

NORTH ASTON

NEWS

October 2019

#348



NORTH ASTON NEWS

OCTOBER 2019, No:348

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Email Jeremy: jeremytaylor@north-aston.co.uk

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CDC Local Councillor

Bryn Williams, Deddington

Telephone: 07836 271998

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Thames Valley Police non-emergency: 101

Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

Notes from the Chair

Autumn is upon us and with this weather it has not gone unnoticed. I hope that everybody enjoyed the last few sunny days of summer.

Harvest Lunch

Please could I remind everyone about the Harvest Lunch on Sunday. It may not be too late to reserve a ticket, so if you'd like to join us, please contact myself, Mary or Annie - see Page 7. Also, if anyone would like to volunteer to help with preparations, or on the day, then please contact Mary to let her know of your availability.

One last thing, and on a personal note. As many of you now know, my children hatched two hen's eggs back in the spring and, unfortunately, they have both turned out to be boys. We are in the process of trying to rehome them (if anyone knows of anyone who'd be interested, please, please come and see me!), however they have now started crowing. I wanted to apologise to our neighbours for the noise but please rest assured it will be for a very limited time only. I really appreciate your understanding and I do apologise again.

You can telephone Lucinda on 340588
or email: chair@north-aston.co.uk

Lucinda

Front cover: The last of summer's warmth brings out the butterflies this month, seeking nectar from the ivy flowers - almost their only source of food at this time of the year.



Mon-Sat from 9 am behind the Old Bakery



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1st Prize (£10): Linda Brown (#50)

2nd Prize (£5): Jane Howe (#105)



The 100 Club continues to pay out every month to those lucky types who maintain their subscription to the Club. For further information, please contact Bev on 347434. Remember ...

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

Events & Notices

Deddington Farmers' Market

The October Farmers' Market will be on Saturday 27th, between 9am and 12.30pm. Over 40 stalls offering quality local produce, including bread, beer, crafts, eggs, flowers, fish, fruit, meat ... and our very own North Aston Organics!

Duns Tew Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning in Duns Tew Village Hall on Saturday 5th October in aid of the Great Ormond Street Hospital charity. As well as tea, coffee and home-made cakes, there will be a raffle, crafts and books. Starts 10:30 am.

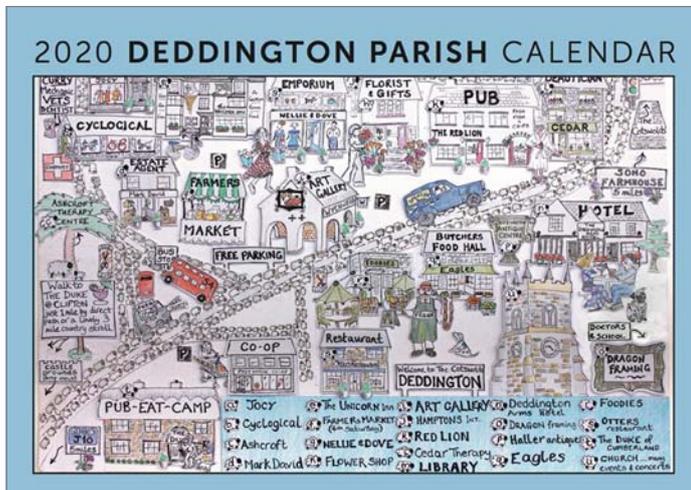
Free Blanket Check

OCC and CDC will be offering free electric blanket checks at various locations this month, including The Barn in Greater Leys Oxford (8th), the WRVS in Castle Street Banbury (9th), Cutteslowe Community Centre Oxford (21st), The Old St Edburg's School Bicester (22nd) and Glyme Hall, Burford Road, Chipping Norton on the 24th October. Other venues are available.

This service has been offered annually for over 20 years. Roughly 30% of blankets fail! Call 01865 895999 to book an appointment or email communityengagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk.

2020 Deddington Calendar

The annual Deddington Parish Calendar is now available. It will be offered by *Friends of Deddington Library* at the monthly Farmers' Market and can also be purchased from the Library.



Available in two sizes (A4 at £10 and A5 at £7.50), proceeds from the sale go towards supporting the future of the Library. Each month is illustrated by a unique photograph taken by a local resident, and depicting some feature of the surrounding area. Christmas Cards are also available.

Duns Tew (& North Aston) Panto

The annual extravaganza that is the Duns Tew pantomime (with many North Aston players and supporters!) is still a couple of months away, but DTDG is now seeking volunteers to help with off-stage roles (although there may still be opportunities for treading the boards - so don't hold back!). If you could give an evening of your time to help behind the bar, plating up dinners, or perhaps even help with scenery painting and construction, then please get in touch with our own Vicky Taylor by emailing vicky_alice_taylor@hotmail.co.uk.

October Birthdays

Tom Baimbridge
Daniel Durnin
Olivia Durnin
Tom Godwin
Paul Honess
Audrey Newman
Jimmy Rees



Congratulations to
Marcus & Franca
on their Wedding Anniversary!

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.

Announcements

Road Closure

Just a reminder that there will be on-going disruption to traffic through Middle Aston until the middle of October as installation of new mains water pipeworks continue. The routes effected include Middle Aston Lane and the street leading from Middle Aston Lane to Oxford Road.

Planning Applications

Notice of the following announcement relating to Planning Applications have been received from Cherwell District Council:
Godwins Farm, Somerton Rd, North Aston, OX25 6AA. Applicant: Mr & Mrs P Durnin. Change of use of an agricultural building to dwelling house. This application, previously refused, has now gone to appeal. The appeal will be decided on the basis of an exchange of written statements and a site visit by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. Comments should be submitted in writing to Planning Inspectorate, Room 3D, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN quoting the Appeal Reference APP/C3105/W/19/3235252 by 16 October 2019. You may also email: submit.appeal@cherwell-dc.gov.uk.
Nicholson Nurseries, The Park, North Aston. Applicant: Mr Niel Nicholson. The application for the construction of a new steel-framed barn has been approved.

Somerton Burglary

A burglary occurred between 11:30 and 13:30 on Tuesday 17th September at a property on Heyford Road in Somerton. If you witnessed anything suspicious or have any CCTV please update TVP via 101 using crime reference 43190287736.

North Aston Notes

With Stephen Rees

Hello, and welcome to the wind and rain and the nights drawing in. Autumn is on the way ...

It has been very politely brought to my attention that my monthly 'Notes' have started to get a bit repetitive, so I thought I would give it a miss for a bit and write about something else. So, here goes. Bear with me. It's not compulsory to read it ...

Growing up in North Aston

My brothers, sister and me are all North Aston born and bred, and proud to be able to say it. My own childhood was in the 1970s, and North Aston then was a big playground for us kids. There was always loads to do, places to go and ways to make pocket money.

Our family used to live in the house next to the telephone, where me and my two brothers all shared one room and one bed. We had no telephone, but we did have a small black and white television that very rarely got switched on. We had no central heating, and it was common for us (and lots of others in the village) to have ice on the inside of the windows in winter. It did us no harm, Dad used to say!

In the school holidays Mum would kick us out in the morning and we didn't go back into the house till tea time, when Dad used to have to come and get us. If we didn't run when he whistled, we were for it!

My memories of North Aston as a kid are all of fun, with lots of friends and lots to do. We had a youth club run by Tony Short, who taught us to play rounders. The village played cricket on Sundays, organised by Norman and Mrs West. We lay in the sun on the boundary line, watching and waiting for it to end so they would get on with the raffle. The prizes were 20 fags or a box of Milk Tray chocolates!



There was bingo in the old school house (*above*), but I wasn't allowed to go. I was too young, but that was okay, as my brothers and big sis used to go and I had the house to myself!

The village fête was one of the highlights of the year, just as it is today. It was held either at the cricket field or on the lawn at the Manor. I can remember once queuing up as Fred and I waited for the bric-a-brac to open. We had a quick look, and I bought a little penknife that had a penny farthing in the handle. Then Dad grabbed hold of me and dragged us away because it was time to go to cubs. I've still got that little knife.

In the corner of the Green there used to be an old Nissen hut that had two separate rooms. It was fairly rotten and full of rats, but we loved it. It was our Club House.

We had two shops back then. There was Mrs Wyatt's bakery, where Dad went to work after he left school and before he got called up, and Mr Hazel's Post Office. Mum used to send us to the shop to get milk or bread and say "Get them to put it



on the book, love". Mr Hazel had a pile of little red notebooks behind the counter and you could buy stuff on the tick until Dad got paid. That shop was awesome for us kids. You used to be able to walk in behind the window, where all the toys were, especially just before Christmas, and you could climb up onto a step and pick things up and look ... and show them to Mum, full of hope. I liked the top end of the shop best. There was a big glass counter full of everything from ribbons to penknives, cutlery to watches and alarm clocks.

The best day of the year was the day of the Christmas party. That was held at the Manor or The Hall. I can remember the big Christmas tree in the squash court at the Manor as if it was yesterday. It was covered in real candles and all us kids were glued to the arched windows in the corner watching the snow fall and waiting for the real ... and he was real ... Father Christmas to come across the lawn, with his massive sack of presents. We all had a present with our name on it, and there was lashings of lemonade, sausages and cake. Life was good.

All the best, *Steve, Wendy & Penny*

Bridge

Would you like to play in a friendly environment with advice from experienced Bridge players and teachers?

Join us every Thursday 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm at the Kingsmere Community Centre, Bicester OX26 1EG

£5 per session with tea and coffee provided.

More details at: www.bridgewebs.com/bicesterlearning

Please call David Tarsky on 07867126188



Broadband



Since the article in July's *North Aston News* about the government scheme to deliver FTTP (Fibre to the Premises – full fibre broadband) to rural locations, we have been working with residents and suppliers to see how feasible a project for North Aston might be.

Business and residential premises in North Aston are eligible for a substantial government voucher to cover the cost of fibre installation. Based on the responses from residents so far and on BT's estimates, we believe that by working together to pool our vouchers, we'll be able to make our village one of the first in the country to have full fibre.

Since the village was upgraded to FTTC recently, many of us have benefitted from a good broadband service. In the coming years, however, what we now consider to be fast will inevitably begin to feel slow.

There is a real opportunity now for North Aston to get ahead of the game, with little cost to ourselves.

If you haven't already done so, please return the Broadband Survey form which was sent out to everyone on the NA Mailing List in July. If you can't find it, request another copy by mailing info@north-aston.co.uk. It only takes a few minutes, and it makes the project much more likely to be successful.

The form will tell us how many residents are interested in receiving fibre, and help us to calculate the value of the vouchers the village could receive.

We need to move quickly, to take advantage of the timing of the District Heating project in the village. If we can coordinate fibre installation with the planned District Heating project, the costs are likely to be lower, so that we could get fibre to more premises and make the fibre project more viable.

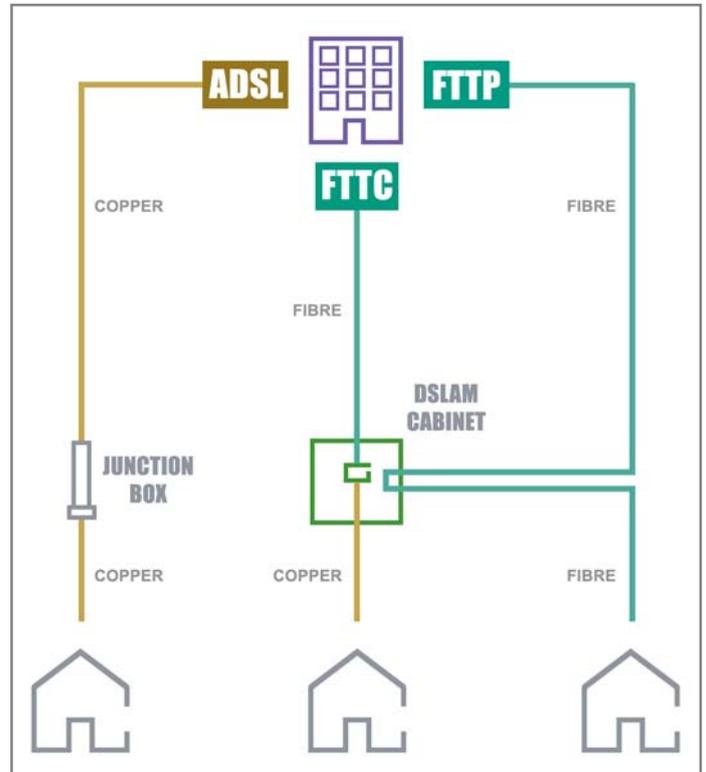
What is FTTP?

There are three main types of broadband currently available in the UK:

- ADSL, which uses copper phone lines to deliver broadband.
- FTTC, much faster than ADSL, which uses fibre-optic cables to carry data from the exchange to a local cabinet (like the one on The Green), hence **Fibre to the Cabinet**. It still uses copper cables to connect the home or business to the cabinet.
- FTTP, much faster than FTTC, which uses fibre cables for the entire connection from the exchange to the home or business, hence **Fibre to the Premises**. FTTP offers much higher speeds, and it is more reliable than FTTC.

FTTP not only makes working from home or running a business easier, but it also allows home users to run multiple internet devices at the same time. With FTTP, different family members could be watching several high definition films online simultaneously, while someone else was on their computer.

It's likely that people will start to look for access to FTTP when they're making decisions about where to live or work. Most importantly, FTTP is future-proof. FTTP will support higher and higher speeds in future, without the need for major changes to the infrastructure.



How the Voucher Scheme works

The prospective broadband supplier administers the government Voucher Scheme on behalf of customers. Those customers, like the residents of North Aston, get together to ask a supplier to act on their behalf.

The supplier prepares a proposal to connect all the premises to the cabinet, and works out the total cost. Included is an element that demonstrates to the government how much of those costs are eligible for subsidy. Ideally, the full cost of the installation is met by the supplier itself and from the vouchers, so that there is no installation cost for the customer.

We approached a number of suppliers for North Aston, but it seems likely that BT Openreach will be the best or only option. For this to work, each customer involved in the scheme will need to agree that the supplier can claim a voucher on their behalf. They will also need to take up the option on a full-fibre connection for at least one year. After that year, the customer is free to continue to take the fibre service, or to cancel it and return to a lower bandwidth service.

At the moment, the prices for FTTP contracts are marginally higher than the current FTTC packages that many North Aston residents are already paying, but we expect that prices for FTTP will drop quickly as the technology becomes more widely available. It seems very likely that, at the end of that 12-month contract, the cost of FTTP contracts will have reached parity with FTTC packages, so that customers may find that it's not necessary to return to a lower bandwidth service at the end of the year, just to save money.

Guy Middleton

(With additional input from the Editor)

More information: gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk

The village defibrillator

The defibrillator is located in the porch at 4 Somerton Road, opposite the post box. CPR & Defibrillator training sessions are arranged from time to time. For more information, and to book a session, please contact Mark on 347806



Sustaining the Astons

Established as a Community Interest Company (CIC), *Sustainable Steeple* is an engagement project with the purpose of helping Steeple Aston and neighbouring villages become a "sustainable community". This is a community that "manages its human, natural, and financial capital to meet current needs while ensuring that adequate resources are available for future generations" and are the 'foundation of a peaceful and healthy planet', according to the Institute for Sustainable Communities.



This means supporting and encouraging local business, creating local jobs for local people, and offering access to good transport links and communications. It also means protecting and enhancing local ecosystems and biodiversity, maximising reuse and the recycling of waste, and encouraging a broad range of social and cultural activities.

We also seek to protect and enhance public spaces and historical resources, encourage community spirit and a sense of belonging, and improving access to quality services; public, private, voluntary and community. We believe in equal opportunity for all individuals to participate in and influence decisions that affect their lives in the community.

With an active Parish Council and many well-established societies/associations, there are a lot of areas where Steeple Aston scores well, but in other areas it feels like there's more we could do. Our first project, 'Second Chances', is about becoming more environmentally conscious and providing practical support for 'green' initiatives, as well as creating new social opportunities and the prospect of local employment in the future.

Second Chances is an up-cycling project in which we want to take unwanted/broken items, refresh and re-purpose them before selling them on through a variety of channels to create a fund that is available for community-based projects. Items are sold via:

- a regular stall at Deddington Farmer's Market (4th Saturday of each month);
- village events such as the Church Fête and the Horticultural Show;
- local stores;
- Facebook and our own website

Getting involved

There are lots of ways to get involved. You can donate items for up-cycling, volunteer your time to help up-cycle and/or sell our items, or you can get involved in our upcoming events.

We hold up-cycling workshops (for bicycles, clothes, fabric, furniture, jewellery and wood) and have a repair café, with experts on hand to help you mend your broken items. We operate a Swap Shop, where you can trade in your clothes, accessories, and shoes for shiny new (for you anyway) ones, and a Recycled Market, where you can meet a variety of makers who up-cycle everything from glass bottles to old metal crates; a great opportunity to start your Christmas shopping early.

Keeping up-to-date

If you want to get involved, we'll keep you updated as to progress through SAL, the village website and Facebook group and the Sustainable Steeple Facebook page and website which have just launched. Alternatively, you can contact Amanda Rodgers via email amanda@sustainablesteeple.com or telephone 07793 553150.

NICHOLSONS

Plants Forestry Landscapes

NEW RANGES IN THE PLANT CENTRE

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To find out more please visit our website:

www.nicholsonsgb.com

The Park, North Aston, OX25 6HL
01869 340342



The View from PARK FARM

Last month we completed workshops on our monthly theme which was *Jobs & Work Experience*, which included all the girls spending time working on their CV's.

As part of our monthly scenario workshops, September's was Survival Month. We completed a scavenger hunt around North Aston with clues and riddles and the girls had to find 10 gold stars in significant places, so that we developed memories in North Aston! The girls loved this.

We have been enjoying the sunny weather and making the most of it. The girls have visited Oxford Botanical Gardens and Stratford-upon-Avon!

Last year we hosted a **Curry Night** for the village, which was great fun. We would like to do that again, and to help us work out how popular this might be, would be grateful if people could email sophie.hills@hillcrestcs.co.uk to express their interest.



The next gathering for the North Aston Discussion Group will be on Thursday 7th November. To find out more or to be added to the mailing list, email furniturechat@gmail.com or call Tony Buxton or Annie Savage on 347767. Everyone is welcome ... bring a bottle.

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North Aston Harvest Supper

Lunchtime, Sunday 6th October

Orchard Barn @ Nicholsons

The Park, North Aston 12:30 for 1:00 pm

Welcome Drink and Main Course provided
Please bring a **Pudding to Share**, your own drinks, cutlery, crockery and glasses.

All Welcome! Bring a neighbour!

'Tickets' on the Door but **Reservations Essential**.
To book, leaving a message for Mary: 01869 347702
Price: £5 on the Door - Children under 12 Free

Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements. Any surplus money will donated to Church funds. Volunteers needed to help with cooking. Please let us know when you book.

Bogus Census Surveyors

No space for a full TVP report this month, but one pertinent warning. Please be aware that that fraudsters are operating in our area posing as officials from the Home Office.

They have "documents" from the Department of Home Affairs that claim they are entitled to check for valid ID ahead of the upcoming National Census. In truth, they are looking for homes to rob. Please be advised that there is no initiative of this kind and the Census is not due to be taken until 2021. Please be alert and warn neighbours, family and friends.

Park Farm Free Dog Walking

Stuck for time? Let the Park Farm Girls help out with their reliable, friendly and professional dog-walking service. (Weekends only). Please call us on 01869 349922 to set up a dog-walking appointment.



North Aston Gardening Club

The summer is truly over, but we've had a good growing season, topped off with that last burst of sunshine and heat in mid September which has helped ripen the last tomatoes and peppers on the allotment.

From what I can see on the plots, I think this has been a particularly good year for dahlias, tomatoes and spuds. This was evident at the *Flower & Produce Show*, which once again displayed the growing, cooking and crafting talents of North Aston. We had 275 entries from 34 individual exhibitors in total, and it was great to see so many people, including many new faces, come along to support the event and exercise their democratic right to pick the finest veg and blooms of the day.

When all the points was tallied up, Annabel Bevan was awarded the Cup for the highest number of 1st prizes across all classes, Chalce White won the *Grower's Cup*, and William Fuoco took home the *Children's Cup*. Annabel also grew the heaviest Tomato, weighing a whopping 3lb15oz, so she has the privilege of polishing the *Tuffrey Cup* for the next 12 months. Jean Graham grew the tallest Sunflower (possibly in the county!) and Jill Rawnsley's winning tub yielded 7½ lbs of spuds.

We want to encourage as many people to take part in the Show as possible, and it was particularly encouraging to see growing participation from younger members of our village in

both the children-only, and the open classes. Many people contribute to the annual success of this show, especially those who help to set everything up, keep things running smoothly on the day, and take it all down again. Thank you all.

Our next NAGC meeting is on Friday the 18th of October, 8pm, kindly hosted again by Eileen, at Gilmore the Green. I hope see some of you there.

Lynn



A Country Christmas
Middle Aston House
15th November 2019

The organisers of the annual Christmas Market at Middle Aston House are seeking local craftspeople to become stall holders at the event to be staged on Friday 15 November, from 7pm until 9:30pm. For more information please email preschoolfundraising2019@gmail.com or call 340863

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Who we are

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The Church MATTERS



A season of remembering...

The current trend for Halloween to be a time of parties and treats and dressing up hides the deeper traditions of this time of year.

All Hallows (All Saints) on November 1st, and All Souls the day after, is traditionally a time to remember those who have gone before us. Whether the great heroes of faith, or just the ordinary faithful (saints or souls - take your pick!) our lives have been shaped by all kinds of people. As the nights draw in and the dark begins to bite, these festivals shine a little light into our hearts.



Because that's what we are all supposed to do: Shine as lights to the world, says Jesus. And I think all of us can point to people who have done that for us - parents, friends, teachers, colleagues, role models of all sorts. I am often told stories of previous rectors; and though these often focus on our common failings, sometimes quietly come the tales of moments when my predecessors brought hope and kindness and comfort and a little touch of Jesus in the night.

All Hallows Eve, October 31st, the night before the remembering, sharpens the darkness: but only as that moment before the dawn seems darkest, just before the day's new light first begins to break through. Because light always breaks through.

This year this date carries all kinds of feelings with it. Whether Brexit does or doesn't happen at the end of October, the mess around what has been going on will carry on for ages to come. The way we feel, the way we feel democracy is being handled or mishandled, the way public discourse has

become harsh and difficult. Our leaders set the tone for our common life.

Perhaps all we can do is pray that light will indeed break through at this yearly time of remembering, in more than one way. The saints and the souls, the heroes of faith and the ordinary faithful who have gone before us will come to mind and inspire us to be our better selves. Their words, their lives, their love will lift us all up.

And it is not just a day - it is a season of remembering: for barely days later we will gather together and recall that saints and souls laid down their lives for us - and still do - that we might be free to argue in darkness or choose to shed light wherever we walk.

Christians come together through all seasons to celebrate by remembering the light that Jesus brings every day; whether darkness threatens to overwhelm or the sun shines brightly. We do what we do together to remember him; these are words in our Holy Communion. In remembering him, we remember that when we forget our better selves, life grows dimmer. So we kneel, we pray, we reach out our hands and we say thank you.

Thank you for those who have gone before. For shining examples. For those we have loved. For saints and souls. For each other. For lives laid down. For Jesus. And in this season of remembering we celebrate; but not just with treats and fancy dress - with determination to bring that light to our world, here, today.

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: steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 340 903

You can also email Clive: casb@north-aston.com (tel: 340 470) 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, Ginny Stay, Ted Short, Jeremy Taylor and Norman West.



CHURCH SERVICES

PARISH WORSHIP IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

NORTH ASTON

STEEPLE ASTON

TACKLEY

Sunday October 6th 2019

9.30 am
Harvest Festival
Revd Marcus Green

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

5:30 pm
Harvest Festival
Followed by Harvest Auction
**Revd Marcus Green and
Canon Robin Gibbons**

Sunday October 13th 2019

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 October 20th 2019

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Revd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
With Children's Church
Revd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Evensong
Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday October 28th 2019

9:30 am
Morning Prayer
Richard Bailey

11:00 am
Morning Prayer
Revd Marcus Green

9:30 am
Family Communion
Revd Marcus Green

Sunday November 3rd 2019

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
All Souls & All Saints
Remembering all God's people
**Revd Marcus Green &
Canon Robin Gibbons**

Bible Study happens most Mondays at 2pm in the Rectory.

A service of thanksgiving for All Saints & All Souls will happen at Tackley Church on Nov 3rd at 5.30pm.

Visit the website for further information: www.sntchurch.com

North Aston News

The *North Aston News* is designed and produced by CMC Graphics, printed by Nicholson's 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*, stating your wish to be added to the mailing list. We welcome contributions, which need to be in an electronic format (except Classifieds and Announcements, which may be hand written). To submit an item, please email: info@north-aston.co.uk.

Advertising is welcome. If you wish to place a Display or Classified advert in the *News*, please request a rate card by email: info@north-aston.co.uk

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF
STEEPLE ASTON WITH NORTH
ASTON AND TACKLEY
www.sntchurch.com

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bringing the love of Jesus to the heart of our communities through worship, word and works of witness

Come and Worship with us!

Steeple Aston Church:
55 Peter & Paul, Steeple Aston, OX25 4SF
Sundays at 11am

North Aston Church:
St Mary the Virgin, North Aston, OX25 6AH
Sundays at 9.30am

Tackley Church:
St Nicholas, Tackley, OX25 3AE
Sundays at 5.30pm

Your Kingdom Come

The United Benefice of Steeple Aston with North Aston and Tackley

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