

NORTH ASTON

NEWS

November 2019

#349



NORTH ASTON NEWS

NOVEMBER 2019, No:349

Useful Contacts

North Aston News

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North Aston Pet Alert

Please notify of any Firework Parties
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North Aston 100 Club

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Thames Valley Police non-emergency: 101

Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

Notes from the Chair

Well, what a wonderful Hallowe'en the children had at the end of the month ... dry, mild and copious amounts of sweet treats!

As bonfire night is almost here please can I ask that, if you are having fireworks on any day other than the 5th November, you contact Deirdre (details on the left) so that she can filter that information on to all pet owners.

Please also note that everyone is invited to the Village Forum meeting, which will be held at the Bakery on the 14th - see below.

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

Lucinda

Village Forum Meeting

November 14th 2019
The Old Bakery from 7:30 pm

Topics likely to be discussed at the Village Forum include:

- Plans for Christmas
 - Carols on the Green & Village Wassail
 - Carol Service
 - Children's Party, Gifts for Village Elders etc
- Review of the Year
- Update on the District Heating System (and Broadband)
- Appointment of Officers (AGM in early January).

If you have any additional topics you'd like to raise, please advise Lucinda or Annie as soon as possible. A full Agenda will be posted on the village noticeboard a few days before the Forum.



Antiques @ THE HOLT
STEEPLE ASTON
23rd & 24th November
10:00 am to 4:30 pm
Antiques & Collectors' Fair
www.antiques-at-the-holt.co.uk

Entrance £2

Front cover: As threatened, since we had no suitable submissions of photos for the front cover, this month's image is an arty interpretation of typical view, based on a photo taken last month when the Editor and Mrs P went to Venice.



Neighbourly Letter

Recently a letter regarding planning permission was copied from the Cherwell District website and the words 'Neighbourly Love' were printed on the reverse side.

Just to be clear, this was not printed or delivered by us and even we received a copy.

David and Angela Hanna

Bonfire Night falls on a Tuesday this year. Please remember that it is illegal to let off fireworks after 11:00 pm on any other day except the 5th. If you're planning on having a fireworks party on any other evening, then please advise your neighbours so that pets can be kept safely indoors. Call Deirdre on 340646 and email info@north-aston.co.uk with details.

Saturday November 2nd
(No later than 11:00 pm)

Sunday November 3rd
(No later than 11:00 pm)

Tuesday November 5th
(No later than midnight)



The next Discussion Group meeting will be on the second Tuesday, **November 12th** at 7.30 pm and will take place at Middle Cottage, St Mary's Walk. It's hoped this temporary change from first Thursday will not inconvenience anyone. The topic will be: '*What do we mean by gender equality and can it ever exist?*'. To find out more or to be added to the mailing list, email: furniturechat@gmail.com or call 347767. Everyone welcome ... bring a bottle.

Announcements

Planning Applications

Notice of the following announcement relating to Planning Applications have been received from Cherwell District Council:

Jericho House, North Aston, OX25 6HX. Applicant: Mr & Mrs Ken Hanley. The application for the dismantling of damaged wall & reconstruction has been approved, subject to Listed Buildings Consent. Reference 19 / 01552 / LB.

November Birthdays

Rebecca Brown
Anna Clara Liberadzki
Liz Nicholson
Billy Rees
Archie Stay
James Taylor
Magdalena Waszynska-Tejza



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.

Events & Notices

Christmas at Nicholsons

A note for your diary! Nicholsons will again be celebrating friendship and festivities with their now traditional *Christmas at Nicholsons*. This year it will take place on Saturday December 7th. Head for the Nursery to enjoy a lovely day filled with entertainment, food, drink and artisan-inspired shopping.

You'll be able to explore the ROSARA showroom and visit the Yurt, while local artisans will be offering unique wares and gift ideas. Nicholsons will be partnered by the Oxford Christmas Company, who will be selling Christmas Trees and Baubles.

The event will be open from 10:00 am through to 6:00 pm, with full details in next month's *News*.

Duns Tew Pantomime

Don't miss the Duns Tew Pantomime, which this year is *Flash Gordon, The Panto*. Performances will be at 7:30 pm on Friday 29th & Saturday 30th November, and then Friday 6th & Saturday 7th December, with a matinée on Saturday 30th November 2 pm. Evening admission charge is £14.00 (including a two course meal served during the intervals). Matinee child £5.00, adult £7.00. Book on-line at www.thelittleboxoffice.com/dtdg/ and further info from info@dunstewdramagroup.org.uk.

Deddington Farmers' Market

This month's Farmers' Market will take place on November 24th. Stalls will fill the Market Square, offering the very best in local produce, from beer and bread, to fish, fruit, meat, as well as our own North Aston Organics. 9 am to 12:30 pm.

Heyford Park Christmas Bazaar

The sixth annual Heyford Park Christmas Bazaar will take place on the 7th December from 10.30 – 3pm in The Chapel, Brice Road, Heyford Park, OX25 5TE. More details next month.

North Aston Notes

— With Stephen Rees —

So I ended last month's story telling you about the Christmas party at the Manor, with real snow, real father Christmas, and real candles on the huge tree! Can you imagine the health and safety issues of doing that today!

Another social event that will always stick in my mind was the Queen's Silver Jubilee, back in 1977. I think it was Clive or Jeremy who found some fertilizer sacks that had red white and blue on them, and lots of people in the village cut them up into triangles and the grown-ups hung them all the way round the village.

In the daytime there was a big fête at the cricket ground, with everyone turning up and taking part in all the games. My Dad ran the Bowling-for-a-Pig, and I won the juniors. My bruv Tony won the grown-ups ... and it wasn't even a fix.

In the evening there was a party at The Hall. The prize-givings were saved until the end, and I spent all day and most of the evening thinking about my pig. What was I going to call it? How was I going to feed it? Then, when the time came for the prizes, I got £2 and Tony got £5. It definitely was a fix!

It was a great day though, with loads to do, eat and drink.

Making some pocket money was easy back then. We used to walk along the main road looking for Corona lemonade bottles, as Mr Hazle would give us 2½ pence for every one.

We used to take it in turns going down to The Hall to see old Mrs Hitchens. She would give us 50p to go to the shop and buy her 20 Dunhills. They only cost 40p, so we got to keep the change.



The Hall in the time of the Hitchen family

We used to do a lot of blackberrying and sell them around the village, but my favourite was mushrooming. We could get good money for them. Dad taught me where to find them and which ones to pick. The best fields were down by the river, and I can remember walking there one evening when Dad took a sudden detour of a few yards, and then walked on. I didn't ask why, and just followed along. We got a load of good mushrooms and turned to come back up the hill, but Dad stopped to pick up a big stick. On the way, just where he'd done his detour, he suddenly whacked out and killed a hare laying asleep in a tuft of grass. He'd seen it earlier and knew what to do. That night we had fried mushrooms and hare, fried in dripping. It was flipping lovely.

BSO

Banbury Symphony Orchestra



BSO's 'Sounds of Autumn' concert will be staged in Deddington Church on Saturday 23rd Nov at 7.30pm. The programme begins with Weber's overture to his opera *Der Freischütz* ('The Marksman'), to be followed by Madalina Rusu as the soloist in Edvard Grieg's *Piano Concerto*. Madalina's performance of Rachmaninov's *Piano Concerto No 2* in 2017 was wonderful! An interval will be followed by Anton Bruckner's powerful *Sixth Symphony*, fêted for its 'plethora of tender, memorable themes'.

Tickets, £10 or free to under 18s, are available online at www.banburysymphony.org or on the door.

**Saturday
23 Nov
7.30pm
Deddington
Church**

We were in the church choir - not because we were religious, but it was something to do with our mates. We had fun eating polos and messing about and getting told off by the grown-ups. I even learned to ring the bells and rang one at my big sister's wedding. That was a very proud moment.

Behind the old organ in the church is a big wooden panel, and it's covered in names and graffiti from us and children long before. My Dad's name is there, from when he was little, and my uncle's and aunt's too.

There wasn't any big shops in those days, but besides the two in the village there used to be vans that came to North Aston. There was a greengrocer, a butcher, and a man selling clothes and household goods. Mum got credit at them all until pay-day, as she did with the milkman too.

Dad used to take us all to an old boy in Fritwell once a month to have our hair cut. He had a barber's chair in a shed behind his house, and if you got there a bit late he had no electric light, so we came out with proper bad haircuts. Once a year he took us to Middle Barton where there was a little shoe shop and bought us all new shoes.

I can remember the first time Mum and Dad went to a supermarket. It was in the middle of Banbury, just by the bus station. I sat in the car and guarded it from burglars - well, that's what Dad told me to do, so I did. Mum came out with big bags of food saying how much choice there was and so much cheaper too.

The last of my memories that I'll bore you with this month was Mum's Sunday teas. For me, they were the highlight of the week. We had sandwiches and pork pie, with Dad's salad, and peaches and cream for after. Perfect!

All the best, Steve, Wendy & Penny

WW2 Veterans' Portraits

A new exhibition of photographic portraits of WW2 veterans is now on display at the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum.

The exhibition is the work of award-winning photographer Glyn Dewis, and will remain on display until 5th January 2020. Glyn is leading an ongoing project to photograph Second World War veterans from all branches of the armed forces, and from a wide range of different regiments and corps, including the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.



The portraits are displayed alongside recorded interviews with the veterans, recounting their experiences, as well as a number of drawings produced by children as a 'thank you' to them.

The project, and the exhibition itself, is designed to 'remember, honour and educate'. Glyn Dewis intends to 'honour and remember our surviving World War 2 veterans' and 'sensitively to educate the current and future younger generations about the events of World War 2 and of those who served, survived and were lost'.

Glyn will also be running two project workshops (9th November & 7th December, 11am - 2pm) demonstrating how the portraits were taken using minimal kit and often in very limited space, showing how we can all create classic portraits without the need for all the latest equipment. Spaces can be booked on the SofO Museum website: www.sofo.org.uk

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, located in the grounds of the Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock, is open from Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 2pm-5pm.

100 CLUB October 2019

The winners of the October draw:

1st Prize (£25): Matt Rees (#22)

2nd Prize (£5): George Hack (#140)



The 100 Club continues to pay out! The top prize was £25 this month. For further information, please contact Bev on 347434. Remember, remember ...

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

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

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More details at: www.bridgewebs.com/bicesterlearning

Please call David Tarsky on 07867126188



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A Vision of Angels



Sunday 24th November at 7 pm

Steeple Aston Choral Society will be performing an evening of music for Advent and Christmas on Sunday November 24th in Steeple Aston Church, starting at 7 pm.

The programme will include Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, Gerald Finzi's *In Terra Pax* and other seasonal pieces. The soloist will be Guy Harbottle.

Tickets, which include a glass of wine with nibbles and savouries, are £10.00 in advance (£12 on door) from Margaret Bullement (01869 347346) or from Steeple Aston Post Office.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



As usual, there will be a door-to-door collection this month for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Please give as generously as you can. Thankyou

A Country Christmas

Middle Aston House
15th November 2019

The annual Christmas Market at Middle Aston House in aid of Steeple Aston Pre-School will take place on Friday 15 November, from 7pm until 9:30pm. Between 25-30 stalls will be offering plenty of opportunity to start your Christmas shopping. Entry £2 per person. For more information please call 340863 or email preschoolfundraising2019@gmail.com

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North Aston Views

Many thanks to Elizabeth Harvey-Lee for responding to our request for photos, and submitting this view of the canal near Somerton, as well as another photograph with at least nine snails enjoying the recent damp weather.



About SJB Hearing Company Ltd

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Ashcroft Therapy Centre, Hudson Street, Deddington, OX15 0SW

Christmas at
NICHOLSONS

Artisan Stalls | Christmas Food & Beverages | Christmas Trees | Live Music | Gifts

Saturday 7th December, 10am-6pm

The Park, North Aston, OX25 6HL

www.nicholsonsgb.com

In Quiet Contemplation

Those who walk through the woods below The Park may have seen a circle of logs and a standing oak shard, not far from the point where the footpath heads off south towards Grange Farm. This is a quiet spot, where people can stop and think, and listen to the birds. It is also a place to remember Sarah Graham, daughter-in-law to Bill and Jean, who passed away a year ago.

Mark Graham, her loving husband, was brought up in North Aston and he wrote this poem, which was recited at her funeral:

My One

*Typing through the tears
Remembering the years
Of love, laughter and fun
With my one*

*It began with a name on a pencil case
Shared Birthday & Battenburg cake
Stolen weekends in chippy naughty
EasyJet and a 1000 croissants
Hippo lake and airport runs
A princess on her mountain top
In her girlie house*

*Returning home, only one place to be
Back in Adderbury*

Two became three

But only after Lola agreed!

Joined by Billy Beau and Darcy Bus

Unwanted dogs, she wasn't having that

A vegetarian cooking sausages at the fête

The proudest mum at the school gate

ATW compost corner

She carried a watermelon

Hiked a Macmillan marathon

Had festival fun at Cornbury

A Brownie Glitter owl

Nicholsons Easy- Go driver supreme

GAP fashion advice, that was always so right

Her little shop of tiles

On the crazy St Giles

Little Miss Sunshine

Volunteering at Katherine House

Through it all

The same sparkle, smile and grace

Mummy, Best friend, Soulmate

Save the first and last dance for me

Love you

Your Bear xxx

She was an incredible woman. This space in the woods is now a place to reflect on the fantastic opportunity that the rest of us have in life, and for those of us who knew her, to remember a very lovely lady who left us far too soon.

Liz Nicholson

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



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North Aston Choir

Rehearsals for North Aston Choir, and the annual Carol Service, will start on Thursday 11th November at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to join in at The Old Vicarage (on The Green). No previous experience required, just enthusiasm!

Any questions please contact Miranda on 340625.

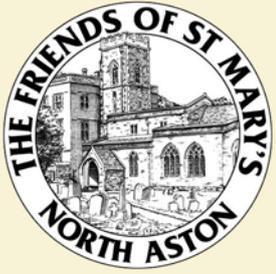
The Carol Service will be on Sunday December 22nd, 3pm.

& Carol Service

22nd December

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.



The Church MATTERS



For those who gave all ...

As I write this piece, it looks pretty clear that we won't be having a Halloween Brexit, but remains quite possible that we will be having an Advent General Election. So November may well be filled with public threats and promises, and our lives and the future of the country will be pulled all over the place once more.

My political opinions are reasonably well-known, and (clearly) of no great consequence. I am no fan of either Mr Johnson or Mr Corbyn; and I number myself amongst those who have found the whole Brexit saga enormously distressing.

But as a Christian, I find that Jesus won't let me hide in a hole of self-righteous indignation. I am not free to throw up my hands and watch the world go to hell in a handcart. I know too well that God loves both Boris and Jeremy just as much as he loves me, and that when we make anyone our enemy simply because we disagree we all lose. And yet however holy that sounds, an even more significant truth is - we are all tired. We are all tired of arguing and disagreeing and of people with loud voices shouting at us on TV and on the radio and through the pages of the newspapers and across the mystery of the internet. But none of them knows how to fix it.

Well. Maybe Remembrance Day comes to us as a special gift this year.

Remembrance Day is always a key date in all our diaries because every year it makes us stop and thank God for all those who gave everything that we might have a world where we can openly disagree with each other. Where we are free to make fun of leaders. Where a vote means something. Where we can choose, even if we don't like the choice, and where we can complain when we lose over a coffee or a beer or while watching yet another cha-cha-cha on *Strictly Come Dancing*.

People died that we might have the freedom to be a richly diverse society, disagreeing and agreeing with each other and realising how lucky we are to be able to do so. So it strikes me that perhaps we might do two things with Remembrance Day:

First: we should turn up. We should turn up to honour people who understood the value of our lives. We should thank them and their memory. And we should thank God for creating us with the inestimable possibility for goodness and kindness and for the chance to do and be good.

And second: Remembrance Day should make us have a good long look at ourselves. In a world where we are so polarised that we make other human beings into demons we need instead to value one another as being equally human. Even if - especially if - it means (as Jesus himself knew, on the cross) that from time to time we need to pray, "Father, forgive." Even, "Father, forgive me."

Our **Remembrance Service** in North Aston is at St Mary's on Sunday November 10th at 9.30am, and everyone in the village is mostly warmly invited to join with us as we remember all those who have given their lives for us. Let's really value this occasion and take the opportunity to make the choice to live well together.

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 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

NORTH ASTON

STEEPLE ASTON

TACKLEY

Sunday November 3rd 2019

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Rev'd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Rev'd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
All Souls & All Saints
Rev'd Marcus Green & Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday November 10th 2019

9:30 am
Remembrance Service
Rev'd Marcus Green and Richard Bailey

10:55 am
Remembrance Service
Rev'd Marcus Green and Richard Bailey

5:30 pm
Remembrance Service
Rev'd Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday November 17th 2019

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Rev'd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Rev'd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Evensong
Rev'd Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons

Sunday November 24th 2019

9:30 am
Morning Prayer
Richard Bailey

11:00 am
Morning Prayer with Children's Church
Rev'd Marcus Green

9:30 am
Family Communion
Rev'd Marcus Green

Sunday December 1st 2019

9:30 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Rev'd Marcus Green

11:00 am
Holy Communion
Book of Common Prayer
Rev'd Marcus Green

5:30 pm
Advent Sunday Informal Carol Service
Rev'd Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons

Thursday December 5th 2019

3:30pm
Tackley Praise: Christingle
with Tackley CE Primary School
Rev'd Marcus Green

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, including high resolution photographs suitable for use on the front cover, please email: info@north-aston.co.uk.

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