



# APPEARING LIVE BARLOW VILLAGE HALL Saturday 14th December @ 2:30pm

Tickets: £10 - ticketsource.co.uk/bernie-clifton
Or on the door £12
Includes Interval Tea/Coffee & Mince Pies

Special Guest Pete Gouldthorpe Plus FREE Crackerjack Pen with every book

Scan the QR Code to book your tickets



\*Booking fee applies when purchasing online

## **DECEMBER 2024 / JANUARY 2025**



All contributions for the FEBRUARY issue must be submitted by <u>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 5pm</u> to ensure inclusion.

Please send your articles and interesting photographs of the local area to: ingoherrmann17@gmail.com

# WHO'S WHO AT CHURCH ST LAWRENCE BARLOW

#### **Vicar**

Revd. Sarah Colver 07975 689403 25 Oldridge Close Holme Hall priest@barlowchurch.org.uk.

#### **Church Warden**

Mrs. Julie West 07799 639566 14 Little Brind Road Newbold julie@barlowchurch.org.uk

#### **Church Warden**

Mr. Peter Gouldthorpe 01246 550152 26 Bentham Rd. Chesterfield peter@barlowchurch.org.uk

#### **Parochial Council Officers**

Secretary: Mr. Peter Gouldthorpe, 01246 550152 Treasurer: Mrs. Janet Siddall, 01246 206964

Organist: To be confirmed.

Magazine Editor: Mr. Ingo Herrmann, ingoherrmann17@gmail.com

Magazine Distribution: Mrs. Joy Layton, 01246 272096

# WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE



#### **Parish Council**

Chair - Mrs. Irene Hall

Parish Clerk / RFO - Mrs. Emma Smith

Email: info@barlowvillage.co.uk Mobile: 07841 529122

Available during office hours Mon-Fri, unless in case of an emergency.

**NEDDC** - Cllr. Pam Jones

**Barlow Church of England School** 

Headteacher - Penny Watkin 0114 2890413

**Barlow Pre-School** 

Manager – Jo Staley 07719 991389

Chairperson – Joel Botham

**Barlow Singers** 

Karen Cook 07759 375312

**Young Farmers** 

Chair – Maddie Needham 07729 696013 Secretary – Clare Wood 07858 579877

**Carnival Committee** 

Chairperson – Terry Allison 07860 758037

info@barlowcarnival.co.uk

# YEAR'S MIND - DECEMBER

From the church registers - \* Denotes date of funeral or ashes burial

0.7	
<u>1<sup>ST</sup></u> EDITH WARDLEY-1977	<b>16</b> <sup>TH</sup> VALERIE M BINKS1987
<b>2</b> ND WILLIAM TURNBULL1970	
EILEEN MORAWSKI1999	ELIZABETH BARGH1994
	FRANCIS MASON1997
LESLIE DAVID WHITEHOUSE2015	EILEEN SHEMWELL2000
3 <sup>RD</sup> FRANK FAWSON1968	MONICA JEAN SIMPSON2006
MARY A. PICKERING1979	
	*PETER LAYTON2009
GEOFFREY WHITTAKER2010	<b>17<sup>TH</sup> JANE BRAKES1969</b>
RITA SMITH2020	*ALAN MUSSON1991
<b>4</b> <sup>TH</sup> GEORGE H. NEEDHAM1999	MAURICE HAYES SLACK2004
*NEIL JOHNSON2014	
5 <sup>TH</sup> NELLIE HAYES1980	ADA BOWN2010
	<u> <b>18<sup>тн</sup> ТОМ MORGAN1970</b></u>
6 <sup>TH</sup> LESLIE HASLAM1971	<b>19</b> <sup>TH</sup> FRANCIS J MILWARD1997
EDITH TURNER1974	STANLEY PEARSON2002
BETTY COBB2011	CHARLES R TANN2009
<b>7</b> <sup>TH</sup> MARY NEEDHAM1981	
JAMES H. NEEDHAM2003	<b>20</b> <sup>TH</sup> IDA SHAWCROFT1972
	*STANLEY HUGHES2012
JOHN L NEEDHAM2011	MARGARET MORGAN2014
COLIN M. SIMPSON2006	<b>21</b> <sup>ST</sup> VERA BRADBURY1995
<b>8</b> <sup>TH</sup> MARY MILTON1971	23 <sup>RD</sup> ETHEL M. SIMS1995
SHEILA BARLOW1993]	
THOMAS BOSTON1994	<b>24</b> <sup>TH</sup> FRANCES BLAKEMORE 1983
	NORA WESTON2000
<b>9</b> <sup>TH</sup> ETHEL A. HOLMES1968	ENA BLAIR2018
GEORGE WRIGHT1970	<b>26</b> <sup>TH</sup> ELLEN WOODALL2001
HARRY BOWLER1979	BERYL GOULDTHPORPE2018
JAM ES WILFRED NEEDHAM1998	
JENNIFER W BANKS2021	KATHLEEN FOGARTY2018
	<b>27<sup>тн</sup> THOMAS BINNS1972</b>
10 <sup>TH</sup> HARRY WHITTAKER1970	ANNIE KINGSTON 1984
11 <sup>TH</sup> *KENNETH HASLAM 2008	WILLIAM H. WILSON2001
DAVID H. NEEDHAM2000	INA RHODES2011
JOHN FEATHERSTONE (priest)—	
2000	28 <sup>TH</sup> ERIC WHITTAKER1972
	WENDY BARNES2018
*CLARICE R NEEDHAM2007	HENRY WESTON1979
HERBERT FRANK BURGESS2014	ROSA NOBLE1976
<u>12<sup>TH</sup> ELAINE L. FAWSON1993</u>	ELSIE MORTON1977
14TH GERTRUDE JOLLEY1971	JOHN H. BOOKER1993
EDNA BOOKER1985	
CONSTANCE GRATTON1989	AUDREY KNOWLES2016
	<u><b>29</b><sup>тн</sup> WILLIAM SPRY1972</u>
MAURICE COULSON1990	ANDREW KAY1972
MAVIS TWIGG1992	ELSIE STEVENSON1987
15 <sup>TH</sup> MAY SIMPSON1964	CLAUDE HARRISON1991
MARY BETTY GILLYATT2015	
FRANK SHAWCROFT1971	ROY MARTIN2016
	30 <sup>TH</sup> PAULINE ELSIE HIND2020
LUCY MORGAN1975	31 <sup>ST</sup> ALFRED PICKERING1974
EMMA MORRIS?	CECIL JONES2000
FRANCES J. MILWARD1997 6	BILLY MARPLES2006
IOLINIA BRIGHTMORE COOL	

JOHN A. BRIGHTMORE 2001

# **YEAR'S MIND - JANUARY**

#### From the church registers

\* Denotes date of funeral or ashes burial

	<b>14</b> <sup>TH</sup> EMILY NEEDHAM1964
<u>1<sup>ST</sup></u> HAROLD LAYTON2009	MARGARET SAVAGE1997
MICHAEL HASLAM2009	15 <sup>TH</sup> TERRY G. NEEDHAM1993
<u><b>2</b><sup>ND</sup></u> ETHEL D. GRATTON 2004	CRAIG ATKINSON1995
BRIAN J. REEVES2005	EVELYN BRIGHTMORE2006
*IDA BRANSON2014	<b>16</b> <sup>TH</sup> MARY STEVENSON1964
<b>3<sup>RD</sup> MURIEL BOOKER1993</b>	SIDNEY SMITH1975
BOB PARKIN1996	JEAN FROOME1994
MARY (MOLLIE) HASLAM1998	IVY M. LAYTON1994
4 <sup>TH</sup> LAURA REVELL 1969	19 <sup>TH</sup> ROY BRANSON 1990
MICHAEL HASLAM2009	JOHN A. NEEDHAM1991
<b>5</b> <sup>TH</sup> ERIC F.A. JAKEMAN1983	CONSTANCE M GREGORY1999
MAUD M. HASLAM1995	ERNEST LONGDEN1999
GODFREY HOLMES1998	ADRIAN HURT2016
JOAN BOYES2019	<b>20</b> <sup>TH</sup> HANNAH BRANWELL1978
6 <sup>TH</sup> ELLEN NEEDHAM1980	JOHN WALLACE1982
7 <sup>TH</sup> ELLEN WILSON1964	ALAN ROY POWELL2006
PATRICIA A. SALISBURY1995	WILLIAM BRAMWELL2014
RACHEL DORIS HASLAM2005	21 <sup>ST</sup> HENRY WILSON1981
8 <sup>TH</sup> ADA CROOKES1966	MARGARET M. WARD1998
ANNIE KINGSTON1985	22 <sup>ND</sup> CLARENCE J. SHAWCROFT2001
JOHN STATEN1971	CHRISTINE CARR2014
JOHN DEREK FOGGARTY2014	23RD CLARA WHITTAKER1965
RONALD W SIMPSON2019	PHYLLIS BUXTON2020
<b>9</b> <sup>тн</sup> CLARA NEEDHAM1963	24 <sup>TH</sup> MARTIN M SLACK2021
AGNES HASLAM1965	<b>25</b> <sup>TH</sup> KATHLEEN MATTHEWS1979
FLORENCE HILL1978	<b>26</b> <sup>TH</sup> MARY SMITH1972
<b>10</b> <sup>TH</sup> JUANITA LAYTON 2011	JOHN JOHNSON1981
11 <sup>TH</sup> HUBERT REEDER1988	HARRY NEEDHAM2001
BILLIE BLOUNT1998	COREEN RHODES2019
GEORGE C. HASLAM2005	<b>27</b> <sup>TH</sup> ADA BERRESFORD1968
KENNETH SKINNER2012	JOSEPH MARSDEN1979
<b>12</b> <sup>TH</sup> HARRY THOMPSON—1988	MAMIE WRIGHT1992
ALFRED E. STUBBINS1993	28 <sup>TH</sup> ISAAC POWELL1976
JOHN F. DEY1996	WILLIAM MARGERRISON1978
BETTY E. MUSSON2005	JAMES COLLINS2005
HAZEL B MEAKIN2010	<b>29</b> <sup>TH</sup> FLORENCE WARD1969
ENA ROSALIE BRADBURY2017	FLORENCE M BLANKSBY2010
<u>13<sup>тн</sup> GERTRUDE WHATLEY1965</u>	<b>30</b> <sup>TH</sup> CATHERINE PLATTS1964
CAROLE KENNIE2024	31 <sup>ST</sup> MAUD HASLAM1963
DENNIS HASLAM1971	LENA WHITE1977
FRANK MORGAN1979	BADEN POWELL 1970

**OLWEN MARY HALL---2019** 

# FROM CHURCH REGISTERS: DEC 2024 / JAN 2025

#### **Baptisms**

17th November—Elsie Grace Ward 17th November—Ava Rose Ward

#### **Funerals**

14th November—Gwen Jolley—funeral service and cremation 25th November—Dorothy Whittaker— ashes burial **Marriages** 

None

# **BARLOW CHURCH**

(ST. LAWRENCE)



#### Dear Friends,

In the words of the song which will fill many a shop, we 'wish it could be Christmas every day.' If only there could be peace on earth and goodwill to all, but that is all far and away beyond our control. By the time you read this though, I guess you will have started wishing folks a 'Happy Christmas', those you don't expect to see again until January. And as the weeks go by that same 'goodbye and Happy Christmas' will become regular parting words, until Christmas Day arrives.

But what is it that we are wishing?

What I think we mean by 'Happy Christmas' is to have a day when quarrelling and general grumbling is put aside, a day of patience with one another, a good meal, some time away from the computer and general chores, peace in our lives, just for one day. And of course, we still wish a 'Happy Christmas' to those who we know will have to carry on working while others relax. It's what we say.

The phrase, 'Bah Humbug', which of course we've learnt from Scrooge, the meanest of all Dickens characters, rarely passes anyone's lips, because nobody wants to deny anyone else the joy of the festivities. Yet even Scrooge learned the value of sincerely wishing others a 'Happy Christmas' and the joy of giving. Remember the Christmas goose.

We give those gifts, small and large, tokens or costly presents, often together with the words 'Happy Christmas' for two reasons. We give to show our appreciation of the people who support us, or to show our love. So, actually, it can be Christmas every day, if we take time to be thankful and show our love to others. If we are thankful for the good things we enjoy, it is only natural to tell those who work to provide for us, and to thank God, our creator, for all we have.

Christians believe that God Is love, and that love should be shared with people we don't know, as well as those we do. This is not always as easy to do as to say. And we believe that God gave us the ultimate gift, His son Jesus, the Christ child who the celebration honours. The baby born under oppression and in a foreign land, who showed humanity the perfect pattern for life, and who by his death and resurrection gave mankind the hope of eternal life. There could be no Easter without Christmas.

And so we wish one another 'Happy Christmas' and we hope that the happiness will last. Yes, it could be Christmas every day in our hearts and our dealings with others, well beyond the Christmas season.

That brings us neatly to New Year. Resolutions to change ourselves need not wait until January 1st, only to be set aside on January the 2nd or 3rd or 4<sup>th</sup>, when old ways creep back. Every day can be a new start. Our greeting, 'Happy New Year', expresses the hope that the new year will somehow be different. More loving and more peaceful, for us, our families and our friends. Here at St Lawrence, we invite you to come and celebrate the season of Christmas at any or all of the community events and to worship. Throughout the year, every week, you are welcome to share a time of quiet away from the business of life, be thankful for God's provision and join others in worship. To come to a place where you could say, it is 'Christmas every day'.

I wish you all a sincere 'Happy Christmas', and may 2025 be 'A Happy New Year'. Rev'd Gill, Assistant Curate.

# **CHURCH NEWS**

(ST. LAWRENCE)



#### Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe, but here we are again, at the end of another year; we hope it has been a good one for you.

As we look forward to Advent and the Christmas festivities, we reflect on the past year. We are so grateful to everyone who has supported the Church during 2024. The community spirit in Barlow is wonderful and we are so lucky that so many people who do not attend Church still want to help and support what we do. Thank you to every one of you who has done anything at all: eaten breakfast with us, opened their garden, baked, sponsored a flower arrangement, helped in the kitchen, visited an event, displayed a Christmas tree..., the list goes on.

In turn, we try to support others in need and if you have been to any of our events, you will be aware we have supported Chesterfield Foodbank, Ashgate Hospice, Bluebell Wood Hospice, Pre-School and Baby Basics this year.

We have been so happy to welcome the Pre-School and school children in to Church over the year, the most recent events being their Harvest Festival celebrations and visits to the Christmas Tree Festival. We are really looking forward to hosting the school Christingle service and many more visits next year.

Our remembrance service on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November was very well attended, with wreaths being laid by David Corrie on behalf of the Royal British Legion, Janet Siddall for the Parish Council, Ann Haslam for Church, Elodie and Zachariah for Barlow School and the local community police. Members of the congregation laid crosses on the memorial, one for each of the fallen of Barlow. Thanks go to our bugler, who doesn't just attend the St Lawrence service, but always manages to make it over to us from the service at Old Brampton in time to mark the minute of silence.

The afternoon service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for those who have died was very moving and again very well attended; with names read out and candles lit to remember those we love but who are no longer with us.

After the success of last year's Christmas Tree Festival, we have had even more trees on display this year; if you had the chance to visit, we think you will agree it was a very beautiful sight. Thank you everyone who brought a tree to display, they were all so individual and imaginative (See photos of some of the trees on page 13).

As we write this, we are very excited about the performances of Scrooge still to come. Thanks in anticipation of a wonderful two performances to Janice of course, all the cast and crew and everyone who has helped in any way.

#### **Christmas services**

And so we look forward to the coming season of joy and festivities; details of all the services are listed in this magazine. Our Carol Service is at 7pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December. We hope you will be able to join us over the Christmas period for one or more of our events.

We are really looking forward to welcoming the school children and their parents, grandparents and supporters in for their Christingle service, and also Barlow Singers and all the other contributors for the carol concert.

The crib service will be held at 3pm on Christmas Eve, when the nativity will be performed by the children and midnight mass will be at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve. Our Christmas Day family service is at 9am. Everyone is very welcome to attend any of the services and we would love to see you there.

Please see separate entry on page 14 for the Christmas services!

#### **Upcoming Events**

"A Bit of a Christmas Do" in the Village Hall by invitation: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Christmas Carol Concert: 7pm Tuesday 17th December 2024

School Christingle in Church: 2pm Friday 20th December 2024

Date for your diary: Open Gardens 2025, Sunday 6th July

We will return in February with news of the events for 2025 which we are already starting to plan. They will begin with our lent breakfasts, so look out for the posters and come and enjoy a delicious breakfast with us.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas filled with love, peace and joy and a very happy New Year,

Pete & Julie

#### **Regular services for DECEMBER**

Sunday 1st December: 11am service

Sunday 8th December: 8am Mass & 11am Family service

Sunday 15th December: 11am service. Joint confirmation service with

Old Brampton and Loundsley Green with Bishop Libby.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: 11am service

#### Regular services for JANUARY

Sunday 5th January 2025: 11am Family service

Sunday 12th January: 8am Mass & 11am service

Sunday 19th January: 11am service

Sunday 26th January: 11am service

### **Christmas Tree Festival**











Carol Service with the Barlow Singer's
Tuesday 17 December 7pm

An evening of readings, poems and carols

# Crib Service Christmas Eve 3pm



Join us as we retell the Christmas story and sing carols: come dressed as a nativity character if you like or you can borrow a costume.

# **Midnight Mass**

Christmas Eve 11:30pm

A traditional Midnight Communion Service

# Family Mass Christmas Day 9am

Communion for all the Family with traditional Carols





barlow-church.org.uk





# "12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS"

There are a couple of theories as to why the "12 Days of Christmas" was written. Many historians believe that the lyrics were first used to mimic popular "memory and forfeit" games from that time, when one person would recite a line, the next person would repeat the first line and add an additional line, and so on. Others believe that this was written as a catechism song for younger Catholics, holding a deeper meaning or "secret code" inside the lyrics than just what you read on the surface.

What are all of the gifts mentioned in the "12 Days of Christmas" carol? The gifts listed within the "12 Days of Christmas" include a partridge, turtle doves, French hens, calling birds, golden rings, geese, swans, maids, ladies, lords, pipers and drummers.

#### So, is there a secret code within the "12 Days of Christmas" lyrics?

Possibly! Legend has it that the Catholic Church *did* read the "12 Days of Christmas" lyrics with additional meaning, where each of the twelve gifts represented something significant from the beliefs of Christianity:

- A Partridge in a Pear Tree is said to represent Jesus Christ (a mother partridge is known to be willing to die while protecting her young), and is given on "the first day of Christmas" since the first of the twelve days falls on Christ's birthday.
- Two Turtle Doves symbolize both the Old and the New Testaments.
- Three French Hens stand for faith, hope, and love.
- Four Calling Birds are the four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
- Five Golden Rings represent the Pentateuch—the first five books of the Old Testament.
- Six Geese-a-Laying are the six days of creation (before the seventh day of rest).
- **Seven Swans-a-Swimming** symbolise the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, leading, and mercy.
- **Eight Maids-a-Milking** are the eight Beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-10).
- Nine Ladies Dancing represent the fruit of the Spirit (according to Galatians 5:22-23): Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Ten Lords-a-Leaping are the Ten Commandments.
- Eleven Pipers Piping stand for the eleven faithful disciples.
- **Twelve Drummers Drumming** represent the 12 points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.

## PARISH COUNCIL



CHAIR – Cllr I Hall 0114 289 9361
VICE-CHAIR – Cllr I Herrmann 07870 489 016
CLERK / RFO – Emma Smith 07841 529122 info@barlowvillage.co.uk
COUNCILLORS:

Cllr J Brougham 0114 289 1411 Cllr T Cribley 07722 006846. Cllr N Ibbotson 07967 005069 Cllr S Marshall 0114 2890596 Cllr J Siddall 01246 206964 Cllr P Taylor 0114 2890949 / 07753 662 619

#### **Planning Matters**

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

No planning applications have been received.

#### PLANNING DECISIONS

24/00620/FL – Section 73 application to vary condition 3 (days of opening) of planning approval 19/00522/FL (Listed Building/Conservation Area) at Woodseats Hall, Johnnygate Lane, Barlow – Conditionally approved 11 October 2024.
24/00700/FLH – Side extension and raising roof to provide accommodation in roof at 18 Commonside Road, Barlow – Refused 21 October 2024

24/00832/FLH – Single storey rear extension (Revised scheme of 21/00128/FLH) (Affecting the setting of a Listed Building) (Additional Information) (Amended Plans) at Bluebell Woods Cottage, Barlow Lees Lane, Barlow – **Refused 28 October 2024** 

24/00347/LB – Construction of a single storey rear extension (Affecting the setting of a Listed Building) (Amended Plans) at Bluebell Woods Cottage, Barlow Lees Lane, Barlow – **Refused 28 October 2024** Resident contacted the Council in relation to planning applications 24/00832/FLH and 24/00347/LB to thank Councillors for their help with this matter.

**RESOLVED** Clerk to write to Cllr Jones to thank them for her help with this matter.

#### ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

No other planning matters

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING

24/00882/FLH – Single storey side and single storey rear extension with balcony at 22 Valley Road, Barlow

**RESOLVED** no comments made.

#### Bernie Clifton at the Village Hall

The Parish Council is pleased to announce an afternoon/early evening event with Bernie (of Crackerjack fame) at the Village Hall on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2.30pm until 5.00pm. He is going to introduce his recently published memoir full of anecdotes and he is great fun to listen to. Please see the advertisement on page 3 of this issue. Simply scan the QRcode to book your ticket. Price includes a mince pie and a hot drink. Please make this a success by supporting this local event!

#### **Christmas Wishes**

From all of us at the Parish Council: We wish you all a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Irene, Ingo, Jo, Ted, Nick, Sheila, Janet, Pat and Emma







# **BARLOW PRE-SCHOOL**



#### Dear Friends,

We have a fantastic new mud kitchen play area made by two of our parents, Steve (Rufus's dad) and Bruce (Stanley's dad). They both worked really hard to create a lovely safe area for the children to enjoy. Thank you for the generous donation from Bruce at Spire Vets for the cost of the materials.



We were very excited to take part in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Lawrence's Church. The children enjoyed making all our decorations and we went to the church to see all the different trees. It really put us in a Christmassy mood and we sang some of our Nativity songs to people visiting the church.

We are completely full until September 2025. If you or someone you know is looking for a place at Barlow Pre-School then please email us with details so we can add them to our waiting list. Our email address is barlowpreschool@gmail.com.



Remember you can donate to Pre-School by just using the easy fundraising app! Just sign up and search for Barlow Pre-School. You can even enable donation reminders on your phone. This automatically offers

you to make a donation to our cause with no extra cost to you. All money raised will be going towards the huge cost of replacing our outdoor area.

Pre-School closes on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 12pm and re-opens on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

We have been very busy practising our Nativity which we will be performing on the last day of term. We are hoping that if we sing loud enough we might receive a special visitor to the Village Hall. We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.



Jo

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## **BARLOW SCHOOL**



#### Dear Friends,

Christmas is looming and we have a busy half term planned. Sapphire start the season off with a collective worship in church for their parents focussed on the value of forgiveness. This will shortly be followed by our Enterprise fair where the children make festive gifts for sale. FOBS will be selling cakes and tea and coffee. Then we are busy rehearsing for the Infant Nativity (Wriggly Nativity) which will be in the Village Hall. Some of the Y6 children will be supporting the Pre-School Nativity as narrators. Finally, term will finish with our Christingle service in church.

#### **New Starters September 2025**

If you know a child who is born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, please invite them to contact school on 0114 289 0413 and book an appointment to look around. Parents need to apply for a place by 15th January 2025 through Derbyshire County Council Admissions site.

#### **Bikeability**

Straight after the snow in November, Sapphire class faced the challenge of Bikeability. The playground was cleared and gritted, then the children were put through their paces, practising balancing, signalling and manoeuvering together with some children having the opportunity to learn to ride a bike. Once the playground practice was over, the children who had passed their level 1 assessment proceeded to on-road practice. This took place down in the bottom part of the village.

#### **Sport**

Emerald have completed their first three weeks of swimming. Meanwhile, Ruby 2 went on their first sports trip of the year. This was to Whittington Green School where they took part in a Superhero festival. They brought their best superhero moves and enjoyed a rotation of activities organised by the sports ambassadors at Whittington Green in collaboration with SHAPE sports partnership. SHAPE also joined the children at school for a Physical Activity afternoon on Children in Need Day and Reagan led the children in some sporting challenges.

#### **FOBS**

Thank you to everyone who attended the first pop-up craft club in support of FOBS. The children had great fun making Christmas crafts. This is the first in a series of pop-up craft clubs, so please look out for the next one in the Spring term. If you are able to help out in any way with these, please speak to Rachael Blake.

#### **Forest School**



It has been Ruby 1's turn to go to Forest School. They have been down to our site just Commonside Road and had fun exploring, building homes for rock people and making fairy bracelets. The breath final session involved a fire and some hot chocolate which was a great treat on a very cold day.



# FOBS Friends of Barlow School

#### Dear Friends,

We are pleased to report that the FOBS team has some fantastic new members who have already made a big impact in our very small team, raising money in different ways. We have had a pop-up festive craft event for the children which has raised money for FOBS and was very much enjoyed by the children. We will be putting these funds towards 10 new iPads to help with learning in school.

Looking forward to the end of the year, we have our Christmas raffle. If any local businesses can offer any prizes to support the raffle, we'd be very grateful for the support, please contact Jo or Helen. Tickets will also be on sale via the school office, if you would like to purchase any. We are also eagerly anticipating our Christmas disco at the end of term which is always a big hit with the children.

This term, FOBS are raising money towards plastering and decorating an upstairs room which is used for SEND and nurture groups as well as reading groups. We have been lucky enough to secure some support for plastering and decorating the nurture room. However, we would still love any form of support with carpeting the space to make it warmer and more welcoming. Is there anyone who might be able to help us?

FOBS would like to thank everyone for their support in 2024 and we want to wish you all a very happy festive period and we hope that 2025 will be a happy and healthy year for you all.

Jo 07725 004293 Helen 07899996241



## **CARNIVAL**

Although Carnival 2024 may feel like a distant memory, the last few months have been busy. Our Christmas Fair, held last week, kicked off the festive season, and we were delighted to once again contribute to the Church Christmas Tree Festival by adding our own tree to the display.

On Friday, December 13th, we invite you to join us for the return of Carols on the Green. Starting at 6:30pm, enjoy mince pies, mulled wine, and carols performed by the Barlow Singers as we await the arrival of Santa, who will light up the Christmas Tree and hand out gifts to the children.

We're also thrilled to once again collaborate with Barlow Young Farmers for their Illuminated Tractor Run. This festive spectacle will depart from The Three Merry Lads in Cutthorpe at 5:30pm on Friday, December 13th, winding its way through nearby villages before returning to Barlow to bring Santa to the Village Green. It promises to be an unforgettable sight!

As the Christmas holiday draws near and 2024 comes to a close, we reflect on what an incredible year it's been. What was your favourite moment from this year's Carnival? With so many highlights, it's hard to choose just one! We hope you've enjoyed all of our events as much as we've enjoyed planning them.

We'd like to thank everyone who has contributed or supported any of our events this year, we just couldn't have done it without you. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Carnival 2025 is just around the corner—mark your calendars for Saturday, August 16th!

**James** 



## YOUNG FARMERS

Throughout November the members have enjoyed a small members' bonfire and fireworks meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November which was well attended and enjoyed by all members. Also during November, we had a junior meeting which was organised by the Junior Chairman and Secretary who put on a fantastic quiz. Some of the members made Christmas tree decorations, allowing us to take part again in the St Lawrence Church Christmas Tree Festival. Barlow has also got a Rounders team through to the area finals to go up against the other county teams within the East Midlands Area Young Farmers Clubs. We also took part in the popular Barlow Village Christmas Fayre, holding a couple of fundraising games, such as guessing the number of ballons in the Tractor cab. As we look forward to December: an Ice-Skating Meeting at Ice Sheffield, Pyjama party and film night and the annual Christmas meal before taking the usual break for Christmas.

Again, Young Farmers are proud to participate in the annual Barlow Christmas Tractor run on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm, alongside Barlow Carnival Committee. The parade will again pass through the local area with its illuminated tractors, through Cutthorpe, Old Brampton, Holme Hall and Loundsley Green before returning to the village to deliver Santa to the waiting crowds gathered at the Village Green.

We will return to the Village Hall again on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 with a Public Speaking Practice at 8pm and as always new members are welcome to come along to see what we do. From all of us in Barlow Young Farmers: we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for

2025. Rosie





# **BARLOW PEOPLE**

#### Val Hudson

If you were a sparrow, dropping in for a quick feed in a certain Barlow back garden, as many do, and you happened to glance in through the French windows, you'd probably see professional artist Val Hudson, hard at work on a beautiful painting for another lucky customer.

Val herself dropped into Barlow twelve years ago, attracted by our spectacular scenery, the peace and yes, the quiet. Landscape is central to her work as an artist, but it's the landscape of the mind, as it were, as much as anything in nature, which fires her imagination.

In her paintings, drawn from memories, emotions and impressions, misty layers of colour, both rich and restrained, shift and shimmer, form and reform. Take a look at her website – valhudson.co.uk – to view them for yourself, or see examples of her work on page 51 of this magazine.

So, how did such a singular vision develop?

Born in bustling Clacton, Val grew up by the seaside. She left those big skies and wide vistas aged 16, to train in Hotel Catering and Institutional Management at Colchester Polytechnic. After graduating, she took on her first 'proper job', as a hotel manager in central London – not a role for the faint hearted!

Her big break came when renowned entrepreneur Sam Alper, of Sprite Caravans fame, took a punt on 23 year old Val as his business start-up partner in Cambridge. Together, they launched a wine and catering enterprise. Sam concentrated on the vineyard, leaving Val to organise her part of the business around parties, weddings and large corporate events, all run from a cluster of picturesque barns. Val is very modest and shy of revealing figures, but take it from me, she grew the business from a humble start, to a mind-boggling level in just five years.

It was in Cambridge that Val first developed an interest in Buddhism, which led by degrees to a major change in her life. Exchanging the corporate world for the big wide world, she embarked on a kind of odyssey, starting in Australia, over to Europe and on to Syria for an unforgettable month.

Invigorated by her travels, Val had found a new direction – Art. Now aged 30, she won a place at prestigious Central St Martin's College in London, where she studied Fine Art Painting for three years. Local legend Jarvis Cocker was there at the same time, but their paths never crossed – she must have been in a different class.

After graduating, there was another grand tour, working and travelling in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Burma, as it was then, Nepal and

New Zealand, plus a second spell in Australia. She also stayed with the Buddhist community in various countries. This was a pivotal spiritual and artistic journey for Val, which has informed her artwork ever since.

Her first major exhibition was in Zurich, which sold out, followed by further shows in London and Norwich. Val was based in Wales for the first ten years of her career as a professional artist, living and working at a Buddhist retreat in the Brecon Beacons.

Then Barlow beckoned. The friendly people and indefinable appeal of our countryside, plus the close proximity of the Peak District, all proved too much to resist. A working from home pioneer, Val converted almost the whole of the ground floor of her lovely house into a studio and art gallery, with the living room promoted to the upper storey.

It's been a busy and productive twelve years for Val in Barlow. She's a regular participant in Derbyshire Open Arts, the Wirksworth Art and Architecture Trail and Melbourne Arts Festival, with her work on show at the Harley Gallery in Nottinghamshire, the Tarpey Gallery in Leicester, and in London.

Away from her easel, Val enjoys nothing more than a long walk around the Cordwell Valley, taking in the breathtaking views. She's deeply committed to the conservation of nature, both in the wider landscape and her own, verdant and abundant gardens. Those sparrows really do flock to her generous hedges.

A popular and successful artist, Val weathered the storms of the pandemic well. And there was a welcome ray of light in the darkness in 2022, when she married her partner of 16 years, Maisie, another bright, compassionate and talented woman. Long may they grace our village.

Peter Baldry

For a few more of Val's paintings see page 51!





In Between

## **POETRY CORNER**

Meg and Fly by Robert Ward

While on a Sunday morning walk
I passed a lonely farm
A border collie greeted me
I saw she meant no harm

I spoke to her with gentle voice
In return she wagged her tail
And from that fleeting moment on
Grew a bond that would not fail

I gave her all my sandwiches
Till I had nothing more to give
And the love that passed between us
Stays with me while I live

We walked the fields together
Through the seasons of the year
She always made me happy
And sometimes shed a tear

She lived a life of 14 years
Until she passed away
But the memories she left behind
I think of every day



Robert is a regular visitor at the Lakeside Café. His poem was sent in by Jason Hill.

She left behind a collie pup
A rascal through and through
Fly filled the gap that Meg had left
A friendship that just grew

She grew up to be a loving friend
Walking with her was a pleasure
Such a gentle loving dog
Those times I'll always treasure

Fly was such a hardy dog
A kennel was her home
Very rare was she fastened up
She loved to be free to roam

She reached the age of 13 years
Until she fell asleep
She went to join her mother Meg
What memories I'll keep!

# **BARLOW HISTORY**

in pictures (from Barlow Forum and History group fb site)



Barlow well dressers 1967



Hackney House and garage 1964



Springfield Road Carnival parade assembly – early 60s

# **CAKE DECORATION**

#### "Dear Readers,

Children are experts on Christmas cake decorating. You can see here the pleasure Clara gets from using decorations from the tin we kept from many previous years' cakes. They all go back on the latest cake. So, let the children have a go at decorating this year's Christmas cake. It's a lovely way of passing a winter's morning and it doesn't take that long to scrape up the glitter!

Happy Christmas!"







And here are some ideas for decorating your cake:









# PUZZLE PAGE 2024 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

- 1. In which particular American town did Donald Trump say people were 'eating their pets'?
- 2. In 2024 ITV announced who as the host of their reboot of Bullseye, the dart themed quiz show?
- 3. Geoffrey Hinton has won a Nobel prize this year. He is known as the "Godfather of ..." what?
- 4. Who took over as interim head coach at Manchester United when Erik ten Hag was sacked in 2024?
- 5. After 58 years as a broadcaster, which BBC DJ has officially signed off on his final Sounds Of The 70s show?
- 6. Who won the main award at the 2024 Ballon d'Or?
- 7. Who became leader of the opposition in the UK on Saturday 2nd November 2024?
- 8. Quincy Jones sadly died in 2024. He produced the song "Fly Me To The Moon" for Frank Sinatra. Which two planets are mentioned in the opening verse of that song?
- 9. According to the 2024 Sunday Times Rich List, who has become the first billionaire British musician?
- 10. Who was confirmed as Scotland's new First Minister in May 2024?
- 11. Complete the title of Taylor Swift's 2024 album: "Tortured Poets ..."?
- 12. What was the title of Richard Gadd's drama series on Netflix, in which he plays the role of himself being stalked?
- 13. What is the title of Liz Truss's book that was published on 16 April 2024?
- 14. Which Japanese company provided the technology that resulted in the Horizon IT scandal?
- 15. Which Nordic country officially joined NATO in March 2024, becoming its 32nd member?

#### **ANSWERS:**

Springfield / Freddie Flintoff / A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) / Ruud van Nistelrooy / Johnnie Walker / Rodri (Rodrigo Hernandez Cascante) / Kemi Badenoch / Jupiter & Mars / Sir Paul McCartney / John Swinney / Department (Tortured Poets Department) / Baby Reindeer / Ten Years to Save the West / Fujitsu / Sweden

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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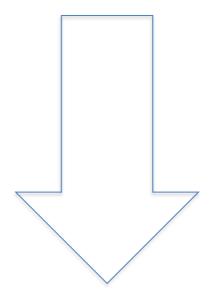
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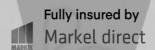
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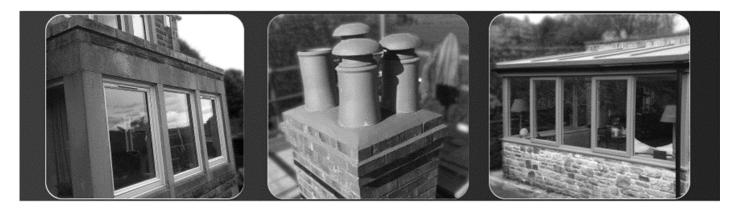
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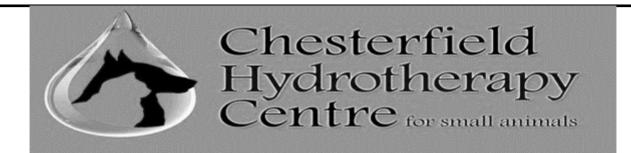
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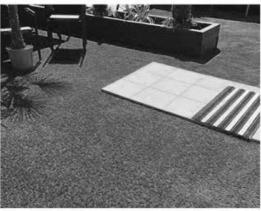






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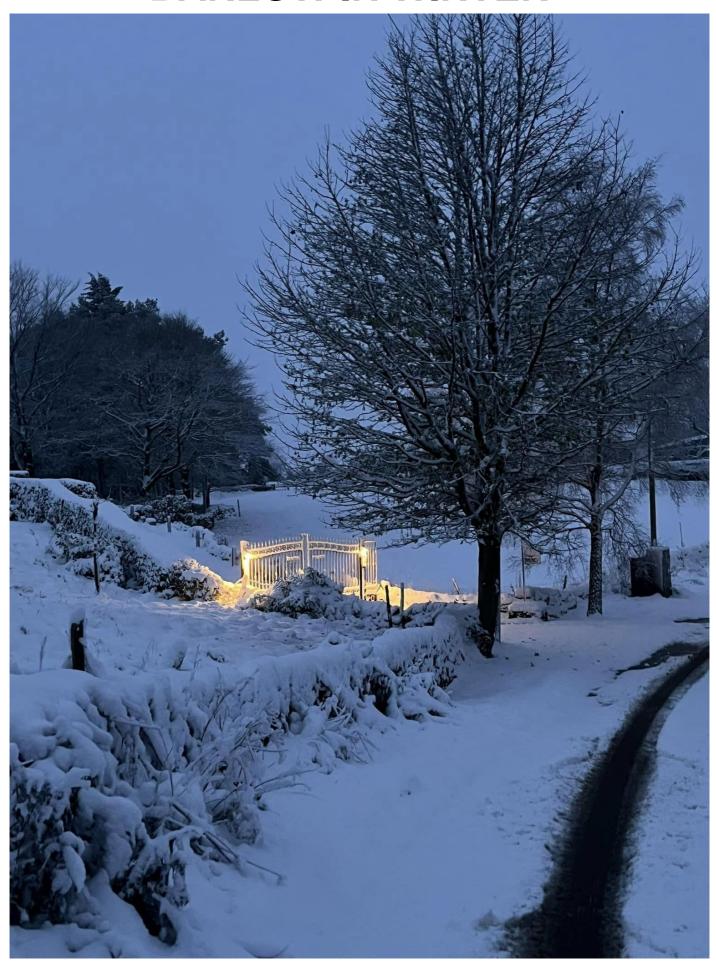








#### **BARLOW IN WINTER**



Front and back cover photos by Julie Parry