

# BARTONIAN

ISSUE NUMBER TWENTY FIVE  
LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

NOVEMBER 2001  
FROM BARTON TOWN COUNCIL

## Christmas Festival



### **Barton Town Council is busy making final preparations for its seventh Christmas Festival, which gets underway next week.**

The Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Dorothy Pearson, accompanied by Civic Dignitaries from both the north and south banks of the Humber, will start the two day event by officially switching on the lights of the Town's Christmas tree, located outside the Local Link Office next to the Police Station on Friday, 23 November at 6.15pm.

The switch on will be preceded by a traditional carol service organised by the Barton branch of the Salvation Army, commencing at 6.00pm. This year there will be no fair rides fronting the Christmas tree area, giving ample room for the many hundreds of people who attend this popular event.

For the two days of the 2001 Christmas Festival, there will be the traditional Christmas funfair, a full programme of street entertainers including many new acts, charity and commercial stalls, to entertain the thousands of visitors expected in Barton.

Charity stalls/spaces will once again be provided free for both days of the Festival, some 20 different charities being expected. All charity stalls/spaces will be located in the Market Place and High Street

area (between the Red Lion and Finkle Lane).

Barton's Chamber of Trade and Industry is as in previous years, supporting the Festival with many shops opening late on the Friday evening to welcome both old and new customers.

A shop window competition is also being organised by the Chamber.

Town Centre streets will again be closed off to traffic on both Friday and Saturday from 12 midday to 10.00pm, but the Town Council has organised a free park and ride scheme operating from the Humber Bridge Viewing Area, which will have a security presence. On Friday evening and Saturday street entertainment will include live music, jugglers, magicians, steam organ, Punch and Judy, etc. The Cairngorm Reindeers are grounded this Christmas due to the foot and mouth crisis, there will still be a parade of Father Christmas through the Town, a competition is to be held for the best organisation/group entrant with a 1st prize of £200, 2nd prize £100, 3rd prize £50, all organisations/groups entrants receiving £10 for taking part. The Parade is expected to leave Proudfoot's car park at approximately 3 pm and will make its way up Fleetgate, High Street, King Street and George Street to the Market Place, where the organisations/groups taking part in the parade will be judged.

This year entertainment on Saturday will conclude at 8.00pm, but by then the organisers hope that the town's Christmas Festival will once again make a happy start to the festive season for both residents and visitors alike.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Questionnaire**

Difficulties are continually being experienced regarding the opening and cleaning of Public Conveniences and the collection and disposal of litter in the town.

The Town Council is mindful to make arrangements with North Lincolnshire Council for opening and cleaning of public toilets, either generally or on special event days, and to become more involved in litter collection and disposal.

The Council already makes a contribution towards the provision of these facilities to North Lincolnshire Council, and employs a support street cleaner. The proposed extra arrangements would be funded through a small increase in the precept. The Town Council would like to measure the opinion of Barton people through the following questionnaire.

The questionnaire, should be completed by the head of the household or owner/proprietor of the business concerned, and returned to the Council Office before 10<sup>th</sup> December 2001.

I am sure you will appreciate it is most important, for everyone, both those in favour, and against the proposal, to reply, thus enabling a considered decision to be made.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

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**Questionnaire**

1. Are you in favour of the Town Council adopting the arrangements for opening and cleaning the Public Toilets in the Town?

Yes  No

2. Are you in favour of the Town Council becoming more involved in the collection and disposal of litter in the Town?

Yes  No

3. Do you agree to a small increase in the annual precept in order to fund the proposals?

Yes  No

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....

Please complete and return to :

Barton Upon Humber Town Council  
Council Offices  
Assembly Rooms  
Queen Street  
BARTON UPON HUMBER  
North Lincolnshire  
DN18 5QP

## Barton Arts Week

Art at St Peters, Photography, open gardens, Garden Parties, Gospel at St Marys, history on the train and in the street, comedy and music at the Old Mill, Shakespeare in the park, dance at Baysgarth School, music at the Assembly Rooms, Jane Austen at St Marys and in Baysgarth Park, Art and Craft at the Ropewalk, puppets for the young and music in the schools. This was all packed into 9 days of the summer in Barton upon Humber.



If you attended or were involved with any of the events thank you for being among the



“Tell me madam, did you see the North Country Theatre production of Jane Austen’s Northanger Abbey in Baysgarth Park”

6,000 adults and

children who experienced the Barton Arts Week. If you didn’t attend, why not? Let us know what you would like to see happening around your town during arts week next summer. Send us your thoughts to the Ropewalk, Maltkiln Road or telephone (01652 ) 637487.

Did you simply not know what was going on? Make sure you don’t miss the events next year by subscribing to Barton Arts. Forv the princely sum of £3 per household we will keep you informed of all the events in 2002.



“ Why yes sir, I found it to be tremendously funny”

Send Cheques payable to “Barton Arts Week” to the

Ropewalk, Maltkiln Road, Barton upon Humber,  
North Lincolnshire DN18 5JT.

## **Do Things Go Bump In The Night In Barton upon Humber?**

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October a fact finding group from Barton Tourism Partnership set out on the Epworth Ghost Walk. An extremely enjoyable and interesting evening started the participants thinking that it could work closer to home. Now fired with enthusiasm for a ‘Barton Ghost Walk’ the group are looking for ghost stories to use.

If you have a story to tell please share it with us by sending details in writing to Jane Paine, Barton Tourism Partnership, 51, Fleetgate, Barton upon Humber.



On The

## BARTON BEAT

After writing to you for a number of years in the Bartonian and keeping you updated with activities in our town, it is with some sadness that I have to write this column for the last time.

After 30 years in the police, most of them being at Barton, I will be hanging up my boots and helmet in the New Year and retiring from the force.

I shall miss the contact and the chats on the town streets that has been part of my life since 1973 in Barton. In fact, taking you back to the 70's, I have found a photograph taken mid 1970's of the Road Safety Group, which was known as the Tufty Club. Many of its members are now parents themselves. If any reader recognises themselves, I would be interested to hear from you (I recognise some of the faces as still in the area today) especially the man in the centre!! And finally – my last story....

At a recent court hearing the defendant was instructed to carry out a penalty of community service. He was given a bucket and told to go to the River Ancholme and empty it into the Humber. After several days of pouring and no obvious change in the level, he returned to the court and said, "please give me a penalty that I can manage better". "Ok," said the court officer "go to Barton Police Station and persuade Tony Douce to stop talking too much". The defendant paused for thought and quickly replied, "give me the bucket back, I'll have another try".

And with that – GOODBYE and thank you for your support, over the past 30 years.

(Photograph by courtesy of David Lee Photography)

### Tony Douce

Local Policing Team  
Barton

*I am sure you will all join the Town Council in thanking PC Douce for his reports for the Bartonian over the years, and wishing him a long and happy retirement in the New Year.*



## OFF ROAD MOTORCYCLES

We are receiving masses of complaints regarding teenagers riding stripped down motorcycles around Barton and the surrounding villages predominantly on roads and footpaths leading to the riverbank quarries near to South Ferriby.

Riding motorcycles on any land without the express written permission of the landowner is an offence and is something which will now be dealt with at the magistrates court or by way of a fixed penalty ticket. Those that have written permission from landowners must consider how they transport their machines to the land they ride on. Use of public footpaths, the riverbank, and Westfield Road underpass is not only illegal but is also a public nuisance which directly affects the quality of life of nearby residents, dog walkers, rambles etc. Imagine sitting in your garden on a summers afternoon and all you can hear is a noisy motorcycle being ridden up and down a field for hours on end.

The stripped down motorcycles are invariably unroadworthy and are ridden by people who do not hold a driving licence or insurance. What would be the consequences of one of them colliding with your vehicle or worse your child? The Crime and Disorder Bill makes it the responsibility of all of us, not just the police, to make our community a safer place and as such I ask that anyone with information as to who owns such machines and as to where they are kept to contact me at Barton police station.

Our concern is also for the safety of the riders of such machines, there have been a number of youngsters killed riding stripped down motorcycles on public roads and a much greater number seriously injured. The police have a number of specialist high powered off road motorcycles ridden by specially trained officers to combat this anti social behaviour. These machines are not intending for chasing the offenders but allow officers access to areas where these offences take place and when used in conjunction with local officers and the police helicopter ensure that there is no means of escaping justice.

If the comments in this article refer to you or people you know in whatever way please be reassured that over the coming weeks and months that this anti social dangerous problem will be dealt with and hopefully the Quality of Life of local residents will be restored.

PC John Mallet  
PC Ian Speight  
Community/Roads Policing

## BARTON 2001 CARNIVAL

**Thank You For Making It A Success**

Thanks to Sponsors

Kimberly Clark  
Europe  
Geest Industries  
Barton Town Council  
R & J Leisure

**Can  
You**

Did You Know it costs £15,000 to put  
on the carnival  
North Lincolnshire Council charge  
£450 ( 220 visitors gate money ) to  
use Baysgarth Park

If You Have any  
suggestions for next  
years event or can  
offer any help contact

Joan Wharton at " His & Hers " Market  
Place, Barton

Or send to Maurice Stewart, 72, Brigg Road,  
Barton upon Humber, North Lincolnshire

**We need volunteers  
to help next year. It  
will be Held on  
20th / 21st July 2002**

## **Barton Flower Club & Scunthorpe & District Embroiders Guild – A Festival of Flowers & Needlework**

On a warm May evening the bells of St Peter's rang out heralding what was a first for Barton, a Festival of Flowers & Needlework, a successful collaboration between Barton Flower Club and the Scunthorpe & District branch of the Embroiders' Guild. The St. Mary's Ringers got us off to a fine start. The church looked beautiful and welcoming, its impressive features enhanced by the inspirational floral displays, and its stone walls providing a perfect backdrop for the colourful needlework. With the arrival of the Mayor of North Lincolnshire, Councillor Mrs Margaret Simpson, and the Deputy Mayor of Barton, Councillor Neil Turner, the exhibition got underway, accompanied by food, wine and music.

Of course, none of this happened overnight, in fact it represented eighteen months of hard work during which time the flower club raised £1,000.00 to purchase flowers and guild members spent every available moment stitching. In addition, once the contract with English Heritage was in place, the joint planning committee concentrated on more practical matters and publicising the event. In this we were grateful for the assistance of the curatorial team, Don and Tom, who did an excellent PR job – it was an immense effort by all concerned.

We had two objectives firstly, to share with others the pleasure and satisfaction gained from our creative efforts and to encourage them to 'have a go' and secondly, to make some money for Lindsey Lodge Hospice. Visitors hailed from near and far, including Canada, Germany, the USA and, as both groups are national institutions, all over the country. Their comments show what they thought of the exhibition: 'inspirational', 'a wonderful treat', 'stunning' – all the superlatives were employed by those who signed the visitors' book.

Fittingly on Sunday, our final day, Barton's annual inter-denominational service took place in the church and what began with a peal of bells was concluded joyfully with the uplifting sound of the Salvation Army band. The most significant moment of all however, came some time later when Nadine Dickinson and I presented the hospice with a cheque – we had raised the sum of £2,220.00.

M.M. Judges

[www.bartonuponhumber.btinternet.co.uk](http://www.bartonuponhumber.btinternet.co.uk)

### **A WEB Site for Barton-upon-Humber**

The site is run by me as a hobby and so is constructed in my spare time. It started about 5 years ago and has steadily built up over the years and now has over 140 pages. I have links to other sites run by both businesses and individuals in the town. If your site is not mentioned on one of the pages drop me an email and I will add a link.

A full copy of the Bartonian has now been on my site for the last two editions and seems to be getting quite a lot of interest from around the country and in fact the world. I have a counter on the site, which gives me information, about which country the viewer is from and also which pages they view on the site.

My counter reports that people from the following countries have visited the site..... *United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United States, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, France, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Austria.*

The most popular pages visited are the Bartonian, a Virtual Walk (with photographs) around the Georgian area of the town, the business page that lists all the businesses in the town; the What's On page and the Notice Board page. The Notice Board contains information and also requests information from people around the world. I get emails from ex Bartonians who are looking for friends from school and work. If you do have chance to look on the internet and get onto the site, please look at the notice board page and reply to any of the requests if you can help.

One problem of running a WEB site the size of this is trying to keep the information up to date. I have a list of Bus and Train timetables, which occasionally change, without my knowledge, also I have a list of voluntary organisations with a contact name and they may change. If you do look on any of the pages and find mistakes I would very much appreciate an email with the correction so that I can change the information. My original idea for the site when it started 5 years ago was that it would provide information about the town of Barton for local people, those who had moved away and also for those who may be looking to move to the town. If you have any information, stories or old pictures, which you think, would be of interest to others, I would be pleased to hear from you with the view to adding them to the site.

John Pullen

# Down the Garden

Congratulations to the winners, and indeed all the entrants for the Best Kept Garden and Hanging Basket Competitions. Having looked around the town, it's a pity that more people didn't enter, it would be nice to see some new faces. The open gardens during Arts Week were well supported, we had upwards of a hundred visitors, and it was encouraging to see some younger ones.

Our tomatoes have cropped well, the 'Ildi' were small and sweet and very prolific, the 'Bloody Butcher' had an excellent flavour, but the skins tended to be thicker than some modern varieties. The 'Green Sausage' was rather slow to ripen but the sharp flavour was superb, all worth another try. According to Suttons 'The Cultivation of

Vegetables and Flowers', "We are now in the 'dull days before Christmas the affairs of the garden may be reviewed in detail, and this is the best period for such a review". It's true that it is better to make plans for next year whilst the successes and failures within the garden are fresh in your mind, but there are still things that can be done in the garden now. It's an ideal time for planting trees and shrubs, the soil is still warm and they should get a good start.

*Lathyrus odoratus* (Sweet peas) can be sown now to ensure an early crop of blooms. The seed coats are quite hard, to assist germination either make a small nick with a sharp knife (don't get blood everywhere) or soak overnight in water. Put about 5 seeds in a 9cm pot of seed compost, water and place in a cold frame, greenhouse or on the kitchen windowsill. Nip out the growing tip when they have produced 3 pairs of leaves to encourage side shoots to form. They need a deep root run, so prick out into root-trainers if you have some, or use cardboard tubes (loo roll ones are the right size) stand several in a large pot for support. Grow on, in a frost-free place until March, and then harden off for a fortnight before planting out. If you use cardboard tubes they can be planted direct into the ground and the tube will rot away. Sweet peas like a deep rich soil, and slugs and snails like them, so try some form of deterrent. Give them some support, and remember the more flowers you pick the more will be produced.

Broad Beans can be sown outside if you have a well drained, sheltered spot. Carrots can be sown in frames, and sowings made every 4 weeks or so until February, if you have space. If you don't have a frame, a border in the greenhouse, or even one of those plastic storage boxes with drainage holes in the base and filled with a sandy compost.

'Autumn in felted slipper shuffle on. Muted yet fiery, - Autumn's character. Brown as a monk yet flaring as a whore, And in the distance blue as Raphael's robe Tender around the Virgin.'

*The Garden, Autumn* by Vita Sackville - West.

Autumn colour is with us, in order to survive the cold drying winds of winter deciduous trees and shrubs shed their leaves to help prevent water loss. Before shedding the chlorophyll in the leaves is broken down and this allows the bright pigments which have been hitherto masked to be revealed and make a blaze of Autumn colour. Recent research appears to indicate that the bright colours are a form of warning to predators with trees most vulnerable to pests producing the most flamboyant colours.

Gardens to visit for winter colour. Thorp Perrow Arboretum, Nr. Bedale, North Yorkshire and Westonbirt Aboretum in Gloucestershire.

Enjoy your garden.

**Jim Dowdy**

## **TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS:-**

Full Council Meeting at Baysgarth House -  
19 November, 5 & 17 December 2001, 2 & 21  
January, 6 & 18 February, 6 & 18 March, 3 & 15  
April 2002

Committee Meetings at The Assembly Rooms -  
Finance & General Purposes 9 January, 13  
March 2002.

Community Regeneration 12 December 2001,  
13 February 2002

Environmental Regeneration 28 November 2001,  
30 January, 27 March 2002

## **BARTON CHILD CENTRE OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
CAN YOU HELP ?**

We need Volunteers to help Playworkers with the  
collection of School Children from the 3 Junior  
Schools.

Maybe You walk past the Barton Child Centre  
Out Of School Club, Which is situated at 50 Holydyke  
And would like to help...If so!!  
Then please call Anne or Lynda on 01652 634723

## What about the Haven by Victor Thompson aged sixty and a half.

Having spent most of my adult years in the RAF I have been gratified at the efforts of the people of Barton, especially newcomers, in their drive to keep the town alive and improve its appearance and facilities. They must face a never ending uphill struggle with the towns vandals who seem intent on destroying anything that looks nice. I have seen the town as a series of snapshots. A weekend here, a weekend there and have probably noticed changes more than if I had been here continually, as such changes would then have been almost imperceptible. However, one part of Barton, the Haven, does need some form of attention.

I was born at 91 Ings Lane on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 1941, and apart from a few months living as a baby in Barrow I spent my childhood at Barton. From 1942 the family of Freda and Albert Thompson lived at 7 Maltkiln Lane (this was long before the name was highjacked by the residents of Chemical Lane). I grew up on the eastern side of the Haven surrounded by the Maltings, Ropeworks, Farmers' Company Chemical works and Brickyards. On the Waterside side of the Haven was a wharf for unloading barges from Hull, and Clapson's shipyard which made and repaired small vessels. This was a wonderful yet rather dangerous playground for children of families that lived and worked there. Remember names such as Atkinson, Bott, Gadie, Graves, Lees, Milson, Mitchell, Thompson, Warrener, Welsh, Salter.

All the families lived in what would, by modern standards, be considered to be two up two down slums, with outside thunderbox toilets and the dust of Industry all around. Inside, the modest gas lit houses were absolutely spotless. The houses may have been slums, but not the people. The old fire grates were frequently black-leaded and the cobbles on the causeway were swilled down daily. My parents moved into a new council house just before the floods that devastated much of the east coast. Out of curiosity we went to see how our old derelict home had fared only to find a muddy tidemark three feet up the wall. We had a very fortunate escape.

As children we got everywhere inside the brickyards, the maltings and on the Haven. We explored everything and damaged nothing. Much of our insight into adulthood was supplied by the pictures pinned to the brickyard workers crew room. The haven was the natural playground for the Maltkiln Lane boys (we tried to avoid taking our sisters as they slowed things down and told tales), with fishing, sculling up and down in requisitioned coggy boats unhooked from the barges and climbing into the maltings warehouses and on piles of bones inside the Chemical works. I even had the doubtful honour of falling into the Haven which in those days carried the sewage for the whole of Barton. My mothers' joy at my survival was greatly tempered by the stench of my clothing.

In those days it was possible, at high tide, for my sister Pauline and myself to get across the Haven to the Methodist Sunday School (run by Miss Arnold and High Street grocers Mr and Mrs Nicholson) on the other side, by walking across the barges that packed the Haven, rather than going the long way round via the wooden Ropery bridge. But that was in the days when the Haven was useful, it provided work and pleasure and was cared for by the authorities, who made sure that it was regularly dredged.

Now, although the sewage has long since been diverted to a proper treatment works, the Haven is scruffy dirty and uncared for. The Haven south of the shipyard is slowly being silted up, with just a deep slot left for the water.

The industries have gone, most of my parents generation have moved on and the Haven no longer serves a useful purpose, indeed, with its high earth flood defence banks, grass covered silt banks and deep water channel, it is potentially dangerous, especially to children. Throughout the country disused canals and waterways are being refurbished and brought into service for pleasure, but I don't think this would be of use at Barton. South Ferriby already provides a superb service for weekend sailors.

Perhaps the best thing that can be done with Barton Haven would be to lay a large storm drain down from the railway station water plant to the start of the shipyard. There build a flood defence across the Haven to the end of the old ropewalks, to join the existing flood defence on the old malting side of the Haven. The Haven basin would still be available for commercial activity and the unusable part could be filled in and landscaped. The advantages are that this would provide a play and recreation area for people in the area while reducing the need for a unsightly earthen flood wall and bridge maintenance at Proudfoots. The town would gain a lasting asset and rid its self of an eyesore.

**So, having floated my ideas, what other lasting alternatives are there? Some thing must be done eventually, but then there must also be the will and the money. I can but dream.**

### **HOPPERS – REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

I am planning a book about F. Hooper & Co. and associated companies such as Elswick and Elswick Hopper, Falcon and Nigel Dean. Production of bicycles brought large-scale employment to Barton and the products were distributed around the world. Hopper buildings are still in manufacturing use at St. Mary's and the old 1905 office on the corner of Brigg Road is still a significant architectural monument to the company.

Leslie Richmond put a request in the last copy of the Bartonian and I am collaborating with him. I don't think anything in the form of a history has ever been published about the Hopper companies and I would like to fill this gap in Barton's heritage. To this end I would like to talk to people who worked at Hopper's, in any capacity, to learn all I can about the company and what it was like to work there. The loan of catalogues, brochures, photographs and documents would also be very much appreciated. Loaned material will be copied and returned.

If you can help, please call me on 01652 633363 or email [ndland@btinternet.co](mailto:ndland@btinternet.co).

Thank you,  
Nigel Land



## Mrs. Betty Moffat

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former Barton Town Mayor, Betty Moffatt, who has died following a short illness. Chairman of the Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee, Coun Wendy Witter said Mrs Moffatt had served the town extremely well. In calling for a minute's silence of the Finance Committee, Coun Witter added thanks for all she had done for the town.-

Barton born Mrs Moffatt, who would have been 82 in mid-October, was a central figure in the life of the town for many years. She served on both the Urban District Council and the Town Council as well as being a prominent figure on many of the town's groups and organisations.

Educated at the former Church School on Queen Street, Betty Wilkinson as she was then, began work at Fred Canty's drapers shop in Fleetgate. She also worked in Willis' in Hull being evacuated from there during the Second World War to family living in Retford. At one time she led the Girls' Club in the town which met at the then Toc H building on Chapel Lane. Her daughter Margaret Sidell recalled that her mother had spent most of her working life in drapery and haberdashery shops before buying Mr Canty's shop. It was from that shop in the 1960s that she led the protest to make Fleetgate one-way which culminated in her and her customers blocking off the street for a time before the police intervened.

Returning to the Council Chamber in later life Mrs Moffatt continued to make her mark. She was one of the town councillors responsible for setting up the town's twinning with Feyzin in France and having never travelled abroad before set off with a small group of councillors to meet their French town twinning counterparts.

Her year as Town Mayor, from May 1987 was marred by the death of her fiancé, Coun John Welton, who she had succeeded as Mayor. Away from council work, Mrs Moffatt was instrumental in the setting up of the town's Good Neighbours group which raised money to fund such things as arranging travelling for family and friends of patients in hospital.



Friend from childhood, Coun Ted Appleyard, said Mrs Moffatt had over the years helped a lot of people. "We got on so well together in the Council Chamber," he said. "She worked hard for the Good Neighbours and used to raise a lot of money to help a lot of people," he went on.

While the Humber Bridge was being built the Good Neighbours had a refreshment kiosk at the viewing area which also sold bridge souvenirs. She also formed, as a spin off of Good Neighbours, the Link Club which meets weekly at the New Queens Club and this summer celebrated its 25th anniversary. Link Club members have over the past few years supported a charity supporting the people of Rumania. During the Gulf War Mrs Moffatt was a member of the group which provided parcels for the troops and after their return presented them with a momento from the people of the town.

She is survived by her daughter Margaret, who serves on both Barton Town Council and North Lincolnshire Council, and three grandchildren.



# Who was Thos Ellerby of Barton, in 1809?

## Was He Churchwarden or Parish Constable? Overseer or Parochial Officer?

I have before me a publication, at least 190 years old.

The book is entitled "The New and Complete Parish Officer;" or 'A Perfect Guide to Churchwardens, Overseers, Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, Sidesmen, Borsholders, Beadles, and Other Parochial Officers Of Every Denomination'. It states that it is 'A Complete Library of Parish Law down to Easter, 1808'. The Author, was, Henry Clavering, Barrister-at-Law, it is the 8th Edition and cost 4 shillings, there is a good Index. The Preface says "Every Parishioner of Respectability usually becomes a House-holder, and every House-holder must naturally expect to be called forth successively to undertake the Offices of Constable, &c. as well as to be afterwards elevated to the superior parochial Dignities". The various Sections are arranged alphabetically, going from Affray and Assault, via Apprentices, Arrest, Bastards, Churchwardens, to Constables at p.52. To Nuisance, Overseers, Riot, and Rout, Unlawful Assembly and Vagrants and finally a Supplement on the 'Offices of Parson, Vicar, Curate and Parish Clerk'.

A Judicial Decision of the Kings Bench is appended, this last emphasising the need for All Parish Officers to know their duties and the Law, and, by implication, to possess this most excellent publication!

On the very first page, the original wrapper, is the name, 'W.Ellerby'. On the next, 'Thos. Ellerby' and 'Barton, 1809'. If this handbook belonged to Thos. Ellerby, 1809, I have made the assumption, (because I want to) that the Ellerbys acquired it because one or both had been selected as a Parish Constable by the local Justices, no doubt with the approval of the Minister and other Church officials.

The Ellerbys, Parishioners and Churchgoers no doubt, could have been Churchwardens, perhaps held some other office within the community. Thomas Ellerby must have been a St. Peters parishioner because his marriage in 1807 is recorded in the Parish registers. This publication was a major purchase, acquired by someone determined to know the Law insofar as it affected the Office to which he had been appointed. I choose to think he was a Parish Constable!

Churchwardens, chosen by the Minister and Parishioners, were specifically Guardians and Keepers of the Church entrusted with the care and management of the goods and personal property of the Church. They ensured the Parish Registers were kept by the Minister, could arrest unlicensed hawkers and pedlars, receive fines levied on persons for gaming, drunkenness and had duties respecting the Poor Laws.

### But they were not Parish Constables.

This textbook is clear in the explanation of a Churchwardens duties, powers and responsibilities in carrying out their parochial Duty. Henry VIII ordered that collections should be made in Parishes for the Poor of that Parish, Elizabeth I went further and ordered that Justices should appoint Overseers with wide powers to deal with, among other things, setting the Poor to work, compelling Masters to accept Apprentices, e.g. to Chimney Sweeps, to serve in HM Ships or at sea generally, also over, inter alia, Rating, Family matters, Property, sending any pauper from another Parish back to his/her own parish. This last power being most rigorously enforced. A substantial householder appointed Overseer by the Justices could not refuse the Office.

A very important section of the textbook is devoted to the powers, including Arrest both with and without Warrant, and the duties of Constables, both High and Petty, within the Community at Large. I quote "the general duty of constables is to preserve the King's Peace in their several districts, for which purpose they are armed as well by the Common Law as by the Legislature, with the very large and serious powers of arresting and imprisoning their fellow subjects, forcibly entering their dwellings and other extensive Authorities, which is highly their duty to exercise with becoming moderation and humanity."

It also provides a clear exposition of the current law regarding Apprentices, Billeting of the Militia, Bastardy (in respect of the directions of the Justices) and, of course, mainly and most importantly, the Duty of a Constable to maintain the Peace. His powers, under the supervision of the Justices, are set out in a very clear manner. It might be apposite to reflect upon the rate of change in Society generally over the 17th, 18th and 19th Centuries and the tremendous impact that the advent of printed information had on Society.

*article supplied by Mr C Watkinson (more of this will be printed in April 2002 Edition)*

Don't Forget To Visit

[Http://www.bartonuponhumber.btinternet.co.uk](http://www.bartonuponhumber.btinternet.co.uk)

For all your local  
information

## Friends of the Barton Line

Those who take the town's popular Parish Magazine will be familiar with our monthly reports, which we hope have been both informative and entertaining over the past two years. Our events have also been promoted and reported upon in the Barton Beat section of the Scunthorpe Evening Telegraph and occasionally in Ray Cash's window and the library's notice board, for which we are very grateful. So now a little update about ourselves in the Bartonian might be in order.

We continue to promote our local railway through special events on the trains and we are delighted to report that this has given rise to an increase in regular patronage of fifteen percent (train operator Arriva's estimate) since we were formed three years ago. Also, thanks to our regular constructive meetings with Arriva, the trains have become more reliable and the off peak day return fare from Barton to Cleethorpes has been reduced from £6.20 to just £5.00. We are also seeing better rolling stock more frequently on the line.

So conditions have improved significantly and we are indebted to our supporters (both financially and practically) for their invaluable help. We are, of course, aware that there is room for a great deal more enhancements and this we aim to achieve with the help of additional members (£5 per year) and donations. We are continually pressing for an extensive list of benefits and longer term ideals.

Several of us are taking part in the Station Adoption Scheme which was launched by Arriva in September. The aim is to have the service and every station on the line checked twice a week and anything amiss reported back to Arriva for rapid rectification. Free travel passes will be offered to those who follow the scheme regularly and conscientiously. Our Secretary will be pleased to hear from further volunteers who should preferably be frequent travellers on the line.

As for our future events, the following are planned for the end of this year :

- ◆ Sat 24 Nov : Santa Special departing Barton at 9.58 and back.  
Free gifts for children and mince pies for the adults.
- ◆ Sat 15 Dec : Christmas Dinner for 7.00/7.30pm at the Habrough Station Inn departing Barton at 18.03, back by 21.48. Please book with the FBL Secretary on 01724 721397.
- ◆ Sat 22 Dec : Santa Special departing Barton at 9.58 and back.  
Free gifts for the children and mince pies for the adults.

Do support us and have fun. Further information from 47 Eastfield Road, Barton, DN18 6AW and on our web site at <http://beehive/thissscunthorpe.co.uk/bartonrail>.

## Barton upon Humber Civic Society

Having given ourselves a well earned August break the September Executive Committee meeting (held on the second Friday of each month, 7.30pm at 51, Fleetgate) was inevitably heavy with business. Copies of the bright new membership leaflet were viewed and approved ; Adrian Dodsworth it was who spearheaded this project and I thank him for the time and energy spent.

We now have three sub committees Environment, Heritage and 51, Fleetgate, the last keeping the property in public ownership. The Environment Sub Committee, chaired by that tireless Bartonophile George Thomas, updated us on progress with Queen Street School, presented a survey of recent planning applications and confirmed that the ex-County Council Grammar School building is to be demolished by a housing developer. I Have corresponded over the winter to try to get at least the central core of this historic building (in my opinion) preserved, but to no avail. The Heritage Sub Committee, chaired very professionally by Ian Wolseley, presented a review of our Victorian Day, which so many people enjoyed. The Victorian Day "I Spy" Trail competition winners were : Luca Dunning of Ulceby; Leanne Johnson of Grimsby; and Josie King of Barton, each received a silver Victorian Crown specially minted by the Royal Mint.

Although the workload will be great, the Committee felt it would be appropriate to stage a similar event next year with some linking to Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee. There is a pressing need for further cataloguing of our archives and contemporary history material.

As always our Treasurer Margaret Holmes gave a meticulous presentation of the current stage of Society finances. I am pleased to say that 'good housekeeping' directs all our decisions.

The Committee confirmed the award of a Good Mark to a property in Soutergate, where a thorough and patient restoration has recently been completed, while other possibilities were freely debated and will be decided next month.

Already Maureen Welch is planning next year's programme for our public meetings. Meanwhile this year's annual outing on the 23/09/01 was to Cawood and Selby with a guided study of Selby Abbey church led by two members of Selby Civic Society. We look forward to 19/10/01, Assembly Rooms, 7.30pm, as always there will be a raffle and refreshments.

Rose Jackson has again agreed to organise our biennial school's competition, more details to follow in 2002.

To conclude this snapshot of B.C.S. I again must thank all the Committee members who give so freely of their time, energy and enthusiasm, for the Society is run by volunteers alone and relies entirely on membership subscriptions – does it not deserve your support ?

Richard Clarke  
Chairman

## **MACMILLIAN CANCER RELIEF**

Annual Event at Proudfoot Superstore on Saturday 15th December 2001 from 9.00- 5.00pm, with Christmas music provided by Cyril Doughty on his organ. Cyril hopes everyone will support him as in the past.

Any one who has a copy of this book might want to cut out this further information and keep in in their book.

**Harold Braithwaite**

**More on the Barton ‘Terriers’**



These photographs, kindly loaned by Harold Braithwaite, now resident in Northumberland, provide further details of the 383 Company of the Lincolnshire regiment based at the Drill Hall in Butts Road.

The first photograph, at the top of the page, shows them in camp in 1938. From left to right - ? the driver, Jack Dean, ?, John Bilton – Corporal in Charge, ? Sparrow, Bob Blyth, George Stamp, Len Brown. Including Harold, who took the photograph, this was the full crew which manned the Barton based searchlight. Two men (Harold Braithwaite and Jack Dean) were ‘spotters’, who with their binoculars, searched the sky for enemy airplanes ; Bob Blyth controlled the searchlight, switching it on and off ; Stamp aimed the searchlight ; two men (Brown and ?) aided Stamp with a listening device. Sparrow was ‘spare man’ who deputised for anyone unable to perform his duty.

The second photograph, at the bottom of the page, was taken after the Company had moved in April 1940 from their first posting at Waltham northwards to Northumberland. They were first stationed at Morwick Farm outside Amble, but later moved to nearby Hauxley. The photograph shows the Barton ‘light’ manned, from left to right by Bob Blyth, Jack Dean, Len Brown, George Stamp, Corporal John Bilton. They are all wearing their Lincolnshire Regiment caps and badges.

photograph by Harold Brown was taken in Northumberland not Waltham.

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**Public Rights of Way in Barton Parish**

The official launch of four leaflets which it is hoped will increase awareness and use of Barton’s footpaths and bridleways, was made at the recent presentation evening organised by Barton Town Council. It was the culmination of a five-year programme organised by the Parish Paths Partnership.

Initially we confirmed the location of these rights of way and detailed their condition. We then tendered for a way clearance contractor to cut the grass three or four times each year between April and October, the chosen contract has been renewed annually for the past two years although this year access has been limited by Foot and Mouth Restrictions.

Having surveyed the way mark provision (that is the ‘finger board’ signs, which show where a right of way is, where it leads to and distance) we have ordered a considerable number of new signs and had them erect by a local contractor. The final project, and the most time consuming, was to plan, write, format and print the four promotional leaflets. Local businesses were again used for the last two of these stages. Throughout we have had the advice and support of Colin Wilkinson, Footpaths Officer for North Lincolnshire Council. P.P.P.s apply annually to the Local Authority for a devolved budget, the idea being that local people are best suited to oversee local provision. The Barton P.P.P. has been a Town Council sub committee and is now an offshoot of the Environmental Regeneration Committee but anyone can join and a P.P.P. can be entirely independent of local politics; most are. I am not a councillor.

I hope the four leaflets will be effective in promoting an appreciation of our parish’s rights of way and, along with the three town trails published by the Civic Society, will provide a package whereby visitors and parishioners alike will be able to better appreciate the local environment.

Copies can be obtained from :

Town Clerk’s Office, Local Link Office, Baysgarth Museum,  
The Ropewalk, Lincolnshire Trust Visitors Centre, Regeneration Office, Davis Electrics, Brigg Tourist Information Centre, The Boathouse.

Richard Clarke

Letters, Articles, Comments, Praise, Blame,  
Adverts, all these - and anything YOU want to see or hear about in the next  
issue of the Bartonian should be sent by the 1st March 2002 to:

The Council Office, Assembly Rooms, Queen Street, Barton-upon-Humber.  
DN18 5QP. Tel/Fax: 01652 633598

**IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE IN IT?**

## A Short History of FREEMASONRY IN BARTON on HUMBER

Except for the Church, Freemasonry is almost certainly the oldest institution in Barton, which may be deemed to have started in 1786 when Matthew Barnett, a young man of 24, arrived in the town to become the master of the school in St. Mary's Church. He was already an enthusiastic freemason and immediately set about to establish a freemason's lodge which he accomplished when the first St. Matthew Lodge was formally consecrated on St. Matthew's Day the 21<sup>st</sup> September 1787. The ceremony was conducted by an experienced freemason from the Minerva Lodge of Hull and Matthew Barnett was, of course, installed as Master, with the then Curate, the Reverend Thomas Robinson as Senior Warden. After the proceedings, which included an oration by Matthew Barnett, there was a procession to St. Peter's Church for a service during which the Senior Warden, in his capacity as Curate, preached the sermon. The lodge held its meetings in The George Hotel and was at that time the only Masonic lodge in Lincolnshire.

In the following year Matthew Barnett succeeded Thomas Robinson as Curate-in-Charge of Barton on Humber with its two churches and all that that entailed, including, it is believed, continuing as master of the church school. Nevertheless, he continued with his Masonic pursuits including helping to form further lodges in the county and subsequently playing a prominent part in establishing the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, which thereby became the authoritative Lodge for all Masonic activity in the County. Following the inauguration of the Provincial Grand Lodge its next meeting was held in the George Hotel in Barton in August 1793 under the presidency of Matthew Barnett and on the second day of the meeting the large gathering went in procession to St. Peter's Church for a service at which he preached the sermon in his capacity of Curate-in-Charge. These events established a pattern for the future, showing the close relationship which then existed between the Church and Freemasonry and which has continued in varying degrees to recent times.

Although Matthew Barnett left Barton in 1812 to become Curate-in-Charge of Market Rasen, the lodge that he had founded continued to flourish for some years before going in decline in the 1830's and eventually being formally closed in 1851.

The second and present St. Matthew Lodge in Barton was founded in 1873 and was consecrated in the Volunteers Hall (now part of the Constitutional Club) on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1873 where it continued to hold its meetings until in early 1875 the members took the bold decision to build the present Masonic Hall on Brigg Road.



**St. Matthews Lodge, Brigg Road, Barton**

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the new Masonic Hall on 19 May 1875 attracted a large gathering, consisting of both freemasons and the general public as confirmed in the following report in the Hull and Lincolnshire Times of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1875:

*'The novelty of the spectacle of so many members of the Craft in full Masonic attire attracted a considerable amount of attention and curiosity of the outside public, and the procession was accompanied to the site of the building by a large crowd of persons'*

Again a large number of local lodges were represented when the new building was dedicated on 27<sup>th</sup> October 1875 since when over a thousand normal meetings have been held without a break except for the months of September and October 1939 when, due to the outbreak of war, such assemblies of people were prohibited for a while. Contrary to much popular misunderstanding Freemasonry is not a secret society but its meetings are held in private with the proceedings based on a traditional ritual associated with the meetings in the lodges of operative stonemasons many centuries ago.

Continued on next page

## Queen Street School

As Chair of the Queen Street School Preservation Trust I am delighted to be able to report our success in obtaining the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund for the refurbishment of Queen Street School.

The Preservation Trust is a member of a partnership made up of Barton Civic Society, the Barton Regeneration Partnership, Barton Town Council and North Lincolnshire Council. After a lot of hard work we have been told that the Heritage Lottery Fund will support the work required to develop the detailed plans and drawings for the site, so that we can be ready to apply for the £350,000 they have reserved for the project. The rest of the funding for the development work will come from the Preservation Trust's own funds and Barton SRB funding.

We hope to be ready to make a full application next March, which will take six months to process. So it is unlikely that you will see any work start on the site until the beginning of 2003. In the meantime North Lincolnshire Council are doing their best to keep the building weather proof and have recently had missing slates replaced on the roof.

The other work we need to do over the next six months is to raise a further £1.1 million to enable the full project to proceed. Some funds have already been promised but other bids have to be prepared.

When it is fully refurbished the school will house a display celebrating the work of Samuel Wilderspin, a famous Victorian educationalist and the Headmaster of the infants school, the Victorian School room experience from Normanby Hall, a reconstruction of a Wilderspin playground and a new building to house the library. Providence House will be devoted to Adult Education.



David Jackson

Chair, Queen Street School Preservation Trust

Continued from last page

( A Short History of FREEMASONRY  
IN BARTON on HUMBER )

Shortly after foundation the present lodge set up a special fund for charitable purposes and henceforth began and continued that principal tenet of Freemasonry, which it has always actively pursued but never vaunted.

The Lodge celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1923 at a ceremony in the presence of the Earl of Yarborough the Provincial Grand Master to whose charity fund the Lodge made a substantial donation.

The next milestone in its history was the centenary meeting held in Beretun School on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 1973 in which the Provincial Grand Master complimented the Lodge on its record and appealed to the younger generation to pursue the well established Masonic principles of University Charity, Brotherhood, Beneficence and everything which benefits humanity.

In the subsequent quarter-century to the present time the Lodge has continued its efforts to maintain the high moral and social tenets of the Craft and is still supported by a level of membership commensurate with the best in its history.



Last Years Christmas Festival

Editor

Town Clerk Ivan Glover

Web Production

John Pullen