

BARTON ST DAVID NEWSLETTER

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

29 March & 26 April: 7.30pm

Agenda & Zoom instructions on the noticeboards and website

VILLAGE EVENTS*

29 March: Tennis Courts reopen to Members

6th April: Outdoor Exercise classes and Croquet restart

12 April: The Barton Inn reopens for outdoor table service

17 May: Village Hall exercise sessions resume

17 July: Barton Carnival

* Dates all subject to change following Government review

Newsletter entries: bartonstdavid.newsletter@gmail.com
Village related email updates: nicky.wheeler21@yahoo.co.uk

www.bartonstdavid.org.uk | www.facebook.com/BSDVH

Edition No. 186: mid-March - mid-May 2021

COVID-19: ROADMAP OUT OF LOCKDOWN

The Government has announced a staggered reopening of activities and businesses over the coming months. How this affects our village is outlined below. Please note that **ALL** dates are the **EARLIEST** date that these re-openings can take place and are subject to review and change by the Government, closer to the time. Please check the Government website for the most accurate information:

From March 29th

- Outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the Rule of 6) or 2 households will also be allowed
- Outdoor organised sports activities can start if they follow Covid safe regulations and must be for a max of 30 people with no spectators, only participants. Indoor changing facilities/toilets will not be available at this time

No earlier than April 12th

- Non-essential retail, personal care premises such as hairdressers and nail salons; and public buildings, including libraries and community centres can reopen
- Hospitality venues can serve people outside with table service
- Funerals can continue with up to 30 mourners with the number of people able to attend weddings, receptions and commemorative events such as wakes rising to 15

Not before May 17th

- Outdoor meetings of up to 30 people allowed
- Indoors the Rule of 6 or 2 households applies
- Indoor hospitality to reopen with table service only
- Indoor entertainment centres such as cinemas, play centres and hotels can reopen
- Indoor adult sport and exercise classes can resume as long as they follow Covid safe regulations. Numbers per session still to be confirmed
- Up to 30 people will be able to attend weddings, receptions and wakes, as well as funerals

Not before 21st June

- All restrictions to be lifted but strictly subject to current Covid rates at the time and may be delayed

OUTDOOR SPORTS RESTARTING SOON!

BARTON ST DAVID TENNIS COURTS

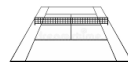
In the light of The Government's roadmap for easing of lockdown restrictions published on 22nd February, and in line with the LTA revised guidelines, we are hoping that the Tennis Court can be re-opened for social play from Monday 29th March only for Tennis Club members on a bookings-only system. Singles and doubles play will be permitted and social distancing must be maintained before, during and after court activity. Spectating is not permitted. Further details will be circulated to members when they have been published.

Membership: Rosalie Odgers: phone/email

01458 851040 / peacock.dom@btinternet.com

To book the court: Nicky Wheeler: text/phone/email

07979 432585 (01458 850200) / nicky.wheeler21@yahoo.co.uk



OUTDOOR PILATES & SILVERCISE CLASSES

With outdoor exercise classes allowed to resume from the end of March, Lena will be reviving her outdoor Pilates and Silvercise classes in the local villages from Tuesday 6th April. If you are interested in joining a small group for either class, please email Lena for more information. Sessions are £5 per class and run in fair weather. All classes will be limited numbers and follow Covid safe regulations. 1:1 sessions also available. Please email for further details or register for class updates

lenadeedance@gmail.com



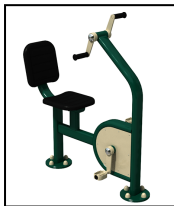
BARTON VILLAGE CROQUET

Session will open on Tuesday 6th April at 2-4pm on the playing field. £2 per session. Equipment provided but please bring your own refreshments and hand wipes

Contact **pennyrobinson2802@gmail.com** or **01458 851692**



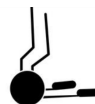
NEW PLAYING FIELD EXERCISE EQUIPMENT



During March, three new pieces of adult outdoor exercise equipment will be installed in the village playing field by the changing rooms. The double rower, elliptical cross trainer and arm and pedal bike will bring some fresh new exercise activities to the village and hopefully be well used as the weather improves. Each piece has full instructions on how to use them safely. Although predominantly aimed at adults, youngsters over the age of 11 who wish to use them, can do so under adult supervision with all equipment used at your own risk. The purchase of these machines has been made possible by kind donations including Penny Robinson, The Parish Council and The Village Hall Committee and are dedicated to the legacy of Peter Robinson who instigated research into providing these new machines in his endless efforts to help keep villagers active. Our hope is the machines will be well used as we head out of lockdown and get back to enjoying more exercise outdoors

COMING SOON! - EASY OUTDOOR CIRCUITS

Interested in learning how to use the new adult outdoor exercise equipment safely? Returning to exercise and looking for guidance on a safe low-impact exercise routine?



Interested in exercising with a small group of people outdoors? Join one of Lena's small classes where you will learn how to use the equipment effectively and safely, learn relevant warm-up and stretches related to the equipment and work through a series of exercises adapted to suit each participants ability and needs. Suitable for those returning to exercise, recovering from injury or older participants looking for a fun, informal but affective 40 minute class outdoors

£12 for a 3 session block. Max of 5 people per session. Days and times to be agreed on a group basis, starting in April. Contact Lena to register your interest and find out more: lenadeedance@gmail.com

BARTON ST DAVID SCOUT GROUP



Being in lockdown has not curtailed the activities of the Group as much as we initially feared. The activities over the last few months have been amazing! And our confidence means that we are now actively recruiting for more children to join us aged 6 - 10 years. If you know of anyone who would like a bit more excitement and friendship in their lives then please ask them to email me on **gslbarton@yahoo.com**. There is no commitment to join if your child would just like to come and find out a bit more. We operate a try-before-you-buy policy! Online activities have included making pizzas, agility, disability, Chinese New Year, RSPB Bird Watch, National Winter Camp, grid refs, Aircraft, maps and stars, route mapping, soap carving, OS Quiz, Origami, Haiku, Taskmaster, games, knots, bees and werewolves, tracking man eaters, sewing, star gazing, campfire songs, escape room, recycling, digital citizen, books and art, fire making and card making for the local care home, photography, Virtual camps, moon gazing, cookery, charity fundraising, pioneering and more. We also went to Peter Duncan's Virtual Panto, Jack and the Beanstalk, with tickets bought for us by County Scouts. We now look forward to the 29th March when we are allowed to restart outdoor sessions again with up to 15 children. Hopefully this is the start of the return back to normality. We hope to have at least one Easter Egg hunt before Easter to celebrate starting our wonderful face to face meetings again and creating fantastic memories for all involved

Vega Sturgess, Group Scout Leader | gslbarton@yahoo.com

BARTON ST DAVID LOTTERY

The Village Lottery, based on the Bonus Ball for the Saturday Lotto Draw started in early 2007 and in those 14 years has paid out over £18,000 in prizes to lucky winners and over £17,500 has been donated to Church funds. The organisers would like to offer a big 'THANK YOU' to those of you who have supported the lottery over the years. In doing so you have helped with the funding and maintenance of a much-loved parish Church and village amenity. The annual renewal was due at the beginning of February but, due to the Covid-19 lock down, the request for renewals, new participants and the associated collection of and receipt for payments the BSD lottery was suspended. The current organisers have been running this lottery for 10 years and feel that now is a practical



time to look for someone new to take over this very worthy fund raiser. Running the BSD Lottery does involve a certain commitment in time and effort but it has certainly proved very worthwhile. Would anyone, or a village organisation, willing to take over its running, please phone **850011** so that we can discuss exactly what is involved and also possibly a fund sharing arrangement

THE BARTON INN

If you have walked along Brook Lane in the last few weeks, you'll have noticed the building work going on at the back of the pub. We are reducing the size of the skittle alley to make more outdoor space, while still retaining enough indoor space to continue with skittles, pool, table tennis and functions. This is necessary for both the current situation we find ourselves in and the fact that parts of the alley structure are in desperate need of renovation. While the works are going on, can we ask that you collect takeaway meals at the front of the pub beneath the marquee. The current 'road map' suggests that we could be serving outdoors by April 12th, indoors by May 17th and potentially dusting off our barstools and standing shoulder to shoulder by June 21st. Once we are able to serve indoors, we shall take down the marquee and go into Summer mode! Of course, these dates are not quite set in stone yet but we are looking forward to seeing you all again in the not too distant future and planning some summer events. All the best, **John and Sharon**



BARTON ST DAVID HISTORY CLUB

Maybe there is a light at the end of the tunnel! We are hoping to be able to start having meetings indoors again in the Autumn but, of course, at this stage we don't know exactly when the Village Hall will be open for gatherings like ours or whether there will still be restrictions on numbers. We will be in touch when things become clearer. Meanwhile we propose to have a presence at the Carnival in July assuming it goes ahead. Please come and see us there. We are also hoping to be able to toast Peter Robinson around his tree in Stocks Green at some stage during the summer. Let's hope the pandemic news continues to go in the right direction and we can all get together soon. PS all memberships will be extended until January 2022



PLOTGATE COMMUNITY FARM



The growing season is off and the dry weather has given us a great opportunity to get out in the gardens and make some preparations. Our polytunnels are invaluable at this time of year, as we try to stretch the veg out through the hungry gap; the stored roots are coming to an end, and the new crops are yet to get going, so it's always the leanest time of the year. We are very lucky to have Avalon Organic Greenhouse as our neighbour, as we are able to buy in some great early produce with zero transport! Jane, who manages the propagation and all things to do with baby plants, is very busy with her Friday team of volunteers, sowing, pricking out and carefully tending to the seedlings with great care and attention. We are developing plans for a new propagation area at the farm, as often this work has to be done partly at Jane's home due to the careful attention and responsiveness required when the weather can be so variable early in the season especially. We are also looking forward to lambing, which we begin on the first of April (the old way) and we are looking forward to seeing the first offspring from our beautiful new ram, Woodhouse Willy. Our Shetland ewes have good wide pelvises and mostly manage to birth their lambs with very little intervention, but it's still a tense and tiring time, although full of joy. We have now finished out winter tree planting with around 500 trees and hedging plants in the ground. The tractor is however, in the repair shed and awaiting parts, so we are having to hold off on mulching until it is back in action

We look forward to being able to invite more villagers down to the farm this year when restrictions are lifted and we can all meet and talk in more relaxed times. Best Wishes from the Plotgate Team

Dan, Amy and Jane: 07817 608283

info@plotgatecommunityfarm.org

100 AND COUNTING

Grace Potts celebrated her 100th birthday with her son on February 6th. We send our congratulations to such a remarkable lady



RAY PORTER: 1946 - 2021

10 December 1948

BARTON ST. DAVID – Barton St. David Church of England Junior School is to be closed and the 17 scholars transferred to Keinton Mandeville County Junior School. At Somerset Education Committee on Wednesday it was stated that the ceiling of the school was in a dangerous condition and the managers could not carry out repairs owing to lack of funds. They had been unable to obtain a headmistress since August, 1944



Born in August, 1946. in the first cottage on the right after Century Cottage, Ray Porter often said that he wished he had been old enough to attend Barton School and not have to go to Keinton School and then Ansford School. Ray had many jobs after he left school and with his wife spent a few years living in Babcary. Following his divorce, Ray moved back to Mill Road, Barton, and set up home with Kathy. Ray settled down as a builder and was a well-known figure in the locality. His true occupation was that of a farmer and, when he was in his fifties, he rented a few fields and bought some livestock, principally sheep. Ray then became seriously ill. His brother, Roy, said that in his earlier years, although he was quite small, Ray was not afraid of anyone or anything and it was typical of him, that he would not be beaten by cancer. When further treatment was no longer possible, Ray stoically remained at his home in Mill Road until his death on Tuesday 2nd February. He was buried in Barton Churchyard on Friday 26th February. It was a memorable funeral: the coffin was carried on a farm waggon drawn by a tractor. The procession set off from Ray's home in Mill Road, passed along Park Lane and Silver Street turning left onto Main Street. The mourners paused outside the Barton Inn before continuing to the Church. Several villagers were standing outside their houses in respectful silence as the cortege passed and around twenty people were socially distanced outside the pub where liquid refreshment was quietly taken. Ray would have enjoyed the day!

For an amusing story about Ray and The Barton Cricket in 1978, visit the Barton St David website and keep an eye on the News page. Information and Cricket article provided by **Dennis Powell**

BARTON ST DAVID CARNIVAL - JULY 17th



Following the publication of the government road map, the committee have concluded that it will be safe (and legal) for the Carnival to take place subject, of course, to any changes in the map and/or restrictions that may still be in place. So preparations are now underway. It will be slightly stripped down compared to previous years but will feature perennial favourites like the fancy dress competition, children's races, fairground attractions, Shepton Mallet Town band in the afternoon, other bands in the evening, teas, bars, etc. More details will be given in due course. The Carnival will be a brilliant opportunity for the community to cast off the shadow of the last year and to celebrate a return to normal(ish) life. So dust off those dancing shoes and come along for a great day out

DONATION OF CLOTHES & BEDDING

Jacqui Towny is looking for old clothes and bedding. The clothes are preferably for men, but women's jumpers/ cardigans, that people would be willing to give or donate to the homeless, in the local community. This is for Street Baptist Church which is now open from Tuesday to Friday 10-4pm, who serve the local community, with the use of showers during the week, plus food parcels, and cooked food for the community on Fridays. If you have anything to donate, please can both the clothes and bedding be put in bags and delivered to the gate on a Tuesday: Stocks Farm, Main Street (by blue milk crate that's at the gate). Thank you. **Jacqui Townley**



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Bereavement Support Champion, Andrew Wilcox has been supporting bereaved people across Somerset for years. Here he shares some reflections and lessons he's learnt along the way:



Grieving - There are usually good and bad days. Most people find the good days gradually outnumber the bad days, aided sometimes with a little help on the way

Silence is golden - You don't have to keep talking and maybe struggling for things to say. Silence really is golden and gives us a

chance to really hear what is being said and particularly the way that it is said

Listening - Really listening allows a 'coming together' even on the phone. The mind can move away from brain thinking and into another dimension where true empathy comes into its own and the magic of healing is facilitated

Your presence is a gift - Don't pretend you are a doctor and can give advice to make any physical problems disappear. The person doesn't expect this and any healing that is required can take place by virtue of your very presence

Plan for the end - During our lives we all share two common events; our birth and our death. Births are planned for and celebrated - deaths should be no different

If you or someone you know, is affected by grief or bereavement, and would like to talk to someone, please call the **Somerset Bereavement Support Service: 0800 3047 412** (Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm) The Somerset Bereavement Support Service can offer a variety of support to adults and children over 12 in Somerset. The service has been commissioned by Public Health at Somerset County Council with support from Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and Somerset Community Foundation. It is provided in partnership by end-of-life charity Marie Curie and mental health charity Mind in Somerset

BARTON ST DAVID MOTHERS' UNION



Sadly we are still unable to meet and it will be some time before we can safely meet as a group. As soon as lockdown fully eases it is hoped that meetings will resume, weather permitting, probably in various gardens before indoor meetings can safely be recommenced

BARTON ST DAVID CHURCH

Currently services are online but, as lockdown eases, things will change. Information will be available in the Parish Magazine and on the church notice board.



UPDATE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE PLANNING STATEMENT

Thank you to everyone who read and took the time to send in their comments on the planning statement. Overall it was welcomed and supported by respondents. Below are some points that were made by several residents:

- A limited number of small in-keeping developments are supported but there should be no high-density developments
- Concern expressed about the cumulative total of potential HELAA and brownfield developments identified
- It is important that some housing is properly affordable - starter homes for families and bungalows for downsizers. All development sites should include affordable housing
- There is much concern about road safety and parking. Narrow roads with no pavements, some with no verges, some with fast traffic, are very dangerous to walkers and should limit development
- There is support for including small scale workshops and office spaces to increase opportunities for sustainable employment (possibly within housing developments)
- Concern expressed about the poor state of drainage and sewage waste system in the village, including polluting storm water overloading sewage systems, which should be addressed prior to further development/made a condition of further development
- There is anger and concern about Somerset County Council dismantling small holdings and maintaining land with road access which would bring a higher price and selling land without public accountability
- Concern about potential for BSD becoming a suburb of Keinton Mandeville

A copy of the adopted planning statement can now be found on the Parish Council page of the village website. Regarding next steps we have already had a meeting with our District Councillors who suggested following this up with a meeting with the Planning Department which we will do

ISSUES WITH DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

After a lengthy ongoing dialogue with Wessex Water about ongoing issues in the village we have recently received confirmation that they have undertaken a CCTV survey of the sewers and found areas of the network where significant infiltration was taking place, allowing groundwater to get into the foul system causing a reduction in the capacity of the network. In the summer they are planning to reline a total length of 900m (7.5%) of the 12km of Barton's public sewers. They also advised us that any new sewers serving new developments, must be watertight to meet the Water Industry adoptable standards. They must also construct separate systems of drainage with no surface water connections permissible to the foul network. We are keen to maintain pressure on Wessex Water so if you do spot any issues with overflowing sewers please do report it by telephoning **0345 6004600**. We have been told by Wessex Water that the main blocker of drains has been sanitary products and wipes, so in the meantime would we remind you that the only items that should be flushed down the toilet are the 3 Ps – paper, poo and peel!

DOG POO BIN

The Parish Council have been investigating the costs and procedures involved in installing a dog poo bin for the village. Due to lack of emptying capacity we can only have one bin at an annual cost of £300. We would welcome your thoughts on whether you think this would be a good idea and if so, where you would like it sited. Current suggestions are at the T junction where Park Lane joins Mill Road (by the grit bin) or on Church Street by the footpath coming through from Brook Lane. Please send your thoughts to **clerkbsd@outlook.com**

GRATEFUL THANKS

Lastly we'd like to thank the several volunteers in the village who unprompted pick up litter from the verges and hedgerows. It is very much appreciated

Kind regards

Caron Potts, Clerk to Barton St David Parish Council