

# Barrow VOICE



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Winter 2013



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FOCUS**  
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# Barrow Voice in production

**H**ere at Barrow Voice we love getting articles and letters - please keep them flowing. (We're delighted to have mail in this edition - see page five.)

However, if you send in copy with photographs embedded in the text the first thing we do is take them out, so please attach the original image separately as our magazine designers need complete flexibility and they're the ones who later arrange the pics on the page. Just thought you'd like to know.

But what about this Christmas edition? Once again we have a wide range articles from the early years of The Navi to living in very much colder Barrow, one in Alaska, to news of a local Eco House and a story from the past of a very large Barrow family that used to fit into a very small cottage. And lots on the Arts and Village Life + a Christmas Quiz that isn't too hard. What more could you possibly want?

Merry Christmas,

Gaynor Barton, Editor

## Good News!

As many of our patients are aware, there have been a lot of changes affecting the surgery. Many of them are completely out of our hands. One of those changes has been the introduction of the 111 service.

This number replaces NHS Direct. You will be asked to call this number when the surgery is closed. The operators are trained to direct your call according to your needs. If you need to be seen you will be directed to The Urgent Care Centre in Loughborough. Otherwise, the

Urgent Care Centre should only be used either if the surgery is closed or if you have an injury requiring x-ray or stitches. If you suspect you are having a heart attack or stroke then call 999.

Our Patient Participation Group, which meets every 2nd Wednesday in the month, feels that patients who have not got an up to date practice leaflet would benefit from the list of contact numbers below to have by the telephone.

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**Barrow Health Centre has a new telephone Number - 01509 274430**

## Barrow Women's Institute

**T**he Women's Institute in Barrow is celebrating its sixty-fifth birthday in 2014. Due to an increase in membership our meetings will be held at the Holy Trinity Community Room from January 2014. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Bishop Beveridge Club for accommodating us for so many years.

Our organisation offers all kinds of opportunities: catching up with friends, learning new skills and supporting campaigns. We also have very interesting speakers at our meetings with a range of diverse subjects; wine tasting, walking the Great Wall of China, Medical Detection Dogs and playing percussion instruments are just some that spring to mind.

Our meetings from 2014 will be on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm at Holy Trinity. The first two meetings will be: 08/01/2014 a talk on "Wicked Wallis" ( Simpson ), 12/02/2014 - a skittle match - venue to be arranged. You can join us for a few visits to see what you think. Enrolment is not necessary immediately and all ages are welcome.

Pat Moore - Barrow upon Soar Women's Institute





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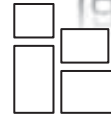
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# The Queen honours Paul

**T**he editor received a delightful email recently which we want to share with BV readers. It said "Did you know that my husband received a Queen's honour earlier this year?"

And, of course, we didn't so we went to find out more.

Paul Browning of Ridge Way in Barrow received Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. This medal was presented to a number of individuals as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, for those serving in the armed forces, uniformed services and some volunteers who routinely risk their lives.

Paul was awarded the medal for services to the Ministry of Defense working at the time in Wiltshire. Paul and his team of chemical scientists developed a technique for the rapid detection of chemicals and biological agents that might be used by an enemy in warfare – ie chemical and biological

warfare. The purpose of the technique was to protect the troops in battle and it is now used routinely by all United Nations troops.

Paul and the team realised that the technique had wider uses in civilian life, in particular to rapidly detect MRSA and other superbugs that have so plagued our hospitals. They are the bacteria that are resistant to many different antibiotics. He moved out of the MOD and into the civilian pharmaceutical industry to further develop this notion. It was this that moved Paul and his family to Barrow upon Soar - a decision that the family have not regretted.

Barrow Voice would like to extend our congratulations to Paul!

Judith Rodgers



## Proposed closing of the bridle and footpath access to Sileby Road

Dear Sir,

We are disappointed to hear that presumably Rail Track are proposing to close the footpath and bridle path across the Midland Main Line between our village and Sileby Road.

Particularly after many years of us waiting for it to be reopened. This access is ideal for getting from the northern half of the village to Sileby Road. I have had many pleasant walks to Sileby and Mountsorrell. It is a great shame at present when we have to walk up the hill in the opposite direction, then walk down the hill again towards Sileby. Previously we used to have a pleasant walk over the fields. This was the only crossing between Barrow and the outskirts of Sileby and is long due for reopening and certainly not closing this public right of way permanently. This situation will apply to another 1,000 new residents if unfortunately Jelsons build their planned 280 houses on the green-belt field immediately adjacent to the existing crossing.

I see civil engineering works commenced at Alsop's Lane at Loughborough to put in a bridle and foot bridge and that is for access only on the outskirts of a town and the other end of the lane meets the very busy and dangerous A60 half way between the Brush Works and Cotes. I cannot imagine anyone will want to ride a horse along that road. I hear this project is costing millions of pounds but this bridge would be of greater use at Barrow. At a public meeting regarding the Barrow crossing some years ago, I voiced the constructive point, "Why is Rail Track considering building an over-bridge when there is an existing under-bridge a few hundred yards further towards Sileby?" It appeared that this option and possibly the existence of this underbridge had not been considered. I can remember cycling through this bridge which is roughly opposite Vector house and gave access to Hayhill Lane and St. Margaret's mine. I understand this under-bridge has been used for some pipes then back filled with rubble. It would be far more cost effective to partially excavate this underbridge rather than repeat or reposition the bridge presently planned for Loughborough.

Yours sincerely,

Rod and Jenefir Billson

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# Barrow Alaska

**A** shared name - thank heavens not the weather!

Yet it would be a fascinating place to visit with its 'Top of the World Hotel', Wells Fargo Bank and spare-men; 107 for every 100 females if you like them tough. The downside is that the weather stays below freezing from early October to late May with the sun disappearing about Nov 18th only resurfacing in late January. And those polar nights are said to be so depressing.

Snow doesn't just fall in winter either; it can appear at any time although the weather generally is cold, dry and windy. As you'd expect being 320 miles north of the Arctic Circle the land is permanently frozen so what do the residents do? All 4,212 of them? Arrhhhhhhhh but there's oil in them thaar permafrost wastes - the drillers are here!

The oil industry itself employs a lot directly and then the shops and services necessary to keep the oilmen happy account for more. There's a Tanning Shop (sun-beds) and you can tell many have come from the Texan oilfields as there's 'Pepe's Tex Mex Restaurant - the best Tex Mex in the Arctic'. Although incomers from other parts of the States form a well-paid minority most, about 60%, are of Inupiat descent; local inhabitants we used to call Eskimos. They are employed

in the oil industry too and the service sector and unlike the incomers have a choice about food. They can buy it at hugely inflated prices from the supermarket or supplement the tins with whale, seal, polar bear, walrus, waterfowl, caribou and fish - once they've caught it. Sadly, 8% of the residents live below the poverty line. They must be Inupiat as oilmen reputedly earn shed-loads.

If this short article has aroused your interest and you have a computer please watch two 'You Tube' videos as they're so interesting. The first is 'One Day in Barrow Alaska' by Patrick Kelly. Patrick talks to Inupiat residents as they skin a walrus and, as a contrast, to a young American boy who stacks shelves in the local supermarket. It's well worth the 8 minutes it takes but make sure your sound is turned up as when Patrick's filming outside everyone is speaking against a howling wind.

The second is 'Everything (sic) Good in Barrow Alaska' by Suhachi Chutchen. This is a little shorter and gentler (no tusks, no blood) of stills of Barrow backed by what I assume to be local music. You can also find the You Tube videos on the Barrow Voice website. Just



go to [www.barrowvoice.co.uk](http://www.barrowvoice.co.uk) winter edition 2013 and find the Barrow Alaska article.

Suhachi may think everything's good in Barrow Alaska and to him it must be, but unless you're a great lover of the cold, and walrus for lunch, I think everything is infinitely better here in our Barrow.

## Historical note

The town was named after Sir John Barrow (1764 to 1848) a senior civil servant in the Admiralty and a great supporter of Arctic exploration. In gratitude for his backing of Arctic expeditions, grateful explorers named places after him including the Barrow Strait in Canada and Point Barrow in Alaska as well as the town of Barrow itself which isn't far away.

Gaynor Barton



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# Barrow's Eco-House

An eco-house is under construction at 76 Melton Road. It's being built by Bob and Jane Johnson because, as Bob says, "I am a tight Yorkshire man who resents the ever increasing gas and electricity prices." Bob and Jane intend to live in the house with Bob's mother.

The Johnsons are not builders, they're nurses, and proud of their combined 78 years working in the NHS. This was, however, not ideal preparation for the hard labour needed on the house, for example, moving 40 tons of building blocks. They have designed the house to their own specification after carrying out all the necessary research and are providing as much labour to the project as they can. Although Bob confesses that working on the scaffold at height is something he isn't coping with easily. He has invested in a safety harness!

When they bought the bungalow, which originally stood on the plot, they didn't intend demolishing it, but soon realised that to have an eco-house, knocking down and building new was a better option. Bricks from the bungalow have been recycled inside the new house and will be used for garden walls and paths. Timbers from the floors and rafters have been used to make a large shed to stand in the substantial garden.

Now for some technical details as the overall aim is to build a house that significantly reduces the need for heating. The house stands on an insulated raft

base and the walls are ICF (Insulated Concrete Form) giving a 200mm (8") layer of insulation all over the building. The green insulating blocks form a mould into which liquid concrete is poured to make the walls, which will be rendered. With draught-proof doors and windows the house will be effectively sealed so much so that it will be necessary to mechanically ventilate the rooms to change the air. Cool fresh air coming in will be heat exchanged by the warm stale air pumped out. The back of the property faces almost full south making it ideal for PV solar panels to be used to produce electricity. There won't be a gas supply so electricity will be required to heat the house during the winter months. And now that winter is approaching they will be putting the project to bed soon.

Bob and Jane wanted to take this opportunity to thank their neighbours who, on all sides, have been very supportive. Some have provided technical advice and loaned tools. They have also been pleased to see the interest shown by the passing public.

Barrow Voice wishes Bob and Jane a successful completion to a worthy

building project and hope to up-date readers with another report when the house is finished and lived in. To quote Bob again, "This might take some time."

AIan Willcocks.



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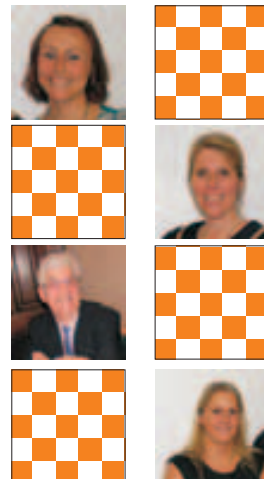
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# The early history of the Navigation Inn

**T**he Navigation Inn, or the “Navi” as it is locally known, is situated beside the canal and on a warm summer’s afternoon what could be nicer than watching the swans and the boats going past with a nice cold drink in your hand?

This was not always the case but when trying to research the history of the “Navi” I found it hard as there seemed to be few books or articles on the subject. However, the present landlord, Neil Stevens lent me all the documents he possessed to help me write this article.

The Navigation was built soon after the opening of the canal in 1794. The first recorded entry was in 1803 when it appears that the Bradshaw family inherited the property in a will. We find out more when William Bradshaw who was born in 1834 took over what was described as a lodging house in which people who worked at the local mill took rooms. He was a shoe maker and cobbler but he and his wife

Elizabeth looked after the lodgers as well as the horses that pulled the narrow boats. There were stables underneath the building.

William, being a shrewd business man, now progressed to become a tax collector, together with his partners, The Reverend Dashwood of Standford Hall and Thomas Craddock. He sold the lodging house to the Leicester Navigation company in 1861. They continued to run the property until the 1920’s during which time the canals were being run down in favour of the railways and the roads.

The property was sold again to a Mr Frederic Stenson of Sharpe and Sons, Sileby Brewery, for the sum of £650 in 1920. The

photo shown here was taken at the turn of the 20th century and advertises the “Celebrated Sileby Ales”. It was sold on again four years later to the “Star Brewery of Nottingham” under James Shipstone for the princely sum of £1,000.

The earlier documents of sale in the 1800’s, written in Victorian legal jargon, are difficult to understand particularly for an untrained eye, but they have opened a discussion which will continue with this article. Hopefully, residents of Barrow may be able to add information or correct details in this article. Do please contact the editor.

Sue Ellingworth



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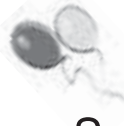
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# The Hunt for King Richard III

**R**ichard Buckley was the lead archaeologist of the team that discovered the burial site of Richard III so it is not surprising that his presentation at the Methodist Church was sold out a month before the event.

His talk was a fascinating account, not only of the discovery of Richard III's skeleton but also of the history of Leicester. He showed slides and photographs throughout.

Richard explained that when the excavation began, in August 2012, there were five things that the team hoped to achieve.

1. Find the friary
2. Identify specific buildings
3. Locate the church
4. Locate the east end where the choir was
5. Actually find the body.

Given that they expected to complete the dig in a fortnight, Richard admitted that he was not expecting to achieve all of the above. Indeed, he said at the time that if they found the remains of

Richard III he would eat his hat. One of the more amusing slides we saw was the one where Richard Buckley seemed to be attempting to do just that.

The pictures of the skeleton in the grave were of particular interest. The grave was too short for the body so the upper part of the torso and the head was leaning at an angle. There was no coffin or shroud and the hands were crossed as if they had been tied together. This would have been when Richard's near naked body was slung over a horse in order to carry him from Bosworth Field back to Leicester. The slides showed the curvature of the spine very clearly. The injuries sustained by Richard, both during the battle and afterwards, when his body was no longer protected by armour, could be clearly seen on the skull and this helped to confirm his identity as it tallied with historical accounts.



Although the presentation was delivered in a lively and often amusing way, I am sure that most of those present felt, as I did, a sense of disquiet when contemplating the fate of Richard III. The sight of the damaged skeleton, squashed into a poorly dug, rough grave, made me feel rather sad and the slides showing the damage to Richard's skull along with the description of how the injuries were inflicted, were quite shocking. One of the last slides shown was a facial reconstruction of Richard III. And suddenly we were looking at the human being whose shattered skull and broken body we had just seen. Awesome!

Julie Gardner

## Barrow Village Street Market

As some of you may be aware, the Parish Council are hoping to organise a regular street market in the village. As planning is still in the early stages, it is not known how often this would be held, maybe once a month or more frequently if the demand is there. Speaking to Antonia Goater, a Parish Councillor, she told me that she has plenty of good ideas and has met with lots of enthusiasm from the people she has spoken to so far.

Do you make craft items or bake delicious cakes? Maybe you have a surfeit of fruit and vegetables from your garden or allotment, or you might be a local trader. Then why not have a stall to sell your goods.?

If you are interested in this new venture, please contact Lesley at the Parish Council Office on 416016; she will be able to help you with more information.

Val Gillings.



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# A Barrow Family Record

When I recently read an item in the Loughborough Echo about the Lowe family of brothers and sisters I wanted to discover more information about this remarkable family of 11 siblings, most of them born in Barrow. The family moved to Barrow in 1932 because Jack Lowe, the father, had a “job on the roads” with the council. Mrs Lowe had recently suffered the death of her second child and had been told, by doctors, that it would be unlikely that she would carry any more children. So much for Barrow air: she went on to have 10 more! What is even more remarkable is that all 11 are still alive and thriving. This despite the very real hardships they endured especially during the war.



Fortunately, I was able to meet Linda Cutler, Florence (Flo) Merry-Weather, Dorothy (Dot) Wheldon, Fred and Geoff Lowe to talk in more detail about the family and some of their memories about living in Barrow. Geoff remembers, when he was just 6 years old, listening to Neville Chamberlain’s speech declaring war, on his neighbour’s radio over the garden wall of their house in Beveridge Street. He and Fred, aged 11, were on their way to deliver newspapers.

It was during the war that the family, then consisting of 7 children plus their parents were joined by 2 families of refugees from London. Altogether, with the newcomers, the Jones and Perry families, the numbers in this 2 bedroomed house swelled to 17! Thankfully, the Jones family stayed for just 2 weeks but with 14 people remaining it was a very crowded dwelling. Fred and Geoff recall that when they were children, they could name every inhabitant in Barrow. Imagine trying to do that today!

**Do you know of a milestone birthday or anniversary about to be celebrated in Barrow (e.g a Golden Wedding or 100th birthday)?**

In the near future, the Parish Council would love to hear from you; nominations, to include the occasion, name(s) and address, should be sent to the Clerk in writing or by email [clerk@barrowpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@barrowpc.org.uk)

We hope to honour the person or people with a personalised greetings card.

Mrs Lowe was a very religious woman and Holy Trinity church became a large part of family life. Every Sunday the children attended church, sometimes 3 times during the course of the day. Many of them were bell ringers, (Jack was captain of the ringers) Sunday school teachers and the younger ones became members of the church Youth Club and the Girls Friendly Society.

Like many families in Barrow they had their weekly groceries from the Co-op. Every member of the family, down to the youngest, can still recite the Co-op shopping list which lasted through rationing and beyond. These provisions were supplemented with food gathered from the hedgerows and Mrs Lowe’s cooking skills kept the family fed. Though often hungry their diet must have been a healthy one. I asked Fred, aged 85, why he thought they were all so fit. He replied, “My mam used to say that hard work never killed anybody. We all worked hard from a very young age.” For the 3 decades around the 2nd World War, Barrow on Soar was the nurturing ground of this family; they delivered newspapers, they

worked in the fields picking potatoes and peas, Fred even remembers having to cycle to Loughborough to fetch a block of ice for the fish shop on a bike that was too big for him!

Despite the hard work there were some high spots of leisure such as playing on the Monkey Hills or the Big and Little Delphs and also the meadows down Mill Lane where they all learned to play cricket. They made visits to Proctors Pleasure Park for special occasions and the most exciting event of the year was the fair just off North Street.

Finally, school and homework were considered to be important. This certainly had its rewards as within the family there are those with PhDs, Masters Degrees, Teaching Certificates and Fellows of Royal Institutions. I was both amazed and at times shocked by some of the memories that Fred, Flo, Geoff, Dot and Linda shared with me but they and the rest of their siblings, with a collective age of 819 years, are, in my opinion, truly remarkable. Thank you.

Ginnie Willcocks



# Mary, Joseph and Jesus but the donkey's a bike!

And a bright red one at that! It's just one of the many 'Unusual Nativities' from around the world on display at the Methodist Church on Saturday and Sunday December 14th and 15th. Do go and have a look as the exhibition is free and the Nativities delightful. They vary widely in origin from Latin America (Peru and Mexico) the Middle East (Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Lebanon) to Scandinavia and America and come in all shapes and sizes; some you even plug in! The red bike Nativity illustrated is Portuguese.

The exhibition was first held here three years ago and has gone from strength to strength growing from an initial 120 Nativities to the present two hundred. Mike Morley and Janet Thompson admit that church members are extremely good at buying nativities when abroad or cadging them from friends, relatives, neighbours or even total strangers they accost on Barrow's streets! This way they ensure each year contains some that are different. Youngsters are involved too. Barrow playgroup, Lime Tree Nursery, Fourfold and Hall Orchard pupils contribute their own nativity scenes and so add a hand-made touch to the commercially produced majority.

You'll find the Nativities in the church itself yet they are far from the whole story. There's a Bethlehem Bistro (refreshments) in the Main Hall, Bethlehem Boutique (children's dressing-up costumes) and Joseph's Workshop (children's crafts) in the Coffee Lounge; life size sheep graze in the stable in the Foyer.

The opening ceremony starts at 11am on the 14th with Ady Dayman opening the exhibition. Many readers will be familiar with his name from hearing him talk about gardening on BBC Radio Leicester. The exhibition closes at 5pm. At 7pm the same day Lesia Smaditch directs "Musical Village" a Leicestershire based



community choir in a concert of popular songs and Christmas music - Concert tickets are £5 each. On Sunday Dec 15th the exhibition is only open from 12 noon to 4pm.

Gaynor Barton

## A Christmas Tale

It was cold and dark when I was a seed, then a miracle happened....

As the cold lessened I began to stretch and grow until the day I saw the sun for the first time.

What a wonderful sight that was, and as the warmth spread my roots grew down and my branches up to reach the blue above.

But what is this?

My lovely warm and cosy home is turned upside down and I am flying...

landing with a thump!

Ooh I think I like it!

I can feel my roots tingling as they meet the cool soil around me. So I look....Where am I?

So much space and air to breathe....but there behind is another tree which looks a bit like me....He is big, so big....his branches so wide.....

and he seems kindly for all his size.

I sit and grow in the sun and rain until one day the rain turns into tiny flakes and Magic happens  
My tiny branches are turning white, it is so cold and beautiful.

My big friend looks expectantly across the field and I see the

man carrying a ladder and a string of lights.

I listen and watch mesmerised as my friend is decorated with beautiful colours.

The man and his ladder go away. In the night there is another fall of snow and my friend becomes transformed. His branches twinkle and glow amongst the snowflakes.

Maybe one day when I grow big the man will decorate my branches too with his magic.

Your friend

The littlest Christmas tree

Maggie J





# Christmas Quiz 2013

1. Who sang the winter song 'Driving home for Christmas' ?
2. In 'The twelve days of Christmas' what did my true love send to me on the ninth day?
3. In which Christmas film classic is it said that 'Every time a bell rings, an angel gets wings' ?
4. London's Trafalgar Square Christmas tree is traditionally given by which country?
5. Name the nine reindeer that pull Santa's sleigh.
6. What colour are the berries of the mistletoe plant?
7. What is New Year's Eve called in Scotland?
8. What Christmas item was invented by London baker Tom Smith in 1847?
9. From which country does the Christmas plant Poinsettia originate?
10. What is the chemical formula of snow?
11. Which organisation in 1949 was the first to produce a charity Christmas card?
12. What is a baby turkey correctly called other than a chick?
13. What Christmas item takes its name from the old French word *estincelle*, meaning spark?
14. Which long running TV series features a character called 'Santa's Little Helper' ?
15. In the traditional mince pie, which ingredient would make it unsuitable for a vegetarian?
16. In which fictional land is it always winter, but never Christmas?
17. Which fruity sauce is the usual accompaniment for the Christmas turkey?
18. Which rock singer starred in the film "Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence"?
19. Which nickname for Hollywood sounds Christmassy?
20. British children hang stockings up for Santa. What do Dutch children put out?

Answers are on page 19

## God's love - the heart of Christmas

**Christmas Services** - Churches Together in Barrow upon Soar wish you all a Very Happy Christmas.

### Holy Trinity

Sun 22nd	6.00 pm	Carol Service
Tues 24th	5.30 pm	Crib Service
	11.30 pm	Midnight Holy Communion
Wed 25th	9.45 am	All Age Holy Communion

### Methodist

Sun 22nd	6.00 pm	Traditional Carols
Tues 24th	6.00 pm	Crib Service
Wed 25th	10.00 am	Christmas Family Worship

You are very welcome to all Christmas Services

### Baptist

Sun 22nd	10.45 am	Nativity
	6.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight
Wed 25th	10.00 am	Christmas Family Service

### Catholic

Sun 22nd	3.30 pm	Joint Carol Service – Syston
Tues 24th	6.00 pm	Children's Mass – Sibley
	9.00 pm	Night Mass – Syston
Wed 25th	9.00 am	Dawn Mass – Sibley
	10.30 am	Day Mass - Syston



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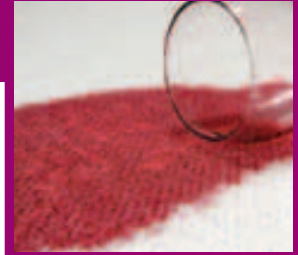
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# 60 Seconds with Julie Gardner:



'60 Seconds' has returned for the Winter edition of Barrow Voice and Julie has kindly agreed to provide us with some interesting replies to the usual questions.

**I** first met Julie soon after she arrived in Barrow in 1985 and we've been friends ever since. It's good to have her as a contributing member of the Barrow Voice Team and I look forward to and enjoy reading her articles; they are always interesting and informative. I understand the Book Club has a regular membership at their monthly meetings as a result of her piece about this fairly new village group.

I'd like to thank Julie for sharing 60 seconds with me and I hope you enjoy her responses.

*How long have you been involved with Barrow Voice and what do you like best about the magazine?*

I've been writing for BV for about a year although I have done some proof reading in the past. I like reading about people in the village - but I enjoy the variety of the magazine.

*If you had to describe yourself in one word, what would it be?*

Like everyone else I'm a complex individual so it's virtually impossible to describe anyone in one word. I asked some friends what they thought and the recurring theme was 'giggly'. That might surprise some of my pupils!

*Do you have any pets and if so what do you have and what are their names?*

I am besotted by next door's cat, Milo, who loves to sleep on my bird table.

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

Notebooks and pens to finally write that novel, a box of books to read - fiction and poetry, a luxury bathroom, a crate of Shiraz and I'd have to have access to Radio 4. Is that five? Mmmmm!

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

I moved to Barrow for the first time when my first husband came here as Rector in 1985. I lived here for 13 years then. When we separated it was hard to leave my home and the village - but the house came with his job so there was no choice. After 7 years living in Quorn I came back to the village in 2004 when Arthur and I married. After he died in 2008 I moved to my third address in the village.

*What would be your ideal holiday?*

Staying with family or friends, perhaps on the Norfolk or Suffolk coast, doing lots of walking, talking, reading and eating.

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

I retired from primary school teaching in 2012 (after 39 years) but I still work in school in a supporting role - and enjoy every minute.

*What is your motto for life?*

Be kind, Be truthful, Be polite.

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

Times are hard for publications like Barrow Voice. My hope is that the people of Barrow value the magazine - and show that by reading it and keeping it so that when they need a local builder or plumber or whatever, they find them in BV. Then it's a win / win situation. The village gets a great magazine which pays for itself through advertisements. And the people who place the advertisements feel it's money well spent.

I'd also like to see more reader's letters so that the magazine becomes a place where issues affecting the village are debated openly.

Ginnie Willcocks

## Christmas Quiz Answers

- |   |                          |                     |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Chris Rea  | 7. Hogmanay              | 15. Suet            |
| 2. Ladies dancing   | 8. The Christmas Cracker | 16. Narnia          |
| 3. It's a Wonderful Life  | 9. Mexico                | 17. Cranberry sauce |
| 4. Norway   | 10. H2o                  | 18. David Bowie     |
| 5. Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner, Blitzen, Rudolph | 11. Unicef               | 19. Tinsel Town     |
| 6. White  | 12. Poult                | 20. Shoes / clogs   |
|   | 13. Tinsel               |                     |
|   | 14. The Simpsons         |                     |





## Barrow-upon-Soar Parish Council News

01509 416016

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# Barrow Focus

[www.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/barrowuponsoar](http://www.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/barrowuponsoar)

**This edition of Barrow Focus is completely taken up with the Barrow Neighbourhood Plan. If you need details of meetings you will find a full calendar, agenda and minutes (following approval) on the Parish Council website. Minutes of Full Council meetings are displayed in the Parish Council office window as are agendas, to comply with statutory requirements. All meetings are held in public. Meetings of Full Council are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month preceded by public participation, starting at 7:15 at the Parish Council Offices unless stated otherwise.**



## Barrow upon Soar 2030

### What will life in Barrow be like in 2030?

#### What will the village look like?

Barrow will need to develop over the coming years to meet the needs of all sections of the community and yes, that may mean more housing but also improvements to the village's physical and social make-up as well as preserving aspects that residents value.

What can you do to influence any of this? Well, over the next 12 months you can.....

- Read the article below about a Neighbourhood Plan for Barrow
- Talk with friends/family/village organisations and groups
- Make a list of what is important to you and what changes you would like to see
- Think about the type of homes you would like to see being built and where you feel they should be located.
- Most importantly, make sure your views are heard by attending events that the Parish Council will be organising, or by emailing, writing to or speaking with the Clerk or Councillors

The Parish Council has prepared the groundwork, however, the most important part of creating a Neighbourhood Plan is collecting your views, ideas and priorities. You can make a real difference for future generations in shaping the future of life in Barrow.





## So what is Neighbourhood Planning?

Neighbourhood planning is a new process passed by the Government within the Localism Bill. The process has been designed to enable the local community to influence the planning and development of their area, by helping to decide:

- The most appropriate places for new homes, shops, offices, leisure facilities and other developments
- The type of development needed and what it should look like.
- Which areas, valued by the community, should be protected
- What improvements/additions to local facilities and services will be required alongside any development

## Why does it matter?

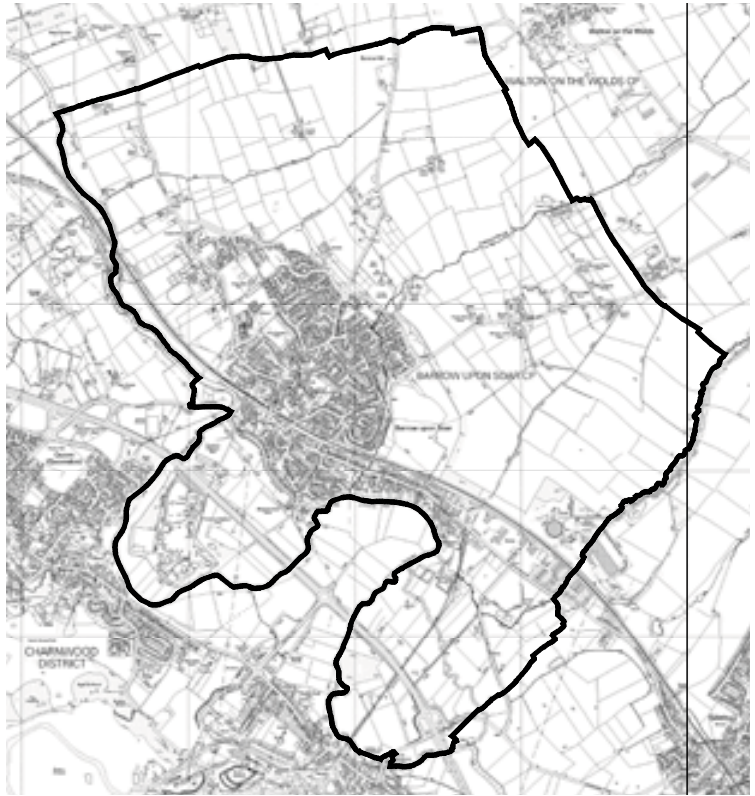
The planning system helps to decide what gets built, where and when. In theory, local communities were always supposed to have a say in decisions that affect them. However, in practice, people have often found that their voices are just not heard.

The Neighbourhood Planning process will result in the production of a legally recognised document which will be used to ensure that the needs, views and priorities of the local community are fully considered when assessing future proposed development within the area.

## What will the plan look at?

The 'Barrow Plan' will look at all issues related to the use and development of land and buildings in and around the village. This may include, but is not limited to:

- The development of housing (need, location, type, tenure etc)
- Local employment and opportunities for businesses to set up or expand.
- Transport and access issues ( roads, cycling, walking etc)
- Provision of healthcare, schools, leisure facilities, places of worship, entertainment, and youth facilities.
- The design and site layout of new buildings.
- Protection and creation of open spaces (nature reserves, allotments, sports pitches, play areas, parks and gardens).
- Environmental issues (planting of trees, flowers, collecting litter etc).
- Installation of renewable energy/alternative energy solutions.
- Protection of important buildings and historic assets



## How can the community get involved?

Over the next few months there will be a number of opportunities for those who live, work, or run businesses within the parish to become involved in the process of producing 'The Barrow Plan'. If you would like further information at this stage, please contact the Parish Council on 01509 416016 / [clerk@barrowpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@barrowpc.org.uk) or the Rural Community Council (Leics & Rutland) on 0116 266 2905 or email [ruraladvice@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:ruraladvice@ruralcc.org.uk)

The first 'Visioning' event will be held on 31st January 2014 2pm to 8pm at the Bishop Beveridge Club, South Street. Tea, biscuits and a very warm welcome awaits. Make your views count.



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## Review

# The Mystery of Talbot Manor

October 12th was a dark and gloomy Saturday evening. Rain lashed down as a group of people hurried through the streets of Barrow. Others came by car, headlamps picking up the shadows as tree branches swayed in the wind. Gradually they all gathered in the hall at Humphrey Perkins School.

There they were met by a distinctly strange butler who barked out instructions and observations. The polite murmur of conversation was interrupted at intervals by the high pitched screams of the waitress and, as people sat at tables, preparing to be served their meals, she visited each group, asking if there were any knives missing. The more observant amongst the crowd noticed that a woman stood close to the door, her face very serious. She spoke to no-one but she watched very carefully. Suddenly the lights flickered and died. A murder was about to take place.

If this doesn't sound like the Barrow you know and love, don't worry. Barrow Panto Group's production of 'The Mystery at

Talbot Manor' turned out to be a very enjoyable evening, despite the mysterious circumstances surrounding the death of Marcus Talbot, played by Craig Johnstone. The audience were given a generous ploughman's supper while they discussed the suspects. Was it the family solicitor, played by Simon Long, or perhaps it was Liberty, the long-lost sister (played by Jackie Johnstone) who had just turned up from America with her beau, Thaddeus Kent (Stephen Bennett). Perhaps Ruby, the excitable and unstable maid (Vicki Wallin) had done the dastardly deed but why had Dr Harriet Finch (Val Gillings) appeared from no-where claiming her car had been swept away by the floods? Or did the butler (David Spiller) do it? There was clearly something rather odd about him.

The audience got a chance to interrogate all the suspects and there were some penetrating questions and definitely a few red herrings before the villain was finally identified. It was Thaddeus!

Congratulations to all the cast and their director Helen Sadler. Clearly they had worked extremely hard and they provided us with a very entertaining evening. Praise is also due for the special effects team who provided some truly dramatic lighting, to the set designers and painter and to the very efficient young waitresses who served the food.

Julie Gardner



## A Viennese musical feast coming on January 18th - don't miss it!

With record ticket sales for last year's Viennese Evening, despite sub-zero temperatures, Charnwood Orchestra will again bring Vienna back to Christmas-time Barrow for our 40th Birthday year. So in addition to watching it on the tele, you'll again be able to experience a live reconstruction of the famous Strauss concerts of 19th and 20th century Austria.

Charnwood Orchestra's Viennese Evening "Birthday at the Ball" is on January 18th 2014 at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre starting at 7.00pm. As you enter you will be offered a free glass of birthday bubbly to get you in the mood. The Hall will be decked with beautiful flower arrangements (thanks to Ann) and the players will look suitably festive. Apart from the three favourite must-haves: Blue Danube Waltzes, Thunder and Lightning Polka and Radetsky March, we have yet another new programme for you including Strauss II's Village Swallows, Lumbye's The Champagne Galop and

Ziehrer's The Magic of the Uniform. We will also be welcoming a wonderful soprano soloist, Elizabeth Ryder, to sing a selection of songs including the Laughing Song from Die Fledermaus and Vilja's Song from The Merry Widow: you'll want to join in!

Tickets will cost £12.00 (£11.00 concessions) and £3.00 for accompanied children under 16. They are available from the Paper Shop, Barrow upon Soar or by phoning 07718 153117 or emailing judithrogers155@gmail.com

Judith Rodgers



# Pilates & Fitness

## Classes in Barrow

Small friendly classes, suitable for a range of ages and abilities



<b>Monday</b>	9:30 - 10:30am	Tums & Bums
	10.30 - 11.30am	Pilates
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	8:00 - 9:00pm	Pilates
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 - 10:30am	Tums & Bums
	10:45 - 11:45am	Pilates
	7:00 - 8:00pm	Pilates

All above classes at the Baptist Church Rooms, Beveridge St (the Gap Rooms)

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# March winds blow Centre Stage back to Barrow with 'Freddy Dare and the Ginger Robber'

**F**red Andrews is short for his age, can't play football, and making friends at his new secondary school is proving difficult.

His Dad died a while ago, and Fred's Mum is too sad to pay attention to him. Fred wants to change his world – and so he does. He becomes Freddy Dare – a superhero with a glamorous accomplice, the Ginger Robber! Together they must overcome 'The Mistress', steal their opportunity and dance their way to Vegas! Will they make it?

Is it a film? Is it a play? Yes ... 'Freddy Dare & the Ginger Robber' brings you both!

In a show to be enjoyed by both adults and children the actors take the audience on an epic adventure involving striking visual effects, great music and a dazzling script which packs an emotional punch. Theatre, film and adventure for those aged 8 to 108!

This Centre Stage show (ie professional theatre) is on Sunday March 16th in Humphrey Perkins Community Centre starting at 7.00pm. Tickets bought on the door will cost £9, £8 concessions, £5 for children under 16 and a family ticket for £26. However, if you buy your tickets in advance you gain a £1 discount for each ticket. Tickets will be on sale in The Paper Shop or by phone from 413227 or 07718153117 or email [judithrodgers155@gmail.com](mailto:judithrodgers155@gmail.com) The venue is fully accessible for wheelchair users.



# The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe

Humphrey Perkins Community Centre

Friday 22nd & 23rd November







# BOSCAPS

**3**50 children attended Barrow On Soar Children's Activity Play Scheme from August 5th to 9th 2013 at Humphrey Perkins School.

Children attending the dance workshop practised all week to put on an excellent performance on Friday 9th August

There were numerous activities throughout the week including crafts, sports, hair braiding, biscuit decorating, circus skills and the 'animal workshop'

Wednesday's highlight was a visit from Leicester City player Liam Moore, an ex pupil of Humphrey Perkins School. Liam spent the morning on the sports' field sharing his skills with the children.



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 41 The Banks, Barrow upon Soar  
 Loughborough, Leicestershire

## Barrow Voice

IN EACH ISSUE

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

- The Latest Village News
- Reports On Issues Affecting People- 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			£ 17.30	£ 65.74	£ 59.17
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½ B&W	203 x 142.4	landscape	£ 102.30	£ 388.74	£ 349.87
½ colour			£ 122.00	£ 463.60	£ 417.24
Full B&W	203 x 290	portrait	£ 187.50	£ 712.50	£ 641.25
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All enquiries should be made through:  
 Judith Rodgers • 07718 153117 or [advertising@barrowvoice.co.uk](mailto:advertising@barrowvoice.co.uk)





# Soar Valley Guides and Brownies need more help!

**G**irlguiding isn't an elite group of girls and leaders. It's not a closed club where you have to know someone who knows someone who's been involved for the full 100 years; it's the largest youth organisation for girls in the UK today, a place where all girls and women are offered the chance to take part in a range of incredible activities, discover the world around them and gain self-confidence in a safe, girl-only space.

Soar Valley covers Barrow and the Wolds Villages and from the youngest 5 yr old Rainbow to the Leader of 20 or more years we aim to follow the Five Essentials of Girlguiding.

1. Working together in small groups
2. Encouraging self-government and decision making
3. Giving a Balanced and Varied programme
4. Caring for the individual
5. Sharing a commitment to a common standard

### But we need help to do even more.

Currently we have another 24 girls waiting to join and another 20 girls soon to turn 5 on the waiting list! Two or three more leaders would make all the difference and **YOU** could do it! From the occasional shopping trip to a full time leader **YOU** could do it! Every leader starts not quite knowing what she has let herself in for, but

all of our Unit Leaders have been involved for 10 or more years (and most of the assistant leaders have done at least 5 too). Doesn't that say something? About an hour and a half a week or something far more involved, it is entirely up to you, and ladies it looks great on your C.V!

Putting up a tent in the rain, tea with Santa, songs around a campfire, badge work, charity work, swimming, badminton, walking, laughing, going on a haggis hunt, hot chocolate and marshmallows, sleeping in a museum (or, if we are honest, not sleeping much at all) the list is endless. It can be hard work, but most of the time it's just FUN! And next year we are celebrating 100 years of Brownies too. What are you waiting for? An invitation??? Well here it is. Isn't now a great time to get involved?

For more information please do call our District Commissioner, Linda, on 07974958497 or take a look at: [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

### BARROW GUIDES GO ZOOMING AROUND

Over 250 Guides and senior section girls from all over Leicestershire descended upon the county camp site at Topstones for a week long camp in August – **ZOOM!** The theme was 'transport' and Barrow Guides were in the 'Boats' sub-camp. The week was packed with activities both on and offsite. In **ZOOM UP** the girls climbed high ropes, a spider wall and giant slides. Georgia, safely harnessed for her climb, slipped down (in her harness), landed on a wheelie bin and squashed it flat! In **ZOOM IN** they spent a day participating in a stomp workshop with drums, sticks, body percussion and anything that could make a (rhythmic) noise. In **ZOOM AROUND** they joined in a team challenge and were only narrowly beaten by 'Trains'. In **ZOOM OUT** they had a day trip to Tallington Lakes to do sailing, swimming, rafting and canoeing and in **ZOOM ON** they had a day of **IT'S**

*continued over...*

**A KNOCKOUT** on giant inflatables (who was it who fell in the foam pit? Guess!). In the evenings they relaxed at Girl Heaven (pampering sessions, hair styling etc), the Chill out Zone (fruit cocktails, the cinema, Zumba, quizzes and shopping). On the final evening there was a fantastic Closing Ceremony with a giant campfire followed by a disco. The sun shone most of the time, new friends were made, new skills learnt. Most of us survived (including the leaders – just) and a great deal of fun was had by everyone. We were especially proud that two Barrow girls – Hannah and Lucy Kenny were in the winning team at the STOMP finals at the end of the week. [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

Frances Acton  
1st Barrow Upon Soar Guides

Brownies are celebrating the fact that they are 100 years old in 2014. In the Soar Valley District we have 3 thriving Brownie Packs (2 in Barrow and 1 in Wymeswold.) Brownies are as relevant to girls in the 21st century as they were 100 years ago. Brownies are for girls who are between the ages of 7 to 10 and judging by our waiting lists, it is still very popular to join the Brownies and take part in the fun activities organised by the

trained volunteers that lead them. From 1st September a new Promise has been introduced that reflects how the girls feel about their own organisation and where it fits in with today's society.

**The New Promise:**

The (Brownie) Guide Law

I promise that I will do my best:  
To be true to myself and develop my beliefs,  
To serve the Queen and my community,  
To help other people and To keep the (Brownie) Guide Law

[www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

Wendy Stephens - Brown Owl  
2nd Barrow Upon Soar Brownies



Do you have a few hours to spare and would like to do something useful with your time?

Maybe you're new to the village and want to make new friends...

If so  
**GIRL GUIDING SOAR VALLEY DISTRICT NEEDS YOU!**

We have 2 Rainbow, 3 Brownie and 2 Guide Units all looking for help. No qualifications necessary, all training given, only a DBS (CRB) needs to be completed before you could start.

Running a Unit or working with the girls at Unit Meetings may not be your thing, but there are plenty of other jobs that need doing: accounts, shopping, camping, badge work. Every single one of you will have the skills to do some, or all of it, so please do think seriously about helping and giving more girls the chance to be part of Girlguiding.

Please call our District Commissioner, Linda, if you have any questions or would like more information on 07974958497



**Barrow Panto Group Presents...**



**MOTHER GOOSE**  
script by John Hill

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 7pm  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm & 7pm

at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre, Cotes Rd, Barrow-Upon-Soar

**Tickets: £7 & £5 (Concessions)**

AVAILABLE FROM

- The Paper Shop, High St, Barrow-Upon-Soar
- Box Office: 07718 153 117
- Email: [judithroddgers155@gmail.com](mailto:judithroddgers155@gmail.com)





# Watch out Chelsea.

## Barrow's on the move!

Three weeks into September, Barrow hosted two Growing events, one two years old and the other 44 years. Next year, it's planned that they will be run together – the old and the new as one event. So, watch out Chelsea Flower Show!

On Saturday 21st September, the Methodist Fruit and Vegetable show opened its doors in the morning and afternoon. Later on in the afternoon and evening, the Barrow upon Soar Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society held its 44th Annual Open Show at the Conservative Club. I enjoyed walking around both with camera at the ready, admiring the quite fantastic blooms, the perfect beans, the un-manky apples and the skill and patience of all the growers. I went to talk to the organisers of both events.

Tilly Yates has been muttering for some time about reviving the village Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show.

Presumably the combined effort of several of her friends saying "Well, get organizing!" has had the desired effect. The team have successfully held two shows in the Methodist Hall and it is now an annual event. They were thrilled that there were so many more children involved in growing and showing as well as more visitors to admire more exhibits – 200 plus entries this year which was 100 more than last year. The brilliant idea of a 'Plant a Bean Day' in May certainly was a successful way of getting more children to be enthusiastic about growing all manner of seeds.

Both shows bring in an expert to judge the exhibits and this year was no exception.

However, the judge for the Methodist Show did admit that she had overlooked the lack of knowledge about presentation. Next year will be different and much more guidance will be given and rules will need to be stuck to. For example leeks have to flat on the table with clean roots, not propped up; a cabbage must not be stripped of its outer leaves; (that would cut me out for a start) soft fruit must be displayed as 6 or 15 berries and must have their stalks on. I was just green with envy: as a vegetable gardener, I go for quantity not quality and if I eat more slugs, caterpillars and blackfly as a result, then too bad. But I would be laughed out of the show to exhibit what I grow.

All in all, it was a lovely village event, buzzing with people of all ages many of whom were admiring the children's miniature gardens and laughing at the funny vegetables. Well done everyone!

Later in the day, I was able to enjoy the chrysanthemums and dahlias and to speak to Martyn Bryers. He was elected to run the very first meeting of the chrysanthemum and dahlia growers in July 1970. 44 years on, he still fills the role of Chairman and President! I suspect such stability is a really unusual situation. Not that he is confined to Barrow as his universe: Martyn won his first red ticket



(1st prize) in London in 1970 and is on the Executive Committee of the NCS, the committee that runs the Chelsea Flower Show as well as the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.

What I was admiring in this show were "early blooms", the exquisite flowers grown in pots outside. In November the club has its late show and by then, the pots have been brought into greenhouses. Both the chrysanthemums and dahlias form stunning blooms that will last for at least 3 weeks. The chrysanthemums are apparently more conservative than the dahlias in both their range of shapes (curves, reflex and intermediates) and colour. The dahlias come in small, medium and large decoratives, cactus – spikey, water lilies, pompoms, colourettes and giant decoratives. Nobody has yet managed to produce a black or blue bloom of either although there are green chrysanthemums. In order to produce the required number of show blooms, Martyn has to grow 260 pots of chrysanthemums and he certainly doesn't have room to grow dahlias as well. The dedication required to show anything at all is quite amazing.

The two annual shows (earlies and lates in November) generate about £500 from sponsorship and donations and this is now given to the Marie Curie Cancer Care charity. This amount is raised despite being poorly supported by the village. There haven't been any new members for too long and the hope is that by combining with the Methodist Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show more interest will be generated. Next year's combined event will be on Saturday 20th September; Barrow Voice will remind you nearer the time!

Judith Rodgers



# Pilates? Me?

The Barrow Voice team are always keen to report on different types of sporting activity “We’ve never done anything on Pilates” says I. It was immediately suggested that I should write up a piece as I knew virtually nothing about this form of exercise other than it had something to do with ones pelvic floor!

I rang one of the Barrow based instructors who suggested I should attend a class. I was assured it wasn’t just about pelvic floor muscles. I was advised to bring a towel, a bottle of water and to wear loose, comfortable clothing. The clothing side was a relief as I was having nightmares about, a) trying to find my leotard and b) trying to squeeze into it.

I was made very welcome by the Pilates teacher as well as those attending the class. I was advised to only do the exercises I was comfortable with and my response to the question about any health problems was to admit to the usual creaks and stiffness of joints that most people of my age experience. The class began with some smooth, simple stretches and from these stretches movement developed gradually into more complex positions. I managed to keep up with almost everything but decided to give the balancing on one arm and one knee a miss as my co-ordination isn’t all it should be and I was fearful of toppling over. The movements incorporate engaging muscles in the abdomen and yes in the pelvic area, as well as ‘hip circles’, ‘leg extensions’, ‘a rounding back’ plus other exercises in all areas of the body whilst regulating breathing according to the nature of the exercise. As the routine comes to the finishing point you gradually wind down from the peak of the exercise, come back to a standing position and have a final stretch.



My initial reaction to my first lesson was “Amazing”. I could not believe that an hour had passed, the level of concentration is astonishing, the breathing is tricky but I was assured that most people struggle initially to get the timing of the breathing correct. It’s both gentle and tough at the same time. I also realised that my shoulders are not as supple as I thought. I spoke to a few of the class members who told me that they had found the exercise extremely helpful as they had

either suffered injuries or had a problem with their physical health. I thoroughly enjoyed this type of work-out and I’ll definitely be going again.

If you are interested in finding out more please see the adverts for classes in this edition of Barrow Voice.

Ginnie Willcocks

## BUSCA

**BUSCA is delighted to announce that the Public Meeting in October voted unanimously to turn BUSCA into a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation).**

We are giving you advanced news of a BUSCA Launch on Tuesday March 25th in the Restaurant at Humphrey Perkins School.

We will, in future, be encouraging residents to become Members of BUSCA and we would like to showcase some of the things this vibrant village organisation gets up to. We want your involvement! Please ink in March 25th into your diary! And watch out for more news in posters, Facebook, website etc.



**BARROW UPON SOAR  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Registered Charity No. 505692  
[www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk)





## Charlotte; Barrow's future kayaking Para-Olympian?

**I** have lived in Barrow for the last 14 years, after moving from Nottingham where I was born. In the summer of 2011 I had an accident in the USA which left me paralysed from my chest down and a full time wheelchair user. Prior to my accident I was part of the England Under 21 Hockey Squad and had a successful career, unfortunately cut short, but not one to let anything stop me, the moment I left hospital I was on my laptop researching different sports that I could take part in.

During early 2013 I was invited to an initiative, hosted by UK Sport, to find the next group of up and coming athletes. This was called, 'Paralympic Potential: Road to Rio'. The idea of this was to identify athletes who could be the 'potential' medal winners at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games. During this event I was tested in many different sports, to see where my potential lay, or to see if I had any at all! Thankfully for me, I was identified in Paracanoe. This is to be a new sport added for the 2016 Paralympics.

In early August, I was invited by GB Canoeing to attend an assessment day at Holme Pierpoint, Nottingham. For me, this was the first time I had ever got into a canoe. Although nervous and slightly wobbly, I had a great time and knew that canoeing was something that I wanted to do. For me, less than a week later, I had a phone call asking me to join the GB Canoeing Talent Identification Program.

Ever since that phone call, I have been training full time down at Holme Pierpoint, Nottingham. I am now on a full time

program, Monday to Friday and can say that I'm loving every minute of it. During the summer, I took part in my first regatta which was the British Championships. I came 3rd in my event, which I was extremely pleased with considering I had only been training for two weeks.

Kayaking as a Paralympic athlete isn't much different to Olympic kayaking. The only differences are that we have 3 classifications. LTA (Legs, Trunk and Arms), TA (Trunk and Arms) and A (Arms only). You are classified into these depending on your level of disability. For me, I am classified as an A as I have no trunk or leg movement. Our distance is 200 metres sprint. Kayaking is a very fast and technically demanding sport. If I was to make the cut, for the Rio Paralympics, I would be taking part in the K1 Women's A 200 metre sprint race.

I am now looking to raise funds so I can purchase my own kayak. These cost £2,599. The reason why these kayaks cost so much is because they are made of the

best composites on the market. They are made to be the lightest and most effective through the water, meaning that it will help you to be the fastest that you can be. For me, I also have to have a seat fitted that supports my back. These boats are made personally just for the athlete and are made in France. This boat is used by the majority of the top athletes in the world.

I am now training hard as I have future aims and aspirations. I want to make the GB Squad for the European and World Championships which are due to be held next year. If you would like to help me raise these funds and make my dreams come true could you please contact me; wil.ko2009@hotmail.co.uk or 01509 412835 / 07540 060781.

Charlotte Wilkinson - Burnett

Barrow Voice is published by Barrow upon Soar Community Association. Opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the editorial committee or the Community Association.

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## Village Diary

Fri 6th	Holy Trinity Christmas Tree Festival and Concert
Sat 7th	Holy Trinity Christmas Tree Festival Big Switch On 16.00 - 19.00
Sun 8th	Holy Trinity Christmas Tree Festival and Concert: 11.00 - 17.00
Tues 10th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Wed 11th	Craft at Methodist Church; 14.00 Barrow Gardening Club: AGM and Party night; The Gap, Beveridge St; 19.30
Fri 13th	Baptist Luncheon Club; 12.30
Sat 14th	Methodist Church Nativity Festival
Sun 15th	Methodist Church Nativity Festival
Mon 16th	Bishop Beveridge Club Big Screen Film: "It's a Wonderful Life"; Bishop Beveridge Club hall; 14.15. All welcome
Fri 20th	BUSCA Christmas dance: HPHS; 19.30 - 23.00. Tickets from Papershop
Sat 4th	Methodist Church Minimarket; 10.00
Tues 7th	Parish Council meeting; PC office; 19.15; everyone welcome; public participation at approx 19.30
Wed 8th	Craft at Methodist Church; 14.00 Mothers Union; Trinity Rooms; AGM; 14.30 WI; Trinity Rooms; 19.30. A talk on iWicked Wallisi (Simpson).
Fri 10th	Baptist Luncheon Club; 12.30
Mon 13th	Bishop Beveridge Club Big Screen Film: "An Education"; Bishop Beveridge Club hall; 14.15
Tues 14th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Wed 15th	Barrow Gardening Club, The Gap, Beveridge St; 19.30
Sat 18th	Charnwood Orchestra 40th Birthday Viennese Concert: "Birthday at the Ball"; HPHS; 19.00; Tickets from Paper Shop
Mon 20th	Bishop Beveridge Club Big Screen Film: "Top Hat"; Bishop Beveridge Club hall; 14.15. All welcome
Mon 27th	Barrow Book Club; 'Sisters, Secrets and Sacrifice' by Susan Ottaway; Hunting Lodge; 19.00. All welcome.
Wed 29th	Bishop Beveridge Club: Brian Henman gives a presentation on Venice and Prague; 14.15. All welcome.
Sat 1st	Methodist Church Minimarket; 10.00
Tues 4th	Parish Council meeting; PC office; 19.15; everyone welcome; public participation at approx 19.30
Wed 5th	Mothers Union; Trinity Rooms; 14.30 "My time at Action and Outreach" by Margaret Rouse
Tues 11th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Wed 12th	Craft at Methodist Church; 14.00 WI; Skittles evening; venue to be announced; 19.30
Fri 14th	Baptist Luncheon Club; 12.30
Sat 15th	BUSCA Valentine Dance; HPHS; 19.30 - 23.00; Tickets from Paper Shop
Mon 17th	Bishop Beveridge Club Big Screen Film: "Summer in February"; Bishop Beveridge Club hall; 14.15
Wed 19th	Barrow Gardening Club, The Gap, Beveridge St; 19.30
Mon 24th	Barrow Book Club; 'Me before you' Jojo Miles; Hunting Lodge; 7.00. All welcome
Wed 26th	Talk: "The Eleanor Crosses" by Julie Ide; 14.30; Bishop Beveridge Club.
Sat 1st	Methodist Church Minimarket; 10.00
Tues 4th	Parish Council meeting; PC office; 19.15; everyone welcome; public participation at approx 19.30
Wed 6th	Mothers Union; Trinity Rooms; 14.30 "In his footsteps: Leicester Diocesan Pilgrimage" Beverley Lott
Fri 7th	Barrow Panto Group: Mother Goose; HPHS; 19.00; Tickets at Paper Shop
Sat 8th	Barrow Panto Group: Mother Goose; HPHS; 14.00 and 19.00; Tickets at Paper Shop
Tues 11th	Neighbourhood Watch: 19.30; Cons Club
Wed 12th	Craft at Methodist Church; 14.00 WI; Trinity Rooms; 19.30
Fri 14th	Baptist Luncheon Club; 12.30
Sun 16th	Centre Stage: "Freddy Dare and the Ginger Robber"; HPHS; 19.00; tickets from Paper Shop
Mon 17th	Bishop Beveridge Club Big Screen Film: "About Time"; Bishop Beveridge Club hall; 14.15
Wed 19th	Barrow Gardening Club, The Gap, Beveridge St; 19.30
Mon 31st	Barrow Book Club; 'The White Princess' by Philippa Gregory; Hunting Lodge; 7.00. All welcome



Sat Dec 7th

THE BIG SWITCH ON OF  
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND  
STREET FAIR

4.00 – 7.00

Fri Dec 20th  
CHRISTMAS DANCE

with C & J Sound

Sat Feb 15th  
VALENTINE'S DANCE

with Just Us

Fri 7th & Sat 8th March  
"MOTHER GOOSE"

presented by Barrow Panto Group

Sun 16th March  
"FREDDY DARE AND THE  
GINGER ROBBER"

a Centre Stage production - 7.00pm