

Our Next Event - 31st October. Halloween

Some people really enjoy trick or treat at Halloween and some don't. If you want to be visited, the usual convention is that you leave a pumpkin or some other welcoming sign outside your house.

This year BARA is joining in. And there will be PRIZES!
£10 Co-op vouchers and More



Pumpkin Competition – for families. Send a photo of your carved pumpkin (with your name and postal address on a separate sheet) to 52 Birdwood Road or email it to birdwoodara@gmail.com with your name and postal address to arrive by **6pm on 30th October**. Anyone can vote for their favourite and voting details will be at the event and on the website. The winning photos will be highlighted on the website and the notice boards at the beginning of November.

On 31st Oct – in St Thomas's Square

From 4 PM Come and bring your children to our craft area to make spooky things and hear Spooky Tales (not too spooky!)

6.30 PM Costume Competition judged by the BARA committee.

This will all take place in St Thomas's Square (Walpole Rd side) but it depends on the weather. We'll be there if it is **Not Raining!**

A successful Coach Trip to Norwich

A small and select group had a wonderful day out in Norwich. The coach dropped us near the city centre and there was plenty to keep everyone occupied. These are some of the unsolicited responses:

- *'We just wanted to say how much we enjoyed our day out. We much admired your organisational skills which made it easier for us to find our way around.'*
- *'We really enjoyed our day out.'*
- *'Thank you for a very enjoyable and well organised day in Norwich. You can count on our support and eager anticipation if you are able to organise anything similar in the future!'*



Community Library



This is a very grand name for bookshelves in a telephone box. The phone box in Birdwood Rd is unusual in that it still has a working telephone. Now it also has shelves at the back for **book and magazine** swaps. Do please bring and take. If it gets too full, we'll clear out the extra and take it to charity shops. As this is an open box, please keep to the shelves and don't leave anything on the floor – it will get wet!

Citi2

Stagecoach are not listening. At a recent meeting they rejected our plan to send buses round our loop. They say they are recruiting and training 16 drivers which should improve reliability by the end of October.

If you want to give feedback to Stagecoach, contact Nigel Tarrant on 01223 433 250 between 08:30 and 17:30, Monday to Friday or email: Nigel.Tarrant@stagecoachbus.com
Address: Stagecoach, 100 Cowley Road, Cambridge, CB4 0DN

Jane has written to the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough who is considering franchising the bus services in this area. And we are not alone. A Cambridge Area Bus Users group has formed to tackle problems with Stagecoach throughout Cambridgeshire. <https://cbgbususers.wordpress.com/>

They have put in a submission '**Transport Committee's inquiry on health of the bus market, Written submission from Cambridge Area Bus Users.**' saying that our bus services are 'in crisis'.

If you don't have access to the internet you can contact them through 52 Birdwood Rd.

Pavements and potholes!

We took up the state of the pavements in Birdwood Rd with the County Council and some larger holes in the pavements have been filled. But we still have trip hazards in Birdwood Rd and other roads in our area. Please report those near your house – or any that cause you problems. The County Council will not consider compensation for pothole damage to your car unless the hole has already been reported to them! Pavement holes need to be 2.5 cm deep before the County Council will consider filling them.

Nothing will be done unless they are reported. So please alert the County Council to any highway problems in your road (including pavements), call 0345 045 5212 (charged at local rate) or on-line at <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

If you need to contact our local Councillors, here are their details:

County Council, Sandra Crawford Phone: 01223 503061 Email: sandra.crawford@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	City Council, Jeremy Benstead Phone: 01223 351669 Email: j_benstead@live.co.uk
City council, Lewis Herbert Phone: 07748 536153 Email: lewis.herbert@cambridge.gov.uk	City Council, Rosy Moore Mobile: 07709 222026 Email: rosy.moore@cambridge.gov.uk

It is so much easier for us to send newsletters out by email. Also, you'll be kept up to date by the (very) occasional email with information that is urgent and can't wait for a newsletter. If you can receive it that way **PLEASE** send us your email address. **Send an email to birdwoodara@gmail.com** with your postal address in the subject. Thanks!

If you think there is a general problem for the area, do contact us. And if you have ideas for future events or anything to increase neighbourliness, we'd love to hear from you.

Our aims:

to promote neighbourliness and a sense of community and to form a conduit to the City and County councils about issues relating to this area. We cover Birdwood Rd and all roads leading off it. Email address birdwoodara@gmail.com This is our preferred contact point but if you would rather you can put a note through the door at 52 Birdwood Rd.