

Issue 159 • Spring 2020

First Published 1975

Includes
Barrow Focus

Barrow Voice

www.barrowvoice.co.uk



Sizzling Success for Chef Tom



Amy Eccles of Motion Dance



New Primary School?

BUSCA
BARROW UPON SOAR
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Registered Charity No. 1156170

3,250 copies published quarterly and delivered **FREE** to all households in Barrow upon Soar

Vendors and Landlords Wanted



S	R	O	T	C	O	D	E	W	E	I	R
B	Y	S	E	L	K	C	E	R	F	K	F
U	M	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y	E	O	A
P	B	E	R	K	L	E	Y	T	S	L	S
S	D	L	U	B	N	A	T	S	N	I	R
R	E	B	E	V	E	R	I	D	G	E	E
O	T	H	E	R	E	L	N	O	O	S	B
L	T	C	C	V	S	D	U	O	B	L	R
Y	O	Q	I	R	N	T	M	L	I	A	A
A	P	R	O	O	U	X	M	F	F	B	B
T	S	R	O	S	C	H	O	O	L	S	C
K	I	P	P	E	R	L	C	A	N	A	L

While we sell your house or manage your letting can you find the words below?

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Barbers <input type="radio"/> | Flood <input type="radio"/> | River <input type="radio"/> |
| Berkley <input type="radio"/> | Fossils <input type="radio"/> | Schools <input type="radio"/> |
| Beveridge <input type="radio"/> | Freckles <input type="radio"/> | Slabs <input type="radio"/> |
| Canal <input type="radio"/> | Instanbul <input type="radio"/> | Spotted <input type="radio"/> |
| Churches <input type="radio"/> | Kipper <input type="radio"/> | Taylors <input type="radio"/> |
| Community <input type="radio"/> | Library <input type="radio"/> | Weir <input type="radio"/> |
| Doctors <input type="radio"/> | Pubs <input type="radio"/> | |

Call now to book your free valuation



ESTATE & LETTING AGENTS

01509 414787
berkleyestates.co.uk

Editorial

Happy days are here again - Barrow has a post office once more! By the time this magazine drops through your letterbox the post office at Barrow Filling Station on North Street will have been open for over a fortnight offering the whole range of post office services: mail and parcels, stamps, postal orders, travel money, banking and insurance.

Manoj Devani is both excited and pleased to be able to offer this much-needed facility to the village and is looking forward to serving the community.

We have a lovely spring edition for you this month, with a delightful variety of features. We have two important articles relating to change in the village: the first is that which has occurred between Humphrey Perkins and the Community Association (BUSCA) and the second to whether the expansion in the housing provision means the village needs a new primary school. On a lighter note we interview Tom Lowe, the young chef who did well on MasterChef last

year, whilst working at The Blacksmith's Arms, and one with Amy Eccles of Barrow's Motion Dance. Do study the faces of her dancers as many live locally.

Our third interview is with Coral Kelham, Barrow's own British Citizenship Award recipient. We also learn more about the new shop on the High Street, Central Vape, and from Jules Storer how important the qualities of kindness and understanding are to mums breastfeeding their babies. And there's more: we publish the winners of the Hall Orchard Year 6 book review competition as well as publishing two other reviews - a spooky thriller aimed at the Young Adult

reader 'Killing a Dead Man' and one which is set in the village itself, Ethereal Tenant.

And bluebells! In our Country Life spot Maggie J tells us how to distinguish between our native variety and those tougher Spanish interlopers. Finally, I hope you are not too grossed out by the photos below but the message they tell needs to be told.

Gaynor Barton, Editor

Front cover: March 2019. The Pancake Tuesday lunch at Bishop Beveridge Club with Ginnie Willcocks showing how it's done!

Please Watch Your Dog!

The Barrow Voice team would like to bring a matter of concern to our readers. There are two signs in the KGV Recreation Ground which tell dog owners their dogs are allowed but for health and safety reasons they should be kept on a lead and cleared up afterwards.

As you can see from the pictures this isn't happening. Most people nowadays know about the nasty infection called toxocariasis which is caused by roundworm parasites found in dog faeces. This disease most commonly affects young children who accidentally touch dog faeces whilst playing on grass, put fingers to their mouths and ingest the parasite. It can lead to dizziness, nausea, asthma and even blindness. These February 2020 pictures show some dog owners are not paying enough attention to where their dogs are dumping.

A dog should be on a lead, but if it is not, then please, please, please always notice where its faeces fall and poop scoop afterwards. There are bins provided for the bags. Dogs, unlike horses, have to stop to dump, so you can always see them do it, but it can be over very fast. Don't be so distracted by chatting to friends or watching your children to be unable to poop scoop immediately the dog finishes its business. Spring is on the way and soon the grass will be full of children playing football and sliding about. It would be a tragedy if a child became seriously ill as a result of one negligent owner. However, we are very pleased to say that the vast majority of Barrow's many dog owners using the KGV Recreation Ground are highly responsible, even poop scooping up other dogs' dumps they may see around, and for this we are extremely grateful.

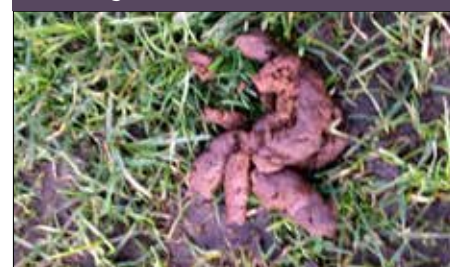
Gaynor Barton, Editor



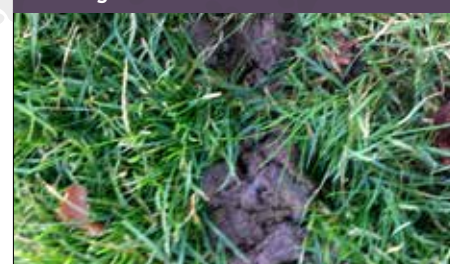
Dog dirt by a path



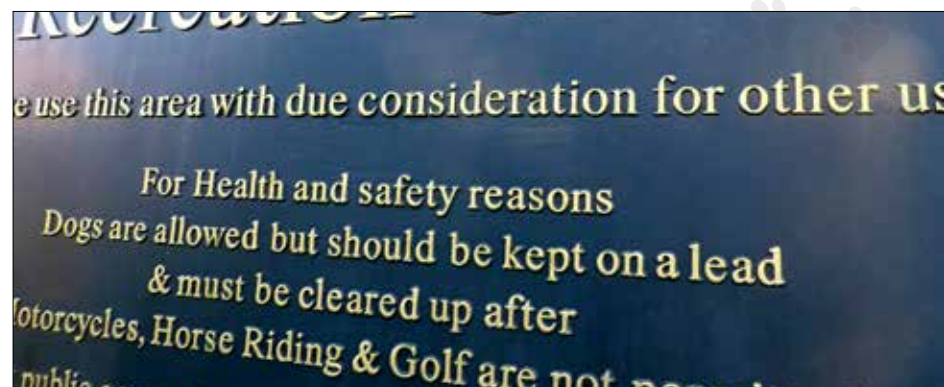
Dog dirt next to a waste bin!



Dog dirt behind the teen shelter



Dog dirt on the football pitch



central
vape.shop

central
cbd.shop

UNDER 25?

LOOKING FOR CBD?

We have over 50 different products to suit any *CBD* needs.

We only sell World Leading brands all of which are batch tested.

We offer products that can be taken in a manner to suit your preference whether it's sublingual, topically, vaped or digested.

We offer a different range of packages with great discounts.

LOOKING FOR VAPE?

We have over 80 different flavours available for testing with a further 50 flavours in stock.

We offer tank cleaning services and free coil changes.

We have a huge range of hardware, coils and replacement glass.

Visit us for expert advice from our customer focused staff.



Please note that we follow 'Challenge 25', so if you do look under 25 we will ask you for ID. If this happens, please take it as a compliment, we don't mean to offend. It is against the law to sell tobacco products to under 18's. It is also a criminal offence to purchase tobacco products on behalf of under 18's and if we suspect you are doing so, we reserve the right to refuse to serve you.



Central Vape Shop, 15 King St, Peterborough PE1 1LT
Central Vape Shop, Shop 3a High Street, Barrow Upon Soar LE12 8PY

[facebook.com/centralvape](https://www.facebook.com/centralvape)



[@centralvape.shop](https://twitter.com/centralvape.shop)



[@centralvape.shop](https://www.instagram.com/centralvape.shop)



www.centralvape.shop





The Central Vape Shop

If you want to be perfectly healthy, breathe pure air and drink pure water, but if you want to stop smoking you can join the 600,000 people (Public Health England figures) who have turned to E-cigarettes as a means of quitting. Public Health England says that vaping is 95% less harmful than traditional cigarettes.

I'm not a smoker myself but I went along to the new Central Vape Shop on the High Street in Barrow to meet its owner and manager, James Offiler, to talk about how shops like his have taken over from the traditional tobacconist that used to be seen on most High Streets.

James used to be a rugby player, meat eater and heavy smoker. A serious illness a few years ago landed him in hospital and he took stock of his health. He is now a vegan and a vaper and feels so much healthier and full of life. He lives in Barrow and is keen to be involved in the community. He gets his hair cut at Eddie's Barbers and buys flowers for his dates (ah, what a romantic) from Taylor's Florist. More importantly, he is working with Humphrey Perkins School on a programme to help prevent young people from taking up any kind of smoking at all.

There is a minimum age of 18 years for buying E-cigarettes (and James does ask for ID if he thinks someone looks younger than 25 years) but most of his customers are in their 50s and many come from outside Barrow – and do some other local shopping while here. While I was talking with him, I spoke with a young man, Liam, from Quorn who said he used to smoke 50 cigarettes a day, wasting £20 a day, and his partner hated it. Now he only wastes £15 a week and is allowed to vape in the house! He feels better, no longer experiences shortness of breath and has more energy. A lady from Sibley then called in to try different flavours to vape. Also a heavy smoker desperate to quit, she was recommended by her GP to try vaping but currently still feels she wants a larger dose of nicotine than her first purchases

contained. James gives time and advice to his customers but says that he would never knowingly sell to someone who isn't currently a smoker.

The other side of the shop stocks cannabidiol (CBD)-based products. These are the things that can get confused with marijuana. While they are derived from the same plant (hemp) and constitute one of the hundreds of components of marijuana, CBD itself does not cause 'a high' and a paper published last summer from Harvard Medical School, reports that to date, "there is no evidence of public health-related problems associated with pure CBD". The confusion with CBD and drugs comes from some people buying products from the internet (where they aren't regulated) and combining them with other drugs.

The products sold in The Central Vape Shop are all regulated, high-quality CBD products and they range from teas and bath bombs (for relaxation) to beard oil to cream for

skin conditions like acne. CBD ointments are used regularly by older people for ailments like arthritis, pain relief and even Crohn's Disease because they don't interact with other medication and can help with anxiety. James encourages all customers to do their own research and consult with medical professionals.

Karisa Krcmar

James is happy for people (over the age of 18) to call in, look around and ask questions. He may not be there, but you will find Danny Slater or Gabriel Davies equally able to help. He used local professionals and craftsmen to fit out the shop so that it "looks smarter than Boots ... and is somewhere you can feel comfortable bringing your nan". We welcome James and his team to the retail community of Barrow and hope they will continue to help people kick the smoking habit with the large range of vaping flavours and products.



LAWN BOWLS

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

COME IN | PLAY A GAME | THEN RELAX

ENJOY ALL OUR FACILITIES



COME ALONG ANY FRIDAY EVENING
QMPBC - next to the Quorndon Fox Pub

www.quornbowling.co.uk

松 L
涛 L
館 S

Leicester &
Loughborough
Shotokan Karate

A TRULY AMAZING LIFE SKILL FOR ALL

FOCUS - CONTROL - RESPECT - CONFIDENCE - SELF DEFENCE
FITNESS - FLEXIBILITY - COORDINATION - WELL-BEING

EVERY SATURDAY - BARROW SCOUT HUT
CHILDREN BEGINNERS (5+) - 9.00am

- ESTABLISHED BARROW CLUB
RUNNING SINCE 2001
- EXPERIENCED 2nd DAN INSTRUCTORS
- LOW COST FEES, NO CONTRACTS

All ages & abilities catered for.
Book your free trial lesson today.

☎ Sensei Danny Spence
0798 606 4610

✉ DS.LLSKARATE@GMAIL.COM

f @llskarate

🌐 www.LLSKARATE.co.uk



Central Business Services

FREE
INITIAL
CONSULTATION

- ✓ Accountants and Bookkeepers
- ✓ Business advisers
- ✓ Payroll, CIS and auto enrolment specialists
- ✓ Business start-up advice
- ✓ VAT and Making Tax Digital

We are all committed to helping your small to medium business grow and run as efficiently as possible. Our friendly and professional team is here to help. Call us to arrange your FREE, no obligation consultation.



Contact us on (01509) 816150

Oak Business Centre, 79-93 Ratcliffe Road,
Sileby, Loughborough, LE12 7PU

www.centralbusiness.co.uk



Platinum ProAdvisor

Martin Page Barrow Upon Soars



local Tree Surgeon

Just like the rest of your property have you considered your trees may need some maintenance from time to time.

Are your trees maybe too tall?
blocking light, unsafe or untidy?

Do your hedges or shrubs need trimming or removing

Do you need to remove that stubborn stump

With 30 years of experience working with trees in your area, I would be pleased to offer you free advise and a free quotation.

call me now on

01509 414169



- Pruning
- Reshaping
- Thinning
- Felling
- Stump removal
- Fully insured
- Local family business
- Clean & tidy service



I also sell high quality hardwood logs



Constantly Recommended



Lawn Bowling – For Barrow Residents

Quorn Mills Park Bowling Club (QMPBC) is asking the residents of Barrow upon Soar to join them in celebrating 100 years.

Quorn Mills Park Bowls Club was established in 1920 for workers at the Wright Mills factory, and initially for men only (ladies were allowed to join in 1938). Messrs Wrights who have been manufacturing on Leicester Road, Quorn since 1870 originally produced fabrics for the footwear and corset trades. The factory today now produces high technology textiles for various industries including military, aerospace and leisure. Wrights supplied the bowls for their employees. Sidney Wright, son of William Wright was a keen bowler and organised inter-departmental matches.

The thatch roof pavilion is a distinctive feature of the bowls club and in 1987 Michael Wright gave permission for the club to erect a larger clubhouse

as the thatch pavilion became too small to house all of its members. Planning permission was granted by Charnwood Borough Council and work soon started. Alice Boon, club secretary at the time, had seen a prefab bungalow, used by a boat chandler in Kegworth, which would serve the purpose.

The club has gone from strength to strength and now has over 100 members. There have been many changes over the 100 years with a very successful social side to the club which complements the social, friendly, league and county bowling.

There will be lots of events throughout the year to celebrate the centenary including an Open Day on Friday May 8th. As part of the centenary celebrations QMPBC is offering new bowlers six weeks FREE tuition (a chance

to try bowling without any commitment) and then half price for the first year's Full Membership. So with memberships from only £5 why not get yourself to Quorn Bowling Club (next to the Quorndon Fox pub) and enjoy some gentle exercise and a great social scene.

David Walters, Development Officer, QMPBC





From left to right: Ali Harrow, Saskia Ling, Tom Lowe and John Sheriff taken on Jan 22nd at The Blacksmiths Arms.

Sizzling Success for Chef Tom

A light-hearted remark over a pint in a pub turned out to be life-changing for Tom Lowe, a former sous chef at The Blacksmiths Arms in Barrow.

Tom was chatting about his passion for cooking to his Dad, Ashley, who said, "Why don't you enter MasterChef: The Professionals?" They laughed it off, but the idea took root. Tom, 23, decided to give it a bash and enter the BBC2 television show. This involved phone interviews, face-to-face sessions with judges and a visit to The Blacksmiths from the MasterChef team. Tom made it into the last 48.

Then the heat was on, as three weeks of intensive filming began in London. This included the daunting skills test, when Tom had to prepare pan-fried calves liver in a Bordelaise sauce. "Here I was being judged by chefs I had idolised," he said. "I was shaking – but I passed the test."

The judges were Michelin-starred chef Marcus Wareing, Monica Galetti and Gregg Wallace. In another round, Tom's signature cabbage dish (cod wrapped in cabbage, with a smoked bacon sauce and mussels) drew praise from all three and he earned the name "Cabbage Connoisseur" on Twitter for his celebration of this humble vegetable. After surviving more challenges, he made it to the semi-finals,



Tom Lowe at work

before being knocked out by his dish of hake with sauce vierge, olive and prawns.

"I knew I had messed up so it wasn't a surprise that I didn't make the finals, but of course I was disappointed."

As Tom progressed through higher levels of the competition, interest in him grew and job offers rolled in. "Being on the show has been life-changing," says Tom, who was living in Burton on the Wolds at the time. "Three weeks of filming, being judged by top chefs and doing so well in the competition taught me a lot and boosted my confidence."

Today he is a far cry from the Rugby schoolboy who struggled academically and dropped out of school before writing his GCSEs. Then, he had no clue what to do but took a punt on catering and registered with a college. He discovered he liked cooking, watched celebrity chefs on television to broaden his knowledge and completed a three-year course, NVQ Level 3.

He headed off to London to work in the Michelin-starred Gordon Ramsay restaurant Petrus where he learned a lot, before landing his first sous chef job at the Belmont Hotel in Leicester at the age of 19. But it was a move to Mountsorrel's John's House, a Michelin-starred restaurant with three AA Rosettes that, he says, changed how he saw food.

“Working with John Duffin opened my eyes,” he says. “I learned so much from him, seeing how to use ingredients well, learning to grow vegetables and herbs and cook with them.”

He joined The Blacksmiths Arms in 2018 as sous chef, where vegetables and herbs are grown and used in fine dining dishes. The BBC shot scenes there for their introduction on Tom and The Blacksmiths gave him their full support during the filming of the show.

Sadly for Barrow, Tom has moved on. He was appointed head chef at The Plough in Ivy Hatch, Kent, and he, and girlfriend Abbie, moved there last month. It was the perfect choice for him as it fitted with his philosophy of growing and cooking food. He and the owners hope to achieve Michelin star status in the near future. Tom’s dream is to one day open his own fine dining restaurant.

After leaving The Blacksmiths in December, prior to moving to Kent, it was

a whirlwind of guest appearances and pop ups – here Tom created menus and hosted the evenings.

“It felt strange to see my name being used to promote events. Six months ago, people would have said, “Who’s he?” Not anymore. We’ll be seeing a lot more of Tom and his culinary talents. And, in Warwickshire, there is a very proud Dad, who remembers the day it all started.

Lindsay Ord

Welcome to Clive Watts Ministering to the Parish

The Reverend Clive Watts’ office in the Rectory on Cotes Road is a warm mix of ‘professional’ books and personal items that he has collected from around the world. Oh, and a large, friendly black Labrador called Kasper. Clive grew up travelling widely with his army parents and continued as an adult with pilgrimages to Taizé in France and the Holy Land; travel to a diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and regular ‘retreats’ to his cottage in Northumberland!

He intends to settle here for some time though, because he likes the parish profile which offers a style of church community that appeals to him. He feels it is a place where he can use his skills and experiences.

Clive has only been a fully ordained priest since 2017, but his previous career as a community nurse prepared him with these important skills and experiences. He is used to being with people who are ill, dying or bereaved; when they are at their most vulnerable and not necessarily able or willing to attend a church service. As a nurse he had to be able to start a conversation, relate to people and become part of the “heart of the community”. An important part of this is being able to reach people who are, or feel, marginalised. People, Clive tells me, can feel isolated for lots of reasons including physical or mental ill health. In some of his previous parishes he has run services in care homes. He explained that people who are ill or living with dementia can find something very comforting about the routines of a familiar service: the old familiar words have sunk deep in the retained memory.

The other end of the age spectrum is equally important to him and Clive continues close links with Hall Orchard School. He recently hosted a ‘treasure hunt’ in the church for Year 1 children to find and discuss aspects of church and Christian worship. Additionally, Clive

provides pastoral care to, and leads a monthly prayer service for, the Sea Cadets whose ‘home’ you can see if you walk along the canal towards Loughborough.

An army childhood and nursing adulthood helps him make his style of praise and worship relevant to people’s lives, whilst still expressing “the wonder of God”. His November Remembrance Day Service sermon, for example, talked about soldiers returning from Afghanistan and it was, one parishioner told me, one of the few Memorial sermons that she has listened to with interest.

A further aspect of contemporary life that grounds him at the heart of the community is his awareness of the importance of the environment. Valuing life means being aware of the honour and responsibility we have for taking care of, and being good stewards for, God’s creation and the need to take environmental issues seriously. The Church of England is custodian of some beautiful buildings – including the churches in Barrow, Prestwold, Walton and Wymeswold. These old and historic buildings can be difficult to maintain in terms of today’s move towards a carbon neutral world. He is well aware of the difficulties of balancing this with cherishing and keeping our important heritage and sees it as part of the challenge of his work within the parishes.



We welcome Reverend Clive and his civil partner David (and Kasper) and if you see Clive around the village and want to talk with him about these, or any other, community issues he says he is always pleased to stop (when he can) and chat with anyone and everyone – parishioner of Holy Trinity Church, other Barrow churches – or no church at all.

Karisa Krcmar

You can find out more by
visiting the church website:
<http://www.barrowandwoldsgroup.com/>



Hall Orchard Primary School showing original school building and the new extension

A New Primary School?

Many residents have campaigned and even more objected to the housing development in this village particularly since the turn of the millennium. Reasons for this vary from opposition to the destruction of green field sites to the inadequacies in village infrastructure, for example, medical services, road network, sewers and school capacity, particularly Hall Orchard Primary School. Mostly, these objections have been dismissed and rubbished, falling to the need to maintain housing targets in Charnwood Borough and consequently planning applications approved either by Charnwood Borough Council or at a planning appeal.

During September 2019, a planning application was lodged with Charnwood Borough Council to build 135 houses on the field behind the Millennium Park on Melton Road. At the end of November 2019 the application was withdrawn. Those objecting, including Barrow Parish Council, pointed to conflict with the Local Neighbourhood Plan with the site outside the limits to development and the fact that there was more than the required five year supply of housing land approvals in the borough at the time. As before, many objectors referred to more loading on roads, medical services, sewers and local schools.

Are these objections the reason for the withdrawal of the application or more likely, in my view, the demands placed on the applicant by Leicestershire County Council (LCC) education department to provide a new primary school?

Go to: pap.charnwood.gov.uk/AnitePublicDocs/01049288.pdf If you do not have access to the internet, go to Barrow Community library and use the public computers. Ask for assistance if needed.

In summary the LCC education department has made a case for (S.106) contributions from the developer for the Melton Road site as below:

- Hall Orchard Primary School is in the final phase of expansion which will increase capacity to 630 places. This is the

largest size for a primary school. Further expansion of the existing confined site is not possible.

- There are no schools within two miles of this development (Melton Road) that can be expanded. Therefore to accommodate this, a new 210-place school is required with a hectare (2.5 acres) of land to site it.
- This new school is required to mitigate the impact of this and other proposed development in this village and surrounding area and there is a suggestion that the cost could be shared between developers who secure planning permission.
- In the absence of a new school, or until the time one is built, and available, LCC will seek a contribution of £68,250 per annum in perpetuity for taxis to transport primary school children to local schools which have places available.
- The contributions are: Primary school - £590,976 + 1 hectare of land + potential transport costs.
- Secondary school (11 – 16) sector - £86,202.43 for Rawlins Academy, Quorn
- Special schools - £76,205.38 All special schools in Leicestershire are full and have a deficit of available places. Special schools are using their own teaching staff to teach their pupils in mainstream schools.

Total requirement - £753,383.81 + 1 hectare of land + potential transport costs for primary pupils.

Draft Local plan for housing in Charnwood Borough – 2019 to 2036.
Go to: Charnwood.gov.uk/pages/draft_local_plan_2019_36

Public consultation on a new draft plan for housing in Charnwood ended in mid-December 2019. This plan has been brought forward in response to revised housing targets imposed by the government. For this village, the draft plan shows an allocation of sites to provide 268 houses. The sites are behind the Millennium Park and on the opposite side of Melton Road. Note; this is a draft and is not, at the time of writing, adopted by our local authority, but if it is adopted it will overrule our local neighbourhood plan in any non-conforming aspect.

If these sites go forward for development then it is essential that the local planning authority, Charnwood Borough Council, imposes a condition on the developer(s) to provide funding for our local schools and this must include a new primary school for this village. LCC state that they are working with Charnwood Borough Council to identify a suitable site for a new primary school.

Alan Willcocks

Is it the end of an era for the Humphrey Perkins Community Centre?

In the early days of the 1970s two inspirational Barrow leaders put their heads together to dream up a plan. Wynne Morris, then headmaster of Humphrey Perkins and Norman Peck, then minister of Barrow's Methodist Church set in motion discussions which resulted in the creation in 1971 of a Community Association (CA) for all residents of Barrow and neighbouring villages and a plan for the village to build a community centre attached to Humphrey Perkins School.

The village set about raising serious money to pay for the building project which cost £30,000. Leicestershire County Council contributed £12,000, Charnwood Borough Council £6,000 and the Parish Council provided £6,000 with the CA making up the balance. We benefited hugely from the voluntary assistance of many experts to draw up plans, sort out legal arrangements with Leicestershire County Council whose land was to be built on, provide materials and so on. We got our community centre in 1980. It had the familiar lounge, bar, kitchen, toilets and some storage areas. Although it was built for the community it was also to be shared with the school.

Meanwhile we continued with the fund raising. How I remember those Donkey Derbies! Pancake races down Wycliffe Avenue, barn dances, New Year's Eve dances, modern dances, discos, barbecues and some fairly outrageous entertainment evenings including the infamous Blaster Bates and Race evenings.

Over time we furnished the kitchen, set up a really professional-looking bar, bought coffee tables and comfy seats for the lounge and generally made a welcoming space for the community of Barrow and around. The playgroup, that had started up in the Methodist Church in 1970, began to expand rapidly and soon started to operate in the Community Lounge in afternoons as well as mornings. Community Education classes became very popular and by the 1980s Humphrey Perkins Community Centre was buzzing with many kinds of activities. The Community Association was tasked with the financial management of the Centre which entailed a close and positive relationship with school leaders and governors.

The first nail in the coffin came in the early 1990s with new laws to put all financial management of schools in the hands of governors; that is, we lost control of the Delegated Community Budget, although we still had a close advisory role in the management of the Centre and relationships were supportive, including with the County Council. Barrow's Centre fared much better during the next 15 years than many other community centres and colleges in the county, many of which

were lost entirely to their communities. Community Education as a service disappeared from the County Council. Then the real death knell was sounded with the invention of Academies. Humphries became an academy on Jan 1st 2012. That involves very tight control of the school budget, none of which is legally allowed to be used to subsidise community activity. BUSCA enjoyed a very comfortable four years of discounted hire charges that took into account the historical relationship with Humphries all those years ago and its very frequent use of the facilities.

We are grateful to Humphries for that. Sadly, the rest of the village more or less stopped using it because the hire charges were unaffordable.

The knock-on effect on BUSCA was that the bar, which had been a lucrative source of income to help pay for overheads (insurance etc), no longer really justified its continued existence. We agonized about closing it down but that would mean in turn that events such as ballroom dances would fold. No-one wants to go to a dance in a posh frock when you can't even have a G&T.

When officers of the BUSCA Trustee Board were summoned to a meeting we were hardly surprised to find our discounted hire charges swept away. Even more serious, we were perhaps to be charged an annual fee of £1000 to secure the continued sole use of the bar, parts of the kitchen and various storage areas. Coupled with totally impracticable changes in the way the bar

could be operated, we bowed to the inevitable.

On Monday 6th January, a team of BUSCA members assembled in the Community Centre and emptied the bar and much of the kitchen. The bar is no more. With no bar, we have therefore run our last dance. We will carry on for as long as we can with other events, mostly those of our thriving Panto Group with its annual pantomime, murder mystery and those marvelous Youth Theatre productions – Oliver being the latest.

That is not to say that BUSCA is dead; far from it. We are hugely proud of our management of Barrow Library, Barrow Voice continues to get better and better as an outstanding community magazine, the Heritage Group flourishes, The Twinning Association is now attracting more and more young families to exchanges with Marans in France and the Website Administrators continue to expand the value of our various village websites.

Judith Rodgers

What Barrow really has lost is a community centre and somehow, somewhere, the village needs to build another one. If you have ideas or a parcel of land to bear your name for posterity or a massive donation, perhaps you might like to give me a ring (07718153117) or email (judithrodgers155@gmail.com) and I will pass on the info.





The Professional
Carpet Cleaner

Carpet cleaning and so much more!

- Hard floor cleaning
- On site curtain cleaning
- Rugs, including oriental and antique
- All types of upholstery, especially leather

01509 412797 ■ 07825 795558 www.sjscarpetcleaners.co.uk



RUGS - we are CLEANING SPECIALISTS
*traditional Persian or Chinese, Gabbeh or
Kilim, we even love Wiltons and Shaggy ones!*

Stuart Simpson SENIOR MEMBER NCCA

Call Stuart for
FREE ADVICE

CHECK OUT QUALITY OF OUR SERVICE ON SJS GOOGLE REVIEWS FOR BOTH LEICESTER AND LOUGHBOROUGH



From the Staff and Management of
**BARROW
SERVICE STATION**

— *We would like to* —

THANK

• OUR CUSTOMERS •

for their amazing support

**POST OFFICE
NOW OPEN**

Monday - Friday: 09.00 - 17.00



- Fuel
- Newspapers
- Off-licence
- Convenience store
- Lottery



HERE TO SERVE THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

A Breastfeeding Mum Writes...

I am a breastfeeding mother to a 19-month-old little boy. Yes, I am 'still' breastfeeding. Quite frankly, I wouldn't have a clue how to parent without it, as I have yet to find a problem that boobing won't solve!

As you may imagine, 19 months of feeding has required me to feed on trains, in cafes, in shops, in doctors' waiting rooms, on soggy benches and, my personal favourite, on stage on Christmas Eve in front of several hundred people, whilst myself and my son portrayed the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus respectively in the nativity.

Nowadays, I don't think twice before I 'whip one out' and I feel incredibly proud to bang the drum for the normalisation of breastfeeding, but I have not always felt this way. I have felt judged, anxious and exposed. One particularly difficult instance that has stayed with me was when my boy was still a newborn. I was, as many new mums are, exhausted and emotionally at the end of my tether. I had bought into the TV dream of a baby who would snuggle into my bosom for milk, before being placed into his Moses basket, silent, sleeping and content. I pictured myself serenely pushing a pram through the park without a cry to be heard, and was not prepared for the reality of a baby that was only content in my arms and would fill the air with piercing screams the instant I attempted to put him down — something which I now know to be completely normal! On this particular day, I had bravely ventured out, and it had not gone well. It was raining, my baby was screaming and there was nowhere to sit to feed him. I ventured into a cafe for refuge and felt obliged to make a purchase. Let me tell you, no line is longer than a line for coffee when your child is screaming in their

pram. I wanted to cry myself. Eventually, I ordered my cup of tea and negotiated myself, pram, baby and teapot to a table. I sat, I fed, and for a few minutes, all was well again. And then it came time to leave and the separation from the warmth of my arms was too much for my baby to bear. I wanted the ground to swallow me whole, I felt so helpless. And then, a lady came over and spoke to my new born. "Isn't your mummy doing well, she loves you so much and she is doing such a good job at taking care of you." The tears welling in my eyes turned from ones of desperation to ones of gratitude. Her kindness turned my day around. Her kindness let me know that I could do this again.

If you want to play your part in supporting new parents, who are embarking on a fantastic new journey; whose worlds have been turned upside down and sleep schedules have been obliterated, there is so much you can do to help support them! If you are a local business owner, why not contact us to ask for a sticker to put in your window, letting parents know they are welcome to feed inside your premises? If you know someone who is expecting a baby, perhaps you could encourage them and their supporters to come along to our monthly antenatal breastfeeding workshop, where,



Jules Storie

as well as discussing the mechanics and biology of breastfeeding, we cover maternal rights in public and the workplace? Or maybe as a new mother, you would like to come along to our breastfeeding cafes, run weekly across Charnwood (see the Charnwood BRAS website for details) for practical support from peer supporters and camaraderie from fellow breastfeeding parents? And one simple thing we can all do to support mums: be kind. Hold the door, let them ahead of you in the queue, make eye contact, smile, let them know: you see them and you get it. Kindness costs nothing and your smile could be the one thing to turn that person's entire journey around.

Jules Storie

Jules is a member of Charnwood BRAS which provides reassurance and support for breastfeeding mothers. You can text or phone them on 07583041054 or email charnwoodbras@hotmail.uk

Hold a Candle for Her

For the fourth consecutive year, Holy Trinity will be having 'Hold a Candle for Her' where we aim to light up to 1,000 candles in a river up to the altar at Holy Trinity Church, Barrow upon Soar on Mothering Sunday 22nd March.

Candles will be lit before our 10.30am communion service. All are most welcome to attend and worship at our service where we aim to thank God for the gift of mothers in our lives. Our youth group will be taking an active part in the service.

The candles represent special women in your life, usually a mother figure who has shaped and influenced you. This is

a thanksgiving service for the love of those women around us currently and can be for those departed although this is not a remembrance service as such. They could be mums, sisters, grandmas and friends. You can put forward as many names as you like.

Donations and name recording can be done at locations around the village. Look out for the Hold a Candle posters in shops, pubs, library and other public places including our Church.

Donations can also be made by following the link on <https://fb.me/holytrinityhacfh>

Funds raised cover the cost of the event and go towards the church's work in the community.



The candles will be available for viewing during and after the service where the church will remain open until 2pm. The names of our special women will be displayed on a rolling screen through the service as well as scrolls displayed throughout our beautiful Church.

Kath Eastwood-Paramore. Assistant Church Warden and Youth Group Lead.



Motion Dance Seniors



Motion Dance Juniors

Amy Eccles of Motion Dance

The figures speak for themselves. From only nine students in 2008 to over 180 today they show how, with Amy Eccles at its head, this passionate-about-dance teacher has made Motion Dance grow. At present Amy holds classes in the Holy Trinity Rooms, Church Street, from 3.30 every afternoon but she feels the size is limiting. She'd love to have bigger premises in Barrow with large dance mirrors lining the walls and lots of nearby parking. With bigger premises she could hold her annual show there but at present she has to find a larger venue in Leicester. But onwards and upwards! Ambition is one of Amy's great qualities - she's always looking to improve the teaching conditions for her dancers and help them to even greater success.

And success there's been a-plenty. Every year Amy takes her dancers to a national competition in Blackpool where they compete against other Association of American Dancing (AAD) troupes from all over the country. In November last year her youngest group, the Babes, came 6th out of 21 troupes and her Juniors 8th out of 32. Competition is stiff and Amy, proud of these results, got BBC Radio 2's Paul O'Grady to broadcast them on his Sunday afternoon show! Amy believes that dance is not just an enjoyable way to pass the time but is very good at teaching life-lessons such as the need for discipline, constant practice, a high level of fitness and the importance of being able to get on with other people. Seeing how well her students progress as individuals, not just in terms of good dance grades, gives Amy immense satisfaction. And the village benefits too. There is an overlap between dancers from Amy's classes and those taking part in Barrow's Panto and Youth Theatre productions. In last December's *Oliver* quite a few of the 'scruffy urchins' and other, even bigger roles, were played by enthusiastic Motion Dance 'overlappers'.

But how did it all start? Well, in Loughborough really. Amy was born in the town and loved dancing even as a toddler. She'd constantly be dancing at home in front of a mirror so her mother quickly recognised her pleasure in movement and dance classes followed. Soon she began



Amy Eccles

going to festivals and winning prizes and after leaving school Amy got a scholarship to the Midlands Academy of Dance and Drama (MADD) in Nottingham. It has a crazy acronym but is a very highly respected arts college rivalling any in London. After three years, Amy left with a Diploma in Musical Theatre. She loved her years at MADD and it also gave her the opportunity of dancing in the West End on the stages of the Palladium and Coliseum.

Although early in her artistic life Amy toyed with the idea of becoming a dancer on the stage, she was soon disillusioned with the fickleness of the auditions system and realised she much preferred to teach. She started teaching for Stage Coach in Loughborough, loved it, and after building up her skills and confidence, started her own company in 2008. Amy wanted the

name to be attractive to both boys and girls so chose Motion Dance and now, although most of her students are girls, about seven boys attend regularly.

The curriculum which Amy follows is that of the Association of American Dancing. Because there's such a variety of dance taught every session, each dancer has to be equipped with three types of shoes - tap, ballet and jazz - expensive for parents but, Amy says, in spite of this they are a friendly and very supportive bunch. Amy insists that every session includes ballet as this she believes is the basis of all dance. She talks of a dance-sandwich; tap and jazz as the bread with ballet as the filling. But at Motion Dance you can learn more than tap, ballet and jazz as colleagues Danielle Stanley teaches Street and Contemporary and Lizzie Bywater Florence coaches singing for the new Motion Voices groups. And there are dance levels for all ages, each group leotard colour coded until you become older and join the prestigious Blacks! It's a fascinating world and I loved learning about it. Thank you very much Amy.

Gaynor Barton

MORE INFO

If you would like to learn more contact Amy on 07881 593654 or email motiondance.co@gmail.com



Motion Dance Babes

KARATE & KOBUDO

OPENING A NEW SHORIN RYU SEIBUKAN DOJO AT
METHODIST CHURCH BARROW UPON SOAR, LE12 8QA

ALL WELCOME FOR OPENING DAY
ON 20/03/2020 6:00 PM - 8:00PM

ADMISSION STARTING!

WE PROMOTE:

- Self Defence
- Patience
- Respect
- Fitness
- Confidence
- Inner Security
- Courtesy
- Mental & Physical
Co-ordination
- Stamina
- Yoga with Rhythm

OPENING OFFERS FOR ALL

THE ULTIMATE SELF DEFENCE, FITNESS AND KOBUDO FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Class Time: 6:00PM to 7:00PM AND 7:15PM TO 8:15PM (every friday)
More classes are available on different days upon request

OFFERS

Karate uniform is available for free for
admissions on or before the opening
date

Family Discount

Free of charge for the third person
from a family

WHAT IS IT THAT WE DO?

We practice Okinawan tradi-
tional karate and Kobudo
(weapons).

Shorin-Ryu is the Okinawan
karate style on which at least
80% of the world's karate is
now based.

CONTACT:

SENSEI: RAJA THOMAS (GODAN)

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR:

SHORIN RYU SEIBUKAN KARATE - UK
JINBUKAN KOBUDO- UK

Email: seibukanmartialartsacademy@gmail.com

Web: www.budoacademy.uk

Ph: 07766721483
01509415885

More information and registration form available from **BARROW EXPRESS**,
31 North street, barrow upon soar, LE12 8PZ

Barrow Focus

Email: clerk@barrowpc.org.uk • www.barrowpc.org



Barrow upon Soar Parish Council News

Awarded RCC Best Village 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008

MEET THE VILLAGE 2020!

This year, the Annual Parish Meeting will be part of a bigger event called Meet the Village. The date is set for 22nd April, at the newly-refurbished Methodist Church Rooms. We would like to invite as many of our community groups to come along and share the activities you do in the village. Please contact the Parish Council if you would like any further information or would like to book a space.

We would like to consult residents on two major concepts in the village. The first is the provision of a village hall and the second is the replacement of the raised footpath on Barrow Road. There will be a survey regarding the provision of a village hall and we would really appreciate your views on the subject and would encourage residents to complete the short survey and return it to the parish office on the High Street.

VE DAY 75TH CELEBRATIONS

There will be a number of celebrations in the village over the VE Day weekend. The annual street market has been moved to Sunday 10th May and will have a VE day theme. The Parish Council has also requested a flyover by a Spitfire on the day and we hope to be included in the flyover route. We will of course keep everyone updated on the progress and planning for the event via our website and Facebook page.

If anyone would like to join in the organising of the event or has any ideas for the celebrations please get in touch.



CCTV

The cameras on High Street and North Street are working well. The images are monitored 24/7 by Charnwood Borough Council. If you need any further information, or would like to pass on any details of crime to the Council, the contact phone number is **01509 632562**.

Youth Club

Our youth club run by Above and Beyond continues to be a success. They meet at the Conservative Club Function Room on the first, third and fourth Wednesday of each month from 6.30pm – 8.30pm. Activities include: sports, games, arts, cooking, trips out, awards and bushcraft. When the weather starts to improve they will be starting more outdoor activities. Keep your eye on our Facebook page for further information.

Vacancies

The Parish Council has two vacancies for Councillors. If you are interested in helping out in the community please get in touch.

BARROW IN BLOOM

After the success of last year's competition, Barrow upon Soar will be taking part in East Midlands in Bloom once again. This year's Britain in Bloom flower is the Rudbeckia. We would like to plant as many as possible of these vibrant yellow flowers throughout the village and need your help! On 21st March the Barrow in Bloom team will be holding a 'planting day' at the library and will be giving away Rudbeckia seeds to residents to either plant on the day or at home.

Please come along between 2pm and 4pm and join in. Pots and soil will also be provided.

A big thank you to everyone who helped at the daffodil planting at the KGV park in September, the results of which are already starting to show.



Cotes Road Cemetery Extension

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that land has now been secured to extend the existing cemetery. Plans to develop the land are in progress.

Book Review

Ethereal Tenant by Kay Nicholls

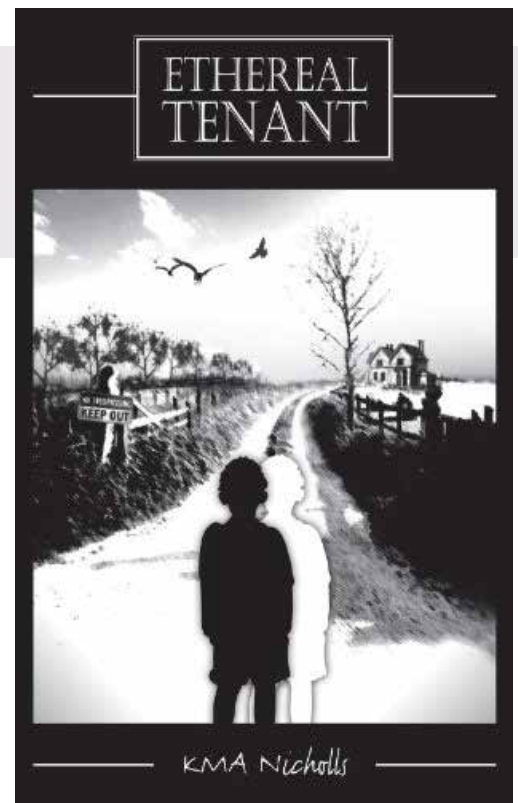
There's a particular pleasure in reading a fiction that is set in a location you know well. It's also true that it's interesting to visit a place that has provided the setting for a story you have enjoyed in the past.

I lived in Barrow for many years and worked in Mountsorrel for a time, so when I read 'Ethereal Tenant' by Kay Nicholls, there were lots of places I recognised and it definitely added to my enjoyment of the book. The author was born and bred in Barrow although she has lived in Cornwall and Surrey since then, before settling in North Devon. Reading her novel, there are lots of clues that Barrow remains close to her heart, although there are also some hints that she has not always approved of new developments (see page 3).

Given the title of the book, I was expecting a ghost story of sorts but the central idea (which I won't give away – I'm avoiding spoilers!) is so unusual it defies an easy description. It certainly involves the supernatural and some of the themes are quite dark. The narrator

of the story is Jack Latimer, who has seen the worst and the best of people in his 25 years working as a policeman in New York. Now retired he has returned to his roots in Leicestershire and it is here that he meets Adam Rowe, a troubled teenager badly in need of help and advice.

The story he tells is complicated and there were times when I felt a little confused by the intricacy of the plot and the complexity of the narrative, but the idea was so intriguing I was determined to find out what happened. Not all of the story is set in Leicestershire. Adam spends several years in London. He returns to Barrow on a Sunday, arriving at the station. Those of us who use Barrow station know there are no trains on Sundays of course. Does that minor detail spoil the story? Not at all. I understand the book will be available in



Barrow library and I'm sure it will prove to be popular.

I wonder if there will be a sequel.

Julie Gardner

Barrow Pre-School Playgroup

Barrow Pre-School Playgroup is promoting mindfulness and wellbeing from an early age. Since October, children have been visited by Gemma Brown from "Me and My Wellbeing" and taking part in peer-to-peer story massage sessions.

The sessions are based around 10 key moves which can be adapted for different stories, rhythms and nursery rhymes. Wellbeing is promoted through the knowledge that a nurturing touch is a basic need.

Benefits of the sessions include the creation of a happy and safe learning environment, promoting empathy and inclusion, developing concentration and memory as well as fostering physical development through motor skills. The children have greatly enjoyed engaging in this activity and some calm time. "Story massage" is a fantastic way to promote wellbeing, reduce stress and provide mindfulness tools, which, with mental health issues in children at an all-time high is extremely valuable.

Gemma also provides story and baby massage sessions in the community. Look out for the "Me and my Wellbeing" Facebook page or contact her on **07760448116**. If you are looking for a nurturing, inclusive, child-focused setting, places are available at Barrow Pre-School Playgroup. Please contact the Registrar, Jo, by calling **07975957242** or visit our website www.barrowplaygroup.co.uk.



Book Review

Killing A Dead Man by Siobhian R. Hodges

Killing A Dead Man is Siobhian R. Hodges' debut novel. It follows fifteen-year-old Jordan Richardson and the ghost of his brother, Danny, as they track down the murderer who had killed Danny five years earlier.



E G Hegarty

Before continuing with the plot I want to mention here that the book is primarily for the Young Adult reader...

As a fan of the paranormal, I was instantly intrigued by the book's blurb, and was pleased to find that the book came up to my expectations. Danny's ghostly activity is most similar to reported poltergeist activity, with pinches and moving objects. Hodges uses more fictional feeling activity throughout the book, from physical apparitions to possession. However, this is a blessing in more gruesome scenes, highlighting Hodges' ability to subtly remind the reader that the book is fictional whilst staying well-grounded in the story. Furthermore, having a dead character, with important plot information, adds a further complication to Jordan's quest. It's a credit to Hodges that she seamlessly integrates Danny into the book.

Jordan's character reads as a typical fifteen-year-old - overly determined and full of emotion - his character can be frustrating to the reader whilst

simultaneously gaining sympathy. This makes Jordan a character that is realistic and easy to root for.

Dealing with the realities and restrictions of being a teenager, Jordan's age hugely affects his story and adventure. This is highlighted through the need of his Mr Butch, who is partnered with Jordan. Mr Butch is a taxi driver with seemingly endless patience, who assists Jordan and - at times - interrupts his progress. Personally, I feel that Mr Butch felt unrealistic at times, however, Hodges shows the potential to develop her ability to create characters that feel real.

With short chapters, it's an easily digestible book. Paired with Hodges' writing style which is confident and clear and her ability to tackle heavy issues - such as grief - the book is ideal for teenagers and adults with a curiosity for darker stories and the paranormal.

Overall, Killing A Dead Man is a strong debut novel from Hodges, full of twists, cliff hangers and action that keep you reading until the end of the book.

I can't wait to read more of her work in the future!

E G Hegarty



Siobhian R. Hodges with partner Michael Webster (Cover Designer & Artworker of Barrow Voice)



Debut Novel 'Killing a Dead Man' by Siobhian R. Hodges is available to borrow from multiple libraries across Leicestershire or can be bought directly from Amazon all over the world.

See more of Siobhian's work at www.siobhianrhodgesauthor.com

BARROW VOICE URGENTLY NEEDS A NEW ADVERTISING MANAGER!

Are you newly retired and keen to do something really valuable for the community of Barrow?

Here is your chance! There will be plenty of initial training and assistance. You don't need any particular skills or experience in this area (other than being comfortable with the use of emails). If you like meeting new people, being persuasive, being part of a team and are naturally persistent,

THEN THIS IS THE VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!!

Contact Judith either by phone on 07718153117 or email judithrodgers155@gmail.com for an initial chat.

We Need
YOU



Your Local Florist and Gift Shop

Every flower arrangement is personally crafted with pride and care by our skilled team based in Barrow Upon Soar. Whether collection or delivery we can create beautiful floral designs using the finest quality flowers to suit any event or occasion. Order online and choose from our fabulous set collections, contact us direct or visit us in person to discuss your requirements or have a browse.

Flower workshops available throughout the year, individual lessons and group sessions catered for.

Looking for a fun evening creating your own floral designs? Contact us to book and check out our future events. New gift items in store. Come and have a browse - we would love to see you.

Taylor's Florist

www.taylor'sflorist.co.uk



Taylor's Flowers



taylor'sflorist17

01509 414 646 • info@taylor'sflowers.co.uk

17 High St, Barrow upon Soar, Loughborough LE12 8PY



TINDLE TREE CARE

"from roots to shoots"

TREES

- Section Felling
- Reducing
- Target Pruning
- Deadwooding
- Pollarding

WE ALSO OFFER

- Stump Grinding
- Seasoned Hardwood Logs
- Turfing
- and much more!

HEDGES

- Hedge Removal
- Trimming
- Reducing
- Planting
- Hedge Laying

CALL US FOR A FREE QUOTE OR ADVICE ON



01509 608018

City Guilds
NPTC
Qualified



MS Roofing & Property Services

MS Roofing and Property Services Ltd.

Roofing • Patios • Fencing • Building Works • Driveways • Walling
Ponds • Gates • Bespoke Sheds • Most Home/Garden Works

Martin Steel - Burton on the Wolds

m: 07779 102 480 e: martin.steel@msrps.co.uk

www.msrps.co.uk

Pilates & Fitness Classes in Barrow

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



Monday	9:30 - 10:30am	Keep-Fit @ Scout hut
	10.45 - 11.45am	Pilates @ Scout hut
Tuesday	6:30 - 7:30pm	New Pilates class @ Library
	7:30 - 8:30pm	Pilates @ Library
Wednesday	9:30 - 10:30am	Ladies Keep-Fit @ Unity House, Loughborough
	10:45 - 11:45am	Keep Fit @ Gap
	7:00 - 8:00pm	Pilates @ Gap

Please Contact Donna for details of venues and class availability
t: 07787 315197 e: donna@corefitness.org.uk

BISHOP BEVERIDGE CLUB

South St, Barrow

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

for children's parties, adult celebrations, quizzes, exhibitions, film shows, meetings etc

Very competitive rates

Takes approx. 50 seated • Fully equipped large kitchen
For hiring the hall contact Joyce Noon on **01509 414519**

There are regular events, Coffee Mornings, film shows, coach trips and other interesting activities to join in with both new and old friends.

www.bishopbeveridgeclub.co.uk

WYSALL WATERCOLOUR GROUP PRESENT

WYSALL ART FAIR

Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th May
Wysall Village Hall - NG12 5QS
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADMISSION FREE!

ORIGINAL PAINTINGS &
ARTWORKS
FROM LOCAL ARTISTS
FOR SALE

*** LIVE MUSIC ***

HOMEMADE CAKES &
REFRESHMENTS

Sponsored by Wysall & Thorpe-in-the-Glebe Parish Council

To Advertise in
our next issue
please call:
07718 153117

**Barrow
Voice**



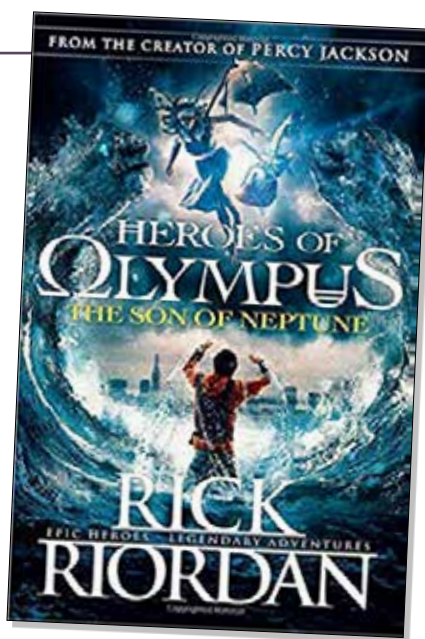
Book Review Competition: Year 6 Hall Orchard Primary School

Year 6 students were given the opportunity by Mr Spiller, a Year 6 teacher, of submitting book reviews of their favourite books with the incentive of the two best being printed in the village magazine. We are very pleased to publish the worthy winners - Toby Addison and Jasmin Ryan – whose reviews were chosen by members of the Barrow Voice team.

The Heroes of Olympus - the Son of Neptune by Rick Riordan

My favorite book is The Heroes of Olympus - the Son of Neptune by Rick Riordan. This is the second book in his Heroes of Olympus series. The hero of this novel is a brave, yet somewhat foolish character named Percy Jackson. He is the offspring of Poseidon, the Greek God of the Seas, and Sally Jackson, a mortal being who is blessed with the gift of seeing through the mist. The mist is a magical force that divides our world and the world of the Gods. Percy's parentage afforded him the title of Greek Demigod and a home was made for him in the Greek camp (Camp Half-Blood). The Queen of the Gods, Hera, committed a despicable act by taking him out of the Greek camp and wiping poor Percy's memory. Although it later becomes clear to the reader in subsequent books that she did this with the best of intentions. The only memory that remains is the name of his beloved girlfriend, Annabeth, who is the daughter of Athena, Goddess of Wisdom. With his girlfriend in mind, he knew that he needed to get back to wherever he came from. He eventually discovered the Roman camp for Roman demigods, which served as his home as he became part of the legion and pledged his service to Rome, thinking that it was his home. Little did he know, he was helping his enemy and bonding the two camps, which were separated so that there was no conflict between the camps. This was Hera's plan all along, but will the two camps put aside their differences to save the world? Sorry... no spoilers!!! This book transported me to a different world, taught me about Greek mythology and took me on a wondrous adventure. In conclusion, please discover this book and love it as much as I do!

Toby Addison



The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton

I am writing this book report about The Magic Faraway Tree as it's my favourite book.

When I first picked up the book I couldn't put it down. I think that this book would help other children's imaginations to grow as the book has a different land on the top of an enormous tree that every day that reaches the clouds, and you never know what is going to happen from one day to the next. The tree is so big that there are houses in the trunk.

My favourite part of the book is when Jo goes to 'The Land of Topsy-Turvy'; he starts walking around on his hands! My favourite character is Beth, she is very adventurous and likes to have fun and together with the other characters, Moonface, Saucepan man and Silky the fairy, they discover a new world and new experiences. The book just makes you want to read and read on to find out what happens next.

I would really recommend the book to anyone aged seven to 13. My family also like the book as when they were younger they read it too.

The book was first published in 1943 by the author Enid Blyton. The illustrations in the book literally transport you to The Magic Faraway Tree. These great illustrations were by Jan McCafferty. The cover was illustrated by Paul Hess.

I would rate this book a five out of five as the book is really entertaining, and I think that it is great that children's imaginations can expand from it. It has also clearly been a popular book as it has been published and read for the last 70 years.

Jasmin Ryan

ROY GREEN

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

LETTING & ESTATE AGENTS



Rics Qualified property professionals with Letting, Sales and Survey services

Roy Green Estate Agents PRIDE IN PROPERTY

Established for over 40 years, we offer an unrivalled approach to selling property. All of our team are local to your area, giving an extra edge to a deeper knowledge when selling and Letting a property. With Roy Green Estate Agents, you can be sure that you are dealing with the very best team of property experts there is, to guide you through the whole process.

Being passionate about service, we employ only the very best industry operators with skills, experience and dedication that surpass our competition. Whether selling or letting your property, our team work hard to negotiate the very best price for you and find the most suitable buyer. We also offer Financial advise and also have a very good connection with reputable Solicitors to convey your property for a smooth process.

Roy Green Estate Agents specialise in the sale of properties across the East Midlands, particularly Charnwood Forest & Villages, Rural Leicestershire and County of Rutland itself. Much of our business is from repeat clients and recommendation.

Anstey

15 The Nook, Anstey, Leicester LE7 7AZ
0116 235 3009

Barrow Upon Soar

5 High Street, Barrow Upon Soar, Loughborough LE12 8PY
01509 274 474



www.roygreen.co.uk



MITTON

ELECTRICAL Ltd

- INDUSTRIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- DOMESTIC

Pete 07972 592 691

Dave 07710 087 085

Info@davemittonelectrical.co.uk
www.davemittonelectrical.co.uk



Coral Kelham and her British Citizen Award

The British Citizen Award (BCA), according to the website, is open to each and every UK citizen and serves to recognise exceptional endeavour.

In Barrow upon Soar we are fortunate to have a special resident who was nominated and awarded the BCA for her numerous volunteering activities. Mrs Coral Kelham was nominated by her daughter and son-in-law for her knitting, her blood donations and her contributions to the community.

Let me explain further, Coral loves knitting so she was approached, several years ago, by a lady who has links with a charity in Africa. She asked Coral if she would knit items, cardigans and jumpers for children in Africa. Although she has not counted, Coral estimates that she must have knitted between 200 and 300 garments and continues with this activity. The blood connection relates to Coral's rare blood type. She was a blood donor for 26 years, donating up to three times every year but she had to give this up when she reached the age of 70. The community work concerns her voluntary work with the Methodist Church, including the Ladies Circle, which she founded with a group of young women in 1964. Coral still attends regularly.

Coral travelled to London with her daughter, Penny, on January 23rd to be presented with the award. They duly arrived at the House of Lords at 2pm



Coral knitting at home



Coral, with daughter Penny, at the award ceremony

for a 3.30pm presentation ceremony in the Cholmondeley Room and Terrace overlooking the River Thames. After an introduction by The Rt. Hon. the Lord Dholakia, there was a presentation of the medals by the relevant sponsors, after which tea was served. After tea, the 32 recipients and their guests were given a tour of the capital on open-top buses.

The final destination of the day was the Palace of Westminster where, after a reception with wine and light refreshments in the Westminster Hall, the presentation of the certificates took place. Each nominee had the opportunity to say a few words about themselves, if they wished. All 32, including Coral, did this. Coral was asked about her knitting, details about which had been missed

in her presentation booklet. Michael Underwood, the presenter, asked her if she could knit him a jumper. He was given a very speedy, negative reply. She explained that he was, "Too big!"

The event finished at 8.30pm, when a taxi took Coral and her daughter to St Pancras station for their journey home. They arrived in Barrow at 11.30pm, quite exhausted but had enjoyed a superb day with memories to treasure. Coral is one of only 350 people in the UK to have received this award which she so well deserves. She is a lovely lady who continues to serve our village community.

Ginnie Willcocks

Barrow Open Gardens News: 2020 an Exciting Year Ahead!



It's the start of a busy year for Barrow Open Gardens with three events in the pipeline. The first in April, a Spring Garden Party with lovely food in a beautiful setting. The second in June, the 21st Barrow Open Gardens. And the third in September our autumn event at the Baptist Church.

Barrow Open Gardens Presents April Garden Café

FOR ONE DAY ONLY: Saturday 25th April from 11am to 4.30pm, at 5, Ribble Drive.

In 2020 the Spring BOG Rainbows fund-raiser is a bit different when we welcome you to join us for our April Garden Café hosted in the lovely garden of one of our openers. Wander round and look at the flowers, buy delicious food and drinks from our café at bargain prices and find a seat and sit in the garden to eat and drink. Buy plants from the plant stall and have a go in our draw. Buy cakes and gifts to take away.

Barrow Open Gardens 2020

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th June - 11am to 5pm

Entrance is £1 per adult with under 14s free. All proceeds to Rainbows.

Here's hoping for a great day. *Fingers crossed* for no ill-timed April showers!

We are very busy planning for this year's Barrow Open Gardens. Last year BOG was recognised for its work with a Barrow in Bloom Judges Award and we want to carry on in that great tradition.

It's early days, but we are actively seeking new gardens to open, so if you would like to join us you would be very welcome. We are looking for gardens in all parts of the village and particularly on the newer estates, near the canal and the river, and close to the village's lovely jitties.

Whether it is a work in progress or plant perfect, if you love your garden others will too.

If you want to talk about opening your garden please call Lin Webb on **01509 620285**

Barrow Open Gardens Autumn Extravaganza

Saturday 19th September at Barrow Baptist Church.

The theme this time will be '**Barrow Goes Green**' highlighting ecology, climate change, wildlife conservation, and a little bit of 'The Wind in the Willows' (by Kenneth Grahame) thrown in for good measure.

Lin Webb - Chair Barrow Open Gardens



*How many dainty spring flowers grow,
In a Barrow Open Garden?
Delight in Sylvia's glorious show,
And we're sure you'll leave it heartened.*

*Primrose, Lilac, Lavender,
Hellebore and Primula.*

*Geranium, Peony and sweet Magnolia.
With Bluebells, Tulips and Camelia,
In a Barrow Open Garden.*

*Find some lovely things to eat,
In a Barrow Open Garden.
Coffee, Tea and a home-made treat,
You'll surely get a bargain.*

*Jammy scones and chocolate cakes,
Apple pies and lovely bakes.
Flans and tarts and sweet home makes,
Sandwiches, salads and no mistake,
In a Barrow Open Garden.*

*So come along and find a seat,
In a Barrow Open Garden.
With time to chat and friends to meet,
And a welcome that's for certain.*

*Gifts and cakes and plants and flowers,
An April Draw and seeds for growers,
Time to while away the hours,
And to raise some money for Rainbows,
In a Barrow Open Garden.*

(To the tune of 'An English Country Garden')

Floods, Fish, Bat and Ball:

How have this winter's rains affected sport in Barrow?

Torrential rains since October have meant that both the River Soar and Grand Union Canal have flooded significantly to the extent that for some time it was impossible to walk along the canal towpath from the Moorings towards Loughborough. This is a stretch of water that frequently hosts competitions with the Loughborough Soar Angling Society (LSAS) but this winter these had to be relocated to the canal in Loughborough town.

The roach, perch and bream (most common fish found in these waters) are still there; they find areas to shelter at the bottom of the river as the water at this lower level does not flow as fast as at the top where the force can be dangerous and thick, gloopy mud causes the risk of fishing people slipping into the fast-flowing water. When the water floods over the banks into the field however, the fish sometimes follow the water and can get stranded. Brian Hull of the LSAS is in his 70s and told me that he has never seen floods like this before and he's currently not sure when matches can resume along Barrow's banks. "The river has nowhere to go now" he said, "the water table is so high it only takes one more rainfall for it to flood again".

With over 30 years of experience working as groundsman at Barrow Cricket Club and, until recently, as pitch advisor to Leicestershire and Rutland County Cricket Club, John Upton knows what he's talking about when it comes to cricket pitches so I asked him about the effect of this year's rains on the grounds at Fishpool Way.

The playing season ends in September and this usually gives John time to prepare the pitch for the next season. He scarifies, reseeds and top dresses the grass so it's ready to 'be put to bed' over the winter. It costs about £2,000 to get it ready and this year has been a real challenge to get it done in time. He had only a two-week window from the end of season to the rains starting. Lots of clubs will be in a difficult position at the start of season in May, but John managed to get everything done in Barrow in time. He

said that it helps that Barrow's ground slopes down to Fishpool Brook and a few years ago the Club invested in a drainage system that has worked well, but in the 30-40 years that he has worked in cricket, he has never seen anything like the rainfall we have had this autumn and winter. If early spring is very dry, he believes that Barrow Cricket ground will be alright but he is worried that even with average rainfall in March and April things will look very bleak for cricket this summer. Barrow may just manage, but away matches to local grounds like Sibley and Syston may not happen because both grounds are in flood plains; but he says, "You can't fight the weather, only work around it".

While Barrow Town Football Club is keeping a close eye on its pitches, the Club has only had to cancel one match so far because of unsafe ground. The pitch is spiked regularly, which pulls the earth back up and creates little holes for the rain to soak through helping to keep it well drained. Too much mud is unsafe for the linesmen as well as the players.

My own sport of karate happens indoors at the Scout Hut so we are not generally too affected by the weather, although the long closure of Slash Lane has meant long traffic queues for those who travel into Barrow from outside the village. This caused a bit of stress at the autumn grading time, as people worried about getting to their grading in time - especially those going for their black belts. Although, Sensei Danny Spence was pleased that all made it to the Scout Hut and all passed.



Loughborough Soar Angling Society:
www.loughboroughsoarangling.co.uk

Barrow Cricket Club is one of the oldest in the county and, rain or shine, once the season starts, the Club House on Fridays nights hosts "half the village" as it acts as a social centre. The cricket club is always keen to welcome new members and their Junior Teams are very active. From 8-11 years, children play in a mixed team, but then there are separate boys' and girls' teams. If any young person is interested, they can find out more by asking at Hall Orchard School with which the cricket club maintains a close relationship.

www.barrowtowncc.co.uk

Barrow Town Football Club is always looking for backroom people to help support the teams - for example in catering for players and supporters, providing tea and coffee and hotdogs. Their clubhouse is available for hire for parties or corporate events.

www.pitchero.com/clubs/barrowtown

Loughborough Leicester Shotokan Karate:
www.llskarate.co.uk

Barrow Runners: www.barrowrunners.co.uk/

If you want to share the sporting achievement of anyone you know, please do contact Barrow Voice - whether you are a club member or not.

Running for fun and fitness can be difficult in flooded conditions and the Barrow Runners' website reports December 2019 runs with enforced route changes and waist-deep waters!

Karisa Krcmar

Barrow Runners' Boxing Day Handicap 2019

Every Boxing Day, since I moved to Barrow, I have been entranced by the fairies, Scotsmen, Batmen (and Robins) and many more, who gather to race Barrow Runners' Boxing Day Handicap.

How these hardy folk can face dressing up and running six miles after Christmas Day always amazes me. But even more, the setting up and organisation of such an event takes much planning and graft and we in the village are all indebted to those people who arrange it. It has become an annual village event.

This year, changes in Humphrey Perkins hiring policy, left the running of the event in doubt. But the Runners were determined it should go ahead, even with reduced numbers, which it did. Well done and thank you to all the people who organised it and made it possible. What a shame the weather was so unseasonable!

Helen Sadler





BRADGATE
ELECTRICAL SERVICES LTD

Your Local Electrician & Plumber

We offer domestic, commercial and industrial electrical and plumbing solutions throughout the Midlands

 **MATT 07739 644 184**

 **SAM 07815 789 097**

bradgateelectrical.co.uk



IAN HURST

17 Ridge Way, Barrow-Upon-Soar, Leicestershire. LE12 8XU
Telephone: (01509) 412095 Mobile: 07711055801

ChimneyDoc!



Out and keep me!

Your Local Sweep

Open fires, wood burners & solid fuel stoves.

- Bird guards & chimney cowls supplied & fitted
- Bird nests and blockages removed
- CCTV surveys and inspections
- Chimney repointing and repairs.



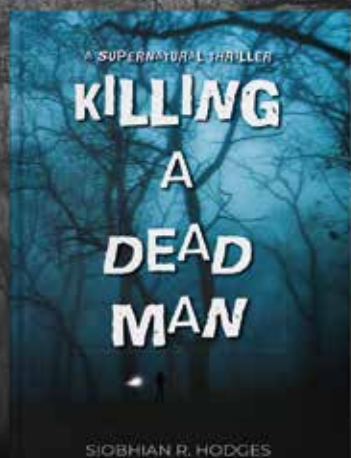
Call Mark the ChimneyDoc now

Tel: 01509 881479 mob:07830 345800




email sweep@chimneydoc.co.uk www.chimneydoc.co.uk

**DEBUT NOVEL
OUT NOW**

SIOBHIAN R. HODGES



www.siobhianrhodgesauthor.com

You can also find Siobhian on:   

BUY NOW ON AMAZON

★★★★★
"Supernatural Done Right!"
- Sam B Miller II

★★★★★
"Great read and I highly recommend to anyone!"
- Sophie Jarvis

★★★★★
"Incredible! Genius!"
- Vicky Smith

Philip Marshall
Upholsterer

French Polishing

Furniture Made to Order

Furniture Restoration

31a High Street,
Barrow upon Soar
Telephone 01509 620100

R.M Page C.M.B.H.I

CLOCK REPAIRS

Collection & Delivery Service

www.clockrepairsleicestershire.co.uk



91-93 High Street
Ibstock LE67 6LH
01530 260394 / 07891 298820
repairs@clockrepairsleicestershire.co.uk

Variable opening hours please call to enquire

Trinity Rooms

Serving the community

Ideal for...

Parties

Receptions

Meetings

Classes

Charity Events etc.

01509 416520

enquiries@barrowandwoldsgroup.com



Sympathetic
Dog Grooming

www.washandwags.co.uk

Short haired dogs can usually be squeezed in within one week.

- Bathing
- Clipping
- Hand stripping
- Anal gland expressing
- Micro chipping
- ID disc engraving
- Nail Cutting

Tel: 01509 416971
Mobile: 07765 835034

Vicki Wallin
41 The Banks, Barrow upon Soar
Loughborough, Leicestershire

Centre Stage in Spring! "The Beautiful Game"

REMINDER: Barrow's springtime Centre Stage show: "The Beautiful Game" on Friday March 20th at Humphrey Perkins Community Centre, Cotes Road, Barrow LE12 8JU

We wrote a fuller description of this show in the Christmas edition (page 29) but just to make sure, here's the meat of it.

We really didn't want you to miss what sounds to be a terrific show.

The Beautiful Game is a laugh-out-loud look at Britain's obsession with football. Football stories are expressed through the medium of physical theatre and dance, often accompanied by catchy tunes or some of those iconic football sounds. It is a show for the whole family: the fanatic, the impartial spectator and the football widow. Even if you don't like football, The Beautiful Game will persuade you of its charms.



Tickets will cost £11 (£12 on the door) or £5 for students in full-time education (£6 on the door). They can be bought online from www.busca.org.uk by Paypal or card, from Taylor's Florist or on the door. Enquiries from 07718153117.

Parking is excellent, there is good disabled access, there will be a simple bar and above all, this is professional theatre with none of the hassles.

The show starts at 7.30pm.

BARROW UPON SOAR VILLAGE SHOW

Barrow upon Soar Village Show takes place on Saturday 12th September in the Methodist Church Hall.

From the early beginnings in September 2012, the show is now part of the annual village calendar and, as an introduction, the very popular "Bean Day" will be held on Saturday 2nd May from 10 am until 11 am outside the Methodist Church. Children (of all ages) are invited to come along and collect a free pack of seeds and compost to plant up and then enter in the show.

There are classes at the show for both adults and children under varied horticultural, culinary and craft headings, with awards for Adult Horticulture and Home Produce, Best in Show Adult Craft, Best in Show Children and the very popular People's Choice. Previous years have shown many varied and unusual vegetables of different shapes and sizes particularly in the Heaviest Marrow, Curliest Bean and Smallest Ripe Tomato classes!



Schedules will be available from April from Taylor's Florist, Barrow upon Soar Library and Barrow Express or by contacting Tilly Yates on 01509 413085 so make sure that you pick up a copy and get growing!

Janet Thompson

Murder Mystery 2020

Heads up people! This year's murder mystery is called Two's Company and is set in the 1980s.

For those of us too young to remember, think big: big hair, shoulder pads, jewellery and for the men, big moustaches (remember Magnum PI?)

It's on Saturday October 10th, 7.30 pm at Humphrey Perkins School. More information to follow.

Be there or be...

Helen Sadler





For all of your garden requirements

Tel : 01509 416445
07748635095

Established for over 15 years

Complete Landscape Service :

- Creative Garden Designs
- Patios
- Decking
- Ponds
- Water Features
- Pergolas
- Fencing
- Turfing
- Planting Schemes
- Block Paved Driveways
- Brick and Stone walling



Free Quotations

www.barrowlandscapes.co.uk



Barrow Pre-School Playgroup



Barrow Pre-School Playgroup is an OFSTED registered charity playgroup.

In our latest inspection we were awarded a GOOD rating.

We provide learning through play for children aged 2 - 5yrs. Sessions are run at the Methodist Church Rooms, Barrow upon Soar Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.15am to 12.15pm and Tuesday and Thursday 9.15am to 3.25pm.

For more information please contact us on **07975 957242** or email **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)



Barrow upon Soar Conservative Club

14 North Street, Barrow upon Soar, Leics. LE12 8QA

Available for your functions - Birthdays, Anniversaries, Children's Parties, Funerals, Meetings etc

Tel. 01509 768600

Skittle Alley, Darts & Snooker Room

Lowest drink prices in the village - Free parking

www.barrowconservativeclub.co.uk

MARTIN TREE CARE

Arboricultural Services
Established 2001



TREES HEDGES
STUMPS

All TREE work undertaken by an INSURED, QUALIFIED, EXPERIENCED LOCAL tree specialist

Clean tidy service all waste removed from site

Martin: 01509 21 24 21 Or 07970 314259
email: martintreecare@btconnect.com

Finest Fresh Grimsby Fish & Shellfish



Find our van in the Three Crowns Car Park
3:30-5:15pm every Monday

Neil Taylor - Fishmonger
To pre-order call 07523 974 914

The Bengal

Tandoori & Balti Restaurant

Bring your own alcoholic drinks!

The Bengal is an Indian restaurant & takeaway, offers you a unique, friendly and relaxed atmosphere which is unlike any other restaurant or takeaway in Loughborough! The Bengal really is a special experience and whilst it caters for everyone's taste, lovers of Indian food will be deeply impressed.

We're proud of our 5 STAR FOOD HYGIENE RATING...



The Bengal Tandoori & Balti Restaurant

35a Bridge Street, Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire, LE12 8PN

01509 621000    

www.thebengalrestaurant.co.uk

Opening Hours

Sun-Thurs 5.30pm-11.00pm

Fri & Sat 5.30pm-Midnight

BARROW TOWN FC CLUBROOM & BAR

Available for your function

Weddings; Birthdays; Anniversaries any celebration!



Seating for 80+ persons

Volunteers always needed, come and help with your very own football club



Tel 01509 412244 for rates



BARROW PANTO GROUP PRESENTS

HUMPTY DUMPTY!



CRACKING PERFORMANCE!



GREAT FRY-DAY EVENING!



WHAT A YOLK!

EGGCELLENT SHOW!



G GAMBLE & SONS

Proprietor J G Maltby (Quorn)

- Family Owned
- Private Chapels of Rest
- New Memorials Supplied & Additional Inscriptions
- Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
- Religious & Non-Religious Services

01509 415 415

24hr service

101a Meeting Street, Quorn
LE12 8AQ {entrance on Spinney Drive}



Local Independent Funeral Directors

N Townend (Loughborough) Ltd

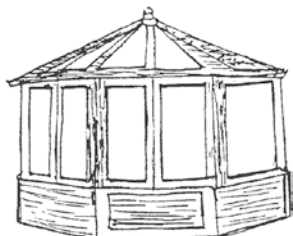
33 Ribble Drive, Barrow upon Soar
Telephone: 01509 415262
Mobile: 07860 789590

Business as usual from new address

Specialist in PVCu Internally Double Glazed Windows, Doors & Conservatories

- Shoot bolt locks & Saracen Hinges
- Multipoint Locking system
- Optional K & Safety glass
- All workmanship guaranteed 10 years
- Fitted by experienced local fitters
- FREE WRITTEN QUOTATION
- We will be pleased to quote From one window to a full house
- Facia, Soffits & Guttering
- Sealed Unit Replacement

SAVE £££ s



Just quality windows from Rehau

Robinsons Garage

Unit 4M, Sileby Road Industrial Estate, Barrow-upon-Soar
Tel: 01509 814884 07798 910761
www.robinsons-garage.co.uk



**MOT
STATION**

MOT & SERVICING to all makes

Sales - Service

MOT - Repairs

OPENING TIMES:

Mon-Fri: 8.00 - 5.30

Sat: 8.30 - 12.00

For fast, friendly and efficient service contact

**Mick Robinson on 01509 814884
07798 910761**

wheelchair friendly vehicles

4/6/8 seater vehicles



sams taxi service

barrow upon soar

01509 415246

07954370748

airports and sea ports covered
email sammy65uk@yahoo.co.uk

Innerthoughts

HYPNOTHERAPY

The mind is amazing...

Hypnotherapy can help with:

- Anxiety, stress & relaxation
- Phobias & fears
- Behaviours & habits
- Confidence & goals
- Sleep problems
- Becoming smoke free
- Pain management

Want to find out more?

Would you like me to talk to your group?

Contact **Penny Harris**
Dip.Hyp (LHS) GQHP (GHR)

Telephone 07581 515 141
enquiries@innerthoughts-hypnotherapy.co.uk
www.innerthoughts-hypnotherapy.co.uk



Bluebells

Last spring I noticed we had clumps of bluebells under the trees but when I got a closer look they didn't seem quite right. The bluebells that I remember as a child in Swithland Woods were slender and stemmed with a curve at the top from which the bells hung down. The tiny bells, whose edges curled back on themselves, had a sweet and delicate scent and spread in the dappled shade of the woods like a violet blue carpet.

They are a woodland plant of the Genus Asparagaceae that also includes the hyacinths; in fact one of the common names of bluebells is the wood hyacinth. Their species goes by the name *Hyacinoides non-scripta*.

The plants under the trees turned out to be their Spanish cousins *Hyacinoides hispanica*.

These are much stronger than our native bluebells and they are taller, the leaves wider and bigger, the flower stems are upright and the bell-like flowers grow all around the stem. What's more the flowers just flare at the ends – they don't curl back. These plants will grow in full sun as well as shade and on most well-drained soil types. The English bluebell prefers an acid soil. All in all they are quite different when seen side by side, and



English bluebell

that's another problem - the Spanish and English bluebells cross easily, so even one bell in the wrong place means it's a cross and not our native plant but a hybrid.

Having said all that, on their own, the Spanish variety is quite pretty, especially when the pink and white plants are nearby and you can pick different colours for a lovely posy, BUT what you're not allowed to do is to pick our native bluebells, or to dig up the bulbs, as they are legally a protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

The English bluebells are native to Britain, the Spanish variety were first recorded here in 1909 so I imagine it's another invasive species brought back by plant hunters at that time. There are plants known as the Bluebells of Scotland but these are actually harebells, belonging to the *Campanula* family, and quite different.

English bluebells are the flowers of St George and said to flower on his saint's day April 23rd. Bluebell sap was used in bookbinding, as it can repel insects, and was also used to glue the feathers onto the shafts of arrows. All parts of the plants are toxic and can give you a rash if handled. Legend has it that wearing a garland of the flowers compels you to be truthful - maybe from the itching of the sap? Bluebell woods are said to be enchanted by the fairies and, in the language of flowers, bluebells mean constancy, humility and gratitude.



Spanish bluebells

If you want to see bluebells locally this spring then you can not only go to Swithland Woods and the Outwoods but also Burleigh Woodland Nature Reserve which is the bluebell wood illustrating this article. The picture was taken by Keith Linington, a local artist, and it is how I first learned of these woods. It's a small area by comparison with the others, only about 22 acres, yet it was mentioned as far back as the 1520s, I imagine it was once part of Charnwood Forest that covered such a large area at that time.

A walk in the woods is always lovely and especially so on a sunny day in dappled shade when bluebells carpet the ground and their sweet scent is in the air. *It's quite magical!*

Maggie J

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

Editor

Gaynor Barton – 07792 545628
editor@barrowvoice.co.uk

Advertising

Judith Rodgers – 07718 153117
advertising@barrowvoice.co.uk

Distribution

Steve Morris – 412962
distribution@barrowvoice.co.uk

Features

Val Gillings
Judith Rodgers
Ginnie Willcocks
Lindsay Ord
Eric Ellingworth
Karisa Krcmar

Photography

Judith Rodgers
Gaynor Barton

Designer/Advertising Artwork

Michael Webster

Website

John Nurse

Design, Artwork & Print

GOGO Marketing & Advertising

Advertising Deadline

27th April 2020

Copy Deadline

4th May 2020

Copy to:

The Editor, 55 Thirlmere Road,
Barrow upon Soar
Loughborough LE12 8QQ
editor@barrowvoice.co.uk



Mon 16th Film show Mrs Lowry & Son at the Bishop Beveridge Club, doors open at 1.30pm
Tues 17th Men's Supper Group, visit to Space Centre, Leicester; time to be arranged. Meal in a nearby pub
Weds 18th Gardening Club seed swap, Methodist Church at 7.30pm
Weds 18th Bingo at the Bishop Beveridge Club at 2.30pm
Weds 18th Ladies Circle meeting at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church coffee lounge
Thurs 19th Gardening Club, Adam Frost – celebrity gardener at Humphrey Perkins at 7.30pm tickets only.
Fri 20th Centre Stage: "The Beautiful Game"; Humphrey Perkins; 7.30; tickets from Flower Shop & door
Sat 21st Litter Picking at the Poppyfields estate
Sun 22nd Mother's Day service at Barrow Baptist Church at 10am
Mon 23rd Charnwood Drawing and Painting Club. Bishop Beveridge Club 10.30am – 12.30pm
Weds 25th Talk entitled Fashion At Your Feet, History of shoes at 7.30pm at Barrow Community Library
Weds 25th Fun@Church for children and carers at 3.15pm in the Methodist Church Hall and coffee lounge
Thurs 26th Snippers and Pickers meet at 10am at Melton Road/Fishpool Way
Sat 28th Sewing Workshop from 1.30pm – 4.30pm at Barrow Community Library
Sat 28th Crochet and Craft Club from 2pm–4pm in the Methodist Church coffee lounge
Mon 30th Barrow Book Club at The Hunting Lodge 7pm, Innocent Traitor by Alison Weir

Wed 1st Ladies Circle, Quiz Night at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church coffee lounge
Wed 1st –22 Book Sale in Barrow Community Library
Thurs 2nd Leicestershire Metal Detecting Society in the Conservative Club at 7.15pm
Fri 3rd Beetle Drive at 7pm at Barrow Community Library
Sat 4th Minimarket And Coffee Morning from 10am – 11am in the Methodist Church Hall.
Sat 4th Who Let The Dads Out at 9am at Barrow Baptist Church
Sun 5th Messy Church Craft at 4pm at Barrow Baptist Church
Mon 6th New Horizons Bereavement Group meeting at 2pm in the Methodist Church coffee lounge
Tues 7th Parish Council meeting in the Parish Council offices at 7pm
Tues 7th Cambridge coach day trip arranged by the Bishop Beveridge Club
Weds 8th Women's Institute – make a posy with Taylor's Florist at 7.30pm in the Conservative Club
Weds 8th Bingo at the Bishop Beveridge Club at 2.30pm
Sun 12th Easter Sunday celebration at 10am at Barrow Baptist Church
Weds 15th Gardening club meeting in the Methodist Church with Tracey Beatty "Herbalists" 7.30pm
Weds 15th Ladies Circle, Easter Thoughts, 7.30pm in the Methodist Church coffee lounge
Mon 20th Film show Judy at the Bishop Beveridge Club at 1.30pm
Tues 21st Men's Supper Group, Methodist Church coffee lounge, 7.30pm. Speaker is Rev. Clive Watts
Weds 22nd Fun@Church for children and carers at 3.15pm in the Methodist Church Hall and coffee lounge
Weds 22nd Fun quiz at the Bishop Beveridge Club at 2.45pm
Wed 22nd "Meet the Village" arranged by Parish Council. Methodist Church; 7.00
Sat 25th Easter afternoon tea, booking only, 3pm at the Bishop Beveridge Club
Sat 25th Sewing workshop in Barrow Community Library – 1.30pm–4.30pm
Sat 25th Tea Party In Aid of Rainbows at 5, Ribble Drive 11am – 4.30pm
Sat 25th Crochet and Craft Club from 2pm–4pm in the Methodist Church Coffee Lounge
Mon 27th Charnwood Drawing And Painting Club at the Bishop Beveridge Club – 10.30am – 12.30pm
Mon 27th Barrow Book Club meeting at 7pm at The Hunting Lodge
Weds 29th Social Afternoon at the Bishop Beveridge Club at 2.30pm
Weds 29th Ladies Circle meeting at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Coffee Lounge
Weds 29th Barrow Community Library talk on Medical Detector Dogs 7.30pm

Sat 2nd Minimarket and Coffee Morning from 10am – 11am in the Methodist Church Hall
Sat 2nd Barrow Baptist Church: "Who Let The Dads Out?" 9am
Sun 3rd Barrow Baptist Church Messy Church at 4pm
Mon 4th New Horizons – Bereavement Group at 2pm at the Methodist Church Coffee Lounge
Tues 5th Parish Council meeting in the Parish Council Offices at 7pm
Thurs 7th Leicestershire Metal Detecting Society – Conservative Club at 7.15pm
Sat 9th May Fayre at the Bishop Beveridge club 10am – 11.30am
Sun 10th Street Market [VE Day 75th Anniversary]. The road will be closed from 10am and the market will open at 12pm. To book a stall please contact Sallie Hooper on 07956631683 or info@emme.uk.com .

Mon 11th Charnwood Drawing and Painting Club at the Bishop Beveridge Club from 10.30am – 12.30pm
Mon 11th Upton House [NT] coach trip Bishop Beveridge club phone 413212
Weds 13th Barrow WI Birthday Party, buffet and entertainment from Dougie Wright
Weds 13th Ladies Circle, DIY Hanging Baskets in the Methodist Church Coffee Lounge at 7.30pm
Mon 18th Film show Little Women at Bishop Beveridge club doors open at 1.30pm
Mon 18th Barrow Book Club at the Hunting Lodge at 7pm Yellow Crocus by Laila Ibahim
Tues 19th Methodist Church Men's Supper Group, walk or drive to Pillings Lock for 6.45pm
Weds 20th Gardening Club at the Methodist Church Rooms – N Timms – Practical Pruning at 7.30pm
Weds 27th Fun@Church for children and carers in the Methodist Church Hall and Coffee Lounge at 3.15pm
Weds 27th Ladies Circle Sing-along with Lindsay Ord at the Methodist Church at 7.30pm
Sat 30th Sewing workshop at Barrow Community Library – 1.30pm – 4.30pm
Sat 30th Crochet and craft in the Methodist Church Coffee Lounge from 2pm – 4pm

Mon 1st New Horizons, Bereavement Group. "Hair Through the Decades" with H2O at 2pm in the Methodist Church coffee lounge
Tues 2nd Parish Council meeting in the Council offices at 7pm
Thurs 4th Leicestershire Metal Detecting Society at 7.15pm in the Conservative Club Function Room
Sat 6th Barrow Baptist Church – Who Let the Dads out at 9am
Sat 6th Methodist Minimarket and Coffee Morning from 10am – 11am. All welcome
Sun 7th Barrow Baptist Church – Messy Church at 4pm
Mon 8th Charnwood Drawing and Painting club at the Bishop Beveridge Club at 10.30am – 12.30pm
Mon 8th Bishop Beveridge Club : Rutland Water Cream Tea Cruise and Gates Garden Centre
Weds 10th Barrow WI – Elizabeth Robinson on Family Fortunes in the Conservative Club at 7.30pm
Weds 10th Ladies Circle AGM in the Methodist Church Hall and Coffee Lounge at 7.30pm
Mon 15th Film show The Good Liar at the Bishop Beveridge Club doors open at 1.30pm

Barrow Panto Group presents
Humpty Dumpty

Humphrey Perkins Community Centre
March 6th & 7th

Barrow Twinning Group's
50s / 60s Night.

St. Gregory's Hall, Sibleby
March 7th

The Beautiful Game

A Centre Stage production
Humphrey Perkins Community Centre
March 20th