

Useful Information

PCSO: call the Wallingford Team on 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: Clerk@north-moreton.com 01235 511427
Parish Council Chairman: Ros Templeman 07969 349 831
SODC Councillor: Jane Murphy 07970 932054
OCC Councillor: Simon Clarke simon.clarke@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Church Benefice Office, Blewbury: 01235 850267
Parish Transport Representative: Veronica Gibbs 01235 813829
Village Hall Bookings Marion Shipton NMVH@hotmail.co.uk
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators:
Elm Road: Derrick Stevens Phone/Fax/Answer m/c 01235 812951
Rest of Village: Nora Haycock northmoreton08@btinternet.com 812202
Concessionary Travel: 0845 310 1111 or www.oxfordshire.gov.uk
Didcot Volunteer Centre: 01235 816709
Wallingford Volunteer Centre: 01491 836345
North Moreton Volunteers: 01235 812202, 813829 or 813006
Postal Services: The Village Stores, Brightwell:
Mon. - Fri. 9.30 - 5.30 Sat. 9.00 - 13.00 01491 835551
Astons Village Hall Tuesday 9.30 - 12.30
Citizens' Advice Line: 08444 111 444
Consumer Helpline: 03454 04 05 06 www.adviceguide.org.uk
Refuse & Recycling Collections: alternate Thursdays
Garden Waste Collection: alternate Thursdays with recycling
Black Bin dates: 5/19 September, 3/17/31 October, 14/28 November
Green & Garden Bins: 12/26 September, 10/24 October, 7/21 November
Please note: 21 November - extra garden waste collected

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www.North-Moreton.com*

North Moreton News

Issue 126

September 2019

DONKATHON – In aid of Multiple Sclerosis Research

'Donkathon' is a new challenge for me and my two donkeys Wizard and Muffin – a familiar sight around North Moreton!

The plan is to drive Wizard and Muffin on a month long 200 mile adventure from North Moreton to North Wales. This is a personal challenge but also the plan is to raise money for Multiple Sclerosis Research as my nephew has this debilitating disease.

Following unsuccessful eye surgery, I am no longer able to fly. Whilst in hospital following the eye operation I received a card from Christine Browne, the Guardian of St Melangell in Powys, North Wales. 'Donkathon', the idea of driving my donkeys to St Melangell, was born.

Starting in July 2020 the journey is expected to take four to five weeks, covering a maximum of 10 miles a day. It would be wonderful if some of you felt able to join in this project, either by coming along for part of the journey or even an hour or two, or by helping with the preparation and/ or contributing towards the Research to help find the cause of MS.

Al Squires is building a website: www.donkathon.org so do take a look at this. If you would like more information please contact me: pvacher@aol.com – telephone: 01235 817554 We will keep you posted as things develop.

It would be great to have your support and everyone is so welcome to join in!

Thank you! In anticipation!

Polly Vacher

North Moreton Parish Council

Back Lane

Over the last year, there has been increasing use of the footpath between Elm Road and Long Wittenham Road (known as Back Lane) by cars, particularly at night, and an associated increase in littering, fly-tipping and other anti-social activities on the shaded part of the path. The theft of a car from the top of Elm Road may also be related to the presence of a handy getaway route. In view of all these undesirable activities, the Parish Council has decided to insert posts at the top and bottom of the lower part of the path, to make it impassable for vehicles but not for pedestrians. This should also help to protect that part of the path from turning into a deeply rutted mud bath during the winter.

Bus services

As mentioned in a village email in July, one of the D2 Wednesday minibus services has been discontinued, and the minibus now stops opposite the bus shelter (or anywhere that it can safely stop if you hail it) at 09.37 and 12.32 en route to Didcot, with just one return journey from Didcot Orchard Centre at 11.20, which stops at the village hall at 11.40 and continues to Wallingford. There are various other stops in Didcot (the station, Aldi, Tesco), and the full timetable is available at <https://bustimes.org/services/d2-didcot-wallingford>.

There are also free buses to Tesco on Mondays and Wednesdays leaving from the bus shelter at 9.53 and returning at 11.37.

During Didcot school term times, the 94S, which is a school bus that can be used by the general public, stops at the bus shelter at 8.10, reaching Didcot Parkway at 8.38. There are two afternoon services from Didcot (Parkway and Orchard Centre at 14.42/14.46 and 15.42/15.46) which reach the village at 15.31 and 16.31, and can then be used to travel into Didcot. (Full timetable at assets.goaheadbus.com)

The Friday 131 bus to Wallingford leaves from the bus shelter at 11.02 and returns from Wallingford at 13.30, arriving back in North Moreton at 13.46.

Not a complete service, by any means, but hopefully of use to some!

Ros Templeman, Chairman NMPC

Charity Quiz Night at the Earth Trust

Wednesday 4th September 7 for 7.30pm

General Knowledge Quiz in Fisons Barn hosted by SODC & VOWH in aid of Earth Trust. Raffle & Licenced Bar. Teams of 2 - 6.

Tickets £5 from [Earthtrust.org.uk](https://earthtrust.org.uk)

Dates for your Diary including Forthcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

- 3 NMPC Meeting, Village Hall 8pm Everyone welcome
- 4 Quiz Night at Earth Trust 7.30pm
- 6 - 8 Agatha Christie Weekend Wallingford Museum
- 11 WI Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 12 Wallingford Photographic Club Welcome Evening 7.30pm
- 14 Historic Churches Ride & Stride
- 25 Coffee Morning, All Saints' Church 10.30 - 12noon

OCTOBER

- 5 MCC Race Night, The Barn North Moreton House 7pm
- 9 WI Harvest Supper
- 10 WI Bridge & Afternoon Tea, Village Hall 1.30pm
- 19 Broadway Comes to All Saints' 7.30pm
- 25 Coffee Morning, All Saints' Church 10.30 - 12noon
- 26 Autumn Book Sale Village Hall 10am - 3pm

NOVEMBER

- 12 NMPC Meeting, Village Hall 8pm Everyone welcome
- 13 WI Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 16 Charity Card Sale and Soup Lunch Village Hall 11.30 - 2.00pm
- 28 Coffee Morning, All Saints' Church 10.30 - 12noon

How to contact North Moreton Volunteer Driver Scheme

If you need transport to any medical appointment just call **01235 812202, 813829 or 813006** with the details of your appointment and we will do our best to find someone to take you. Please do speak to one of the coordinators rather than leave a message and give as much notice as possible. Journeys are charged at 45p/mile and include reasonable waiting time.

If you have any queries please contact Nora - contact details on back page

Wallingford Museum



The 2019 Agatha Christie Weekend runs from Friday 6th to Sunday 8th September with an intriguing programme of events.

Friday evening features a Forensic Challenge at the museum set by Science Oxford. Tickets (£12) must be booked in advance and there are 3 sessions starting at 6.30pm, 7.15pm and 8pm.

On Saturday evening there is a talk at Cholsey Church entitled 'Murder Most Flowery: Agatha Christie's Use of Horticulture in the Creation and Solving of Whodunits' by Ruth Brompton-Charlesworth. Doors open at 7.30pm and tickets (£12) include a glass of wine.

All weekend there is an enhanced Agatha Christie exhibition ('At Home with the Queen of Crime') and an acclaimed art exhibition inspired by her books in Cholsey School.

The heritage Cholsey and Wallingford Railway will be running trains linking the town and village.

As usual, there are a range of guided walks, such as the Agatha Christie Trail between Wallingford and Cholsey, history and themed walks around the town, and Cholsey churchyard and Church.

On Sunday, take a look inside the Grade 1 listed Town Hall to brush up on local history and view the Town treasures, and on Saturday afternoon partake in a vintage style tea.

For more details and to book tickets: contact www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk or call 01491 651127.

BOOK SALE

Saturday 26th October

North Moreton Village Hall 10am - 3pm

Fiction & Non-fiction from 50p Children's books from 20p

Light refreshments available

To donate books contact Northmoretonbooks@gmail.com or call 01235 814617 or 818544. Collection can be arranged



Moreton Cricket Club



We are drawing to the close of what has been a very busy and successful season for the Cricket Club. The highlight of the summer was winning the mid-week South Oxfordshire Friendly League for the first time. The League currently has six other clubs (RAF Benson, Goring, Clifton Hampden, Dorchester, Cholsey and Woodcote) and this year we had a 100% record. We needed to beat Woodcote (who play in the Berkshire Premier League) in the final game and did so in a thrilling match off the last ball. I'm sure the good crowd present regarded the game as at least as exciting as the World Cup Final which had been won on the previous Sunday.

Despite indifferent weather on the Saturday (after heat wave conditions on Thursday for the Pub six-a-side) the Festival proved as enjoyable as ever. The Six-a-side was won by Blewbury this year, but since Thomas Wigley captained their side we could at least claim some connection to the victors. In the evening games of the Festival we defeated Sutton Courtenay and lost to Aldworth, but the best games were really those involving the Moreton Women. On Friday the women performed with great credit against a strong select XI captained by Claire Taylor (who played over 150 games for England) and on the Sunday they defeated Stony Stratford in the Home Counties Women's League.

We have had a series of very enjoyable Sunday afternoon fixtures with good wins against two traditionally strong opponents, The All-Sorts CC and the Invalids CC. The Invalids were formed by soldiers in a Field Hospital at the end of the First World War and were celebrating their centenary year. We retained the Anniversary Cup against Brightwell and enjoyed a week-end tour in the New Forest in early July. The Juniors, too, have enjoyed the season with very healthy attendance at our Friday night sessions.

We still look forward to the final few games of the season and the conclusion of the Home Counties Women's League. On Saturday October 5th we will celebrate the summer with a Race Night, which is being organised by the indefatigable Ben Dewey, along with our end of season awards.

Mike Howat, President, MCC

North & South Moreton WI

Our small and friendly WI group meet on the second Wednesday in each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and we are always keen to encourage new members to join us. Ladies of all ages are welcome. We have talks from a whole range of speakers as well as several social events and it's a good opportunity to get to know different people..... just turn up or get in touch with Veronica on 813829 or Sue on 817042 if you have any questions! Some meetings are 'open ones', where we have speakers that we feel would appeal to a wider audience of both sexes and these are advertised in the village newsletter and on the notice-board.

At our June meeting we had a very interesting talk from Phil Addison who gave us the inside story of what it is like to be a tour guide with particular reference to his time as a guide in Oxford; we are now tempted to book a private group tour with him in the future! In July we all enjoyed a relaxed garden party at Liz's house which allowed us the opportunity to explore her beautiful garden and marvel at the array of flowers and shrubs. In August we had an excursion to Mapledurham Watermill where we learned how flour is made as well as getting to taste some delicious cakes afterwards and to buy local products from the shop.

In September we are looking forward to a talk from Ian Jones on Bomb Disposal, followed by our Harvest supper in October and then, in November, we hope to find out about the work of the Emergency Rider Volunteers.

Veronica Gibbs

Melhuish Farm Opera 2019

For the fourth successive year Nick Heath and his Regents Opera Company gave us outstanding opera in the hangar. After their Rigoletto, La Bohème and Barber of Seville we were this year transported to Japan for the heartrendingly sad story of Madama Butterfly. As always, the company made imaginative use of the opportunities of opera in the round, with glorious costumes and a strong cast overall. Francesca Matta as Butterfly and Annabella Ellis as her servant Suzuki gave particularly splendid performances and large audiences enjoyed two fine summer evenings.

All of us must be hugely grateful to Peter and Polly Vacher for giving us the chance to experience at such close quarters such an exciting series of operas and for all of the hard work that has made this possible.

Nick Sanders

Didcot U3A

Recently retired, and looking for some stimulating interests then the **Didcot & District University of the Third Age (U3A)** could be exactly what you are looking for?!

With over 35 Interest Groups covering a wide range of interests (Latin, Calligraphy and two additional Wine Tasting groups recently added) now is the time to join our Monthly Meetings at the Didcot Civic Hall at 2 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month ; you are advised to arrive 15 minutes beforehand!

Membership is £25 per year - April to March; visitors are welcome to come along to a one off meeting as a taster before joining [Note - visitors are unable to join any Interest Groups prior to joining U3A as insurance only applies to paid up members]

Guest Speakers for the coming months:

17th September: The National Arboretum - Speaker to be confirmed.

15th October: 'From Guns & Roses to Hearts & Flowers' - Speaker

Catherine Jones speaking as Kate Lace

19th November - The Mitford in the Cotswolds - Speaker Muriel Pilkington.

We look forward to seeing you - for further information contact the following:

Chair: chairman@didcotu3a.org - Tel No: 01235 510048

Secretary: secretary@didcotu3a.org - Tel No: 0784 5922237

Membership: membership@didcotu3a.org

Hagbourne Community Choir & Blewbury Brass Band

From Stage to Screen

A Musical Evening

at All Saints' Church, North Moreton

in aid of the Chantry Chapel Window and Masonry Project

Saturday 19th October 2019 at 7:30 pm

Entrance £10 (includes a glass of wine and light refreshments)

Tickets from John Harrison 01235 817042 jharri1902@aol.com
or at the door

Wallingford Photographic Club

Thinking of taking up a new hobby? How about Photography?

Wallingford Photographic Club will begin its new season on **Thursday 12th September** with a Welcome Evening, when you can find out all about the club, so why not come along. As a bonus well-known local photographer Christian Sinkinson of More Than Images will be present to give an illustrated talk about his work as a family portrait photographer. This will be followed on **19th September** with a presentation by renowned landscape and Fine Art photographer Paul Sanders, entitled "Mindful and Contemplative Photography", which is not to be missed. Then on **26th September** there will be a Practical Evening when members will do some night photography.

The club welcomes all photographers from novice to advanced. All meetings are held at Crowmarsh Pavilion at 7.30pm for 8pm and visitors are most welcome to all club meetings.

Full details on the website www.wallingfordphoto.club

North Moreton Village Hall

The Autumn Booksale will take place this year on **Saturday 26th October** from 10am to 3pm - see page 10 for details. Volunteers to help with setting up are welcome - just turn up at the hall between 10am & 3pm from Tuesday 22nd.

The popular Charity Christmas Card Sale and Soup Lunch is scheduled for **Saturday 16th November** - a chance to buy your cards at your leisure and without worrying about your parking meter.....

To book the hall or hire tables/chairs etc. please email NMVH@hotmail.co.uk. The booking form can be downloaded from the village website: www.north-moreton.com.

Nora Haycock, Chairman NMVH

The Astons (and surrounding villages) Toddler Group

Fridays 9.30 - 11.30 (term time only) at Centre of Reflection, Spring Lane, Aston Tirrold, OX11 9EJ.

Tea/coffee for mums and snacks for the children. Lots of toys for all ages as well as an outdoor area.

For more information contact Clare at astonstoddlersgroup@gmail.com or



"Children play and explore outdoors routinely, enjoying walks in the natural environment and challenging their physical skills on large-scale equipment"

South Moreton



Pre-School

Friendly, welcoming and inclusive
Secure, spacious open plan setting
Wide range of flexible activity areas
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Places available for children from aged 2 to 5
Flexible provider of 30-hours free childcare scheme

Register now to reserve your place for 2019/20

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We welcome children from the Moretons, Astons and surrounding areas, including Didcot, Wallingford, Cholsey

For more information, to arrange a visit or register for a place, you can contact us on 01235 819657 or southmoretonpreschool@googlemail.com

Visit our website <https://southmoretonpreschool.co.uk/>



Bridge & Afternoon Tea
in aid of South & North Moreton WI
North Moreton Village Hall
Thursday 10th October 2 - 5pm
All abilities welcome - Tables of 4 - £30
To book: email Deborah.astley1@gmail.com
or call 07580 266 516

All Saints' Church News

After a long summer break, the joint is jumping. **From Stage to Screen - A Musical Evening** is now in rehearsal. The performance by the Hagbourne Community Choir and the Blewbury Brass Band will feature numbers by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Leonard Bernstein and even tackle the James Bond themes. It all starts at **7.30pm on Saturday 19th October**. Tickets are £10 and include a glass of wine and light refreshments. So, don't miss it! John Harrison is in the box office and you can contact him on **817042/ jharri1902@aol.com**

Funds raised by the concert will go towards the conservation of the St Nicholas Window in the Chantry Chapel. A plan of action is currently being drawn up. Earlier this year, the York Glaziers' Trust drew attention to the national importance of the early Fourteenth Century stained glass. The surrounding masonry is also of the highest quality and needs attention.

As you will see on the next page, the annual **Ride & Stride** around the county's churches takes place on **Saturday 14th September**. Do take part or help as a Welcomer at All Saints'. It is a great day out and helps the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust raise funds to help keep our ancient buildings together. But when you register, do not forget to nominate All Saints' as your home church. That will ensure that half the sum you raise comes back to the village.

This autumn, Jill Fletcher and Libby Macdonald will be holding their All Saints' **Coffee Mornings from 10.30am to 12 noon on Wednesday 25th September, Friday 25th October and Thursday 28th November**. Who's for fruit cake?

Keith Hutchence, Secretary, North Moreton PCC

RACE NIGHT!

The Barn, North Moreton House

Saturday 5th October

7pm - Midnight

- 6 Race Card with real Tote Betting
- Hog Roast
- End of Season Awards
- Licensed Bar & Disco by Spotlight Entertainment



Tickets £15 - contact Ben.Dewey@rm-electrical.com / 07525401507

Non-members welcome!

Ride & Stride Saturday 14th Sept 2019

Once again we invite you to help preserve the history on your doorstep by taking part in a sponsored cycle, walk or horse ride around Oxfordshire's churches.

Collect donations/sponsors for your ride/stride trip and nominate All Saints Church, North Moreton on your form for your local historic church to directly receive half the funds raised. The other half is used by Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust to support specific vital maintenance and repair projects in the county's historic church buildings. All Saints North Moreton has been a recipient of these monies in the past.

It's a great way to get family and friends out for a cycle, ride or walk, going as far as you like, at a pace that suits you, in villages or in towns and with refreshments on route.

Please take part this year. Let us know if we can drop the info and sponsor form in so you can start planning.

Alternatively you might like to welcome cyclists to All Saints Church by taking a slot between 10am and 6pm on the Welcomers' Rota. Again do let us know you're preferred time.

Ride and Stride Co-ordinators: Bob & Clare Price Springbank
01235 813006/07773602208 bob.clare_price@btinternet.com.

Cycle survey – Have your say

Cyclists from across the county are being invited to complete a survey about what they like or dislike about cycling in Oxfordshire.

The results will be used by Oxfordshire County Council to help shape Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) – new plans to radically improve Oxfordshire's cycling network and make it attractive, comfortable and easy to use for all cyclists.

Have your say by completing the survey: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cyclesurvey>. Please be aware the weblink takes you onto a page that say 'other ways to complete your survey'. Click this button and it will take you through to the survey.