

NORTH ASTON

News

August 2018

#334



NORTH ASTON NEWS

AUGUST 2018, No:334

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Thames Valley Police non-emergency: 101
Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

The Chairman's Mark

Village Fête

This was once again a great success, mainly due to fantastic weather and a lot of hard work. I won't mention anyone by name, but I know a number of you did a lot before and after as well as during the event. Thank you to everyone.

Attendance was down by about 15% on last year, possibly due to the World Cup third place play-off and the Wimbledon women's final. However, it's looking like the profit will be broadly similar to last year. Above all, I think it was a great social occasion and in my mind, that in itself justifies its existence. If you haven't done so yet, please put any expense claims in to Lisa asap - you can drop them off at 4 Somerton Road if that's any easier.

If you have any feedback or ideas for next year, please bring them along to our next village meeting.

Mikron

As you may have gathered, I am huge fan of this travelling theatre and we are very fortunate to have them performing on the Village Green. Please put Sunday 12th August 2.00pm on your calendar and come along for an afternoon of wonderful, life affirming entertainment.

Ride & Stride

Although not until Saturday 8th September this is another one for the calendar. For those who are new to it, this is a great way to see our local splendid countryside and beautiful churches and eat a lot of cake! The idea is to be sponsored to visit as many churches by foot, cycle or horse as you can, to raise money for the upkeep of the church buildings, many of which will have elements dating back to Norman times.

Village Meeting

Thursday 9th August 7.30pm. Don't forget, we will start on The Village Green to discuss traffic calming and kerbing. Please let me know if you have anything else for the agenda.

Defibrillator

Nobody booked in for the first training session! Don't forget, we need as many people as possible get to know how to use these things so that there is a fair chance first aid can be given as soon as possible, while you wait for the emergency services to arrive. We will set a new date at the meeting

New residents

Please welcome to the village Rhiannon Thomas, Paul Nicolaides and their children Alex and Louka. They have moved into 19 The Green. Two days after moving in they very nobly 'volunteered' to run a stall at the fête!

Telephone: 01869 347 806

email: chair@north-aston.co.uk

Mark

Village Forum Meeting

Thursday August 9th 2018

The Village Green & Old Bakery from 7:30 pm

The Village Forum Meeting on Thursday 9th August will begin on the Village Green, where there will be a discussion about the plan to kerb the edge of the road. The Meeting will then move to the Old Bakery. A full Agenda is displayed on the Village Noticeboard

NORTH ASTON 100 CLUB July 2018

The winners of the July draw were:

First Prize (£10): Scott Ploughman (#92)

Second Prize (£5): Andy Brown (#87)

Bev Rees is now the 100 Club treasurer, so please contact her if you'd like to know more about the Club and the good works it does for the Village. Call her on 347434.

You've got to be in it to win it!

Announcements & Events

Deddington Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market will take place on August 25th this month. Find a parking space and support our local farmers and growers, including North Aston Organics, who have a stall at the Market every 4th Saturday of the month.

The Fête, 50 years ago

Last month we published some photos from the *Banbury Guardian* showing scenes from the North Aston Fête of 1968. This generated quite a bit of interest, with Tony Rees and Peter West both recognising their younger selves caught on camera. However, the most comprehensive account of who stood where came from Eric Short, the middle brother of Ted and Tony Short, and who now lives on Vancouver Island in Canada. He was also one of several who noted the "deliberate" typo in last month's feature - yes, it was 50 years ago (we knew that!) and not 30 as shown. He tells us:

In the left picture of the 1968 fête I would guess, left to right, there's Peter West watching on as Juliet Hornby, daughter of Stella Hitchens, tackles the barrel horse. Also watching is Ian Cato, with Mrs Kit Pitcher and Dick Churchill.

In the fancy dress picture I think I can see one of Mary Hoare's daughters and maybe Mary herself behind her. Carol West is near the centre of picture, and on her left is Steve Rees dressed as a sailor boy. I think that's (David or) Tony Rees with trumpet, then standing behind the contestants, the girl in dark coat and dark hair with fringe could be my now Stepdaughter of 46 years, Andy Aldridge.



Eric also sent us a fascinating account of his move from North Aston to Canada in the 1980s which, with his permission, we hope to publish in next month's News.

August Birthdays

Trudy Busby
Thea Bourke-Borrowes
Freya Stay
Kate Symons



Many Happy Returns to all the North Aston residents who celebrate birthdays this month. If you're not listed, or know someone who should be, please let us know.

Congratulations to Paul & Sarah Jane, who celebrate their first wedding anniversary on 5th August.

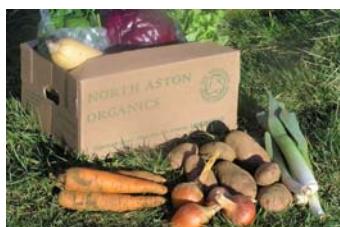
OCC Area Operations Open Day

OCC is hosting an Open Day at its Area Highways Depot just north of Deddington on Saturday 18th August. It will be an opportunity to examine some of the plant and machinery used to deliver the highway maintenance service, as well as meet staff, ask questions, and understand the challenges facing the local Highways Department. The event will run from 10.00am until 2.30pm and refreshments will be provided.



Open Mon-Sat from 9.00am
In the car park behind the Old Bakery

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- Minimal packaging & zero food miles
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Tel: (01869) 347702
visit the website at:
www.northastonorganics.co.uk

North Aston Nature Notes

With Stephen Rees

Hot, Hot! It's been flipping hot! Oh my word, not sure how much more I can take. My brother Tony loves it, and even sits out in it, I just want to put a coat on and go for a walk in the rain. Hey ho, here I am, moaning about the weather like a true Englishman.

A short note this month. I'm sorry, but been too hot for walks. Firstly then, we have lots of Lavender along our path that leads to Penny's kennel, and for a week or so this month it was covered in butterflies. There were lots of varying sized white ones, Red Admirals and a few Peacocks, Gate Keepers and other assorted brown ones, all mingling together and flying up when we walked along the path.

They seemed to disappear after a week or so, but were replaced by an assortment of different bees; small wild ones, honey bees and bumble bees of varying sizes, all bombing about and making a nice display. The lavender has definitely been the most popular plant for insects in our garden this month.



For the last few weeks we have been finding a lot of badger poo on our lawns and paths, as well as along the track down to our cottage. They are always very active at this time of year, but seem even more so this time. Their absolute favourite foods are carrots and sweet corn and other vegetables, and I know that some people on the allotment have suffered a lot from them.

We have new bantam chicks this month. There are four little golden jobs that are busy running around chasing insects and annoying the older ones with there antics. The funniest thing to watch is a few minutes after we feed them our flock of tree and house sparrows come down for their free breakfast of corn, and there is a right old fuss and battle as to who gets what first. It really is worth being a bit late for work just to watch it for a few moments!

That's about it. A very short one this very hot month. I've got to pack the car, as I'm taking wife to Wales tomorrow, mountain biking. Oh dear ... I'm going to struggle to keep up! We are camping at an old manor house where you're allowed to pitch your tent in the kitchen garden. Really cool! Oh, and nice toilets too, so I'm happy. Just a few hundred yards away is a reservoir - you know where I mean Aunty Viv, near our favourite little town - and around the back is a really nice bird hide. So, I'm taking binoculars, pen and paper, and I'll spend an afternoon twitching. I'll let you know how it goes.

Happy Hols! Steve, Wendy & Penny

MIKRON
Est. 1972
THEATRE COMPANY

NORTH ASTON

REVOLTING WOMEN

FIGHT FOR THE VOTE

Sunday Aug 12th @ 2:00 pm
On the Village Green

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- Crown reductions
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North Aston Gardening Club

The Fête has come and gone, but before summer's out there's still the annual Flower & Produce Show, which will be held on Saturday the 25th of August on the Green.

A copy of the entry form is enclosed with this month's News. Please get your entry forms into the post box at Nether Cottage by Sunday 19th of August, 6 pm.

This gives us a chance to sort through entries and make the necessary preparations for exhibits. If you're away and can't get it to me on time, please let me know by email (or email me your entries if this is easier). Entries need to be brought for display between 9 am and 11 am on the day of the show.

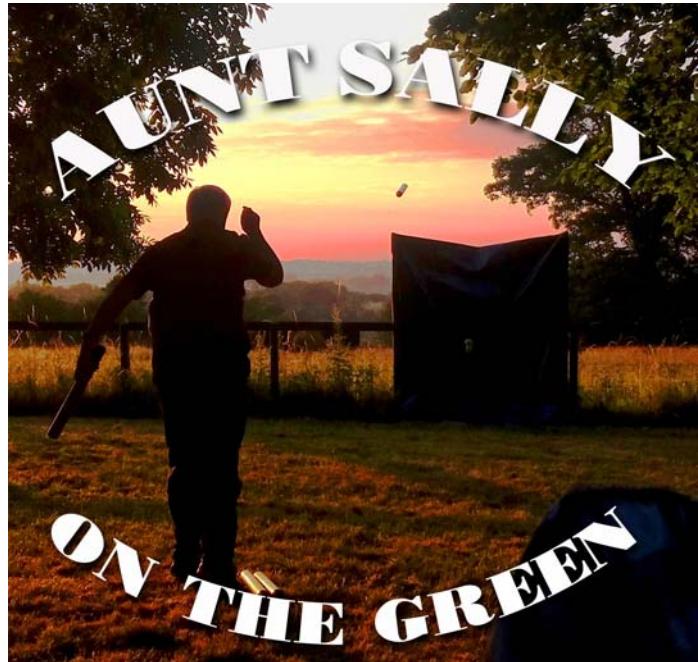
We are planning to get the marquees up on the Thursday evening before (23rd August) at 6:30 pm. Any help will be gratefully received.

I hope you're planning on entering exhibits. It's been a challenging growing season, but some crops will have benefited from the dry, hot conditions. Even if you're not planning on competing for prizes, your participation is essential, as at our F&P show, the punters get to vote for their favourite entries, so please do come along.

The Show opens to all from 2 pm, with the last voting sheets collected at 4 pm. On the day of the Show, we will be offering refreshments to all visitors and exhibitors. Any donations of baked goods will be most welcome. See you there!

Lynn

Many thanks to Lisa Honess and Lynn Quek for sending in a selection of photos from the fête. These depict the very well-stocked Flower & Produce stall; a display of martial arts skills by the Japanese students; and the North Aston Tug-o-War team in action. Congratulations to all who pulled in a hard-fought contest with Duns Tew, winning two out of three.



Aunt Sally on the Village Green is proving very popular! The next match will be on Wednesday 1st August, 7 pm, but could become a regular Wednesday fixture. Check with Bev for future dates!

NORTH ASTON FETE RESULTS

The results of major takings at the Fête are shown below and should be of interest to all those involved. The takings for the other stalls, and a fuller breakdown on where all the money came from, will be published at the Forum Meeting on August 9th. Some 'costs' still need to be accounted for, so the total may yet reduce a little, but this will also be revealed at the

Meeting. This year the money raised will be split equally between the Church and Village Funds.



Entrance	£265.00
Bar & Ice Cream	£620.00
Raffle*	£650.00
Adult Tombola	£411.00
Child's Tombola	£109.00
White Elephant	£314.00



Hello from all of us at Park Farm. We hope you're enjoying the beautiful weather!

July was a very busy month. We have a new resident with us who's settling in brilliantly, but sadly we've said goodbye to our two eldest residents, who have moved on to new and exciting places.

July is a month of big change and transition. With the school holidays starting we're all looking ahead to new school classes, starting GCSE's for the first time, and even moving on to college. Everyone is very excited for what's ahead, but we're making sure that we take a moment to enjoy the break first! We have holidays coming up, with a camping trip in Wales and a Spa week planned, so we're sure to have a fantastic summer, but we'll update you on that in next month's *News*. We're also planning a charity bike ride to raise money for the BHF and to help fund the defibrillator for North Aston. Please check our 'just giving' page if you'd like to make a donation. There's soon to be some more new residents at Park Farm; we'll be getting chickens again! We're all very excited to have some new feathery friends at the house, and it'll be great opportunity for us to learn some new skills caring for animals. We hope you're all enjoying your summer, and we'll update you on everything next month!

All at Park Farm

About Oxfordshire's Roads

If you've felt frustrated by the state of our roads this year, then here are some interesting facts ...

- Oxfordshire County Council manages 2,994 miles of road.
- This is made up of 15% A roads, 10% B roads and 75% C or unclassified roads. The high proportion of C and rural unclassified roads makes maintenance a major challenge.
- The A34, M40 and A43 are managed and maintained by Highways England, not OCC.
- The total OCC budget for carriageway repairs for 2018/19 is around £11m.
- It would cost around £250m to bring the network to an acceptable standard, and then would require an annual capital investment of £21m to keep it to that standard through resurfacing. A further £5m a year is needed for routine maintenance (gully cleaning, pot hole repair etc).
- Oxfordshire has fewer miles of road assessed as 'good' than the national average, but fewer in a 'poor' condition and a higher percentage in 'fair' condition.

Last Winter had a huge impact on Oxfordshire's roads. The regular freeze and thaw, coupled with some exceptional weather, meant that road surfaces took a battering. Snow in December 2017 damaged an already fragile network, with two further freezes in January and March 2018. This was reflected in a marked increase in reports on Fix My Street:

	(2017) 1852	(2018) 7171
January	2727	7080
February	2104	8456
March	915	7989
April	1248	6214
May	1259	5064

Highways inspections & Maintenance Progress

OCC carries out routine inspections of Oxfordshire's road and footpath network, with the busiest roads checked monthly.

- OCC has a team of 18 highway inspectors, checking things that are reported to OCC by the public on Fix My Street and also carry out their own proactive inspections.
- OCC has a duty to ensure roads are safe and their policy is to fix the most serious safety concerns within 24hrs. Any judged as less urgent will be fixed within 28 days.
- Inspectors mark-up potholes with red paint for potholes that need to be filled within 24 hours, and white for all others that must be repaired within 28 days. Yellow paint is used by technical officers to mark up larger-scale patching works.
- OCC currently has 18 crews working on our roads. OCC has doubled the number of minor patching crews from two to four, and minor works gangs from two to four.
- OCC has recently bought a second Dragon patching machine, and has a third shared with two other authorities.
- OCC has dealt with 23,809 potholes since January 2018, 64% up on 2017 and equating to an average of 3,968 per month. This peaked in March with 5,146 repairs. A total of 28,358 defects have been repaired since January 2018.
- OCC received an extra £2.9m from the Department for Transport to repair roads damaged during the recent winter. If you want to report a road-related problem, visit www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk. Enter a postcode, street name and area, locate the problem on the map, enter details and add pictures, if you have them. OCC will then investigate. If it's an emergency, call 0345 310 1111.

RIDE+STRIDE

Saturday 8th September 2018

Help to preserve the history on your doorstep by taking part in a sponsored walk, cycle or horse ride around Oxfordshire's churches.

All funds raised go to the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, and 50% can be passed on directly to a church of your choice, including our own church of St Mary's.

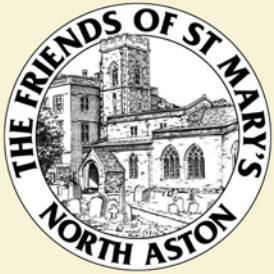
More information is available from:

Deirdre Oakley (340646) or
Clive Busby (338434).

Please give them a call, or drop by to collect a Sponsorship Form.

www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride





The Church MATTERS



All Pulling Together!

First, I have to say thank you to everyone who took part in, organised and came to the North Aston village Fête in the middle of July. What an amazing day that was! With wonderful crowds and stunning sunshine, we had a terrific time together! I spent the afternoon talking with all sorts of people both from the village and from much further afield, and everyone seemed to be having a wonderful time. Apologies for not risking my welly throwing skills this year ... Equally important as the money raised for village and church is the terrific way we can come together on a day like that. Thanks to Mark and everyone who worked so hard, and congrats to the Tug-o'-War team for their decisive victory over Duns Tew!

One of the things that I love about being Rector here is the way that we do come together. We have different stories, different backgrounds, many of us come from different places, yet we all now belong here. That's village life. It's also a key way of understanding Church: Jesus prays for unity, not uniformity: we're supposed to be different, not all the same, and yet being different we're called to value each other and belong together. That's occasionally a bumpy ride ... but always worth it!

In September I have a book coming out about that bumpy ride. '*The Possibility of Difference*' looks at how the Church has sometimes not valued gay people at all - although the Bible is really very clear that God loves absolutely everyone. In my book, I take a good look at all sorts of things in the Bible on this issue, and suggest that (while we will always find some people never quite see eye to eye) the Scriptural story is simple. People are people. Any attempt to make anyone feel less human or more sinful because of their sexuality (or actually for any reason at all) fails every test of understanding who God reveals himself to be (and who God calls his followers to be) on every page of the Bible.

I'm delighted that all sorts of people, from former Archbishop Rowan Williams and former Bishop of Oxford John Pritchard to campaigner and author Jayne Ozanne have given their support, and we'll be having launch events in Oxford and here in the Benefice on September 21st and 22nd. There will soon be details in church, but if you want to come along, please let me know.

The Church is here to share faith in Jesus for everyone, and to do as much good as we can along the way in practical acts of kindness and love. I hope my book might offer a little kindness and love. I am so grateful for the kindness and love I receive day by day from so many folk here.

Two other things to highlight: We have a Benefice children's summer holiday club, *Starship Discovery*, which is full to the brim in Steeple on August 7th and 8th - thank you to all who are organising this. I am delighted we are offering this very practical way of helping families again this summer! Two great days for children, packed with lovely touches of faith and fun. Something for everyone. If you missed out this year (and I know it was advertised through Dr Radcliffe's) hopefully it will be even bigger and better next year!

And also: The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust annual *Ride & Stride* Day is on September 8th this year. Every September folk walk or cycle around churches to help raise funds for our parishes, and if you'd like to support us this way, why not participate! Go to www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride/ where there are more details of how you can take part. There's also an advert here in the *News*. Reading theology or going to children's clubs might not be your thing - but cycling ... well, people are people, so everyone is included!

Revd Marcus Green



Any comments about the above are very welcome. More news is always available on our website: www.sntchurch.com

Please email our Rector Marcus Green: ssteplerector@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 340 903

You can also email Clive: cabs@north-aston.com (tel: 338 434) or Annabel: annabelbevan@hotmail.com (tel: 345153)

Any other member of the PCC will also be very happy to talk, and they are: Richard Bailey, Beryl Greenwood, Vicky Taylor, Jane McArdle, Ted Short, Jeremy Taylor and Norman West.



CHURCH SERVICES

PARISH WORSHIP IN AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

NORTH ASTON

STEEPLE ASTON

TACKLEY

Sunday August 5th 2018 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Revd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Revd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Evensong
Revd Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday August 12th 2018 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Family Service
Revd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Family Service
Revd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Holy Communion
Revd Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday August 19th 2018 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Revd Mervyn Puleston

11:00 am
Morning Prayer
Richard Bailey

5:30 pm
Evensong
Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday August 26th 2018 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Revd Mervyn Puleston

11:00 am
Morning Prayer
with Children's Church & Baptism
Revd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Holy Communion
Revd Marcus Green

Sunday September 2nd 2018 - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Revd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Revd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Evensong
Revd Marcus Green

Our monthly midweek Morning Prayer is on Thursday August 9th at 10am. Midweek Bible Study takes a break after August 6th, but is back in September. More news is always available on our website: www.sntchurch.com

North Aston News

The North Aston News is designed and produced by CMC Graphics, printed by Nicholsons of North Aston, and distributed monthly, free of charge, to all the residents of the Parish of North Aston. A full-colour edition in electronic format is also available and is mailed out to an extensive emailing list every month. To be added to that list, please contact the News. We welcome contributions, which need to be in an electronic format (except Classifieds and Announcements). To submit an item, please email: info@north-aston.co.uk.

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Tel: _____ No: _____

Address: Age (if Child):

Total Number of Entries: _____ Total Entry Fee Payable: £ _____ . p _____

For further information, telephone: 340864 or email: lsquek@doctors.org.uk



FLOWER &
SHOW

PRODUCE 2018

Saturday 25th August

ENTRY FORM

On payment of the appropriate fee, exhibitors may enter as many classes as they wish, with the exception of Section D.

Please drop off Entry Forms and Fees to Nether Cottage, St Mary's Walk, North Aston by 6:00pm on Sunday 19th August.

All entries to be brought to the Green from 9 am on the day of the show.

Marquees will be closed to entries at 11.00 am.
The opening of cookery classes will commence at 12 noon.

The show will be open for public judging from 2 – 4pm.

No Entries will be accepted on the Show Day.
Entries will not be accepted after the closing date.

Schedule of Categories

Section A: Vegetables & Fruit

Section rules: ALL exhibited vegetables and fruit must be home-grown and where appropriate displayed on plain white paper plates*. Sand will be supplied on the day for display of shallots (if required). Carrot tops should be trimmed to ~3 inches.

1. Oddest Shaped Vegetable
2. Three Carrots
3. Three Potatoes
4. Three Onions
5. Longest Runner Bean **
6. Six Shallots ***
7. Three Beetroot
8. Three Courgettes
9. Three Cucumbers
10. Four Runner Beans
11. Four French Beans
12. Five Cherry Tomatoes
13. Four Tomatoes (non-Cherry)
14. Mixed vegetables in a tray/trug or basket (unlimited types of veg, unlimited numbers: but size limit of container 15 x 23 inches)
15. Three Eating Apples
16. Three Cooking Apples
17. Five Stoned Fruits (of the same type)
18. Spud in a Tub **
(No entry fee required)
19. Spud in a Tub **
**** For the Tuffrey Cup**
***** Displayed in sand if desired**

33. Sausage Roll (using home-made pastry) **

34. Men's Only Cake - Chocolate **

35. Women's Only Cake - Courgette Cake **

36. A loaf ** (guide weight ~800g)

37. Non-alcoholic Ginger Beer (in a bottle) **

Section D: Photography, Arts & Crafts

Section rules: Photographs must be unmounted and must not be larger than 18cm x 13cm (~7" x 5"). All entries must have been made or taken since September 2016 (except where otherwise specified). Maximum 2 entries per class per person.

38. An object made from re-used or recycled materials
39. A Picture in Pencil / Ink / Pastel / Paints: *Plant Life*
40. A Traditional Limerick starting:
“There once was a mole on my plot ...”

Photographic Classes:

41. Open: *The Three*. A series of three photographs on the subject of *Animal, Vegetable, Mineral*. Must have been taken in the **last two years** and not previously entered.
42. Open: Photograph on the subject 'Industry'

Section B: Plants & Flowers

Section Rules: All plants and flowers must be **home grown**. Exhibitors to provide their own container. All exhibited pot plants must have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 3 months.

20. One Single Stem Rose
21. One Spray of Roses
22. Six Sweet Peas
23. Five blooms from your own garden
24. Flowering Plant in a pot
25. Geranium in a pot
26. Flower arrangement in an unusual receptacle
27. Three Dahlia Blooms

Section C: Cookery **

Section rules: All jams, marmalade, chutneys etc must have been made by the exhibitor since Sept 2015. They must be displayed in 12oz-1lb (300 – 450g) jar with a screw top.

28. Jar of Jam **
29. Jar of Marmalade (any citrus fruit)
30. Jar of Chutney / Pickle / Relish **
31. Victoria Sponge Cake ** (3 eggs, jam filling, caster sugar topping, open to all)
32. Three Scones, Plain or Fruit

Section E: For Children

Section rules: These will be judged in 2 groups : under 8 years, and 8-16 years. All entries must be wholly the work of the children themselves, and to have been created by the exhibitor since September 2015.

43. Four Decorated Biscuits **
44. A creature made from vegetables.
45. A Garden on a Plate.
46. A Picture of your Pet (for under 8s only).
47. A Photograph on the theme of 'Sport'.

Notes: * Paper plates will be supplied by the organisers,
Junior Cup: This year a Junior Cup will be awarded to the young exhibitor (up to 16 years) who wins to most 1st prizes across all (children's and open) classes

Children may also enter all other sections.
Judging of non-cookery classes and any category not marked with an ** asterisk will be by public ballot.

Entry fees: 30p adult per exhibit, 20p per exhibit for children under 16.
Additional Entry Forms can be collected from Lynn Quek.

Submission of Entries: All items entered for the Show must be delivered to the Marquees on the Green between 9 am and 11 am on the day of the Show.
Entries arriving after this time may be excluded.