

## Useful Information

**Beat Officer:** WPC Susan (Pip) Walker 0845 8505505

**PCSO:** Clare Beale 0845 8505 505

**Crime Stoppers:** 0800 555 111

**Parish Clerk:** Andrew Wise 01235 511427

**Parish Council Chairman:** Roger Haycock 812202

**OCC/SODC Councillor:** Patrick Greene 07899 878 344

**Parish Transport Representative:** Ros Templeman 07969349 831

**Village Hall Bookings:** Anne Silvester, 17 Bear Lane 811646

**Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Nora Haycock 812202

**Concessionary Travel Tokens:** 0845 612 2422

**Mobile Library:** Wk 1 Wednesdays: Toddler Care 15.55 - 16.20

Wk 2 Wednesdays: Bus Shelter 10 - 10.15

**Postal Services:** The Village Hall, Brightwell -

Monday to Friday: 9.30 - 12.30. 01491 834728

**Citizens' Advice Bureau,** Didcot 01235 813632

**Refuse & Recycling Collections:** alternate Thursdays

**Garden Waste Collection:** alternate Thursdays

**Black Bin Dates:** Dec 3/17, Jan 2/14/28 Feb 11/25

**Green & Garden Bins:** Dec 10/ 23 , Jan 8/21, Feb 4/18

Change of dates over the holiday period indicated in **bold**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY HAVE MOVED TO THE PREVIOUS PAGE**

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# North Moreton News

Issue 87

December 2009

In the December 2005 issue of *North Moreton News*, Gerald Howat welcomed Tim and Alison to the Bear and wished them well "in a task which is demanding, if rewarding; long in hours and short in recreation" (a description with which I am sure that they agree!) and expressed the hope that the Bear would regain its place in village affections.

Under Tim & Ali's guidance The Bear at Home, as is now known, has certainly achieved the latter with a faithful following from both North Moreton and the surrounding villages.

The forthcoming lengthy closure of Sands Bridge will be an inconvenience for most of us, but for the Bear it will be more than that. It is bound to mean a big drop in trade from South Moreton and The Astons, not only over Christmas and New Year but also during February/March - a time of year which is traditionally difficult for all pubs and restaurants.

In December 2005 Gerald promised Tim and Ali the support of the village. In December 2009 (and during the months that follow), that support will be vital. Why not make an New Year resolution to make an extra booking for lunch or dinner or just drop in for a regular pint. or a coffee.

Remember - this village needs The Bear as much as, right now, The Bear needs you!

## North Moreton Parish Council

### Parties

As we are entering the season when many of us hold parties, perhaps now is a good time to suggest a few things. North Moreton residents are very tolerant and welcome their neighbours enjoying themselves. But they don't expect to be kept awake most of the night by someone else's noise. There is no rule, but a tradition in the village, that music (or any other activity which can be heard by neighbours) is terminated or turned down at midnight. Please also try to ensure that visitors park their cars without inconveniencing other people and don't leave with a screeching of brakes and blare of horns and more slamming of doors than is necessary.

### Thanks - again

Once again the Parish Council wishes to thank Brian Hayes and Mark Bailie for their continuing tremendous efforts in tidying up the playground corner of the Recreation Ground. The fencing around the playground is now back in a good state and a vast amount of scrub which has grown in the last few years has been cut back and will be burned soon. A large amount of assorted scrap metal has gone for recycling.

*Roger Haycock, Chairman NMPC*

## Closure of Sands Road Bridge

As everyone is by now aware, Sands Bridge will be officially closed to all traffic, including cyclists and pedestrians, on 14th December and is not scheduled to reopen fully until 12th April 2010. However, Carillion, the company carrying out the works, have assured NMPC that they will allow pedestrians and cyclists to cross when it is safe to do so. There will be periods, particularly during the first few weeks of the closure, when for safety reasons this will not be possible and others when it may be necessary to wait to be escorted across. Carillion and Network rail will do their best to keep residents informed and we would urge everyone to cooperate with the onsite workforce as safety considerations are paramount.

During the period that Sands Road bridge and the bridge carrying Bridleway 3 are impassable (the two bridges are being demolished/reconstructed simultaneously) there is regrettably no alternative way of crossing this busy main line apart from Fulscott Bridge or the Sadsgroves underpass. The underpass is subject to winter flooding and Network Rail are in the process

## Dates for your Diary including Forthcoming Events

### DECEMBER

|    |                     |                    |              |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 5  | Handel's Messiah    | Cuddeson Village   |              |
| 6  | Christingle Service | All Saints' Church | 10.30 am     |
| 9  | W I Meeting         | Village Hall       | 7.30 pm      |
| 20 | Carol Service       | All Saints Church  | 6.00 pm      |
| 22 | Carol Singing       | The Bear at Home   | from 7.30 pm |
| 24 | Crib Service        | All Saints' Church | 4.00 pm      |
| 24 | Midnight Mass       | All Saints' Church | 11.30 pm     |

**For services on Christmas Day, please see The Link**

### JANUARY

|    |                        |                              |         |
|----|------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| 11 | Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall                 | 8.00 pm |
| 13 | WI New Year Dinner     | The Bear at Home             | 7.30 pm |
| 16 | Charity Wine Tasting   | The Bear at Home (Ian Baker) | 8.00 pm |

### FEBRUARY

|    |                        |                                  |         |
|----|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 6  | MCC Quiz               | Village Hall (Nic Cross)         | 7.30 pm |
| 10 | WI Meeting             | Village Hall                     | 7.30 pm |
| 13 | 'Food of Love' Concert | All Saints' Church (Alison Esse) | 7.30 pm |
| 14 | Valentine's Dinner     | The Bear at Home                 |         |

### MARCH

|    |                   |                                 |                       |
|----|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6  | 'Mamma Mia' Disco | Village Hall                    | TBC (Libby Macdonald) |
| 13 | Book Sale         | Village Hall (Gar & Kate Evans) | 10 am - 4 pm          |

### MAY

|   |                    |           |           |
|---|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 9 | North Moreton Fete | The Croft | 2 - 4 p m |
|---|--------------------|-----------|-----------|

### JUNE

|    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 6  | Open Gardens in North Moreton for SM School | (Susannah Stobart)                     |
| 12 | Hat Stand Opera                             | North Moreton House Barn (Katie Miles) |

### JULY/AUGUST

|             |                         |                                 |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 29 /7 - 1/8 | Beer & Cricket Festival | The Bear/The Croft ( Tim & Nic) |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|

## Wine Tasting for CLIC Sargent

Many of you will know that recently Zara Baker benefited from the amazing services of CLIC Sargent during her chemotherapy treatment. To help raise funds for this charity, her father, Ian will be running in the London Marathon in April 2010.

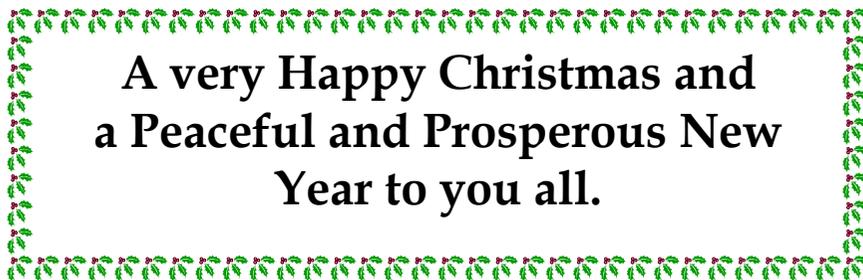
As part of his fundraising, and with the kind assistance of Ed Squires of Dedicated Wines and Tim and Alison Howarth, Ian is organising an evening of wine tasting at 8 p.m. on Saturday 16th January at The Bear at Home, North Moreton. Ed will be guiding us through a range of hand selected wines which will be both fun and educational.

More details to follow soon but please consider keeping this date free and bringing your friends. If you are interested in coming please let Ian know as places will be limited - [suseandian@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:suseandian@tiscali.co.uk).

## Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal

A big thank you to Elsie Harrison, Penny Busby and Caroline Affleck for carrying out the house to house collection. We have not yet been advised of the amount collected but will include this in the January Link. The collection taken at the Remembrance Service on 8th November raised £130.50.

Your generous support for this excellent cause is much appreciated.



laying hardcore in an endeavour to minimise this although it is inevitable that the paths leading to and from the underpass will be wet and muddy. NMPC are aware that the route suggested by OCC (via NM Footpath 1) will be very difficult for pedestrians during the winter months and impossible for cyclists. However Hall Farm have kindly agreed that during the closure pedestrians and horse riders can use the track which leads from the road (alongside Sherwood Cottage) to the underpass which although muddy in parts, is shorter. This route is not suitable for cyclists who will have to use the A4130. We understand from people who have cycled this road recently that, although not pleasant, it does feel safer than before the introduction of the 40 mph speed limit.

The temporary metal structure alongside the existing bridge has been constructed to carry utilities and is not suitable for use by the public.

Network Rail will be issuing regular weekly updates which will be displayed on the village notice boards but will normally only be distributed via the email system when there is something specific to report to North Moreton residents. If however you would like to receive them all, please advise [Roger.f.haycock@btinternet.com](mailto:Roger.f.haycock@btinternet.com).

As during previous closures the 95 bus service will operate from South Moreton over Fulscot Bridge to the A4130 then double-run into North Moreton to turn at the junction of High Street and Long Wittenham Road and *vice versa*. The stops at Dunsomer Hill and North Moreton Village Hall cannot be served in either direction because of time and other constraints. Amended timetables have been circulated to most residents either by the village email or by hand and are displayed in the bus shelter and on the village hall notice board. Train connections at Didcot are unaffected.

The Friday / Saturday evening 130 service will loop through North Moreton (bus shelter only) to rejoin the A4130 then double run to South Moreton, turning round at the Sands Road junction, returning over Fulscot Bridge. The Friday 131 service to Wallingford will use Fulscot Bridge and then loop through North Morton via the bus shelter.

If you have any queries regarding these services, please contact the North Moreton PTR, **Ros** Templeman ( 01235 813913, 07969 349 831 or [georos1@aol.com](mailto:georos1@aol.com) ).

## Moreton Table Tennis Club

MTTC restarted its club night sessions end of August after the summer break. From this point onwards the club has seen many new faces and gained a number of new members, some who have just recently moved into the area. It is really nice to see a real mixture of ages wanting to participate, although the majority of newcomers have been juniors.

Members and visitors have enjoyed the practice sessions which are normally held on a Wednesday night between 7:30pm – 9:30pm where play is continuous on 5 tables. These sessions have proved very popular with approximately 15-20 players participating, maybe because the sport has been shown on TV quite a lot recently! Sessions in October – November have averaged 24 players.

Over the weekend of 19th/20th September the club hosted the Oxfordshire County Table Tennis trials for Juniors, Seniors and Veterans. Club members Charlie Lane and Nathan Cheong took part in the Juniors trials, while Nick Pattman and Joe Cheong participated in the seniors. Charlie finished 2nd and Nathan finished 8th, which is where they are officially ranked in the county. In the seniors Joe finished 4th and Nick 5th.

In October club, members Charlie Lane and Jessica Cheong represented Oxfordshire in the Junior county championships which was played in Evesham. Nick Pattman and Joe Cheong also represented the county the following weekend in Wellingborough, this time it was for the Oxfordshire Senior County team.

The new DDTTA league started week commencing 21st September and we have again entered 6 teams, one in each of the 5 DDTTA divisions with 2 in division 5.

The club is always open to anyone interested in playing socially or competitive and encourages all ages as well. Within the next few months it is expected that we will again start a junior coaching program. Further details about the club can be found on its website [www.mttc.moonfruit.com](http://www.mttc.moonfruit.com)

*Paul Cheong, MTTC*

## Be the Change

On Sunday afternoon, 4 October Sarah Mook very kindly hosted a “Be the Change” climate change workshop.

Sarah, assisted by Change Management consultant Madeleine Mauwer, most ably facilitated the workshop which was designed to help us consider:

Where we are now?

How did we get here?

What does it mean for our future?

Is it possible to change what the future has in store for us?

What can we do to help?

What might my next steps be?

The theme for the afternoon was one of fun and discovery, game playing to get to know each other - role playing to get to work with one another. Sara and Madeleine were supported by Chris Smith, a story teller from the Oxford Story Museum. Also there was a member of “Sustainable Wallingford” whose mission is to build a more sustainable town and community in Wallingford and its surrounding area.

The highlight for many of the dozen or so villagers who attended, in addition to the seemingly endless supply of tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits was a very entertaining and informative video on materials economy entitled “The Story of Stuff”, a fascinating 20-minute animated film which gives a few pointers as to where we might be going wrong!

The workshop identified around fifty ideas of what our next steps might be, which in addition to some very exciting initiatives for village cider making, included ideas for increased lift-sharing and safer cycle routes to Wallingford and Didcot, which Ros Templeman will take forward in her Parish Council public transport role. Apparently, we should also attend Parish Council meetings and go to the pub more.

The story of stuff video is available on YouTube, Google videos and at [www.thestoryofstuff.com](http://www.thestoryofstuff.com) and further info about Sustainable Wallingford is at [www.sustainablewallingford.org](http://www.sustainablewallingford.org).

*John Skevington*

## Dorothy Woodall

Many residents will remember Dorothy Woodall who lived in North Moreton from 1960 to 1999 first at Mount Pleasant, then The Pannels and finally Moreton Cottage from whence she moved to Rush Court in 1999.

Her daughter, Kate Johnstone, writes:

“Mother died at Watford House, in New Mills, Derbyshire, nearby to us in Mellor, on Wednesday 7th October. I was lucky to be with her at the time and although her death was not unexpected - she was nearly 95 - she got a chest infection and died very quickly, within 24 hours. She was cremated at Stockport Crematorium on October 14th. North Moreton was represented by Anne Howat and her daughter Gill Bossenger.

We are intending to scatter her ashes in North Moreton, where she lived for 40 years and which she considered to be her home.”

*If you would like to get in touch with Mrs Johnstone, I will be happy to pass on her contact details. Ed*

## **The Wave March** ([/www.stopclimatechaos.org/search/node](http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/search/node))

The Stop Climate Chaos Coalition represents 11 million members across 100 UK organisations, from the Women’s Institute and RSPB to Oxfam and Unison. All are united in their demand for an end to dirty coal, and a fair and just international climate change deal that protects the worlds’ poorest communities.

On **Saturday 5th December 2009**, 12.00pm till 3.00pm, the UK’s biggest ever demonstration in support of action on climate change will flood the streets of central London, ahead of crucial UN climate talks in Copenhagen.

There will be a group going from North Moreton. .... email [Sarah.mook@btoopenworld.com](mailto:Sarah.mook@btoopenworld.com) or text 07808294669 if you would like to join us. All welcome, including children.

## Moreton Cricket Club

This year’s very successful activities ended with the club dinner and awards ceremony held at The Bear on the 14th November. It was a very good season for the club with some very notable performances both on and off the field. The main recipient of the awards was 'Bomber' Lancaster who produced a multitude of playing skills throughout the summer; this obviously impressed his fellow team mates who voted for him in vast numbers!! However, the main award, The Carpenter Cup, was deservedly won by Nigel Hessey for all his hard work during the season both playing and organising the cricket festival. Finally, our thanks go to the Social Secretary, Nic Cross, for organising the club dinner which turned into a very enjoyable evening. Nic's next event will be the Quiz which is due to take place on the 6th February - watch out for further details nearer the time and don't forget to book early as there is a limited number of places. Just prior to that the club AGM will be held at The Bear on the 15th January - A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

*Trevor Denning, President MCC*

## North Moreton Charitable Trust

If there is any young person in North Moreton who started Higher Education/University in 2008/9 and has not yet received a Book Grant from the NMCT, they should contact the Clerk to Trust, Nora Haycock, as soon as possible - [nora.haycock@btinternet.com](mailto:nora.haycock@btinternet.com) or call 01235 812202.

The Trust would also remind residents that allotments are still available at very reasonable rates - from £5 to £10 per annum depending on size. Please contact the Allotment Warden, Stuart Bell, on 07946 626 645 for more information.

### **Walnuts for Sale!**

Walnuts for sale straight from the tree. Only £1.50 a bag! Ideal Christmas present. All proceeds to the All Saints’ church.

Please call Vanessa Nash 811333 or email [nashness@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nashness@hotmail.co.uk).

## South and North Moreton Women's Institute

The Harvest Supper on October 14th was a very enjoyable occasion. A sit down meal was served to members, which was delicious. We welcomed Mr Ken Wells to our November meeting who gave an interesting talk on the history of the Thames Valley Police Force and kept us amused with stories and anecdotes from his time as a serving officer. Our President, Sandra Monk, will give a Sugar Paste demonstration at the December meeting. The New Year meal in January will be at The Bear, North Moreton, to which all members are welcomed.

The "Bee Tea" held in October may not have drawn in the crowds, but everyone who attended had a good time and enjoyed sampling the delicious cakes.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. in North Moreton Village Hall. We are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members. Please contact Sandra Monk on 812721 or Liz Elliot on 812562 for details.

*Penny Busby*

## North Moreton Village Hall

Thanks to the efforts of Kate and Gar Evans and their team, and, of course, your support, the October book sale raised over £1100! £500 of this has been retained in the Hall contingency fund and the balance donated to the Church Tower Fund.

A big thank you also to everyone who supported the recent Charity Christmas Card sale - the charities involved were pleased with their takings and Hall funds benefited from the sale of soup and the tombola organised by Val Bates, which between them raised £181.

The committee would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year and look forward to seeing you at our events in 2010!

*Nora Haycock, Chairman VHMC*

## Neighbourhood Watch

PCSO Paul Cole has now been transferred to duties in Wallingford town - we wish him well in his new area. PCSO Clare Beale is currently covering our area on her own but will be joined some time in the new year by a colleague who is currently on maternity leave.

A message has been received from Thames Valley Police regarding yet another scam being carried out in our area.

Residents are being urged to be on their guard against bogus officials offering to give council refunds, relating to council tax, business rates or benefits.

People are being called and told they qualify for a refund and then asked for their bank account details so the payment can be made. They are also informed an "admin" fee will be charged. Similar types of attempted fraud have been reported across the country. These can range from phone calls to emails.

South Oxfordshire and the Vale District Councils are both warning residents to be on their guard against these scams. Neither Council would phone or email to request details of bank accounts to refund overpayments. Neither would it charge for such a service. Anyone due a refund would receive a bill detailing exactly how much they are owed.

They add "We urge anyone who is unsure that a caller is genuine to ask them for their name and job title and then phone them back via the respective council switchboards - 01491 823000 for South residents and 01235 520202 for Vale residents. If the situation is suspicious, please report it to the police on 0845 8 505 505."

As well as being the 'season of goodwill', Christmas is also the 'season of increased activity' among the criminal fraternity! Do remember to use time switches etc to make your house look occupied at all times and when shopping, leave your vehicle in a well lit area and keep your purchases out of sight.

## Open Gardens - 6th June 2010

As mentioned in the October issue of *North Moreton News*, PRISMS will be organising Open Gardens in aid of South Moreton School funds.

This event will take place on **Sunday 6th June** and will now involve gardens in North Moreton only. A number of gardens have agreed to open but they could do with one or two more, particularly small ones.

If you would be willing to open your garden to the public, or would like to help in any way, please contact Susannah Stobart on 01235 810130 ([suseandian@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:suseandian@tiscali.co.uk)).

## North Moreton Fete 2010

- will be held on **Sunday 9th May** so mark this date in your diary now!!!



**St Peters Nursery & Farm Shop**  
 Bear Lane, North Moreton

**Open Daily from 10am in December**  
**FREE Local delivery on all Christmas Trees**



Pop down to choose your tree, pick up some fair-trade gifts & decorations and order your Christmas beef joint.  
 Call **Jon & Annetta** on **07850 040311/07855 951388**

The dates for refuse and recycling collections are now included in 'Useful Information' - which has moved to the back page.

Please note the change of collection days over the Christmas and New Year holidays.

## Planning an Event in 2010?

Are you considering organising an event in North Moreton in 2010? If so, why not check the on-line village events calendar to see what else is taking place on that date? The calendar is intended for both provisional and confirmed events, both public open events and private functions which may include a large number of villagers and therefore impact any other event occurring on the same date.

The aim of the online calendar is to provide a view of upcoming events in the village in order to prevent clashes and double bookings. Confirmed events will be published as usual in the *North Moreton News* and on the events page of North-Moreton.com – <http://www.north-moreton.com/events>.

To consult the online calendar go to the following link: <http://www.north-moreton.com/forum/calendar.php> which provides a month per page view. You can scroll through the months by clicking the subsequent month button at the bottom of the page. If you would like to add your own event to the calendar - either confirmed or provisional - please contact Nora ([Nora.Haycock@btinternet.com](mailto:Nora.Haycock@btinternet.com)) or Sonia ([admin@north-moreton.com](mailto:admin@north-moreton.com)) who will post your event onto the calendar.

*Sonia Willson*

*Please see page 15 of this publication for forthcoming events and other dates for your diary. Ed.*

## North Moreton Toddler Group.....

meets every Thursday from 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. in North Moreton Village Hall. Fun activities and a sing-song for the children - coffee and a chat for the adults. £2.00 per session.  
 For more information contact Jane Gwinnell 01235 813635.

## South Moreton School

As always it has been a busy start to the new academic year at South Moreton Primary school! In the summer term the governors gathered pupil, parent and community views to inform the school's development plan and vision for South Moreton School. The outcomes of the visioning exercise were shared in a recent parent presentation.

In school the children developed their vision for the school starting with discussing the values and things that they felt were important about their school and all their ideas were collated. The children then collectively came up with a list of key values that they felt captured the essence of the school and from that created a logo. Every child has been given a badge bearing the logo which was funded by our very active and enthusiastic PRISMS (Parents in South Moreton School). The school council also voted to have the vision logo put onto school swimming hats, which will shortly be available and in addition we are planning to print the logo on to the reverse of school PE shirts. The whole exercise is a good example of the importance we place on pupil voice and involvement.



The children's logo

During the week commencing 9th November the school held their International week; this is an event that takes place each year and focuses on a different country. This year the children were learning about Africa. As well as having their usual lessons, they had a very exciting week looking at the geography, culture and traditions of Africa.

During the week the children had the fantastic opportunity to experience the following:

- Beadwork and storytelling with Rimas, a Masai lady from Kenya, who told wonderful stories and instructed the children in beadwork.
- Swahili or Amharic languages learning through visits from Tanzanian and Ethiopian nationals.
- Creating their own t-shirts using Adinkra block printing from the Ashanti people in Ghana. We are very grateful for the enormous hard work of Susannah Stobart, Jo Walshe and Mel Hawkins who prepared and ran these highly-creative sessions.
- Learning about conservation and wildlife
- and if that isn't enough they had a chance to sing, dance and play Djembe drums under the tutelage of the Nzinga Dance Group, an African Educational group.

The whole school celebrated the week in a shared assembly on the evening of Friday 13th November, where the Nzinga Group performed and the children showcased what they had learned. The local community were also invited to watch this truly colourful, musical experience.

*Debi Ripley, Parent Governor SMS*

## 'Food of Love' Recital

- a world-class musical celebration of love will be held in All Saints' Church. North Moreton is proud to welcome back Nicki Kennedy, one of the UK's most talented sopranos, over Valentine's weekend.

Ms Kennedy, whose operatic repertoire has taken her all over the world, last performed in a magical and thoroughly entertaining concert in our church back in 1996. She will be joined by tenor John Bowley for a special candle-lit evening performance on **Saturday 13th February**.

Programme details will be released nearer the time, but this will be a sell-out event so to secure your ticket (£20 each) please contact Alison Esse on 01235 813369, email [Alison\\_esse@mac.com](mailto:Alison_esse@mac.com).