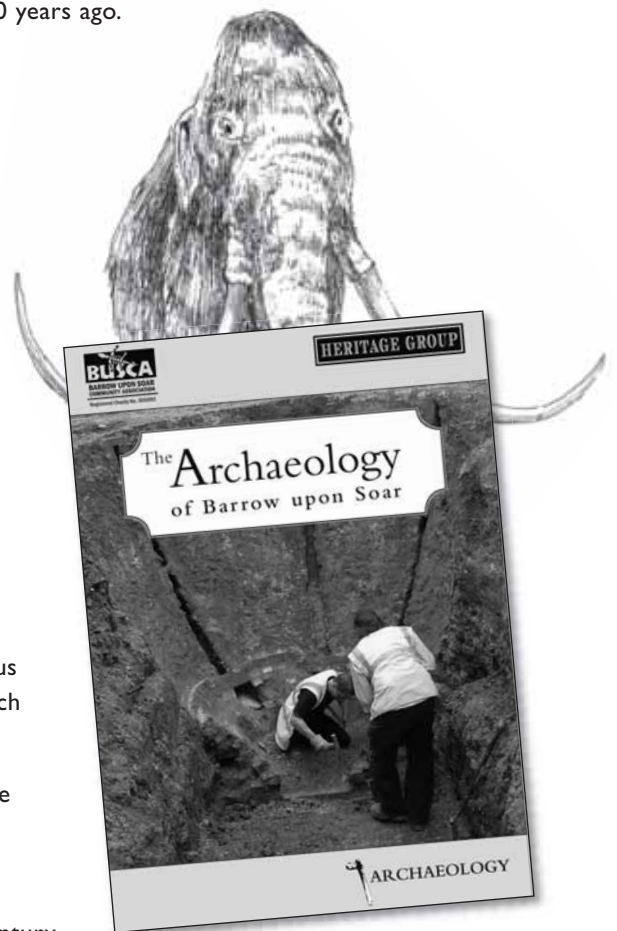
We know that the earliest evidence of man in Barrow is a possible hand axe dating from about 430,000 years ago. To the man who made it and used it, it was equivalent to today's Swiss Army penknife – a tool which could be used for many purposes.

This new booklet takes us back to man's beginnings and through the various ages – Paleolithic, Neolithic, Iron Age, etc. and when you browse through you will be taken back into the time of the tree clearances when the very first farmers started to settle down and agriculture really started... to the site of an Iron Age roundhouse, then a number of Roman artifacts, in particular pottery and jewellery evidence of lime-working. On through various other ages, Roman, Medieval until Elizabethan times (16th century) from which we only have one silver Elizabeth I penny and two low value tokens.

Some buildings in Barrow survive from the 15th and 16th centuries and, in the 1480's, Barrow Manor was in the hands of the Earls of Huntingdon. Familiar street names immortalise the nobles of that time, for example the Beaumonts and the Beveridges and, of course, the half-timbered building in Beveridge Street and Bishop Beveridge house date to the end of the 16th century.

Why not pick up your free copy of this new booklet which has been supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, for which support we are very grateful.

*Jan Hind for Barrow upon Soar Heritage Group*



## NEWS OF FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION

Shortly after publication the Heritage Group will be presenting an Archaeology exhibition based on the booklet. It will be in the Parish Council Office on Saturday July 5th, running from 10.30 to 3.30. You will have the chance to look at some of the objects whose photos appear in the booklet, even handle others and learn about the dig on Willow Road.

**For more information, phone Terri Davies, Barrow Archaeology Warden on 416206.**

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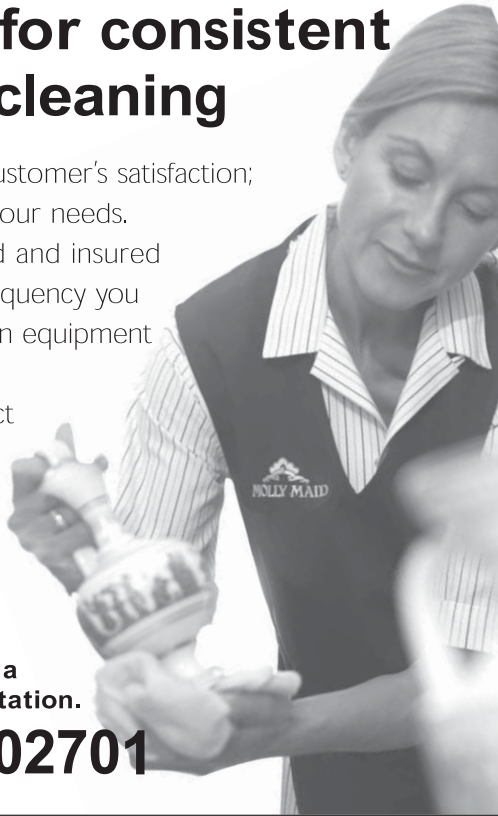


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# BUSCA Welcome and 'Meet the Village' Evening

**BUSCA (Barrow Community Association) hopes to welcome new (and newish) residents of Barrow at an informal get-together on Monday June 30th. We expect that a good proportion of village organisations will join in the evening which will be held at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre, Cotes Road. The event will start at 7.30. The bar will be open and we will provide wine, soft drinks, tea and coffee and nibbles. Barrow is a particularly community minded village. Lots goes on. For example, during June we will have a family bike ride and BBQ, an Open Gardens Festival, an exhibition by the Heritage Group about some of our older streets, the Trap music festival and at least one Summer Fayre. And this is just a selection. There's lots more.**

We would like to enable newcomers to feel a part of this community. The evening will start with a very short introduction by each of the groups present followed by plenty of time to chat. No-one will be press-ganged to become a volunteer! It is just an opportunity to find out more about clubs and societies and what's going on.

Don't wait for an invitation: everyone is welcome.

If you would like to know more, phone me, Judith Rodgers on 412063.



## NEW Barrow Heritage website

**You can't have failed to notice all the recent activity of Barrow's Heritage Group: leaflets, book, maps, talks and exhibitions etc.**

One very recent triumph has been the building of a new website [www.barrowuponsoarheritage.org.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarheritage.org.uk)

The idea was Arthur Gardner's brain child and we are delighted that it is up and running. It has the particular tools needed to

record the findings of the group. For anyone used to the village website it will seem very familiar. That is because it has been built by the same web designers, Calico-i. Members of the Barrow Heritage Group will be able to locate their findings on interactive Google maps, make links to other Heritage sites and wikipedia, import photos, documents, oral tapes and video clips, construct timelines and generally bring Barrow history and heritage to life... for your interest and enjoyment.

Anyone can visit the site in the usual way. Expect to find sections that record the history of some of Barrow's streets, a range of Natural History projects, walks, archaeological information etc. As a very new site, it will take time to create new material.

If you are interested to get involved with any of the projects of the Heritage Group, phone Judith Rodgers on 412063.

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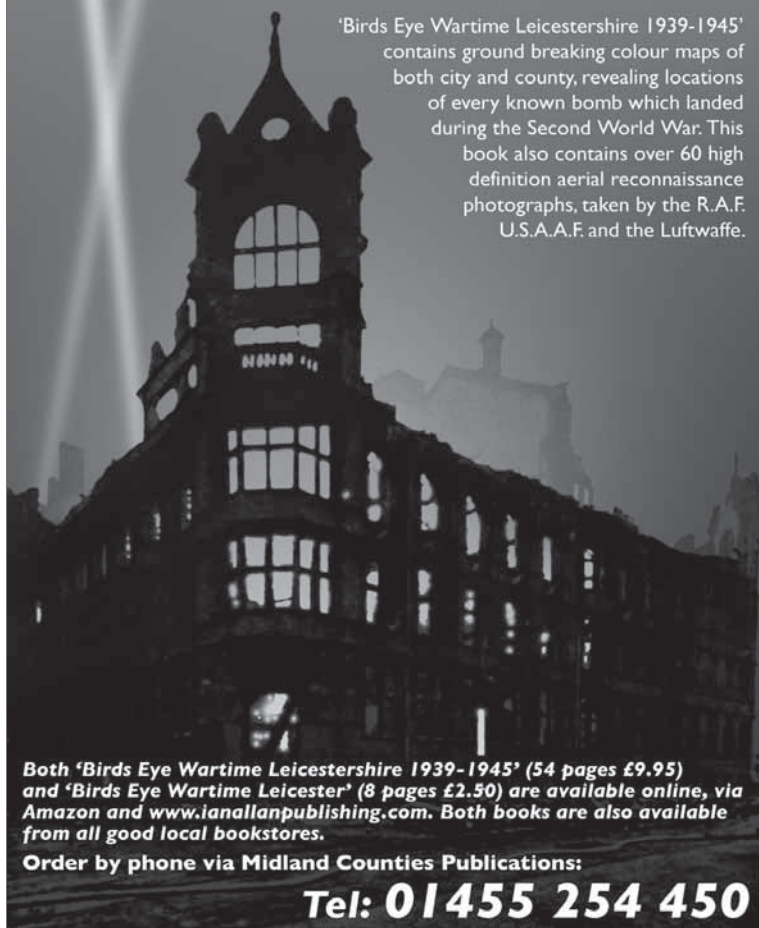
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# FLAG + volunteers = Scout HQ make-over

On Monday 28th April, the refurbished kitchen at the Scout HQ on Grove Lane was officially opened. This was done with the help of Forward with Leicestershire Aggregates Grant (FLAG). The grant of nearly £3000 was 90% of the total cost with most of the plumbing, gas installation, tiling, fitting and decorations being done by volunteers. All the HQ user groups – Guides, karate club, dance group and adult education classes will benefit from the facilities.

A low level sink and work surface have also been provided in the main hall, creating an ideal area for youngsters or wheelchair users. An easy access toilet and additional emergency and outside lighting have also been recently completed.

The Scout Group is proud of its facilities which are among the best in the area and with a hardworking team of voluntary leaders and helpers the group provides excellent facilities and activities for the young people of the village.

Watch out for Sat 5 July Hog Roast/50s-60s disco & Sat 6 Sept outdoor film evening (Ghostbusters). This year the scouts will be having their annual week's camp in Derbyshire.

*John Wilford*



## Heartfelt plea – from the Chair of Barrow Youth Action Group

When I first moved to the village, not too many years ago, I remember reading a two-page spread in one of the local papers of people's views of living in Barrow upon Soar. Residents were saying that, although a lovely place to live, there was nothing for young people to do.

Barrow Youth Action Group (BYAG) with a core group of committed individuals has now been running for two years but there is a danger that THE GROUP WILL DISBAND if we are not able to involve more people. We had hoped to be in a position where we are able to offer regular activities for children and young people of all ages but we cannot do this without additional help. We all know of the positive effect constructive activities can have on problematic issues in the village.

So, please contact Tracey Beardmore-Evans on 07973 680597 if you can help.

### WIN a £20 GIFT VOUCHER

Barrow Youth Action Group is looking for a design to base their logo on.

Entries are invited from anyone under 18 years old.

Please pop your A5 entry in the box in the library or Paper Shop before 31st July.

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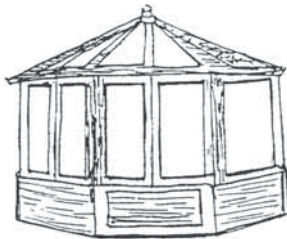
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# Young people win places on challenging projects

The December issue of Barrow Voice offered you the opportunity to nominate a young person for a voyage on a Tall Ship. We are now pleased to announce that two awards were made by Barrow Youth Action Group: Jess Acton will sail to England from Holland while Chelsea Longstaff will be sailing off the coast somewhere around Britain.



Katie

Chelsea



Jess

Katie Brown, a member of 1st Quorn Rangers will represent Leicestershire Guiding at an international event called Jailbreak. She will be released from somewhere in Edinburgh on July 26. In order to earn her parole she has to get to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia by August 9th, having visited at least five countries and completed 10 tasks. One task is to shake hands with Santa in Finland!

All three girls are busy fund raising which is an important part of their challenge. We wish them fair weather and a memorable journey.

## BOSCAPS 2008

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Tel: 01509 412385 Fax: 01509 620902 Email: [c.westbury@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.uk](mailto:c.westbury@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.uk)

BOSCAPS 2008 playscheme will run from 4th - 8th August for 5-12 year olds from Barrow and surrounding villages.

The scheme is run with the support of Leicestershire County Council, Barrow Parish Council, Charnwood Borough Council and BUSCA.

Held at HPHS, BOSCAPS has a proven record and been running for many years. Helpers are CRB checked. It provides children with the opportunity to take part in wide variety of exciting craft, sporting and other activities and trips in a safe environment.

For further details, registration information or to find out how to become a volunteer please call the Community Office on the above number. It's really good fun and very rewarding.

Carol Westbury

## BARROW FOSSIL LAPEL BADGE



The Barrow 'Kipper' has been immortalized in a bronze lapel badge by the Village Hall Action Group (VHAG) as part of the awareness and fundraising campaign for the new Village Hall.

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# Barrow Baptist Church Holiday at Home

**Monday 28th July - Sunday August 3rd**

**For all over 60s**

Now that the summer is approaching, we are looking forward to Holiday at Home 2008. This is the fifth year that we have stayed at home, and enjoyed the feeling of being away by participating in a different recreational activity each day.

We repeat those events that have proved to be popular, and ring the changes for the in-between days with new activities. We hope we have made wise choices; we always welcome your suggestions for new things to do, and of course need to be told perhaps, 'Let's not do that again next year'!

The programme for this year is as below. We do hope that you will feel able to come; we love making new 'holiday friends', whilst enjoying the time spent with old friends.

Please telephone Judith Morrison on 01509 412770 for further information, and be assured that full support is given to those in need of help. There is wheel chair access to all facilities and plenty of people ready to push! We look forward to seeing you there.

**Monday 28th July – Lunch at 12-30pm**

**Speaker Mrs. Marie Slater, Chairman of Parish Council.**

**Tuesday 29th July – Crafts Afternoon Work Shops**

**available in Water colour Painting (an old favourite).  
Card making. Napkin Art and other things of interest.  
Refreshments served.**

**Wednesday 30th July – Outing to Trentham Gardens.**

**Thursday 31st July – A Day Off.**

**Friday 1st August – Antiques Roadshow 3pm Bring  
your 'treasures', and have them valued by an expert.**

**Saturday 2nd August – Concert given by The Loughborough  
Male Voice Choir at 7pm. Tea and homemade biscuits served.**

**Sunday 3rd August – Songs of Praise 4pm. Speaker:-  
Rev. Roy Monks. Chaplain at East Midlands Airport.  
5.00pm. Tea and cakes will be served.**

*NB Look out for more detailed information around the village  
nearer the time..*

## Home-Start Volunteers Support Families

**Home-Start Charnwood is a local family support organisation providing emotional support and practical help to families with at least one child under the age of five, who live within the Charnwood area.**

Their Family Support Volunteers are all parents, giving them a wealth of parenting experience to draw upon, and an understanding that family life isn't always easy. Following training, volunteers visit families at home for a few hours each week, and the support they provide helps a family get through a difficult period. The support varies depending on the family's circumstances, and could include support of a mother suffering post-natal depression, helping a parent who has twins, or helping a family new to the area and feeling isolated. Whatever the reason that a family needs a Home-Start volunteer, the support provided makes a tremendous difference to their lives.

Home-Start Charnwood is running two volunteer training courses later this year. Each will run for one day per week over 6 weeks within school hours.

- The Syston course will be held on Mondays from 8th September 2008
- The Loughborough course will be held on Tuesdays from 28th October 2008.

If you are a parent and have a spare 3-4 hours per week to help another family, and would like more information, contact Home-Start on 01509 239786.

**Charity no: 1108575, Company no: 5373643**

**Funded by the National Lottery through Big Lottery Fund**

## Loughborough Orchestra

**CONCERT**

at HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,  
BARROW UPON SOAR

**21st June, 7.30 pm**

**PROGRAMME**

'Overture to The Bartered Bride'  
by Smetana

'Pavane' by Faure

'Concerto for Harp'  
in B flat major by Handel

\*\*\*

'Symphony No. 8 (The Unfinished)'  
by Schubert

'Suite for Orchestra'  
(From the Water music)  
by Handel arranged Hamilton Harty

**Conductor: Liz Thomas**

**Soloist: Soraya Vermeulen**

**Leader: Zosia Cocker**

 **The Loughborough Orchestra**



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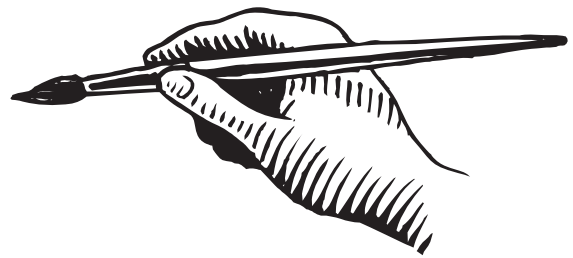


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# Children's Academy at Riverside Park

**The set up at Barrow Town Youth has taken on another dimension in recent times. They've now opened their doors to the very young. If parents have a budding Wayne Rooney, then Riverside Park is the place to take them on Saturday mornings.**

The idea was formed and put into practice by Alistair Keogh who also manages the current Under 9's age group. Alistair decided to encourage children from the age of four to come along and take part in organised football training.

The Barrow Town Youth committee has supported this initiative, by introducing these age groups into the regular coaching rota, which is carried out by qualified coaches. Since its inception, the idea has grown in popularity, so that most Saturday mornings, there are 30-40 children attending each session.

One of Barrow Town Youth committee said, 'We wanted to create a nice safe environment for the very young children to come and play football. We don't teach them tactics but we do try and teach them some of the basics but the main purpose is for them to enjoy themselves. The training also presents an opportunity for children to gain an understanding of the game before moving into more organised league football at the Under 8 age group

Mark Reeves, Chairman of the Barrow Town Youth set up, also spoke of his delight at what had been achieved so far. 'The academy is testament to our ongoing aim of providing an environment where the young of all ages can learn and be coached in the game. It also provides a focal point in the community'.

With the inception of the academy, this extends the active age groups from four to 18, with approximately 200 youngsters now involved in playing or coaching.

As the coaching unfolded on a sunny Saturday morning, one of the Barrow Town committee said, 'When you see how full the car park is, it makes you realise how far we've come over the last few years'. Judging by the smile on many of the four and five year olds, it made you realise how right that was.

*Steve Jordan, Barrow Voice Sports reporter*



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# Barrow Town Cricket Club – Ground Force 2008

Saturday 5th April was a day when the weather could have been kinder. Despite this, unprecedented numbers of junior cricketers and their parents, along with established seniors rallied at the Nottingham Road ground to prepare the facilities for the forthcoming season.

In between frequent dashes for cover from heavy showers, a team of juniors treated over 200 metres of fencing. A brilliant effort in its own right, not to mention the £600+ they raised in sponsorship! National Grid has extremely generously matched this amount, with the money going towards new clubhouse furniture. Special thanks also go to Tristan John of Cyril John Contractors for supplying both fence treatment and brushes for the event.

Meanwhile, an army of eager helpers was busy clearing and cleaning the clubhouse. Walls were plastered, doors fitted, cupboards built and everything that didn't move was painted. Throughout the day, workers were sustained by a stream drinks from the kitchen, kindly provided by Neville Cooke on behalf of Somerfield, along with countless cakes and burgers. Outside, wet grown-ups were setting fence posts, renovating the scoreboard, repairing fence panels, clearing weeds, laying concrete, and much more.



The day concluded with a gathering in the rejuvenated clubhouse for a superb curry supplied by Mr Mohammed Kashime of the Masala Indian Takeaway on the High Street. It has to be said, that this donation was generous in the extreme and the quality of the food was a credit to Mr Kashime and all the staff at the Masala.

This year's GroundForce event was the most successful to date and I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all involved for pulling together to achieve such a transformation. As far as cricket's concerned, the Club has recently expanded its junior section and now has upwards of a 100 local youngsters playing the game. There is a strong commitment towards junior progression into the senior side, which plays in the Everards Leicestershire League. This commitment has

been recognised at national level with the Club being appointed a 'Focus Club' status by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). We are also one of the two County clubs selected to deliver the 'Chance to Shine' programme of coaching in schools and we are continuing to expand and improve access to the game, especially for girls and youngsters with special needs.

The Club is proud to be at the heart of village sporting life and would certainly value any new partnerships that could be forged with local businesses. We would be happy to offer advertising at our ground or website and would ensure that any support would receive proper recognition. For further information about linking up with us, please contact me on 07976 838246 or email [andy@mcp7.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:andy@mcp7.freeserve.co.uk).

New players are always welcome and our website [www.barrowcricket.com](http://www.barrowcricket.com) is packed with all the information necessary for getting involved. Alternatively, why not check out the forthcoming fixtures and consider coming to watch some local cricket this summer?

## THOUGHTLESS VANDALISM

The above piece was written in April and in stark contrast to celebrating everything that's good about Barrow, it is with regret that I now have to report total thoughtlessness. The clubhouse was damaged during an attempted break in. This was followed up with an actual break in on 21st May. Roof tiles were broken and access was gained by smashing the new lounge ceiling that had been worked on by so many GroundForce Day volunteers. Cans of Carling lager were taken, a bag of which was found in the park the next day. Sadly, the ruined lounge was out of bounds for our next day hosting of the Leicestershire Schools' Mini Cricket Tournament.

It's probably pointless trying to appeal to the better nature of those responsible, but I would urge them to consider how demoralising it is having to spend our development funds on cleaning up, replacing stock and trying to protect ourselves against further break-ins, possibly from members of our own community.

It's probably no coincidence that on the same week, a Brownie meeting could not go ahead in the Church Rooms after a break in via smashed windows.

**Andy McParland**



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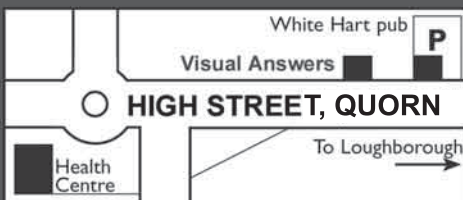
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# Riversiders' review... and next season making FA Cup history

The end of another successful season, the last one for Barrow Town FC as members of the Leicestershire Senior League. The club has made steady progress both on and off the field since we gained promotion from Division 1 in 1994/5. Such are the standards we now set, we are disappointed not to be going to the newly formed East Midlands league as champions, but have to be satisfied with the runners-up spot for the third time in 10 years. Kirby deservedly take the title after we were neck and neck for many weeks.

The management team of Lee Harriman, Bob Stockley, and Paul Appleton went one better than the third place finish last season, guaranteeing promotion to the new Step Six league with facilities to match our ambitions. They look forward to taking the club on to the Midland Alliance as quickly as possible.

## LEAGUE PLAYING RECORD FOR LAST SEASON

**Played 34 Won 22 Drawn 7 lost 5 GD 51 Pts 73**

We also retained the Battle of Britain trophy and next season have entered the FA Cup for the first time in Barrow's history. Our average crowds this season were far and away the best in the league. With new teams from South Notts and South Derbyshire coming to Riverside Park next season we look forward to even bigger crowds enjoying our excellent facilities which now boast covered seating and standing areas.

The Reserves under Steve Alexander, Graham Barker, and Rich Kearn have retained the Combination title for an unprecedented fourth time on the trot. A remarkable achievement and a credit to the club. We had hoped to be able to offer them a fresh challenge next season but with so much restructuring taking place in the Senior section we have agreed to continue in the Combination next season. Cup success continues to elude the reserves with shock exits from both county and league cups to lesser opposition.

## LEAGUE PLAYING RECORD FOR LAST SEASON

**Played 26 won 20 Drawn 5 Lost 2 GD 56 Pts 64**

The Youth Team under Mark Whelband, Terry Steans, and Nigel Squires showed marked improvement on last year, finishing runners-up in their section. With all but two of their players eligible to play next season they could have a championship side in the offing, and provide the nucleus of players for reserve and hopefully first team football. Three of the current squad, namely Connor Packwood, Liam Kyle, and Guy Love have already appeared in the first team this season. The youth team also enjoyed their first venture into the FA Youth Cup. After beating Bourne Town they lost to a very strong Boston Utd team who were so impressed with our hospitality and facilities they are sending first and youth teams for pre-season friendlies.

## PLAYING RECORD;

**Played 13 Won 9 Drawn 1 Lost 3 GD 31 Pts 28**

Lots to look forward to next season, new teams, new challenges in league, FA Cup and Vase meetings, and hopefully the usual great local support.

*Alan Dawkins*



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We publish 2,700 copies quarterly and deliver FREE to all households in Barrow

### In each issue...

- The Latest Village News Items
- Reports On Issues Affecting People In The Street - Young & Old
- Articles With A Historical Perspective
- The Latest Community Events
- Celebrity Reports
- Sports News
- Diary of forthcoming Events

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## SILEBY TENNIS CLUB



## Anyone welcome for tennis

Last year Sileby Tennis Club enjoyed its 80th birthday celebrations with many events including Strawberry and Cream Tournaments and an all day Bar-B-Q during Finals Day. This year a full programme of events started with a FREE Family Open Afternoon on Sunday April 6th. Although there was a hail shower and eventually snow, in between the showers visitors were able to join in and the courts were full. We are still welcoming new junior and adult members and even if you are an absolute beginner or just a little bit rusty don't be afraid to come along.

Sileby Tennis Club, which is situated off Springfield Road and signposted from the Seagrave Road, offers four all-weather courts. This year we have had the courts repainted so they are as good as new. This allows members to play all year round, enjoying social and competitive team tennis, thus catering for a range of abilities.

The Junior Members are considered a vital part of the Club and this year we are offering junior membership at £10 per child and in addition we have arranged coaching sessions on a Monday afternoon with a fully qualified coach.

For 2008 we have recommenced the Sunday Tournament (see photo) and members came along to our first American style tournament, which is held on the second Sunday of each month throughout the summer. A new trophy is being purchased for this tournament and will be presented with those for the club championship at our annual dinner.

On June 22nd this year we are having the very popular Strawberry and Cream tournament to get in the mood for Wimbledon, which starts the following day. We are throwing it open to non-members this year; entry is £5 and includes a bowl of strawberries and cream and a cup of tea. If you wish to enter please contact Chris Graham on 01509 816268.

For further information about membership or club events please contact: Chris Graham, Chairperson Tel, 01509 816268 or Dave Thompson 01509 812993.



# BARROW Voice

www.barrowvoice.co.uk

Barrow Voice is published by Barrow upon Soar Community Association. Opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the editorial committee or the Community Association. Barrow Community Association is a registered Charity No: 505692.

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### Advertising Deadline

30th July 2008

### Copy Deadline

30th July 2008

### Copy to:

The Editor  
17 North Street  
Barrow upon Soar  
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editor@barrowvoice.co.uk

- Sat 21st** Holy Trinity Coffee morning in Church Rooms  
Hall Orchard Primary School Summer Fayre; 12.00 - 4.00pm  
Loughborough Orchestra: concert at Holy Trinity Church; 7.30pm
- Sun 22nd** Beveridge St Open Gardens (National Gardens Scheme)  
Heritage Group: Streets Heritage Exhibition; Parish Council Office; free; all welcome
- Mon 30th** BUSCA Meet the Village and Welcome Evening for new residents; Community Lounge, HPHS; 7.30pm

- Tues 1st** Parish Council meeting; 7.15pm; PC Office; Public Participation at start. Everyone welcome
- Fri 4th** Recital by Alison Print's pupils; Holy Trinity Church, 7.00pm
- Sat 5th** Methodist Mini mart and Coffee morning; Church Hall; 10.00am  
Barrow Heritage Group Archaeology Exhibition; Parish Council Office; 10.00 - 4.00pm; free entry. View some of the archaeological antiquities that have been found in Barrow  
Scout Hog Roast; early - late evening
- Mon 7th** New Horizons: a friendship group for bereavement people: Coffee and Chat; Methodist Church; 2.00pm
- Tues 8th** Neighbourhood Watch; Conservative Club; 7.30pm
- Sat 12th** Clock Club Jumble Sale; 10.00 - 11.30am; Church Rooms
- Mon 14th** WI: 'Smarty Panz' by Dr Audrey Matthews; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
- Sat 19th** Holy Trinity Coffee morning in Church Rooms followed by Ploughman's Lunch
- Mon 28th - Sun 3rd Aug** Baptist Church's 'Holiday at Home' for the over 60s; every day except Thursday

- Sat 2nd** Methodist Mini mart and Coffee morning; Church Hall; 10.00am
- Sun 3rd** Songs of Praise at the Baptist Church
- Mon 4th** New Horizons: a friendship group for bereavement people: Summer Outing to Market Bosworth and Whitemores Antiques and Craft Centre; 12.00 noon; from Methodist Church, North St
- Tues 5th** Parish Council meeting; 7.15; PC Office; Public Participation at start. Everyone welcome
- Sat 9th** Clock Club Jumble Sale; 10.00 - 11.30am; Church Rooms
- Mon 11th** WI; LOROS by Monica Winfield; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
- Tues 12th** Neighbourhood Watch; Conservative Club; 7.30pm
- Sat 16th** Holy Trinity Coffee morning in Church Rooms

- Mon 1st** Holy Trinity Men's Group; Talk by Tony Revell; Church Rooms  
New Horizons: a friendship group for bereavement people: 'Reflexology' by Anne Hughes; Methodist Church, North St; 2.00pm
- Tues 2nd** Parish Council meeting; 7.15; PC Office; Public Participation at start. Everyone welcome
- Wed 3rd** Holy Trinity Mother's Union; Members Afternoon; Church Rooms  
Gardening Club: 'Chrysanthemums and gardener can grow' by Martin Bryans; Community Lounge; HPHS; 7.30pm
- Sat 6th** Methodist Mini mart and Coffee morning; Church Hall; 10.00am  
Scouts Open Air Film Evening: 'Ghostbusters'; Scout HQ
- Mon 8th** WI; 'Hearing dogs for deaf people' by Natalie Thompson; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
- Tues 9th** Neighbourhood Watch; Conservative Club; 7.30pm
- Fri 12th** Baptist Church Luncheon Club; 12.30pm
- Sat 13th** Clock Club Jumble Sale; 10.00 - 11.30am; Church Rooms
- Sat 20th** Holy Trinity Coffee morning in Church Rooms

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

## BUSCA EVENTS

- June 18th** Village Bike Rides and BBQ from Beacon Field
- October 3rd** Centre Stage – "Swingers in Suspenders"
- October 4th** Autumn Dance – Dances for everyone with Just Us
- October 31st** Halloween Family Party and disco with Ben
- November 8th** Winter Warmer – Dance with Just Us
- December 7th** Centre Stage – "Doudou Cissoko Trio"
- December 31st** Years Eve Ball – A great evening with the Judy Nichol Big Band  
(This dance is always a sell out so get your tickets early)

All the events take place at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre  
Tickets for all these events can be bought from The Paper Shop, High Street, Barrow