

Barlaston Parish Council

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The Heron



barlaston.org.uk

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Issue 5

April 2014



This Spring 2014 Edition of the 'Heron' reminds us what a vibrant village Barlaston is with its many activities and facilities

including three hostleries. The scene is set also for the questionnaire that will be distributed to each household later in April. It is important that a good response is made to this initiative so that the Parish

Council can form a sound consensus view of what villagers' aspirations are. I hope that you find the content of this edition interesting and informative.

Gareth Jones - Chairman

Q & A - What is a Neighbourhood Plan and why do we need one?

Q - Is the Parish Council still committed to producing a Neighbourhood Plan?

A - Yes the Parish Council firmly believes that an approved Neighbourhood Plan provides the best opportunity for villagers to have a say on future development in the Village.

Q - What progress has been made to date?

A - The Parish Council has successfully submitted to the Borough Council the area that the Plan will cover. This is in line with existing Parish Boundaries. The Parish Council has also indicated its intention to produce a Plan to the Borough and is looking for Central Government financial support to assist with the process.

Q - What will happen in 2014?

A - It is expected that the Stafford Borough Plan will be approved around mid - year. It has already been inspected, received strong general approval and is currently subject to minor amendment. Once this Borough Plan is approved it will provide the framework against which the Barlaston plan can be developed.

Q - Will the information garnered in the Village Survey in 2011 be used to develop the Neighbourhood Plan?

A - The 2011 Village survey focussed mainly on environmental, planning and transport issues and the issues raised will need to be refined. The scope of the Neighbourhood Plan is wider and will involve all aspects of village life. In mid-April it is proposed to issue a further more detailed questionnaire which will cover all aspects of village life. The returns from this questionnaire will form the basis of a document which will be consulted upon and be the subject of a local referendum. The more returns that are received the stronger will be the Plan. All parishioners are urged to participate in the process.

Q - How long will the formulation of an approved Neighbourhood Plan take?

A - It is estimated that it will take between eighteen months and two years.

Q - Does Barlaston's position in the Green Belt not give all the protection that is needed from development?

A - The Green Belt does give strong protection against potential development in the village but an approved Neighbourhood Plan has legal status and will ensure that the local voice is heard when planning proposals affecting the village are considered.

Q - How is a Neighbourhood Plan approved.

A - The Plan will be approved if it receives 51% of the 'Yes' vote in a referendum.

Gareth Jones

Look out for your survey, coming soon! Don't miss your opportunity to have a say in the future of your village!

Best Kept Village 2014 - Patrick Linehan



Two of the many planters around the village

'The time has come' the chairman said to talk of the BKV. The Parish Council have decided to have another go at entering the Best Kept village competition this year as we feel we were on a learning curve last year and we have the judges comments as to why we did not succeed. Judging takes place in May and June and the two sets of marks are aggregated. If high enough then we go forward to a final judging in July.

Last year we did not make the final judging but we hope to do better this year.

We think that most residents like the flower planters at the entrances to the village and our resident Joe Poultney does an excellent job keeping them looking really good even in the winter or should we say especially in the winter which is more difficult to achieve and so appreciated.

Many residents enjoy walking around the village with or without dogs and we are all very fortunate to live in such an attractive area. However attractiveness is not the only key word associated with the BKV. So much more is taken into consideration as we have learnt to our cost! When you do go out may we request that you take a carrier bag and pick up any litter you see on your walk and place it any of the bins around the village or even your own bin. We will as last year, organise litter picks during April May and June and notices will be placed on the village notice board asking for volunteers.

This year the Heron WI have offered to help but we can always do with more helpers so please look at the notice boards to see when we are doing our litter picks.

It is thirty years since Barlaston won the BKV competition and much has changed in the village since then but we hope that the community spirit is still as vibrant as it was then and that all the residents will take pride in their village by doing whatever they can to assist – simply by keeping their own front gardens and frontage clean and tidy and monitoring the litter in the vicinity. This also includes pubs and village halls and other public places - Nowhere is excluded!

All offers of help, ideas and constructive criticism welcome.

Please contact **Patrick Linehan** BKV Co-ordinator on 01782 372878

Every little helps... Stafford County Council's online reporting system is a simple way to report a problem with Highways (roads, footways, pavements, drainage, verges), lighting & signage (street lights & signs) and traffic management. If you see something wrong, don't assume it's been reported already. Use the following link to access the service:
<http://tinyurl.com/nlk9ko7>

Canal adoption



The Parish Council have signed an agreement with the Canals and Rivers Trust to adopt the section of the Trent & Mersey Canal on its route through the Parish.

This agreement will allow the council and volunteers to help to maintain and improve the towpath facilities as well as the nearby environment with litter removal and ensuring a pleasant and clean environment for all users.

Volunteers to assist in this project are welcome and an initial working party will take place on Saturday April 26th at 10 am to noon.

If you are interested in finding out more or joining in come along but ensure you have suitable footwear and gloves to assist with the work.

Meet on the Plume of Feathers car park just before 10:00 and help to improve our canal.

Neil Hemmings

Trees...

A number of trees have been planted on the southern part of the village green including a small oak in memory of the late Elsie Challinor aged 100 who lived in Diamond Ridge. The tree was planted by Leonora Flower her granddaughter who now lives in Adelaide Australia and was in Barlaston last summer.

Residents will have noticed ongoing work on the Green and in April wild flower seeds will be planted on the cleared area at the eastern end of the Green.



Leonora Flower at the tree planting

Village Show

This year's Village Show will be held on Saturday 6 September at 2.30 pm.

We were very lucky last year – the sun shone for us and there were some really high standard entries which we hope will be repeated this year and a steady stream of visitors. We had a total of 139 exhibitors.

To give you time to plan your entries for this year the show programme is included with the Heron. This year is the centenary of the start of World War One and some of the exhibit classes are themed to mark this centenary. So have a go - get those seeds planted, dust off your knitting needles, get your camera out and sort through your recipes, there are a lot of very

talented people in Barlaston, this is your chance to show off your skills. Entries are 50p for each item you exhibit, all children's entries are free.

To keep up to date with the show arrangements visit our new website www.barlastonvillageshow.org.uk. You can download the 'Show Cake' recipe from the site and all the latest news will be published there.

New for this year is the Fun Dog Show. Categories are included in the programme. The dog who the judges decide is best in show will receive a voucher for a luxury wooden dog bed, handmade for your dog by Finka Wood Products Ltd, a Staffordshire Moorlands based company.

This year the Village Show committee are thinking about

holding a combined Village Show and Fete but the support of the village is needed for this to work either by taking part in the organisation of the afternoon or bringing your family along to support it. If you are willing to help organise the fete then please e-mail us at info@barlastonvillageshow.co.uk

Our local County Councillor, Ian Parry, has agreed to support us from the Staffordshire Local Community Fund by paying for the hire of a marquee for the Village Green.

Stands will be available to hire for local charities/groups at a cost of £10 and for non-village charities/groups the cost will be £25. Stand hire for businesses will be £25.



If you are interested in hiring a stand please e-mail info@barlastonvillageshow.co.uk. You can also download a booking form on line. The hire fee is payable at the time of booking. *Lynne Coates*

Barlaston Good Neighbour Scheme

Good neighbours helping each other!

Come and join us to celebrate the launch of the scheme with complimentary tea and cake on Saturday the 10th May between 11am and 1pm at Barlaston Village Hall.

Find out how the scheme can help you and how you can help your neighbours.

For more information contact Michelle Reynolds on 01785 242525 michelle.reynolds@staffs.org.uk



Barlaston First School

“We do some lessons outside in our solar dome; learning is fun, especially outdoors!” Year 4 pupil

Research shows that children learn best when they have hands on experience in their learning. The environment in which the learning takes place is vital as well. Therefore, at Barlaston First School we are developing outdoor learning through making use of our new facilities, and our existing ones too.

In the summer and early autumn of 2013, we enhanced our outdoor environment by the building of a spiritual garden and the construction of an outdoor classroom, our solar dome.

The solar dome has really enhanced the learning in our school, the children love being outdoors and using the dome as a base from which to work. Not only is it used for whole class activities e.g., circle

time, but it is used by intervention groups, and small groups completing outdoor tasks.

The PTA, along with a local company, funded the purchase of outdoor clothing, which enables us to use the dome and outdoors whatever the weather. The dome at our school is unique to the cluster and pyramid, and attracts visitors from other schools to come and see its value and see the children at work. A huge asset to our school.

The parents, PTA, governors, grandparents and friends worked together one Saturday morning last July to construct our spiritual garden, another asset to our

outdoors. This is used at playtimes as a quiet place to sit, and during lesson times as well. The children show great respect for our outdoor learning environments and always take care when using them, and encourage others to do so too.

Mandy Clarey - Headteacher



VILLAGE HALL WHAT'S ON.....



Barlaston Village Hall boasts excellent and flexible facilities, which include a large entertainment area, fully equipped kitchen, private meeting room as well as car parking.

Weekly programme:

Zumba: Gail Nicholls 07980 690 356

Monday 6 pm
Thursday 9:30 am
Friday 9:30 am
Sunday 10.30 am

Defy Gravity Dance

Laura: 07950 482606
Tuesday from 4:30 pm
Includes: Nursery ballet and tap, adult tap and kids street dance.

Stokie's Tango Dance

www.stokies.org
Tuesday 8.15 pm
Argentine Tango classes

Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness Class

kerry.corcoran@rosemaryconley.com
Tuesday 10am

U3A Art Group

Friday: 2pm

Boxerbeat

Monday 7.15 pm
Thursday 6 pm

Yoga

Wednesday 11am

Fitness X-KOR

Monday 9.30 am

Fitness Boot Camp

9.30 am Monday &
Wednesday, Sunday 11.45am

Barlaston Village Hall - Kate Burton

Spring is here, so it's time to throw off the shackles of winter and get out and about. And where better to go than your local village hall.

People come from miles around to take part in the activities held here - and why not, it's a great venue!

And we're getting better all the time:

We have recently invested in a top of the range air conditioning system, which has gone down very well with the members of our regular dance and fitness classes. It also means that our doors and windows can now be kept shut, to maintain the peace

and quiet for our neighbours.

We've started to upgrade our kitchen facilities - we've bought new kettles and a fridge and our new worktops and extractor fans on their way.

Our new stage curtains will be with us in May and in the meantime we've given the hall a lick of paint. We also have new tables and hall lights.

Even our website has had an overhaul, making it easier to book the hall's facilities.

We are lucky to have many activities taking place each week - fitness and dance classes, sewing and patchwork

groups, drawing, play reading and music appreciation as well as meetings of our local WI.

On top of this, we also have one off events such as ceramic workshops and of course our **v e r y o w n** Barlaston Proscenium players.

So whether it's coming along to attend some of the activities or even holding your own party or event, our village hall really is the place to be! Take a look at our website for more information for what's on and when and how to get in touch.

barlastonvillagehall.co.uk

Twitter: @BarlastonHall

The next production from the Barlaston Proscenium Players will be:

**One O'Clock from the House, A comedy by Frank Vickery
14 - 17 May, 2014**

For further details and to pre-book tickets see the website
barlastonplayers.webspace.virginmedia.com, or find them on Facebook.

Children's activities

Lynn Jones-Pullin, the Child and Family Support Worker at the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, has lots of exciting opportunities for children and young people to become involved in the life of the church, meet new friends and have fun.



On Good Friday from 10:00 until noon there will be an activity morning. All age groups are very welcome and need to bring along a responsible adult. Activities will include an egg hunt, crafts, music, making an Easter garden, there will be hot cross buns and a short informal service for all the family.

Lynn hosts a range of regular activities at the Parish Church that your child would be welcome to attend:

Tots' Church

A friendly relaxed atmosphere, with activities, singing & refreshments; make new friends and have fun on Tuesdays from 13:30 until 15:00.

Kids' Church

On the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, Kids' Church takes place during the 10:30 service. There are activities, singing and refreshments.

Junior Choir

New members are welcome to sing and have fun. The junior choir sing on the 2nd Sunday of each month during the 10:30 service. For more details contact Ashley Mellor, ashley@themusicinyou.co.uk

Fun Church

Ages 6 - 16 welcome for activities, music, Wii and other games. Refreshments provided. The Fun Church



group next meet on the 9th May from 18:00 - 19:30.

Youth Church

Ages 10 - 18 welcome for many activities, sleep-overs, meeting new friends and fellowship. The Youth Church group meet on alternate Monday evenings. For more details:

lynnjones60@hotmail.co.uk
01782 373126

stjohnsbarlaston.co.uk



Heat Map - Is your house leaking?

Leaking heat, of course, not water! Every resident can now check whether they have enough insulation in their roof space to cut down their energy costs.

Stafford Borough Council have invested your money in a Thermal Heat Survey that shows the amount of heat coming from the roof of every

property in the Borough.

On several clear nights, during March last year, a plane with heat sensitive cameras photographed each town and village and matched the heat escaping to each address.

Every house in Barlaston is now shown in a colour. If your house is blue you are well insulated but if your

house is orange or red you may be able to put more insulation in your loft and make your home more comfortable next winter.

If you have a computer visit the Stafford Borough website and search for Thermal Heat Map. Click through to the map and type in your Postcode. Select your house name or

number and see how your property was behaving during the very cold winter of 2013.

If you do not have a computer, ask your family or a friend or ring me, John Russell, on 372992 and I can check your house on the map.

John Russell

Barlaston Health Centre

Villagers will have been concerned to read in the Evening Sentinel in January that in a survey of GP practices in North Staffordshire, the Barlaston Health Centre near the bottom of the last.

An urgent meeting with the practice was convened in Cumberland House, Stone to discuss the matter and it was revealed that the survey in question was taken from a local 2012 review of the NHS Choices website, (a website that is available to all), and in the case of Barlaston involved the views of just two patients. During the discussion the practice raised the problems caused by significant numbers of patients booking appointments and then not showing up. The effect of this is to extend 'waits' for appointments for everyone.

Please if you have made an appointment at the Health Centre and do not plan to use it, phone reception to let them know so that the slot can be reallocated.



Gareth Jones

Barlaston Herons WI

meet monthly at the Barlaston Methodist Church Hall 7:30pm-9:30pm.

All Visitors welcome, please see our web-site for more details:

<http://barlastonheronswi.webs.com>

April 16th: Smile please, say cheese
May 21st: Beauty, be pampered
June 18th: Fab Fascinators
July 16th: Flower Arranging
August 20th: Our own craft evening
September 17th: Jewellery Making
October 15th: Cake decorating with a pink twist
November 19th: Christmas Decorations
December 17th: Christmas Party

Barlaston WI

There has been a WI in Barlaston since 1929 so you may wonder why we now have 2 groups:-

WI Afternoons: Wednesday 13:00 - 15:00
WI Barlaston Herons: Wednesday 19:30 - 21.30

The Afternoon WI members have made long term friendships over the years but recognised that not all ladies can attend meetings during the day. Some prospective members in the village requested evening meetings. The President working with Staffordshire WI Federation supported 2 initiatives:

- a new committee for the afternoon group and
- formation of a new Barlaston evening group.

This has secured active WI

groups in Barlaston for the future.

In fact the village now benefits from more ladies in the WI as both groups worked together to provide teas/coffees at the Village Produce Day on the 7th September 2013. More hands less work and each had time to enjoy this village event

The Afternoon WI has advertised outside Barlaston and attracted new ladies from the Trentham area who prefer to attend in the day. So both groups continue to do well and welcome any lady in the surrounding areas who would like to try out a WI meeting day or evening.

The Afternoon WI offers a range of activities such as the popular Lunch Club with monthly visits to local country pubs. With monthly speakers, a free magazine and access to loads of Staffordshire events

Why not give us a try?

The Parish Council has awarded the 'Queens Golden Jubilee Award' to our President, Irene Moran, for services to Barlaston WI.

This will be eagerly celebrated by members at Barlaston Village Hall, on:

Wednesday 20th August 2014, 2 pm.

21st May: Gardening
18th June: Papercraft with Sue Robinson

For more details contact: President Irene Moran on 01782 372741 or attend a meeting to meet the team.



From left to right - Treasurer: Janet Methvern, President: Irene Moran and Secretary: Sue Pye

News from WWRD:

We asked WWRD to give us all an update on their development:

Many of you in the village and surrounding areas will be aware of the continuing development of the site as we progress its' early critical path stage.

One of the earliest and most important pieces of work as we ready the site for construction has been our commitment to the ecology and environment. We are delighted to have now completed the planned ecological work – the key elements of which we would like to share with you.

Our Great Crested Newt population

We have taken great care to provide a perfect habitat for our population of Great crested newts. Great crested newts use both aquatic and terrestrial habitat at different times of the year. The adults breed in ponds during the spring



and then emerge onto land, spending the summer resting, foraging and dispersing before hibernating through the winter. You will have noticed that we erected in the region of 1km of approved trapping fence in the autumn to ensure that the great crested newts were safe and protected. During the winter we have created an improved and extended aquatic habitat to the east side of the lake to ensure that the great crested newts have a perfect breeding environment in the coming weeks.

Our native British Birds

We have erected nesting boxes for our common British birds throughout the woodlands and copse surrounding the Wedgwood estate. Some of you may be aware that **National Nest Box Week** was 14 to 21 February – although of course that is not the only time you can erect bird boxes!



Natural nest sites for birds such as holes in trees or old buildings are generally disappearing fast as gardens are 'tidied' and old houses are repaired – and as we start to tidy up our site you will have seen that we have lost some of our bird nesting habitat. However, please be assured that a substantial planting programme, involving approximately 350 trees has already commenced – and this is far in excess of the number of trees we have removed. And for the avoidance of doubt...none of the specimens removed was protected species.

We will also be creating a substantial ecological buffer zone around the David Wilson Homes sites with the planting of 18

varieties of grasses, native hedgerow varieties and native trees, all to develop new and exciting habitats for the conservation and further encouragement of our native wildlife.

Our Pipistrelle bat population

As we are all aware, in Britain all bat species and their roosts are legally protected, by both domestic and international legislation. Bats need different roosting conditions at different times of the year and they will often move around to



find a roost that meets their needs. Some bats prefer hollow trees, some like caves and some use both at different times. Many bats shelter in buildings, behind hanging tiles and boarding or in roof spaces. Navigation routes are also very important as are lakes banked by trees which provide feeding opportunities.

For several weeks in the summer, female bats gather in a maternity roost to have their babies. In winter, bats use hibernation roosts. UK bats do not construct roosts, but use structures that are already available so to support our Pipistrelle bat population we have erected bat boxes throughout the woodlands and copse to encourage their roosting.

In addition, approximately 19,000 native bulbs and shrubs will be planted as part of the Wedgwood Estate development.

DAVID WILSON HOMES (DWH) ACTIVITY



The DWH team have certainly made big inroads into their own enabling works. DWH are creating a nerve centre on the site which will be their headquarters for the foreseeable future. The nerve centre is being constructed adjacent to the East Road and will have site offices and welfare facilities in addition to site visitor parking and storage compound space.

Phil Richens

Planning Update

Over the past few months the most significant planning activity in the village has been the granting of outline planning permission for the development of residential properties on the site of Barlaston Old Road Nursery. However to the north of the village WWRD have begun the process of preparing their site for major development and to the south there is consultation going on regarding the construction of a gas powered electricity generating plant at Meaford. The impact of both these developments will be felt within the village and reinforce the need for effective neighbourhood planning.

Gareth Jones

Barlaston Plume of Feathers Bowling Club

Parish records show there was a bowling green here as long ago as 1737. Barlaston Plume of Feathers Bowling Club, the oldest current club by several decades was established in 1926. Villagers constructed the green on land belonging to the club's first President, the village butcher. Originally the Plume of Feathers was a coaching Inn by the canal bridge and the green was fronted by a tearoom enabling folk to play, rest and view the bowling. The land was sold to the Bents Brewery, the old coaching Inn was demolished and a 'new' Plume of Feathers was erected on its present site replacing the tearooms. During the 1950's the Plume was sold to Bass Brewery and eventually to Punch Taverns.

Today the bowling club continues to thrive with social bowling for members who just want a game between their friends to bowling in the many leagues available in the area. Whatever you want we are always looking to welcome new members to our club. The new season starts with the opening of our green on Saturday 29th March. There is a reduced membership fee for new members. For details please contact our club secretary or visit our website where you will find lots of information about our bowling club.

Secretary:- Ron Kelsall Tel 01782 644227 or 07760243280
pofbowls@talktalk.net / freeteams.com/plumebc



Jack & Tom Farmer receiving their trophies from Paul Philpott (President) and Jenny Shenton (Chairman).

Barlaston Cricket Club

The last six months or so have been great for our club. We ended the 2013 season at a canter, emphasised by the 2XI winning the Premier B division – making them the best second string the area, and also in youth, as the Under 11's did magnificently well to become champions of their section. The future is bright as we look forward to the 2014 season.



On the transfer front we have been very busy during the close season, securing the signatures of some fantastic local talent. We've acquired the services of Shaun Jenkinson (Opening Batsman, from Cheadle CC), Brian Sims (Top-order Batsman, from Fenton CC) and Zafar Iqbal (Opening Bowler, from Hanford CC). We're also delighted to welcome back two young bowlers to the club in Ejaz Mohammed (from Wedgwood CC) and Chris Dyer (from Caverswall CC). These five players we hope will help propel us towards the sort of season we had back in 2009, where all three of our senior teams won their league championship.

We are sure to see an outstanding standard of local cricket at Barlaston this year, and we'd love the people of the village to join us.

During the summer, our club is the best place to be in the village, with the opportunity to catch some sun and cricket around the ground combined with our clubhouse, which features a big screen with Sky Sports (which will be showing the forthcoming World Cup). We sell draught Carling lager and Strongbow cider at £2.90 per pint, and Samuel Smiths bitter at £2.50, as well as wine at £8.99 a bottle.

Over the next month we have some great events coming to BCC, which we'd love you to join us for. (please contact us on Twitter, Facebook, email – details below – or speak to Alex Thorley on 07974482303).

If you're interested in starting playing cricket, you're more than welcome. Senior training is on a Tuesday evening from 6pm, and Junior coaching (for ages 5-17) is on Fridays from 6.30-8pm.

For any further information about our club please contact us on 'barlastoncc@gmail.com', and why not like us on Facebook 'Barlaston Cricket Club' and follow us on Twitter '@BarloCC' for all the latest news.

Finally, we'd like to pay tribute to Roy Finney, who sadly passed away recently. Roy was a part of our club for a very long time as a player, social member and vice-president and will be missed greatly. We'll be sure to raise a bat to Roy when our season gets underway.

Barlaston Bowls and Tennis Club

As you leave the village along Meaford Road, and glance to your left at the Meaford Business Park, you may spot a crown bowling green - this is the home of Barlaston Bowls and Tennis Club. Following the closure of Meaford Power Station in the early 1990s, a group of volunteers took over the running of the bowling green in exchange for a peppercorn rent. The Club is now a thriving, friendly concern, with over 30 members and an age range from 18 to 80. We run four teams competing in local Leagues, and every Friday afternoon in the summer the Club is open for anyone to come and have a go for the payment of a nominal £1 fee - bowls and friendly advice available free of charge!

The wheel has now come full circle, with the proposed development of a new Power Station on the Site, but we have been assured by the developers that the Club will be protected, and indeed the facilities may even be enhanced.

The emphasis in our Club is very much on the social side of things, and to this end we enjoy events such as lunches, garden parties, and fish and chip suppers. New members are assured of a warm welcome, and you can find out more by contacting Gareth Jones (Chairman) (Tel: 372349) or by visiting our website at barlastonbowlsandtennisclub.org.uk



Sadly, pubs are disappearing from our towns and villages, we're lucky to have three very different public houses in our village. We want it to stay that way. Have a look what they each have to offer.

The Lakeside Tavern

The Lakeside Tavern is a family run pub offering real ales and home cooked food. A friendly atmosphere and a warm welcome awaits you. The Lakeside Tavern isn't associated with Barlaston Golf Club, it's an independent



Free House. Everyone welcome! Food is served between noon and 14:30 Wednesday - Sunday and in the evenings Monday to Saturday 18:30 - 21:00, and 19:00 - 21:00 on Sundays. In addition to the main menu, there are daily specials available and children up to 10 years can eat for just 99p with every main meal ordered (excluding specials). Curry nights are Tuesdays and Thursdays, Steak nights Wednesdays and Fridays. Takeaway Fish & Chips are available on Wednesdays and Fridays from 17:00 and are cooked to order. The Lakeside Tavern offers free hire of its large function room when catering for birthdays, weddings, engagements, christenings and wakes. Pop in and



enjoy a drink in the beer garden in summer, bar skittles are available, and you can enjoy a drink by the log fire in the winter months. Enquiries 01782 373242 / 01782 372694.



Awards:

At its meeting in January The Parish Council reviewed the nominations that had been made and resolved to make the following awards:-

Golden Jubilee Award

This year's nominee is **Mrs Irene Moran** whose long and outstanding contribution over many years to the Barlaston Women's Institute is recognised. Recently she has been very involved in establishing the new WI group that meets in the Methodist Church Hall on a regular basis.

Certificates of Commendation

The pastoral work of four ladies who work closely as a team in providing spiritual and pastoral support to the residents of the four residential homes in the village. This is an important part of village life that is greatly appreciated by the the residents and the staff of the homes. The award winners are **Margaret Collis, Margaret Wade, Shirley Sharp** and **Jean Finney**.

The work of **Chris Holland** who hails from Meadow Road but who now lives in Newcastle is also recognised. Chris has made a wonderful contribution to Barlaston Hockey Club and Wedgwood and Stansfields Cricket Club as player, coach, umpire and official over many years.

The presentations will be made in the summer at a date and venue to be agreed. Details will be published on the parish website.

The Plume of Feathers



John and Jill have lots going on at the Plume of Feathers. The carvery is very popular; on Thursdays you can treat yourself to beef or turkey with seasonal vegetables, roast and mashed potatoes and Yorkshire pudding for just £3.95 (between 17:00 and 20:00). On Sundays the choice widens and the cost increases slightly to £5.99, or two people for £11.00. Lunch is served between noon and 17:00.



Wednesday is quiz night - test your knowledge at Mick's popular weekly quiz? It only costs £1 per team to enter and you can have as many people as you like in your team.



Throughout the night there's a game of bingo and you can try your luck with the weekly accumulator game, *Play Your Cards Right*. Like on Facebook to keep updated on future events such as the recent Motown night, Charity Race Night plus Halloween, Christmas and New Years Eve parties.



There's something for everyone at the Plume of Feathers.

[Facebook.com/ThePlumeOfFeathers](https://www.facebook.com/ThePlumeOfFeathers)

The Duke of York

Whether you're a first time visitor, or a seasoned regular, new landlord and landlady, Ant and Yaz will give you a warm welcome. They appreciate that the *village pub* is becoming more and more rare and want to integrate into the community and provide a service that's unique to Barlaston and the envy of those villages that have lost their *local*.

Ant has been involved in catering for most of his working life, more recently at The Old Plough in Etruria, steaks and sauces are his specialty; you will find traditional fare such as Steak Diane on the menu alongside intriguing items such as Lucifer and Rumpin Jack Flash. All sauces served at the Duke of York are gluten free.

On Saturday evening, be entertained by *singing landlady* Yaz whilst you enjoy your meal with a real ale, a guest beer, a glass or two from the fine selection of wines and spirits, a bottled beer or a soft drink.



A lunchtime menu of great British favourites is also available, including a home made soup of the day: ideal after a long walk on the Downs! To reserve a table call 01782 373316.

We hope you enjoyed reading this edition of *The Heron*. If you would like your club / community group featured in the next issue, contact the editor: **Viv O'Dunne** vivienodunne@icloud.com