



TUNNEL TOP NEWSLETTER

Keeping Barnton Informed - Please take me **I'M FREE**

THANKS

FROM YOUR NEW COUNCILLORS



May 2008

Inside this issue:

- PCSO2
- Barnton Library2
- Barnton Memorial Hall . .3
- Barnton School4
- April's CAM meeting5
- Rosebank School5
- MAD Youth Club6
- Barnton Scouts6
- Barnton YFC7
- Barnton Silver Band8
- Barnton Cricket Club8

County Councillor Malcolm Byram would like to thank the residents of Barnton for the confidence you have shown me once again, and also the new Conservative Team:

The new unitary Council will not come into force until 1st of April 2009.

We will keep you informed of how the shadow authority is proceeding

In the meantime please contact your usual Councillors.

Malcolm Byram 010606 74451;

Keith Wilson 01925 703716;

Norman Wright 01606 74788

****** CHESHIRE ****
YOUR 4 STAR COUNCIL**



Malcolm Byram.



Norman Wright.



Keith Wilson.



If you wish to report a crime or see anyone acting suspiciously - call the POLICE

**0845
458 0000**

To report a crime ANONYMOUSLY call Crimestoppers on

**0800
555 111**

Working in partnership with the police



You can leave information for the Northwich Community Action Team on

0845 458 6392

This is an answer phone

Or email:

Northwich.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Next Parish Council meetings -
19th May ~ 30th June ~ July 28th

A FEW WORDS FROM BARNTON'S PCSO

Diana Wiggins

There's been a lot of partnership work going on in Barnton recently. This is ongoing with Weaver Vale housing trust. We have also been working with The Community Safety Wardens in the area, visiting all the hotspot areas that are generally busy with youths congregating. We know that alcohol is a factor that contributes to problem behaviour. The fact that we are seizing alcohol, and taking youths home who have been drinking, is sending this message out loud and clear.

We are also working with plain clothed officers to gather information about problems being reported at the time, as working in partnership, to address problems such as noise at the Rec. I am confident that things have started to improve in this area, with residents starting to say that they are beginning to notice a difference in the community.

There was a Community Action Meeting held on 16th April 08. This was a very successful evening. Drugs topped the priority list and I would just like to thank everyone that attended. Your support is very much appreciated.

There is a Police Surgery held every 3rd Saturday, where approximately three people attend every session. The next one is being held on 10th May. This is held at the Memorial Hall in Barnton from 10am-12midday. Anyone with any concerns will be dealt with in confidence. Some times people do not want to voice their opinions with a large audience but feel more comfortable speaking one to one.

Also this week we agree setting up a Homewatch scheme on Nursery Road and Lydyett Lane, in order that members of the public can play their part and help tackle anti social behaviour and other related crime.

I would also like to thank Pete Lester for asking me to present the fishing awards at The Cricket Club. This was a very enjoyable evening and I hope that every one involved has a good fishing season this year.

As your local Police Community Support Officer, it gives me great pleasure knowing that I can patrol your area and reassure members of the public and help reduce crime.

Diana Wiggins

Make a Difference - become a Home Start Volunteer



Do you have parenting experience?
Could you spare 3 hours a week of your time?

Could you be a Home-Start Volunteer and help a Mum or Dad who needs someone to talk to, someone to listen or someone just to lend a hand?

We offer training, expenses and lots of support.

**Call Christine or Joyce on 01606 75222
or email chrisbhomestart@aol.com
for further information**

NEWS FROM BARNTON LIBRARY

Information, Inspiration, Imagination

Books, CDs, DVDs, free computer access, story times, author events, all of this and more are available for you at Barnton Library.



THE LIBRARY HELPED CELEBRATE World Book Day on 6th March. 23 children came along to the library for a special story time event, some dressed as their favourite book characters, which was wonderful. We had witches, princesses, Spiderman and a farmer!

Story time is every Thursday afternoon from 3.45pm. All children are welcome and it's a great opportunity for them to visit the library, hear stories, sing rhymes and meet other children.

There's a fantastic display on at the moment thanks to the pupils of Rosebank School. They've made Greek vases for their school project and they're on display above the children's section for the next couple of months. Come in and have a look at the wonderful work they've been doing. Thank you to Rosebank School for loaning these wonderful items.



*Items on display from
Rosebank School.*

The children of Barnton Primary School have produced a book of responses to the Barnton Village Plan. The book is a superb collection of pictures, thoughts and ideas about their village, and is on display in the library for the next couple of months. Come in and see what the children think of their village and their ideas for improvements; there are some wonderfully original ideas. Our thanks go to the school for allowing us to display this book in the library. We hope that as many people as possible will be able to see it.

Hartford Art Group will be exhibiting their art work from Monday 4th May, for 4 weeks. Please do come in and have a look at the exhibition.

There will be a Book Sale in the library starting the 12th May, and this will run for 2 weeks. It's an excellent opportunity to pick up some bargains!

For those who need help with their homework, check out our Virtual Reference Library at www.cheshire.gov.uk/library You'll find a list of websites available for school projects on topics ranging from animals to weather! There's also access to some excellent sites including Encyclopaedia Britannica, Oxford Art and Music, The Oxford English Dictionary, and Issues online, which is an excellent place to go for information for school projects.

The library always welcomes new members, so feel free to pay us a visit and see what we have to offer. It is free to join and children get free reservations. Please ask a member of staff if you require any further information.

And finally, a HUGE thank you to Barnton as there was a significant increase in our issue figures for February. We're so pleased that so many of you are using the library. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Eleanor Moss (librarian)

Opening hours:	Monday	2pm -7pm
	Tuesday	closed
	Wednesday	2pm - 7pm
	Thursday	2pm - 5.30pm
	Friday	2pm - 5.30pm
	Saturday	10am - 1pm

Telephone and Fax: 01606 77343
email: barnton.library@cheshire.gov.uk
Website address: www.cheshire.gov.uk/library

Memorial Hall seeks a Relief Caretaker

Can you spare one day a week to help look after the hall. Would you be able to cover for holidays? Duties include opening and closing the hall, setting up for users and light cleaning duties. For more information contact John on 01606 783442 or the Secretary on 01606 75153 (answer phone)

Memorial Hall appoints new Secretary

Sarah Williams is taking up the post of Secretary from 1 May 2008. Sarah has a young family and is looking to become involved in Village life.

Sarah replaces Bernadette O'Donnell who retires as Secretary from the Hall after seven years of excellent service to the Hall. Jeff Gray the Chairman says "The Trustees are sorry to lose Bernadette and we hope she has a long and happy retirement."

Kiddies parties at the Memorial Hall

Try our new Disco lights with you party. Reasonable rates, bring your own Bouncy castle or magician to the party. You have full use of the kitchen and we will tidy up after you! Call Sarah on 01606 75153.

Community Noticeboard Grant

The Trustees of the Hall are pleased to announce that they have received a grant of £500.00 from the Weaver Vale Housing Trust. This grant is for a community notice board which will be put on the approach road to the Hall. Villagers may put up notices by arrangement with the Trustees. John Turnbull, maintenance manager at the Hall says "the notice board will replace the temporary ones that we have had for the last two years, we hope that the additional space will benefit everyone."

Echo Echo no more at the Hall

Following requests from our users to reduce the echo in the main hall, the Trustees applied to the Lottery Awards for All, for a grant to install sound absorbing tiles. The Chairman of the Hall Jeff Gray said "We were pleased to receive an award, from A4A to do this work, of £3,770. We have now fitted sound absorbent tiles to the Hall ceiling."

John Turnbull, maintenance manager says "Our Hall does not echo at all! We hope that the improvement to the sound quality benefits every one especially those hard of hearing where the echo caused difficulty with hearing aids. We hope our users can hear the vast improvement to the acoustics."

Jeff was pleased that the work was done when the Hall was not in use, so that there was no disruption to Hall bookings.



Hall chairman J Gray putting up the last tile

The Trustees are looking for a new clerk for the hall. Bernadette our present clerk is retiring at Easter. The clerk works with the Trustees and caretakers to make the hall a "Place to Meet and Greet". Duties includes taking booking and banking the receipts. Jeff Gray the chairman says " We are looking for someone who can spare about 10 hours a week working 2 hours a day at agreed times. " (£7.50 per hour plus holiday pay).

SIR JOHN BRUNNER TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 19th June 7:30 pm

All recognised clubs and users groups of the Hall are entitled to nominate a trustee to help to manage the Hall.

The AGM will elect six trustees and adopt nominations from recognised user groups as a trustee.

MID CHESHIRE COLLEGE
are planning to run the following
courses commencing in September:

- Introduction Blind and Curtain Making
- Introduction to Flower Arranging
- Introduction to Christmas Flower Arranging
- Introduction to Reflexology
- Introduction to Keeping Fit and Healthy
- Introduction to Painting using a variety of media

All courses are Free, but some may incur a materials charge.

For further details please contact The Community Education Team on 01606 720527/720721

or email jdewison@midchesh.ac.uk

KEEP FIT FOR THE OVER 50'S

Please consider joining
this group

Keep Fit for the over 50's

Flexibility & Mobility

Every Tuesday 2 - 3pm

£3 per session

Barnton Carnival 1952/53

Valerie Crook is trying to find information regarding the Barnton Carnival, 1952/53.

Valerie and her sister were dressed up as fairies with another girl and they came second.

Are there any photos of the event, or if anyone has any information, please contact the editor at fkf@sky.com and he will pass your details onto Valerie.

BARNTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



DOING OUT BIT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

OFFICERS FROM Vale Royal Borough Council treated members of our Environment Club to a presentation about climate change and nature on Monday, 17 March 2008. The event was organised to raise awareness about climate change and the effects on local wildlife.

Vale Royal's Countryside Ranger, Martin Harrison, and Climate Change Awareness Officer, Andrea Lee, spoke to the children about day to day factors of climate change and told them how they can make a difference to the environment. The children were also given packets of seeds to plant in their wildlife garden at school and at home.



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Car park works...

We are having major work done to enhance our car park and provide a safer 'Drop-Off' zone for pupils. New gates will be installed at the front of the school, providing a clearly defined Entrance and Exit and a fenced area will be created, allowing pupils access to the playground without stepping foot on the carpark!

In addition to this the fencing around school is being replaced, to make our school a safer place to be.

On your bike!

We recently had a new Bike Shed installed and are working hard to encourage our pupils to cycle to school. In addition to this we have held a 'Walk to school' week to encourage more physical activity!

Mrs Millington, our PE Subject Leader, has also introduced a new scheme called 'Wake-up, Shake-up' - an energetic, aerobic workout; designed by pupils to have an active start to the day!

The children have had great fun choreographing new moves - and trying to teach the fancy footwork to the teachers!

Community Life!

We have recently refurbished one of the rooms in school and developed it for Community use. We have held a series of Adult learning sessions; our most recent being to develop ICT skills.

We are also hoping to host a trampolining session for adults... watch this space!

Should you have any idea of any courses that would be of interest to you, please contact Mrs Chapman in the first instance (01606) 74784.

In addition to the service we wish to provide the community we are also delighted that our Parents' Task Force has taken off and we are highly appreciative of the support they provide in working alongside children and teachers.

Our ideas for the Village Plan

Pupils have been working together to develop their ideas and take part in the Village Plan Survey. A book of the children's ideas has been developed and is on show at Barnton Village library.



COMMUNITY ACTION MEETING

I WENT ALONG TO THE COMMUNITY ACTION MEETING on 16 April organised by our lovely PCSO Diana Wiggins, who instantly directed me to the top table. I thought it was because I was an important Parish Councillor (although regularly misquoted in the local press) but it was only because the two police officers who were coming had been called out to an incident, so she had spare seats.

There was a lively discussion about our "nuisance youths". Now some have said that this behaviour is because our teenagers have got nothing to do and in some ways that's true, but then Barnton hasn't had anything for it's teenagers to do since I was a teenager and that's a long time ago! And why is it that only a few of them are causing such a "nuisance" - aren't they just doing exactly what some teenagers have done since time immemorial, although these days there's a lot less respect and a lot more alcohol available.....oops miles away there ... just cast my mind back to the 70's and remember what we used to do!!!!

Diana stated that 10 notices (a sort of Yellow Card) had been handed out last weekend and only one of those was to a Barnton resident, the rest were from outside the village. So a lot of our teenagers are getting blamed just because they're there. The problem persists though for some residents, with excessive noise in the early hours of the morning, aggressive behaviour, vandalism and vast amounts of empty cans and bottles and broken glass - as you'll have already guessed, from my comments, I'm fairly tolerant but this broken glass on the kids playground is really getting on my nerves!

One of the residents asked why the Parish Council could not have an alcohol ban on the streets. I thought he said an alcohol van so I was a bit confused at this stage - I'd heard about this van that drove around selling bottles out of the back!

Anyway - moving on - Roy Garton as Clerk to the Parish Council explained that he has applied to Vale Royal Borough Council to have a Designated Public Place Order put on Nursery Road Recreation Ground and the surrounding area. This means that anyone caught drinking under age or causing a public nuisance could have their alcohol seized and could be fined. Another resident did say however that the problems he had experienced had improved and he thanked Diana and her colleagues for their work.

I promised to follow the matter up at the next Council meeting, but a different resident said that he did not think that anything would be done, that the Parish Council was an unelected body who were ineffectual and could not represent the people of Barnton.

Mr Garton puffed up to his full glory and said that all the Council were considered to have been elected, the reason that an election had not been held in living memory (OK I exaggerate) is because we have never had enough people on the Parish Council to actually have one. You need to have more than 15 people standing to hold an election.

Well...I couldn't let that resident's comments go without a response. Excuse me, I said, I have been on Barnton Parish Council for seven years

and no, I have never stood in an election. Only once in the last seven years have we had a full complement of Parish Councillors and the following month, two of them resigned!

I went on to say how irritated I was following the recently held Community meeting to take action against the travellers who had illegally moved into a field on the village boundaries. Not because I disagreed with them, but because 300 people were willing to turn out to stop something, but we can't even get 15 to actually start something.

Parish Councillors don't get paid and they don't get expenses, they give up their time freely to try and do something positive for their communities. Most of them have jobs, families and other commitments, but still manage to find the time to put something back.

In the last few years Barnton Parish Councillors have been instrumental in developing and supporting:

- Barnton Youth Club
- The facilities on Nursery Road Recreation Ground
- The new Memorial Hall
- Traffic Calming on Runcorn Road
- Introduction of a lengthsmen to help keep the village tidy
- The Parish Plan
- Introduction of the PCSO

We are actively working with the Police on many anti-social behaviour issues, including drinking, vandalism and littering on the Rec and down the chutes - some of our residents have already started their own campaigns against littering and one has actually been issued with his own bags and a litter picker - he says he looks like he's doing community service.

The parking issues on Lydyett Lane are currently the subject of vigorous negotiations with Highways to get what the villagers actually want and the speeding issue on Townfield Lane is being investigated by Diana and her colleagues.

Now you may not agree with some of the things that the Parish Council has done in the past and you might think that things don't get done quickly enough, in which case I suggest you get off your backsides and do something about it.

If you want to know what the Parish Council does, come to a meeting, they are open to everyone. If you want to join in, put your name forward and stand as a Parish Councillor, then maybe you can do something about the issues that matter to you. It's not just about stopping bad things; it's about starting good things.

One final point though, don't bother coming if all you want to do is moan about something and expect someone else to solve the problem. And if you think you have a solution to the "nuisance youth" problem, please let me know. I can't publish the suggestion that was put forward at the meeting.....

Angela Robinson
Parish Councillor

ROSEBANK SCHOOL

Activemark

ALL THE ROSEBANK STAFF work hard to encourage our pupils to lead healthy and active lives. The children have responded by becoming more active and participating in activities based around learning about healthy food. Our Key Stage 2 children take part in aerobics and yoga sessions each week, and all the children develop their abilities by joining in with multi-skills activities.

Our children have also enjoyed the opportunity of being able to go to Barnton Primary School for trampolining sessions, which they enjoy immensely.

As a result of our efforts, we have recently been awarded the "Activemark" in recognition of the range and quality of physical activities offered to all our pupils.



Some pupils from Rosebank competed in the Golden Mile event held at Hartford High School this year. They all did very well and finished with flying colours!

1st Barnton Scout Group



1st Barnton Scout Group is currently bringing itself back into Barnton's eye. To do this, one of our targets is to build the Group's member numbers.

We have vacancies in all sections



Beavers 6-8½ year olds
Monday 6.00pm-7.00pm



Cub's 8½-10½ year olds
Tuesday 7.00pm-8.15pm



Scouts 10½-15½ year olds
Monday 7:30pm-9.00pm

We're also currently recruiting leaders and assistants for all sections, and Committee members, meeting every second Tuesday each month.

For more information please e-mail us: barntonscoutgroup@hotmail.co.uk; visit our website: www.barntonscoutgroup.btik.com visit us on Church Road (opp Hill Top Close) or call Bryan Flint (GSL): 01606781591

Just an update on the activities of the Youth Club - we know that most of you think the kids just run riot for 2 hours - and with between 70 and 80 children turning up every week, it certainly felt like it to us.

We've split the group up into two sessions:

Years 1-4 come at 5.30pm until 6.45pm

Years 5 and upwards from 7pm until 8.15pm



Minimum age is 6.

Admission is £1 and the first session is free.



A membership form must be completed with contact details etc.



We are busy preparing all our decorations for our Northwich Carnival float and the children have been very active painting and pasting for the last few weeks.

We recently received two grants - £3,500 from Barclays Wealth and £500 from Weaver Vale Housing Trust to take the children on an activity weekend. Unfortunately our planned trip to Colomendy Camp in May has been postponed due to the age restrictions on most of their activities and we felt that the younger children just wouldn't get enough out of the trip. So we are going back to PGL at Borreaton Park on the weekend of 5-7 September.



Diana Wiggins, our PCSO, brought Pizzas to the Youth Club a few weeks ago these were very much enjoyed by everyone.

On Thursday, members of the Mid Cheshire Camcorder Club watched a demonstration by Graham Tortoisshell on the use of Microsoft software to create a simple video, from capturing footage from a video camera to authoring a DVD with a chapter menu. Windows Moviemaker (part of Windows XP and Vista) was used for capture and editing. Ulead DVD Workshop was used to produce the DVD.

This Thursday the group will be meeting to discuss the design of their new look website.

If anybody is interested in joining the group, please do not hesitate to come along at 7.30pm - Winnington Recreation Club, or contact Stephanie on 01606 871920 or Graham on 01606 76168.

Barnton in Bloom Competition 2008

At least £150 Worth of prizes to be won

Judging Week Commencing 28th July



Big Village, Big Future, Be Part of it



www.barntonyfc.co.uk
Established 2001
An FA Charter Standard Club

Managers, Coaches & Junior Players Needed

Barnton Youth Football Club is currently recruiting players, managers, coaches and helpers for the following new teams for the forthcoming 2008/2009 season: -

Under 7's (must be over 6 and under 7 at Midnight 31st August 2008)

Under 10's (must be over 8 and under 10 at Midnight 31st August 2008)

The Under 11's for next season are looking for a small number of experienced players to join their squad (must be over 10 and under 11 at Midnight 31st August 2008)

Girls Football

Barnton are also looking to start girls' football teams again if numbers allow, this will probably be at under 8's. If you are interested in playing or coaching then please get in touch.

Barnton YFC is an FA Charter Standard Club, where all managers, coaches and helpers are/will be CRB checked.

If you are interested in managing or coaching a team, FA coaching courses are available through Barnton YFC, don't be shy come and join in.

INTERESTED?

**Then please contact
Chris Dymond on 01606 79149
Check out the clubs website**

**www.barntonyfc.co.uk for info & details on
the Minnows and Community Football
session for the summer.**

Barnton Youth Football Club

Affiliated to the Cheshire county Football Association.
Registration No. DYM 00641

Awarded the FA Charter Standard 2004



Members of the
Mid Cheshire Youth Football League
& the Cheshire Girls Football League



BARNTON YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Community Football



For 5 weeks commencing
SUNDAY 8TH JUNE
(not on 15th Owing to
BYFC Fun day on the 14th)

at Barnton Primary School

10.45am to 12 noon

For Boys & Girls aged 3 to 9

Barnton Youth Football Club

Affiliated to the Cheshire county Football Association.
Registration No. DYM 00641

Awarded the FA Charter Standard 2004



Members of the
Mid Cheshire Youth Football League
& the Cheshire Girls Football League



Calling all parents –

*How about testing your coaching skills?
If you are interested in helping out then
please call Chris Dymond On 07756856440
or e-mail chris.dymond@fsmail.net*

www.barntonyfc.co.uk



Dads and players from Barnton Youth FC www.barntonyfc.co.uk ran in the Whitley 10k on Sunday 27th, raising money for their football club and Francis House in Manchester www.franchishouse.org.uk a hospice for caring for children with a short life expectancy, also highlighting the one game, one community football against racism campaign

Stuff2doInCheshire

Stuff2doInCheshire is a brand new website being developed to enable young people to find things to do in Cheshire. Connexions, which supports young people across the county, is launching the website on Monday, May 19.

If anyone is involved in running a club or event which would be of interest to 13-19 year olds then they want to hear about it.

Please contact:

by email: info@connections-cw.co.uk

tel: 01606 305217

or post:

Connections Cheshire & Warrington Ltd,
Partnership Office, No.2 The Stables,
Gadbrook Park, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 7RJ

The site will be packed with information about a wide range of activities, from dancing, amateur dramatics and youth clubs to cookery classes, yoga and martial arts training.

It is hoped the site will offer opportunities for young people, aged between 13-19, to take up new interests and hobbies or develop existing skills.

www.stuff2doincheshire.co.uk

BARNTON SILVER BAND

The Band continues to be busy. We have recently performed concerts for the Northwich Stroke Club and 'An Old English evening at the Ringway Masonic Hall, Timperley. Lots of 'Rule Britannia' and 'Land of Hope and Glory'.



In May we have concerts in Alsager and Endon. On May 16th we will be taking part in the Whit Friday contests in the Saddleworth area. Some of the venues are featured in the film 'Brassed Off'. It's an event that we look forward to each year.

If anyone wishes to know more about the Band please contact Chris Ravenscroft (01606 44457 - evenings).



TUNNEL TOP
NEWSLETTER

Keeping Barnton
Informed

Editorial Team

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Contact us by e-mail:
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www.barntonvillage.org.uk

Or leave a message at:
The Library,
Townfield Lane,
Barnton

**BARNTON VILLAGE
WEBSITE:**

www.barntonvillage.org.uk



Barnton Cricket Club



Barnton Cricket Club would like to inform parents and children that the junior cricket coaching sessions have once again begun.

All children aged between 7 and 11 are invited to attend on Tuesday evenings at 6.15pm to improve their skills and have some fun at the same time.

The opportunity also exists for any parents to become involved by assisting in the sessions and ultimately take the relevant coaching award.

For further information, please contact the cricket club on 01606 77702.



Barnton Cricket Club's practice facilities have received a boost with the laying of the concrete base for the new outdoor nets.

'The new nets will greatly improve practice facilities at Broomsedge, which should be of benefit to senior and junior players alike,' said 1st team captain Steve Yarwood.

It is hoped to have the work completed within the next few weeks. The development plan has been designed so that a second net can be added in the future, if funds become available.

Meanwhile, the Club's two senior sides have started the season in encouraging fashion, with the 1st team winning both their opening matches and the seconds recording one win and a 'winning' draw.

www.barntoncc.co.uk

If you enjoyed reading this issue of Tunnel Top please pass it on to a friend