

Signpost



Issue 78 May 2024
Your Local Community News



This magazine is distributed free by your Parish Council to over 400 homes and businesses in the Langar and Barnstone Parish Council area. If you know anyone who would like to receive a copy via email or print please contact langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

The Latest from your Parish Council

Introduction

Welcome to the latest issue of Signpost, published by your Parish Council (PC) and delivered to every house and business in Langar and Barnstone (together with an electronic copy deposited at the British Library!).

Inside you will find reports of recent local events and notice of upcoming events. The PC uses Signpost as a primary means of disseminating information to the community, so it is disappointing when some residents admit to not reading it, some even admitting to putting it straight in the bin. So, as you are reading this now, please point your neighbours to Signpost when they next ask you "What's going on?".

Taxi Voucher Scheme

We wish to publicise our Taxi Voucher Scheme, which is run to assist those who find difficulty in using public transport to access local healthcare facilities and shopping.

Please contact the Parish Clerk for further details.

Comings and Goings

Councillor Adrian Bellamy has decided to step down from the PC after more than 10 years' service to the community.

Adrian has been a driving force on many of the PC initiatives during this time and he will be missed. Thank you, Adrian, and enjoy your free time.

We are delighted to welcome Rich Brooks as a co-opted member of the PC.

There are still three vacancies on the PC, so please consider putting yourself forward to help guide the future of our community.

The Community Hall

A report on the official opening of the new Community Hall appears elsewhere in this issue, but as the Trustee body for the Hall, the PC is delighted to see the return of regular users to the Hall and the arrival of new users who have been attracted by its excellent modern facilities.

Coda

This is the last report I pen as Chair of the PC, so I take this opportunity to thank my fellow councillors and the Parish Clerk for all the time and effort they have put into supporting the life of our community.

For any matters relating to items mentioned here, or to raise any other issue with the Parish Council, please contact Sharon Ellis, our Parish Clerk, in the first instance (T: 07984 075016; E: langarbarstoneclerk@gmail.com).

**Acceptance of advertising
does not imply endorsements by
Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council**

Signpost

If you have an advertisement or an article which you would like to appear in the Signpost magazine, please contact our Parish Clerk for details: **Sharon Ellis**,
Parish Clerk 07984 075016 or langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Deadline for articles in 2024

11 July 2024

11 October 2024

Period covered by magazine

August, September, October 2024

November, December, January 2025



The Vale Market Cafe

Saturday the 11th May 2024



**Come and join us in the new Langar cum
Barnstone Community Hall**

From 10am - 12 Noon



**We'll be serving tea, coffee and breakfast
cobs, veggie and gf options available.**



There will also be stalls selling locally made produce

Forthcoming dates: Saturday 8th June, Saturday 13th July.

Langar cum Barnstone New Community Hall Official Opening

The Trustees of Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall in Barnstone organised the Grand Opening of their newly-built hall on Saturday 24 February 2024. The new hall replaced the old village hall which was built over 100 years ago.

The Grand Opening was an opportunity to acknowledge all the people and organisations who have contributed or have helped fund the new hall and bring it to its completion.

The Chair of the trustees, Cllr Jeff Fry, officiated at the opening ceremony which was attended by over 200 members of the public from the local area.



Cllr Fry commented “The old hall was built in 1922 by the employees of The Barnstone Blue Lias Lime and Cement Company (now Tarmac). Thanks to the generous funding allocation from Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund, this local business, which is integral to the community, has once again helped to ensure that residents have a safe and welcoming space to come together.”



The Trustees of the Community Hall were delighted that Steve Odell, the plant manager at Tarmac in Barnstone, unveiled a brass plaque declaring the hall officially open. The

company donated £140,000 towards the new hall through the Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund.

The ceremony was also attended by Cllr Neil Clarke, leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council, Cllr Tina Combellack and Cllr Jonathon Wheeler both from Rushcliffe Borough Council who contributed £15,000 from the Capital Grant Scheme.



The current user groups of the new hall put on displays for the event. The Art Group showed pictures and photographs, the Brownies put on a display of their work and each of the other groups contributed by showing the visitors what takes place at their events in the hall.



The Parish Council had a table showing the work that the council carries out on a monthly basis and they also made an appeal for new members to join the council as current members retired.

After the official opening ceremony, the Trustees provided tea and coffee and a small buffet for all of those attending and then the visitors were entertained by the Mary Munford Dance Group which meets in the hall every Monday evening.



The new Community Hall can accommodate up to 200 people standing and 96 people seated. It has a large modern fitted galley kitchen with everything you need to facilitate a community event or a party.

There is also a meeting room which holds up to ten people and this can be hired for meetings. There is also a clerk's office. The toilets are accessible and have baby-changing facilities.

Residents of Langar and Barnstone are elated to have a hall back at the heart of their community. The facility has already hosted a Christmas Quiz and an 80s night (both sell-out events) and previous user groups, including the Brownies, Belvoir Archers, Vale Market Café and Vale Arts Group have been excited to move back into the facility. Since December, new users have established themselves at the hall, including a regular yoga class and a singing group.

Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall is available for hire. A warm and welcome venue for all occasions, it is ideal for regular group bookings, meetings, business or training events, celebrations or shows. For more information and to make a booking please visit the Parish Council website at www.langarbarnstone.co.uk or email the clerk at langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Welcome

New to Langar and Barnstone?

Find out all you need to know on the Parish Council Website

www.langarbarnstone.co.uk



The Works has been at the heart of the Barnstone community for over 150 years and the plant was very privileged to be asked by the Parish Council to formally open the new Community Hall.



Steve said "I was honoured to have been invited to unveil the plaque at the new Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall in February.

For details on the Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund and for more information on the criteria for applying please visit www.entrust.org.uk

As we finally move into spring and the days and nights become brighter, we hope that we will be treated with some better weather to go with it and hopefully get out into our gardens to enjoy some well earned sunshine.

Tarmac and the hall have such a shared history in this community and the new facilities are incredible. I'm proud that we were able to support the rebuilding of the hall through the Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund and to continue this tradition over a century later."

The team at Barnstone hope you have a good Easter and, as always, please come and see us if you have any queries.

The Barnstone Team



Inspire
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Bingham Library

Opening Hours

01623 677200

Monday	0930 - 1700
Tuesday	0930 - 1700
Wednesday	0930 - 1700
Thursday	0930 - 1700
Friday	0930 - 1700
Saturday	0930 - 1600
Sunday	Closed



Invitation to the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

from the Chairman of Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council

(Please note this is not a Parish Council meeting)

Saturday, 18 May 2024, 10.30 am
The Community Hall

All residents and voluntary organisations are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting.
Reports from organisations are welcome.

The meeting will include:
Chairman's Report for 2023-2024
Information on local groups, clubs and activities
A chance to find out about what's going on in our community
An opportunity to raise any matter of local interest you wish to be discussed

Light refreshments will be provided

For more details, contact Sharon Ellis, Parish Clerk:
T: 07984 075016
E: langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com

Councillor's Newsletter for the Residents of

Hickling, Upper Broughton, Hickling Pastures, Colston Bassett, Kinoulton & Langar cum Barnstone

Spring is Here!



New Community Hall

Congratulations to Langar cum Barnstone on the opening of their new Community Hall. A wonderful achievement providing community accommodation for the 21st century with the latest technology and energy efficiency.



More United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Funding Awarded

Rushcliffe has been awarded UKSPF Government monies to repair the fabric of the ancient remains of St Mary's Church in Colston Bassett to keep it safe for public to visit.



Policing In Nevile Ward - Rural Crime

Rural crime is still a high priority for the police, with farm machinery thefts, hare coursing and fly tipping to mention just a few.

There is another Rural Crime event being held at Oddhouse Farm on **Wednesday 1 May 7-9pm** aimed at the farming community. I know the days are getting longer and farming commitments will be growing, but please try and join us – your highlighted concerns and engagement are invaluable.

Rural Crime Forum
Rushcliffe
Stability for our **Rushcliffe Farmers**

7pm - 9pm Wednesday 1st May 2024
Oddhouse Farm
Colston Bassett Lane, Owthorpe, NG12 3SF
Very kindly hosted by J Marley

Andy Guy County Adviser National Farmers Union
Insp Tim Cuthbert & Sgt Brett Price Nottinghamshire Police Neighbourhood Team
Helen Ridley Nottinghamshire Police Rural & Wildlife Crime Manager
David Elms Nottinghamshire Police Rural Crime Prevention Officer
Sgt Vince Saunders Nottinghamshire Police Crime Team
Officers from the Leicestershire Police Rural Crime Team
Catherine Evans RBC Service Manager for Economic Growth & Prosperity
Cllr Rob Inglis RBC Portfolio Holder for Environment & Safety
Jo McQuat Farm Watch Co-Ordinator

This is another great opportunity to be updated with the latest news and developments directly from the Police and Partners in tackling and preventing crime within our local Farming Community

This is a two way networking meeting for questions, ideas and discussions so it is important for everyone to attend

For further information call *Jo McQuat 07790 846111 — Rob Inglis 07780015450*



More Dates For Your Diary

Nottinghamshire County Show at Newark Show Ground - May 11 2024

Showcasing the best of farming, countryside and rural life. Celebrating our local agricultural community with attractions including livestock, equine, local food producers and craft stalls, countryside competitions, traders and more!

Polling Day - Thursday 2 May 2024

Don't forget that Thursday 2 May is Polling Day again when you will be voting for a new East Midlands Mayor who will be paving the way for a combined County Authority for Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire, allowing access to a whole new raft of funding. Remember you need photo ID to vote.

Armed Forces Proms in the Park - 29 June 2024

West Bridgford from 1200 to 2100

Digital Version of Rushcliffe Reports Spring 2024 is out now!

Welcome to the first ever digital edition of Rushcliffe Reports featuring some of our latest news and partner initiatives. You can also look out for details on our key events with dates announced for Proms in the Park, Lark in the Park and Taste of Rushcliffe later this year. The publication is available to view online. If you have any questions or want to know more on any of the updates please email media@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Rushcliffe Reports on CD, an audio version of Rushcliffe Reports, is available for blind and partially-sighted people.

Contact us to get the latest edition by emailing media@rushcliffe.gov.uk or call 0115 914 8555.

Ask for Angela

The Borough Council is committed to unanimous support for Rushcliffe to reduce violence against women and girls and has been promoting the 'Ask For Angela' campaign. I helped promote the campaign recently at the Unicorn in Langar. Should anyone feel they are in an unsafe situation whilst out at a pub or restaurant they can approach someone at the bar and ask for Angela. The staff will be trained to discreetly handle the situation and take you to a place of safety. Whilst this is aimed at women and girls, men can also ask for Angela if they are feeling threatened or abused - there is no discrimination.





Firstly, a very warm welcome to our new members – Shirley Crosby, Sue Welbourn-Smith and Sue Gibson. We hope that you will enjoy our group and share in the learning that we all continue to do. We also welcome Amanda Ward back into the fold.

On 16 January, Julie Powell came and gave us a workshop on Drawing Faces. We had a full house for this event and this included the new members.

We started off by drawing a circle (with a template) then we were off! It was interesting to see the varying shapes and measurements which were achieved, even though Julie was giving us verbal instructions and she had also given us a photocopied booklet of just what we had to do. To be honest I think all of us enjoyed the workshop as there was a request for a follow-up.

I concede defeat! I am not cut out to draw faces, but wait, we had the follow-up which took place on 20 February. It was still an excellent turnout and we had an afternoon learning how to colour a face using shading, colours – green, blue, pink - together on the face?? Yes! Blending and contours.

Elaine Mills you are a champion. I am sorry Julie, but a lot of us panicked and ran away but Elaine hung in there. I actually tried to complete mine, but layers of colour and trying to get my Aussie grandson to look like Eli – well almost!

The final event in February was of course the Grand Opening of the Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall. Vale Arts Group had a display of our art work across the board. Watercolours, acrylics, charcoal, pastels, hand weaving, embroidery and Bob, your amazing handmade denim jacket and hat.

It was a really diverse display and interest was shown by a number of people who asked members about the Vale Arts Group display. Thanks to all of our eighteen members who put forward an item for this event.

The Vale Arts Group also donated the clock to the new Community Hall.

**TREAT A WORK OF ART LIKE A PRINCE,
LET IT SPEAK TO YOU FIRST!**

Enquiries to GILLIAN CLARKE –
phone 01949 748 288
or email philigansgc@gmail.com



Mission Impossible Stunt Award for Nottinghamshire Woman

A Nottinghamshire woman is celebrating after her work in Hollywood blockbuster *Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning* was recognised in the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

Karen Saunders of Newton, Nottinghamshire, was part of the stunt team that helped Tom Cruise launch his motorbike from a cliff and deploy a parachute as part of a thrilling chase scene. Her role was to maintain Cruise's skydiving equipment - a job she holds full time at Nottingham skydiving centre Skydive Langar.

In the film, Cruise is seen making the death-defying leap from the mountain top in a stunt which resulted from years of work and the contribution of a team of subject matter experts to keep the star safe. As the lead parachute rigger at the UK's busiest skydiving centre, and with decades of experience in maintaining parachuting equipment globally, Saunders was selected as Cruise's personal equipment monitor.



Speaking of the role, she said: "It was a real pleasure to work with Tom and the rest of the team behind the movie, which

included an amazing stunt team. I had so much fun working with everyone and it was a real professional highlight to be able to put my experience to work in such a new and challenging way.



"Of course, much of it was run of the mill parachute maintenance and I was very comfortable with all of that, but being on the set of such a high profile movie certainly came with its own unique

moments! It's amazing to be able to sit down and watch the final product and to know that millions of people worldwide have seen it too. I'm very proud of it."

Karen Saunders works at Skydive Langar, which is a skydiving centre just outside of Nottingham city centre, where she is responsible for overseeing the proper maintenance of all of the centre's owned equipment as well as providing those services for equipment owned by visiting jumpers. When she's not working with skydivers, she enjoys travelling on her motorcycle and has recently taken up bodybuilding.

With an estimated budget of \$291 million, *Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning* is amongst the most expensive films ever made. It has taken \$568 million in box office sales to date.

Laura Hampton, Skydive Langar
The Control Tower, Langar Airfield,
Nottinghamshire, NG13 9HY
Tel: +44 (0) 1949 860 878
British Parachute Schools Ltd
Registered in England & Wales:
01751995 VAT Registration GB 416
1497 57

South Nottinghamshire Local Group (Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust)

Out and About with Wildlife Programme 2024

Sun 19th May - Bingham Linear Park Wildlife Walk + butterflies, birds, flowers and insects with Jenny Craig (jenny@ifcraig.com) Meet 10 am at the Tithby Bridge entrance on Tithby Road, Bingham.

Sun 19 May - Collington Common Meadow & Wilford Fields – for a tour of two urban wildlife sites. Meet 10am at the main entrance to Rushcliffe Arena on Rugby Rd, West Bridgford. Led by Gordon Dyne (gordon.dyne@gmail.com).

Sat 1 June – Wilwell Farm Cutting in Summer (morning walk). Enjoy the wide range of wildflowers in bloom at this time of year incl Southern Marsh Orchids, as well as birds and butterflies on site. With Reserve Warden Gordon Dyne. **Meet 10 am** at the Wilwell car park on the left, just before the ring road bridge on the B680 between Ruddington and Wilford (look out for reserve sign). Post Code for approx location NG2 7UT, Just Three Words = home/news/fuzzy. Need more info contact gordon.dyne@gmail.com

Sat 1 June – Wilwell Farm Cutting in Summer (afternoon walk). Enjoy the wide range of wildflowers in bloom at this time of year incl Southern Marsh Orchids, as well as birds and butterflies on site. With Reserve Warden Gordon Dyne. **Meet 2pm** at the Wilwell car park on the left, just before the ring road bridge on the B680 between Ruddington and Wilford (look out for reserve sign). Post Code for approx location NG2 7UT, Just Three Words = home/news/fuzzy. Need more info contact gordon.dyne@gmail.com

Sun 2 June – Keyworth Meadow Nature Reserve Walk – Join Neil Pinder for a look at the Burial Grounds, then to Keyworth Meadow Nature Reserve. Meet at Keyworth burial ground 9.30 am at the bend in Wysall Lane (NG12 5AG) What Three Words = alternate/path/timeless. Neil Pinder contact number: 07981 928402

Sun 16 Jun - Dewberry Hill Nature Reserve - a hidden grassland wildlife haven on the edge of Radcliffe on Trent with Keith Wakerley looking at wildflowers and butterflies. Meet 2pm at the entrance on Cropwell Road (going out of Radcliffe), parking on the left about 150m beyond the traffic lights up the hill. Need more info contact Gordon Dyne (gordon.dyne@gmail.com)

Sun 7 July - Wilford Claypits Nature Reserve - a look at the natural history of this urban reserve (flowers and butterflies) with Gordon Dyne. Meet 10 am at the entrance gate on Compton Acres Way next to the Apple Tree pub, What Three Words = stone/tour/pull. Need more info contact gordon.dyne@gmail.com

Sat 10 August - NET Tramland and Fairham Brook – for a look at the flora on this habitat creation scheme on a site that is part of a “greater” Wilwell wildlife cluster, also linking to Fairham Brook. Meet 10 am at the Wilwell car park on the left, just before the ring road bridge on the B680 between Ruddington and Wilford (look out for reserve sign). Post Code for approx location NG2 7UT, Just Three Words = home/news/fuzzy. **For more info gordon.dyne@gmail.com**

Sat 31 August – Moth Morning at Wilwell Cutting Nature Reserve – the chance to view in detail the contents of last night's moth trap with Paul Dulwich. Meeting 7 am. NUMBERS ARE LIMITED to allow people to get a good view of the night's haul, Contact Gordon Dyne (gordon.dyne@gmail.com) to reserve a slot and for details.

Sat 14 September - Bunny Hills Walk – countryside in Autumn across Bunny Moor onto Bunny Top and returning via Fairham Brook circa 5 miles. Meet 10 am on the seats opposite the Rancliffe Arms on the main road through Bunny, What Three Words = burns/film/scaffold. Gordon Dyne (gordon.dyne@gmail.com)

Vélo Belvoir is Back!

The charity cycle ride will take place on Sunday 12 May. The ride starts and finishes in Hose (on the Nottinghamshire -Leicestershire border) and offers a choice of three routes: 30, 60 and 100 miles, all on quiet roads through the pretty villages and countryside of the scenic Vale of Belvoir.

All riders will receive a medal and a delicious meal at the end of the ride, and there will be refreshments (with plenty of homemade cake) for those on the two longer rides. In addition, all riders will pass through our Donut Stall for a cheeky snack.

Vélo Belvoir is raising much needed funds for two local registered charities. The profits will be split between Dove Cottage Day Hospice and Cropwell Bishop Friends of School. Dove Cottage Day Hospice provides valuable specialist support for the terminally ill and their loved ones. Cropwell Bishop Friends of School raises funds to enhance learning

opportunities at the school for the children.

Vélo Belvoir is grateful for the sponsorship of Melton Sports. We are delighted to welcome Bishop Cycles to the event to provide mechanical assistance at the start. Bishop Cycles is offering a 15% discount on all bike servicing prior to the ride for everyone who has entered.

Registration is now open for Vélo Belvoir 2024 and all cyclists are welcome. A great day and a memorable ride are guaranteed for all. To sign up, please visit www.velobelvoir.com, where you will be redirected to the registration page with British Cycling. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Vélo Belvoir Organising Committee.





Two hours free parking in Bingham car parks to be retained in new measures

Discussions to increase the availability of car parking spaces across Bingham's car parks has resulted in two hours free parking being retained as part of new measures from later this year.

Rushcliffe Borough Council's (RBC) Cabinet considered a report at their meeting on Tuesday (April 9) in conjunction with the work of the Bingham Car Parking Strategy Group.

Alternative one hour free car parking plans were discounted in favour of the extended two hour option that will be assessed over twelve months from a date to be confirmed as part of a wider package of the measures.

The Council took into account the views of residents and business owners balanced against the findings of surveys from car park users last year.

Recommendations for free parking for 30 minutes in the bays around the market place were also confirmed to be assessed at the same time, designed to improve parking through encouraging short stay rather than all day parking in the town centre.

In Newgate Street and Needham Street the new car park tariffs from later this year will be:

- Up to two hours - free
- 2-3 hours - £1
- 3-4 hours - £5
- 4-12 hours - £10

A Rushcliffe Borough Council spokesperson said: "The meeting discussed the focus on maximising the availability of spaces for short stay users and those who wish to stay longer, in line with data from car park users.

"Now, listening to further feedback from residents and businesses, the two hours free option will be retained from later this year with the needs of shoppers and visitors prioritised.

"The Council has very much placed emphasis on taking on board all the views from all parties to aim to follow an option that will increase the turnover and regularity of free spaces whilst benefiting motorists, local businesses and service providers alike.

"The new tariffs for Newgate Street and Needham Street car parks are being considered alongside meeting the priorities of the Council's Off Street Car Parking Strategy and will be reviewed at the end of the 12 month period.

"Any funds received from car parking only meet the cost of the changes that are required such as new car park machines and contributing to the overall cost of maintaining these car parks."

As part of the package the changes, restrictions on market days will be lifted to allow spaces to be made available when they are not in use by market traders.

At Bingham Arena around 30 chargeable spaces will be made available for long stay parking for staff working at local businesses.

Approvals for the new measures to be introduced are expected to take around six months.

The Strategy Group has representatives from RBC, Bingham Town Council(BTC) and Nottinghamshire County Council.

Group members include RBC's Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment and

Safety Cllr Rob Inglis, Ward Members for Bingham, Mayor Cllr Rowan Bird and Cllr Norman Mees from BTC and RBC Leader and Nottinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment and Bingham West member Cllr Neil Clarke.

For information please contact the Rushcliffe press office on 0115 9148 555 or media@rushcliffe.gov.uk

For the latest news and events, follow [@rushcliffe on Twitter](https://twitter.com/rushcliffe) or go to [the council's website](http://the.councils.website).

1st Barnstone Brownies Happy Spring!

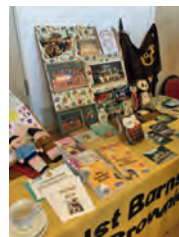
Hello again from the Brownies - now in the 69th year at Barnstone! Hopefully we'll still be here in 2025 to celebrate 70 years.

How things have changed, not only the uniform and the programme but also the emphasis of it all. We aim to give girls an equal sense of belonging whilst learning about teamwork, sharing experiences, taking responsibility and developing personal relationship and leadership skills.

Since Christmas our numbers have risen to 16 and we welcome Evie, Lillia and D-M. We have done fitness, construction and puppet-making activities.



On Thinking Day in February we went over to Radcliffe and joined over 200 members from our District to take part in games and craft from around the world.



Regarding future events, an Open Evening is planned with the famous ice-cream stall and we're looking forward to a Division Event to be held at Elton, based on the Olympics.

Girls 7-10 please come and join the fun at Brownies!

The Owls and the Brownies

Dot Clayton 01949 860022

Claire Pegg 01949 86118

Long Serving Councillor Retires



After serving on the Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council for fifteen years, Councillor Adrian Bellamy has decided that the time has come to retire from his role as a Parish Councillor following the completion of the new community hall.

Adrian and his wife and two children Lucy and Dan moved into the new houses on Butlers Field when they arrived in Langar in June 2000. The children attended Langar school and Adrian soon became a governor at the school starting his commitment to helping in the local community.

Shortly afterwards he set up his own business in the area working in the building industry, fitting out commercial buildings which stood him in good stead for what was to come in the village later.

Parish Council

Adrian became a Parish Councillor in 2009. He attended Parish Council meetings regularly over the years, helping with funding decisions, planning applications, talking with county and borough councillors and generally helping to improve the area around Langar cum Barnstone and the two playing areas.

Adrian became a Parish Councillor around the time that the Parish Council

were deciding what to do with the old village hall which needed updating or replacing as it was in a state of disrepair. It needed a lot of attention, including the worn out electrics, poor quality toilets, out of date kitchen, and the main hall was in a state of disrepair.

There was a lot of discussion about raising funds for the replacement of the hall along with where to build it, with various ideas coming from the local users and villagers.

However, this was all around 2011 when the country was going through financial problems, so everything was put on hold.

In 2013, using Adrian's expertise along with other councillors, it was decided that the best thing to do at the time was to gain another few years' usage of the old hall by rewiring it, building a new kitchen, putting down a new floor to help the dancers, and completely repairing and decorating the main hall.

In the end this work helped the hall to run for another ten years proving, that the restoration work was worth it.

New Replacement Hall

Eventually wear and tear meant that again the old building was deteriorating badly so the Parish Council decided to re-launch the idea of rebuilding the hall. The council then found out that old hall was in a Trust and covenants meant that the old hall had to be replaced in the same position.

Adrian and other councillors entered many discussions with the hall users regarding their future requirements. Many consultations were held with designers and architects and Adrian was

able to use his expertise in the building trade to assist in the design and interior fittings etc.

After many deliberations a new design was chosen, and planning consent was sought, and a builder and a contract manager were chosen. The Parish Council then took over the running of the Trust for the village hall, as many of the existing trustees wished to retire and finding replacements was difficult. All of the Parish Councillors became a Corporate Trustee body and were then involved in the discussions about the new build.

At the end of 2022 the building work commenced, and the Trustee group met on a regular basis to discuss ideas and proposals along with agreeing stage payments for the building work.

Together with the Chair of the Trustees, Councillor Fry, the trustees met on a regular basis with the architect and the building contractors, giving a lot of individual time to the project until at the end of 2023 the new building was completed and handed over.

With the help of the Parish Council and the Trustees, Adrian's expertise has helped produce a new Community Hall which is a great asset to the local community and the envy of other villages in the area, leaving a long lasting legacy to the Langar Barnstone area.

The members of the Parish Council and the Trustees of the new village hall, together with all the users of the building, would like thank Adrian for his fifteen years' of hard work and wish him good luck with his future ventures in the area.

Inside a Local Business

Mary Kirsten School of Dance

History



Mary's family lived in South Africa where her mother and father were ballroom dancing champions. In 1961 Mary's parents decided to leave South Africa and move to Stevenage in the UK, Mary was four years old and immediately

joined a dancing class.

By 1976, at the age of 19, Mary had her teaching qualifications and took over the dancing school where she had been

trained, teaching children of all ages to dance whilst working full time.

In 1982 she left dancing for a while but later came back to it as she was missing it so much.

Whilst still running classes in Stevenage, Mary moved to Cotgrave in Nottinghamshire and continued to work full time. Seventeen years ago she opened a school of dance for all ages at Cotgrave.

A year later, this was followed by another dance school in Barnstone old village hall and then another one in Alford Lincolnshire.

With dancers of all age groups trained by Mary entering competitions around the country and winning, Mary soon became recognised as a dance teacher and became involved in judging dancers

both in competitions and for certification around the country including Blackpool Tower Ballroom, The Winter Gardens, Scarborough and even Southern Ireland. Mary says that lately she has been sitting on judging panels where many of the other judges, now the Young Professionals, were judged by her when they were children.



Mary trains children from as young as four in different classes, both privately and in groups. Over the years the Barnstone school has produced twenty British Champions and three UK champions. One as young as 9 years old and some 14 to 15 year olds.

Mary has encouraged many children with special needs to attend the dance school in Barnstone and says it is an amazing way for those children to build up their confidence and then go on to the better things in dancing.

New Community Hall

When Mary heard about the new community hall she worked with the Trustees and the user groups to ensure that the builders installed a good dance floor in the main hall suitable for dancing.

Mary and all her dancers stated that the dance floor is the best one they have ever danced on which means that the new hall meets all the expectations. When the new hall was officially opened Mary's dancing group put on a lovely demonstration for all the visitors to the opening.

Rosie May Foundation

The foundation set up a competition to honour Rosie May who loved dancing. Ten couples, who have never danced before, register to compete and raise funds for the foundation. They are trained over ten weeks by members of the dance school and at the end of the ten weeks they hold a ball and a competition, similar to Strictly Come Dancing, at Kelham Hall in Newark.

The sponsors and guests hold an auction and the dancers, who are usually from sponsoring companies, raise funds as well. This year's competition raised £37,530 for the foundation.

The school of dance holds lessons on a Monday evening and Mary currently has fourteen children in lessons aged from four years to twelve years.



They also hold dancing sessions on some weekends and some of her more senior dancers come to the new hall on weeknights to practise for competitions. Mary's School of Dancing love using the new Community Hall and will be continuing to use it for some time.

To find out more about dancing lessons contact:
marykirstendance@gmail.com



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Barnstone Bowls Club Potted History

Barnstone Bowls Club was started in 1963 by three Blue Circle employees who were playing at Bingham Bowls Club. They approached the then Works Manager, Mr Glyn Howe, and finally reached an agreement on where the green would be sited and, if the men would dig out and lay the foundations, Blue Circle would buy the finest Cumberland turf and topsoil.

A specialist firm was engaged to help but mainly to provide advice on how to properly lay a bowling green. That was a very wise decision because, to this day, we have inherited one of the best playing surfaces in the area. The Nottinghamshire County Bowls representative team are considering playing matches here, despite the remote location.

The green and funding were from Blue Circle and initially, membership was restricted to Blue Circle employees, who turned out to be very enthusiastic. They just played friendlies to begin with, but it was the Barnstone Bowls Club committee who founded the Belvoir League circa 1968 and invited other clubs to compete against each other. The Belvoir League is still going strong today and two Barnstone members serve on the League committee.

The construction of Barnstone Country Club right next door in 1970 did nothing to decrease the bowls club's popularity. The Bowls Club opened its doors to

everyone, which strengthened the club of course. Many honours have been won over the years but the friendliness of the members has always been maintained.

We have members who travel from Ilkeston, Grantham and Newark, which is testament to that. In the early days it had the nickname 'The Little Big Club'.

Several social events are held each year. For example, The Little Big Club has raised over £50,000 from Tribute Nights for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Country Club was demolished a few years ago so we are now investigating whether it would be feasible to sell alcoholic refreshments on match and club days.

As I write this the days are getting longer, there are occasional blue skies but the rain is still with us. To be honest, the long summer days enjoying the tranquil game of bowls seem a long way off. On the other hand, the snowdrops, daffodils and even a few tulips are showing their colours so spring is definitely on the way, so those beautiful summer days spent peacefully with friends on the bowling green are following close behind.

Five new members have joined us so far this season and have been made very welcome but none of them are from Langar and Barnstone. Three are from Granby, which is not too far away, one from Whatton and one from Thoroton but we would love to see a few 'locals' join us. Do you fancy a go? It's a game where ladies can compete on equal terms with men; 70 year olds can compete with 17 year olds; this makes it a family game.

The 2024 season gets underway when the green opens on Monday 15 April, subject to the weather of course, with a very informal 'roll up' for members and potential members wanting a try before the season gets fully underway.

Plenty of equipment is available for use by newcomers and teaching and coaching will be available in April for

anyone who wants a go. Weekly club sessions will be taking place throughout the season.

The Little Big Club is waiting for you and you won't believe how cheap the subscriptions are!

For more information, contact **Steve Wrate on 01949 861353**

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If you wish to apply, or require any further information about being a councillor, please contact: Sharon Ellis, Clerk to the Council, langarbarnstoneclerk@gmail.com



Belvoir Archers have continued to shoot on the community field during the winter months on a Saturday.



Since the opening of the Langar cum Barnstone Community Hall, we have been shooting indoors on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, as well coaching sessions on alternate Saturdays.

We are very grateful to the Parish Council and the Community Hall User Group for their assistance in helping to use this amazing facility.



We have registered to hold four tournaments this year as well as three tournaments for the National Crossbow Federation on the community field.

We are running two beginner's courses this year. Our beginner's courses comprise a four-session course of 2 to 3 hours. The first one commences on 10 May and the second course starts on 19 July.

We will also be holding taster archery sessions on 30 May, 27 June, 25 July and 29 August.

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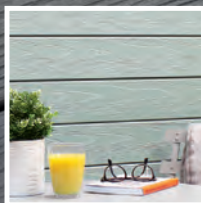
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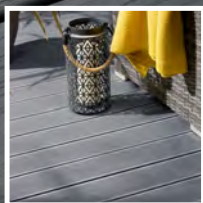
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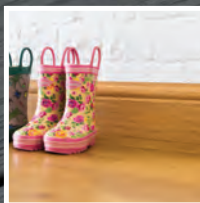
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Planters in Langar and Barnstone

There are some talented, green-fingered residents in Langar & Barnstone who help to look after the Parish Council green areas in the two villages.

Planters in the Park – Carol Courtney



During Covid I enrolled on the RHS course in Horticulture at Brooksby College, Melton. I wanted to experiment with drought-tolerant plants. As climate change seems to be upon us, it makes sense to work with those plants which should fare

well in a hot summer and without too much water. So, this is the thinking behind the planters in the park.

All the plants used should survive a hot, dry summer. Any which become scorched by the sun should return the following year, as glorious as ever because their roots will survive. Whilst most of the plants are perennials, I'm adding a few annuals each year which I grow from seed.

So, look, what can you see in there? Blue fescue, Salvia, Bergenia, Verbena, Anemones, Sedum to name but a few..... there are lots more. Let's see which do best.



Planter at the Bus Stop – Sophie Crowder

At the back of the bus stop area, I planted some more hardy, bigger evergreens with the intention that they will prosper and fill the area,

with little ongoing maintenance needed as it's harder to get to.

A selection of Ceanothus, Hypericum, Brachyglottis Sunshine and Viburnum were included, and around these, behind the seating area of the bus stop and down the 'arms' of the planter are a mix of smaller, relatively hardy perennials including Fushias, Asters, Lavender, Heuchera, Sedum and Antirrhinums. So a feast of colour for the eyes and others are there for their lovely aroma.

Everyone at the bus stop wanted a multi-sensory treat! Infilled with multiple late summer to Autumn bedding plants, last September it all looked beautiful. October saw the addition of lots of Daffodils, Tulips and Allium bulbs, with the intention that these would gradually bring colour to the area from February to May.

As expected with every new project, some plants have thrived and some need replacing. The bedding plants will need refreshing and it seems the bulbs need to be increased in number to have the wow factor I would love to achieve for the centre of the village.

If anyone is keen to help, then there are the inevitable maintenance jobs to join in with. Next week will see me doing some extensive weeding, but anyone who walks by, and can confidently identify weeds of the future, please pluck them out before they make themselves a home.

Watering in the summer is a daily task, and so if anyone around is willing and able to help, especially on Fridays and Saturdays when my own work life can be a bit distracting, I would really welcome the help.

Langar Pond & Herb Garden – Luke Mazers



Last May the Parish Council asked me, as part of my Lengthsman duties, to look after and maintain the old pond area by the Unicorn's Head. Over the next six months I put in place a system which worked for the wildlife, plants and public.

I have removed invasive plants, thousands of thistles, and nettles, reestablished the path and green around the benches and tried to create areas of habitat for insects, and wildlife. This also included a compost area to be used around the plants to help sustain the plants.

Come mid-summer it was humming with bees, a chorus of frogs, and dragonflies. This year I intend to create more areas of interest as well as keeping the weeds at bay. I'm rather excited by the Parish Council accepting my plans to build a community herb garden here also.

This is for all the community at Langar and Barnstone. Although it will take time to flourish, hopefully by summer enough herbs will be established for you to help yourselves. You should see the beds going in April - as a community project it also needs you!

If you walk past and can spend five minutes weeding the beds or you live nearby and can spare a can of water during summer, we can create something special, in an area I have become very fond of.

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