

The background of the cover is a photograph of a landscape. In the foreground, there is a dense field of pink and purple heather. A small, fluffy, light-colored dog is sitting in the heather on the right side. In the middle ground, there is a large, gnarled tree with a wide, spreading canopy. The background shows rolling hills under a blue sky with white clouds.

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

BARLOW

PARISH MAGAZINE

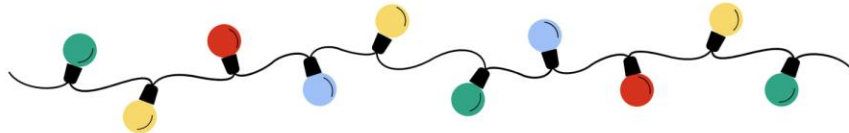
OCTOBER 2025

70p

ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH,
BARLOW



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



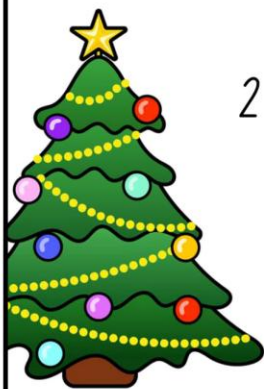
22ND - 29TH NOVEMBER 2025

10 - 4 PM

28TH NOVEMBER 6 - 8 PM

*Christmas trees decorated by local
groups in Barlow*

All proceeds go to St Lawrence Church



OCTOBER 2025

All contributions for the NOVEMBER issue
must be submitted by
Friday, 24th OCTOBER 2025, 5pm
to ensure inclusion.

Please send your articles and interesting photographs
of the local area to: ingoherrmann17@gmail.com

WHO'S WHO AT CHURCH

Vicar

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

Churchwarden

Mrs. Julie West
07799 639566
14 Little Brind Road
Newbold
julie@barlow-church.org.uk

Parochial Council Officers

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Treasurer: Mrs. Janet Siddall, 01246 206964
Organist: To be confirmed.
Magazine Editor: Mr. Ingo Herrmann, ingoherrmann17@gmail.com
Magazine Distribution: Mrs. Joy Layton, 01246 272096

WHO'S WHO IN THE VILLAGE

Parish Council

Chair – Mrs. Irene Hall
Parish Clerk / RFO – Mrs. Emma Smith
Email: info@barlowvillage.co.uk Mobile: 07841 529122
Available during office hours Mon-Fri, unless in case of an emergency.

NEDDC – Cllr. Pam Jones

Barlow Church of England School

Headteacher - Penny Watkin 0114 2890413

Barlow Pre-School

Manager – Jo Staley 07719 991389
Chairperson – Sarah Wells 07984 304874

Barlow Singers

Karen Cook 07759 375312

Young Farmers

Chair – Maddie Needham 07729 696013
Secretary – to be announced

Carnival Committee

Chairperson – Terry Allison 07860 758037 info@barlowcarnival.co.uk

YEAR'S MIND - OCTOBER

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

1ST WALTER LEDGER---1977

2ND JOHN H. WALLACE---1989

3RD SAMUEL HASLAM---1987

*GLADYS COCKING---1979

4TH EDWARD CHEESLEY---1990

GEOFFREY HOLMES---2009

5TH HANNAH STARKEY---1968

SARAH RIGGOTT---1973

EILEEN BOOKER---2009

RICHARD PETER SHAWCROFT---
2019

6TH KENNETH METTAM---2024

8TH IRENE TAGG---2001

PATRICIA DEY---2010

11TH OLIVE CASTLE---1990

ROBERT F. BOYES---1996

JOHN E. CHANDLER---2007

BARRIE EVANS---2015

PAUL JACKSON---2017

PAMELA J SMITH---2021

12TH MARY BRADBURY---1976

GLADYS CHAPMAN---1979

13TH NELLIE NEEDHAM---1988

GLADYS IBBOTSON---1998

KATHERINE M. A. A. CORY---2004

14TH MARY HASLAM---1977

LAURA PINCH---1992

GRAHAM S. PEARSON---1995

15TH LAURA LEECH---1984

JOHN MORGAN---1996

17TH ALBERT 'DUSTY' RHODES---1983

HARRY WRAGG---1986

18TH GEORGE REDMAN---1976

*JOHN E CHANDLER--2007

19TH ADA NEEDHAM---1964

GWEN JOLLEY 2024

20TH STEPHEN MAXWELL JONES---
2012

21ST HAROLD PIDCOCK---1966

ALLAN MARTIN---1969

WILLIAM SHARPE---1992

JESSIE A. PATILLA---1994

22ND ALAN NUTTALL---1996

BERTHA M. COWES---2001

24TH MILLIE HASLAM---1988

PHYLLIS A. WOODHOUSE---2000

CHARLES LAYTON---1994

PAULINE JOHNSON--2021

25TH HAROLD SMITH---1973

LESLIE TOWNSEND---2001

26TH SIMON D. BROCKBANK---1993

ZENA GOODWIN--2011

27TH ELIZABETH SWANN---1986

ELEANOR SHORE---1993

THOMAS BOOKER---2009

IVA MARY BENTON---1994

29TH MARGARET TOWNSEND---1990

ELSIE BLANKSBY---2009

30TH VERONICA WILKINSON---1977

31ST JOYCE E. EATSON---1994

SARAH ELIZABETH NEEDHAM---2007

RAMON EDGE---2010

FROM CHURCH REGISTERS: OCTOBER 2025

Baptisms: None

Funerals: None

Marriages: 30th August --- Charles Village & Francesca James-Birch

BARLOW CHURCH

(ST. LAWRENCE)



Dear Friends,

I saw a news snippet the other day about a terrible potential disease threat to cattle. The TV personality, Jeremy Clarkson, has a farm which has been affected. Although he has only recently become a farmer, Mr Clarkson has now, through his celebrity status, turned into an unofficial representative of farmers in general. This started me thinking about representatives and representation.

All of us are represented in the democratic way by a member of Parliament and, one rung down, by our County and Borough Councils' reps. But all of us belong to other set-ups of some kind, be they unions, firms, dedicated groups or whatever, who have leaders who lead and represent their organisations. However, we can turn this on its head and say that each of us represent some part of society, merely by being part of it.

Let's think, for example, about when we go abroad. Then, we're aware that we speak a different language and, perhaps, if we go to a hotter country, look rather paler than its inhabitants when we first arrive! We can sometimes stand out as being different. Then, we can feel that in some way we represent our country (Or is foreign travel so commonplace nowadays that we don't feel this anymore?). There can be a downside to this: football supporters going abroad and misbehaving and bringing their country into disrepute.

What about a homeless person in his tent on London's Embankment who is interviewed by a TV reporter? Doesn't he/she, by what he/she says, represent all homeless people?

We might stop for a moment to consider the group/s we represent.

So, is there anyone, or has there ever been anyone, who has represented everyone? Not just in our nation, but in the whole world? Well, actually, yes. The man born in Galilee over 2,000 years ago did and still does just

that. Above all, he stands in for the persecuted, the victimised and all who suffer or recognise a need. His mission was to demonstrate to others, by leading the way, what humanity could be and that in the end God's inclusive, caring way really works.

In our own lives (very insignificant in the world's eyes, but significant in God's eyes), we can all be representatives of this.

Blessings,

Rev'd Janet (member of St Lawrence's Church ministry team)

CHURCH NEWS

(ST. LAWRENCE)



Dear Friends,

September has been quite a quiet month for us at Church, but we start to get busy again this month in the run-up to (dare I say it) Christmas!

We start with the Harvest Festival service in Church on the 12th October, where we will once again be collecting donations of food and cash for Chesterfield Foodbank. This is followed by the Harvest Supper that same evening (see below).

November, of course, is a month of remembrance and reflection and we will bring you more details of these dedicated services in the next edition of this magazine.

Macmillan coffee morning

We are very pleased to announce that the grand total of £278.26 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to all those who attended, brought cake and donated such a fantastic amount. Thanks also to Ann, Charlotte, Amy and Richard for organising the event.

Harvest Supper

Our Harvest Supper is now sold out and we are looking forward to welcoming all our guests to the village hall on Sunday 12th October; doors open at 5.30pm with food being served at 6pm.

Christmas Tree Festival

We are excited to begin preparations for our third Christmas Tree Festival. If you would like to display a tree this year, please contact Julie before the end of October for details of what is required to take part. Also please see the poster on page 2 of this magazine.

We would love to welcome back previous participants and if you would like to take part for the first time, please get in touch.

It is such a wonderful event which visitors really enjoy. We love it too, especially welcoming the school and pre-school children to see the trees; to see the wonder on their faces and hear them singing their Christmas songs is just magical.

Regular services

Sunday 5th October: 11am service

Sunday 12th October: 8am Mass &

11am Family Harvest Festival service

Sunday 19th October: 11am service.

Sunday 26th October: 11am service

Church Opening

We will be reverting to the winter opening hours this month, so Church will be open for visitors on Mondays and Fridays from 10am until 2pm.

There are occasionally events happening on some of the open days when access may be restricted but we do our best to avoid this.

We send our thanks to the ladies who have opened and closed Church throughout the summer months. We know that many people really appreciate being able to spend quiet time in the Church.

Upcoming Events

Harvest Festival Family Service: Sunday 12th October 11am

Harvest Supper: Sunday 12th October 2025

Remembrance Service: Sunday 9th November 2025 10.50am

All Souls Service: Sunday 9th November 2025 3pm

Christmas Tree Festival: 22nd - 29th November 2025

“A Bit of a Christmas Do”: Saturday 6th December 2025 by invitation

Carol Concert: Tuesday 16th December 2025

We look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events and special services.

With very best wishes, Julie.



HARVEST SUPPER 2025

The St Lawrence Church Harvest Supper is being held in Barlow Village Hall once again.

Sunday 12th October 2025

5.30 pm for food at 6pm

Barlow Village Hall

**Delicious pies & pudding
Vegetarian & GF option**

Raffle

Entertainment from

"Responsibly Sauce"

Tickets will be :

& pay

**DUE TO HIGH
DEMAND THIS
EVENT IS NOW
SOLD OUT!**

(etc)
Place by contacting us
the number/email below.

Julie 07799 639566

Or email julie@barlow-church.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL



CHAIR – Cllr I Hall 0114 289 9361

VICE-CHAIR – Cllr D Lindsay 07786 702931

CLERK / RFO – Emma Smith 07841 529122 info@barlowvillage.co.uk

COUNCILLORS:

Cllr J Brougham 0114 289 1411

Cllr I Herrmann 07870 489016

Cllr S Marshall 0114 2890596

Cllr J Siddall 01246 206964

Cllr P Taylor 0114 2890949 / 07753 662 619

Planning Matters

PLANNING DECISIONS

NED 25/00341/FLH – Installation of two skylights in existing skylight recesses in barn annexe (Conservation Area) (Affecting the setting of a Listed Building) at The Old Vicarage, Hackney Lane, Barlow –

Conditionally approved 2 July 2025

NED 25/0399/LB – Listed Building consent application for the proposed installation of two skylights in existing skylight recesses in barn annexe (Listed Building(Conservation Area)) at The Old Vicarage, Hackney Lane, Barlow –

Conditionally approved 7 July 2025

NED 25/00426/FLH – Demolition and re-siting of the boundary wall (Affecting a public right of way) (Affecting the setting of a Listed Building) (Conservation Area) at Grange Hall Farm, Barlow Grange Lane, Barlow –

Conditionally approved 25 July 2025

NED 25/00470/FLH – Ground floor front extension and wc window in side elevation at 10 Valley Rise, Barlow –

Conditionally approved 22 July 2025

NED 25/00518/FLH – Reconstruction of Airey PRC type dwelling house with brickwork at 16 Springfield Road, Barlow –

Conditionally approved 12 August 2025 3 10/0925

ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

Appeal to the Secretary of State – NED 24/00644/FL – Spitewinter Farm, Spitewinter Lane, Barlow, change of use of existing barn for residential purpose (private drainage system) (Amended plans) closing date 17 August 2025 **RESOLVED noted.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING

NED 25/00690/FLH – Ground floor front and rear extensions at 36 Springfield Road, Barlow - **RESOLVED no comments.**

Speedwatch

A session was held on 9 August. 8 speeding cars were recorded and reported to the police.

DCC Highways Matters

At the time of the meeting no reply had been received from the DCC officer regarding the unresolved issues.

Quiz Night

The next 2 quiz nights at the Village Hall with Quizmaster Tommy are scheduled for Wednesday 1st and 15th October. Doors open at 7.30pm, quiz to start at 8.00pm. £1 per person, no need to book, just turn up on the night. Bring your own drinks! See poster on page 14.

Abandoned Car

Residents at Crow Hole would like to say thank you to District Councillor Pam Jones and PCSO Jon Flower for getting involved following their concerns about the wellbeing of the owner of a car which appeared to have been abandoned. It was finally removed by NEDDC after 6 weeks.

Annual Parish Meeting

Attendance of residents at this meeting is usually poor, but inclusion of a discussion of the Local Plan should attract more interest. This meeting will be held in Spring 2026.

Local Plan - Update

The following update has been posted on both facebook pages relevant to Barlow. For the benefit of residents without computer access to the internet it is reprinted here in full:

MEETING ABOUT THE NEW LOCAL PLAN

4TH SEPTEMBER 2025

As promised, here is a summary of what was heard at the meeting on Thursday, 4th September.

- Currently, NEDDC are committed to providing **330** new houses a year. However, due to new government objectives, that target has now gone up to **600** new houses a year for the next **20 years**. (12,000 houses).
- In a relatively small window of 2yrs, NEDDC has to provide the government with a revised Local Plan to fulfil this new target.
- At the moment they are halfway through the 2yr period. During this time there has been a call for possible sites and a Public Consultation, called “Issues and Options” (June -August 2025), when the public were given information and had an opportunity to comment.
- The deadline for completion of the new Local Plan is November 2026, at which point it has to be submitted to an inspector.
- In early 2027 the new Local Plan will be examined and, if acceptable, it will be adopted in late 2027 by NEDDC.
- Currently, NEDDC are very concerned as, in 6 months, sites allocated in the **present** Local Plan will have been used up. This is another reason why NEDDC need to push for completion of a new Local Plan.
- **Focus Groups**. These will commence in Nov 2025. If you would like to know more about them, please call the Local Plan Team on 01246 231111 or email Local.plan@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
- **Public Consultation**. During the first 3 months of 2026 there will be another Public Consultation, in which it is hoped that NEDDC will include some of the sites that will have been considered viable for the new Local Plan. It is early days for this yet, but you might be given more information about it if you contact NEDDC on 01246 231111 or email Local.plan@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

When devising a Local Plan, all of the following issues (not just housing) would be up for consideration.

Infrastructure: Roads, public transport, utilities, walking and cycling routes.

Environment: protecting green spaces, biodiversity, flood risk management, air quality, renewable energy.

Heritage and Design: protecting historic buildings and ensuring good design standards.

Leisure and community facilities: parks, sports, community centres and cultural spaces.

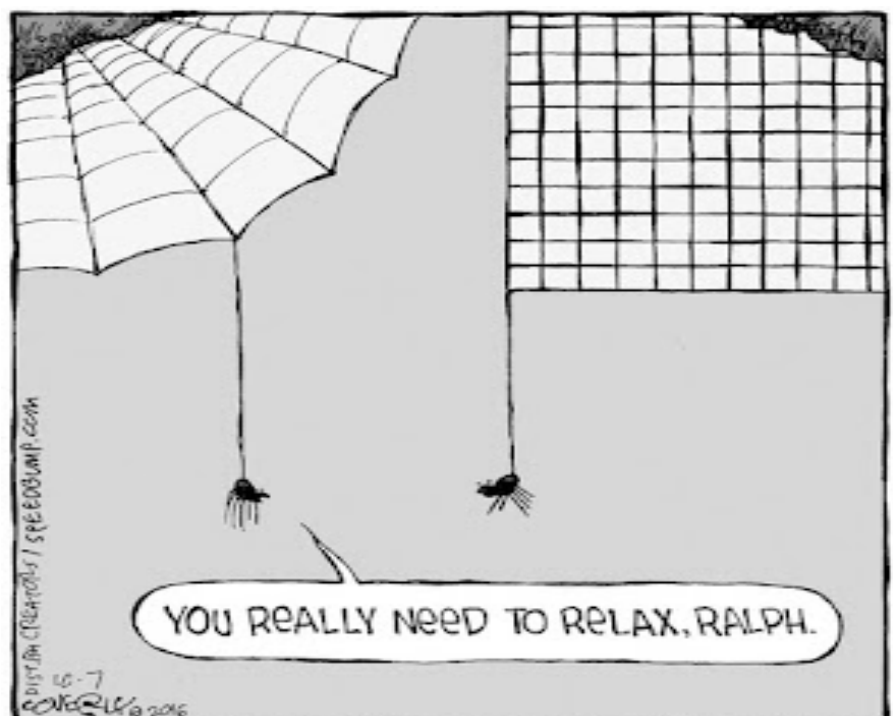
Employment and Economy: Land for business, offices, retail and industrial.

Housing: How much is needed, where it should go and what types. (affordable, family homes etc).

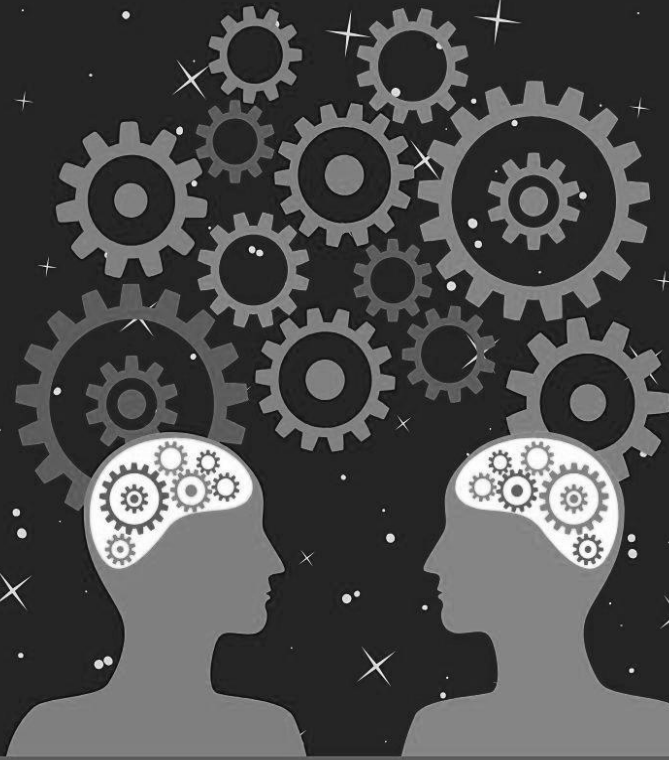
It would seem that there is still a lot more research yet to be done on this huge and complex project. As a result, sadly, we were unable to bring you any Barlow-specific information from this meeting. However, we hope that this summary might at least help to clarify a few things.

Kind regards,

Emma Smith (Clerk) and Irene Hall (Chair).



Barlow Village Hall



QUIZ NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 1st and 15th OCTOBER

£1 per person - no need to book

PRIZES | BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

Do you have what it takes to be the ultimate quiz champion? Then, gather your friends and join us for Quiz Night at Barlow Village Hall. This is your chance to show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition.

DOORS OPEN AT 7.30PM QUIZ STARTS AT 8PM

www.barlowvillage.co.uk

BARLOW PRE-SCHOOL



Dear Friends,

Our new children have settled in beautifully and are really getting into the routine of coming to Pre-School. In the last couple of weeks we have been establishing rules and routines and giving children time to get to know their key worker. Our theme is 'All about Me' which gives the children lots of opportunities to talk about themselves and their families. As the term progresses we will be finding out about Autumn and Harvest. To celebrate Harvest, we are holding a craft and singing session for our parents and children at Pre-school, followed by coffee and cake.

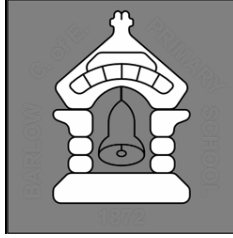
Our AGM is on Thursday 16th October at 8pm, at Barlow Village Hall. This is where new committee members can sign up. All parents are welcome, as well as members of the community. If you are interested in helping us to run events and fundraise please come along. All welcome.

There are some limited places available at Pre-school. Please contact barlowpreschool@gmail.com or look on our website barlowpreschool.org for more information.

Jo



CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Hello,

Thankfulness

As we continue our first half term, we are thankful for our community. In October, at the end of this half term, we will be coming together for the Harvest Festival in Church. We will be supporting those less fortunate than ourselves through our support for the Chesterfield Foodbank with children collecting tins, cereal, etc.

Temporary staffing changes

Mrs Watkin has been asked by the governors of St Andrew's CE Methodist Primary School and the Local Authority to support the school for two days a week due to the long-term absence of their headteacher. This is for the remainder of this term only, to ensure continued stability and leadership for St Andrew's, as they navigate this temporary situation. As you may be aware, Mrs Watkin previously supported St Andrew's and the decision to support once again has been made with the full support of the governors of Barlow School. Whilst some temporary staffing changes are required in the short term, the governors and staff are confident the collaborative arrangement will support both schools and bring an overall benefit to Barlow through shared best practices, improved ways of working and joint policies.

Looking ahead to this year

We have been planning all our events for this year. Our sporting calendar is filling up with various festivals and competitions together with other Chesterfield and Dronfield Schools, including balance bikes for Reception and festivals for each class. Once again, Year 3 and 4 will be heading to Lea Green for a residential trip to try lots of outdoor adventure activities. Meanwhile, Y5 and Y6 will have an overnight city break in York, visiting Jorvik and several of the other attractions.

Joining Barlow School 2026

As we move into the Autumn Term, we will be offering individual tours of the school for prospective new pupils. If you know a child who was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, please encourage their parents to get in touch and come and visit our fabulous village school. Mrs Gregory and Mrs Wells in the office can be contacted on 0114 289 0413.

Penny

FOBS

FRIENDS OF BARLOW SCHOOL

A WARM WELCOME

As we move into October we hope the new families and children have settled in well and are already enjoying everything our wonderful school has to offer.

Here at Friends of Barlow School (FOBS), we're busy planning the year ahead and are excited to share some of the things coming up. We'll be announcing the date of our AGM shortly and we'd love to see some new faces join us. This year we're aiming to do things a little differently – instead of asking for big commitments, we'll be offering a simple calendar of events for people to sign up to, so everyone can help out in a way that suits them.

Looking ahead, we're delighted to be part of the upcoming Harvest Festival Soup Share, a lovely community event. As we move into the festive season, there's the ever-popular Christmas Raffle and, of course, the much-loved Christmas Disco – a real highlight for the children!

Throughout the year, we'll be running a variety of fundraising activities to support our ongoing project: improving the outdoor space at the school. Every penny raised makes a difference, and we're so grateful for the continued support of our families and wider community.

Thanks, the FOBS team

BARLOW CARNIVAL



Hello Friends,

The carnival may be over, and the bunting tucked away, but it never really stops here at Carnival HQ!

We've already started on next year's plans, so grab your diary and circle Saturday 15 August for another unforgettable day!

But first...: Christmas is coming! We can't wait for our Christmas Fair on Saturday 29 November at the Village Hall. Local makers and creators, this is your moment to shine; if you'd like a stall, drop us a line at stalls@barlowcarnival.co.uk.

And of course Christmas in Barlow just wouldn't be the same without our Carols Around the Christmas Tree and the spectacular Young Farmers' Illuminated Tractor Parade. Pop Friday 12 December in your diary, it's going to be magical!

James

YOUNG FARMERS

Hello,

Tuesday 16th September saw the Young Farmers' year begin again with the annual AGM. New club officers were elected, with some continuing from the previous year. During the meeting we reflected on the success of the Young Farmers' year in the 2024/2025 season, including a very successful dinner and dance held at the Fox and Goose in Wigley, public speaking competitions, quiz competitions and also a very successful county rally day held in May.

Our new members evening this year will be held on Tuesday 23rd of September. As usual, anyone wanting to join Young Farmers or just wishing to come along and see what it's all about is more than welcome at Barlow Village Hall from 8pm. As always, all information for the meetings can be found on our social media pages, Facebook, Instagram and TikTok; just search for 'Barlow YFC'.

Rosie



WATCH OUT FOR THE DATE OF OUR SPECTACULAR
ILLUMINATED TRACTOR RUN FOR CHRISTMAS!

BARLOW HISTORY



Carnival Queen 1958
Beryl Marples

These old photos were posted by Julian Haslam on the 'Barlow History Group' facebook site.



Lollypop Lady
Jean Ledger

SPIDERS

For the majority of the year, native spiders take up residence in our homes and gardens, but tend to stay out of sight (and, crucially, out of mind).

It's only in autumn, when the weather takes a turn, that you start spotting quite a few eight-legged visitors scurrying around your home perched in the corner of your shower or hanging quietly from the living room ceiling.

Thankfully, the vast majority of spiders found in our homes are completely harmless to humans, even if they can give us a bit of a fright.

Much like humans, spiders often enter our homes in search of somewhere warm to shelter. And, like all living things, they need water.

Mike Norton, Trade and Projects Director at Magnet Trade, says: "Spiders need water and moisture to survive. From sinks and dishwashers to the warmth given off from appliances, it's the kitchen and bathroom that create the perfect moist environment to draw them in."

As soon as the leaves start to fall and temperatures dip, you'll know a new season is upon us – but we're not just talking about autumn.

"September marks the start of spider season," says Hudson Lambert, pest expert at NOPE!, a UK-based insect spray manufacturer. "As the weather begins to cool, spiders start making their way indoors to mate. You'll usually be able to spot them first thing in the morning and late at night, when they head inside away from the cold weather."

According to Tap Warehouse's cleaning expert, Nancy Emery, "spider season usually lasts until mid-October at the earliest. And while we can't always stop them from entering our homes, there are a few natural remedies to deter spiders from coming near you and staying out of certain areas of the home during this time."

Spiders don't like certain scents. Using oils and sprays around the bottom of door frames and window sills, where they are most likely to enter and crawl past, can be a great tactic.

Both peppermint oil and tea tree oil have a particularly strong odour that the little insects detest. "Add 15-20 drops of either to a spray bottle and fill it up with water," Nancy recommends, and get spraying.

"Other oils that are useful in deterring spiders include those in the citrus family like orange, lemon, lime and citronella," she continues. "You can buy candles and diffusers that have a citronella scent but spraying the oil solution directly on problem areas is the most effective and affordable deterrent." Vinegar, cinnamon sticks and conkers are also thought to keep spiders at bay.

If you must, you can remove the webs you find indoors. "Spider egg sacs can contain up to 300 spiderlings, with some spiders living up to a year, so it's important to get rid of webs when you can," Hudson says.

Keep in mind that by destroying their web, you will essentially cut off their food supply and habitat, meaning that they can't nest or reproduce.

A spider-free household sounds tempting, but before you reach for a glass and a piece of paper, it's worth considering the benefits these little insects bring.

Spiders are an important part of the natural ecosystem and help to control the amount of pests that might make their way into your home – such as moths, mosquitoes fruit and house flies – which can cause holes in our clothing and curtains or even bite us.

So, if you remove all the spiders in your home, you could actually have more issues with pests than the odd spider sighting.

Excerpt from: 22 British Spiders You're Likely To Find At Home





HALLOWEEN 31/10/2025

7 Unspoken Trick-or-Treat Etiquette Rules You Should Always Follow

1. **Don't ring the doorbell** if the porch light is off
2. **If you don't want to give out treats don't keep your porch lights on**
3. **Don't show up too early** (not the day before and only between 6 and 9pm)
4. **Be patient** (don't ring the bell repeatedly if there's no immediate answer)
5. **Be respectful** (don't help yourselves to too much)
6. **Don't go to a neighbourhood you don't have a connection to** (go somewhere where you know some of the people who live there)
7. **Show gratitude and be kind and polite** (say 'thank you!')

Adapted from:
<https://www.bhg.com/trick-or-treat-rules-11799290>



POETRY CORNER

The Spider and the Fly

by Mary Howitt

"Will you walk into my parlor?" said the Spider to the Fly.

"'Tis the prettiest little parlor that ever you did spy;

The way into my parlor is up a winding stair,

And I have many curious things to show when you are there."

"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "to ask me is in vain;

For who goes up your winding stair can ne'er come down again."

"I'm sure you must be weary, dear, with soaring up so high;

Will you rest upon my little bed?" said the Spider to the Fly.

"There are pretty curtains drawn around, the sheets are fine and thin;

And if you like to rest a while, I'll snugly tuck you in!"

"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "for I've often heard it said,

They never, never wake again, who sleep upon your bed!"

Said the cunning Spider to the Fly, "Dear friend, what can I do

To prove the warm affection I've always felt for you?

I have, within my pantry, good store of all that's nice;

I'm sure you're very welcome—will you please to take a slice?"

"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "kind sir, that cannot be,

I've heard what's in your pantry, and I do not wish to see!"

"Sweet creature," said the Spider, "you're witty and you're wise;

How handsome are your gauzy wings, how brilliant are your eyes!

I have a little looking-glass upon my parlor shelf;

If you'll step in one moment, dear, you shall behold yourself."

"I thank you, gentle sir," she said, "for what you're pleased to say,

And bidding you good morning now, I'll call another day."

The Spider turned him round about, and went into his den,

For well he knew the silly Fly would soon be back again;

So he wove a subtle web in a little corner sly,

And set his table ready to dine upon the Fly.

Then he came out to his door again, and merrily did sing,—

"Come hither, hither, pretty Fly, with the pearl and silver wing;

Your robes are green and purple, there's a crest upon your head;
Your eyes are like the diamond bright, but mine are dull as lead."

Alas, alas! how very soon this silly little Fly,
Hearing his wily, flattering words, came slowly flitting by:
With buzzing wings she hung aloft, then near and nearer drew,—
Thinking only of her brilliant eyes, and green and purple hue;
Thinking only of her crested head—poor foolish thing! At last,
Up jumped the cunning Spider, and fiercely held her fast.
He dragged her up his winding stair, into his dismal den
Within his little parlor—but she ne'er came out again!

And now, dear little children, who may this story read,
To idle, silly, flattering words, I pray you ne'er give heed;
Unto an evil counsellor close heart, and ear, and eye,
And take a lesson from this tale of the Spider and the Fly.

Poem

Cobwebs

by Amos Russel Wells

Little fairy kerchiefs
Spread on the grass to dry;
Little fairy hammocks
Swinging in branches high.
Funny fairy cables
Stretched through the airy sea;
Funny fairy bridges
Reaching from tree to tree.
Dainty fairy ladders
Scaling the garden wall,
Dainty net to catch them,—
If fairies ever fall!
Busy fairy workman,
Spider of gorgeous hue,
Should I steal your glue-pot,
What would the fairies do?



PUZZLE PAGES

AUTUMN QUIZ

1. What month does Autumn begin in the Northern Hemisphere?
2. What season does the Southern Hemisphere experience during the northern Autumn?
3. While the season is called Autumn in British English, what is it known as in North America?
4. Fill in the missing word from the Green Day song title: 'Wake me up when ____ ends.'
5. What is the name for the particularly bright full moon that appears in early September each year?
6. What country would you travel to in order to experience Oktoberfest?
7. What festival takes place on the 31st of October?
8. What kind of bird do American families typically eat on Thanksgiving?
9. Which BBC TV programme follows Autumn wildlife in the UK?
10. What is the name for trees that do and those that don't lose their leaves Autumn?



1. September
2. Spring
3. Fall
4. September
5. The Harvest Moon
6. Germany
7. Halloween
8. Turkey
9. Autumnwatch
10. Deciduous and Evergreen

Easy and Beginner Logic Puzzles

1. Logic Puzzle: There are two ducks in front of a duck, two ducks behind a duck and a duck in the middle. How many ducks are there?

Answer: Three. Two ducks are in front of the last duck; the first duck has two ducks behind; one duck is between the other two.

2. Logic Puzzle: Five people were eating apples, A finished before B, but behind C. D finished before E, but behind B. What was the finishing order?

Answer: CABDE. Putting the first three in order, A finished in front of B but behind C, so CAB. Then, we know D finished before B, so CABD. We know E finished after D, so CABDE.

3. Logic Puzzle: Jack is looking at Anne. Anne is looking at George. Jack is married, George is not, and we don't know if Anne is married. Is a married person looking at an unmarried person?

Answer: Yes. If Anne is married, then she is married and looking at George, who is unmarried. If Anne is unmarried, then Jack, who is married, is looking at her. Either way, the statement is correct.

4. Logic Puzzle: A man has 53 socks in his drawer: 21 identical blue, 15 identical black and 17 identical red. The lights are out, and he is completely in the dark. How many socks must he take out to make 100 percent certain he has at least one pair of black socks?

Answer: 40 socks. If he takes out 38 socks (adding the two biggest amounts, 21 and 17), although it is very unlikely, it is possible they could all be blue and red. To make 100 percent certain that he also has a pair of black socks he must take out a further two socks.

BOOKS

BARLOW BOOK EXCHANGE

Our newly-painted telephone box which serves as our book exchange continues to be used, which is of course what it is for. In recent weeks we have been desperately short of children's (and/or young adult's) literature. If anybody thinks they may have some at home we would like to ask you to have a look and bring anything still in good condition to fill the relevant shelf in the phone box. Could we also please ask users not to leave any books on the concrete floor of the book exchange, as damp weather makes books left there unusable.

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BOOK REVIEW

As someone who adored *One Day*, I was intrigued to see how David Nicholls would handle a quieter, more mature love story in *You Are Here*.

Nicholls excels at writing ordinary people with extraordinary emotional nuance. Marnie and Michael, both dealing with the ache of solitude and the weight of the past, felt incredibly real. Their slow, tentative connection built over miles of countryside was poignant and satisfying. The witty inner monologues, understated humour, and beautiful descriptions of the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales made it feel almost like a gentle rom-com with hiking boots. The dialogue sparkled with authenticity, and I appreciated how Nicholls allowed the story to breathe. There's a maturity here, no melodrama, just two damaged people slowly letting each other in.

The pacing may frustrate some readers. It meanders, purposefully, yes. but still meanders. If you're looking for big romantic gestures or dramatic conflict, you won't find them here. Marnie's inner world, while richly drawn, sometimes edged into over-analysis, and I occasionally wished for a bit more narrative momentum.

If you're in the mood for a grown-up romance, gentle, charming, introspective, *You Are Here* delivers. It's perfect for fans of slow-burn love stories, long walks, and characters who find their way back to themselves before they find each other.

Adapted from: Minnie's Fiction Addiction

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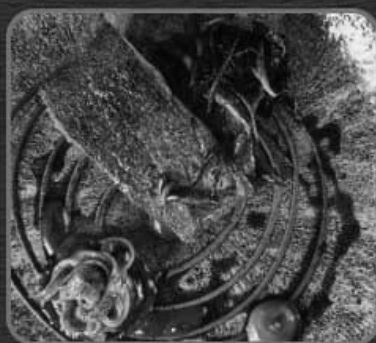
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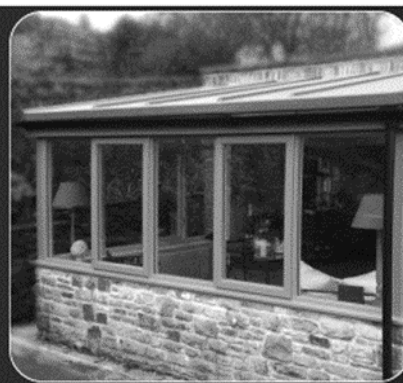
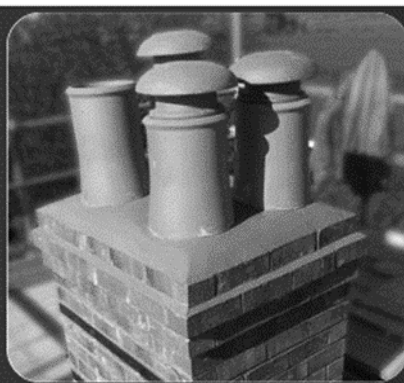
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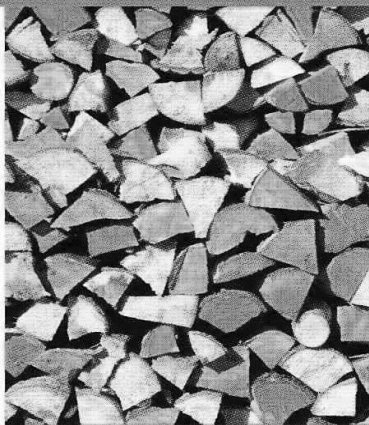
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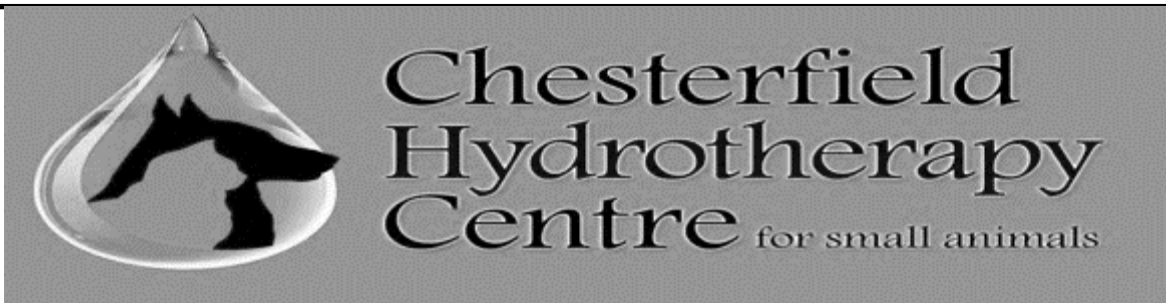
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