



Registered Charity No. 1156170

[www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk)

## **ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2014**

## **FORWARD PLAN AND BUDGET 2015**

**Barrow-upon-Soar Community Association is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation  
Registered address: 155, Nottingham Road, Barrow upon Soar, LE12 8JA**

**TRUSTEES**    **April 2014 – 2015**

<b>President:</b>	Frances Thompson 17 North Street, Barrow-upon-Soar	01509 414068
<b>Chair:</b>	Judith Rodgers 155 Nottingham Road, Barrow-upon-Soar	01509 412063
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Sue Rodgers 32 Holbourne Close, Barrow-upon-Soar	01509 416533
<b>Treasurer:</b>	David Rodgers 155 Nottingham Road, Barrow-upon-Soar	01509 412063
<b>Minutes Secretary:</b>	Ceri Fairbrother 95 Melton Road, Barrow-upon-Soar	01509 413039

**Council Members**

Chris Bates	29 Mill Lane, Barrow upon Soar	01509 413475
Mike Collins	8a, Beveridge Street, Barrow upon Soar	01509 413649
Val Gillings	60 Beaumont Road, Barrow upon Soar	01509 413227
Maureen Green	11, Avon Road, Barrow upon Soar	01509 620321
Ann Higgins	30, Ribble Drive, Barrow upon Soar	01509 412746
Graham Hobbs	37, New Street, Barrow upon Soar	01509 414077
Craig Johnstone	57, Loughborough Road, Quorn	07540722094
Anne Perry	51 Mill Lane, Barrow upon Soar	01509 414963
Pauline Ranson	Rose Cottage, 33, South Street, Barrow upon Soar	01509 416928
Ted Rodgers	32 Holbourne Close, Barrow upon Soar	01509 416533
Judith Spence	73, North Street, Barrow upon Soar	01509 415921
Brian Tetley	10 Kingfisher Close, Barrow upon Soar	01509 416966
Diane Thorpe	4, Adkins Court, Barrow upon Soar	01509 414332
Betty Turner	64 Cotes Road, Barrow upon Soar	01509 416185
Carol Westbury	111, Cotes Road, Barrow upon Soar	01509 412771
Alan Willcocks	43, The Banks, Barrow upon Soar	01509 413996
Ginnie Willcocks	43 The Banks, Barrow upon Soar	01509 413996

**Humphrey Perkins Community Centre Officers**

<i>Community secretary</i>	<i>HPS</i>	<i>01509 412385</i>	
<i>Peter Nutkins</i>	<i>Head teacher</i>	<i>HPS</i>	<i>01509 412385</i>

## **Structure, governance and management**

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Membership of the Charity is open to all residents of Barrow-upon-Soar and the surrounding district on payment of a small subscription. The Charity holds an annual general meeting to which the public is invited. The Charity is governed by its Trustees (the Council) who meet on average four times each year. Trustees are typically long serving. They are appointed at the AGM each year and new Trustees are recruited either by self-selection or because they support specific aspects of the work of the Charity. There is a simple induction process and training is typically delivered during meetings of the Council.

A number of sub-committees organise specific activities and report to the Council. Full details of these subcommittees appear in the detailed reports, forward plans and budgets which follow.

The Charity uses the names BUSCA, Barrow Voice, Barrow Panto Group, Barrow Youth Theatre, BUSCA New Community Building Committee, Barrow Heritage Group, Barrow Twinning Group and Barrow Youth Action Group.

## **Aims and Objectives**

(a) To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Barrow-upon-Soar and the neighbourhood ("the area of benefit") without distinction of gender, race, occupation, disability or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the condition of life for the said inhabitants

(b) To establish or secure the establishment of a Community Centre ("the Centre") and to maintain and manage, or to co-operate with any local statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the Association and its constituent bodies in furtherance of the above objects

## **Financial review**

The Charity has no long term financial commitments, in particular it has no employees nor does it have any tenant's liabilities. It accordingly has little need for reserves and the Council ensures that, within prudent limits, the money raised by the Charity is spent to further its objects. Full details of the expenditure for the year appear in the financial statements below.

## **Public benefit statement**

The Trustees have referred to the general guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when planning the Association's activities. This report looks at how the activities of the Charity contributed to public benefit in 2014 and how they will do so in 2015.

Signed **Judith M Rodgers**

Date Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015

## Reports 2014

### Chair

I will pick out four noteworthy features of 2014 for BUSCA

1. The Trustees have completed the change in status of BUSCA to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and launched the “NEW BUSCA” to the village in a community event targeting community groups and residents. This transfer has turned out to be of great significance for our major new project concerning the library. It has also meant that we now need to seek ways of building a membership.
2. BUSCA has been working jointly with the Parish Council to take up the County Council’s package to take over Barrow library as a community partnership library. This has been possible because BUSCA is now a CIO. It is an exciting if daunting project. It has galvanised residents to come forward as volunteers and a new BUSCA sub group has formed: the Library Management Committee. During 2014 our Registration of Interest was accepted.
3. Following the retirement of Carol Westbury as Community Director at HPS we have established working relationships with her replacements. This has included meeting with senior management staff to discuss the implications for the various BUSCA sub-groups in the light of the new hire charges which have been raised very significantly. We were very relieved to find that BUSCA activities qualify for a 40% discount. We thank HPS for this acknowledgment of BUSCA’s role in the past and also as a very frequent user of the Community Centre. We are concerned about the inability of many other groups to afford to use the centre.
4. John Nurse, site administrator has built a very effective new website for BUSCA: [www.busca.org.uk](http://www.busca.org.uk) and we are extremely grateful to him. The website editors are now routinely administering all four village websites: leicestershirevillages, Signpost, Heritage and the new BUSCA website. They will shortly have to work out how to deal with the closure of the leicestershirevillages site which will probably also include the Heritage site.

BUSCA continues to make a significant contribution to the well-being of Barrow residents of all ages and I would like to thank the many members who work so tirelessly to achieve this. I would also like to thank the Trustees who oversee all this activity. BUSCA is more than usually in the limelight as it works to achieve a successful take over of the library.

Judith M Rodgers *Chair*

### Treasurer

During the year, unrestricted, undesignated reserves decreased from £13,075 to £12,737. However, the insurance premiums for both 2014 and 2015 were paid in 2014, which effectively adds £1261 to the comparable figure for 2014.

We welcomed the Barrow and District Twinning Association into our Association during the year and their accounts are now incorporated into ours.

Income from our dances fell from £4241 in 2013 to £3272 in 2014.

The Panto Group’s “Murder Mystery” performance made an amazing profit of £1241, which was shared with Multiple Sclerosis Trust. Barrow’s Got Variety was also a financial success with the full profit of £665.44 donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

The Panto production of Mother Goose made a modest profit of £277 but there was no Youth Theatre production in the year.

Barrow Voice in 2013/14 made a small surplus of £244 which is particularly commendable as the squeeze on advertising income continues.

The bar profit for the year was £1835, a welcome increase from the 2013 figure of £1330.

The Community Building Designated Fund increased from £24,320 to £26,864.

The funds of the Youth Action Group decreased from £1805 to £1623.

David Rodgers. *Hon. Treasurer*

## **Community Centre at Humphrey Perkins**

We no longer have a member of Humphrey Perkins staff to take over Carol's role of reporting to us on the activities of the community centre. Indeed, with the steep rise in hire charges it is difficult to know whether the Centre is being used much at all. This is having a knock on effect on the profits of the bar and therefore the income into BUSCA.

### **GROUPS Reports and Review of Forward Plan 2014 Forward Plan and Budgets 2015**

#### **1 Barrow Voice**

- The editorial team consists of ten people including a young newcomer
- Owing to the continued need to keep costs down the magazine was kept to 32 pages throughout the year.
- More articles were produced than ever before: 103 whereas in 2013 the total was 95. The quality of the photographs continued to improve but shortage of space meant that we couldn't always do them justice.
- In the Autumn Mulberry Square redesigned the front cover making the magazine more eye-catching.
- For the first time a tune, 'Sailing By' in the BV website was linked to an article to allow readers to read and listen at the same time.
- The Parish Council decided to reduce Barrow Focus to one page making more space for articles but lessening income
- The start of WW1 was commemorated both in the Spring and Winter editions as were other national events and pre-occupations (eg World Cup, selfies)
- The magazine continued to carry out its crucial role of informing and commenting on village events in Village Life including many feedback articles from village organisations.
- BUSCA tried to recruit members through the magazine and together with the Parish Council gave out information to save Barrow Library.
- Sports writing became somewhat eclectic with articles on hacking out, Petanque, Nordic Walking and Shotokan Karate.
- There was a reduction in Business articles, a trend we need to address.

#### **Forward Plan 2014 -15**

- To support Barrow Community Association ( BUSCA) and other village organisations.
- To keep the magazine financially sound.
- To produce both print and web editions.
- To continue to maintain a village focus for the majority of the articles but create a magazine that appeals to a wider demographic ; young and old, established and newer residents, business and leisure readers .
- To include articles which reflect important changes taking place in the village. These include the village becoming more service- centre based reflecting in turn the increasing nature of Barrow's growth in housing to cater for commuters working in Loughborough, Leicester, Nottingham.

- To monitor housing developments in Barrow and the BRAG campaign.
- To report on major educational changes affecting village life.
- To keep horizons wide and ensure a variety of content and freshness by including articles on neighbouring villages, people from out of Barrow, or events occurring abroad with Barrow connections or consequences.
- To improve the quality of the photographic content by developing a wider pool of photographers. .
- To encourage new members to join the editorial team
- To feature news stories that matter to local people.
- To celebrate the lives and achievements of Barrow people with a focus on young as well as old.

### Budget 2014/15

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Advertising	9,778	* Production costs	9,296
		Expenses	80
		Web hosting	120
		<b>Transfer to General Fund</b>	<b>282</b>
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	<b>9,778</b>		<b>9,778</b>

NB: print costs will be held for 14/15 so costs to advertisers can be held also.

\* 32 page edition = £2324 x 4 = £ 9296

\* 2 x32 page editions + 2 x 36 page editions

\* 36 page edition = £2603 x 4 = £10412

## 2 Events Committee

### Annual Report 2014

- We achieved most objectives laid out in last year's Forward Plan including five dances. We continued to sustained the increase in profits from the dances by doing in-house catering.
- Staged two Centre Stage performances.
- Organised street market and entertainment at switching on of lights.
- We assisted with the Panto Group's Murder Mystery evening which was very well attended and was financially very successful for the BUSCA General account.
- We committed 100% of the profit from the raffle to the General Fund and 75% of the profit from the dances to the New Building Project.

## Forward Plan 2015

- Run six dances and continue to address the falling attendance from Barrow residents.
- Sustain the increase in profits from the dances by continuing to do the in house catering.
- Stage two or three Centre Stage performances.
- Organise street markets and entertainment at switching on of Christmas lights.

## Budget

Income		Expenditure	
(6) Dances	4500.00	(6) Dances	2500.00
2 Centre Stage Productions	1000.00	Centre Stage	950.00
Christmas Lights	280.00	Christmas Lights	500.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	5780.00		3950.00
		Transfer to New Building	1400.00
		Transfer to General Fund	430.00
			<hr/>
			1830.00

## 3 Heritage Group

### Annual Report 2014

- We have continued to meet regularly, about monthly. There are about 12 of us; everyone shares equally in the work.
- In March we were invited to speak to the Loughborough Archaeological Society about the personalities we had researched for the Luminaries and Notables exhibition. Five of us took part in this.
- We have become more involved in the Charnwood Roots project and have been to training sessions at the Record Office at Wigston and the Leicester University Library. We did some training in Field walking.
- Kathryn represents Local History Groups on the Advisory Board of the project.
- We have started to do some work on farming in the village which is one of the themes of the project.
- We have almost completed the work on the memorials at Holy Trinity. We have decided not to do a publication for the time being but to give the church a written record in a folder, so that it can be added to, or amended. We will also put all the information on the web site. As part of this project we have had the Latin inscription on the Cave memorial translated and will give a framed copy of it to the church.
- We entered a competition for the best exhibition done on a shoe string but we didn't win.
- We always try to answer any queries which come through the web site.
- Ginnie led a walk around the village for a U3A group

### Forward Plan 2015

- To continue the involvement with the Charnwood Roots project.
- To try and solve the problem of storage of material.

## Budget

Members of the group are happy to do their own printing and cover other small incidental expenses.  
Contribution to cost of speakers and hire of rooms and display material     £100

## The Natural History Heritage Group

At present there is no interest in other people getting involved in new natural history projects.

## 4. BUSCA Library Committee and Library Management Committee

### Report 2014

During much of 2014 the County Council has been engaged in public consultation about the future of its 36 community libraries. In November 2014 the LCC voted to approve the proposal to support local communities to take over the running of their library with a generous financial and support package. BUSCA had started to work on this with Barrow Parish Council in the summer. A public meeting run by BUSCA to seek support and offers to volunteer from residents was well attended and gave BUSCA and the PC confidence to proceed. It was agreed that BUSCA should form the Community Partnership with the LCC and the Parish Council has resolved to provide financial support to employ a part time coordinator of volunteers. The BUSCA Library Committee has had its Registration of Interest (to take over the running of Barrow library for the community) accepted by the County Council so we are now working on writing the required Business Plan. A new Library Management Committee has formed.

#### **Forward Plan 15**

- The aim is that this new Library Management Committee will, in time, take over all aspects of running the library and that the BUSCA Library Committee will either disband or fade into the background.
- Both committees are working on the Business Plan and other formalities that will lead to the acceptance of a Service Level Agreement with the LCC.
- Once we have been accepted we will advertise, interview and employ a part time coordinator of volunteers.
- That person will be supported and overseen by the LMC
- We are looking at other ways in which the library building can be used by the community
- We anticipate that we will take over the running of the library in early autumn
- Sessions will be manned by volunteers of which there are 40+ to date.
- Support from the LCC includes financial support but it is tapered over 7 years.

#### **Budget**

In year 1 of the takeover, costs are mostly borne by the LCC. Main costs to BUSCA are salary for the coordinator (approx. £12,000) and insurance (£200 est). Barrow Parish Council has budgeted £17,000 for 2015/16 which will be used as a grant to BUSCA to cover these costs.

### **5. Pantomime and Youth Theatre**

#### **Annual Report 2014**

The Panto Group completed the objectives set for 2014.

The Pantomime Mother Goose was performed in March and was well received although ticket sales were down.

The trip to the Panto Alliance was disappointing as the whole ethos of the evening seemed to be too competitive and the general feeling was not to attend next year.

Sadly Gordon our friend and ex director of Youth Theatre died in February losing his battle with cancer. It was decided to produce a charity event in his memory in Nov to raise funds for Macmillan. This took the form of Barrow's got Variety and was hosted by Andy Kenneth, Gordon's son. Although the Youth Theatre was on hold a small number of young members, directed by Abi, performed two numbers in the show and it was a most successful evening with a capacity audience.

We gained a new pianist, Wendy Miller, who played for the variety concert and then to our delight was happy to continue playing and being the Musical Director for the Panto Group.

We were very disappointed that Humphrey Perkins did not honour the agreement relating to the sharing of radio mics and we were obliged to make a 50% contribution to repair arising from school use.

### Forward Plan 2015

- Group trip to Hinckley Concordia Theatre
- Panto Group to put on Aladdin on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> March directed by Abi Crossley
- Decision by majority of panto cast not to enter Pantomime Alliance Awards evening
- Murder Mystery one off production in July ( private function)
- Annual MM performance in Oct/Nov
- Intention for Youth Theatre to put on a musical show in Nov (show to be decided) as various adult roles are now filled.

### Budget 2015

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	£		£
Pantomime 2015 receipts	3000	Cost of Pantomime production	2700
Subscriptions Panto	350	Theatre visit (transport subsidy)	300
		Total	3000
		<i>Balance carried forward</i>	<i>350</i>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>3350</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>3350</b>

## 6

### New Community Building Committee

#### Annual Report 2014

- Following the bitter disappointment of the previous year when we failed to procure the site off Sileby Road. we had a slow start to the year
- The owners for that site submitted an application for planning permission to put mobile homes on the site. This was refused but another amended application followed .
- It was mutually agreed with Peter Nutkin that we would investigate the new site and return to discussion about the use of the Humphrey Perkins campus if it proved unsuitable. These talks have not yet resumed.
- We used the small grant from the Parish Council to consult the residents on their priorities for inclusion in the facility. Day care facilities for the elderly came top of the list.
- We negotiated with the Neighbourhood Planning Group to include a question on the need for a New Community Facility in the village in their whole village survey. Results from that survey showed that a significant number of residents consider that a new facility is needed.

- We have subsequently found another site which might be suitable for a much smaller building which could accommodate some of the services which are needed in the village. This may have to be planned in conjunction with the Library building to fulfil the needs which have been identified as essential.
- We had stalls at the Christmas lights switch on and several other community events.
- Have held dances in partnership with the Events Committee and have raised funds for both the New Community Building and general BUSCA funds.
- **We thank all the Events committee for their continued support and hard work. They are a great group of people. Particular thanks to Christine who organises the catering.**

### **Forward Plan 2015**

- As the site at Sileby Road has twice been refused planning permission to have mobile homes, we will try to resume negotiations with the owners. We will also pursue two other options
- To progress the most recent site, which could be attainable.
- We are in the process of seeking help from professional planning consultants to move the whole process along. To do an in depth analysis of the sites which are available. To produce a viable Business Plan.
- To consolidate requirements that have been highlighted by residents for inclusion in the project.
- To report to the BUSCA Trustees any progress that is made.
- To look for other partners in this venture eg LCC/RCC. To seek volunteer members for the team.
- To continue to explore other sites for a New Building.
- To look for funding by applying for grants and researching available loan facilities. To pursue opportunities for S 106 and other funding.
- To improve our web-site in order to communicate with residents and enlist support.
- To run local fundraising and consultations and run dances in conjunction with the Events team.
- To inform the Parish Council of our progress in line with our aim to fulfil the findings of the Parish Plan and satisfy residents' needs. To ask that they support BUSCA in obtaining funding.

### **Budget 2015**

Estimated income from dances	£2000
Estimated income from other events	£1000

## **7 Twinning Association**

### **Report for 2014**

We have about 45 members.



Unfortunately, the swingeing increases in letting fees at Humphrey Perkins will inevitably deter customers and result in an even lower level of turnover. We have again increased our prices and hope that these will be acceptable to our customers.

David Rodgers.

## 9 Fossil Trail

### Annual Report 2014

There have been no evident incidents involving the fossils. Both the junior and the adult Fossil Trail leaflets are well used. A new edition of the adult Fossil Trail has been ordered and includes information about the new fossil sculpture on Sibley Rd.

### Forward Plan 2015

- Maintain the sculptures
- Keep the trail leaflets topped up

### Budget 2014

There is no income or expenditure

10 Website administrators for : [www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoar.org.uk) and [www.barrowsignpost.info](http://www.barrowsignpost.info) and [www.barrowuponsoarheritage.org.uk](http://www.barrowuponsoarheritage.org.uk) and [www.busca.org.uk](http://www.busca.org.uk)

### Annual Report 2014

Barrow is still consistently at the top of the 100 top leicestershirevillages sites (eg 55,000 in 3 months Oct – Dec compared with 39000 for the Rothley site (2<sup>nd</sup>)). We continue to monitor our hits regularly. The site has continued to develop, particularly in the business section. Some community groups have updated their own pages. The Site Administrators have continued updating basic content. The four lv Site Administrators have agreed to manage the new BUSCA site as well as the Signpost and Heritage websites. There is a substantial linking between the new site and the lv site. Thanks to John for his creation of the BUSCA site.

**We have had notice of withdrawal of support at County Council level and we have already attempted to shape what powers we are left with. The whole lv site is due to be withdrawn from August 2016.**

### Forward Plan 2015

We will...

- continue to operate, update and develop the sites for the benefit of all residents
- identify and create new community pages
- create pages for new Barrow businesses
- continue to support the Heritage website and help its members to add data themselves
- continue to work as site administrators for the Barrow Signpost website, in particular by helping to keep both sites up to date and by web-linking the two wherever possible.
- manage the new BUSCA site that has been built by John Nurse.
- try to get cemetery records onto the village site
- **fully involve ourselves in any consultation relating to reducing the administration and support by LCC in 2015/16. We will continue to push for what we need in the way of tools and facilities.**
- **We will start to plan for the eventual disappearance of the lv site and transference to another site**

### Budget

No income and no anticipated expenditure unless we have to set up a new site and pay for web-hosting.

## 11 Special Projects

### Annual Report: Special Projects 2014

- BOSCAPS underwritten up to £500 as usual (*Not needed*)
- Christmas Lights budgeted at £500 (*Achieved with a £90 profit*)
- Continue to support the work of the New Community Building committee (*on-going*)
- Produce a new print of Walk 2 leaflet. (*Achieved*)
- Produce a new print of Historic Places in Barrow (*Achieved*)
- Produce a leaflet about cycle ride routes in and around Barrow (*On going*)

- Achieve Charitable Incorporated Organisation status (*Achieved*)
- Run a NEW BUSCA launch on May 20<sup>th</sup> and combine it with a Welcome Community evening (*Achieved*)

### **Special Projects 2015**

- BOSCAPS to be underwritten up to £500 as usual
- Christmas Lights to be budgeted at £500
- Continue to support the work of the New Community Building committee
- Produce a new print of Walk 1 leaflet.
- Continue to work towards taking over Barrow's Community Library via a Community Partnership with the LCC and financial and moral support from the Parish Council
- Support website administrators is finding a solution to the disappearance of the leicestershirevillages site

### **11 List of publications**

- Adult Fossil Trail leaflet (new edition)
- Junior Fossil Trail
- Street Map
- Heritage Walks I ( "Round the Edge" and "Barrow's Jitties")
- Heritage Walks II (Miller's Bridge etc) (new edition)
- Heritage Leaflet III (The Wild life of Millennium Park)
- Places of Historic Interest (new edition)
- The Archaeology of Barrow
- "People and Places" by Arthur Gardner and Chris Bates
- Barrow Signpost website and its advertising flier
- Barrow Voice (quarterly) (with its website)
- Welcome Pack pocketed wallet
- Wildlife of Millennium Park