



Barndoor Bulletin Spring 2018

View from the Chair

Dear Members and Friends

We have a great deal both to look forward to and to be proud of.

The Cart Shed refurbishment has finally been completed and we have been able to use it for our events. It is going to be a great asset going forward. The refurbishment has been made possible by support from numerous people. In particular, the Leader fund provided a grant of over £41,000 which ensured that the project could be completed.

As I hope most people are aware we were successful with our second round Heritage Lottery Fund application and were awarded £936,600. This will enable the major refurbishment programme to commence at the start of 2019. In advance of the physical refurbishment we will be arranging some additional activities for schools and other interested groups as we develop our future programme.

We still need to find some additional funds before the work can start and we have a number of grant applications awaiting consideration and we are looking at other potential opportunities. If anyone is looking for a home for loose change we have Home Money Boxes – details available later in the bulletin.

We have also been able to purchase equipment to support our events. Those of you who attended the Passion Play will have seen the first use of our temporary stage. This has made a huge difference to visibility and is flexible enough to be used in different configurations. Similarly, the Passion Play was the first opportunity for us to use the new Hearing Loop. Hopefully you will also have all seen our new Website.

In addition to all this activity we have a full programme of events to look forward to this year. Details of all events are shown below and I hope that we will see you at some of these. We have a repeat of the “Jazz at the Barn” which was such a success last year along with the usual events such as Shakespeare and Opera.

As ever we would love to welcome new volunteers. All of the success this year has been due to the efforts of our wonderful group of volunteers who make all of these things happen. However

there is always scope for new people to join us and there is a whole range of opportunities if you are interested. More information and an application form can be found on our website.

Finally we have had a few changes of Trustees. Stephen Taylor, our Treasurer, has stood down having done a great job in managing our finances for the last few years, and has got us to the strong position we currently find ourselves in. However, we are fortunate that Andy Peters has taken over as Treasurer and we have also been joined by David Martin who has taken over as Company Secretary from David Morris. David Morris has been our company Secretary for many years and we are grateful for his support in the past. With these appointments I believe we are set to take advantage of the numerous opportunities we currently have.

Thank you for all you do

Sue Parsons – Chair

sue.parsons6@btinternet.com

Thank you!



On 27 March a group of volunteers welcomed Sir Henry Elwes KCVO, former Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, to Winterbourne Medieval Barn for tea and homemade cakes. As Chairman of the Honourable Company of Gloucestershire Charitable Trust, Sir Henry had come to present Sue Parsons, chairman of WMBT, with a cheque for £1000.

Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust is very grateful for this donation, which will be used to provide educational materials for the enhanced activities starting this year in the newly-refurbished cart shed, and in the medieval barn and other buildings on site once the bigger restoration project is complete.



Membership

We are trying to contact all members as their membership subscriptions become due. You may already have had one of those emails from Joyce.

If your membership was due but you didn't hear from us, it may be that we hold an old email address for you. In which case, please contact Joyce, our membership secretary through our website and she will update your details to ensure you receive regular updates from us.

Are you planning to come along to one of our events? Why not stop at our membership table at any of our events, to say hello? We would love to see you.

Data Protection

In line with the new Data Protection legislation that came (or comes, depending on when we circulate) into force on 26 May 2018 we have contacted all our existing supporters to ensure that they wish to continue to hear from us. Under Data Protection legislation we believe that we can demonstrate that we have a legitimate interest in using your data for marketing purposes but you always have a choice. If you wish to unsubscribe, please let us know by letting us know and we will delete your data. Unless you contact us we will assume that you are still happy to receive emails from us going forward. A copy of our Privacy Statement is available on the Membership page of our website.

Events in the last few months:

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop – December 2017

I was so proud of my Christmas Wreath which was made with excellent guidance from Wendy and the team from Organic Blooms. Twenty-two 'budding' florists took part in the workshop and enjoyed a very creative morning in the wonderful surroundings of the Medieval Barn. A good time was had by all - helped along by mulled cider and warm mince pies.

Local florists from Organic Blooms at Latte ridge will again share their expertise in 2018 to help you produce a fabulous wreath full of seasonal colours and foliage that will last throughout the holiday season. This is an annual must for getting in the mood for the festivities ahead. Book direct with Organic Blooms from October 1st :

www.organicblooms.co.uk/courses-and-workshops



Sue Fox

Carols in the Barn – December 2017

There was room in the barn for a lot of people last Christmas – just!

They piled in, with their mulled wine and mince pies, and were treated to an entertaining re-telling of the Christmas Story by members of St Michaels Church.

Well, who knew that angels wore shades?!



Led by the cast, everyone, young and old, joined in singing traditional Christmas carols, and enjoyed a very atmospheric start to the festive season.

Fortunately no snow – that came in March!

Louise Harrison



Apple Grafting Workshop - March 2018

Like many other activities, this workshop was affected by the winter weather that struck at the beginning of March. One intrepid participant was able to attend on March 4th and received one-to-one tuition; we were able to reschedule the course proper for the following Saturday, March 10th and be the first group to use the renovated cart shed in much milder conditions than would have been possible a week earlier. The cart shed makes an excellent space for such a workshop and we look forward to using it in the future.

Our course tutor, Ben Raskin, Head of Horticulture at the Soil Association, again provided his wealth of knowledge and experience to the participants some of whom were local, others, as in previous courses, from further afield. In the morning we were taken through the background theory and practice of grafting, knife sharpening, and a lengthy session practising the precise cuts to wood that are required. After lunch came the key point of the workshop, that of making the graft by attaching the scion (wood from the variety that one wishes to propagate) to rootstock to achieve a new apple tree. All participants were able to complete three grafts and some more than this.

Feedback indicated a high level of satisfaction with the course which is proving to be very popular; both Ben and I very much enjoyed the day and meeting a new group of apple enthusiasts.

Robert Beetham

Good Friday at the Barn

ToFF (Together for Fromeside) Productions performed an imaginative retelling of the Easter story at Winterbourne Medieval Barn during the evening of Good Friday.

There was trouble brewing in the market place, the city was overcrowded and the occupying Roman soldiers were agitated. That preacher from Galilee who claimed to be the Messiah had come to town and the authorities didn't like it a bit!



Beautifully written by Emily Capstick this moving performance showed a maximum capacity audience of 200 how events may have unfolded at Passover in Jerusalem in the early 1st century.



Skilfully directed by Rev Jean Capstick and vividly produced by Ben Thompson and his team, this was a remarkable achievement for the local drama group – particularly as it was their first production.

Totally absorbed in this fitting venue the audience appeared as if merely tourists visiting Jerusalem, seated in the market place just watching events unfold. It must have been particularly realistic for those

seated in the east end of the Barn where bare earth, willow cuttings and dust serve as the flooring - a true reflection of a peasant's home in 1st century Palestine.

Just an hour before this same audience had arrived at this heritage venue having travelled through pouring rain and wading through the mud of the Barn grounds to reach their seats. Many had walked from the village to ensure they didn't miss this wonderful production.

The Barn volunteers ensured a warm welcome and served Easter Fayre from the Cart Shed in the grounds of the main Barn. It was a delight to be able to offer refreshments to visitors in this newly refurbished venue which will double as an Education Centre for school visits and public lectures later this year.

As the audience left the Cart Shed it quickly became 'The Green Room' for the cast to gather. A strange sight to witness at a Medieval Barn as Peasants, Merchants, Roman Soldiers and an Emperor – dressed in totally authentic costumes - tip-toed through the puddles to the main Barn to make their entrance on stage.

The Barn Trust was particularly pleased to offer use of their new modular staging to ToFF for this play. Having the production raised just a little off of the threshing floor added something special to the audience experience and ensured even the observers on the peasant's floor had a good view of the proceedings!



As the Passion Play came to an end the emotional final words were delivered by the Beggar Man. The delicate lighting dimmed for the last time and the cast left the stage. Complete quiet and calm descended over the Barn for several minutes before the audience applause broke the silence and the cast returned to the stage to take a much deserved bow.

Congratulations to all concerned in this production from all at Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust.

Come back soon!

Sue Fox

Growing Group

The beds were cleared over winter and top dressed with either manure or our very own good compost ready for spring. Some garlic, shallots, red onions, potatoes and Broad beans have been planted. We are hoping our family of mice have all moved out!



We have also been busy sowing lots of vegetables to be planted out later in May such as, courgettes, squash, climbing beans, sugar snap peas, sweet corn, leeks and celeriac. We are also trying some new varieties like the carrot, Purple Sun which should be purple all the way through instead of just on the outer skin, a white beetroot called Albina Vereduna, and Kalette which is a type of flowering sprout with a nutty taste. Let's hope we have some good weather over summer.

New volunteers of all ages are always welcome to join the group. It's not only an opportunity to grow lots of great things to eat but to also exchange ideas and advice. We normally meet on Friday mornings at the barn between 10.00am - 12.30pm to work on the garden and have a chat. Gardening knowledge is not essential as we would be happy to teach you. If you are interested please contact Liz Smith on 01454 775306.



Forthcoming Events:

Full details of all the events, including how to buy tickets, are available on our website which is kept updated with news and any further events that are planned:

<http://www.winterbournebarn.org.uk/events/>

Jazz in the Barn; UWE Big Band; Sat 26 May; 6.30pm – 9.30pm



Cool, relaxing swing and Latin classics with silky smooth vocals. Delicious, locally sourced, food and drink available throughout the evening. Just sit back, relax and enjoy the music and atmosphere during the spring bank holiday weekend.

Tickets from Daisy's coffee shop or online

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/456927>

Medieval Fayre - Sunday 10 June; 11.00am – 4.00pm

Experience the vivid displays of daily life in a medieval encampment as living history group 'The Company of Chivalry' portray life in the 14th century. Find out how people lived, worked and fought whilst on campaign during the 100 years' War. There will be a full programme of activities throughout the day, including re-enactments of military combat, talks and demonstrations about different aspects of medieval life, live medieval music, and falconry.

There are plenty of activities for children, including face-painting, a chance to launch a projectile from the trebuchet, taking part in a treasure hunt, or joining in a battle with the medieval soldiers.



Delicious locally-sourced hot and cold food and drink will be available all day. Entry is just £4 for adults, while accompanied children under 16yrs enter for free. A fantastic day out for the whole family.

Bristol Male Voice Choir and The Frampton Shantymen; Sunday 24 June; 2.30pm

Sharing the stage alternately throughout the afternoon we can expect a variety of song and entertainment from the internationally renowned BMVC and our very own local 'mariners' as they take us from modern musicals to seafaring shanties.



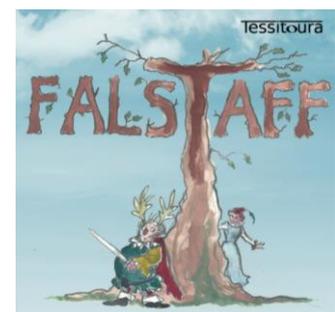
Wine Tasting Evening; Ian Redfearn; Tuesday 3 July; 7.00 – 9.30pm



25 years in the wine trade means Ian is extremely knowledgeable about what makes a great wine and is also the perfect host to guide us through this evening of tasting Eastern European wines. Pre-booking is essential for this event. Over 18yrs only. £10.

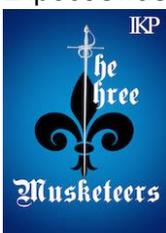
Opera in the Barn - Verdi's Falstaff, Sunday 8 July; 6.00pm

Tessitoura perform this tuneful, charming comedy which tells the story of fat, ageing Sir John Falstaff and his attempts to woo two married women (the 'Merry Wives of Windsor'). Sadly for Sir John, the two women are good friends. They compare notes and realise straight away that he's just after their husbands' money. Helped by Alice's daughter Nanetta and their companion Mistress Quickly, they take revenge on Falstaff and sort out Nanetta's love-life at the same time.



The Three Musketeers; Sunday 12 August; 2.30 – 4.30pm

Expect swashbuckling, sword-fights and subterfuge in the fast, funny adaptation of this popular French story performed by Ian Kennedy Productions. Set in 1627, this production will have costumes indicative of the time and real sword-fighting choreographed by a professional stage combat choreographer, but will be self-aware and relevant for an audience in 2018. One for all the family!



Shakespeare in the Barn - The Winter's Tale; Tuesday 28 August; 7.00pm

The Festival Players return with an intriguing mix of drama and comedy. Sparked by an obsessive envy of a perceived relationship between his Queen and his oldest friend, Leontes, King of Sicilia, sets in motion a train of events which affect two kingdoms and two generations; there is jealousy and joy, revenge and romance, loss and discovery, remorse and revelry, and an amazing revelation.



Heritage Open Days 2018; Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 September; 12.00 – 5.00pm

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,500 organisations, 5,000 events and 40,000 volunteers. Every year places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage. Join a guided tour of the Barn and explore St Michael's Church to find out more about our medieval histories.

Orchard Harvest Day; Sunday 7 October; 11.00am – 4.00pm

Celebrate 'all things apples' at this annual event which has now become a main feature of the regional calendar. Adults £3, Children under 16yrs – FREE.

Carols in the Barn; Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 December; 3.30

Mulled wine and warm mince pies followed by everyone singing Carols as they watch the Christmas story unfold - dramatised by St Michael's Church 'players'

Summer Workshops at the Barn

Basket Weaving Workshop; Saturday 23 June; 9.30am – 4.00pm

Unfortunately we have had to cancel this workshop at short notice due to unforeseen circumstances. Thank you to those who had already booked to attend - we hope to repeat this popular workshop in the future and will post details as soon as possible.

This basket-making workshop will provide support and guidance to anyone new to basket making, and those wishing to rekindle their skills, enabling them to successfully complete a small to medium sized round basket by the end of the day. And what better setting to learn a traditional craft! The workshop costs £46.50 (payable in advance). To book Tel: Angela on 01454 778436.



West Gallery Music Workshop; Saturday 21 July; 10am – 4pm

Usually led by a village choir and band, this type of music was popular in churches in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Come along and help to recreate this distinctive and lively music, which is fun to perform. It is sung in four parts, so whatever your voice range there is a part for you. Learn it by ear or read the music. Instrumentalists also welcome (strings/woodwind). Music will be supplied on the day but can be emailed if you would like to look at it beforehand.

Cost is £16.50 (payable on booking), plus a small charge for the music, payable on the day. Booking form and further information available on the website or from Linda Hall at lindahall61@gmail.com Tel: 01633 889019 or 07891 688581.

WINTERBOURNE BARN HOME MONEY BOXES

Is your purse bulging with loose change? Are coppers weighing your pockets down? Fed up with carrying around small change?

Then, we've got the ideal solution.

Get yourself WMBT home money box and use your loose change to help save the Barn. Simply pop the box on the shelf and then everyday you can clear out those coins that clutter up your wallet.

How to get hold of a Money Box

You can either pick a box at a Barn event or contact us using the "[Contact us](#)" page of the website and we will send it to you.

How to return the Receipts

You can either return the filled box to the Barn or pay the money into our account at NatWest:

Account Name: Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust

Sort Code: 52 10 51

Account No: 18111548

If you are eligible for Gift Aid please complete the form on the Membership page, either by post to the Barn or by a signed pdf to suep@winterbournebarn.org.uk so that the Trust can claim an additional 25% on your donation.

Volunteer with us!

Q: Interested in history and heritage?

Q: Love doing things outdoors?

Q: Enjoy meeting people, making new friends and being part of a team?

Q: Want to learn new skills?

Q: Passionate about Winterbourne?

IF the answer to any of the above is **YES** and you have a few hours to spare, the Winterbourne Medieval Barn Team would love to hear from you!

The Winterbourne Medieval Barn team is looking for people to help us transform this wonderful 14th Century building into one of the focal points within the local community.

We're able to provide a number of different volunteer opportunities, whether you want to volunteer regularly or occasionally, at the Barn or from home. There'll be an opportunity to come along for a trial day before committing further.

Interested? Email us at volunteerwmbt@gmail.com with your name and a contact phone number and someone will be in touch.

CONTACT DETAILS

For further details of events, or information on any aspect of the Barn project see our website www.winterbournebarn.org.uk or email wmbtrust@gmail.com

Registered Office: Winterbourne Court Farm Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE
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