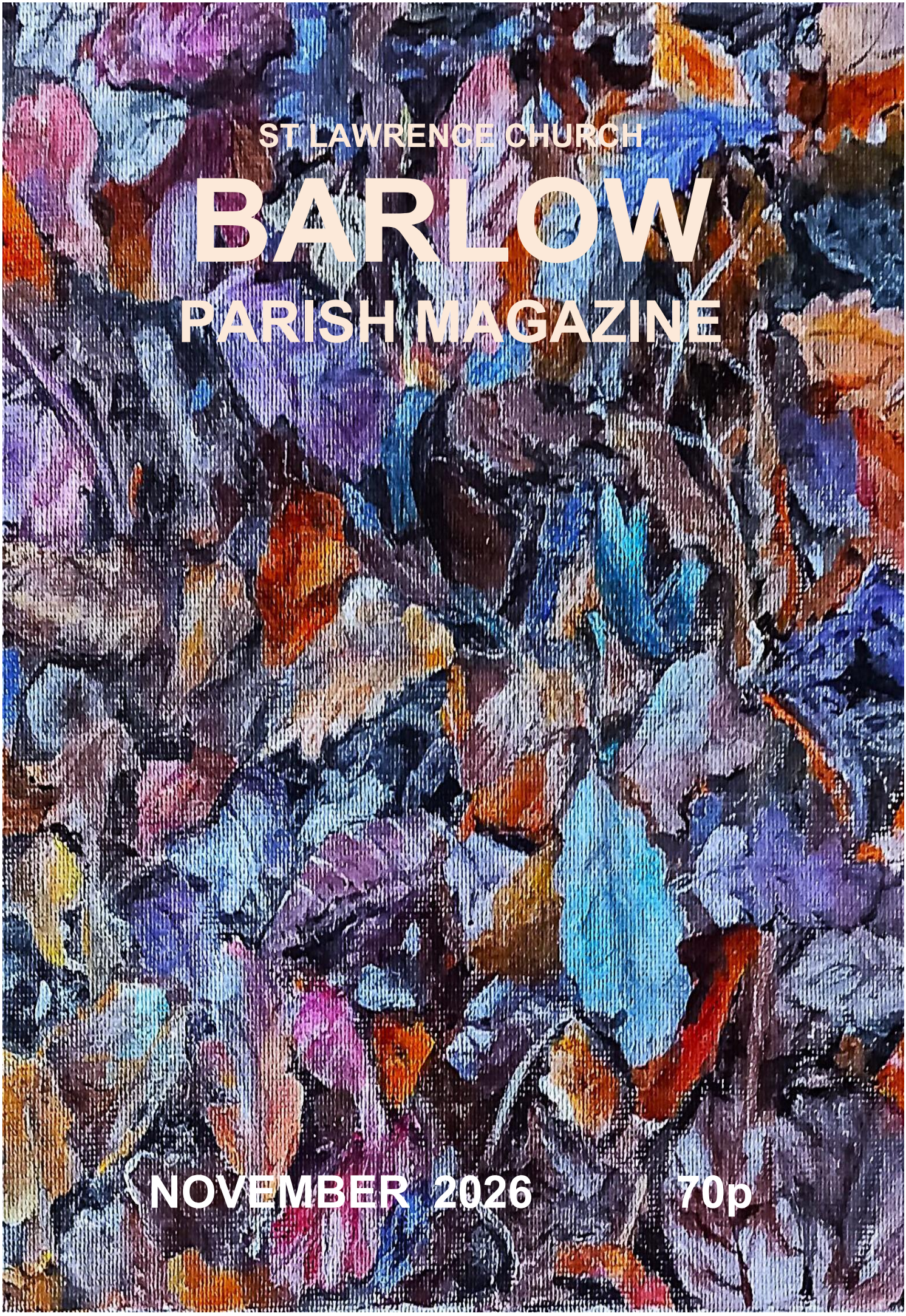

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH
BARLOW
PARISH MAGAZINE
NOVEMBER 2026
70p

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

JOIN US FOR OUR

Christmas FAYRE

CRAFT STALLS • GIFTS • HOMEMADE TREATS

Unique gifts for everyone



SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

11:00AM – 17:00PM

BARLOW VILLAGE HALL
MILL CROSS LANE, S18 7TA

Support local • Shop small • Spread some Christmas cheer

NOVEMBER 2026

All contributions for the DECEMBER issue must be submitted by
Friday, 20th November 2026, 5pm
to ensure inclusion.
Please send your articles and interesting photographs
of the local area to: ingoherrmann17@gmail.com

Cover painting by Liz Erett

WHO'S WHO AT CHURCH

Vicar
Revd. Sarah Colver
07975 689403
25 Oldridge Close
Holme Hall
priest@barlow-church.org.uk.

Churchwarden

Mrs. Julie West
07799 639566
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, 07876 721798

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

Parish Council
Chair – Mrs. Joanne Brougham
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 - NOVEMBER

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

1ST HAROLD N MADDOCK---2011
DIANE MARY SANDERSON---2013
JOAN MARIAN GILMORE---2017
2ND HERBERT NOBLE ---1970
ELIZABETH WATSON---1992
3RD MABEL BRADBURY---1969
ANNE FEARON---1994
ALAN PRINCE---2020
DOREEN GREAVES---1993
4TH KEITH HOULDSWORTH---2014
5TH WILLIAM GLAVES---1976
MONA JONES---2004
6TH *****RODERICK SMITH--- 1991
7TH WILLIS BARGH ---1983
DICK BENTON---1985
SHEILA TURNER---2015
8TH HERBERT SATTERFITT---1963
JOHN BERRESFORD---1966
JAMES OSCAR SHEMWELL---1967
SALLY POWELL---1977
PETER J. FRANKLIN---1985
DEREK SKELTON---2025
9TH ANNIE STEVENSON---1970
MABLE GOSLING---1979
JOAN M. CURRINGTON---1989
CHARLES A. HALL---1990
FRANCIS WALLACE---1993
MARY E. LEDGER---1996
10TH JACK GRICE---1997
DONALD K. SMITH---2001
GRAHAM HEDLEY SLINN---2008
ANNIE SARAH SMITH--- 2015
11TH ETHEL ASTELL---1988
MALCOLM CALVERT---2024
JOHN C S CROSBIE---2010
DAVID BRIAN HORSLEY---2018
RITA DRURY---2024
12TH FRED WHITE---1977
HILDA E. ARMSTRONG---1985
AMY REEDER---1985
EDITH WHITE---1994
13TH WALTER WRAGG---1969
SYDNEY HOPKINSON---1972
MINNIE LOMAS---1981
JESSIE ARMSTRONG---1989
DOROTHY STAINROD---1991
FREDERICK LAYTON---2001
MARY W. SHAWCROFT---2004
14TH PATRICIA M HORSLEY---2009
15TH DOROTHY M NEEDHAM---1985
ELLEN SYKES---1992
DAVID CHAMBERS---2010
17TH BLANCHE RENSHAW---2020
FRANK WESTON---2019
18TH AMY SMITH---1982
DOROTHEA COX---1992
KENNETH LAYTON---2005
JOHN MARTIN FOSTER---2011
19TH ETHEL REVILL---1975
20TH *STAN HUGHES---2012
21ST WILLIAM BERRESFORD---1975
DORIS L MONTAGUE-BARLOW---1985
23RD THOMAS HICKS---1970
24TH ELLA BROWNLOW---1972
WILLIAM POWELL---1983
25TH NORA MORGAN---1982
ROBIN VALENTINE---1993
26TH *GEOFFREY RODGERS 2009
27TH PHILIP JONES---1973
NELLIE HAYES---1980
MAURICE JOLLY---2013
IRENE JONES---2017
28TH AUDREY KNOWLES---2016
29TH GEORGE A. SIDDALL ---1992
JOYCE BOARDMAN---2005
*IRIS M TANN---2012
JOHN ARMSTRONG---2013
DAVID ROSS---2024
30TH FRANK POWELL---1973
JAMES STEVENSON---1975
HARRY C. WALKER---1990
GILLIAN M. GLENN---2017

FROM CHURCH REGISTERS: NOVEMBER 2026 UPDATE

Baptisms
None
Funerals
10th October --- Sandra Head --- ashes burial
Marriages
26th September --- Kellee Anne Falconer & Jason Barry Shrimpton

BARLOW CHURCH
(ST. LAWRENCE)



November - The Vicar Writes…

As November begins, the clocks have already gone back and the daylight hours seem suddenly so much shorter. The darker mornings and nights mean we snuggle up in our homes trying to keep warm and have our porch lights lit to greet any visitors. It is a time of transition, and we have to alter our way of living and being accordingly, for winter is nearly here.

It is also a time of transition in the Christian tradition. All Hallows' Eve (aka Hallowe'en) on the 31st October, and then All Saints and All Souls (1 and 2nd Nov) are closely followed by Remembrance Sunday and all of these are days when we remember (or 're-member'), when we join past and

present together in our minds through story and ritual. It is often experienced as a ‘thin’ time when eternity can feel very near.

As in previous years, the Remembrance Sunday service on 8th November will begin outside at the war memorial at around 10.50 - 55 am - as soon as the bugler arrives - for the Act of Remembrance prior to Mass. And that same afternoon at 3pm we will be holding the annual Service of Thanksgiving for loved ones who have died. It’s a time for quiet reflection and thankfulness, during which we are all invited to light candles as sign of love and prayer. Everyone is very welcome and if you would like the names of your loved ones read aloud during the service please do let us know in advance.

Jan Richardson’s poems reflect the seasons of the Church calendar and she often writes them as blessings - prayers which name that which is good. So may this poem of thankfulness for All Saints and All Souls bring you hope and peace this November.

For Those Who Walked With Us

For those
who walked with us,
this is a prayer.



For those
who have gone ahead,
this is a blessing.

For those
who touched and tended us,
who lingered with us
while they lived,
this is a thanksgiving.

For those
who journey still with us
in the shadows of awareness,
in the crevices of memory,
in the landscape of our dreams,
this is a benediction.

Poem- https://paintedprayerbook.com/2013/10/29/for-those-who-walked-with-us/
photo from stocksnap.io.

Sarah

****

CHURCH NEWS
(ST. LAWRENCE)



Dear Friends,

What a busy day we had on the 11th October! We started with our harvest festival service which raised £141.60 plus food items for Chesterfield Foodbank and this was followed by our Macmillan coffee morning which raised £175. Many thanks to all who baked cakes, donated, and to Ann, Charlotte, Amy and Richard for organising the coffee morning.

In the evening we held our harvest supper which was a fantastic feast of pie, peas and trifle - not all on the same plate! Bowns did a great job again, the pies were delicious. Stuart Bootle provided wonderful entertainment, with the whole audience singing along to some classic songs. Stuart also played some of his own compositions which were excellent.

We were pleased to welcome school into Church for their soup share and harvest festival. We love to have the children and their families share their harvest festival with us, and the bonus is that the kitchen smells wonderful for days afterwards.

November Services

The Remembrance service this year is on Sunday 8th November, gathering by 10.50am to be ready for the 1 minute silence at the war memorial at 11am.

Due to the Remembrance service being on the second Sunday of the month, our family service will be held the following week.

Our **All Souls Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving** for those we have loved and lost is held at 3pm on the same day, the 8th November. Everyone is welcome to add their loved one's name to the list to be read out during the service. Those who attend the service will be invited to light a candle in loving memory.

Please let us know if you would like to add a name, even if you are unable to attend the actual service.

Christmas Tree Festival

One of our favourite events will soon be with us, from 21st to the 28th November. You still have time to let us know if you would like to take part by decorating a tree for the festival, please contact Julie as soon as possible.

Please come and visit us during the week, it really is a beautiful sight. We will also be serving hot drinks and mince pies or shortbread. Entry is free, but donations are most welcome.

Open Gardens 2027

It is with regret that the social and fundraising committee at Church have come to the decision that we no longer have the capacity to organise Open Gardens.

This has been a difficult decision to make and we would like to thank all our loyal supporters over the years.

It does not have to be the end of Open Gardens though; if anyone or group of interested people would like to take over the organisation of this event, we would be very happy to support them in any way we can.

Church Opening

From the 2nd November onwards, Church opening will revert to winter hours of 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. Church may also not be able to open if the weather is particularly bad.

Regular services

Sunday 1st November: 11am service

Sunday 8th November: 8am Mass & 10.50am Remembrance service

Sunday 8th November: 3pm Service of remembrance & thanksgiving

Sunday 15th November: 11am family service

Sunday 22nd November: 11am service

Sunday 29th November: 11am service

Upcoming Events – At a Glance

Christmas Tree Festival: Saturday 21st – 28th November 2026
"A Bit of a Christmas Do": Saturday 5th December 2026 by invitation
Carol Concert: Wednesday 16th December 2026

We are really looking forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas events.

With very best wishes,
Julie.

2026

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY
ST LAWRENCE CHURCH, BARLOW

21ST – 28TH NOVEMBER
10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

LATE OPENING:
27TH NOVEMBER
6 – 8 P.M.

ENJOY BEAUTIFUL TREES CREATED
BY LOCAL GROUPS & BUSINESSES

Refreshments available every day

REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHIBITING YOUR TREE

- Your Trees should not be more than 6 feet in height.
- (Please contact the Church warden if you have specific requirements as we can accommodate a small number of larger trees)
- Only battery-operated lights please. Please supply spare batteries as they will need replacing during the week.
- Be creative! Have fun! Use your imagination!
- Cards will be provided and displayed to identify your group or business.
- Trees should be set up on Friday November 20th between 10am and 5pm and taken down on Sunday November 29th between 12:30 and 3.30pm.
- If you have any problems with these times, please contact Julie West to arrange an alternative time.
- To comply with fire regulations, only artificial trees are permitted inside.
- There is space outside the building for real trees.

Let us know by 8th November if you wish to exhibit a tree

PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR – Cllr J Brougham 0114 289 1411
VICE-CHAIR – Cllr P Taylor 0114 2890949 / 07753 662 619
CLERK / RFO – Emma Smith 07841 529122 info@barlowvillage.org.uk
COUNCILLORS:
Cllr S Ellis 07917 574957
Cllr I Herrmann 07870 489016
Cllr S Marshall 0114 2890596
Cllr V Noble 07801 092261
Cllr J Siddall 01246 206964
Cllr W Twigg 07814 667362

PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION

- 26/00640/FL – Erection of detached self-build dwelling house with double garage following demolition of existing property (Revised scheme of 25/00452/FL) at Barlow Croft, Barlow Lees Lane, Barlow

RESOLVED Clerk to ensure NEDDC ensure the roosting bats are safe.

PLANNING DECISIONS
No planning decisions have been circulated.

RESOLVED noted.

ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS
No other planning matters

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING
No further planning applications circulated.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR / COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Jones and Cllr Foster were not in attendance and had nothing to report.

SPEEDWATCH

No Speedwatch sessions have been held. Clerk to contact PCSO Flower with regards to Cllr Noble wishing to join the Speedwatch team.

LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION (REG 19)

Consultation is now underway for the Draft Local Plan – 7 October to 18 November 2026.

CHESTERFIELD CLIMATE ALLIANCE

Delegated to Cllr Noble to find out more information and bring back to Full Council.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Parish Council has received notification from Derbyshire County Council that this has now paused.

PARISH GRIT BINS

Clerk notified Council that the grit bins were either full or ¾ full at the time of inspection.

ENGINE HOLLOW SPEED LIMIT

Clerk to write to Derbyshire County Council to consider the speed limit to be reduced to 30mph.

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QUIZ NIGHTS

Correction:

The Wednesday quiz nights at the Hare and Hounds start at 8pm, NOT at 7pm as announced in last month's magazine. We apologise for the error.

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UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL POLICE INSPECTOR

Hello,
As we move out of the summer months, I wanted to take the opportunity to update communities across Northeast Derbyshire on the work your Safer Neighbourhood Teams have been carrying out across the area. The teams have remained focused on tackling ongoing crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) trends through a problem-solving approach, working closely with our partners to identify issues and deliver long-term solutions. This proactive approach has contributed to an overall 26% reduction in ASB over the past 12 months. Our officers continually review local data to identify repeat issues, enabling targeted action plans to be developed and implemented. As you may have seen from recent communications, this has resulted in a number of prolific shoplifting offenders being successfully dealt with and made subject to Criminal Behaviour Orders, helping to prevent further offending and protect local businesses.

The team has also been making use of the updated Section 59 Police Reform Act powers, strengthened under the Crime and Policing Act 2026. These changes mean that, where justified, vehicles can now be seized without the need for a prior warning. We regularly hear from residents that nuisance off-road motorcycles and e-bikes are a significant concern, and we will continue to utilise these powers, alongside other available tactics, to address these issues and improve community safety.

On 26 October 2026, Respect Orders were introduced under the Crime and Policing Act 2026. I have already briefed local teams on these new powers to ensure we are ready to make effective use of them from day one.
Key Details of Respect Orders
• Who they apply to: Adults aged 18 and over who engage in, or threaten to engage in, anti-social behaviour that causes harassment, alarm, or distress.
• Who can apply for them: Local authorities, housing providers, and chief

officers of police.
• What they can do: Restrict repeat offenders from entering specific areas, such as town centres, prohibit certain behaviours including public drinking, and require participation in rehabilitation programmes such as drug or alcohol treatment or anger management courses.
• Consequences of breach: Breaching a Respect Order is a criminal offence and can result in penalties including imprisonment, unlimited fines, curfews, or unpaid work.
To see further information around policing in your local area please utilise the below link.

North East Derbyshire Neighbourhood Policing Team
https://www.derbyshire.police.uk/area/your-area/derbyshire/north-east

We remain committed to ensuring our policing priorities reflect the issues that matter most to local communities. If you would like to help shape our future priorities, review the work being undertaken, or simply provide feedback about the area where you live or work, I would encourage you to attend one of our local community engagement events or complete the Community Voice Survey.

Community Voice – Derbyshire Alert
https://www.derbyshirealert.co.uk/Content/Pages/Community-Voice

Your feedback is invaluable and plays a vital role in helping us understand local concerns and set our neighbourhood policing priorities.
As we move into autumn, I will continue to ensure that your local officers remain as visible and accessible as possible. Over the last six months, the North East Safer Neighbourhood Teams have completed 716 community engagements, the highest number in the county, and I continue to encourage officers to engage with residents whenever possible.
I have also been spending time in our communities personally, carrying out door-to-door visits to introduce myself and better understand the concerns and priorities of local residents. If you would like me to visit your area, please leave a comment below with your location. These requests will be reviewed, and I hope to meet and speak with many more of you over the coming months.
Thank you for your continued support,
Inspector Matthew Brown

BARLOW PRE-SCHOOL

Dear Friends,

What a busy term we have had so far. We have made the most of the changing season and have loved finding out about Autumn and Harvest, as well as our feelings and emotions. This involved reading autumn themed stories, reading the colour monster story, making different faces to show different emotions, potion making, conker caterpillars, pumpkin soup and lots more.

Our Autumn craft and song session with parents was lovely, with some great crafts made including leaf caterpillars, wood cookie faces, autumn hats, apple printing and biscuit decorating. We shared some autumn baking afterwards. Now it's time to start thinking about Christmas!







Our living roof shed is in place. Thank you to one of our parents who donated some money towards the cost of this and fundraising paid for the rest. This is part of our journey to become a more sustainable setting. Two of our children are now our environmental ambassadors. It is their job to

help out with recycling, planting and to remind the other children about the right things to do to help look after our planet.

Over October half term we had a new fence installed around our play area. Whilst the original wooden one was lovely it wasn't very secure for our children. This was paid for by parents fundraising so a big thank you to them!

Our AGM went well and we have some new parents joining our committee. We have also had a visit from OFSTED. We are changing our legal status and are now a charitable incorporated organisation. This means we needed to re-register with OFSTED. This went really well and was a successful visit.

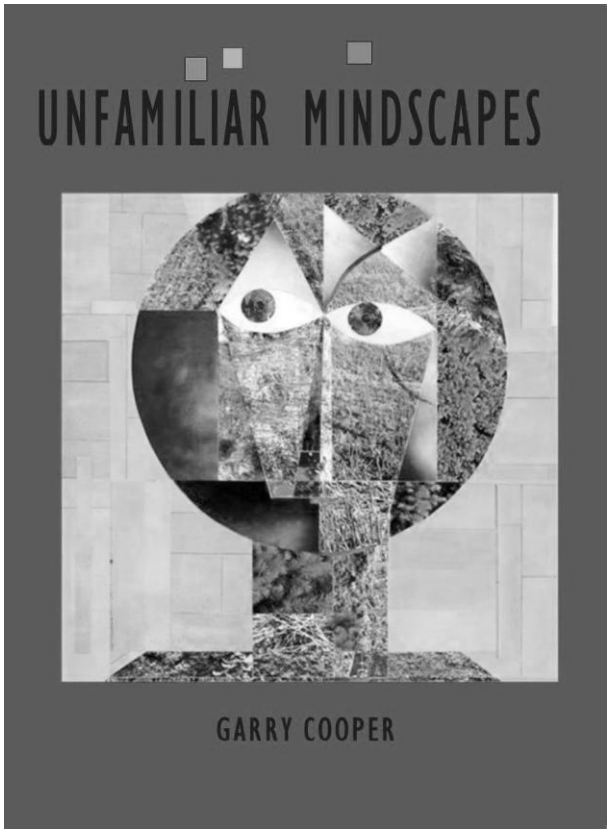
Some exciting news!! In January we are going to be running a toddler group at Barlow St Lawrence Church. This will take place every Tuesday 9:30am to 11am. This is aimed at families with babies and toddlers. If anyone has any suitable baby or toddler toys they would be willing to donate we would be very grateful. More details to follow in the December edition.

Jo

Please don't forget that Garry Cooper's book of poems is still available to order, at a cost of £5.

ALL THE MONEY MADE FROM THE SALE OF HIS BOOK WILL BE SHARED BETWEEN PRE-SCHOOL AND BARLOW PRIMARY!

IH



BARLOW CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Forgiveness

This half term our value is forgiveness. This is the final one of our five core school values – generosity, service, courage, perseverance and forgiveness. Relationships are tricky and sometimes we fall out with friends, make mistakes or make wrong choices. When this happens, it is important to apologise and put things right. The final step to putting things right is forgiving each other and enabling a fresh start.

Discovery Club

We had two very exciting afternoons with Joe from Uplift. He introduced all the children to the principles of upthrust, lift and gravity. Then Emerald and Sapphire classes had a challenge to modify a glider so it could fly as far as possible across the playground.

Meanwhile Amethyst and Topaz classes designed and built a new nose cone for a stomp rocket. The children's designs were fantastic and they had great fun seeing their results in action.

Sports

Sapphire Class have taken part in a football festival on the village hall field. Shape came along and supported the children to try various different activities. Topaz class went to Whittington Green School to take part in a SPARKS movers festival. We were really proud of the children's efforts and behaviour at both events.

Forest School

Forest School opportunities for every child are one of the key aspects that make our school unique. We are lucky to have two forest school practitioners, Mrs Feeney and Mrs Weston-Taylor. So far this term, Emerald Class and Topaz Class have already had their first three sessions visiting our forest school sites at either end of the village.

Currently, the children from Amethyst Class are taking part in weekly sessions of forest school on our school grounds.





Music

Emerald class have begun learning the violin with Mrs Jo Sparks, our specialist music teacher. The first few weeks were focussed on musicality, rhythm and pitch. There was great excitement with the first sessions handling the violins and learning the names of the strings. Our first attempts at music were plucking the strings with our fingers then handling the bow. Emerald class are really enjoying the experience.

Joining Barlow School 2027

We offer individual / group tours of the school for prospective new pupils. If you know a child who was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, please encourage their parents to get in touch and come and visit our fabulous village school. We have two open days on 17th and 18th November by appointment but are also happy to offer tours on other days. Mrs Gregory and Mrs Wells in the office can be contacted on 0114 289 0413.

We also have limited places in other year groups for children moving to the area.

Volunteer Opportunity - School Governor

Barlow Church of England Primary School are looking for a new Governor to support the school due to the retirement of one of our long standing governors. School governors play a vital role in setting the strategic direction of the school, supporting and challenging the school leadership. We are looking for someone who has an interest in education or finance.

Full training will be provided. The time commitment is a minimum of 5 meetings a year with the opportunity to come into school for additional visits to support monitoring.

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. Prospective governors will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check. If you are interested in finding out more about the role, please contact Mrs Gregory (Clerk to Governors) via email info@barlow.derbyshire.sch.uk ideally before 30th November 2026.

Please include your name, telephone number and email address and the Chair of Governors will get in touch with you.

Penny

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CARNIVAL

The leaves have turned, the air is crisp, and at the time of writing, there are just 75 days until Christmas, …which means it's time to unwrap the magic of Barlow Carnival's winter events! ✨
We are bringing back the sparkle with two unmissable events to light up the festive season:

BARLOW CARNIVAL'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE
Saturday 28th November
11:00-5:00pm
Step into a cosy wonderland of twinkling stalls and festive cheer! Our annual Christmas Fayre is the perfect way to kick off your Christmas shopping!
• Handcrafted Gifts: Browse unique gifts and festive goodies from our talented local makers and stallholders
• Festive Refreshments: Warm up with tea and cake from our café, or toast the season with a festive tipple from our licensed bar
• Meet Santa! From 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM, Santa himself will be dropping by to meet the children and hand out gifts.

Indoor stalls are now fully booked!

TRACTOR PARADE
Friday 11th December
Parade starts from 5:30PM, arrives at the Village Green at 7:00PM.

Get ready for Barlow's most dazzling night! Our beloved Barlow Young Farmers Tractor Parade returns, transforming the village into a spectacle of brilliant lights, sparkle and community spirit.

Watch from the following locations as the illuminated tractors roll by:
Fox & Goose - Chesterfield
The Holme Hall Inn
The Woodside
The Olde House
The Peacock at Barlow
The parade will deliver Santa to the Village Green opposite the Tickled Trout for approximately 7:00PM to turn on the Christmas Tree lights!

More detailed approximate timings and a map of the route will be released closer to the event.

SAVE THE DATES!
Wrap up warmly, bring your loved ones, and come celebrate the season with us.
Barlow Carnival is back—and we're brighter than last year!



YOUNG FARMERS

Barlow Young Farmers have had another busy few weeks as the new YFC year gets underway.

Our New Members' Night was a great success, with a good turnout and several new members joining the club. It was lovely to welcome some new faces and we look forward to getting to know them and seeing them take part in the activities over the coming year.

We have also enjoyed a few more unusual meetings, including a cardboard tractor-building night, which proved to be great fun and certainly brought out everyone's creative side. We also enjoyed an evening of pumpkin picking at Village Pumpkins, making the most of the autumn weather. Thanks again to Charlie and Frankie for hosting Barlow YFC again this year.

Meetings are held every Tuesday evening, usually at Barlow Village Hall at 8pm. We are always happy to welcome new members, with the club open to anyone aged 10 to 28.

If you fancy coming along, whether you know someone in the club or not, you will be made very welcome! Follow us on our socials, Facebook, Instagram and TikTok, to see what we get up to and for details of the upcoming Christmas Tractor Run!

Will Twigg



JMW TURNER IN DRONFIELD

by Peter Baldry

Next time you find yourself with a twenty pound note in your hands, flip it over and you'll see the face of JMW Turner looking back at you. In the background is a version of perhaps his most famous painting, The Fighting Temeraire of 1839. In 1797, just a few years before his self-portrait, or portrait (it has also been attributed to John Opie) was painted, a young, virtually unknown Turner was travelling by stagecoach from Covent Garden in London, where he grew up, heading for Harewood House near Leeds. He'd been summoned there by Edward Lascelles, an early admirer of his fine architectural drawings.

Travelling with him on the stagecoach, carefully tucked away, was a rather grand looking new sketchbook, calf bound, with very posh brass clasps. With Stamford, Leicester and Derby behind him, he chose to open his new sketchbook, (roughly A4 in size), not in the southern part of Yorkshire as planned, but in South Wingfield, just ten or so miles from Chesterfield. Wingfield Manor stands today much as it did then, a picturesque ruin. A short walk down a public footpath off the main road takes you to Turner's first viewpoint, still freely accessible to all - including me, a few weeks ago. Tree cover has almost obscured the old manor. I've planned a return visit to sketch the view for myself, after the winds of autumn have lowered the veil.

The coach and horses would have been parked up just around the corner, at a much smaller Hall, now divided into private residences, but still very much intact. He made a second sketch much closer to Wingfield Manor, currently closed off to the public, before recommencing his journey. It appears he didn't stop at Chesterfield, or Barlow. What rotten luck. He would have passed through the village of Whittington, close to Shepherd's Bridge, as it was known then, through Unstone to Dronfield, but only as far as the White Swan at Dronfield bottom. The new turnpike road turned up what was and still is Green Lane heading for Coal Aston and Norton, to reach Sheffield at Meersbrook via the treacherously steep descent down Derbyshire Lane.

After a tankard of porter, perhaps, while the horses were being fed and watered at the White Swan, Turner took a short stroll, sketchbook in hand. Almost none of the buildings standing today beyond the White Swan were

present in 1797, but there would have been a small bridge over the Drone and earlier buildings, dotted here and there in amongst what was mainly fields and orchards. My feeling is that the path from the White Swan to Dronfield High Street ran to the south of the river, more or less where the old path to the railway station used to be. Of course, the railway didn't appear until 1870, arriving like an atomic explosion to obliterate the corn mill and its tranquil millpond, just a few minutes walk from the White Swan.

For it was the old millpond, situated exactly where the station platforms sit today, with the magnificent parish church of St John the Baptist rising above it, which caught Turner's eye that day. Reaching for one of his graphite sticks, a long, square-cut piece of solid Borrowdale graphite sharpened at the tip, he opened his sketchbook, made a few faint guide lines, then quickly drew an accurate, detailed and stunningly beautiful drawing of this long lost scene.



Photography was a good forty years or so away. The Midland Railway Company had planned to run the line through Dronfield in 1841, but the locomotives of the day could not make it up the slope from Unstone, so the idea was shelved. Following another survey in 1863 (a copy of which is available to see in Dronfield Library), by which time locomotives had become much more efficient, fresh plans were made. The mill and its pond were doomed. I've gone to great lengths to find just one photograph of them. Two grand residences, Rose Hill and Chiverton House, overlooked the millpond back then, but it seems that none of the occupants took up

the miraculous, but expensive new art form. Both properties still stand, of course, and I have tried, believe me. But no luck…

Which makes it all the more incredible that we do have, thanks to JMW Turner, a piece of time travel in two dimensions. A humble drawing, made on the spot not with a machine, but by a human being, using hard won observational skills and not a little talent. Or as the late, great David Hockney would have put it, 'the eye, the hand and the heart'. We should be grateful for that.

A quick footnote. Over many months I've been studying this amazing drawing and Turner's 1797 Tour of the North. I can hardly believe it, but one result of this is that in a few weeks, I'll be sitting in one of the research department rooms at the Tate Gallery in Millbank, London, with Turner's little sketchbook, all present and correct two hundred and twenty-nine years later, sitting on a table in front of me…

To be continued…

****

BARLOW PEOPLE
Liz Erett

There are two types of Barlow people, the ones whose families have lived here for ages and the ones who have moved to Barlow from the outside with no previous connection to the place. It can take the ‘outsiders’ several years sometimes to become fully integrated into the community, but many of them make valuable contributions to the life of our village.

One such person is Liz; she and her husband moved to Barlow 9 years ago and ever since then Liz has quietly helped to shape our natural environment. She studied Maths at Cambridge University and worked as a Maths lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University for most of her working life. She moved to Barlow after she developed Parkinsons Disease and had to take ill health retirement.

Amazingly, she spent 18 months in Zambia as a volunteer teacher and 9 months working voluntarily on organic farms in New Zealand.

With a keen lifelong interest in wildlife and ecology, Liz wasted no time utilising her skills and knowledge for the benefit of the Barlow community. For some time she looked after the wild garden next to the Methodist Chapel, which Maureen Lindsay had made into a notable wildlife haven with a large variety of plants providing a natural habitat for a large variety of creatures. Sadly, this came to an end when the chapel was closed and subsequently sold. She has since created a new wildlife haven on Overlees, extending into the flower bed of the flats and with the agreement of the Council planting flowering shrubs, wild flowers and bulbs there. You may have encountered her with a strimmer or spade whilst going about the unselfish business of keeping public areas looking tidy, always working in the background without recognition of the work she does. This includes regular litter-picking excursions with her husband, Cliff. She was also responsible for the Council allowing the red poppies to reappear alongside the stone wall opposite what is locally known as Ibbotson's Corner.

A logical result of her fascination with all things wild was the decision to attend art classes at Dronfield Barn about 4 years ago. Without any previous experience Liz attended a series of tutorials on Botanical Illustration, taught by Rachael Dawson. Some of the paintings she completed during or as a result of these courses are detailed little watercolour studies of natural objects. Last year she embarked on a project using acrylic paint to complete a series of 4 pictures illustrating the beginning of each of the 4 seasons of the year. The one depicting the start of winter is featured on the front cover of this magazine.

Liz is knowledgeable about local plants and animals and has been able to establish (by using an app called Merlin) that there are nearly 50 different species of birds that can be heard in Barlow! Next time you see her around the village, say hello and let her know that her work is appreciated. IH

POETRY CORNER

Here's a question, open for debate: Are limericks 'poetry'?

Trippy Hippie
I backpacked in bellbottom pants
I hoboed in Spain and in France
Then I made my way East
Like a Philistine priest
I thought I should give Greece a chance

Ride of your Life
You exit this world as you enter: alone
Charging ahead on a path of your own
Single but bound
To the world all around
A party of one on a little blue stone

Deep in the Fog
One day's a bull's eye, the next one's a miss
The capstone of that or the bottom of this
But I can't see tomorrow
Beyond the grey sorrow
While leaning in over the gaping abyss

The Way of the White Whale
The whale is a fish and a mammal in one
As white has all colours and also has none
The grandest of creatures
With paradox features
Unknown and untouched by the light of the sun

Traditionally, limericks tend to humorous, often examining matters of the off-colour and the unsavoury. But there's no reason you can't write a serious limerick.

Limericks by Fred Hornaday
https://kingoflimericks.com/serious-limericks-there-once-was-an-unsmiling-rhymer/

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Age
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as at 31/8/2026

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500 words
Poems maximum 40 lines

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prize for the winner

Closing date
12/3/2027

Information and application from
mrspaulineholmes@gmail.com

PUZZLE PAGES - QUIZ

General Knowledge

What is the capital city of Brazil?

Who wrote Pride and Prejudice?

What is the chemical symbol for silver?

Which mountain range is the longest in the world?

What is the largest bone in the human body?

History & Politics

In what year did the Berlin Wall fall?

How many wives did King Henry VIII have?

In which year did World War II end?

Before becoming President, Barack Obama served as a U.S. Senator from which state?

What war was fought between 1936 and 1939?

Pop Culture & Entertainment

What movie series features a character named Luke Skywalker?

In The Office, what company do the characters work for?

Which streaming platform created Stranger Things?

In Friends, what's the name of the coffee shop?

Which TV family includes characters named Homer, Marge, and Bart?

Science & Nature

What is the largest mammal in the world?

What do bees collect to make honey?

Which planet is known as the “Blue Planet”?

What type of fish is Nemo in Finding Nemo?

What is the rarest blood type among humans?

Fun & Miscellaneous

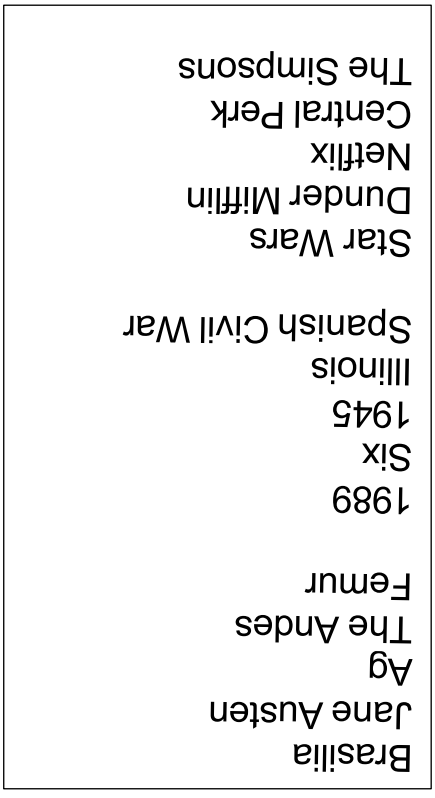
What is the main ingredient in guacamole?

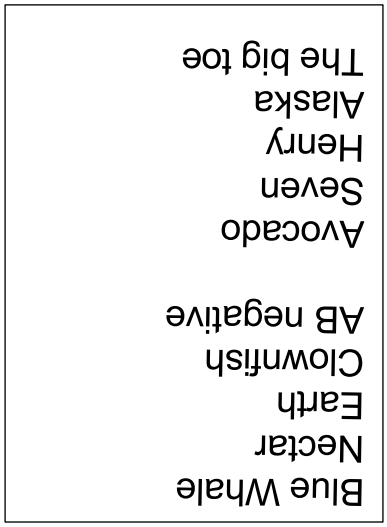
How many dwarfs are there in the story of Snow White?

What is Prince Harry’s real first name?

What is the only U.S. state that can be typed using only one row of a QWERTY keyboard?

In human anatomy, what does the “hallux” refer to?





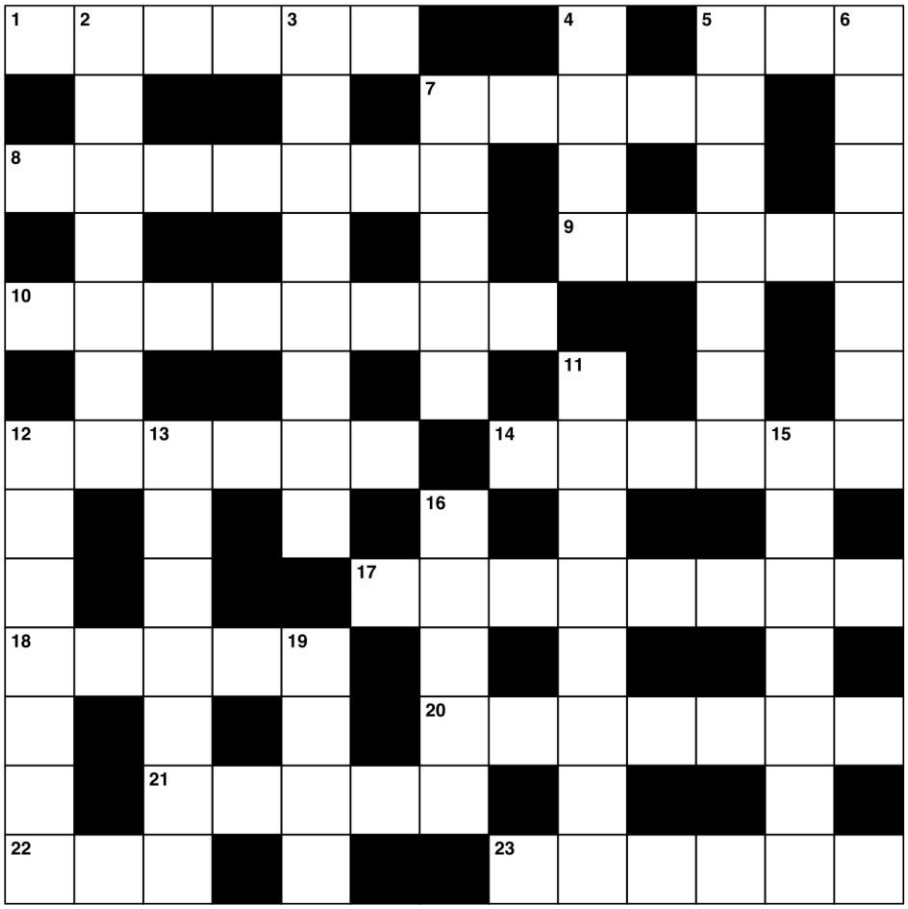
Crossword Puzzles

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)



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For more information contact: Angela Wilkinson mobile number 07890 815537

Sue Hinde mobile number 07885 763905

Contact email address: angela.wilkinson1952@gmail.com



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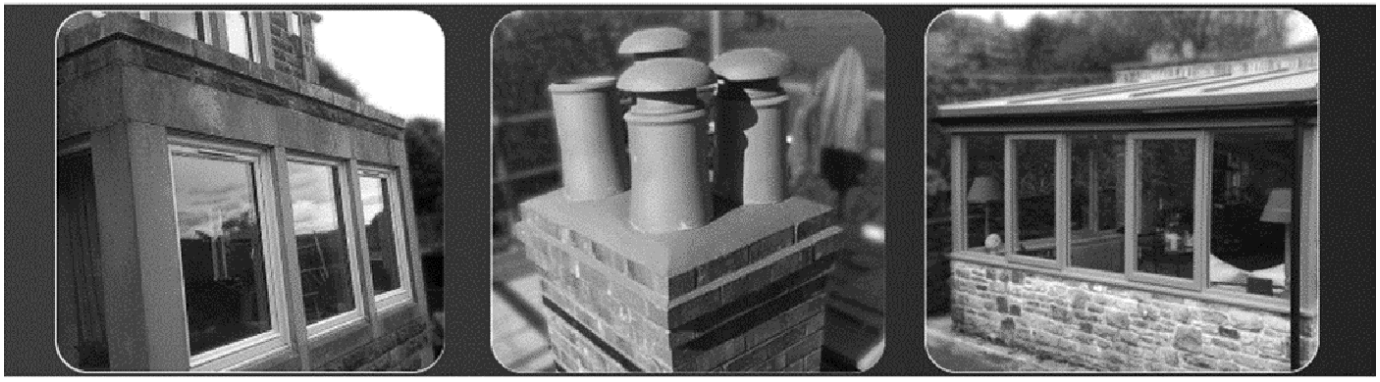
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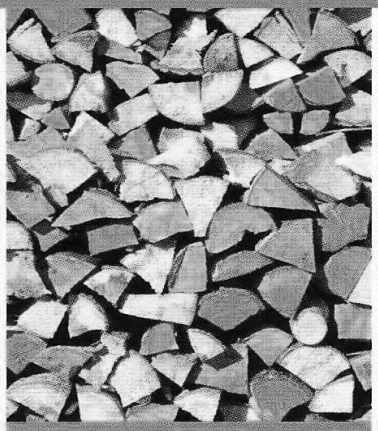
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