

BARNBY NEWS

DECEMBER 2017

From the Parish Council:

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and to thank you all for the sterling fund raising efforts this year to benefit the Village.

Sadly despite previous requests in the last newsletter, speeding vehicles continue to be a problem with many of the culprits being from the village. With this in mind the Parish Council is considering the use of a Speed Gun and the assistance of the Police. Having been overtaken twice recently on unsuitable parts of the road this has highlighted the importance of making people aware, especially as the winter weather approaches adding to the dangers. Whilst it is a country lane, that in itself presents potential dangers as farm vehicles, horses, dog walkers and cyclists should all feel safe using these roads, as well as more sensible drivers. Please be aware of others and show consideration by slowing down – “Don’t drive faster than a guardian angel can fly” is a good mantra. Also would parents please make their children aware that it is dangerous to stand in the road whilst waiting for the school bus – I encountered this one morning having been overtaken just down the road, any nearer and I shudder to think what the consequences could have been. So let’s work together to keep Barnby a pleasant and safe place to live.

Barking dogs and dog fouling continue to be a blight on the village with complaints often being made to the Parish Council – so please be considerate to others and clean up after your dog and if it is barking, maybe take it indoors before it causes your neighbour or others a problem.

Let’s all work together to keep Barnby a pleasant and safe place to live for everyone.

Janette Barlow
Parish Council Chairman

All Saints' Church



We hope you will join us for our
Carol Service
Monday 17th December at 7pm,
followed by mince pies and hot
drinks in the Village Hall
and for the
Christmas Family Service
25th December at 10am

Vicar: Revd. Louise Holliday 704811. Church Warden: Yvette Wellard 626780

2017 has been a good year for All Saints. In Reverend Louise's first year as our Priest in Charge, we have seen our regular Sunday congregation double in size, and have felt a great deal of warmth and good will from everyone. Thank you to everyone who so generously supports the church throughout the year, and to the volunteer grass cutters, bell ringers, flower arrangers, cleaners and fund raisers.

Our biggest achievement this year has been thanks to Janine, who single-handedly redecorated the Chancel. The work involved many hours of hard labour, removing flaking paint and stains caused by water damage whilst the roof was off, and much moving around of scaffolding before two coats of paint went on. It has been such a transformation and it will spur us on to do the rest of the building, though the height of the Nave will be even more challenging.

The Fiends of All Saints have continued to support the PCC and enlisted the help of John Kitchen (who many of you know through Heather), to produce a new illustrated booklet about the history of All Saints. It is a very readable book with some excellent colour photographs, mostly taken by Janine, and again, many voluntary hours of work have gone into the project. The book is on sale in aid of the church restoration fund for £5, available from Yvette, John, Les or Janine.

We are also very grateful to Paul and Carol Speakman who with their interest in genealogy, have produced a full indexed list of all the headstones in the churchyard with details of the inscriptions, some of which are very old, and took a lot of deciphering. We shall keep a bound copy in church as a very useful reference book for visitors. Y.W.

A Christmas Message from the Vicarage:

We are fast approaching the end of another year as we find ourselves at the beginning of December and the season of Advent.

The word Advent means Coming. So, what or who is coming? Well if we look around us we won't be able to miss the fact that Christmas is coming. In fact, the retail industry would have us believe that Christmas has been coming since the end of September when selection boxes and advent calendars start to appear in the shops.

All of this points to the fact that we're not very good at waiting. If we're looking forward to a special occasion and finding it hard to wait, we respond by pulling the occasion forward. And so, because we're excited about Christmas, we start our preparations early, bringing the celebration forward, helping to ease our impatience. This may seem like a good idea and certainly being well organised is helpful, but often the consequence can be that we lose sight of the very thing we were waiting for and looking forward to.

One year, when I was about 8 or 9 years old, I couldn't wait for Christmas Day and so I discovered where my parents had hidden our presents and I carefully unwrapped mine to take a peek and then carefully wrapped them up again, thinking my parents wouldn't be able to tell. But, of course, they did know and wisely told me that I would regret not waiting for the surprise. They were right. On Christmas morning when everyone else was excitedly opening their presents, not knowing what was inside, I knew exactly what each of my gifts were and knowing took the shine off unwrapping them. I wish I'd waited.

Advent encourages us to wait - but not in a passive, inactive way, but during Advent we are encouraged to wait with expectation and prepare ourselves to receive afresh the wonder of the Incarnation, the wonder of God coming to us in the form of a helpless baby, born now more than two thousand years ago, but also to look forward to when He will return again and bring the whole of creation together under the just and peaceful rule of God.

So how do we wait? Well, like the season of Lent, Advent is a time of reflection and preparation. Waiting can be about stepping aside the busyness and finding a prayerful time alone, but it can also be about doing things. Join us at a Christmas Service, read the story of Christmas in the Bible (The book of Luke is the best place), or maybe have a conversation with a friend and ask what they make of the real Christmas story. However you spend this season I pray that you will have a truly blessed Advent and Christmas.

Revd. Louise

Very sadly in recent weeks we have lost two of our oldest residents, neighbouring farmers Lilian Bett and Bob Hewitt. They were good friends, bringing up their young families together, and giving their support to the village for 60 years.



Lilian Bett 1931-2017

Many people in Barnby were deeply shocked to hear of Lilian Bett's sudden and unexpected death. She very much liked Barnby and its community and was always ready to support events for the hall and church. She was renowned for her cookery skills and won the Preserves Cup at the Horticultural Show many times. The judge voted her lemon curd the best he had ever tasted and ate half the jar to prove it. She would always provide a pudding for village suppers and willingly donate a raffle prize and help with fundraising.

Lilian grew up in Laneham on a smallholding growing fruit and vegetables for sale in Sheffield, so was used to hard work. She and John moved to Grange Farm in 1954. Daughters Judith and Jill arrived, and the family was complete when twins Robert and Graham were born in 1959. After John's death in 1978 Robert and Graham took over the management of the farm. Lilian's first concern was caring for her home and family and she was especially proud of her four great-grandchildren. She was always willing to make time to visit house-bound neighbours and offer help where it was needed. The people of Barnby are very grateful for the contribution she made during more than sixty years of her life spent in Barnby.

Sadly, just a few days after Lilian's death we heard that ninety year-old Bob Hewitt had died peacefully in his sleep. His family were thankful that, with the help of the NHS Rapid Intervention Team and very dedicated carers they were able to look after Bob at Bleak House Farm, Barnby, their home for nearly sixty years. The early years at the farm were hard work, with livestock to care for, arable fields to cultivate and, during the winter months, hedges and ditches to maintain. In his middle years Bob joined Newark Golf Club and was proud to be made captain in 1982.

During his final years his main interest was working in the churchyard, where he spent many hours strimming, hedging and fencing. One summer he lifted and re-set over fifty leaning gravestones. His most memorable day was when he disturbed a wasps' nest behind the church, suffered multiple stings and went into anaphylactic shock. He was taken by air ambulance to Lincoln hospital, thankfully survived and was soon back at work in the churchyard.



Robert Hewitt 1927 - 2017



Last month, Brett and Kathryn celebrated 10 years at The Willow Tree. During that time we have shared their joy in the arrival of two beautiful daughters, and we hope the family has become firmly rooted in Barnby. We are lucky to still have a traditional pub in such a small village with no passing trade and we are grateful for the work they put into our community.

Friday evening from about 6 o'clock is usually the time when the locals come together to have a drink, and a catch up – so do make a note to join us if it's not your regular slot. Thirty seven villagers enjoyed an excellent Christmas Dinner last week, which has become an annual tradition for the village, helping to build a strong community spirit.

Y.W.

The Willow Tree Christmas Programme:

Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December - we will be open from 5.30pm with a family quiz starting at 6pm. Our usual popular and challenging Sunday evening quiz starts at 8pm followed by Christmas songs around the fire.

Christmas Day Monday 25th December - we will be open 12pm until 2pm, for drinks only, with last orders at 1.45pm and a visit from Father Christmas around 1pm.

From Boxing Day, Tuesday 26th December to Monday 15th January The Willow Tree will be CLOSED and will reopen as normal on Tuesday 16th January 2018.

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The next **Ladies' Lunch at the Willow Tree** is on **Tuesday 23rd January** from 12 noon for fish and chips (vegetarian alternatives on request). Everyone welcome for lunch, chat, games, free raffle, (bring a small 'mystery' prize, value about £1).

Contact Heather Rees on 626662 to book a place.

VILLAGE EVENTS



Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fair. Including sales of calendars, recipe books, Christmas cards and All Saints' history books, the Village Hall and the Church each raised about £270. **Calendars and Barnby Recipe Books** are still available from the Village Hall Committee members and copies of our lovely new **Barnby Church History** from Friends of All Saints.

Bonfire Night was another success for our Events Committee, raising money for improvements to the village. The summer party on the Green next year will be on 2nd June – save the date.



Joy to the World!

Don't forget to join Santa and his sleigh for **carol singing around the village on Sunday 17th December, meeting at 4pm** at the corner of Front Street and Cross Lane (Stump Corner). This year's charity will be the Newark Hospice Dementia Care Appeal.

THERE WILL BE A PARTY ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, IN THE VILLAGE HALL FROM 7:30pm

This is being organised by Sandra and Paull Harrison and Tanya and David Marchant for all the village. There is a small cost of £3 to cover costs, with any profits going to support the Village Hall. Bring some food and drinks and celebrate in the New Year with music, games and village friends – see posters around the village.

The Village Hall Committee is resurrecting the **Inter-lanes Quiz** contest where four teams take part, representing Front Street, Back Lane, Cross and Dark Lanes and The Lanes (Newark Road, Long Lane and Beckingham Road). This used to be an annual event, but has not been held since 1994 when Front Street were the winners. There will be teams of 4 people for each round (you can switch team members between rounds if you have more than four), hopefully plenty of support from the audience and a buffet supper. **Saturday 27th January from 7pm. If you would like to take part in one of the teams, speak or email to ywellard@btinternet.com or vicky@goveland.plus.com**

THE BARNBY DIARY

DECEMBER			
Sunday 17 th	4:00pm	CAROL SINGING	Stump Corner
Monday 18 th	7:00pm	CAROL SERVICE	Church
Monday 18 th	after the service	DRINKS, MINCE PIES	Village Hall
Sunday 24 th	from 5:30	FAMILY QUIZ	Willow Tree
Sunday 24 th	8:00pm	QUIZ & SINGING	Willow Tree
Monday 25 th	10:00am	FAMILY SERVICE	Church
Monday 25 th	12 noon	DRINKS WITH SANTA	Willow Tree
Sunday 31 st	7:30pm	NEW YEAR PARTY	Village Hall
JANUARY			
Tuesday 23 rd	12 noon	LADIES' LUNCH	Willow Tree
Saturday 27 th		INTER-LANES QUIZ AND SUPPER	Village Hall

The Mobile Library will visit Barnby, stopping outside Penny Patch on Back Lane from 10:30am to 11:15am on:
20th December, 22nd January, 16th February, 16th March

The hall is available for private hire at a cost of £6 per hour.
 Bookings through parishclerk@barnbyinthewillows.com

For more news and photographs, visit the Barnby web site:
www.barnbyinthewillows.com

**Don't forget, for all your on line Christmas shopping, use
 Easy Fund Raising to donate to either Barnby All Saints
 or the Village Hall.**