

Barton Community Association - Past, Present & Future

The fact that people live close to one another does not necessarily mean that they have much to do with each other. It is the role of an active Community Organisation to bring local people together for social, leisure and educational purposes.

Folklore suggests that there has been an active Community Organisation in the Barton area, since Roman times. Elder members of the current Association still speak fondly of "old Bingous Maximus" and his "box of numbered clay tiles", with which he entertained the local population during the great feast of 205AD. Although it is fairly certain that similar popular community activities took place in subsequent years; the next specific historic reference appears in the chronicles of 'Alfred of Waynefleet' where it is reported that the 'Barton Assemblage' paid an annual rent of 'nine turnips, three chickens and a hog' to the King in respect of a 'kinship hut' located near the Barton Brook.

The mists of time and the effects of locally brewed cider have served to obscure further historical reference to other early forms of the Barton Community Association. But there seems little doubt that an active community organisation has continued to function in the area, through the trials and tribulations resulting from wars, pestilence, plague and dodgy bar stewards.

Although the challenges facing the current Community Association may have changed over time, the role of the organisation is still to bring local people together for social, leisure and educational purposes.

The guiding principle of the current Community Association can be summarised as:

- V to provide a **voice** for local people.
- I to be **independent** and committed to democratic principles.
- S to provide **services** for local people.
- I to **initiate** projects and respond to local need.
- B to **build** partnerships with other organisations and groups.
- L to provide a strong **local net work** of people and organisations.
- E to **engage** and **encourage** people to become active in their community.

Examples of how the current Community Association are striving to serve local people include;


- * Spearheading the redevelopment and beautification of the area outside the shops in Underhill Circus.
- * Working with the City Council and local football teams to improve facilities at the sports pavilion on Barton Village Road.
- * Organising cheap trips to the seaside and offering a range of courses and leisure activities in the Barton Neighbourhood Centre.

Further details of activities currently on offer in the Neighbourhood Centre see page 3 or contact Sharon on 01865 761987



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& Free

Barton Community Centre
Underhill Circus
Barton


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No appointment necessary



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BUILDING PRIDE IN OUR CITY

Bringing the Street Wardens closer to you



Bob



Carolina



Calvin



Jenny



David



Need help or advice?
Oxford City Council Street Wardens work with and for the community to give you help and advice on local issues.

If you live in Barton or Wood Farm we can:

- be the first point of contact for you
- come and visit you in your home – particularly vulnerable people
- patrol your area on foot
- visit senior citizens lunch clubs and groups
- attend community meetings
- give you advice and information on crime prevention measures
- give you advice and show you how to do UV markings on valuable items
- give you advice and information on fire safety in your home
- give you information about Oxford City Council's services including abandoned vehicles, fly tipping, graffiti, and street cleaning.

To get in touch with the Street Wardens contact them on
T: 01865 401456

If we can't answer your questions we will get in touch with the people who can.
All information received will be treated in total confidence.



www.oxford.gov.uk



Barton Community Development Project - Update

We are a resident led community development project based in Barton Neighbourhood Centre. Our main aim is to implement the community action plan which will shape Barton's future in a positive way.

We hope everybody received their Community Action Plan Calendar earlier this year which shows all the areas of work we are involved with and the outcome of the research undertaken by local residents. This summer we have also released the 2nd edition of 'The A-Z Guide to Barton 2005'.

Some of the projects we are working on are:-

Underhill Circus Regeneration Project

Having found out over 400 peoples views, this area is to have a face-lift! (See picture on front page). Oxford City Council is leading on this project but there is a community steering group. The project hopes to address landscaping, parking, safety issues and to give the area a real uplift. We are hoping that work might start early next year.

Photography Project

Oxford Inspires 'Evolving City Programme' has funded a locally based photography project. Local people have attended workshops, learned to use cameras and have produced an amazing exhibition which has been displayed at local libraries and will end up as a display in Barton Neighbourhood Centre and the Roundabout Centre. See front cover for photograph included in the exhibition.

Youth Activities

Having set up a youth club to address the need for more activities for under 13s, we decided that more holiday activities were needed for young people and to help parents.

December 2004 Maureen Robertson resident and worker organised a Christmas Party for the youth club. Local DJ Gavin Williams provided music.

February 2005 we were awarded funding from 'Awards for All' to run a dance and music

half term project. This went really well and the young people who participated performed a brilliant and entertaining cabaret, for family and friends at the end of the week. Many of these young people have continued with dance and regularly attend local dance artist, Elisha Peart's classes held 4.30pm on Wednesdays at Barton Neighbourhood Centre.

Play Scheme Summer 2005 £1 per day!

The project organised and managed a 3 week play scheme for under 13's. The scheme provided young people with a variety of activities. The major funding source was Oxfordshire Community Foundation. We hope that Oxford City Council and other agencies will help organise a continuous programme of activities in the future.

Community Café

Many local people wanted to see the Neighbourhood Centre used more and brought to life. There were many suggestions of having a community café. We are working on a community café project and are currently securing partners such as Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust and Oxford City Council. We have a project plan but need to find funding. The project would not only deliver healthy food but would also involve local people in running the café, health walks, cookery classes etc. Watch this space!

If you would like to get involved with any of these projects, then please phone our office on 01865 760684 or email

vikki@bartonresearch.demon.co.uk

Our project group is made up of residents and if you are interested in becoming a member then please contact us by phone or in person.

Barton Community Development Project is part of Barton Community Association.



Dear sir/madam

Please can you give me some advice. I am in £1000 worth of debt and I am so scared of losing everything. It all started when I realized that it was three weeks until Christmas and I was finding it very hard to manage on benefits, so I relented to applying for money from a loan company that somebody suggested. At the time it was great that I could go shopping getting the children what they wanted for Christmas, then a week later I had a chap knock on my door and offer me some vouchers that I could spend at a selection of shops. He was really pushy and had the gift of the gab as they say; of course I accepted how stupid i was.

I thought that I would be able to afford the repayments but as time went on it was getting harder to pay.

At the moment all I am getting is letters demanding repayments that I just have not got. What can I do.

Please can you help me?

A very worried resident.

Dear Resident

Thank you for your letter concerning the amount of debt that you have: please do not despair as there is help that you can get.

Firstly do not ignore any letters that you receive from the loan companies - you can get help.

I would recommend that you either contact your local advice centre: Barton Advice Centre, which is situated in the Barton

Neighbourhood Centre on the first floor of the building. They are open between 10am-1pm Wednesdays and Thursday or call 01865 744152. The other thing that you could do is make an appointment with the local Citizens Advice Bureau. But my advice would be to contact the Barton Advice Centre because there can be a waiting list to get an appointment at the CAB.

In the future you may like to join the Oxford Credit Union. They offer savings and loans which would be a much more sensible way to borrow money. You can save regularly from as little a £1.00 a week. You can also be eligible for loans at the lowest rates. Or you can just enjoy the benefits of regular savings.

Their offices are at the Cowley Community Centre opposite Templers Square Shopping Centre and are open from Tuesday to Saturday from 10am-4pm Telephone 01865 777757 Two local service points are being opened at Rose Hill Sure Start Centre and at Headington Community Centre on Gladstone Road. There will be more service points when more volunteers come forward. If you would like to help, there is free training provided. It is also possible to save directly from your bank account or through some employers if you work.

I hope this helps and most of all remember do not ignore the problem as it will not go away - get the help that is available to you. I hope that you get your financial difficulties resolved and that this information is helpful. Good luck!

Do you have any problems you would like some advice on? You can write to us at Barton Community Development Project, Advice Corner, Barton Neighbourhood Centre, Underhill Circus, Barton, Oxford, OX3 9LS. Everything will be treated confidentially.

Local Organisations and community groups at Barton Neighbourhood Centre (Continued from page 2)

Activity	When
Bingo	Tuesdays 6.45pm to 9.15pm
Birthday Parties	Saturday & Sundays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Evergreens (50+)	Thursdays 1.00pm to 4.00pm
Indoor Bowls	Tuesdays & Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Junior Dance Club	Wednesday 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Junior Youth Club	(8 - 13 year olds) Tuesdays & Thursdays 4pm - 6pm
Karate	Wednesday 6.00pm - 8.30pm Saturday 10.30am -12.30pm
Kick Boxing	Thursdays 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Lunch Clubs	Mondays & Wednesdays 11.30am to 2.30pm
Swing Dance	Wednesdays 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Yoga	Mondays 6.30pm to 8.00pm
Youth Club	(13 - 19 year olds) Contact Tina Cockcroft on 741173

"Drugs in the 21st Century"

Free course – accredited by the Open College Network at Level 2, delivered by Energy & Vision

This 8 week drugs awareness course for parents and concerned residents is currently running (started 26th September) from 6 – 7.30 pm on Mondays at Bayards Hill Primary School, Waynflete Rd, OX3 9NU. Places may still be available for a late start – call Barton Community Drugs Project on 433052.

.Another course will be run soon, so register now to get the dates of the next course.

WEBSITE COMPETITION

for young people. Forms on table at the Barton Neighbourhood Centre/from the IT Hub or call 433052. Check out the websites to be in the PRIZE DRAW. Deadline extended to: Nov. 1st.

SEEKING HELP AND SUPPORT...

Roundabout Family Centre (Waynflete Rd) Family drop-in is open 10 am -2 pm Mon, Wed, Thurs. Groups and courses to help families also run. Contact 764952.

Parentline Plus 0808 800 2222 ; **Relate** – relationship counselling 242960

PADA drugs helpline for parents 0845 702 3867 ; **National Drugs Helpline** 0800 776600

National Domestic Violence Helpline 0808 2000 247 (24 hrs a day)

Cruse Bereavement Care 245398 (helpline open Mon–Fri daytime 10-12)

Childline 0800 1111 ; **Face2Face** for 13-19's to see a counsellor call 01993 892424 (can see you locally)

National Association for Children of Alcoholics 0800 358 3456 (FREE)

Bury Knowle Health Centre - Specialist Community Addiction Service, Barton/Bury Knowle. Ask your GP. 761651

Cranstoun Oxford City CDA 205 Cowley Rd. Free drugs counselling, also available in Barton area: 723500

Crack Cocaine Support: Fridays 10 - 4 (drop-in); 205 Cowley Rd

Family Support Group: Tues 6 – 7.30pm; 205 Cowley Rd

CAD confidential drugs/alcohol info at drop-in Tues, Fri 1-3pm 49 Barns Road 402919

Drinkline 0800 9178282 ; **Quitline** smoking counselling 0800 002200 (9am–9 pm)

Narcotics Anonymous groups 020 7251 4007 ; **Samaritans** 0845 790 90 90

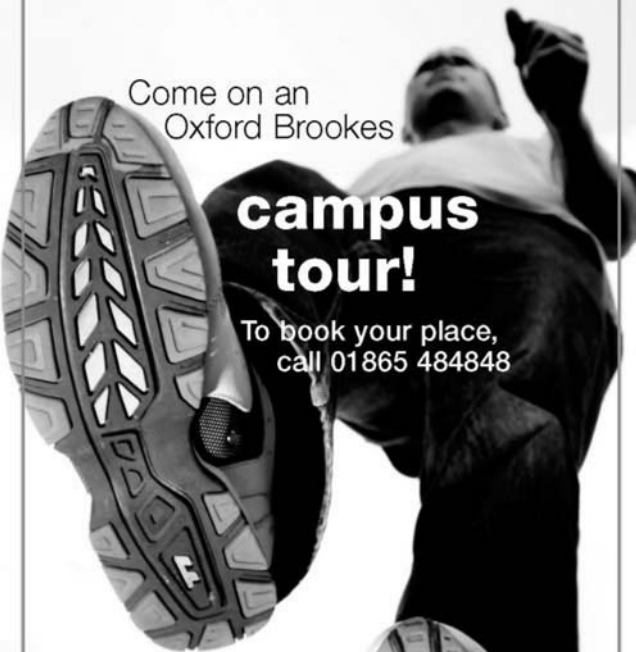
Available all year round, campus tours last about an hour and provide an ideal opportunity for you to see Oxford Brookes for yourself. With students from all backgrounds, walks of life and of all ages, we're sure you'll feel at home at your local university.

OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY

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campus tour!

To book your place, call 01865 484848



Oxford Citizens Housing Association is proud to support the Barton Community Development Project.

Oxford Citizens Housing Association provides high quality homes and support services for over 2700 households within Oxfordshire. We are not only committed to providing homes for people, but to investing in the communities in which they live, through a range of training, funding, employment and community development initiatives.

If you would like further information on the services we provide please contact us on: 01865 773000 or visit: www.ocha.org.uk Oxford Citizens Housing Association, 244 Barns Road, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 3RW

Beckley View was formally a sheltered housing scheme that was owned and managed by Oxford City Council and also contained the Oxford City Council's mobile warden centre. The decision was made to replace this block with the opportunity taken to provide affordable housing.

The scheme to replace the banks of redundant garages and disused sheltered housing block will comprise of 18 one and two bed apartments for shared ownership and 23 two to five bedroom houses for rent, each dwelling having its own off street parking.

The site layout has been designed to reinforce the existing road pattern, which determines the character and grain of the area, with the dwellings fronting Fettiplace Road, Ilsley Road and Brome Place. Planning permission was granted in June 2005 and construction work will begin early 2006 with completion planned for 2007. Details will shortly be available on OCHA's website.



The street wardens have had a very successful launch into Barton and Wood Farm.

"The majority of the public welcomed us onto the estates, and although the reception by the youths was a little frosty to start with, we are now engaging with them in football and other activities.

We are working for and with you, and will work closely with Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Thames Valley Police, and any other appropriate agencies to deal with problems you may have.

When you see us around, come over and say hello; it's good to talk!" (See our advert on page 7)

BARTON POOL construction work continues at a pace and on programme for completion in Spring 2006.

"We are all hoping that the dry weather continues to allow us to get the building watertight before the autumn.

The next month will see the construction of the pool hall and a start on the roof coverings. The pool has been constructed and will be filled with water shortly to test for any leaks!

While we all strive to ensure construction sites are as safe as possible they are inherently dangerous places and therefore we would respectfully request that you help us to keep everyone safe by discouraging people from accessing the site.

We are all looking forward to the next few months and hope you all enjoy watching the building take shape."

Beauty & The Beast Coming soon to Barton, 24th November at 6.30pm. It's for all the family. For ticket prices and more details keep an eye out for the posters or call in to Holdens News.

Barton Post Office New opening times. Monday - Saturday 8.45am - 10pm Sunday 1pm -8pm

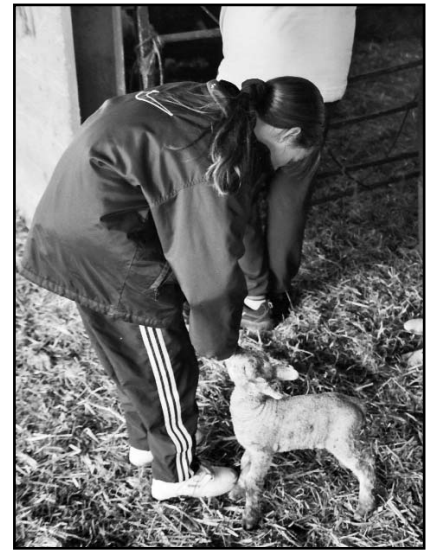
How to

- * Place an advertisement
- * Submit an article
- * Send us your comments
- * Send a letter for printing

Contact The Newsletter Team at melanie@bartonresearch.demon.co.uk or telephone 760684

Farm trip for the young local people

On Wednesday 13th April a day trip took place to a farm in Banbury for young people from the Barton estate and also staff and volunteers from the recently established Oxford Youth Works Barton project. On arrival at the farm, it was straight "down to business" when Ben Holloway, director of O.Y.W. was asked to help in the delivery of a lamb.



This proved quite an eye-opener for the young people (and some of the staff!) who had only previously seen clean, cute fluffy lambs on television or on a shelf in the supermarket. I suppose it was quite a messy affair. The young people soon got over their squeamishness, and the ewe and new arrival were left in peace, for there was other work to be done.

The next task was herding new lambs from one field to another, this was "enjoyed" by all and proved to be hard work, but was approached with gusto from all, and I'm sure provided no end amusement for the observers! The afternoons entertainment was provided by aiding the farmer in placing rubber bands on the tails (and other parts for the male lambs): this lets the tails (and other parts) drop off over time due to lack of a blood supply. The day was finished over a few wild boar sausages, made from boar which the farmer also breeds on his farm. All in all the day was a huge success, and allowed the staff and volunteers from the project to come together and build relationships with each other and the young people who attended, in a truly beautiful and idyllic setting, and also to witness so many miracles of Gods creation. O.Y.W. is planning further projects in the coming months and will publish these in the next issue:

Article by Ian Watkins

Barton Chippy.
Your local chippy
New opening hours
from end of September
11am – 10pm
Phone you order
through on 761712

Building Skills

Oxford Women's Training Scheme



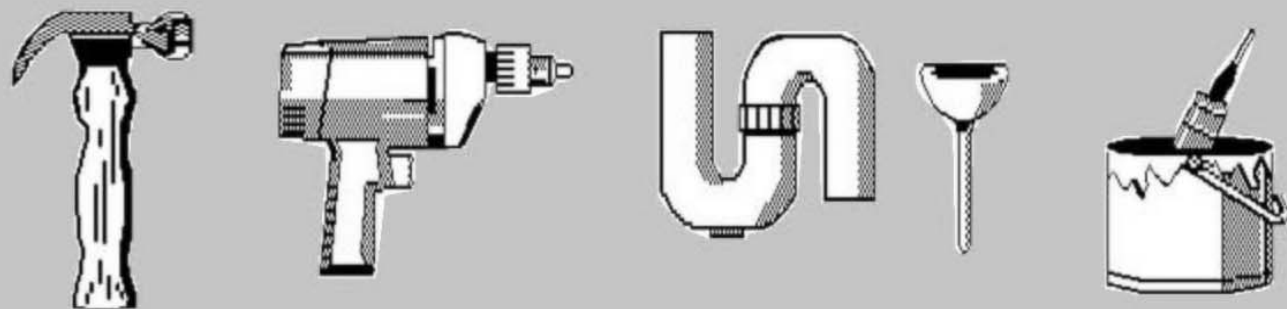
Based at Oxford & Cherwell Valley College Blackbird Leys site.

Are you fed up with the state of the tiles in your bathroom?
 Are your shelves full up? Do you need extra storage space?
 Does your dripping tap annoy you?
 Do your walls need a new coat of paint or a new layer of wall-paper?
 Would you like a picture rail or new skirting in your rooms?
 Then stop wishing and do something about it!!!!

Learn the basics of DIY for home use and possibly the start of a new job!

Other courses we offer include: ECDL, Carpentry, Web Design, Technical Computing, Painting & Decorating and Video Production.

Full details are available on our website: www.owts.org.uk
 For further details contact Oxford Women's Training Scheme on 01865 325394 or 325399, or email us on thopkins@owts.org.uk



For detailed information contact 01865 741317

Oxford Women's Training Scheme, Northway Centre, Maltfield Road, Oxford, OX3 9RG
 email: women@owts.org.uk
 website: www.owts.org.uk

Hands on News

Newsletter for Barton and the surrounding area

Issue 1

Produced by Barton Residents and community workers

Barton Newsletter Launched, again!

We are back!

'Hands on News' (HoN) stopped production in early 2004 when the funding for the newsletter and paid support staff ended with the Single Regeneration Budget programme.

The need for a newsletter has been a big priority for Barton for some time, as it is very important to get local information out to all people who live in the area.

Earlier this year, Barton Community Development Project (formerly Barton Resident Research Project) were fortunate in getting a small grant to set up a pilot newsletter project which could provide training and skills to local people, so that the community can produce its own newsletter. Through this project a new group including residents and community workers has been formed and is aiming to produce regular newsletters. Whilst producing a newsletter, it is vital to generate income through sales of adverts so that future issues can be printed and distributed. This newsletter is the result of the pilot project and all the work has been undertaken by residents and community workers.

If you would like to join the team, or furnish news items, stories, anecdotes, or have a moan etc., feel free. All contributions are welcome.

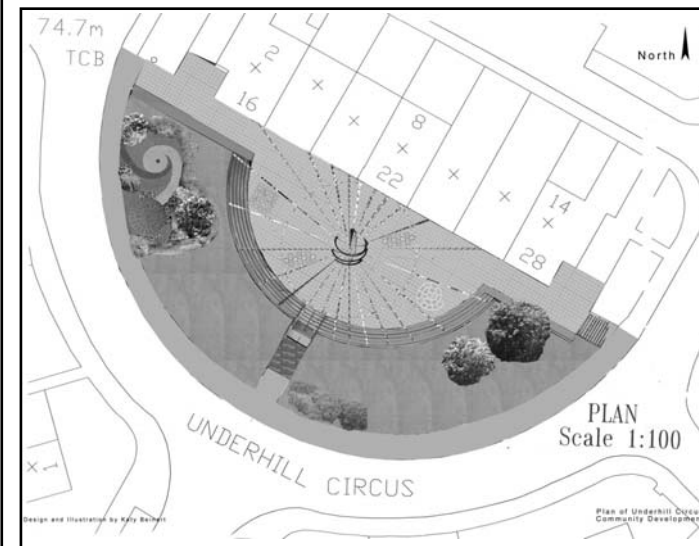
A big thank you to the news team for their unwavering commitment to the project and to Phil Citroni of Leys News for selling the advertising. Thanks also to Oxford illustrator Stig for his help with team training in design. The biggest thank you of all to you the reader. This is your newsletter and without an audience, the show would have to close.

Walter Blackburn Editor HoN

We have done our best to make sure the information in this newsletter was correct and up-to-date at time of publishing. The views are not necessarily the views of the BCA or BCDP. If anything is incorrect it will be corrected in the next issue.

New Exciting Plan for Underhill Circus!

See article on page 4



Eyes Wide Open Photographs of Barton



Where's that bone?

Photographer: Anna Florkonska
 Barton photography project see page 4