

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

BARLOW

PARISH MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2026

STILL ONLY 70p

Barlow Parish Magazine 2026

Thank you to all our supporters and advertisers - we do hope you enjoy reading and contributing to this magazine and appreciate your continued support. This is the first edition for this year which means that annual subscriptions and advertisement fees for 2026 are now due.

Subscribers – We have held the price of the magazine at 70p for an individual copy or £7 for an annual subscription. You will have received an envelope with this magazine which gives details of how to pay (which can be by cash, cheque or bank transfer) and we would politely ask that you make payment by 31st March 2026.

If you are paying by bank transfer, please use your name and 'Magazine' as a reference. The bank details are as follows:

- o Lloyds Bank
- o Account Name: St Lawrence Church Barlow PCC
- o Account Number: 01075448
- o Sort Code: 30-95-43

If you are paying by cash or cheque, please don't forget to put your own name and address on the envelope with the payment. Cheques should be made payable to 'St Lawrence Church Barlow PCC'.

Advertisers – We do appreciate your contribution to the magazine and hope that you will continue to advertise with us throughout 2026. The charge for placing an advert remains unchanged from last year and invoices will be sent out shortly including details about how to pay.



FEBRUARY 2026

All contributions for the MARCH issue
must be submitted by
Friday, 20th FEBRUARY 2026, 5pm
to ensure inclusion.

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

WHO'S WHO AT CHURCH

Vicar

Revd. Sarah Colver
07975 689403
25 Oldridge Close
Holme Hall
[priest@barlow-
church.org.uk](mailto:priest@barlow-church.org.uk).

Churchwarden

Mrs. Julie West
07799 639566
[julie@barlow-
church.org.uk](mailto:julie@barlow-church.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 – Sarah Wells 07984 304874

Barlow Singers

Karen Cook 07759 375312

Young Farmers

Chair – Maddie Needham 07729 696013
Secretary – Harlie Blackwell 07879 434291

Carnival Committee

Chairperson – Terry Allison 07860 758037 info@barlowcarnival.co.uk

YEAR'S MIND - FEBRUARY

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

2ND FRANCES MILLINGTON---1971

MARGARET SIDDALL---1969

3RD GLYNNE SIDDALL---1969

SYDNEY D. BINKS---2009

4TH CLAUDE W. HANDFORD(priest)---
1973

JAMES H. NEEDHAM---1994

ANTHONY J NAVIN---2022

5TH ALFRED STEVENSON---1963

HARRY MILLINGTON---1968

ARTHUR SHAWCROFT---1985

IVAN L. TAGG---1989

THOMAS HALLETT---1995

ANTHONY NUNN---2023

6TH DAVID E. KING---2009

7TH GERTRUDE BIGGIN---1966

IDA WILSON---1990

ANNE TEW---1991

8TH FRED WASS---1996

ALEXANDER E FAWSON---1999

LEONARD SIMM---2002

9TH SYBIL M. STEVENSON---2005

BARBARA WALKER---2021

10TH PERCY HASLAM---1994

ELIZABETH DAVIES---1997

11TH PAMELA ELIZABETH SPRY---
2018

12TH TREVOR GLAVES---1979

13TH JAMES WALKER---2003

JACK GILLYATT---2017

14TH ERNEST NEEDHAM---1999

JOHN GEOFFREY WRIGHT 2008

15TH WILLIAM SHAWCROFT---1982

TREVOR COCKING---2023.

16TH GLADYS GRETTON---1978

ALLAN PATMAN---1985

FRANCIS W. BEMBRIDGE---1987

CATHERINE M. VIRTUE---1989

ALBERT IBBOTSON---1995

17TH GEORGE A. WARD---1980

*ENA KATHLEEN SHAWCROFT
2016

*JAMES SHAWCROFT---2016

18TH EMILY GODFREY---?

ETHEL W. BOOKER---1988

GEORGE E. WARDLEY---1994

MAURICE LOMAS---2002

*BRENDA MARY PICKERING---2014

19TH ELIZABETH WILSON---1978

COLIN EATSON---1986

ERNEST HASLAM---1994

20TH HETTIE SLATER---1965

JOYCE M CRATCHLEY---2020

ELSIE COLEY---1993

CHRISTOPHER J. PARKIN---2003

DESMOND HARDY---2012

21ST FREDERICK NEEDHAM---1972

NORAH REDMAN---1973

HUGH WILLIAMS---1973

IVY EATSON ---1974

BRENDA BRAMMER---1993

ANNIE LISTER---2009

22ND *ANNIE MARPLES---1990

DORA SKINNER---2009

23RD FLORENCE HICKS---1990

VICTOR BEMBRIDGE---1999

24TH JOSEPH SHELDON---1965

MARION BOSTON---1966

JOHN HOWARD---1968

JOHN PENDLETON---1971

GERALD SHREWSBURY---1989

25TH RICHARD HANWELL---1984

STANLEY TEW---1992

KATHLEEN MATTHEW---1979

JANE BARGH---2018

26TH OLIVE CARTER---1987

ETHEL LAYTON---1994

27th JEFFREY SYDDALL---2022

28TH WILLIAM E. PICKERING---1997

GILBERT WOODALL---1976

MAUREEN VERA LISTER---2017

29TH MARJORIE WHITEHOUSE---
1968

BARLOW CHURCH

(ST. LAWRENCE)



Barlow church today. How did we get here?

(Numbers in brackets throughout the text refer to footnotes at the end)

Dear Friends,

The 'letter from the clergy' is a bit different this month, because as a church community we're thinking about our identity and purpose as we start to plan for the future. Recently I produced a few reflections for a church council (PCC) meeting and it was suggested that I share them with you all: I'm no historian so cannot guarantee complete accuracy for all the facts, but hopefully they are close enough...

When we look ahead as a church community we are always building on what has gone before: the history of the building, wider church and local village contexts and we remember particular individuals, clergy and lay, who have shaped the church over the centuries. And to all of this, we bring our own stories....

An article in Lewis' Topographical Dictionary of England from 1831 (1) describes Barlow as follows:

BARLOW, a chapelry in the parish of STAVELEY, hundred of SCARSDALE, county of DERBY, 3¾ miles (N.W. by W.) from Chesterfield, containing 708 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Derby, and diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, endowed with £400 and £10 per annum private benefaction, £400 royal bounty (2), and £1300 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Revd. F. Gisborne of Staveley. Here is a free school for ten poor children, with an endowment in land, augmented by a pecuniary donation by the Duke of Rutland.

There are several things we might recognise here: mentions of a school and the Duke of Rutland, and also the Revd. Gisborne, who set up the Gisborne Charity which still gives out money annually across NE Derbyshire. There are also things that have changed since 1831, e.g. the Diocese of Derby

was created in 1927. And clergy are paid differently now too! But did you know that the above refers only to Great Barlow? Our ecclesiastical parish boundary has changed over time and St Lawrence, Great Barlow was a separate parish from Little Barlow until the mid 1870s.

It would appear that there's been a school in Barlow for a long time. It was back in 1752 that Susanna Stevenson gave the sum of £40 for 'teaching five boys of this chapelry' (3) and by 1831 the free school existed. Later, with the education acts and development of school boards, the current church school opened in 1872.

The social context has changed hugely over the centuries, from the area being very agricultural to becoming more industrial with the coming of the mines and railways, then back to a more mixed setting with tourism and hospitality also becoming more prominent - and all now in the commuter belt for Sheffield. Church Urban Fund (4) statistics provide fairly recent information on the parish, which had a population of 931 in 2021: Barlow is relatively less deprived than many parishes nationwide, but the detail of the demographics is revealing, e.g. more than 29% of people live on their own and 27% of all residents are pensioners.

Alongside all of this, the church building itself has a rich history from its



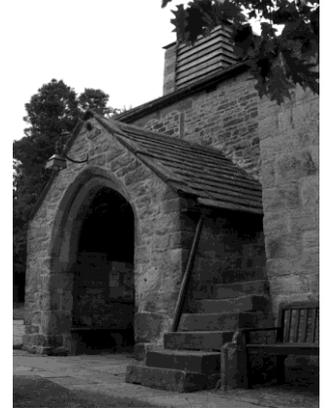
earliest days with the Norman church built on the current site in around 1139 by monks from Louth Park. The landowners of the day, the Musards (5) and later the D'abitots, also owned nearby baronies of Staveley, Killamarsh and Holme - which perhaps explains the Staveley connection and patronage. It was the D'abitots who had the

chantry chapel built in around 1340 (There's lots more information about the building on both the church and Barlow Parish Council websites (6)).

It was not a parish church in the same sense in those days, and Roman Catholic, of course. And medieval church worshipping and church traditions were very different to those of today, e.g no pews! A huge change will have come with the Reformation when, if there had still been a chantry priest, he would have been sent packing and the form of worship would have changed dramatically with Holy Communion being in English and held only a few times a year, the focus being on services of Mattins and Evening Prayer (Evensong).

With the start of the Church of England parish system came also the start of proper record keeping - and St Lawrence's Anglican registers date back to 1573. The old registers, along with lots of other church documents, are now kept at the Derbyshire County Records Office in Matlock.

When more music and hymns were allowed (by 1789), a little gallery was built over the chapel to house the musicians and that arrangement persisted till the mid-1850s when a barrel organ was installed. The gallery was eventually removed in 1906 and the outside door blocked up, but the steps up to it are by the main door and are still a frequent source of curiosity.



Revd. George Shipton, vicar from 1856-1879, arranged for a lot of work to be done on the building, taking down the east wall and having the sanctuary and vestry built. But just as significant in some ways was his successor Fr.

Cornelius Dyson's introduction of 'high church' practices, i.e. Anglo Catholicism to the parish. This was the heyday of the Oxford Movement, one of whose aims to spark the religious imagination through engaging all the senses in worship (music, bells, colourful vestments, incense), at a time when many working peoples' lives were dreary and spent in grinding poverty.

We can only presume that the form of worship, using the book of Common Prayer (the BCP), had remained pretty much the same up until then. But Anglo Catholicism took inspiration from the pre-Reformation medieval church and the changes Fr. Dyson introduced may have caused some ructions, including a daily Mass and the more ritualised style of worship. Over time, many practices associated



with the tradition seem to have been lost again, perhaps partly through circumstance or successive generations of both clergy and parishioners. Sacramental worship (the Mass) is still central to worship at Barlow though, whether using more 'traditional' language (thee/thy) on many Sundays or more modern language for major festivals and for Family Masses.

There has been so much change down the centuries and yet, in the midst of it, there is stability too, for the church congregation and building have

been a visible witness to Christ's loving presence in Barlow since the early 1100s. It is the current congregation's role to 'be' that presence today, gathering for worship, holding the needs of the community before God in prayer and maintaining the building as best we can. Community, fundraising and social events take place all year round and we are hugely grateful for the way in which members of the wider community get involved.

In addition, many generations of the same families have lived in the area for centuries, their ancestors are buried in the churchyard and it still is part of the church's role to serve and care for both the living and the dead. The PCC are responsible for the upkeep of the open churchyard and we are very thankful for the volunteers who maintain it so well - though new team members are always welcome!

But a church needs vision and purpose in order to thrive and develop and we need to discern what our other priorities will be, alongside our core responsibilities, for the next 5 - 10 years. And we would really value your thoughts and observations too, so we'd be very grateful if you could consider giving us your response to the following three questions:

1. What does Barlow Church mean to you?
2. When did you last visit the church, and why?
3. Would you be interested in exploring or deepening your own faith and spirituality and if so, what would interest you (e.g enquirers' course, discussion/ prayer group, different styles of worship, family activities)?

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

With every blessing, Revd Sarah

You can send your replies by email to Julie West, churchwarden at julie@barlow-church.org.uk, or you can write down your thoughts on paper and place in the post box by the back door of the church.

1 <https://places.wishful-thinking.org.uk/DBY/Barlow/index.html>

2 Presumably this was the Queen Anne's Bounty.

3 <https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/DBY/Barlow/Lysons>

4 <https://cuf.org.uk/parish/120112>

5 <https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/DBY/Barlow/Lysons>

6 <https://www.barlow-church.org.uk> and <https://www.barlowvillage.co.uk>

FROM CHURCH REGISTERS: FEBRUARY 2026

Baptisms

11th January-- Edwin Andrew Alistair Sutherland

Funerals

2nd December– Derek Skelton – Funeral service & burial

Marriages

None

CHURCH NEWS

(ST. LAWRENCE)



Dear Friends,

Here we are at the start of another busy year, but first a quick review of the end of 2025 which was such an enjoyable festive season. The Christmas Tree Festival in Church was a fabulous event once again and we wish to thank all those who participated by bringing trees, all of which were incredibly imaginative. Thank you too to all who helped by being in Church to receive visitors and serve refreshments. And not least to everyone who visited, especially the pre-school and school children; we love to have you all in Church exploring and singing Christmas songs. An amazing £958 was raised for Church funds.

We welcomed the school children in for their Christingle service too and look forward to their visits and pre-school's visits during 2026.

All our Christmas services were very well attended, especially the Carol Concert, the Crib Service and Midnight Mass. It was lovely to see the

Church full, with familiar faces and many new ones. The Carol Concert was beautiful; thanks to all those who attended and Barlow Singers for their immaculate performance.

2026 got off to a great start with the service to license Reverend Gill Ball as our Associate Priest at last, and we have many events planned for the coming year for which we hope you will be able to join us. Please see the list of upcoming events below. There will be more information on them closer to the time.

Lent Breakfasts

We begin the year once again with Lent breakfasts, which will run for six weeks from the 18th February. Please see the poster on the next page. We will be sharing the proceeds of this event with the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield. The breakfasts are always popular, with many people coming every week to enjoy a hearty start to the day. If you would like to try your hand at being on the other side and helping to cook or serve the breakfasts, please just contact Julie.

Open Gardens

It is also that time of year when we ask for people to consider if they would like to take part in Open Gardens 2026, which will be on Sunday the 5th July. To those who regularly take part, we would like to thank you for your continued support, and if anyone would like to try joining in for the first time we would strongly encourage you to have a go. Your garden does not have to be very large, or perfect; small gardens and works in progress are of as much interest to visitors as spectacular ones.

If you would like to take part, please contact Julie. Additionally, if you would like to volunteer your help with organising, supervising car parking, or helping in Church on the day, please let us know. It is a great community event to get involved in. And of course we will need lots of homemade cakes again for this event, if you can help at all with the baking we would be very grateful.

Church Opening

Church will continue to be open for visitors until the spring on Mondays and Fridays from 10am until 2pm.

There are occasionally events happening on some of the open days when access may be restricted but we do our best to avoid this.

Regular services February 2026

Sunday 1st February: 11am service

Sunday 8th February: 8am Mass & 11am family service

Sunday 15th February: 11am service

Sunday 22nd February: 11am service

Upcoming Events

Lent breakfasts: Wednesdays 18th & 25th February / 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March 2026

Open Gardens: Sunday 5th July 2026

Well dressings & flower festival: Wednesday 12th – Tuesday 18th August 2026

Harvest Supper: Sunday 11th October 2026

Christmas Tree Festival: dates to be confirmed

“A Bit of a Christmas Do”: Saturday 5th December 2026, by invitation.
If anyone would like to offer to volunteer at any of the above events, please contact Julie using the details at the front of the magazine. Thank you.

We are looking forward to sharing a very eventful year with you all,
Julie

LENT BREAKFASTS 2026

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH, BARLOW

Every Wednesday in church during Lent

**The price is £7.00 for a cooked breakfast
(bacon, sausage, egg, tomato &
mushrooms with tea or coffee & served
with toast or a bap)**

Or £3.00 for toast & preserve plus a drink

Served between 9.30am & 11.30am on:

February 18th & 25th

March 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th

**Come & bring your friends for a delicious
start to your day.**



**Proceed to be shared between Barlow Church &
Northern General Hospital**

Baby Basics

In time for Mothering Sunday on March 15th at St Lawrence Church, we hope to collect baby items again for this wonderful charity. The response from people in Barlow in the past has been beyond generous, so again we appeal for your help and your kindness to help those less fortunate than yourselves.

Here are some statistics about last year from the charity:

Over the last 12 months the Baby Basic Centres have supported 45,750 children and their families, which is an increase of 3.5% on 2024.

104,530 items of support have been given freely to families, which is 23% more than was given in 2024.

28,524 clothing bundles, 20,180 packs of nappies, 10,827 toy and book bundles, 6,068 Moses baskets and 11,143 care packages of toiletries were among items donated by the public. More details are published on Instagram at baby basics.

Items do not need to be brand new, but in good, clean condition. We are collecting the usual babygrows, vests, newborn disposable nappies, knitted cardigans and hats, socks and bootees, baby blankets and towels, bathing toiletries, newborn clothes, bibs, soft toys, and also toiletries for Mummy (shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrush, flannel and soap). Should you prefer to make a donation of cash, this is also very welcome and will be sent directly to the charity or used to buy items needed, whichever you decide.

Please contact anyone you know who belongs to our congregation or pop into church at open times to see someone to arrange the collection of items if needed. Please contact our church warden if you need her assistance. Your help is so appreciated. Thank you very much.

Jenny Windle



Just some of last year's collection!

CRAFT GROUP

We Want You!

We are a small group of ladies who enjoy various crafts and we meet in the kitchen at Barlow Church, 10ish – 12ish on Tuesday mornings for tea/coffee and company whilst doing our thing.

Would you like to come and join us with whatever you enjoy crafting?



PARISH COUNCIL



CHAIR – Cllr I Hall 0114 289 9361

VICE-CHAIR – Cllr D Lindsay 07786 702931

CLERK / RFO – Emma Smith 07841 529122 info@barlowvillage.co.uk

COUNCILLORS:

Cllr J Brougham 0114 289 1411

Cllr I Herrmann 07870 489016

Cllr S Marshall 0114 2890596

Cllr J Siddall 01246 206964

Cllr P Taylor 0114 2890949 / 07753 662 619

Cllr W Twigg 07814 667362

Planning Matters

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

25/00456/FLH – Proposed single storey extension to create entrance porch, utility room and dog room (Affecting the setting of a Listed Building) (Affecting Public Right of Way) (Amended Plans) at Rumbling Farm, Far Lane, Barlow

RESOLVED no comments

25/00939/FL – Proposed shed inside the extension to the graveyard, behind a high hedge in order to screen it as much as possible from the church (Affecting the setting of a Listed Building) (Conservation Area) at St Lawrence Parish Church, Hackney Lane, Barlow

RESOLVED no comments

25/00993/FLH – Ground floor front extension at 5 Brookvale Close, Barlow

RESOLVED no comments

PLANNING DECISIONS

25/00690/FLH – Ground floor front and rear extensions at 36 Springfield Road, Barlow – **Conditionally approved 21 October 2025**

25/00452/FL – Demolition of an existing dwelling and replacement with a self-build new dwelling and associated works at Barlow Croft, Barlow Lees Lane, Barlow – **Conditionally approved 30 September 2025**

RESOLVED noted

ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

No other planning matters.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING

No further planning applications circulated

Speed Watch

One offender was caught and sent a warning letter from the police at the last speed watch session.

Smeltinghouse Lane

Following concerns raised by local residents the Clerk submitted a request to Derbyshire County Council with a suggestion to assess if Smeltinghouse Lane could be made a one-way route. Parents collecting children from Forest School are asked to negotiate the narrow stretch of the lane with extreme care as there is no room to squeeze past pedestrians.

EV Charging Points

County Councillor Foster has reported that the possible installation of EV charging points on streetlights is currently being investigated for Springfield Road, alongside other measures to support residents without off-road parking to enable the charging of electric vehicles.

Focus Groups

Cllr Lindsay and Cllr Hall have attended two of the focus group meetings. An update to information received will follow shortly.

Connect Fibre

The company has been contacted to find out if they would be willing to attend a Parish Council meeting to explain the plans.

Mill Stone

A mill stone was found on the recreation ground by metal detectors who recently inspected it. We are considering an inscription and how best to put it on display near the Village Hall.

Quiz Nights

The dates for the February quiz nights have been confirmed as Thursday 19th and Thursday 26th February (see poster below). The change from

Wednesdays to Thursdays was necessary because we have a new activity being offered on Wednesdays and we want to give it the best chance of success (please see below).

“NEW to Barlow Village Hall, starting on the 7th of January!

Secure your spot with Showtime Dance Fitness and make next year your strongest yet.

BROADWAY BOOGIE

Your chance to experience the magic of Broadway! Every step is done to powerful uplifting music giving you the chance to feel like you are the star of the show!

Wednesdays – 7:30pm - Barlow Village Hall, Millcross Lane, Dronfield, S18 7TA

Featuring songs from these incredible productions:

The Greatest Showman, Chicago, SIX The Musical, Hairspray, Kinky Boots, Come From Away, Honey, The Lion King, Rock Of Ages & so many more!

DECADES RELOADED

Your weekly throwback party! Dance, sweat and sing your way through the biggest hits from across the decades!”

Barlow Village Hall



QUIZ NIGHT

Thursday 19 and 26 February 2026

£1 per person - no need to book

PRIZES | BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

Do you have what it takes to be the ultimate quiz champion? Then, gather your friends and join us for Quiz Night at Barlow Village Hall. This is your chance to show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition.

DOORS OPEN AT 7.45PM QUIZ STARTS AT 8PM

www.barlowvillage.co.uk

TO OUR POSTIE

JACKIE:



The Barlow residents who have had their post and parcels delivered by Jackie so reliably would like to express their deep appreciation for all the hard work that she has undertaken for so many years. She has regularly gone above and beyond her official duties and it is with mixed feelings that we wish her all the best for the future! Jackie, you will be missed!

Jacqueline Jayne Holmes's facebook post

**Barlow Village Derbyshire.
19 January at 21:13 ·**

To all the wonderful people I've had the pleasure of delivering to from Cowley to Barlow — a little message from your postie:

After 40 years on the post, I will be delivering my final letters and hanging up my post bag as I prepare to retire. My last shift will be on 31st January 2026.

I want to say a heartfelt thank you to every single customer, and especially to those on the round I've had the privilege of delivering to for the past 25 years, from Cowley up to Barlow.

What began as a job quickly became so much more — over the years, so many of you have become not just customers, but friends.

I've had the honour of seeing families grow, new members welcomed, milestones celebrated, and sadly, dear friends lost.

Through it all, the daily chats, laughter, kindness and support meant more to me than you will ever know.

It has been an absolute privilege to be part of your daily lives. I will truly miss the familiar faces, the conversations at the door, and the strong sense of community you gave me every single day.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart, you have all meant so much to me. Your postie, Jaks xxxx

BARLOW PRE-SCHOOL



Dear Friends,

We have been busy finding out all about Winter this term. This was especially appropriate because of the snow we had! We have also been thinking about birds. We made some bird feeders and our own binoculars to spot them with. We are also taking part in the big Garden Bird Watch.

Our Christmas fundraising activities raised a huge £300. Thank you to everyone who contributed, especially our parent committee, for making the hampers for the raffle and selling the raffle tickets.

At Forest School we have been fire lighting in small groups. The children have helped build the fire, used the flint and steel to make a spark, then toasted marshmallows. Afterwards we made sure the fire was properly put out by pouring water on it and clearing the area.

We are looking forward to the warmer weather and Spring arriving soon!

Jo



BARLOW CofE SCHOOL



Latest News

Trust

Perseverance is our value for this half term. Sapphire class have shared a collective worship with their parents and the rest of the school. They retold the story of Daniel and the Lions' den and explained how Daniel had persevered and trusted in God. Then they shared lots of ideas as to how we might persevere in life and in school.

Sport

Our children work very hard to try and create lots of opportunities for being active. Our Bronze Young Ambassadors plan events for the children including mini-competitions and events such as the Santa Dash round the playground. Meanwhile, the mini-leaders in Sapphire class have a rota where they set up games and activities on the playground at lunch time for the other children to enjoy. Morning and afternoon playground activities include balls, bouncy hoppers and the ever popular 'disco-wagon' which sees children dancing along to popular songs.

Topaz class had their Hockey Heroes event rescheduled from November to January. They had great fun learning how to control a mini hockey stick and ball. This is always a challenge on our sloping playground! Emerald class are once more practising dance ready for the Dance Platform event at the Winding Wheel. This year, they are dancing to Abba. As usual, the preparation is being supported by Charlotte Wilbourn, a local dance teacher. We also have Liz Richards from the SHAPE partnership supporting PE sessions on a Friday, this is to support the professional development of our teachers. Over the last 3 years, she has worked with all our teachers.

Music

We have a group of children who have continued playing trumpets after their whole class sessions last year. Our teacher is Mr Chan. The Y3 and Y4 children do whole class lessons with the brass instruments every other year so these sessions will resume next year. We also have children who play instruments out of school. We were very proud when Zachariah led the whole school Christingle by playing the first verse of Joy to the World.

Joining Barlow School

We still have places available for Reception for September 2026 and limited places in other year groups. If you know a child who was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, please encourage their parents to get in touch and come and visit our fabulous village school. Mrs Gregory and Mrs Wells in the office can be contacted on 0114 289 0413 to book an appointment to look around either during the school day or afterwards.

Penny

FOBS

FRIENDS OF BARLOW SCHOOL

Hello,

Happy New Year to the friends and supporters of Barlow School!

FOBS are hard at work on some exciting school and community events, including the ever-popular pop-up after-school craft club, which this term is taking place on the 5th of February.

In the meantime, we wanted to let you know about a couple of ways you can support our school without paying a penny!

Until the end of March, you can finish off your weekly shop by voting for Barlow School to win a Tesco Stronger Starts grant of up to £1,500. This money would be used to build on Mrs Weston-Taylor's wonderful work in our garden and pond areas, to support local wildlife and attract pollinating insects, birds and pond life. All you need to do is grab a token at the till and pop it in the box. You can vote at Esso Tesco Express (S41 7AL), Pavements Tesco Express (S40 1PA), Tesco Extra (S41 7JB), Derby Road Tesco Express (S40 2EP), or High Street Tesco Express (S41 9LQ).

You could also sign up to support us on #easyfundraising, to raise money when you shop for clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, holidays, or anything else you buy online.

All you need to do is scan the QR code to download the app, and it will let you know if a free donation is available when you shop online. It's a quick button-click to support the school, at no additional cost to you.

Sign up before midnight on the 29th of January (if you receive this magazine in time) and we could win a £500 donation.

Thank you all – we're looking forward to a wonderful year!

The FOBS team



YOUNG FARMERS

Hello,

Happy New Year all from Barlow Young Farmers! I would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Tractor Run! On the night we made £1500.00! This money is going to be split with Ashgate Hospice. It was a lovely evening supporting two wonderful local causes!

A huge thank you also to The Peacock at Barlow for including Young Farmers in the donations this year from the sale of their carol programmes; this donation is greatly appreciated!

Since Christmas, Barlow YFC has been busy with demonstrating and practising for forthcoming competitions. The County Roadshow was a huge hit with members. The County Chair gave everybody an insight into all the opportunities that being part of Young Farmers can offer, as it not only is a national club, it is part of a multi-national organisation!

Meetings to come this month include a visit from Genus Livestock AI, Mountain Rescue, a visit to the Newbold Observatory and of course celebrating Pancake Day!

As always, new members are very welcome and in order to find out more information please look at our social media pages. Alternatively our contact details can be found at the front of the parish magazine!

See you all next month!
Club Leader Will.



BARLOW - OLD PHOTOS

Recorded as Barleie in 1066, the name Barlow is either derived from 'woodland clearing where boars are seen', or another possibility is that it takes its name from Barley trees growing in the area.



The Old Pinfold restored in 1985

Pinfold on Wilkin Hill, Barlow. A high-walled roofless enclosure, rectangular in shape and with a lockable gate.

Described in 1973 as being in fair condition, but needing some attention, for example pointing of walls, new timber. In 1988 it was described as having been recently restored with the assistance of Derbyshire County Council.

Grade 2 listed early 19th Century pinfold built of dressed and rubble-coursed coal measured sandstone. It comprises of a stone-walled enclosure, with semi-circular copings, carried across openings as lintels, a wooden barred grill to the right of the doorway and a wooden gate in the doorway, with the lintel inscribed ',,,PINFOLD'. The name Barlow was deleted from the lintel during the Second World War, in order to confound enemy troops.



It was restored in 1985.

(Posted by Mick Sheffield on the 'Barlow Old Photos & Events' facebook site).

CLOAKS AND DAGGERS

SPOILER ALERT!

Here's the thing:

I have watched the fourth series (and the previous 3) of *The Traitors* with the same fascination as millions of other TV viewers. It makes compulsive viewing, more so, I find, than any of the other programmes available at the moment. Is it because it is still a relatively new format? I watch it with a mixture of guilty enjoyment and serious reservation. At a time when people's respect for others is dwindling, the internet is rife with scams, fraud and identity theft, should we as a society really champion a TV programme, a so-called game show, which advocates that bare-faced lying and cheating leads to ultimate success? In real life, does the best liar turn out to be the winner? Should that attitude really be encouraged and rewarded?

Of course there have always been, and still are, games which rely on players essentially lying, or at least pretending. There are card games, (like *Cheat* for example) and dice games where effective bluffing is the winning formula. Take *Poker*, which is perhaps the foremost example of a game where good play-acting can lead to winning the jackpot. And yet, even high-stakes *Poker* does not necessitate outright lying to people's faces. *Traitors* requires people to make friends with others, to build strong relationships, while at the same time ruthlessly plotting their downfall behind their backs and not shying away from betrayal if it is deemed necessary to advancement for potential financial gain.

And here's another thought: What about the language? Why is it necessary to 'murder' other players during the course of the game? Why can't they just be 'thrown out', or 'dismissed', or even 'eliminated'? And why this macabre obsession with coffins, graves and gravestones to generate spine-tingling frisson? Just saying...

I don't want to come across as a spoilsport or a stick-in-the-mud, so please take my ramblings with a pinch of salt. Perhaps it really is all just harmless fun?

IH





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For more info email: juliaharris2014@hotmail.com



POETRY CORNER

Prayer for Uninteresting Times

Send me a slow news day,
a quiet, subdued day,
in which nothing much happens of note,
save for the passing of time,
the consumption of wine,
and a re-run of *Murder, She Wrote*.
Grant me a no news day,
a spare-me-your-views day,
in which nothing much happens at all,
except a few hours together
some regional weather,
a day we can barely recall.

All three poems on
this page are by
BRIAN BILSTON

My Year in Diets

Veganuary
Fibrebruary
Starch
Cakepril
MaycaroniCheese
June&tonic
Julicecream
Augustickytoffeepudding
September
Octoblerone
Doughvember
Decemburger

This was the year that was not the year

This was the year that was not the year
I repaired the bathroom tap
and emptied out the kitchen drawer
of a lifetime's worth of crap.

This was the year that was not the year
in which I launched a new career.
A West End hit eluded me,
as did Time Person of the Year.

This was the year that was not the year
I became a household name.
Action figures were not sold of me.
I wasn't made a dame.

This was the year that was not the year
I spent less time on my phone.
Nights of passion did not happen
in boutique hotels in Rome.

This was the year that was the year
I didn't get that much done –
much the same as the year before,
much like the one to come.

PUZZLE PAGES

2025 News Quiz: Questions

01. What was the first named storm to hit the UK in 2025? Storm Éowyn, Storm Darragh or Storm Floris?
02. Outcry followed the unauthorised felling of a tree that had stood for more than 100 years in a gap in Hadrian's Wall. What kind of tree was it?
03. A 19th October heist in which European capital saw crown jewels disappear from a world-famous museum? London, Amsterdam, or Paris?
04. Blaise Metreweli became the first female chief of what in 2025? The Bank of England, MI6, or the British Embassy in Washington DC?
05. The UK government scrapped a plan to phase out what by 2035 at the start of this year? Diesel cars, gas boilers, or triple-lock pensions?
06. In January, the government backed plans for a third runway at which airport? London Heathrow Airport, Liverpool John Lennon Airport, or Lerwick Tingwall Airport?
07. The UK's longest direct train service, which linked Aberdeen and Penzance, ran for the last time after a century of use in mid-May. To the nearest 50 miles, how long was the journey?
08. The UK and EU agreed in June to end checks on people and goods crossing which border? Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, Gibraltar and mainland Spain, or the Eurostar terminal at St Pancras?
09. Manchester's Viadux 2 was granted planning permission in April. When built, it will become the tallest building outside of London, with how many floors? 76 or 176?
10. Hosepipe bans came into force in Yorkshire, Kent, and Sussex in July. In which county were they imposed first?
11. The UK government sent alerts to all mobile phones on British networks on 7th September. But at what time?

12. Which country elected its first female prime minister in October?
Australia, Japan, or Brazil?

News: Answers

01. Storm Éowyn – on 24 January 2025 02. Sycamore 03. Paris - It was The Louvre 04. MI6 05. Gas boilers 06. London Heathrow 07. 775 miles, so a point for anything between 725 and 825 miles 08. Gibraltar and mainland Spain 09. 76 10. Yorkshire 11. 3pm 12. Japan

Across

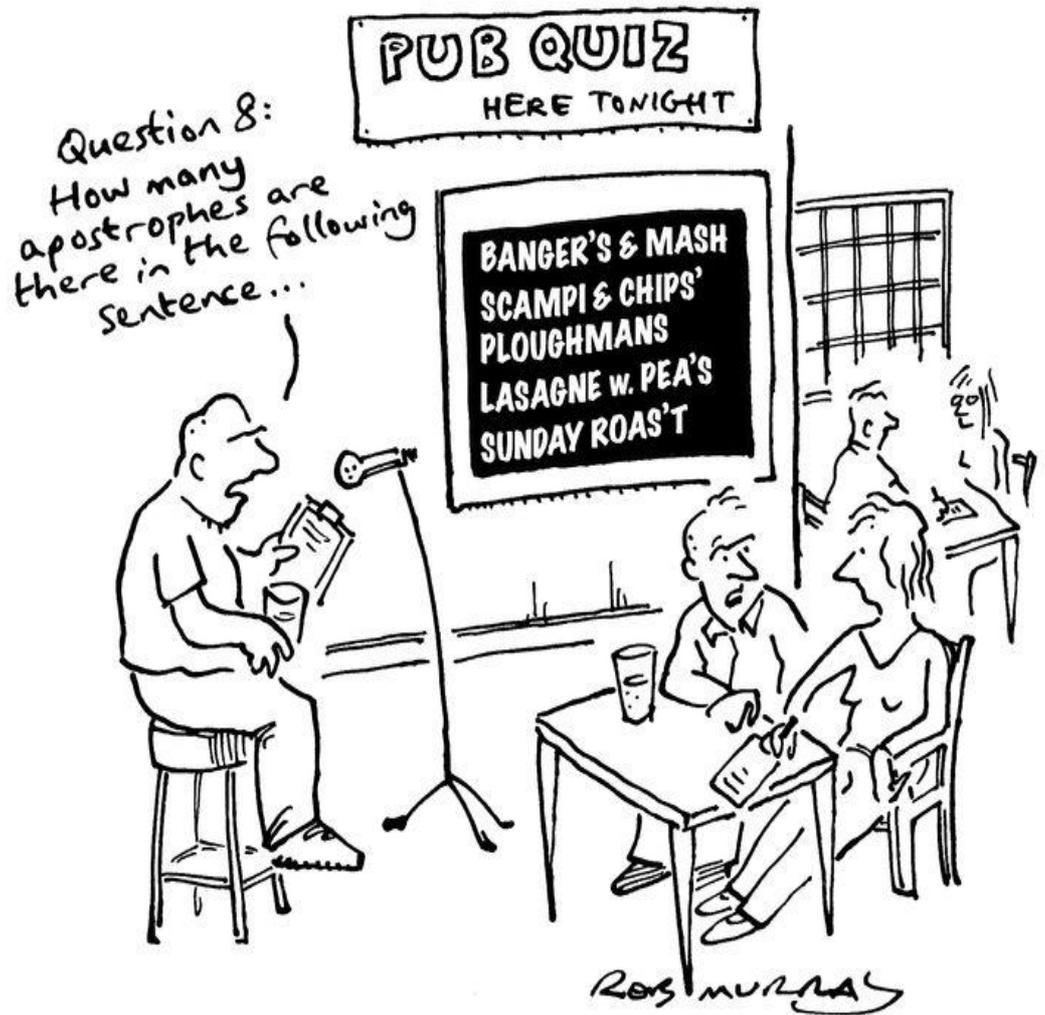
- 1 - Spring back (6)
- 5 - Work of creativity (3)
- 7 - Noble gas (5)
- 8 - Forgive (7)
- 9 - Arms and legs (5)
- 10 - Forms of payment (8)
- 12 - Farmer (6)
- 14 - Tall structures (6)
- 17 - Moan (8)
- 18 - Connective tissue (5)
- 20 - Robbers at sea (7)
- 21 - Unpleasant giants (5)
- 22 - Male offspring (3)
- 23 - Chooses (6)

Down

- 2 - Space shuttle (7)
- 3 - Educational institutions (8)
- 4 - Hero (4)
- 5 - Excite (7)
- 6 - Thin papers (7)
- 7 - Dares (anag) (5)
- 11 - Bodily (8)
- 12 - Chats (7)
- 13 - Belief (7)
- 15 - Clothing (7)
- 16 - Great successes (5)
- 19 - Thin cable (4)

Crossword Puzzles

1	2			3			4		5		6
					7						
8											
							9				
10											
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						16					
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18				19							
						20					
		21									
22							23				



“I hope he didn’t write the menu.”

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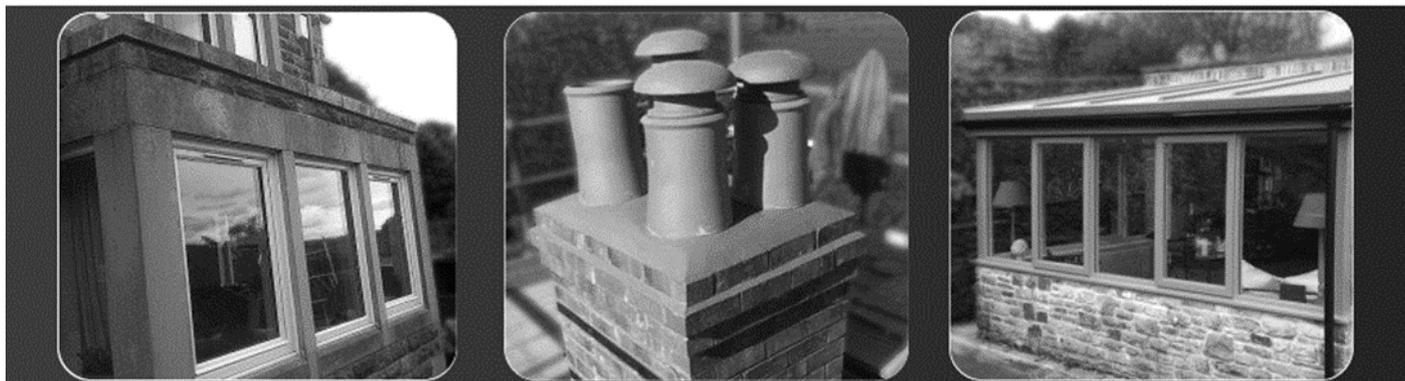
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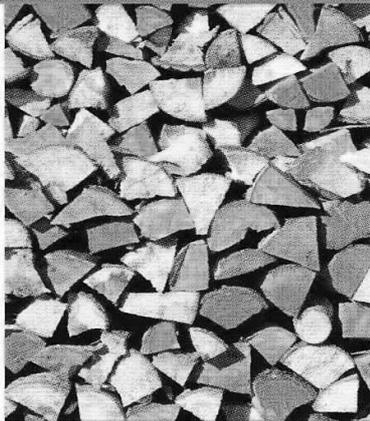
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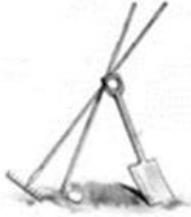
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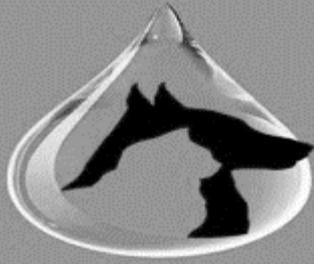
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(This years' photos by Roger Barrett)

