

# Barrow Voice



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[www.barrowvoice.co.uk](http://www.barrowvoice.co.uk)

Spring 2012



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**PUSS IN BOOTS**

Take a look at this season's panto photos

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TRIBUTE**  
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# Jubilee Year

**B**arrow Voice is leading the way for this Jubilee year with a front cover featuring a Panto dame resplendent in a Union Jack costume. Whatever you and yours are doing this summer, be it a Jubilee celebration or some involvement in the Olympics at local or national level, if you have a story you'd like to share, do get in touch.

While we are on the subject of drama, I urge you to read about the Kenneths on page 31. They have inspired so many young people in the village and beyond. Barrow owes them an enormous debt - thank you Carol and Gordon and enjoy your well-earned break.

The recent attempted robbery at Barrow Post Office, only a year on from the masked raid in 2011, has shocked us all. Barrow Voice is very grateful for the advertising revenue which enables us to continue offering a free magazine to every household in the village.

We appreciate that these are tough times for us all and would like to thank the continuing support we receive from our many loyal advertisers. However, we are also conscious that we must balance the books. For this reason, some future editions may be slimmer but our aim will be to guarantee, and even improve the quality. To include as much news as we can, we may need to keep the stories shorter so again please bear this in mind if you are submitting copy. If we do have to edit down, we will provide the full version of articles on the website, and also include extra photos.

The Barrow Voice team always welcomes feedback and one or two comments have suggested that we could have more 'action packed' photos. So if you are sending us a story with a photo or just have some super photos you'd like to share with us, please keep this in mind.

In this issue, you will be able to find out more about Janet Thompson's career at Barrow Library, by clicking on [www.barrowvoice.co.uk](http://www.barrowvoice.co.uk)

Frances Thompson  
*Editor*

# Jelson Homes plan refused

The reason for refusal is the unsafe design of the Grove Lane/ Sileby Road/ South Street junction which has poor visibility for traffic leaving Grove Lane, particularly when turning right towards South Street. Barrow Residents Action Group (BRAG) want to collect accident and 'near miss' information for this sub standard junction. If you can spare 5 minutes to fill in and send back the questionnaire below it will be very much appreciated.

**More information on page 5**



## Safety at the Grove Lane - South Street- Sileby Road Junction

Have you had or witnessed an accident or near miss at the junction of Grove Lane with Sileby Road and South Street?

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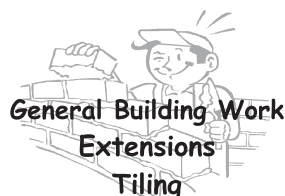
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# Major Housing Development Proposals - an Update

## Jelson Homes plan refused

At a meeting of Charnwood Borough Council Plans committee held on 7th December 2010 a re-submission of an application by Jelson Homes to build around 300 houses on land off Melton Road, behind Breachfield Road was refused permission. This follows refusal of permission for the same site in March 2010. The reason for refusal is the unsafe design of the Grove Lane/ Sileby Road/ South Street junction which has poor visibility for traffic leaving Grove Lane, particularly when turning right towards South Street. We want to collect accident and 'near miss' information for this sub standard junction. See cut the out slip on page 3.



## Member of Parliament Requests Call-In

BRAG alerted Nicky Morgan MP to the Charnwood Borough Council's case officer's report on the Jelson application which did not adequately explain to the members of the Plans Committee a possible option for rejecting the application on the basis of prematurity prior to the development of the Borough's own Core Strategy for developments. Mrs Morgan, having read the report, referred it to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles for him to use his powers to Call In the application. This would have removed the decision making from Charnwood Borough Council, but in the event the plan was refused, so the Call In was not needed.

## So what happens now?

We wait to see. At the time of writing, February 2012, we were not aware of any request by the developer to appeal although it is expected within six months after the refusal of permission. If there is a planning enquiry, BRAG, is advised that professional representation would cost around £5000 and we have less than £500 at this time although we are looking at ways to raise funds. Visit our website for details - see below.

## Strancliffe Hall , Cotes Road

In December 2011, Barwood Homes submitted an application to Charnwood Borough Council to build 76 houses on land around Strancliffe Hall. This site has a Grade 2 listed building and is an area of attractive parkland with a range of wildlife, although within the village boundaries.

Nearby residents organised a public meeting on 19 December 2011, attended by around 50 residents and they were advised on how to raise an objection on relevant grounds, known as material considerations. There is still time to object ; write to Charnwood Borough Council, Southfields , Loughborough or by e.mail to : [development.contol@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:development.contol@charnwood.gov.uk) giving reference number P/11/2540/2 and copy to [clerk@barrowpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@barrowpc.org.uk)



## BRAG AGM

BRAG called a public meeting on 11th January 2012 to update residents on the position with these applications and to hold its AGM. The BRAG committee was re-elected en bloc from those who are available. Two members of the original committee had stood down due to work pressures but we welcomed Michael Tansey onto the committee. To get in contact with BRAG, email: [brag.barrow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brag.barrow@yahoo.co.uk) or visit [www.leicestershirevillages.com/barrowuponsoar/brag-campaign.html](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/barrowuponsoar/brag-campaign.html)

Alan Willcocks,  
*Vice Chair, BRAG*

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# Trinity Church Rooms - serving the community

**A**fter much fundraising and several months of building, those of you who have walked along the jitty from the Hammer and Pincers to Hall Orchard School will see that the extension at Holy Trinity Church is progressing well. We anticipate completion by the end of February and will be taking bookings from 2 April. A management committee has been formed and enquiries re bookings can be made by email to Emma Black at [htparish@btinternet.com](mailto:htparish@btinternet.com) or by phoning 01509 416520. We will have several combinations of space available suitable for groups from as little as ten people to over seventy. The new facilities will be available to all and we look forward to sharing them with you.

We plan to hold an open weekend starting on Friday evening, 18 May, when the Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Lady Gretton, will attend a concert and officially open the Trinity Church Rooms. Lady Gretton launched our fundraising in November 2007 so it is fitting that she is able to return to open the extension. Throughout the weekend we will welcome all who wish to come to have a look around. On Sunday afternoon, 20 May, the Bishop of Leicester will be attending a special service to celebrate the completion of the new rooms. Please see further details of the weekend's events advertised around the village nearer the time.

Costs have continued to escalate and we will be working hard over the next twelve to eighteen months to repay the loan taken out for the final sum required. We know you will continue to support our efforts. One forthcoming event which may interest the ladies is a visit to Ragdale Hall on Thursday evening, 22 March, for further details please ring me on 01509 412929.

Pam Brown  
*Chair of the Fundraising Committee*



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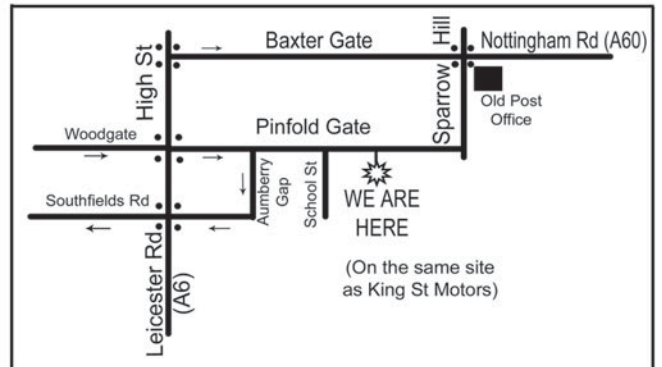
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# BUSCA plans launch of a vastly improved Barrow Signpost directory website

In 2006, BUSCA published a splendid new booklet as a welcome pack to all the new residents moving into the Willow Road and other developments. It was also available free for residents to pick from dispensers all over Barrow. At the same time, we built a new website to provide the means of keeping the directory up to date. You can find the website on [www.barrowsignpost.info](http://www.barrowsignpost.info)

Just before Christmas we ran out of the paper copies and needed to make a decision about the future of the directory. It is a village resource that we feel is really valuable. **It is full of useful information about Barrow services, community group contacts, school and church details, sports facilities and much more. It is arranged in a way that is quick and easy to find.** The original website has been kept up to date but has not been as fully used as it might be - it isn't found easily on a web search because it was constructed at a time before sophisticated algorithms played such a major part in non-brand search.

We have made the decision to scrap the paper copy because it would be out of date even before it had been printed. We'll keep its covers as a welcome pack and container for village leaflets but our main project is to vastly improve the website. It will still have the address [www.barrowsignpost.info](http://www.barrowsignpost.info) but will be much easier to find on any search engine when you put in Barrow upon Soar. It will also give the facility for individuals to update their own information. In that respect, it will be very similar to the village website, [www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk) which is so heavily used and which can be kept up to date by designated members of a community group or business. The content and function of the two websites is very different. The Signpost is a summary of contact details, times and meeting places etc. That is, it is a true directory. The village website has much more information about what community groups do, descriptions of their activities, their aims, what businesses specialise in etc. It isn't set up for a quick search of basic facts. We hope to put a lot of links between the two sites so you can flip seamlessly between the two.

We are delighted that the entire project has been generously funded by Barrow Parish Council, David Wilson Homes, a Wolds Community Forum grant, Lafarge, British Gypsum and Brett Landscapes. We offer our sincere thanks to them on behalf of BUSCA.

The improved site will go live during the spring and we will be inviting you to a launch in the library to see it in action and to invite you to sign up to be a Content Editor or even an Administrator with the site. Keep your eyes and ears open!

John Nurse

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Barrow Signpost website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Contact' and 'Suggest a listing' links. Below this is the 'BARROW SIGNPOST' logo and a search bar. A banner area contains a welcome message and a collage of images representing various community activities. The main content area is organized into a grid of categories: Children and Young People, Community Groups, Health, Care & Wellbeing, Business Directory, Churches & Church Groups, Local Government, Sport and Leisure, Other Useful Information, Community Facilities, Schools, Education & Learning, Public Services, and Support Groups & Services. Below the grid are sections for 'Recently Updated Listings', 'Newly added listings', and 'Most popular listings', each containing a list of local organizations like Barrow Cricket Club and Barrow Library. At the bottom, there is a footer with 'ACKNOWLEDGMENTS' listing sponsors like David Wilson Homes, Lafarge, and Brett, along with their logos.

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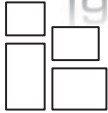
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# Why BUSCA is this year's Barrow's Got Talent chosen charity



You may not realise it but BUSCA (Barrow upon Soar Community Association) is the 'umbrella organisation' for a very large number of community activities in Barrow. Here is a list of some of them:

- Barrow Voice
- Village website
- Signpost website
- Youth Action Group
- Village Hall Action Group
- Panto Group, Youth Theatre
- Centre Stage shows
- Dances, discos
- Historical and archaeological booklets and walks leaflets.

We often work with the Parish Council and joint projects include the street market and entertainment at the Big Christmas Switch On, Tuesday and Thursday Youth Groups, Village Bike Ride and a forthcoming publication about the natural history of the Millennium Park. Two very exciting joint projects are one-off events for 2012:

**The Big Jubilee Picnic in the Park** on Sunday June 3rd is being run by Barrow Youth Action Group (part of BUSCA) with help from the Parish Council

**The BARROLYMPIX 2012 Celebration of the Olympic Games** on Sunday July 8th is being master-minded by the BOSCAPS team under BUSCA's umbrella and again with help from the Parish Council.

All of these activities are costly, so please be generous in your support of Barrow's Got Talent whose profits will be donated to BUSCA this year. If you would like to find out about, or even become involved with, BUSCA or any of its satellite groups do please give me a ring on 07718153117

Judith Rodgers



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For enquiries about the Best in Barrow Competition, contact Helen Sadler on [HSadler10504@aol.com](mailto:HSadler10504@aol.com) or 621050. You will need to pick up your entry leaflet from The Paper Shop, the Parish Office or the Library.

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To contact her for more information, phone: 01509 412385  
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# Janet Thompson shares 44 years of memories at Barrow library

Janet was born and lived in Leicester and initially came to work in the offices at Driver's factory in 1962 when they transferred their Head Office from King Street, Leicester. She now admits she hadn't got a clue where Barrow upon Soar was but remembers travelling each day by train and buying a return ticket at the pre-decimal price of 2/11d. Janet and her then fiancé, Michael both worked at Drivers and when they married in June 1963 they moved into one of Driver's cottages in Sibley Road and later to Babington Road where they brought up their three daughters, Catherine, Leigh and Natalie.

Our library has not always been where it is, having been previously housed from 1961 in 'The Stable' which was attached to the former Fox Inn on North Street. Mary Payne and Des North were part time assistants and Janet remembers Des parking her pram, with daughter, Gillian in it, outside on the pavement and leaving her to sleep.

Janet has worked at Barrow upon Soar Library since August 1968 a month after it opened in its present position in North Street. It was staffed by Mary Payne, Madge Wilkinson and Janet and they were later joined by Joan Bull. Mary Payne also completed over 40 years long service with Leicestershire Libraries retiring about 14 years ago when Janet Widdowson joined the team.

In the early days the job consisted of issuing and discharging books. Any queries had to be dealt with by the Librarian who was attached to the library and visited regularly. A microfiche reader was given to the Library by Rev Stephen Mitchell, together with comprehensive Parish Records of Baptism, Marriages and Burials for Barrow and Walton. John Nurse has since put these records onto the internet for public use, a job which took him four years to complete. We now have access to them online on the Barrow upon Soar site of the Leicestershirevillages.com together with census and other records. For those interested in family history the Library Service also offers free access on their library computers to Ancestry.com

The library is a good place to surf the internet and has had users from as far away as Canada, when they've been visiting Barrow on holiday.

There have been some unusual events down the years such as when one of the regular librarians (who shall be nameless) brought his roller skates with him and proceeded to skate round the library one evening. Dr John Earl regularly used to issue a patient with a prescription form on which he had written the name of a book on self-help for nerves and instructed them to request it from the library. There was also a time when a lady was so busy chatting after borrowing a book that as she left she put her eggs on the roof of the car, got in and drove right down to River View, amazingly with all the eggs intact.

Our current library was fully refurbished in 2009 and there is a twice weekly delivery to make sure that stock is turned over on a regular basis and requests are delivered quickly. Barrow upon Soar Library is part of the Birstall group along with Anstey, Mountsorrel, Quorn, Sibley and Rothley. Books are swapped between these libraries and there is a careful check for any damaged books which are removed from the shelves and either sold or recycled.

Compared with the early days when there was very little choice for children, the library now has a wonderful range for youngsters and they are well catered for. There is a good link between the library and Hall Orchard Primary School and Clare Allen, Head of

*continues on page 13*



English, has brought Year 6 pupils for visits on a regular basis which also meant that Janet's five grandchildren paid an extra visit! This has recently been expanded to include Year 5 and now visits are also made by toddlers from the new Lime Tree Day Nursery.

Nowadays, of course, everything is computerised and members have a plastic library card which is shown for borrowing. The major libraries like Loughborough have self-issue machines and renewing and ordering books can be done online, from the comfort of one's own home. E books are a new addition and can be downloaded onto electronic readers, although not onto a Kindle, which must be a built in way of controlling the Kindle user's purchasing choices!

There will be some cutbacks from 2 April and our library is to have its hours cut by 10 per week, but compared with other places we have been let off lightly. It is up to us to continue to use it - watch out for the new timetable!

As she retires Janet knows that she will miss the people most and the social aspect of the job. She can remember Mr and Mrs Moss, who were regular borrowers until a few years ago, saying 'this is not just a library, it is a social club' which says it all.

We wish her a long and happy retirement.

Ceri Fairbrother

## Tina Long : A tribute

**T**ina was born at Woodhouse Eaves, on the 27th July 1932, the daughter of a farmer, so she was a true country girl, growing up on a working farm. On her marriage to Chris Long in 1954, her father gave her a cow as a wedding present, and this was to be the start of their small holding. Tina and Chris's first home was a former café, a long wooden bungalow on Nottingham Road. It was from here that they served tea and cakes to passing cyclists on Sundays. Eventually Chris & Tina had a new bungalow built by the Barrow firm of Perkins. Many people will remember buying their fresh eggs and chickens, and of course the turkey at Christmas. The midnight oil was certainly burnt then, with Chris & Tina plucking and drawing the turkeys so that the residents of Barrow and further afield could enjoy their festive meals. I wonder if their two daughters, Christina & Jenny were encouraged to get involved.

It was around 1986 that Tina was elected as chair of Bishop Beveridge Club and what a driving force she proved to be! One of her first tasks was to purchase new crockery and cutlery. Until this point members had been using oddments brought from home. Next on the agenda were new chairs and carpet, but the greatest thing was the kitchen extension. Tina showed great determination to achieve all of these things, and stayed on as chair until 2007, giving over 20 years service to the club.

There were many strings to Tina's bow. One of her loves was to hear bells ringing, and although she couldn't manage to ring the church bells herself, she did join the hand bell ringing team and enjoyed her time with them immensely. I think for many people the lasting memory of Tina will be of her famous pickles and chutneys. Customers would place their orders well in advance, to ensure that they didn't miss out. Every year at the switching on of the Christmas lights, Tina would be there on the High street, with the Bishop Beveridge stall laden with her pickles and chutneys, and you had to move pretty quickly to be in with a chance of securing a jar because they sold like hot cakes. The most amazing thing is, Tina didn't like pickles of any kind, so Chris was her taster in chief. Soup was another forte of Tina's, and Mr Brooker would give her his spare vegetables and these would be turned into delicious soup to be used at the Bishop Beveridge and Lent lunches.

Tina sadly passed away on 22 of November 2011. As an adoptive daughter of Barrow, she served her village well, and she will be sorely missed by a great number of people.

Val Gillings



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# Fresh faces for Barrow: introducing PC Richard Gosling and PCSO Stu Venables

2012 has brought two new faces to policing for Barrow. Both PC Richard Gosling and PCSO Stu Venables moved to Barrow's Neighbourhood Policing Team in November and have been busy getting to know their patch of Barrow, Burton, Walton, Wymeswold, Cotes, Hoton and Prestwold. That's a lot of cycling when they don't have the car.

I met them in January to welcome them to Barrow, introduce them to Barrow Voice and have a good chat. I found out a bit about what makes them tick including their priorities and ambitions for the area as well as their backgrounds.

Richard is a Nottinghamshire lad who, after a number of years in sales, account management and customer service achieved his childhood dream of becoming a policeman. He had appreciated the importance of maturity and life experience before taking the plunge in 2009.

Rather similarly, Stu worked in the flooring industry in Leicestershire for 10 years before joining the police force in 2006, but he joined as a Special Constable while still carrying on with his full time job. Having gained an insight into what it entailed, Stu gave up the flooring and became a PCSO attached to the Birstall Neighbourhood Policing Team. He became very involved with the Youth Café which was set up, very successfully, to tackle a serious level of antisocial behaviour in Birstall.

Richard and Stu work together to combat crime and antisocial behaviour in the whole large Barrow area. They work with partner agencies such as Social Services, the Health Service and the local councils to help improve the quality of life of residents and service users. Their current top priority is to engage with young people at every available opportunity in order to build positive



relationships and make sure that young people understand how antisocial behaviour affects the lives of people in the area. Stu is particularly interested in using restorative justice for low level offences to keep people out of the courts and avoid criminalisation, especially of young people.

I asked them to tell me something a bit more light hearted. I discovered that Stu's pet hate is zigzag parking (offenders: beware!!) while Richard's is drugs. Richard's pet love is (armchair) football but Stu's is pizza. Stu is very likely to fall off his bike in snowy weather whereas Richard is unbearable just after Notts County have lost (again) so you'll notice that monthly beat surgeries will always be on Saturday mornings.

Richard and Stu describe themselves as very approachable, friendly and willing to listen to local issues. They want to be sure that people feel comfortable to make contact and talk. If you want to arrange to meet either Richard or Stu you can email them: richard.gosling@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk or

stuart.venables@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk or you can phone 101 and leave a voicemail message for them to phone you back. Richard's collar number is 2983 and Stu's is 6438. They would particularly like to encourage anyone who feels that they are at risk in anyway to contact them to arrange an informal meeting.

Helen from Barrow post office has asked us to give Stu a big thank you for all the support he has given over the past few difficult weeks.

Of course, if you want to report a non-urgent incident you should phone 101 but if it's an emergency then 999.

Our Barrow Police have definitely joined the social networking age and you can follow their daily tweets about road closures, crime updates and prevention advice, and what they are doing today. Go to Twitter and follow @Barrow\_Police. You'll even see a brief mention of this interview.

Barrow Voice wishes them every success in achieving their goals.

Judith Rodgers

# Wayne Munden Developments

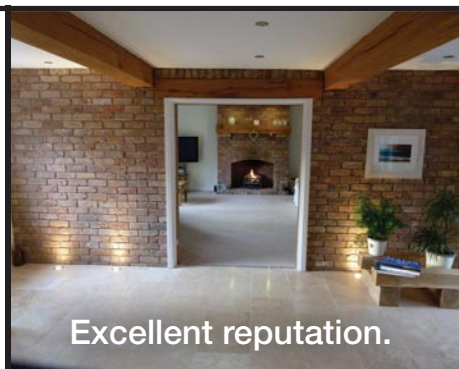
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# Strancliffe Hall - past and uncertain future

**T**he Barrow Voice team thought it would be a good idea to record something about Strancliffe Hall, as it stands at the moment, because a developer has applied for planning permission to build a considerable number of properties in the grounds of this Grade 2 listed building.

As far as I'm concerned Strancliffe has always held a kind of mystery as I've never been up close to the building but have always tried to catch a glimpse of this grand house, through the trees and shrubbery that surround it, from the pavement on Cotes Road. It remains mysterious as it's so well concealed you can hardly see anything of it from the road especially since the grounds have been neglected over the past couple of years.

You can discover the detail of the building from the internet as it's a listed building. You can also see an aerial view of the property and the surrounding area including the extensive grounds and gardens. I decided to do some investigating to see what I could discover about the people who have lived there since it was built in 1868.

The title 'Strancliffe Hall' makes the property sound very grand and it certainly is an astonishing size but it hasn't always been known by this title. According to the census of 1871 the house was called Shorncliffe House, Katsic Lane. It was occupied by Mr George Braund, his wife Anne, son George, daughter Agnes and George's niece Annie. In addition to the family there were three domestic servants and in a property nearby, probably a lodge or gatehouse, there was a groom/gardener. It is likely that the house was built for Mr Braund who was a hosiery manufacturer with at least one factory in Loughborough which was situated somewhere in the Woodgate area.

In the next census, of 1881, the house is recorded as Strancliffe Lodge and in the next it's called just 'Strancliffe' but in 1901 the house has no title at, it's just listed as a property on Catsick Road and is still occupied by the Braund family with the addition of Agnes's husband. Mr Braund

senior is recorded as being aged 88 in 1901 but by 1911 the Braunds had left and the property was occupied by Brevet Colonel Murray Venables Hilton, retired.

I don't have details about when the family of Colonel Hilton moved into Strancliffe but they were definitely living at Strancliffe House (census detail) in 1911. The colonel lived there with his wife Dora, his three young daughters, Clare, Emily and Beryl plus his widowed mother. The rest of the household consisted of a governess, a cook, a house maid, a parlour maid, a lady's maid, two nurses and a sick nurse and the Lodge provided accommodation for a coachman/domestic.

Colonel Murray V Hilton retired from the army on September 27th 1905. His service had been with the Worcestershire Regiment where he had risen through the ranks from his first commission as 2nd Lieutenant reaching Lieutenant Colonel in 1900. However, whilst living in Barrow he was recalled to the army on 5th August 1914 at the start of the First World War. As a temporary Colonel he commanded the 2nd Battalion East Lancashire Regiment and was killed in action whilst commanding that regiment on 20th October 1915. He was 59 years old. I have not been able to discover the battle in which he died but know that he is buried in Le Touret Military Cemetery, Richebourg-L'Avoue in France and is remembered on the war memorial in Barrow.

I'm still trying to find out when Mrs Hilton left Strancliffe but it was probably not long after her husband was killed. As there are no further census records publicly available, my knowledge of other residents is very limited. I do know that another hero of the First World War was a



resident. He was William Spurrett Fielding Johnson and he was certainly living there in 1931 as was his father who sadly died at Strancliffe on 11th October 1931. He was Thomas Fielding Johnson Junior, the son of the famous Leicester philanthropist.

I also know that a Major Spalding (I think it was 'Major') lived there. His family, I believe, were the Spaldings of Griffin and Spalding, the department store in Nottingham. I know that Thomas (Tommy) Towle, local hosiery manufacturer and his family lived there in the 1950s and that's the extent of my knowledge. I would love to hear from anyone who can provide any more details about the people who have been fortunate enough to call this amazing building 'home'. If you can help by providing any more information or if you have any photographs of the building in the past, please can you get in touch. It would be good to have a more complete picture of the people who have lived here during the 20th century to date. Thank you.

I understand that there are objections to the current planning application to develop this site so there is a chance that it may remain as it is. I've recently read the Heritage Impact Assessment carried out for the developer, Barwood. It states, 'In summary, we consider the proposed scheme will not relatively impact the setting of Strancliffe Hall'. The plan proposes to build 76 properties on the land around Strancliffe. What do you think?

Ginnie Willcocks, 01509 413996



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# Try a touch of Central Asia: go to Sileby - rent a yurt!

**T**here's a new attraction at 'The Green Place' in Sileby and they'd love you to come and see it especially if you need to find a good place for a lively children's birthday party, an intimate wedding reception, hold a workshop or just have a meeting in a unique tent space. It's a 'yurt'; a portable dwelling very similar to a Mongolian 'ger'

Yurts are perfect structures to build in a place devoted to being kind to the environment as they simply rest on the earth, unlike tents, which you have to peg firmly in. And although from the outside they look quite small their appearance is deceptive as once inside there's plenty of space for a wood burning stove, low seats, little tables and oriental rugs. The interior is warm, welcoming, unique and most of all fun - what more could you ask of a party base? Just outside the yurt is the Green Place garden with its large lawn for games and seats for general relaxation. Certainly a yurt party will beat a Loughborough based burger party hands down!

It takes about an hour to put up a yurt; perhaps even less if you're a Turkic nomad but rest assured at The Green Place the yurt is already erected on its own area of decking within the garden itself. However, if you are interested in having a yurt party at home it can be taken down and re-erected on your own lawn.

Putting up a yurt is very disciplined. First of all a circular lattice frame is put up and then the roof added which is made up of bent wooden rafters. A 'tuynuk' is the name given to the wheel like central crown into which the bent rafters are slotted. Everything is secured with ropes in a very precise order - wrong order - no yurt! Finally, in Sileby, a canvas wall and roof covering is placed around and over the wooden structure but on the steppes of Central Asia it is a little different. There the covering is made of felt, wool or animal skins. Yurts are strong too. Their squat shape can withstand 70 mile an hour winds as the air flows over them pressing them into the ground not blowing them over. It's a very clever design.

The cost of renting the yurt will vary depending on whether you wish to rent the yurt on its own or to request party catering from the Green Place Cafe as well. When not being used for a special event the yurt will become a summer extension of this cafe. Another regular use will be as a Kinder Cafe - a place where children can be encouraged to read and play whilst their parents enjoy a coffee and cake.

The Green Place opening hours from March 3rd to December are from 10 a m to 4pm Weds, Thurs and Fridays and Sats. An inaugural celebration for its new yurt will be held in March. To find out more about prices or any other aspect of the Green Place contact Darren or Deborah on 01509 815181 or e-mail [info@completewasters.co.uk](mailto:info@completewasters.co.uk). And don't forget there is a super ethical shop on the site too.

Gaynor Barton





Barrow-upon-Soar Parish Council News

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# Barrow Focus

<http://barrowuponsoar.leicestershireparishcouncils.org>

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Cllr. EJ Rodgers

Cllr. J Spence

Cllr. H Fryer

Cllr. J Rodgers

Cllr. W Woodhouse

## MEETINGS CALENDAR MARCH TO APRIL 2012

Full council meetings in our  
Village Diary

### March

5<sup>th</sup> Planning committee  
12 noon

6<sup>th</sup> Full Council 7.15pm  
commencing with Public  
Participation

13<sup>th</sup> Enhancements to  
Entrances to the  
Village Playing Fields  
Committee 2pm

14<sup>th</sup> Cemetery and other Ground  
Committee 11am

### April

2<sup>nd</sup> Planning committee  
12 noon

3<sup>rd</sup> Full Council 7.15pm  
commencing with Public  
Participation

19<sup>th</sup> Policy and finance  
committee 2pm

additional meeting dates will be  
published following the AGM

## P/10/1518/2 JELSON HOMES PROPOSALS TO BUILD 300 HOMES ON LAND AT MELTON ROAD

The Parish Council is delighted that the application was refused by Charnwood Borough Council Plans Committee at its meeting in December. Along with BRAG, we continue in our effort to oppose and have been busy preparing comment to the Planning Officers who it was felt were biased in favour of the developer and misrepresentative and dismissive of opposition. We are also investigating the process of appeal which we anticipate for the future.

### MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT - Tuesday 24th April 2012

This year's annual 'Speaker to the Village' event will be Macmillan Cancer Support held at The Gap (rear of the Baptist Church), Beveridge Street starting at 7:30pm. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is very welcome.

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### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - Tuesday 17th April 2012

Chairman Tony Childs extends a very warm welcome to all residents to the village's Annual Parish Meeting which will be held at the Methodist Church Rooms, North Street on Tuesday 17th April 2012 starting at 7.30pm. We encourage everyone to attend.

It would be helpful if any questions you have for the Council are provided to the Clerk in advance of the meeting in order that an informed response is offered.

### SUMMER PLANTING IN CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE AND OLYMPIC GAMES

In celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games, the Parish Council is keen that the village should look as attractive as possible. It is suggested that the summer floral display is extended to include North Street and also additional hanging baskets in the High Street. We hope to achieve this with support of local businesses.

## THE SLABS

Leicestershire County Council has issued the following press release:

'As part of the planning obligations for housing development at Fenny Copse Farm, Quorn, David Wilson Homes is required to fund improvements to the path between Barrow upon Soar and Quorn, locally known as 'The Slabs'.

Leicestershire County Council is undertaking the work on behalf of the developer who is funding the scheme. Preliminary design is ongoing and construction will be planned around progress with the development.

It is hoped the improvements will encourage more people, especially school children, to walk and cycle between the two villages'.



## ANNUAL CIVIC SERVICE - Sunday 22nd April 2012

The Annual Civic Service will be held at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 22nd April starting at 10:00am. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

## ENHANCEMENT OF ENTRANCES TO THE VILLAGE



A project to enhance the entrance to the village at Sileby Road is progressing well. Artist illustrations provided by Chris Bates are the basis for the final design. The Council has contacted a local sculptor and stonemason and is going through the procedure of obtaining a licence from LCC Highways Authority. It is envisaged that the sculpture will sit on a plinth within a planted trough. The Parish Council is appealing for volunteers to maintain the planting.

We have already been awarded a Wolds Area Community Forum Grant towards costs.

## PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 APRIL 2012 TO 31 MARCH 2013

A net precept of £156,890 was agreed at the January meeting of Full Council. A breakdown for publication is in progress and will be published on the website [www.barrowuponsoar.leicestershireparishcouncils.org](http://www.barrowuponsoar.leicestershireparishcouncils.org) and in the Parish Council window display.

## PUBLIC TOILETS, NORTH STREET

Punch Taverns, who own the land on which the public toilets stand, has confirmed it is 'considering options'. This means that the Parish Council has absolutely no access and therefore the public toilets will remain CLOSED for the foreseeable future.

## DOG FOULING

Irresponsible owners allow their dogs to foul open spaces provided for the enjoyment of all, especially children. Every single day our caretakers remove other people's dog mess from our play areas and streets.

Dog Fouling is DANGEROUS! It is also an OFFENCE! Dog waste bins are provided throughout the village, FREE poop scoops are available from the Paper Shop, the Parish Council Offices and Wash and Wags. Dog Owners you really have no excuse PLEASE PLEASE 'Scoop the Poop'.

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# 60 seconds... with Craig Johnstone

**I've known Craig for a number of years now, mainly through his association with Barrow Panto Group and latterly by his link with the Barrow Voice team. Although he now lives in Quorn, he still likes to keep his links with Barrow as you will gather when you read his comments below.**

Craig's connection with BV is to do with the production and format of the magazine, which I'm sure you'll agree has improved tremendously over the past few years, with better quality paper, and colour throughout but still maintaining its individuality.

My over riding memory of Craig will always be when he played the part of the evil Abanazar in the panto group's first production of Aladdin. Firstly, he couldn't do 'evil' no matter how hard he tried. Secondly, when his beard came flying off stage into the orchestra at the beginning of the second act, because he'd forgotten to fix it around his ear after the interval. It was the panto group's funniest moment ever. I still chuckle about it now. The audience thought it was hilarious too.

Thank you Craig for sharing 60 seconds with me and our readers:

## **How long have you been involved with Barrow Voice?**

*I think that I've been involved since 1998. I'd been working in the printing industry since 1986 and as a consequence of receiving several copies of Barrow Voice since moving to Barrow in 1994 I felt that I could contribute towards its production.*

## **What do you like best about the magazine?**

*The community aspect of meeting and working together with others who care about the village they love. It's really good to hear the lovely comments that come back from those who read the magazine when the editorial team meets up after each edition but as with any project like this, it's not necessarily how the magazine ends up, it is how we got there that is the most rewarding.*

*I've made some great friends (most of whom have been involved for much longer than me) and I enjoy working alongside a group of people who are not only really passionate about what they do but are good fun to be around too!*

## **What was the most memorable issue for you?**

*It has to be the first one I designed to include a new look front cover I guess. I have always wanted to improve the look and presentation of Barrow Voice over the years and it really helped to take the artworking to a digital format using Quark Express as opposed to the conventional paste board format that existed when I first got involved.*

## **If you were marooned on a desert island what 5 things would you take with you and why?**

*My wife Jackie, my daughters Olivia and Kaitlin, Kaitlin's bunny for bedtime and Kaitlin's guinea pigs (sorry I know that is 6 but who would I leave?).*

## **How long have you lived in Barrow and why did you decide to come and live here?**

*Jackie and I lived in Barrow from 1994 till 1999. I attended Humphrey Perkins School in the early 80's and know the area well. We moved to Barrow because of the great nightlife at that time and because 32 Warner Street was 'the one' according to Jackie - we had already looked at 48 others! We moved across the river to Quorn in 1999 because of the shortage of Victorian 4 bed homes in Barrow and we needed more room for my business and for a family that was on the way. We are still involved in the Panto Group and if I had my way we would move back to the village again tomorrow.*

## **What would be your ideal holiday?**

*Tuscany with the family - great climate, food, culture, language, people, history, beaches, countryside, and it's relatively cheap. Easy to get to from East Mids airport and if the Giro was passing through then even better.*



## **Do you have a day job? If so what do you do? If not, what did you do?**

*I have an all consuming job and that is running my marketing services business called Mulberry Square from our offices in Mountsorrel. It actually started out as Piano Street Print Solutions from our home on Warner Street in Barrow in 1997 until I merged that print management business with a design agency in 2003 and we created Mulberry Square.*

*We look after the marketing of lots of organisations and that generally involves branding, websites, printed literature and to a large extent nowadays, internet marketing.*

*I am pretty indebted to Barrow and Barrow Voice as it has played a huge part in helping my business grow. My first employee, Ian Bursill, lived on Nottingham Road. We met through him volunteering to build and run the first Barrow Voice website. James Thompson is running our web development department and has been with us for the last 7 years. I first met James and his buddies in 1995 through the Barrow Panto Group when he was 13!*

## **What are your hopes for the future of Barrow Voice?**

*In this current climate sustainability is key. Judith has recognised a downturn in advertising revenue but it is really important that we maintain the values we have succeeded in attaining with Barrow Voice. We are very lucky that we have a good group of people involved and of course we wouldn't be where we are today without our volunteers who handle the distribution. All I can hope for is that the magazine remains as loved and appreciated as it is today.*

Ginnie Willcocks

# Barrow Pre-School Playgroup Celebrates 40 Years!



**B**arrow Pre-School playgroup is now in its 40th year. Although much has changed throughout this time, there are distinct similarities between the 70's and today. The many and varied learning opportunities open to all children remain as does as the immense fun and enjoyment that the children gain from each session. The caring environment and sense of belonging is as strong today as it has ever been. The dedication and hard work of staff and committee members has been crucial to the development and success of the playgroup.

## Past

Barrow Playgroup was formed in 1971 with the first session taking place on the 6th October. It was the brainchild of Judith Rodgers who with others opened the first playgroup session. Judith recalls: 'At the beginning, the Methodist premises were dark and dingy and small. The toilets were outside. We probably had about 20 children per session with two supervisors. Although we did manage to buy new equipment (a very posh wooden climbing frame was what we were most proud of), we scrounged other establishment's cast offs (infant chairs and tables rescued from the bonfire heap somewhere towards Leicester), made our own (Wendy House with blue and white check curtains and painting easels), used a bit of ingenuity to achieve an indoor sand and wet play area because we had no outdoor access (builders polythene sheeting and fibre glass mixing troughs) and persuaded people to give us their children's outgrown books and toys. I bought a set of beech wood blocks for £20. I saw them in a catalogue recently for over £200. The smallest blocks were about 30cm square and must have weighed two or three kg each. The bigger ones were 75cm long and weighed about five - six kg each. They were banned after a fortnight of bruised toes, squashed fingers and a lot of tears.

But it was terrific. There was always lots of variety in what was put out at different times of the morning; there was always something creative to do, usually after morning milk ( free) and biscuit; always a quiet story time often with finger glove puppets and joining in; very often a time when we all sang new and old nursery rhymes; and the older ones were helped with jigsaws and other pre-reading and number games. The supervisors were so patient, imaginative and dedicated. The children just loved them.

Actually, I guess it wasn't really very different from now.

## Present

Today Barrow Pre-School Playgroup is still held at the Methodist Church Rooms every week day morning from 9.15-12.15, term time only. The Playgroup offers care for children aged between 2 1/2 years to 5 years. The children are organised into two groups; the younger children are the 'ducks' and the older children are the 'rabbits'. Each group begins the morning in their own room where activities are set out and the staff are ready for action! Throughout the morning they have the opportunity to move between the rooms enabling them to mix with all children and adults.



The emphasis is on early literacy, numeracy and the development of personal and social skills. There is a broad curriculum of play opportunities open to all children, with a wide range of toys, imaginative play and craft activities. Great fun is had by all and children regularly bring home their masterpieces! There is also an outdoor area where the children can enjoy different activities and also the sunshine during the warmer months. The children love learning and singing traditional nursery rhymes as well as other seasonal songs and the annual Christmas Sing Song is a highlight and not to be missed!

Mid morning the children can have a healthy snack and drink and sit with their friends as well as members of staff. The children display great concentration and delight when helping to distribute pieces of fruit and other tasty snacks amongst their peers.

Playgroup is a registered charity and has a committee of parent volunteers who assist with the administration of the Playgroup. To run each session, the Playgroup employs highly qualified and enthusiastic staff committed to the children and their welfare.

*continues over...*



Ella Truman (Playgroup Manager) said, 'I thoroughly enjoy working as part of a dedicated and hardworking team as playgroup is situated within a village this enables us to build good relationships with parents and to see our children progress and grow even after they have left our setting. I feel privileged to work at Barrow Pre-School Playgroup and look forward to a very exciting future'

### Can you help?

We would like to create a lasting moment of the last 40 years and are planning to produce a booklet consisting of the history of Barrow Playgroup along with a comparison of the daily routines past and present. We will also be asking existing staff and children to share their stories. We would like to include comments and

memories from anyone who has had anything to do with playgroup over the last 40 years. Perhaps you have been a member of staff or sat on the committee, had children who've attended or even been lucky enough to have attended playgroup yourself!

If you can help in any way please contact the chairperson of the committee; Kelly Hill on: 07986 225575 or Kellyh81@ntlworld.com

Come and help us celebrate the past, present and future of Barrow Playgroup.

We will be holding a 70's disco on Saturday 26th May at the Barrow Football club. This event promises to be a fantastic evening with lots of fun for all the family. Fancy dress is optional, however there will be prizes for the best

dressed! Please put the date in your diary and come and join in the celebrations! Look out for posters around the village and in Playgroup for more information on times and details of where to purchase tickets.

Helen Hammond  
*Barrow Pre-School Playgroup*



# Hall Orchard Summer Fayre 2012

Hall Orchard Church of England Primary School's PTFA are busy planning our biggest fundraising event of the year - the School Summer Fayre.

This year the fayre's theme is 'Pirates and Princesses' and will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 30th June 2012. The fayre has become a fantastic event for not only the school but the community as a whole. Attractions this year include a climbing wall, bouncy castle and slide, theatrical pirates with real guns and cannons!, story tellers, the Soundogs, miniature train, Newfoundland dogs, and Olympian kids' fun runs.

Last year's event was a great success despite the rain and we are hoping to make this year's fayre our biggest yet. Keep the date free for this fantastic family fun afternoon right in the centre of Barrow!

Eve Rock





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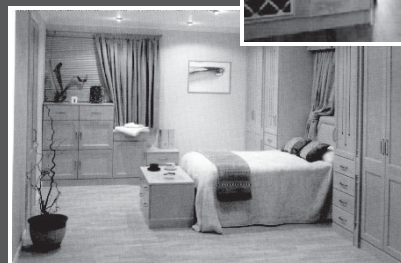
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# Humphrey Perkins Chronicle



**S**ome years ago Humphrey Perkins School published a regular magazine called the Humphrey Perkins Chronicle giving the reader an update of the latest developments along with interesting news from the School. This article is a mini Chronicle. As you are no doubt aware Humphreys has seen some significant changes over the last 12 months. I shall briefly outline some of these changes and update you on our plans for the future.

As a school our primary focus is on the children that are in our care. I have rapidly built on the work of the previous 21 headteachers of the school in promoting a values based organisation. Our values are to have a 'Child Focus' and empower 'World Class Learners' with an ethos of 'Honesty, Integrity and Professionalism' and an attitude of 'Serving Others' and a belief that there is 'No Ceiling' to what can be achieved. We don't always get it right, but we strive to learn and improve. This has been particularly important to us as we have created many new roles within the school to ensure that we have the right environment for pupils aged 11 to 16.

Returning to 11-16 education is an exciting journey for us - it will enable pupils to be supported by us to achieve their potential in their GCSEs. Preparations have been in place for a number of years to recruit the right staff and refresh the skills of those who have been at the school for some time. Becoming an academy on the 1st January has given us the freedom to create a learning experience that is academically rigorous, inspiring and a great preparation for the future.

Our sons and daughters live in a society where there is much less certainty, greater diversity of belief and custom, and much more accessible instantaneous global communication than we ever experienced at their age. To deliver education in the same way to pupils today as we had it delivered to us would not provide the skills and experiences that our society needs in the future. The responsibility of this unique opportunity in creating a world class curriculum only comes along once in a lifetime, and we are taking it very seriously. Bringing experience of national best practice to Humphreys has enabled us to look at an exciting educational experience that blends creativity, the world of work, communication and leadership, the latest mobile computing technology with traditional values and tried and tested outstanding pedagogy. In short the curriculum will be broad and balanced giving every pupil the foundation for success that they deserve.

We have returned to our previous school motto of 'Honeste Audax' (nobly daring) and have four new Houses, these are Belvoir, Chatsworth, Hardwick and Kedleston. Each of these houses has a colour and an emblem taken from the two shields in the stained glass windows of the old library. Our pupils already collect House Points and take part in inter-house competitions. In September the uniform at Humphreys returns to the blazer and tie for new pupils joining the school, updated from the uniform from 1927 left to me by Mr Keeble, a previous Headmaster. From sensible shoes up, our new uniform will be smart and also cost effective.

From September we are introducing a new reading programme for pupils. This also gives us the opportunity to rethink our library provision. The current 'old library' is rather small and the stock of books is not what we would want, particularly for older pupils. Over the next year or so we are looking to create a more extensive resource of 'real' books to compliment a growing trend of reading electronic material.

I do hope that this has sparked your interest in what we are doing at Humphreys. As we continue to go from strength to strength we will keep you updated.

Peter Nutkins  
Headmaster





# Questionnaire



Please take a moment to fill out this questionnaire

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Please hand deliver or post your replies to Director of Events and Community at:  
**Humphrey Perkins School, Cotes Road, Barrow upon Soar, LE12 8JU.**

Alternatively questionnaires can be found on line at:  
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or you can email your questionnaire to:  
**[community@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.uk](mailto:community@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.uk)**

**Questionnaires to be returned by 27th April 2012.**

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For enquiries about the Best in Barrow Competition, contact  
 Helen Sadler on [HSadler10504@aol.com](mailto:HSadler10504@aol.com) or 621050. You will  
 need to pick up your entry leaflet from The Paper Shop, the Parish  
 Office or the Library.



## Jubilee Photo Appeal

The village Heritage Group is planning to hold an exhibition as part of the village jubilee celebration on June 3rd. The display will primarily be about village shops along North Street and the High Street and we would like to include as many photographs as possible. Please, if you have any photographs of village shops during the 20th century would you be willing to lend them to the group for the exhibition?

Also, if you have any photos of previous jubilee celebrations in the village or of village events that happened at the Coronation in 1953 or other interesting old Barrow photos, we would like to hear from you. Your photographs will be scanned and returned so if you can help please can you contact Kathryn Timmons on 01509 416168 or [<kathryn\\_timmons@hotmail.com>](mailto:kathryn_timmons@hotmail.com)

# BARROW'S GOT TALENT

## Calling all of Barrow's Talent



**Singers, dancers, musicians, jugglers, comedians, magicians, acrobats or any other talented people - we need YOU for another night of cracking entertainment hosted by Barrow Panto Group for the fourth successful year.**

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# The cracker-jack Kenneths

**C**arol and Gordon Kenneth have decided to take a rest from directing the Barrow Youth Theatre, and Barrow Voice would like to mark their achievements over the past nine years.

In 2003, Barrow's long-standing Panto Group had an influx of new young members, and a decision was made to start a separate youth theatre alongside it. The Kenneths took the task on and - with important support from Marie Slater as musical director - quickly established an impressive company. They have since staged one play and eight musicals in the Humphrey Perkins auditorium.

Bare statistics cannot convey their achievement. These productions are a major feat of management. Each involves 70 or more individuals, with 45 youngsters on stage and people of all ages tackling the related activities: stage management, scenery painting, making the outstanding costumes (Julie Crossley and Rose Bennett) and props, playing in the band, operating sound and lights, selling and promoting. This is a heartening community activity. The amount of talent coming from one small

area is an eye-opener.

On stage, children may start as young as seven and stay until they are thrown out at 18 (though they often return in adult guise to help out). There is always a waiting-list for new entrants. Unusually for junior theatre, plenty of boys participate.

The youth theatre sometimes resembles a club. Friendships are formed there (and the constant chattering drives Carol and Gordon to distraction!). But the main business is taken very seriously, as participants get expert advice on how to act (and react), to sing and to dance. The company is also about life skills. Unruly newcomers learn how to be in the right place for their cues. Young people gain the self-confidence to appear before a packed hall - no small matter. They must accept the ups and downs of casting: the adrenalin rush of starring roles, but also the disappointment of minor parts.

All of us who have participated in the Youth Theatre owe Carol and Gordon an enormous debt of gratitude - for their energy, organisation, flair and forbearance, and for giving us such fun.

You can see from the appended comments what it has meant to us. Along with all Barrow citizens we can look forward to future productions from the company they have made so special. They are delighted that Abi Crossley, currently directing Barrow Panto Group's Puss in Boots, is going to take up the reins that they have relinquished. She will shortly begin rehearsals for Disney's Alice in Wonderland.

Bobbie Jo Betts and David Spiller



## Some thank you quotes from Barrow Youth Theatre Group

**"Thank-you for teaching me the art of standing still!"** - Olly Cavner

**"I only did one show with you but it was brilliant."** - Ben Bateson

**"It has been a real privilege to be a part of each and every show!"** - Rebecca & Emily Fox

**"Barrow Youth Theatre won't be the same without you!"** - Danny Penrose

**"I have some great memories, especially Beauty and The Beast as that has always been my favourite Disney film!"** - Abbie Cooper

**"You two are truly inspirational people."** - Halle McCarthy

**"I have made some amazing life long friends along the way and I'd like to think of you as two on them!"** - Alex Norris

**"I feel so lucky that I got to be a part of Barrow Youth Theatre for the last 4 years!"** - Caitlin Evans

**"You've been just like second parents to me!"** - Bobbie-Jo Betts

**"I have had the most amazing time."** - Clare Dudley

**"Thank-you for making this whole experience happen. I will never forget it!"** - Lindsay Bennett

**"You have taught me things that I wouldn't have known if I hadn't joined Barrow Youth Theatre!"** - Hannah Hickenbotham

**"Thanks for being my unexpected inspiration!"** - Luke Penrose

**"It takes special people to take a group of young people as varied as we all are and turn us into a little family like you've done!"** - Lydia Porter

**"I hope you will be at next year's show with a tear in your eye. It's not the end, it's just the beginning!"** - Abi Crossley

**"I have gained so much from Barrow Youth Theatre; confidence, friends and I had a brilliant time along the way!"** - James Norris

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Ian L. Knowles BSc., Dip HE.



# Centre Stage in Barrow: Eddie and the Gold Tops

**B**arrow was really lucky with its three allocated Centre Stage shows this year. After the delightful *Roll in the Hay* (do you remember Lilian Archer?) and the *Shoo Shoo Babies* (what a Christmas party!), we have a third treat in store on Friday May 18th. It will be in Humphrey Perkins Community Centre as usual and will start at 7.30pm.

Tickets from the Paper Shop will cost £8 (buy them in advance and get them for £7) or £7 for concessions (but pre-booked cost £6). A family ticket (2 + 2) will cost £24 bought in advance.

This is a new comedy with music written and directed by Kate Bramley of the brilliant Badapple Theatre Company, 'one of the best touring companies in the North'. The original music and songs were written by Radio Academy Award Winner for BBC2, Jez Lowe.

It's the 1960s and every village has a band determined to hit the big time. This tale follows our Eddie, a hard-working milkman, inspired by the cream of the pop charts and tired of the milk-float of ordinary life. He dreams of stardom and success but the money lenders, managers and real life keep getting in the way. Will Eddie's dreams be thwarted as his career takes a churn for the worse?

Get ready, Eddie, GO! You're heading for the high life, with the fabulous Gold Tops behind you every step of the way.

Judith Rodgers



## Jon Page 'Outstanding Guitarist of the Year'

The highly esteemed Academy of Contemporary Music in Guildford has awarded Jon Page, formerly of Barrow, the accolade of 'Outstanding Guitarist of the Year 2011' for his virtuoso playing over the two years of his degree course. To win this award is a great achievement as over 80 fellow students competed for the honour. Jon, who plays with Megadub, ( a band featured in the 2011 autumn edition of Barrow Voice) Xerox and Electric Dreams, now lives in Rothley where he has a music room and gives guitar tuition. If you would like to contact him concerning lessons please phone 07814572320 or e-mail him at [jons\\_stringdom@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jons_stringdom@yahoo.co.uk).

Gaynor Barton



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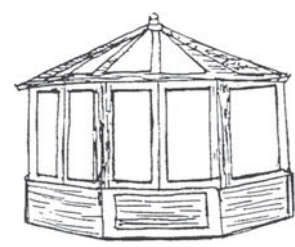
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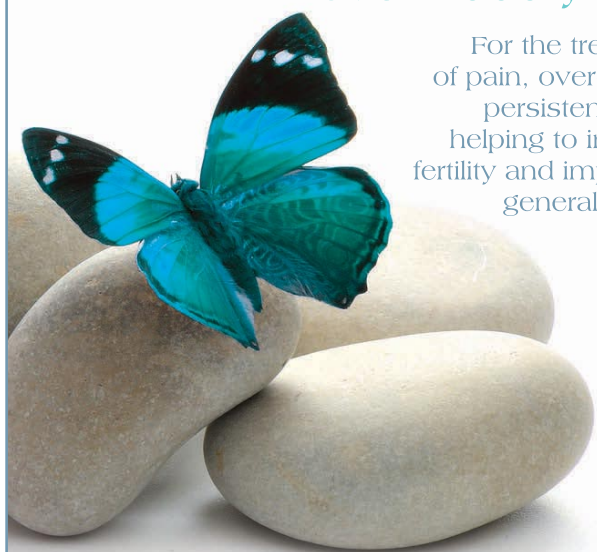


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## Barrow Pre-School Playgroup



Barrow Pre-School Playgroup is an OFSTED registered charity playgroup who are very proud to have recently achieved the very high level of "Good" with elements of "Outstanding".

We provide learning through play for children aged 2 1/2 - 5yrs. Sessions are run at the Methodist Church Rooms, Barrow upon Soar from 9.15 to 12.15 weekdays during term time.

For more information please contact Cathy Walker on **07975 957242** or email [barrowplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:barrowplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk)

Playgroup operates a waiting list, so please be sure to get in touch with your child's details as soon as possible.

(Registered Charity No. 1051390)

*Martin Page*  
*Barrow Upon Soars*



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**J**une 2011 saw our most successful Open Gardens event ever with £2324.00 being raised for Rainbows Children's Hospice. The event attracted many people from the local area as well as people from all around the country. We now have an entry on the national website for Open Gardens. [www.opengardens.co.uk](http://www.opengardens.co.uk) and we will update this when we start to finalise details.

**This year it will take place on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th of June**

We have always had a reputation for our great variety of gardens and for a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. The variety of gardens is ever changing with only one garden that has been open on all occasions since we started in 2000. In 2011 we welcomed back a number of gardens from previous years and we are hoping that we will celebrate the Jubilee year with our best ever event.

We know that in 2011 some 'openers' took a break so we would ask any of you who have been thinking of opening your garden, to contact us as soon as possible. You will definitely enjoy the experience. No garden is too small or too large; the greater the range, the better the event will be.

We would like to have even more gardens open in 2012 and make the event even more enjoyable and successful.

If you are prepared to join us and want more information then please do not hesitate to contact Lee Sheldon on 07843 077200 or [barrowgardens@btinternet.com](mailto:barrowgardens@btinternet.com)



- 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

3,000 copies published quarterly and delivered FREE to all households in Barrow upon Soar

Size based on A4 sheet	Dimensions in mm	Shape	Cost for one edition	Cost for 4 editions (5% discount)	Cost for 4 editions with 10% discount for early payment
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1/16 colour			£ 16.50	£ 62.70	£ 56.43
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¼ colour			£ 62.00	£235.60	£212.04
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½ colour			£116.00	£440.80	£396.72
Full B&W	203 x 290	portrait	£178.50	£678.30	£610.47
Full colour			£214.00	£813.20	£731.80

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.

All enquiries should be made through:  
Judith Rodgers - 07718 153117 or [advertising@barrowvoice.co.uk](mailto:advertising@barrowvoice.co.uk)

# BARROLYMPIX 2012

A Community Sports Day with **FUN AND GAMES** for all the family

**Sunday 8th July 2012**  
**Humphrey Perkins School**

- Mini tennis tournaments
- Crazy golf
- BMX track
- Scalextric
- Village bike rides
- Crazy fling
- Street dance
- Toddler trike race
- Fairground rides and stalls and hair braiding
- Dance workshop
- Bouncy castle
- Circus skills
- 5km road run & 1mile Fun run (Barrow Runners)
- Youth 6-a-side football tournaments (BTFC)
- Face painting
- Refreshments braiding

Organiser: Carol Westbury on behalf of **BUSCA**.

To contact her for more information, phone: **01509 412385**

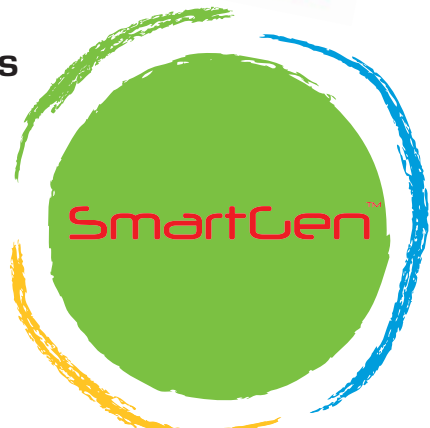
or email: [cazzawest@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cazzawest@yahoo.co.uk) or: [c.westbury@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.uk](mailto:c.westbury@humphreyperkins.leics.sch.uk)

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www.mulberrysquare.co.uk  
0116 237 4603

**Advertising Deadline**

Monday 30th April

**Copy Deadline**

Monday 30th April

*Copy to:* The Editor  
17 North Street  
Barrow upon Soar  
Leics LE12 8PZ  
editor@barrowvoice.co.uk

Sat 17th	Mother's union: Coffee morning; Holy Trinity Church
Wed 21st	Gardening Club: "Nature's Voice - RSPB" John Clewes; HPHS Community Lounge; 19.30
Sat 24th	Shepshed Singers in concert; Holy Trinity Church
Tues 27th	VISTA SOCIAL GROUP meets at the Methodist Church; 14.00
Wed 28th	Craft Afternoon; Methodist Hall;14.30 -16.00
Sat 31st	BUSCA Spring Dance; HPHS; 19.30 - 23.00
Mon 2nd	NEW HORIZONS" meets at the Methodist Church; 14.00 Holy Trinity Men's Group: "The right to fly the flag of St George"; speaker: John Hoskins
Tues 3rd	Parish Council meeting; PC office; 19.15; public participation at approx 19.30; everyone welcome Holy Trinity Men's Group: Holy Week Service with Mother's Union in HT Church
Wed 4th	Mother's Union: Flowers in the Bible; speaker: Mrs A Lambert; 14.30
Sat 7th	Methodist Church Minimarket and Coffee morning; 10.00
Tues 10th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Wed 11th	Craft Afternoon; Methodist Hall;14.30 -16.00
Fri 13th	Baptists Luncheon Club; 12.30
Sat 14th	Clock Club Jumble Sale 10.00 - 11.30; Bishop Beveridge Club; admission 20p; Refreshments
Mon 16th	WI:'The science of forensic medicine": speaker: Dr Audrey Matthews; Bishop Beveridge Club; 19.30
Tue 17th	Annual Parish Meeting; 19.30 Methodist Hall
Wed 18th	Gardening Club: "Lilies;Richard and Leigh Woods; HPHS Community Lounge; 19.30
Sat 21st	BUSCA Disco; HPHS; 20.00 - 23.00
Wed 25th	Craft Afternoon; Methodist Hall;14.30 -16.00
Tues 1st	Parish Council meeting; PC office; 19.15; public participation at approx 19.30; everyone welcome
Wed 2nd	Mother's Union: "Once upon a Time"; Rev JA Heath
Sat 5th	Methodist Church Minimarket and Coffee morning; 10.00
Tues 8th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Wed 9th	Craft Afternoon; Methodist Hall;14.30 -16.00
Fri 11th	Baptists Luncheon Club; 12.30
Sat 12th	Clock Club Jumble Sale 10.00 - 11.30; Bishop Beveridge Club; admission 20p; Refreshments
Mon 14th	Holy Trinity Men's Group:"Farnborough Aircraft"; David Wilson
Wed 16th	Gardening Club: "Bees";Andrew Hardy Smith; HPHS Community Lounge; 19.30
Fri 18th	Centre Stage "Eddie and the Gold Tops"; HPHS; 19.30
Wed 22nd	Craft Afternoon; Methodist Hall;14.30 -16.00
Sat 2nd	Methodist Church Minimarket and Coffee morning; 10.00
Sun 3rd	Jubilee Picnic in the Park
Wed 6th	Mother's Union: Celebrating 120 years of MU"; 14.30
Sat 9th	Clock Club Jumble Sale 10.00 - 11.30; Bishop Beveridge Club; admission 20p; Refreshments
Mon 11th	Holy Trinity Men's Group:"Competitive swimming"; Brian Dickinson WI: Jubilee Street Party; Bishop Beveridge Club; 19.30
Tues 12th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Tues 12th	Parish Council meeting; PC office; 19.15; public participation at approx 19.30; everyone welcome
Wed 13th	Craft Afternoon; Methodist Hall;14.30 -16.00
Sat 16th	Barrow's Got Talent; HPHS; evening
Wed 20th	Gardening Club evening outing; to be arranged
Sat 23rd	Open Gardens
Sun 24th	Open Gardens

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

**BUSCA EVENTS**

SPRING DANCE  
with 'Just Us'

**MAR  
31**

DISCO DANCING  
to 70s and 80s music

**APR  
21**

'EDDIE & THE GOLD TOPS'  
A Centre Stage production

**MAY  
18**

MAY DANCE  
with Martyn Whitlam

**MAY  
19**

JUBILEE CELEBRATION  
& Big Picnic in the Park in King George V Recreation Ground  
hosted by Barrow Youth Action Group

**JUN  
3**

BARROWS GOT TALENT  
hosted by Barrow Panto Group

**JUN  
16**

BAROLYMPIX  
a Community Celebration of the Olympic Games  
with a day of five sports

**JUL  
8**

BUSCA EVENTS