



# Fernwood

## fanfare

<http://www.fernwoodra.com>

News and Events brought to you by Fernwood Parish Council and Fernwood Residents' Association

Winter 2012/13

### BONFIRE NIGHT



This issue brings you Christmas greetings and best wishes for healthy and prosperous New Year.

By the time you receive this issue we will have held our Carol Service, with children of Chuter Ede School entertaining us with their singing. We have enjoyed a well-attended Christmas Fair and the children were able to meet Santa Claus and tell him what they hoped for in their Christmas stockings. Earlier, we also had a fantastic Bonfire Party, as you can see from some of the photos here.

Fernwood is gradually becoming a village with real community spirit and lots of activities going on all year round, but at this time of year as we build up to our own personal Christmas celebrations it is especially heart-warming to have so many Christmas activities and parties put on by the various social groups.

So, what's in this issue...?

FADS put us in the Christmas spirit early with their production of fun and hilarity - 'It's the Season to be Jolly' and you can see some of their photos on page 2. John Proctor gives us the news of the Residents' Association and the Parish Council give us plenty of news of the work they do for us and explain their plans on page 4 and 5. On page 6 there are some bits and pieces of Christmas tradition which you might not have known and we have some fun and games for our younger readers on page 7. Page 8 seems to be our 'People' page - with the *Family Focus* feature and an article from Fernwood's own intrepid explorer, Jacqui Fraser. There is also a report on the activities of a few brave guerrillas who attacked the car-park goods to excellent effect.

Happy reading - and a Happy Christmas!

Merilynne Pople (Editor)



### Bonfire Night at Fernwood



Families of Fernwood flocked to the village sports field and made the bonfire and firework night a great community success.

Many thanks go to our sponsors,

District & Parish Councils, OM Management and the owners of Balderton Hall.

Andy & Lynn Hogg were our volunteer chefs for the evening. A big thank-you to them and the volunteers from Fernwood Ladies, Fernwood Amateur Dramatic Society, Fernwood Over Fifty-Fives, The Conservation

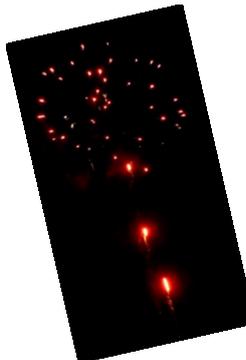
Group, the Parish Council, the Physical Training Team and the Residents' Association who all

worked together with John Jeys from OM Management to create what is hoped to be an annual event.

The night was perfect and the hot dogs, candy floss, popcorn and warming hot drinks put smiles on the faces waiting for the magnificent firework display provided by Party Time of Newark.

The crowd collection this year was on behalf of Beaumont House and special thanks have to go to

the St John's Ambulance crew who selflessly gave their time to attend our event.



**Deadline for next Issue**  
Friday 08 March

Send copy to the Editor:  
[meril.popple@btinternet.com](mailto:meril.popple@btinternet.com)  
17 Cameron Lane

The Parish Council is very grateful for the many donations received for the bonfire and firework display. £150 was received from County Councillor Sue Saddington and £250 from OM Property Management. There were also many smaller donations. The Parish Council thank all of the volunteers who helped to make the evening such a huge success.



## Fun and Frolics with FADS



## FADS (Fernwood Amateur Dramatic Society)



By the time this Fanfare comes out we shall have finished our productions for this year which was on Saturday 17th November. An early Christmas Show with songs and panto sketches for children and adults.



So far we have no dates booked for the Spring

Production but are hoping to do two comedy one-act plays. There will be plenty of publicity when we have dates for this. Our members will be running the raffle at the



Xmas Fair on 1st December and we shall be having a Christmas Party also in December.

Although we have a healthy membership we could do with more men - not to exclude ladies of course who are always welcome -

but in order to be able to put on a wider selection of plays/shows we need some younger men (sorry all the olds in FADS). If anyone wants to join us and put themselves through the fun of rehearsal and the terror of performance, then please give me a ring. Mollie Weale 647116



An entertaining evening of games provided the fun for Fernwood Ladies in October. With points scored at Boccia, Tiddly Winks, Dominoes, Golf and the curious picture quiz; two ladies were declared as joint winners.

It has been a busy time again for Fernwood Ladies. By the time you read this they will have assisted at the fabulous Fernwood

Firework & Bonfire night, learnt how to make Christmas Wreaths at the November meeting and organised and hosted the



## Fernwood Ladies - By Sue Taylor



brilliant Fernwood Christmas Fair with Santa in his Grotto.

If you would like to be involved with Fernwood Ladies, email us via our website: [enquiries@fernwoodladies.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@fernwoodladies.co.uk) Or contact us through the village hall: [fernwoodladies@fernwoodvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:fernwoodladies@fernwoodvillagehall.co.uk)

**Calendar:**  
29th January 2013 - AGM

26th February 2013 -  
Cheese & Wine Quiz evening



*Nearly Christmas and the season of good cheer is upon us. The Fernwood Residents Association wishes everyone in Fernwood a merry Christmas and a happy new year.*

This year has passed so quickly and Fernwood as a village has further developed. All the shops are now full and active. The school is up and running. The trim trail is enjoyed by all. The bonfire night has been a success. The Petanque Club is close to having a terrain built and the village hall is active and enjoyed by many groups.

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### So what is planned for 2013?

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The village hall user group is planning a Summer Fayre and another bonfire night.

Fernwood Residents' Association, in conjunction with the Parish Council and OM, is looking to site benches and picnic tables around the village. The question is where? Below is a list of the proposed sites. Look carefully at them. If you have any comments let Fernwood Residents Association members or myself know.

A map with a clear indication will be available at the Fernwood Residents' Association Open Meeting in the village hall, 7-30pm 8<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

#### Proposed Sites of full benches

Pathway near bus stop on London Road.  
Pathway near to Dale Way from

playground.

Pathway near to Dale Way from shops through wood.

Pathway on green from Thomas Road to Oakfield Road.

2 benches on green along future pathway leading to school.

#### Sites of backless benches

By entrance to meadow off Dale Way.

By far entrance to meadow on pathway back of Oakfield Road.

#### Sites of picnic benches:-

On green near trim trail twister and children's playground.

Other side of pathway in green area.

In wooded area opposite tennis courts and trim trail.

These are just proposed sites and we would welcome comments and suggestions for additional or alternative sites.

Come and have your say at the open meeting.

Fernwood Residents' Association

## Open Meeting

In the village hall

7-30pm  
8<sup>th</sup> January 2013

### FOFFS (Fernwood Over Fifty-fives)

We have had a very good year with our membership. Now up to 30 - well it is according to the number who wish to go to the Lord Ted on 20th December for a Festive Meal.

We shall also be having a Christmas Party on Friday 14th December but before all that we have our Turkey and Tinsel trip to Scarborough for five days. Should be a great laugh. "Last of the Summer Wine" goes on holiday!

We shall also be running the tombola stall at the Xmas Fair on 1st December.

We meet in the hall on the first Thursday of each month and try to meet again on the third Thursday with a trip or meal out. If we cannot book anything out we meet in the hall again and play games. We also have a lottery syndicate but so far haven't won anything worth mentioning. When we all vanish to the Bahamas it means we have won the big one!

### Useful Contacts

Local Police: Tel 101

Emergencies: Tel 999

Fernwood Village  
Hall: Tel 613024

Doctors:  
Balderton Primary Care  
Centre: Tel 705826

Newark Hospital: 681681

Newark & Sherwood  
District Council: 650000

Fernwood Parish Council:  
clerk@fernwood-pc.co.uk

#### Maintenance Issues

For any maintenance issues regarding charges, payments etc contact:

John Jeys  
OM site office  
at the rear  
of 112 Goldstraw Lane

John Jeys is linked to the main computer at OM and should be able to answer any of your questions.

OM Property Management:  
omfernwood@fsmail.net  
Mob: 07738 738910

**Fernwood Residents'  
Association  
Website:**

**www.fernwoodra.com**



**For Church Services over  
Christmas see Page 6**

**Saturday 22 December**  
Notts Wildlife Trust - Portland  
Park Health Walk

Get active and make some new friends by joining us for a short healthy walk, starting from Portland Park, Kirkby-in-Ashfield. The walk will last up to an hour and is suitable for all levels. No need to book. Please come dressed for the weather and wear stout shoes or boots. Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome. Meet at 10am at the Visitor Centre, Lindley's Lane. Contact: Karen Bennett 07974 973 598

**Thursday 3 January**  
Notts Wildlife Trust Wildlife  
Talk : Giants of the Forest – the  
Redwoods of California

South Notts Local Group invites you to hear about a trip made by Mike Davey from San Francisco to Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks to see the largest trees in the world. Admission £2.50 including refreshments. 7.30pm in Room 5, Musters Road Methodist Church, West Bridgford. Contact: Dennis Heffernan 0115 923 1838

**Tuesday 8 January**  
Fernwood Residents'  
Association Open Meeting  
7.30 in the Village Hall.

**Saturday 5th January**  
Notts Wildlife Trust - Wild Kids  
Explore Attenborough Nature  
Reserve to find out about our  
amazing wildlife. Suitable for  
children aged 4 and over. All  
children must be accompanied  
by an adult. 1.30pm – 3.30pm.  
£4 per child. Contact:  
Attenborough Nature Centre  
0115 972 1777

The last three months have been successful for Fernwood as we are slowly getting things done.

Inconsiderate Parking to the  
fore again

By the time this Fanfare comes out, the North side roads of the village will be surfaced and very soon will be adopted. This brings the problem of inconsiderate parking to the fore. Can I ask you to please be aware of your neighbour's needs and try to park sensibly where you can. After all, pavements are for pedestrians.

Working closely with FRA and OM we are monitoring problems in the village such as lighting, litter, dog fouling and any deterioration in the roads/ paths.

Extra litter bins gradually  
making improvement  
on the litter problem

After the installation of a number of extra litter bins you will notice that there is considerably less litter around so we are getting some things right.

We shall also have two benches sited soon with the promise of more to come. Thanks must go to County



The Parish Council are working extremely hard to achieve a regular service for Fernwood and are sending out a survey with this being one of the topics.

We are being blocked by the "hard heads" at both County and District level who want to expand the area but are not prepared to help with the infrastructure such as buses, hospitals. Difficult though it has been, we will not give up our attempts to establish a bus service for Fernwood. Cllr J Weale.

A big thank you to Cllr Sue Saddington for donations for benches and firework display.

Councillor Sue Saddington for donating the money for the two we have already. The Firework Night was a tremendous success with many volunteers giving their time to help. Donations came from OM, James Derry, and Councillor Sue Saddington. Cllr Saddington has been of tremendous help over the years in promoting the village and helping to get us started.

Although we had a lot of help from volunteers for this event, if we are to be even more successful in the future we shall need more people who are prepared to help their community.

Be a good neighbour in the winter months ahead - keep a friendly eye on vulnerable neighbours.

We are now at the hardest time of year for vulnerable residents, weather-wise, so it would be good if we could watch out for our neighbours and be there if they need help. The Parish Council and Residents Association will try to help if help is requested.

In case you haven't seen one lately this is a bus.....!

Calling all singers!

Personally speaking, although we have a number of new clubs and societies springing up in Fernwood, I think it would be lovely if we could form a Fernwood Choir (being a Gareth Malone fan). This would be good for bonding the village and would be open to all ages, so if there are any musicians/choir-masters out there please think about it.

Car Parks being used as sales  
parks!

It has become evident that someone is selling used vehicles and using our roundabouts and car parks as sales parks. If anyone has any new information could they let the Police or the Parish Council know about this. Parking in our village is already at a premium without this.

Thanks to  
Guerilla Gardeners

On behalf of the Parish Council and the Residents, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 'Guerilla Gardeners' for the work they have done. The car park gardens certainly looks so much tidier now and come the spring should be even better.

Your Parish Council  
wishes you

**A very Happy  
Christmas and a  
Successful  
New Year**





Fernwood Parish Council and the Residents' Association have formed a joint Strategy Group which is determined to address the key issues and challenges facing our community. Plans are being drawn up to put into place measures that we hope will address problems and or intended developments – with attendant time scales.

The following list, while not being exclusive, is indicative of those issues which have preoccupied both Council and the Residents' Association (FRA).

Time scales referred to below are Short Term, Parish Council year ending May 2013, Medium Term, May 2013 to May 2015, Long term, post May 2015.

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### Irresponsible parking

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Irresponsible Parking: Using the Highway Codes as guide – medium to long term when the roads are adopted

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### Litter/dog fouling and broken glass near bottle banks

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**Litter, dog fouling** and broken glass near the bottle banks: Short to medium term.

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### Speeding and Public Transport

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**Speeding:** Medium to long term when the roads are adopted, but in the interim introduce the **20 is Plenty** advisory notices - Short term

**Public transportation improvements:** Short term, but depends on pressures being applied at County Council level (Cllr Sue Saddington)

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### Council Tax Review

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**Council tax review:** Value for money aspect. Short term.

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### Maintenance

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**General maintenance of the village:** Ongoing now that a detailed Service Level Agreement is now in place

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### Your Ideas Welcome

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**You may have other ideas.** In fact, you may consider that there are problems and/or development issues that should definitely be engaging the Strategy Group as a priority.

To this end you are invited to complete and return the loose leaf questionnaire that is enclosed with this edition of the Fanfare. Return your comments and suggestions, either via the questionnaire or email to the reception points indicated, within a fortnight from the delivery of your fanfare would be greatly appreciated.

We welcome your input to the development of Fernwood.

### Saturday 5th January Learn a Skill at Idle Valley – Willow Craft

Come along to the Idle Valley Nature Reserve for the first of our monthly skills sessions and make a willow wigwam from willow harvested from the reserve. 11am – 12.30pm. £4 per session; attend five sessions and get one free. Booking essential. Contact: Rural Learning Centre 01777 713 945

### Monday 21 January

Parish Council Meeting 7.30 in the Village Hall  
There will be a 15-minute window for residents' questions.

### Thursday 24 January

Conservation Group meets in the Village Hall at 7.30.

### Tuesday 29 January

Fernwood Ladies AGM

### Saturday 2nd February to Sunday 3rd March 2013.

Hodssock Priory Snowdrops Open daily from 10am – 4pm  
Historic talks take place at 11am and 2pm daily in the Snowdrop Village. There is no extra charge for talks. Hodssock is a few minutes from the A1— Postcode for the satnav: S81 OTY  
[www.hodssockpriory.com](http://www.hodssockpriory.com)

### Monday 18 February

Parish Council Meeting 7.30 in the Village Hall  
There will be a 15-minute window for residents' questions.



## Letter from Canon Tucker - St Giles

**A**s I write this letter we are beginning to manage the consequences of serious flooding in our area. One little boy said to me as we travelled along the A1 that the River Trent was leaking. The river and the fields were simply one large stretch of water.

This morning we seem to have our first serious frost of the winter a gentle bright sky which although beautiful to look at feels very cold. It heralds a new range of duties particularly for those who care for animals. In time our sense of the beauty of winter will give way to the desire for warmer days.

The celebration of the birth of Christ, coming as it does in the middle of winter, is not by chance. As we feel vulnerable to the cold and our inclination is to turn up the heat huddle by the fire; so the good news of the birth God's son is told. Of course this reflects exactly the way in which God's love comes into our lives, meeting us just where we are at our point of need.

I hope that this year you'll get a chance to draw to one side and think again about the simplicity of Jesus birth. I hope you get a strong sense that God's love is there for you.





## Service Times at our local churches

### St Giles Balderton (Main Street)

#### Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Communion  
(1st Sunday and Greater Festivals)
- 9.30 am Parish Eucharist (with Sunday Club)
- 3.00 pm Evensong (Winter time)

#### Thursdays

- 9.45 am Holy Communion

#### 16 December

- 9.30 am Eucharist Nativity

#### 19 December

- 6.30 pm Carol Service

#### 24 December

- 3.00 pm Christingle Service

- 11.30 pm Midnight Mass

#### 25 December

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 10.30 am Family Communion

### All Saints, Barnby-in-the-Willows

#### 17 December

- 7.00 pm Carol Service

#### 23 December

- 3.00 pm Evensong

#### 25 December

- 10.00 am Family Communion

#### 30 December

- 3.00 pm Evensong

### Balderton Methodist (Main Street)

#### Sundays

- 10.30 am Morning Service

#### Mondays

- 9.30-11.30 am Coffee Morning

#### 15 December

- 3.00 pm Carol Service

#### 24 December

- 9.00 pm Christmas Eve Communion

### Holy Trinity RC (Boundary Road)

#### Mass times:

- 7.00 pm Saturday Vigil

- 10.00 am Sunday

- 6.00 pm Sunday

### Salvation Army (Lowfield Lane)

#### Sundays

- 10:30 am Morning Service

- 10.00 am Coffee & Biscuits served before the service

#### 16 December

- 6.00 pm Christas Carols & Music

#### 18 December

- 6.00 Carols Around the Tree

#### 23 December

- 4.00 pm Christingle Service

## Did you know.....?

**Plum pudding** only became connected with Christmas when it was introduced to the Victorians by Prince Albert.



Silver coins used to be put into the mixture and was said to bring good luck to whoever found the coin in their portion. This tradition is not so prevalent now due to the inherent danger of swallowing the coins. All members of the family make wishes whilst stirring the pudding mixture prior to cooking.

**Mince pies** are tarts made with pastry and filled with "mincemeat". This is a mixture made of dried fruits, sugar and spices. The use of beef suet in this mixture is reminiscent of the days when meat was always included in recipes - hence its name. It was originally made to preserve meat through the winter.

### Where does the word Christmas come from

The Word Christmas or Christ's Mass comes from Old English Cristes Maesse and is the celebration of the birth of Jesus. The first recorded observance occurred in Rome in AD360 but it wasn't until AD440 that the Christian Church fixed the celebration date as 25 December.

**Christmas Illegal** - 1647, the English parliament passed a law that made Christmas illegal. Christmas festivities were banned by Puritan leader, Oliver Cromwell, who considered feasting and revelry on what was supposed to be a holy day to be immoral. Anybody caught celebrating Christmas was arrested.

The ban was lifted only when the Puritans lost power in 1660.



**St Francis of Assisi introduced Christmas Carols** to formal church services. The word comes from the ancient Greek 'choros', which means 'dancing in a circle', and from the Old French word 'carole', meaning 'a song to accompany dancing'.

**Tree Lights** - In 1895 Ralph Morris, an American telephonist, invented the string of electric Christmas lights similar to the ones we use today. The actual strings of lights had already been manufactured for use in telephone switchboards. Morris looked at the tiny bulbs and had the idea of using them on his tree.

**The popular Christmas song 'Jingle Bells'** was composed in 1857 by James Pierpont, and was originally called 'One-horse Open Sleigh'. It was actually written for Thanksgiving, not Christmas.



## Fernwood Petanque Club

There we were, fully prepared to take on the might of Fernwood Petanque Ladies in a Boccia competition in the village hall.

The first end was hard fought with the Ladies just getting the upper hand with a one boule win. The Men walked away confident they would soon overhaul this slender lead quite easily.

The next end started with the Ladies getting quickly close to the jack. The Men tried valiantly to smash these boules apart!!! and failed dismally leaving the ladies with a 5 boules!!! next to the jack. Ladies 6 Men 0. The men were not downhearted; they had been behind before and managed to catch up. The third end started and the Ladies began to hog the jack, the Men tried to move them only to leave a large space next to the jack and the Ladies 1 up with 6 boules to play! The Men could only watch in horror as the Ladies went, 2 up, 3 up, 4 up, 5 up, 6 up and then 7 up making it Ladies 13 Men 0 at the end of the match after only 3 ends!!!!

The Petanque Club is growing and the members have a great deal of fun. We have moved into the village hall for the winter months to play Boccia - an indoor version of petanque, which has become quite popular. We meet on Wednesday between 11.30am and 1.00pm in the village hall and on Sunday or Monday 2.00pm to 3.30pm depending on the availability of the hall.

We have now raised enough money to create an all-weather outdoor petanque terrain. We have to thank kind donations from Fernwood Parish Council, David Wilson Homes, OM, Newark & Sherwood District Council, Staythorpe Power Station, Londis Shop, Councillor Sue Saddington and Ray Dickinson. It is proposed to start the construction in the near future on the site of the bonfire. When it is built please come along and use it any-time. It's open to all, have fun. ....We do!

## Sudoku

	2			4	
4					2
		3	6		
		2	1		
6					3
	3			6	

Solution in next issue

Solution from last issue

3	6	2	4	1	5
4	5	1	3	2	6
6	2	3	5	4	1
1	4	5	2	6	3
2	3	6	1	5	4
5	1	4	6	3	2

# Happy Christmas



## NATIVITY WORD SCRAMBLE

1. STRA \_\_\_\_\_
2. MAGREN \_\_\_\_\_
3. MYAR \_\_\_\_\_
4. SEPHE \_\_\_\_\_
4. DOEYKN \_\_\_\_\_
6. AEGLN \_\_\_\_\_
7. JPHOES \_\_\_\_\_
8. JSSEU \_\_\_\_\_
9. KIGSN \_\_\_\_\_
10. BALEST \_\_\_\_\_

All these words come from the Christmas Story. Can you unscramble them?



## Gingerbread Men



This makes for quite a strongly flavoured gingerbread. For younger children you may want to reduce the amount of ginger to ½ a teaspoon. The extra spices we add at Christmas time when they just add to that wonderful spicy aroma of Christmas baking!

### Ingredients

- 12oz (350g) plain flour
- 6oz (175g) light soft brown sugar
- 4oz (100g) unsalted butter
- 1 egg beaten
- 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda (baking soda)
- 1 teaspoon of ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon of ground cinnamon (optional)
- ½ teaspoon of mixed spice (optional)
- 4 tablespoons of golden syrup

### You will also need

- A man shaped cutter
- Writing icing
- Small sweets (candy), chocolate chips, glace cherries – whatever you have in your cupboard.

Sieve the flour, spices and bicarbonate of soda into a large mixing bowl. Chop the butter into pieces and rub in to the flour. Mix in the sugar. Add the egg and syrup and mix into a dough. Wrap the dough in clingfilm and pop it into the fridge for an hour. Use to make gingerbread men and gingerbread houses (simple) or gingerbread houses (traditional).

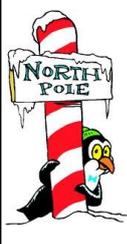
Roll out your gingerbread on a floured surface until it is about 1/4 inch (5mm) thick.

How does a snowman lose weight?

He waits for the weather to get warmer.



What falls at the North Pole but never gets hurt?



Snow

How does Good King Wenceslas like his Pizzas?

Deep Pan, crisp and even



## Did you know?

In the 17th Century, in Germany, only professional gingerbread bakers were allowed to bake gingerbread men. The only time of year that the rule was relaxed was at Christmas!

### Makes 8-10 Men

Cut out your biscuits and pop them onto a greased baking tray. If you intend to hang them on your Christmas tree make a hole at the top. A plastic drinking straw is perfect for making the hole.

Bake in an oven preheated to 180°C or Gas Mark 5 for 10-15 minutes, until they have turned golden brown. They should still feel slightly soft. Cool on the tray for 10 minutes before removing to a cooling rack.

When completely cool, decorate the biscuits with icing and the other bits (the icing will work as glue).

Thread through some cord or ribbon if you want to hang your gingerbread men on the tree!



## Papier-Mâché Ball Ornaments



### Materials:

- Newspaper (cut or torn into 1 inch wide strips)
- Small balloons, like water balloons
- White flour
- Water
- Plastic tubs or large old bowl
- Tempera paints
- Yarn
- Glitter
- White school glue
- Paintbrushes

### Directions:

- Cover work area with old newspaper.
- Blow up balloons to ornament size.
- Mix just a bit of flour with water to make a thin paste – not too runny – about like gravy.
- Drag newspaper strips through the paste and wrap around the inflated balloon. Smooth the strips on the balloon as you go.
- Cover the balloon with strips, applying the strips from different directions about 2-3 layers thick.
- Let the papier mâché dry overnight or for a couple of days. It will be ready when there are no dark looking damp spots.
- Now to decorate! Paint the ornament, bumps and all! Try painting areas different colors.
- Let the paint dry.
- Paint or drizzle glue onto the painted ornament, sprinkle with glitter.
- Now let the ornament dry.
- Glue ribbon or yarn to the ornament for further decoration.
- Glue a loop of yarn or ribbon to the top to create a loop for hanging on the tree.



## Family Focus



The family in focus for this issue of Fanfare is the Baker-Brogan family – Mark Baker (42) and Michelle Brogan (35) with their children Callum Baker (14), Kian Baker (10) and Darcie Brogan (8).

the boys from Farndon. Michelle says “We moved to Fernwood because the location of our house is right where the amenities are, opposite the park and it is a safe and stimulating environment for our children to living in”.

Mark is a self-employed car and motorcycle mechanic, *The Bike Man*, and you have probably seen his van around the village. Michelle has recently given up teaching and now works part time at Browns Bistro Fernwood whilst developing the community Arts and Crafts organisation, *Fernwood Crafts*, making wedding stationery and teaching craft workshops and hosting craft parties.

Mark and Michelle share a love of motorbikes and scooters, Mark having formerly raced 600cc motorcycles very successfully. Callum and Kian both race for Newark Castle cycling club and Callum is hoping to be the next Bradley Wiggins, having already been talent spotted and is receiving coaching from the Sky British Cycling Team. We asked Mark and Michelle if there are any types of group they would like which Fernwood doesn't currently have and they both feel the Fernwood already has a great variety of clubs and activities for young and old. The feel that

our village is developing at a natural pace and has a great sense of community spirit. We wouldn't want to see it become too big for fear of it losing the essence of village life.

Both Mark and Michelle would have loved their children to go to our local school, a shame they are too old! Mark and Michelle are busy planning for their wedding which will be next August and the whole family is looking forward to this wonderful event. Their reception will be celebrated at Browns Bistro which Michelle says, “brings this exciting milestone in our lives into our own community.” We wish the Mark and Michelle all good wishes for their wedding.

Look out for the Baker-Brogan family and get to know them. Say hi to Michelle next time you're in Brown's.

PHOTO

Baker-Brogan Family

## Sahara Trek by Fernwood Resident, Jacqueline Fraser

On 16 November Jacqueline Fraser wet off on a Trek across the Sahara. She was one of a group of 23 raising funds for Beaumond House. They spent time in the ancient city of Marrakesh and enjoyed a wonderful drive to and from the desert through the Atlas



Mountains. They experienced a 6-day trek in a unique and challenging environment. The highlight of the trip, for Jacqueline, was climbing to the top of Erg Zhar (Big Eric), one of the highest sand-dunes in Western Sahara, at 3.00 am to watch the

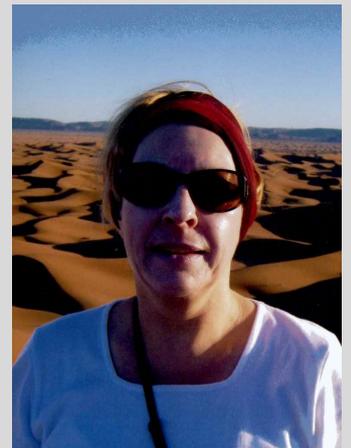
sun set.

Jacqui personally raised £1,800

for the Hospice.

The total amount raised by the group will be announced after Christmas.

Well Done Jacqui...!



Jacqueline Fraser

## Guerilla Gardeners

A huge thank you to the small number of residents who turned out to work on the two neglected gardens in the car park of the village hall.

Residents came equipped with wheelbarrows, spades, forks, secateurs and bin bags.

Their efforts produced 20 plus sacks of weeds and leaves. Battling through thick clay they planted numerous donated bulbs, shrubs, plants and even a tree.

### More help needed

Bark chippings were supplied by John Jeys from the cedar tree decapitated on the village green. More shrubs etc are needed for the second garden in the car park. Can you help? All donations for planting will be gratefully received. Contact John Proctor on 673736

