



www.baracambridge.org

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Dates for your diary

- 20th February – Wine tasting – tear off slip below
- 20th June – Cream tea and talks about our environment – see below.
- Early September – judging of sunflower competition for adults and children – more overleaf
- 31st October – Halloween

Printed Newsletter **Action needed**

This time we are delivering the printed newsletter to everyone. Our email list is old and we think that some people have left the area and not informed us. Also – we're human and think some of you may have dropped off the list by accident!

So, if you have opted for email and it has arrived – do nothing! **If you have opted for email and it hasn't arrived**, apologies. Please send an email to birdwoodara@gmail.com with your postal address in the subject and we will put you back on the email list.

It is much easier for us to send by email – so, **please take this option** if you can. As above, send an email to birdwoodara@gmail.com with your postal address in the subject. It is cold and wet and miserable hand-delivering newsletters in January!

Environment and Cream tea – 20th June (morning)

Three or four short talks about improving and preserving our local environment – gardening, tree-planting, local wildlife habitats, ways of improving sustainability, followed by our AGM. We have some interesting speakers lined up and a free cream tea too. Thinking about climate change? Then come along.

Community Library The phone box has gone. BT upped and demolished it one morning in December – but gave us back the books. We are building a book box to house the Community Library. It will sit on the garden wall of 52 Birdwood Rd by the bus stop.

Wine tasting – 7pm on 20th February at 52 Birdwood Rd.

There are only 12 places so book yours early. It's a fun occasion and a chance to talk to neighbours in a very relaxed atmosphere.

Matthew Boucher – lately of The Cambridge Wine Company and Thirsty will lead us through a tasting of 8 wines.

£10 per person - to include all wine (plus bread and a variety of cheeses).

✂ ----- or copy
Wine Tasting

Name:

Address:

Phone number or Email:

Please enclose £10 cash or cheque payable to BARA and post to 52 Birdwood Rd.

Sunflower Competition – with prizes

There is a separate competition for adults and children. The plants will be judged in late August/early September. It would really help to cheer up the neighbourhood if the sunflowers were grown where everyone could enjoy them – front gardens or shared spaces? Free seeds will be available on the wall of 52 Birdwood Rd from the beginning of February or you can buy your own. Details of how to enter will be on the notice boards and in the next newsletter.

There will be 3 categories:

1. Largest diameter flower.
2. Tallest plant.
3. Largest number of flowers on a single plant.

You can either plant the seeds outdoors or start them off indoors. Some tips:

Outdoors: Plant the seeds in a sunny place, no more than 3 cms deep about 15 cms apart after the soil has thoroughly warmed, from mid-April to late May. You can plant multiple seeds and thin them to the strongest contenders when the plants are 10 – 15 cms tall.

Indoors: Grow your sunflowers in individual containers with drainage holes and well-drained potting mix. This accommodates the plant's fast growth and prevents sitting water. Loo-roll centres are ideal as they can be planted out without disturbing the roots. Place the sunflowers in an area where they're exposed to at least six hours of full sunlight per day – an east or south-facing window is ideal. Plant out when plant is 10 – 15 cm tall.

Warning – slugs and snails love the seedlings!

Pavements

Still awaiting a response. It's been a year since we were told there was additional funding for our pavements. It's a County responsibility so I've phoned the County Council twice and have had no response. I've since contacted our City and County Council representatives.

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, Grace Hadley Phone: 07940 074022 Email: grace4labour@gmail.com
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

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.

We have a committee of nine. We meet three or four times a year and are informal and friendly. We can co-opt more members so if you want to join us, do contact us!

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.



Sunflowers, Ward Road
2019