

BARROW Voice

BARROW



www.barrowvoice.co.uk

WINTER 2009

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PHOTO: JUDITH ROBERTS



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We publish 2,800 copies quarterly and deliver FREE to all households in Barrow upon Soar

A whole host of thanks

'Tis the season to be merry... and also the traditional time to say thank you – to the Barrow Voice team and indeed all our contributors over the past year, to our colleagues at Mulberry Square who produce the magazine, to our advertisers and our loyal band of distributors. I should give a special mention here to Brian Carruthers who delivered Barrow Voice to a huge round for years and is now having a well-deserved rest in his new home in Quorn. Also, a thank you to all those who responded with their concerns over a further large-scale housing development in Barrow. See below and on page 4 to read their views.

It's appropriate to give a 'whole village' thank you to Tina Long who we featured earlier this year and who has been the chair of the Bishop Beveridge Club and a great supporter of Barrow's older folks for many years. The committee had a farewell dinner for Tina at the Hunting Lodge and at the recent AGM she was warmly and publicly thanked for the many years of service that she, together with Chris her husband when he was alive, gave to the club. Tina has now passed the reins to Sylvia Steane, who many of us know from Sylvia's the Florist, before she retired. Our best wishes go to Sylvia in her new role.

From our club for the over 60s to opportunities for the young people of Barrow – the Parish Council and BUSCA have both contributed £2000 to extend the youth work in the village. The money goes towards street-based youth work aimed at engaging young people in the 13-19 age group. It will enable this to run on Thursdays throughout 2010.

So, a Happy Christmas to you all and we will be back in the New Year.

Frances Thompson

News

Postbag on Melton Road housing

We asked for your views on the proposal by Jelson to build a large new housing development off Melton/Breachfield Road. Here are your concerns about the Barrow of the future:

Keep Barrow special

Firstly I would like to say how refreshing it is for the Barrow Voice to actually ask the opinions of the residents of Barrow about the new Jelson Proposal. The Miller/Wilson Developments off Cotes Road are yet to be complete and sold, yet we propose swamping the village with more houses.

My fears are that the villagers spoke loud and clear about their disapproval of the Cotes Road development and yet the only voices that were heard were the ones whose pockets the development lined. Unfortunately I think that Barrow's problems will only escalate from now on.

It seems no one has noticed that getting in and out of the village is hard enough as

it is (especially at the first signs of floods), how can we actually justify allowing more traffic in this area with just a few traffic calming measures these new developments give us in return.

It just does not have the infrastructure to allow this to work. Then there is the health centre, the schools - how will they cope?

How the parish council can merely ask for updates is yet more of a mystery - doesn't anyone want to save the things that make Barrow special - the reasons they spent money moving here? Surely if we wanted to live in a town we'd be living in Loughborough - Save our VILLAGE and please everyone say no!

I am conscious of the need for further development within the Charnwood Borough area as the council has to meet housing development targets set by our current government, but surely not further development in Barrow?

Name and address withheld

I love this village

I have lived in the village for almost six years now and having lived in a number of areas within Leicestershire, including Oadby and Great Glen, must admit that I love this village and have never felt so welcome around any other part of the county.

The sense of community spirit is rife here, I am always plugging this village to my friends whenever they are looking to move, but I feel that further development in the region of 1000 further residents would just wreck this village as it would turn into a small town.

The strain on the village would be too much. Where would all the kids go to school? Our classes are already full and I can't see there being room to develop Hall Orchard primary school, nor would you want to!

The medical centre would need further development. I have stood outside the practice with many other villagers in the morning awaiting an appointment to see

(continued on page 4)

the GP, the line reaching the Somerfield car park at times. With a further 1000 people living here I suspect the line of people might well reach the High Street!

Traffic congestion would be horrendous, especially in the winter months with the flooding along Slash Lane. We all know that we have to leave extra early to go to work in the winter, but imagine the traffic nightmare we would all have to live with if each new household had one car, let alone two which the many residents here have access to.

It worries me that one day we will pick up a copy of the Barrow Voice to find an article asking residents to come up with a new name for our village now that we are amalgamated with Sibley! An identity crisis, you're not wrong!

Jim Costello

More problems on the way

This village is already over populated / over developed by private dwellings.

When I came to live in Barrow, it was a lovely small village but now there are so many problems i.e. the health centre cannot cope at the moment so what it will be like if the village is expanded I have no idea. There are more problems with youths these days and it is pretty certain drug dealing is happening. The police are trying to be ever more present in the village because of this.

Traffic is horrendous, especially along the High Street and the pedestrian crossings are more than useless. Many drivers just ignore them and on more than one occasion I have been on the crossing and the driver just continues through the village without stopping. I am just as safe crossing where I like.

Vehicles are parked along the High Street, especially near the newsagent and cash machine. More people will mean more problems within the village.

Name and address withheld

Village not town

I was disgusted to learn that yet another 280+ proposed houses are to be built by Jelson on a site adjacent to Melton/Breachfield Road and it appears that the local council are yet again

prepared only to put up very limited opposition. We were led to believe that the Wilson/Miller homes development off Cotes Road was to be the last for the foreseeable future, how can Barrow sustain such growth and still keep its village identity?

All these new developments are putting added pressure on the already overrun schools and health centre, not to mention the traffic problems it will cause especially in the village centre where extra traffic is already causing problems particularly at rush hour some of which is caused by traffic using the village as a rat run.

Perhaps this council will not be content until this village reflects the name of its football club Barrow Town.

Name and Address Withheld



Environmental threat

I was dismayed by the news from September's Barrow Voice (and also the local newspapers) that Jelson is planning a major housing development. This is of concern, not only to residents of Breachfield Road in particular, but also (I assume) to other nearby residents, the Health Centre, the Schools etc. However, I am also especially alarmed by the likely further deterioration to the environment and amenities around.

In 1985 when my wife and I moved into Breachfield Road after choosing the house and area as an ideal place to start and raise a family, Fishpool Brook was full of fish - ten and three spined sticklebacks, Millers Thumbs (Bullheads) etc and all the aquatic life associated with a very healthy brook.

With such a well-stocked, healthy brook there were frequent visits by aquatic birds, including heron and the iridescent blue/green kingfisher. The area was obviously enjoyed immensely by adults and children alike - especially in the summer, when many parents would bring their young children with fishing nets to catch some of the many fish.

All was well until the Fishpool Way housing development was constructed in the 1990s. At this time the foul sewer pipe from the development was connected into the main sewer system at the parkland end of Breachfield Road. Where the new sewer pipe necessarily crossed the Fishpool Brook, it was positioned only just below the bed of the brook and capped by visible, rough, ugly concrete.

Over time, the flow of the brook has eroded the much softer earth bank to the side of the concrete capping and has now resulted in an exposed to water, plastic foul sewer pipe and an exposed to air, rough concrete capping (ie a real eyesore).

A few years after the completion of the Fishpool Way development, workers for the Environment Agency (I assume) were seen to be engaged in clearing out the Fishpool Brook. This work damaged the health of the brook to such an extent that all fish, except a paltry few ten spined Sticklebacks, disappeared.

It should also be noted that the 'dredging' of the brook has now become an annual event - presumably on the assumption that it is now merely a 'storm drain'. Oh, and of course, the Herons and Kingfishers never returned.

Do we really want to allow yet another big housing development in what is a lovely rural landscape? And in a village that already has horrendous traffic problems? I for one say 'No'!

Richard Mabbutt

See the 'Barrow Focus' pages for news from the Parish Council on this issue.

We do not publish anonymous letters. Please provide your name and address with correspondence and indicate clearly if you wish these to be withheld. We reserve the right to edit letters.

The Editor.

New arrival at Barrow Health Centre

My Name is Alison Lee and I am the new Practice Manager for Dr Simpson and Partners. I am taking this opportunity to introduce myself and to pass on some information which may be relevant over the coming months.

At the moment we are developing our own website, where we will be able to keep you regularly informed on surgery matters. So watch this space!

The main topic at the moment is Swine Flu. If you or a member of your family has symptoms please call the helpline on 0800 1513100 or visit the following website - www.pandemicflu.direct.gov.uk

We are expecting our supply of vaccine to protect our at-risk patients shortly, and we will be contacting those patients when it arrives. If you have not had your seasonal flu jab yet please make an appointment.

Since my arrival at the beginning of October, I have noticed that every day at least three of four patients fail to attend their appointments. It's just a phone call to cancel and that appointment can be given to someone else.

As you may be aware our patient list has increased rapidly over the last few years without provision to accommodate extra doctors, so appointments are precious.

It costs the surgery £59 or more for every visit our patients make to the Walk in Centre. This money could be spent on improvements to our service, so please call the surgery first. We have your full medical records and we always have a doctor on call here to treat you.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and from the doctors, nurses, myself and all the staff - a very Merry Christmas and a symptom free New Year!

Alison Lee



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My trip to 'Our Chalet' in Switzerland

Lily Harrison was selected to represent Leicestershire Guides at the World Guiding Centre 'Our Chalet' in Switzerland this summer. She had to raise funds to pay for her trip and this included a grant from both the Parish Council and from BUSCA. Here is her report:

Sunday was the day we arrived in Geneva, Switzerland. We stopped there in a youth hostel just for the night, before heading to Our Chalet the next morning. As planned we eventually managed to hike up the mountain to reach Our Chalet on Monday. We were greeted by other Guides from Canada, California, San Diego, Boston and Northern Ireland.

Tuesday was a great 'get to know you' day, where we had lots of fun activities on site to get to know everybody. On Wednesday morning we headed off to an Adventure Park where we took part in many challenging things: a zip wire, abseiling and the pendulum swing. After eating our lunch at a beautiful castle on

Thursday, we caught a ferry which took us for a ride before dropping us off to spend the rest of the day shopping. We bought lots of chocolate in preparation for a night hike which we found out was cancelled, because the weather was too dangerous for us to climb the mountain.



To make up for the cancelled hike, we set off on Friday at 5am to hike to a waterfall and to watch the sun rise. Unfortunately by the time we got there the sun was in the sky! Saturday we walked (or should I say hiked, once again) to the wood carvers where we saw lots of amazing wood carvings!

By Sunday we were so tired of hiking we only managed to hike half way up the

mountain before eventually giving in to the gondola which took us the rest of the way to a beautiful lake where we swam. Monday was a great day in Interlaken where we went to the Schuh Chocolatiers and learnt lots about chocolate. We then got dropped off at Trummelbach Falls where we spent the rest of the day admiring the beautiful waterfalls.

Tuesday was an upsetting day when we had to say goodbye to all the friends we had made. And to our surprise we couldn't find our walking boots anywhere. We discovered that the Scouts from Luxembourg had left us a leaving present of tying all our walking boots to the flag and hoisting them up!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to everybody; family, friends and everybody in the village who made this trip possible for me.

Lily Harrison



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Changes for growth

A report by the Barrow Business Forum

Village businesses have spoken out on the changes they would like to see implemented in the village to help foster growth.

Top of the list is an improved broadband service. Our service comes from the Quorn exchange and the transfer speed is too slow for a number of high speed applications used for modern business and also for the growing demands of the home computer. We need to get the village higher on the improvement agenda of BT who run the Quorn telephone exchange. BT will respond to a village wide campaign to improve our service but without this we may wait years to see anything happen.

Next on the list are the delays over the Soar river bridge at peak times and during flooding. The single lane and traffic lights are the cause of the long queues. Access to a village the size of Barrow should be much better. Serious consideration should be given to a number of alternative schemes identified in the Report.

The village High Street is also a problem to both traffic and businesses with temporary parking causing delays and frustration, shops having difficulty in loading and unloading and at times car parks full. The report asks that a one way system be developed which would incorporate short (ten minutes) parking in the High Street and improve traffic flow at the Cotes road intersection and allow for loading and unloading near to the shops.

The three car parks are barely adequate for current needs and a strategy for more spaces needs to be devised particularly as housing may increase with the possibility of a Melton Road development. The 106 agreements should be a source of money to deliver such a strategy and other improvements identified within the Report

Also on the list are visual improvements to North Street to bring it up to the good standard of the High Street. Trade and shops along the length of North Street and High Street are investing and working hard to

foster growth. A major part of their trade is coming from the residents of the villages to the north of Barrow who see us as an attractive alternative to Loughborough. The approaches and facilities within the village need to be improved to further foster this trade. Small items such as street location signs for car parks and street decoration and flowers and benches for North Street need to be considered.

The Business Forum is working with the Parish Council to raise the awareness of the needs for a strong business policy within the village and to ensure that all the support organizations realize the impact of their work on the prosperity of the village business community. Your comments and suggestions on the recommendations are welcome and will help shape and strengthen the lobbying work we can do

The Report is available to Barrow Voice readers. Please contact Barrie Atkinson on 01509 414498 or email him at barrie.joyatkinson@bopenworld.com

First landlady of the Hammer and Pincers

Barrow Voice welcomes Sharon Lockard as the new licensee of the Hammer and Pincers for Punch Taverns. She took over from Glyn Hewitt when he retired in September. We wish him a happy retirement.

Sharon is no stranger to Barrow or the Hammer and Pincers. She worked for Glyn

for 10 years and so she is well aware of the particular feel of the pub and its potential. She is very proud of the fact that she is the first woman to become the licensee in her own right (rather than as the wife of a licensee) since 1794. Hers is now a family-run business with all her staff being members of her immediate family.

Sharon's ambition is for the Hammer and Pincers to become the heart of the village; somewhere for people to come at any time of the day to find friendship, entertainment and a welcoming atmosphere. One of her first moves, after the big makeover of the bar area was to install a splendid new coffee machine because 'people don't have to see the pub as a place where you can only go to drink alcohol'.

She is encouraging the elderly to drop in for a game of cribbage or draughts or chess. As soon as the state-of-the-art kitchen is

completed she will be offering genuinely home-cooked 'hearty' fare of high quality but low cost. This will include a special offer for OAPs. New toilets including facilities for the disabled will be ready for Christmas.

A historic part of the Hammer and Pincers is the Rose Room and that too has benefited from a makeover. Sharon has already assembled an exciting programme of activities for the over 60s including monthly Country and Western sessions with a live band and ballroom dancing lessons at lunchtime. She is also hoping that it will be a venue for violin lessons for the under 14s. She would be pleased to receive other ideas and requests. In the pub itself there will be regular disco and karaoke nights as well as soul nights and live bands.

Sharon is bubbling with ideas and enthusiasm and we wish her the best of luck.

Judith Rodgers





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Barrow sets an Example: introducing Paul Commons



Close up of machine



Paul & Liz

Examples arrived in Barrow in 2008 when Paul Commons moved to the Sibley Road Industrial Estate and built up a fascinating business for the production of uniforms of all sorts.

I first came upon it when I delivered Paul's Barrow Voice. I popped my head into the factory and saw a battery of very modern machines all simultaneously embroidering the Humphrey Perkins logo onto school polo shirts.

I've often wondered how this embroidery was achieved... rows of workers (female of course) all busy with flying needles? No, of course not. These are complex sewing machines that operate computerised instructions, very fast and very accurately and with a minimum of supervision.

Paul is busy building up this side of his business (he also sells office stationery to other businesses). He produces uniforms and personalised objects of all sorts from football strips, corporate fleeces, club sweatshirts, and safety clothing to embroidered bagpipe bellows, baby's named blankets, personalised karate belts and golf clubs and named dog coats... there's an idea for a Christmas present! But it is school uniforms where he sees a really big market opportunity.

Paul's production of uniforms is unique in the UK in that every stage of the process is carried out in house instead of being sub-contracted out. The consequence of this is that he can sell high quality garments at very competitive prices. Parents can call at the factory so that uniforms can be tried on or they can make internet purchases. He makes the uniforms of 22 local schools.

I went back to the factory to learn more and was shown other amazing machines including one that 'paints' on a logo using a mechanical version of silk screen printing that is not that different from the way I used to do it at BOSCAPS. But, of course, it does it much faster and doesn't make the sort of hideous mess that I did. The logo is computer-generated as are the transfers that are another way of achieving an image on fabric.

It's reassuring to know that Barrow isn't being left out when it comes to modern technology and it is also pleasing that Paul thinks it worthwhile advertising his uniforms in Barrow Voice. Make sure you tell him that you've read this article!

Judith Rodgers



Barrow-upon-Soar Parish Council News

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Barrow Focus

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MEETINGS CALENDAR

January

11th Planning Committee 12 noon

12th Full Council 7.15pm commencing with Public Participation

February

1st Planning Committee 12 noon

2nd Full Council 7.15pm commencing with Public Participation

9th Millennium Park Committee 11.00am

10th Care for the Elderly 11.00am

17th Playing Fields Committee 9.30am

March

1st Planning Committee 12 noon

2nd Full Council 7.15pm commencing with Public Participation

17th Cemetery and Other Grounds Committee 11.00am

23rd Policy and Finance Committee 2.00pm

April

12th Planning Committee 12 noon

13th Full Council 7.15pm commencing with Public Participation

8th Policy and Finance 2.00pm

JANUARY TO APRIL 2010

PLANNING ISSUES

You may have heard recently about proposals for development of 285 dwellings at land adjacent to Breachfield/Melton Road, by Jelson. A meeting of the Parish Council with Jelson's Agents, held recently, confirmed that it is intended to submit an application for outline permission.

It is apparent this may well be considered by Charnwood Borough Council, in order that its obligation to Central Government, to provide a five year development plan is fulfilled.

Councillors present expressed their concern very strongly and requested the Council is kept fully informed during the planning process. The Agents' representative agreed to investigate and address all concerns raised.

The Council intends to involve our Borough and County Councillors, our Local MP Andy Reed and our prospective parliamentary Candidate Nicky Morgan. It also intends to keep residents well informed and would appeal to you to keep your eyes peeled for notices relating to this issue.

Complaints or concerns

If you have any complaints or concerns relating to overgrown vegetation, street cleaning or highways matters please report them to the Parish Council who will forward them to the appropriate authority. If we can help we will.

Enhancements to village entrances and traffic islands

The Parish Council is looking at ways in which entrances and traffic islands within the village can be visually enhanced and at a recent meeting considered suggestions put forward by Councillors. It is hoped some funding toward this can be allocated from 'Public Art' money from 106 Agreements attached to development in the village already approved, though confirmation of this is awaited.

Rural Community Council Best Village Competition 2009

The Parish Council was awarded 'Commended' for its application to Category 1 – Community



Visit to the biggest granite quarry in Europe

Early in October six Parish Councillors were given an exciting tour of the Lafarge granite quarry. It is only possible to see the bottom, 190 metres below sea level, by standing on one of the special viewing platforms. It has taken 30 years to make this hole and Lafarge expects to continue for another 30 years and go down a further 190 metres.

The vehicles that scoop up the granite after it has been blasted from the face are enormous. The caterpillar tracks are more than the height of the tallest of us and yet the men who operate them are able to manoeuvre them with fine precision. A large manganese ball was lifted up using the two buckets as pincers and dropped onto a particularly large piece of granite which crumbled into fragments. At the moment it takes a loaded truck 25 minutes to get from the bottom to the top of the quarry and they don't hang around even though they carry about 75 tons!

After the granite is taken out of the quarry it is put in the crushers. The first crusher looks like some gigantic pestle and mortar. Smaller crushers reduce the pieces to sizes that have a particular market use much of which is for road and rail track building.

The best bit of our visit was kept to last: the blast itself. Earlier a team of three men had drilled between 30 and 40 holes into which were packed the explosives. Just before 12.30 the quarry was evacuated. Because the blasting is now so low down there wasn't much of a bang; just an earthquake-like vibration of the ground followed by a cotton wool puff of smoke.

Cllr. J Rodgers

Parish Council Funding

The following Grants have been awarded so far during this financial year.

Lilly Harrison – International Guiding Trip - £100
Barrow Business Forum – Business Survey - £250
Barrow Youth Theatre Production "The Wizard of Oz" - £300
BOSCAPS 2009 - £250
LCC Streetwise Detached Project - £2,000

An Application Form and guidance is available to groups and or individuals for funding toward a project or Community Facility. All applications will be considered on their own merit.

Funding to groups/individuals is limited to £250 subject to the Council's discretion whilst larger sums are available to Community Facility Projects.

Please contact The Clerk for further information or to request an application form.

Mountsorrel Level Crossing Meeting

The following statement has been released by Network Rail.

'Since the closure of the crossing in July 2008, a series of temporary closure notices have been granted and we are now in the third 6 month period for temporary closure with the support of Leicestershire County Council and the Secretary of State's Office.

Whilst the crossing has been closed Network Rail has looked at various options which will allow for the full closure and removal of the crossing. Network Rail has consulted with a number of user groups, the Parish Council Groups, the Parish Council, Borough and County Councils and local residents in order to seek their opinions on our proposals at both public and private meetings.

A public event was held on 15th December 2008 where we received feedback from over 100 local residents. There was overwhelming support for option 2 which involves the closure and removal of the existing level crossing, construction and installation of a new 46 metre single span footbridge at new location, Pingle Nook, involving diversion and creation of public rights of way and extinguishment of bridle rights and Network Rail can confirm that this is the option that will be taken forward. Network Rail would like to thank everyone who attended this event and commented on our proposals.

Network Rail's key objectives for this scheme have been to ensure the safety of the public at all times, propose a solution and gain the support of the majority of users and residents, and to implement the agreed solution with as little impact as possible on the local community and stakeholders. We believe our solution best meets these criteria and we look forward to taking the project forward. The local community will be kept fully updated on the next stages of this scheme'.



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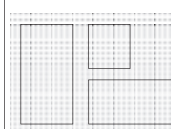
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Seasonal

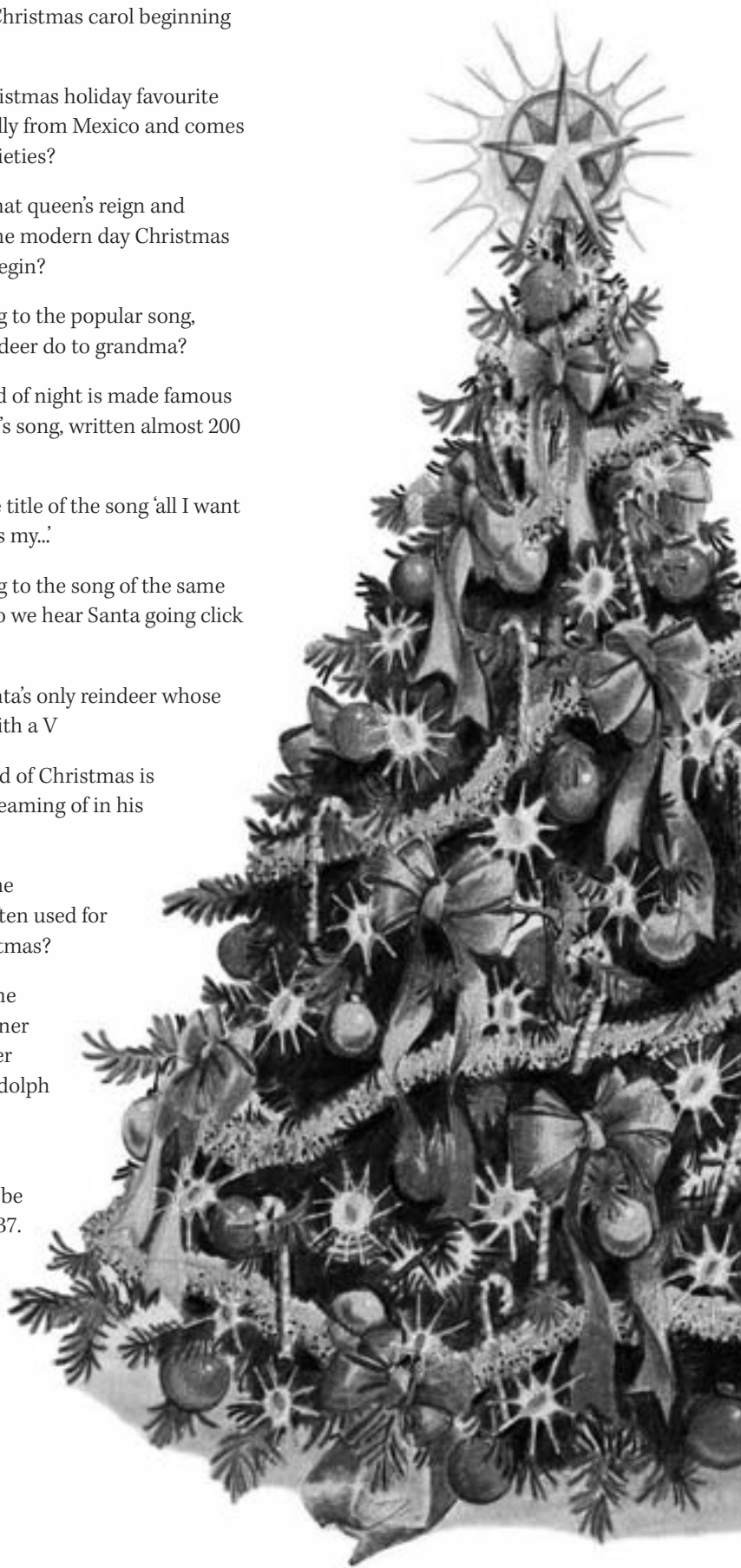
The ABC of Christmas

How much do you know about Christmas? Test your knowledge in our seasonal quiz.

Each answer corresponds to the letter of the alphabet at the beginning of the clue. Answers are on page 37

- A. Name a famous Charles Dickens novel
- B. The UK celebrate the day after Christmas as a holiday. What is the holiday called?
- C. In the animated TV special 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' the townsfolk create a song to attract Santa back. According to the song, what is calling Santa?
- D. Name one of Santa's reindeer
- E. This milk-based beverage is available around the Christmas holidays. What is it called?
- F. What is the name of the medieval forerunner to Christmas pudding?
- G. Who tries to stop Christmas from coming by stealing all things Christmas from the Whos?
- H. What Christmas song has the line 'I don't know if there will be snow, but have a cup of cheer'?
- I. Similar to tinsel, these long strips of shiny foil are used to decorate a Christmas Tree. What are they called?
- J. What song does Lucy ask Schroeder to play on his piano in 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'?
- K. Which name is often given as Santa's birth name?
- L. On the tenth day of Christmas, what does my true love give to me?
- M. According to Christmas custom, any two people that meet under what are obliged to kiss?
- N. This ballet production is a seasonal favourite. What is its name?
- O. Name a Christmas carol beginning with O'.
- P. What Christmas holiday favourite plant is originally from Mexico and comes in coloured varieties?
- Q. Under what queen's reign and influence did the modern day Christmas tree tradition begin?
- R. According to the popular song, what did a reindeer do to grandma?
- S. What kind of night is made famous in Joseph Mohr's song, written almost 200 years ago?
- T. Finish the title of the song 'all I want for Christmas is my...'
- U. According to the song of the same name, where do we hear Santa going click click click?
- V. Name Santa's only reindeer whose name begins with a V
- W. What kind of Christmas is Bing Crosby dreaming of in his famous song?
- X. What is the abbreviation often used for the word Christmas?
- Y. What is the name of the miner looking for silver and gold in 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer'?

Answers can be found on page 37.



Seasonal

Barrow's Christmas Houses

Gaynor Barton gets switched on to snowmen and chubby Santas...

If buses slow down and cars stop altogether, if people make detours to visit and your children hassle you for an early a switch on, your house must be one of Barrow's 'Christmas Houses', decorated from roof-ridge to doormat with festive lights.

This autumn I talked to some of the people who had decorated the outside of their houses in 2008 to find out when they started, why they did it and if they were going to do it again.

The answer to the last question was a resounding, 'Yes - definitely'. This is because the main designers/putter-uppers just love it. If not trained electricians (although some are), they have the knowledge to cope with all the wires and plugs.

But these houses should be thought of as 'works in progress' as the putter-uppers

like to make changes every year and if possible squeeze another snowman or chubby Father Christmas on to a still boringly blank piece of wall.



Beware!

Consider the case of Derek Fletcher on Breachfield Road. He started out by putting up a couple of strings of fairy-lights across some windows and this modest display has morphed into a wonderful front-of-house extravaganza needing 43 separate plugs 14 years later!

On New Year's Eve, Derek will put up the next year, ie 2010, in lights and at midnight this will come on automatically after the other lights have gone off. Then the figures will appear every night until 12th night.

A similar story is told by Clive Edge of Babington Road who started off with far fewer lights about four years ago but then expanded and how! He is in the enviable position of having not only a lot of wall to play with but a large front garden in which glowing reindeer can bend and stretch and nibble the lawn. He told me that it's hard to get the bigger pieces these days as the major players such as B & Q aren't stocking them any more.

This sentiment was voiced by other 'afficionados'; lights break and maintaining a good Christmas display becomes a struggle. Mr Edge loves his lights because of the pleasure they bring to children and passers by and he likes his house to be a bit different.

Seasonal

But why do others do it?

Delighting children is again the main reason; sons and daughters, nephews and nieces, grand-children and children's friends are all very important.

This is exemplified by Mr and Mrs King of Melton Road who began to decorate their house fifteen years ago when their son Tom, who has Down's Syndrome, was collected by his school's mini-bus and the Christmas lights gave his school-friends so much pleasure when their bus stopped at his house.

For Lewis Rook in Huston Close the 'little kids' motivation came five years ago when his nephews and nieces were small and visited the house regularly. With a little help from an uncle, Tony Rook, he created the dramatic blue waterfall of icicles cascading down the front of the house.

Another reason he mentioned is that No. 2 Huston is the last house in Barrow easily seen from Sibley Road so at Christmas time this colourful display marks a cheerful end to the village.



Yet Jonathan Doda of Holbourne Close had a different motivation. Jonathan began decorating the family home five years ago because he likes returning to a brightly lit house on dark winter evenings.

He strings mixtures of traditional coloured lights and LED lights through the branches of trees and makes patterns along the porch roof and under the eaves. "They're quite low key, as outside Christmas decorations go," he says, "not too 'in your face' so everybody seems to like them".

A final thought.

Barrow is famous for its boats; are they decorated as well? Yes, some of them

certainly are. Mike Turner started putting colourful Christmas lights in and around his boat 'Joel' five years ago just to be seasonal. He wanted to increase the festive feel of Meadow Farm Marina and this has certainly happened as nowadays other 'boaters' have followed suit. By the river on a pitch black December night, far away from any of Barrow's street lights, the festive boats look absolutely super floating quietly on the dark water amongst their colourful, shimmering reflections.



Gaynor Barton





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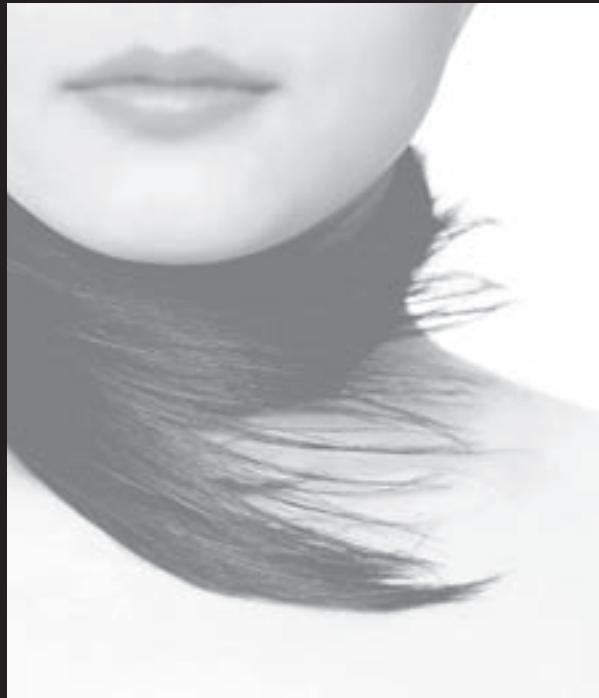
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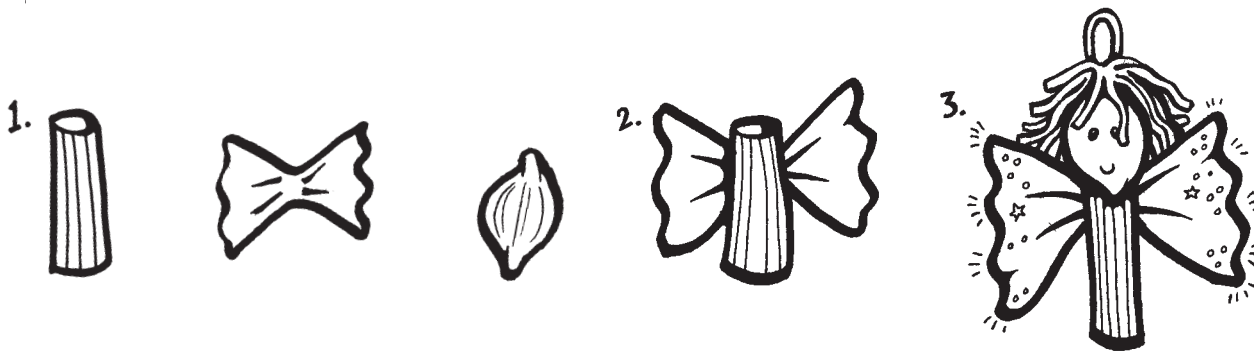
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strong glue
pipe cleaners
glitter and paint
wool oddments

1. Take one of each pasta type
2. Glue the tube to the bow, creating a body and wings
3. Glue a shell to the top to make a head and push a pipe cleaner down the back and into the pasta tube, making a loop from which she will hang up. Add a little wool for hair, paint the body and sprinkle glitter onto her wings.

'Why not make pasta angels to add to presents and cards for a cool, hand-made touch?'

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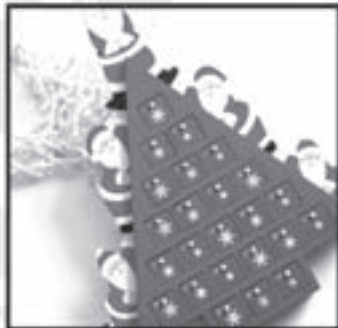
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H Hudson

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BYAG looks back, and forward to 2010

The Youth Action Group has enjoyed a couple of events run in conjunction with The Boathouse at Barrow over the last year.

During August young people came to hone their canoeing skills following earlier events where they had canoed 'the loop' along the canal to the weir then off to Quorn and back along the river from Quorn Hall. The Boathouse made coracles, kayaks, punts and bell boats available with two hours of skills coaching culminating in games between teams.

We were very sad not to be able to have the Climbing Tower again this autumn as it has been a very popular event for the past 2 years. Unfortunately the tower was stolen some months ago, but we do hope to run this event again next year.

Keep a look out for posters advertising the following events for 2010: craft days, canoeing, a drop-in evening (with free food!), a day trip to London to visit the House of Commons and

(hopefully) the return of the climbing tower! If there are any activities or events that you want us to consider running you can text us on 07535 342464, or email us on byag@hotmail.co.uk - we need your ideas.

At the time of writing the BYAG committee is planning to set up a page on the village website. Content will include photographs of activities, a calendar of events and a list of sport and social groups for young people. Why not have a look and see whether we have done it yet?

Log on to <http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/barrowuponsoar/> and look at the menu on the right for the correct page! Let us know what you think of it.

Finally we would like to thank everyone who has helped us in various ways during 2009, especially Nick & Antonia Goater from The Paper Shop who have sold tickets for events and displayed posters for us throughout the year.

One Hundred Years of Girl Guiding - from “Uninvited” to “Girls in the Lead” - Part 1

Part One - The history of Guiding.
In 2010, Girl Guiding will celebrate its Centenary.

When Robert Baden-Powell held the first Scout Rally at the Crystal Palace on September 4th 1909 he was surprised to see a few determined girls who turned up unannounced wanting to be Girl Scouts. The girls told Baden-Powell they wanted him to start ‘something for the girls’.

During his time in India, Baden-Powell was impressed by the courage and discipline of a regiment called the Khyber Guides, and he decided to use the name Girl Guides.

In 1910 his sister Agnes Baden-Powell agreed to organise and lead the new movement. Later, when asked ‘Who started the Guides?’ he replied ‘They started themselves’.

In 1914 a new section was started for younger girls. They were called Rosebuds. The girls were not impressed with that name and asked for it to be changed. In 1915 they became ‘Brownies’ and their company leader was called Brown Owl. The ideas for these names came from a book *The Brownies and Other Tales* by Juliana Ewing.

By 1917 there was a need for a section of senior girls and in 1920 the name Rangers was adopted. The Trefoil Guild was formed in 1943 for men and women who have been or still are in some way connected with Scouting and Guiding. In June 1987 guidelines for Rainbows were published for girls aged five to seven.

There are now 10 million Guides in 145 countries worldwide and girls today continue to have fun while learning to work as part of a team, to gain confidence, to try new things, to become worthwhile and caring citizens, and to ‘take the lead’ in their own communities.

Guiding in Barrow

First some starting dates:

* 1st Barrow Guides were registered on 30th April 1923 although they probably actually started in December 1922.

* 2nd Barrow Guides were registered on 27th May 1977 and closed on February 22nd 1999.

* 1st Barrow Brownies began in 1929

* 2nd Barrow Brownies began in 1976

* Barrow Rainbows began on 6th September 1994

* Rangers began in ? (no-one seems to know when it started, so perhaps you would like to let us know on 07718 153117)

excited when the group was taken for a trip on a train. She moved up into the Guides when she was 11 and commented that the Guide Captain, Miss Ivy Stone who was the vicar’s daughter was strict but fair. Jean has tried to stick to the Guide Promise to ‘do a good deed every day’ and she also tries to ‘Be Prepared’.

Mrs Jean Wright, who later became the Akela for Barrow Cubs for 30 years, also joined the Brownies in their very early days. There were 15 girls under the leadership of Brown Owl Lucy Marlowe. In those days Brownies wore a brown tunic, belt and beret. As now, they sang songs, went on walks and trips and learnt to do all manner of useful things such as peeling potatoes.



Over the past few weeks, Barrow Voice reporters have been out and about to interview some of the Brownies, Guides and leaders of past times.

Mrs Jean Glen, who will shortly celebrate her 90th birthday, remembered being one of the first Brownies. She enjoyed the games that were played at meetings in the Church Rooms and also remembered being very

She moved up to Guides which was also in the Church Rooms and was in the Daisy patrol. She gained a number of badges including laundress, cooking and sewing, learnt to tie different kinds of knots, practised lashing to make camp gadgets, went tracking and learnt to navigate using the sun. She particularly enjoyed campfires. She wore the blue Guide tunic onto which her badges had to be laboriously stitched, and a big navy hat.

 Young Barrow



When Jean was 16, she moved to Rangers but then left to take over the cub pack. Jean's sister, Rose Godwin was also a Brownie and Guide with Jean. Rose went on to become the Guide Captain from 1958 to 1966.

Marion Godwin is Rose Godwin's daughter in law. In early 1972 the Guides were without a Captain. Rose was asked to 'keep an eye' on the group and keep it ticking over. Marion went along to help her and 'I never got away'. She took over the group and was Captain for 15 years. She had to leave most of the camping to Carole Wheatley because she couldn't get time off work. She remembers when Carol went to be tested for her Camping Licence. Carol was under canvas for a week and it never stopped raining.

Carol Wheatley started in 1972 helping Marion Godwin with 1st Barrow Guides as the Lieutenant. Demand for places was rising steadily and in 1977 when numbers reached 36 it was decided to split into two groups. Carol took 2nd Barrow Guides but insisted that her two daughters stayed with Marion 'otherwise they would always be grumbling that I was picking on them'.

By now there was a Scout HQ and the 1st group met there while the new 2nd group met in Hall Orchard. Very quickly both groups had 30 Guides apiece. Carol clocked in 24 years service with Guides. She always tried to do as much out of doors as possible and she particularly enjoyed the May Bank holiday weekend camp. Quite often it was in The Brand on Colonel Martin's land in Swithland Woods. She remembers carting equipment in two wheelbarrows between his house and the campsite. She is very proud of the Sunday Roast that was served up each

year: the wood patrol went out early to scavenge for suitable fire wood. They lit the fire as soon as they got back and the cook patrol pot roasted a huge brisket of beef in a camp billie from breakfast time to dinner time. Then it was served up with all the trimmings. Regular Guide meetings involved

patrol work where Guides learnt to work as a team and patrol leaders practised leadership skills that probably stood them in good stead for the rest of their lives.

Tilly Yates took over Brownies in November 1968 replacing Dorothy Larkworthy. After the appointment was made Tilly went to tell her father the news. She knocked at the door and said 'Dad, I'm Brown Owl', to which he responded 'And I'm the queen of the fairies.'

The group was so successful that a second one was formed in 1976 and this too became oversubscribed. In fact one mother-to-be put her child's name on the waiting list before she was even born. This was Jennifer Smith who is now a Guider herself. She was on the list as '? Smith. Fortunately she turned out to be female! There were many activities and trips to interesting places including London as well as the annual District Trip when 100 excited Brownies descended on an unsuspecting population.

Nowadays the Brownie movement has its own website and on one blog there was a message posted from an ex Brownie, now herself a leader, which said 'Tilly Yates would be proud of me!' ...and indeed she is! On another occasion Tilly was approached in a Garden Centre by a young woman who said 'You used to be my Brown Owl'. The impression made by Brownies on that young woman had stayed with her for years.

One of the things which Tilly feels to be very important for the development of these young people is the annual Pack Holiday. 'Learning to live in close proximity with other girls is a truly valuable life experience of give and take in all circumstances.'

Val Gillings "I joined the newly formed 2nd Barrow Brownies in 1976 to assist Brown Owl Vanessa Freer. My title was Little Owl. Even though we had two packs and special dispensation to have 30 Brownies instead of 24, we always had a waiting list of girls eager to join.

When Vanessa moved away I became Brown Owl. Looking back I remember these little seven year olds joining Brownies, some of them very timid but they all diligently learned their Brownie Law and Promise ready for the enrolment evening. It was also a chance for older Brownies to earn their hostess badge, baking cakes and making tea for the proud parents. The evening always ended in a sing song with 'An Austrian went yodelling' being a firm favourite.

The joint pack holidays with 1st Barrow Brownies were in the days when we were full time mums of young children and we were able to go away for a full week; what great times we had! All pack holidays have a theme, and one of my favourites was the International one, where we cooked food from different countries every day. Many of the Brownies tried a dish for the first time. I also remember the time a photographer came to take our usual pack photo and asked me if I would lie on the floor in front of the Brownies instead of the usual stand in the middle at the back. I duly obliged and the Brownies loved it.

It is gratifying to see some of 'My Girls' as members of the Youth Theatre & Panto Group carrying on the tradition of working together and putting something back into the community, and also hearing of other's success in their chosen careers and those who are now mums with daughters who are Brownies. The movement goes on, and hopefully many past Brownies will be at the celebrations next year for One Hundred Years of Guiding."

The second half of the story in the next edition will concentrate on Guiding in Barrow today and features the people who give time and energy to keeping alive the values of the Guide movement in the 21st century.

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Feature

More visitors to Barrow gardens



I was really pleased and interested to read the article by Linda and Samantha Vesty in the last issue of *Barrow Voice* with their super photo of a sparrow hawk.

It is indeed not unusual to see sparrow hawks in our gardens. We are fortunate to live near the edge of the village and have had several of these magnificent creatures pass through our garden earlier in the year and even occasionally perch in one of the trees. I was able to photograph one of them having lunch; in this case a goldfinch.



We have also seen kestrels from the house and in early October I was in the garden when I heard a buzzard calling and could see it high above the new David Wilson estate. When I moved to Leicestershire in 1972 buzzards were rare in the eastern counties but they are now common in the countryside around us.

We have always encouraged the birds by feeding them and providing water to drink and wash in. We do not use pesticides so that there are plenty of insects, snails and other invertebrates for them to eat. We also



leave seeds on plants for seed eaters rather than cut them all off when the petals fall. We have identified around 50 species of birds from the house including cuckoo, great and lesser spotted woodpeckers, black redstart, fieldfare, redwing, siskin, linnet, redpoll, bullfinch, yellowhammer and reed bunting.

Staff at the Leicestershire County Council's Environment and Heritage Resources Centre are always interested in recording sightings of all types of wildlife. If you identify anything unusual I would be pleased to pass the record on to the centre. They require sample location (grid reference), date, recorders' names, common name and/or scientific name and any comments.

Bob Mudge - with thanks to Keith Chaplin who helped edit the photograph(s). You can contact Bob by email at bobmudge@btinternet.com

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We are located in the Barrow Methodist Church Rooms, within easy walking distance of the village centre and our sessions run 5 days a week from 9.15am until 12.15am.

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Centre Stage gives Barrow post Christmas entertainment for all the family

We are thrilled to announce that Oxfordshire Touring Company will again visit Barrow with a show for all the family: "Peach Boy: The Adventures of Momotara".

Because this delightful musical play is definitely for the young as well as for the young at heart, the performance will start at 5.00 and finish at 7.00 pm on Sunday January 10th at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre.

Peach Boy tells the story of an old couple who find a baby boy with superhuman powers hidden inside a giant peach bobbing in the river! So begins the thrilling epic of growing up, friendship, heroism, daring deeds and comic misadventures, as Momotaro - the Peach Boy, along with Monkey, Dog and Pheasant go on a quest to



save their village from dastardly demons and marvellous monsters.

Suitable for families age 6+ the show promises to delight audiences of all ages with its wonderful range of characters,

fusion of puppetry, live performance, music, movement and design.

Andrew Blades, reviewer from The Stage said: "Peach Boy, is one of those productions that should appeal to the parents as much as the children - thoughtful in parts, wacky in others, it is a nicely balanced piece with song, puppetry and action"

Tickets will be available from the Paper Shop at £7.00, £5.00 (concessions) and £4.00 for children under 16, with a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) at the knock-down price of £18.00 - Tickets bought on the door will cost £8.00, £6.00, £5.00 and £20.00

You can also make an online order by emailing Judith Rodgers on rodgers_david@hotmail.com or by phoning her on 07718 153117.

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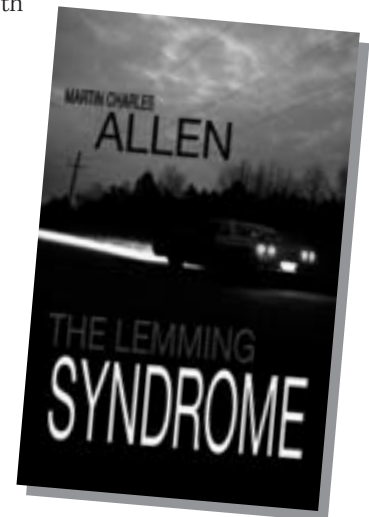
"The Lemming Syndrome"

If you are looking for a last minute Christmas present, how about a new thriller from Martin Allen, who lives at the Old Kennels on Melton Road.

Martin has retired from working as an accountant and company director and has realised a life-long ambition to write a novel, which is published on 7th December.

It concerns the problems of modern day policing and crime and what happens if the law is taken into your own hands. It is set in and around Nottingham.

Entitled "The Lemming Syndrome" it is published by Troubadour Publishing (www.troubadour.co.uk) and is priced £7.99 - also available from Amazon for £5.99.





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Local music promoter turns the grass blue (again)

Village musician and music promoter Nick Bott brings The Sunday Saloon back to the area for a Christmas Special on December 6th.

The music event inspired by similar clubs in London showcases some of the finest roots music in the UK. The first event was held in Quorn Village Hall in September and attracted an audience of over 150 people.

The headline act was The Water Tower Bucket Boys, a superb young Bluegrass band on tour from America. Their presence demonstrated the unique opportunity the event provides in bringing international music acts to the local community. Respected music

resource Americana-UK reviewed the event as 'the perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon'.

The Christmas Special on December 6th will host 'the world's first alt-bluegrass band' - The Coal Porters fronted by Sid Griffin. Born in Kentucky, Sid is something of a Renaissance man within the music scene, being a respected author and broadcaster as well as an acclaimed musician and songwriter. He has written one of the best received books to be published on Bob Dylan and is a regular contributor to the music press and BBC Radio.

In support will be two superb acts from London who will be making their first

appearances in the Midlands. Among them are Trevor Moss and Hannah-Lou, a husband and wife duo that have just finished recording their debut album for the fashionable Loose Music label. Many figures in the music press see its release as the defining moment in the 'new folk revival' - a music scene currently thriving in the capital.

Once again The Sunday Saloon runs from 3pm until 8pm at Quorn Village Hall. Entrance is just £5 with under 12's listening for free.

For more information or to make a reservation please contact thesundaysaloon@live.com or telephone 07947 358 993.

The Charnwood Orchestra - "Magic of Vienna"



Now that Charnwood Orchestra has its rehearsal home in Barrow, we thought we'd give Barrow an extra 'treat'.

On Saturday January 16th we will be converting the hall at Humphrey Perkins into the Grand Ballroom at the Schonbrunn Palace (well, not really) and inviting you to an evening of "The Magic of Vienna".

This will be a concert for all the family in the style of those magical Christmas

concerts for which Vienna is so famous. You will be transported to the festive ballroom with such favourites from the Strauss family as the Blue Danube, Pizzicato Polka and Radetzky March as well as popular classics from other Viennese masters such as the Skater's Waltz and many more.

Tickets cost £8.00 and £6.00 (concessions) but children of 16 and under will only pay £2.00. Tickets will be available from The Paper Shop and from

Judith Rodgers on 07718 153117 or rodgers_david@hotmail.com

The concert will start at 7.00pm in the hall at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre, Cotes Road. There will be a bar selling wine, ale and fruit juice.

If you want to find out more about the event or would like to make a group booking, phone Judith.

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Arts

A selection of pictures from the production of Wizard of Oz performed on Fri 20th and Sat 21st November by Barrow Youth Theatre at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre.



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THE BOAT HOUSE AT BARROW

Christmas Menu

A full festive menu can be tailored to meet your requirements. All we ask is that you pre-book.

Available from the 7th December, the menu includes Duck Paté with Cranberry Chutney, Homemade Soup, Roast Turkey with all the trimmings and an aged Christmas Pudding with homemade Brandy Sauce.

Our aim is to offer a full flavoured alternative in the Christmas Party season.

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Four exciting monthly canoe & kayak races finishing at the Boat House the first race was on Sunday 22nd November. The series continues with races on 13th December, 17th January & 28th February.

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Dragon Boat Races

Following the race theme, advance notice of next year's Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday May 22nd.

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The French Connection

Some may not know that our village is twinned with a small town in the Charente Maritime region of France, Marans. Like Barrow it is situated on a river, called La Sevre. It is a large river with a yachting harbour right in the centre of the town.

To reach the sea it is necessary to pass through huge sea gates. There is a caravan and camping site where it is possible to rent out log cabins. Within the site there is a swimming pool, tennis courts, bowling pitch and a childrens' playground. It is also possible to hire a variety of boats in the town centre to explore the quiet backwaters.

Next year the Twinning Group will be travelling to Marans around the 28 May for our bi-annual visit when we will stay with our host families for three or four days. It is

hoped that many existing Twinning members will be taking part but we also welcome anyone that would like to join us. Group travel will be arranged for those that prefer it but some like to travel independently extending the visit into a longer holiday.

The Twinning Group also enjoys social activities at home and we are having a Murder Mystery evening on January 22 where we will be served a hot three course meal whilst we discover 'who dunnit'. It will be a relaxed social evening open to anyone.

If you are interested in joining our very friendly

group please contact our secretary Kathryn Timmons on 01509 416168 for further information about visits and social occasions. By the way, it is not necessary to speak French. We look forward to seeing you.

Val Gillings



LOROS appreciates village contribution

The LOROS 'house to house' collection has once again surpassed all expectations with the magnificent sum of £2,723.32 being collected. As £863.57 of this figure has been gift aided, the grand total will be £2,965.12 once £241.80 has been reclaimed from the Inland Revenue. This is a wonderful increase over last year of £158.00

The residents of Barrow upon Soar have given most generously this year, especially when one remembers the present financial climate. Our thanks go to all who have contributed and to the wonderful team of collectors who so willingly gave their time; everyone at LOROS greatly appreciates the village's tremendous contribution.

Rosemary and Michael Sholl

PS - To all those supporters of LOROS, please note that BUSCA's New Year's Eve Party, hosted by Ban and the Big Taste Disco will be in aid of LOROS.



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The ABC's of Christmas: Answers

The answers to the Christmas Quiz on page 15

- A. A Christmas Carol
- B. Boxing Day
- C. Christmas Bells are calling Santa: 'Santa, We need you today'.
- D. Any of the following - Dasher, Dancer, Donner
- E. Eggnog
- F. Frumenty. It was a spiced porridge enjoyed by rich and poor. It is linked in legend to the Celtic god Dagda who stirred a porridge made of all the good things of the earth.
- G. Grinch - from the book by Dr. Seuss 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'
- H. Holly Jolly Christmas - from the song 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer' by Burt Ives in 1964
- I. Icicles. Originally this type of tinsel was made from real strands of silver. However, only the wealthiest could afford it and it tarnished quickly. By the early 1900s silver tinsel was replaced by aluminium based tinsel.
- J. Jingle Bells
- K. Kris Kringle
- L. Lords-a-Leaping
- M. Mistletoe
- N. Nutcracker - Composed in 1891 by Tchaikovsky
- O. Any of the following: O' Christmas Tree, O' Little Town of Bethlehem, O' Holy Night
- P. Poinsettia which is known as 'Noche Buena' or Christmas Eve in Mexico
- Q. Queen Victoria
- R. Ran Over. "Grandma got run over by a reindeer walking home from our house on Christmas Eve. You can say there's no such thing as Santa, but as for me and Grandpa, we believe"
- S. Silent Night. Written by Joseph Mohr in 1816, it was introduced on Christmas Eve in 1818. It has since been translated into 300 languages.
- T. Two front teeth. It was written by Donald Yetter Gardner who was a junior school teacher at the time. He noticed most of his students were missing at least one front tooth.
- U. Up on the housetop. Written in 1884 the lyrics are "Up on the house-top the reindeer pause, out jumps good old Santa Claus. Down through the chimney with lots of toys. All for the little ones, Christmas Joys. Ho,ho, ho!, Who wouldn't go! Ho, ho, ho!, Who wouldn't go! Up on the house-top click, click, click. Down through the chimney with good Saint Nick".
- V. Vixen
- W. White. It was written by Irving Berlin in 1940 and made famous in the musical Holiday Inn in 1942
- X. Xmas
- Y. Yukon Cornelius. Yukon sings about finding silver and gold but in the end finds peppermint and is excited that he will have his own peppermint mine. He also know a thing or two about bumbles... they can't swim, they like pork vs. reindeer and they bounce.



Barrow Archers Return to Medieval Times

Soar Valley Archery Club recently held a Medieval Style Archery Tournament. Archers were challenged to arrive upon the field of battle in costume and compete for a leather purse containing the sum of 10 guineas along with the title of Speed Shoot Champion.

With a total lack of historical accuracy, a collection of Normans, Vikings, Greeks, Romans and even Persian warriors came forth to accept the challenge. The Tournament was based upon the stories from the heyday of the English Longbow when archers were claimed to fire a dozen arrows a minute at the advancing enemy.

The competitors and onlookers - Serfs and Peasants - were kept fed with hot food and refreshing draughts provided by serving wenches. Its success ensures the event's place as an annual fixture in Soar Valley Archers' year.



A knockout contest to see who could shoot six arrows in the fastest time produced some surprise results, with nerves getting to some archers as the contest progressed. The final Champion of the night proved to be the club's resident Viking - Lorna Grossner who bested all male challengers to take the SPEED SHOOT 2009 title.

Following an equipment grant from BUSCA (Barrow Upon Soar Community Association) the club has purchased equipment designed to provide people with a 'Have-a-go-at-Archery' experience. The Club would be pleased to attend local fetes and festivals to provide this experience to the public.

Soar Valley Archers are a sociable, mixed club with ages from 10 to 80 years of age. We welcome new members who wish to find out more about the world of Archery.

Further information about the club may be found at: www.soarvalleyarchers.com



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For further information contact:

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Email: c.westbury@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.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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Thu 3rd-6th	Holy Trinity Church Christmas Tree Festival
Sat 5th	Methodist Church Christmas Minimart and Coffee Morning; 10.00am Switching on of Christmas Lights and Street Market: Start with carols outside Holy Trinity Church at 4.00pm Baptist Church Jazz Concert
Mon 7th	Holy Trinity Men's Group Annual Dinner
Fri 11th	Baptist Church Luncheon Club
Sat 12th	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00-11.30am
Mon 14th	New Horizons Bereavement Group: Christmas Lunch; 1.00pm; Methodist Church Coffee lounge WI; "History of Music Halls by Charlotte Cook"; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
Sat 19th	Holy Trinity Church Coffee Morning; Church Rooms Village Hall Action Group Christmas Ball; Humphrey Perkins Community Centre
Mon 21st	"Sing Christmas" broadcast live by Radio Leicester; Conservative Club; 7.00-8.00pm
Sun 27th	"Plod Off The Pudding" - Christmas Walk; Old Station Car Park; 10.30am
Thurs 31st	BUSCA New Year's Eve Party with Ben and the Big Taste Disco; Humphrey Perkins Community Centre; in aid of LOROS; Tickets £18 from Paper Shop
Sat 2nd	Methodist Church Minimart and Coffee Morning; 10.00am
Wed 6th	Gardening Club: "Declare War on your Pests - Organically" by Dean Marston; Humphrey Perkins Lounge; 7.30pm; All welcome
Thurs 7th	"Treasure Island" family panto; Baptist Church; 6.00pm
Fri 8th	Baptist Church Luncheon Club; 12.30pm "Wriggly Readers"; Library; 10.00am
Sun 10th	"Peach Boy - The Adventures of Momotaro"; Centre Stage Musical Theatre for all the family from 6+ to 96; Humphrey Perkins Community Centre; 5.00pm
Mon 11th	WI; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
Sat 16th	"Magic of Vienna" concert by Charnwood Orchestra; Humphrey Perkins Community Centre; 7.00pm
Tues 19th	Holy Trinity Church Curry Evening
Fri 22nd	Murder Mystery Evening for Twinning Group; Scout HQ
Sat 23rd	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00-11.30am Classical Concert; Baptist Church; 7.30pm
Wed 3rd	Gardening Club: "Success with Sweet peas" by Ken Ward; Humphrey Perkins Lounge; 7.30pm; All welcome
Sat 6th	Methodist Church Minimart and Coffee Morning; 10.00am
Mon 8th	WI; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
Fri 12th	Baptist Church Luncheon Club; 12.30pm Quiz Night; Branch Labour Party
Sat 13th	"Holiday at Home" reunion; Baptist Church BUSCA Valentine Dinner Dance with Just Us; Humphrey Perkins Community Centre; 7.30pm-11.30pm
Sun 14th	Service for Seniors; Baptist Church; 4.00pm
Sat 27th	Clock Club Jumble Sale; Church Rooms; 10.00-11.30am
Wed 3rd	Gardening Club: "Plants for Free!" by John Marron; Humphrey Perkins Lounge; 7.30pm; All welcome
Sat 6th	Methodist Church Minimart and Coffee Morning; 10.00am
Mon 8th	WI; Bishop Beveridge Club; 7.30pm
Fri 12th	Baptist Church Luncheon Club; 12.30pm



LIGHTS
Street Market & switching on of the Christmas Lights
5th December

WINTER Christmas Dance
with Dave Rawlings
19th December

NEW YEAR'S EVE
Party with Ben and the Big Taste Disco
31st December

PEACH BOY
Presented by Centre Stage Musical Theatre
10th January

VALENTINE'S DANCE
Valentine's Dinner Dance with 'Just Us'
13th February

SLEEPING BEAUTY
Presented by Barrow Panto Group
5th/6th March