

North Moreton News

Issue 101

June 2013

Useful Information

Beat Officer: - PC Steph Bromwich 101 or 0845 8505 505
PCSOs: Jennie Cox , Claire Beale & Taqwa Gilpin, call 101
or email: WallingfordAreaNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
Non-Urgent Police calls: 101
Crime Stoppers: 0800 555 111
NHS Non-Emergency Number: 111
Parish Clerk: Andrew Wise 01235 511427
Parish Council Chairman: Ros Templeman 07969 349 831
SODC Councillor: Leo Docherty 07908 686 706
OCC Councillor: Patrick Greene 07899 878 344
Parish Transport Representative: Ros Templeman 07969349831
Village Hall Bookings Alison Sanders NMVH@hotmail.com 810880
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: Nora Haycock 812202
Concessionary Travel: 0345 302 2313
Mobile Library: Wk 2 Wednesdays: Bus Shelter 10 - 10.15
Postal Services: The Village Hall, Brightwell:
Monday - Friday 9.30 - 12.30. 01491 834728
Astons Village Hall Tuesday 9.30 - 12.30
Citizens' Advice Line: 08444 111 444
Refuse & Recycling Collections: alternate Thursdays
Garden Waste Collection: alternate Thursdays with recycling
Black Bin dates: 6/20 June, 4/18 July, 1/15/30 August
Green & Garden Bins: 13/27 June, 11/25 July, 8/22 August
Bank Holiday changes marked in Bold.

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Email: nora.haycock@btinternet.com

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22nd August**

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www.North-Moreton.com*

Ding Dong Merrily – in North Moreton

You may have noticed that 2013 appears to be the year for North Moreton bells? In January a small committee was formed to see if anything could be done about the five ancient church bells, which without some restoration and re-fitting were becoming almost impossible to ring. Five months later, we are sufficiently confident to have obtained three quotes for the work, employ an architect/bell advisor and start applying for the multitude of permissions required.

It seems as though the bells have a momentum of their own! They have had some help. The North Berkshire Ringing Guild have provided a project manager, much expertise and funding. The fund was started, very fittingly, with donations in memory to Jack Jarvis, who died just before Christmas. Jack was our Bell Captain and was instrumental in keeping NM bells ringing. He had been ringing over 70 years, awarded for his services to the Guild and was a well-respected member of the ringing fraternity.

Some very successful money raising events have followed. North Moreton is an amazing village, and donations have arrived almost daily, some small, some large and all welcome. 'Please use this money to save our bells' is the universal message.

The Fund has received already, donations to provide the restoration and fittings for the two heaviest bells, plus a new treble bell, to augment the tower to a six-bell ring. We have been advised and are now considering constructing a ringing gallery, which will raise the floor for the ringers. This is aesthetically better for the Church than the proposed rope guide and makes perfect sense for ringers (more control) and for the congregation (increased floor area). It does however, add a further 50% to the proposed project cost.

Please continue to support forthcoming events. The Air Show on 25th August and the Safari Supper on 28th September will donate half their proceeds and do look out for Jo and Rob Nickless' honey: £1 from every especially labelled 340g pot comes to the bells. A very big THANK YOU to those involved. Plus, a Duck Race in July. To anyone new to duck racing, this is a mad and typical English village event. Look out for further information and come to cheer on your duck!

Beryl Jones

North Moreton Parish Council

Recreation Ground and Rushcroft

Now that Spring has finally sprung, we hope that villagers will avail themselves of the delights on offer in the recreation ground. On the basketball court next to the children's playground we have the new outdoor table tennis table – bats and balls can be hired from The Bear for a modest charge.

In the Rushcroft, the wild flowers are at last making an appearance after the interminable winter. The Parish Council has recently installed two picnic tables, strategically positioned so that you can enjoy a meal whilst keeping an eye on the cricket. As these tables are manufactured from recycled shotgun cartridges, no trees were harmed in their production, and we hope they will live up to their reputation for being durable, vandal-proof, and not worth stealing!

Reporting leaks

The village roads seem to be particularly prone to leaks from water mains at the moment, thanks to our Victorian pipe network. Thames Water are keen to minimise the loss of water through leaking pipes, and encourage residents to report leaks via the online form on their website <http://www.thameswater.co.uk/>. In their words, "If you see a leak or burst, don't assume we know about it - please let us know so we can get on with fixing it."

Ros Templeman, Chairman NMPC

Pig Roast and Air Pageant

Following the success of the previous events, Peter and Polly Vacher will again be welcoming residents and friends to Melhuish Farm on **Sunday 25th August 2013**. This time the proceeds will be split between the All Saints' Bell Fund and the Oxfordshire Air Ambulance.

The event, which was heavily oversubscribed last time, will again be by invitation only and application forms will be found in this month's Link or can be obtained from PVacher@aol.com.

Dates for your Diary including Forthcoming Events

JUNE

- 12 WI Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 15 Uptonogood Bike Ride & Family Fun Day
- 17/22 Local Community Music & Arts Festival
- 18 U3A meeting, Didcot Civic Hall 2pm
- 19 Music Festival Concert, All Saints' Church 7pm
- 22 Music Festival Proms, South Moreton School 5.30pm
- 22/23 Arts & Craft Exhibition, South Moreton Church 10am-4pm
- 29 Astons Recreation Ground Opening & Fun Day

JULY

- 8 NMPC Meeting Village Hall 8pm
- 10 W I Garden Meeting
- 25/28 Beer & Cricket Festival

AUGUST

- 14 WI Summer Outing
- 25 Pig Roast & Air Pageant, Melhuish Farm

SEPTEMBER

- 11 W I Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 28 Safari Supper

Winterbrook & Cholsey's East End

This community project book, edited by Tony Rayner, covers the area of Cholsey that lies between The Forty and Wallingford. The area's historical importance is perhaps best illustrated by the fact that over 450 years ago, some 60% of Cholsey's population lived there. The book has been made possible thanks to the generous contributions, in the form of recollections, documents and old photographs, by about 150 residents past and present.

These various sources help to reveal the history that lies behind the older, and even long lost, dwellings and the people who lived and worked in the area. Families that have long been represented locally may well feature in the 210-odd pages. Those who shaped the history of the area, including the rich and famous, are identified.

The vast majority of the 250 photographs and illustrations have never been published before, and parts of the magnificent Cholsey Estate Map of 1695 are shown in colour for the first time. Three pubs, a surprising range of former local businesses, rare photos of locally manufactured horse-drawn vehicles, sports, early public transport, key family histories, and old farming scenes are all included. There are also little-known links to celebrities every bit as famous as our own Agatha Christie. And much more, now saved and preserved for posterity.

Publication by Pie Powder Press due 1st June 2013, expected price £12.50. All profits to Cholsey 1000 plus.

Wallingford Museum

Can you help us?

Wallingford Museum is looking for people to help with the running of this popular attraction and we would love to hear from you if you have half a day or more to spare once a month. Our band of volunteer custodians are critical to the museum's success and we need people to greet visitors and be in attendance for a morning or afternoon once a month between March and November.

No previous experience necessary, other than a desire to meet people! Please contact Gerard Latham on 01491 832224 or email him at admin@wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

Moreton Cricket Club

The season is well under way with some very good results from both our Sunday and midweek teams. We progressed in the Friendly Cup by beating Aldworth but unfortunately lost to Waltham St Lawrence in the 2nd round of The National Village Cup. By the time you read this, hopefully we will have retained The Howat Cup in our annual match against Sunningwell which is being played at home this year.

You should also have received a fixture list by now - sorry slightly late, but your support is always welcome on our match days with plenty of refreshments available at The Bear! Don't forget ladies coaching is available every Tuesday from 6 p.m. and juniors (8-15year olds) on Fridays; you are all welcome from beginners to stars.

Finally, remember that date for your diary, The Beer and Cricket Festival running from Thursday 25th July through to Sunday the 28th.

Trevor Denning, President MCC

2013 North Moreton Safari Supper – Black & Gold with a Hat!

The popular Safari Supper returns to North Moreton on **Saturday 28th September** - put the date in your diary NOW! The theme will be Black and Gold with a Hat. Let your imagination flow - be your costume glitzy, stylish or simply plain, it's sure to be a night to remember!

The evening will begin and end at The Bear with starters, main course and desserts taken in-between at different houses. Tickets will be £22.50 and will be available in July – watch out for the flyer!

The Safari Supper is always a great evening but it does depend on enough people volunteering to host a course, for which you will receive a contribution towards the cost.

Sponsorship towards production costs of this event and prizes would be welcomed. All profits will be divided between North Moreton Bell Fund and the Oxfordshire Air Ambulance.

If you are able to contribute in any way please contact Libby Macdonald on the Safari Supper Committee: 812273. libbymac5@hotmail.co.uk.

North & South Moreton WI

At the March meeting Liz Elliot was elected President. Sue Harrison has been President for the past 3 years and she was warmly thanked for all her hard work.

Alison Sanders has planned another varied programme for the year, which started with the "Antiques Roadshow" in April. Simon Jones, a local auctioneer gave a brief talk about his long interesting career before examining some of the items brought by members. He was able to provide plenty of information about the artefacts, but unfortunately, no long-lost treasures were discovered.

This year's WI resolution concerns the decline of our high streets and town centres. We welcomed Kate Rayner, the Wallingford market Town Coordinator, who together with her colleague, Trudy Godfrey, talked about some of the plans for Wallingford and opened up a useful discussion when members were invited to contribute ideas to help make Wallingford a more interesting and exciting market town.

The speaker at the June meeting is Duncan Brown, who will give a talk on "First Citizen, the exciting lives of the Mayors of Abingdon". Jane Maggs has kindly invited us to her home for the July Garden Meeting, when we are hoping for a warm summer's evening! In August, the outing is to Waterperry Gardens.

The April coffee morning was very successful and it is hoped to have more of them on a regular basis. The Group Meeting held at Aston Tirrold Village Hall, but hosted by our WI, was a very interesting evening. A member of the Olympic rowing squad gave us an informative and amusing talk about the what it means to be part of such a memorable event. Her crew reached the final in their event, but unfortunately didn't come away with any medals. We look forward to tracking her progress at the next Olympic Games!

Visitors are always welcomed to our meetings, which take place on the second Wednesday of the month, mostly at North Moreton Village Hall. Please contact Liz Elliot on 01235 812562 for more information.

Penny Busby

Didcot & District University of the Third Age

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to one meeting as a taster before joining.

The June meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on **Tuesday 18th June** at Didcot Civic Hall. The topic will be **Butterflies and orchids of the Upper Thames Valley**.

Didcot & District U3A aims to encourage and enable older people in Didcot and District who are no longer in fulltime paid employment to help each other to share their knowledge, skills, interests and experience. *We have already set up over 20 interest groups including wine appreciation, science & maths, play reading, creative writing, walking, knitting, bridge, crafts, books, poetry, singing, badminton, photography, dance and 5 languages. There's something for everyone!*

Tel: 07804159993 Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

South Oxfordshire Sports

Rounders Activators required

Are you interested in Rounders or did you enjoy it at school? If so, South Oxfordshire District Council are looking for people enthusiastic about sport in their local community to become Rounders Activators. For more information please contact Hendriette Thorn on 01491 823175 or at hendriette.thorn@southandvale.gov.uk.

Uptonogood Bike Event & Family Fun Day

Mountain Bike events ranging from family rides, to an adult only endurance ride, to a little wheels ride, there is a bike event to satisfy the whole family! The event will take place in Upton, South Oxfordshire on **Saturday 15th June**. For more information please contact Bob on 07890 316126 / 01235 851222, visit the www.uptonogood.org.uk website or email info@uptonogood.org.uk.

ARC (Astons Recreation Committee) are proud to announce the

Opening Ceremony

Of the fabulous new playground and Family Fun Day

Saturday 29th June 3-5

Astons Recreation Ground

Everyone welcome!

3 p.m: Stalls/games begin... (along with delicious teas and cakes from 'Something for the Weekend', ice-creams, a beer 'n Pimms bar and face painting)

4 p.m: Speeches/opening ceremony.

4.15 Onwards -Games and refreshments continue, plus tug of war and general mayhem/merriment.

Earth Trust Events

At the Earth Trust, we believe the best way to look after the places we love is to change the way we live. We provide great opportunities for people of all ages to discover nature and the countryside. Our programmes of events, courses, children's learning and volunteering can inspire everyone to make a small difference and look after our local environment.

We have an extensive programme of events during the Summer months and particular highlights are the events for children and families starting on 23rd July and a week of summer schools for adults starting on 5th August.

Unless otherwise stated all events take place at Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ. Booking is essential; call 01865 407792 or email admin@earthtrust.org.uk.

See www.earthtrust.org.uk for more information.

North Moreton Village Hall

The 23rd March saw the first book sale to take place following Kate and Gar Evans' retirement. Unfortunately the weather was not on our side, and snow throughout the day saw a big reduction in the number of visitors from outside the village. Despite this we took over £700 and we thank everyone who braved the elements to support us.

Before the sale the organising committee decided to promote the large quantity of 'priced books' previously identified by Kate as being early editions or of interest to collectors etc. and therefore worth more than the standard 50p/£1 sale price. A goodly number were sold to a local dealer and others included in a local specialist book auction; the result of this was a magnificent 'one off' windfall of £1750! A big thank you to everyone who so generously donated books and, of course to all those who helped sort and shift (several times!) thousands of books.

Around £1000 of this money will be retained in the hall maintenance fund and the balance donated to the North Moreton Bell Fund.

Nora Haycock, Chairman VHMC

North Moreton Fête

For many years North Moreton Fête has been blessed with fine weather and 2013 was no exception! The winds of the previous days subsided, the sun shone and North Moreton residents were joined by visitors from the surrounding villages for an afternoon of traditional fun. One of the highlights was the unexpected display by our very own Hurricane - a great treat!

A huge thank you must go to everyone who provided the teas, stalls and numerous attractions as well as to the unsung heroes who every year willingly shift tables and chairs, lay out the car park and set up tents and gazebos. Special thanks also to newcomers Gaelle and William Pound for their help both before and on the day.

Thanks to everyone's hard work the day was a great success and over £2400 raised for Church funds. We look forward to 2014!!

South Moreton School

I am delighted to update you with news about the progress of the school. In February we opened the garden area of the outdoor space, with the school brass band playing and everyone cheering. Thank you to the many people who have supported this project. The trees are flourishing and grasses and bulbs are beginning to grow! Next we plan to create an all-weather surface for the outdoor learning space, hopefully in the summer holidays. This will provide opportunities for free flow experience and contribute to the school's focus on developing outdoor learning. We are lucky to have such beautiful grounds and look forward to offering expanded outdoor learning, including Forest School experience next year.

The whole school has enjoyed finding out about the exciting topic of Chocolate. This necessitated a trip to Cadbury World in April, which was great fun! On the last day of this term, the children will enjoy a French Day, involving a game of boules, learning to order from a French menu, a clothes naming game and other activities which develop French-speaking skills in a fun way. The children will work in their house groups where older pupils effectively support the younger ones.

Green Flag: Many congratulations to the eco committee who have achieved their fourth green flag! There are very few schools in Oxfordshire that have achieved the green flag! Well done to all!

Community survey: following the survey last year, we noted residents' concerns about parking and also seeking community links. The eco and school council have written a letter to all parents asking for their support with reducing traffic congestion around the school site and have designed a poster which is on the school website. The council are also working in conjunction with a travel advisory group. We are very grateful to The Crown pub for kindly agreeing to let cars park in their car park at school drop off and pick up times. We would very much like to know your current views about the school and ask you to complete a short questionnaire at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SMSvision2013>.

Thank you.

Susan Gopall, Head Teacher.

South Moreton School cordially invites you to the following events:

Wednesday 19th June at 7.00 p.m.
All Saints Church, North Moreton.

Hear the debut performance of the Astons and Moretons Community Choir and the South Moreton School Choir Also performing: Jazz ensemble, chamber choir & local musicians.

Tickets, priced £3, available by emailing the school:-
office.2566@south-moreton.oxon.sch.uk or in person.
Enquiries: 01235 813110

Saturday 22nd June and Sunday 23rd June 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
St John the Baptist Church, South Moreton

A display celebrating local artists' work including painting, photography and crafts. FREE ENTRY. Teas available.

Saturday 22nd June
South Moreton Primary School Sports Hall

A **FREE** second performance by the newly formed Community Choir with contributions by South Moreton Primary School Choir
Starts at 5:30 p.m. (doors open at 5.p.m.).

Bring your own picnic (& rug to sit on), wave your flag and enjoy a proms performance. Beer and Wine tent available.

