

NORTH ASTON

NEWS

July 2020

#357



NORTH ASTON NEWS

JULY 2020, No:357

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Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

Notes from the Chair

Wow!

How is it July already? I, myself are crawling to the finish line of home-schooling and the long awaited summer holidays! Roll on the glass of vino and a celebratory piece of cake ...

Unfortunately, Mikron have cancelled their performances this year, which is always a village favourite. All being well they will be returning to entertain us all next year.

Village Zoom ...

A quick reminder that there is a small Village Meeting on the 8th July via the Zoom app. Please contact either myself or Annie if you would like to take part. However, this will only cover accounts and financials due to myself and the committee feeling that not everyone is on Zoom and therefore any other discussions should be held off until a more traditional meeting can take place.

Easing Lockdown ...

Finally, as lockdown eases and things start to open, I know that a lot of people are still either shielding or do not feel completely comfortable to venture out yet. If you fall in to one or both of these categories please, please do get in touch with me if you need anything.

You can telephone Lucinda on **340588**

or email: chair@north-aston.co.uk

Lucinda

Village Meeting

Agenda for Meeting

Wednesday 8th July at 6.30

Due to the current situation relating to Covid 19, it is not possible for a Meeting to be convened in the usual way, and a short Meeting is to be held via Zoom from 6.30pm pm on Wednesday 8th July.

If you would like to join the Meeting, please telephone Annie Savage on 347767 or email secretary@north-aston.co.uk.

Agenda

1 Summary and Approval of Annual Governance Report

2 Approval of Accounts

We are in unusual times and hope to hold a Village Forum meeting at some point in the not too distant future.

Flower & Produce Show

This year's North Aston Flower & Produce Show was due to take place on Saturday August 22nd.

Tuck Hatzigeorgiou had generously volunteered to take over organising this popular annual event. Regrettably, after consultation with other key members of the North Aston Gardening Club, it has been decided that the 2020 Show cannot go ahead. Given the on-going Coronavirus situation, and the accepted possibility of a second 'spike', it is felt that "the risk is too high for some of the elderly residents, and we don't want to be responsible for placing them at risk," says Tuck.

That same Bank Holiday weekend the Steeple Aston & Middle Aston Horticultural Society's 129th Annual Flower Show was also scheduled to take place, on the Monday, but this too has been cancelled.

Front cover: Is there a problem with Pedro? A bit like Marmite, he divides opinion. Some love him ... many would happily wring his neck. See Page 6, and thanks to Colin Rainbow for the splendid cover photo.

Announcements

Birthday Best Wishes!

Happy Birthday to our gorgeous Sebastian! We hope that you had a dinotastic day! We love you to the furthest star and back. Lots of love Daddy, Mummy, William and Evelina xxxxxxx

Holiday-let Housekeeper

A Housekeeper is required to manage a holiday-let cottage in the village, including cleaning and changeovers for holiday guests. Favourable rates of pay. The post would ideally suit somebody local and interested in a part-time job. For more information, please call Richard on 07842 915069.

Planning Applications

Notice of various Planning Applications have been received from CDC. Visit <https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/> and keyword search "North Aston" for more information.

4 Hall Close, North Aston, OX25 6HR. The application for the construction of a combined single and two storey extension to the property has been approved. Reference No: 20 / 00664 / F
Nicholson Nurseries, The Park, North Aston, OX25 6HL. The previous application seeking the permit trade on Sundays in December has been approved. Reference No: 20 / 01007 / F

The Mill House, North Aston, OX25 6HZ. A decision relating to the application for the construction of a garage, in-filling of existing swimming pool and creation of a new swimming pool is expected 9th July 2020. Reference No: 20 / 01254 / F

Godwins Farm, Somerton Road, North Aston, OX25 6JA. A decision relating to the application for the change of use of an agricultural building into a dwellinghouse is expected 10th July 2020. Application Reference No: 20 / 01278 / F

Possible Closure of Somerton Railway Crossing. Cherwell District Council forwarded details of the planning application for the development of Heyford Park and Network Rail's request to consider closure of the Somerton Crossing. The officers of the Village Meeting discussed this and a reply email was sent asking for the closure to be resisted.

Letters of objection were also submitted by the Parish Councils of Somerton and Upper Heyford. Consultation on this has now closed. Application Reference 18-00825-HYBRID

Details of a further aspect of this planning application, relating to footpaths and cycleways, has been distributed with the electronic version of this edition of the *News*.

Hatch End Old Poultry Farm, Middle Aston Road, Middle Aston. An application has been made to demolish the old Poultry Farm in Middle Aston and for the erection of 29 replacement business units, an ancillary hub and associated works. The proposed units would have broad potential for office, research and development or industrial activities. The application includes extensive provision for parking. It is anticipated that the development could have significant impact on traffic using the Middle Aston Lane through to North Aston. At a virtual Meeting on June 15th, Steeple Aston Parish Council agreed to submit detailed objections to the development. Consultation has closed and a decision is expected early August. Ref. 20 / 01127 / F

The Village Defibrillator

The defibrillator is located at 4 Somerton Road. CPR & Defibrillator training sessions can be arranged. For more information, and to book a session, please contact Mark on 347806



July Birthdays

Jane Durnin
Eddie Hatzigeorgiou
Robert Hite
Marc Le Clerq
Rosi Nicholson
Marcus Potts
Colin Rainbow
Eileen West



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.

Notices

Deddington Farmers' Market

Deddington Farmer's Market resumed on 27th June, but with a slightly different format. Traders operated on a "Click & Collect" basis, with customers required to order goods on-line, in advance, which they could then collect on the day. At the time of preparing this month's *News*, the plan for the July market on Saturday 25th July remains the same. To take advantage of the Click & Collect, you'll need to visit the Deddington Farmers' Market website and view the list of some 20 or so stallholders who'll be attending. You can then place an order by telephone or email. The last day for placing orders will be Wednesday 22nd July.

Visit the website at www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk

Fish & Chips on the Green

Howe & Company's mobile Fish & Chip van now makes regular stops on The Green. This month the van will call on July 1st, 15th and again on the 29th. You can order in advance, or just turn up when the van arrives - usually around 5:30 pm. Check the NA Facebook page or email van99orders@gmail.com



North Aston Nature Notes

With Stephen Rees

Hello and welcome to July, and a slow coming out of lockdown. Going back to work three weeks ago was a bit surreal, and it felt strange going into people's homes. However, it's not been too bad, and (most) people have been okay with leaving doors open and staying in a different room. I've been doing lots of hand sanitizing and staying away from the office ... and people ... as much as possible. It all seems very different after six weeks at home seeing no-one except Wifey and dog!

Anyway, a few reasonably interesting bits this time. To begin with, we had a small drama in our bedroom last week, and no, it wasn't what you lot are thinking. It started one Saturday when we found a lovely black and red caterpillar. A few hours later we found it again, except now it was hanging upside down from a thread. The next morning Wifey looked and it was still there, so she went to brush her teeth, but when she came out it again it had completely spun itself into a cocoon, as quick as that. Amazing and perfect.



So we kept an eye on it all week and then, last Saturday afternoon, I went into the bedroom to open the windows and, lo and behold, it had turned into a butterfly. Wifey got her phone to take a photo. I touched it gently with a finger and it opened its wings to show a beautiful Peacock butterfly, and then it flew out of the window.

I can't say how fascinating this was to witness. How on earth can a caterpillar change into a butterfly inside a cocoon? It just makes me stop and look twice at all the little miracles that happen around us every day.

Billy, *Number One Son*, rang me the other day with a really interesting observation and news of an experiment that he has been doing. He's keen on fishing, and spends all his spare time in pursuit of big Perch and Bream, fishing mostly through the night with worms.

Anyway, what he has noticed is that on nights when there have been lots of worms out on paths and lawns, and lots of snails about, he has caught more fish. So, thinking about this, he started to note the weather as well, and has come up with the thought that low pressure brings out worms and snails, and the fish also feed more when it's low pressure and not so much when it's high pressure.

We have had a few good spots. For two weeks there were six (three pairs) of Ravens on Banbury Ground. Every morning they would be hopping about on the turned-over ground and just spending time together.

I got with in 20 yards of them one morning and, at that distance, you really do get a sense of how massive they are – and how big their beaks are!

Ravens pair up for life and this group was always flying in pairs. They have moved on now, or at least I've not seen them for a week.

Wifey stood watching a Blackbird eating a snail the other day. That's something I always connect with Thrushes. My best spot of the month was a Hobby, but it wasn't here in North Aston though, but near the river at Lower Heyford.



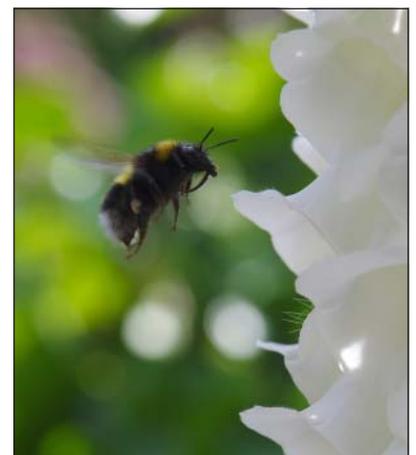
A few weeks ago I heard a funny bird call, and mentioned it to Wendy, who said maybe it was a Heron. Then, the next minute, a Goosander flew right over our garden. An hour later it went over again, heading back the other way.

The old scraggly black fox that used to run along behind Bill and Jean's house at exactly the same time every morning, and then walk around our chicken run before heading down across the field after rabbits, has died. Wifey found him just below our summer house when out with Penny one morning. When I got home I went to have a look. I found no injuries and no blood, but he was proper mangy. For the next two days the Ravens were sat on top of him every morning, but they weren't after his meat; they stripped him naked and carried away all his hair, and left the meat to the flies. Within days it was crawling with maggots and now it's all gone. That's what nature does, and nothing gets wasted at all.

To finish off this month, it's back to Mark's legs. Look, I've not got a fascination for Mark's legs, honestly I haven't, but I went to look at his scrap heap the other night to see if there was anything I could use to make a frame to put over my cabbages ... well, Wifey's cabbages. She's a gardener, so you don't buy a dog and bark yourself do you? Mark walked over and said "Ahh, I've got just the thing!" and disappeared into a big bunch of stinging nettles in his shorts, and pulled out some old frames, stingers and all. He's proper hard, that man ... either that, or he has no sense of feeling!

That's it for now. Keep safe, and stay away from the crowds of senseless people on the beaches and at Bicster Village. Honestly, really!?

Regards from
Stephen, Wifey and
Penny the dog.



Full-Fibre Update

Before taking on this project I was warned that working with Openreach could be a challenge. Well, that's certainly one way of describing it ...

Credit where it's due, our contact at Openreach is usually quick to respond to emails, and seems genuinely helpful and cooperative. Unfortunately, certain other 'departments' don't seem to be quite so efficient.

In May we closed the on-line portal and completed the initial application process. 78 North Aston properties were listed for connection to full-fibre, with only two opting out. About a fortnight later we received an email from Openreach, confirming receipt, and attaching their own interpretation of the list. It had mysteriously grown to 104 properties, with some 20-odd that weren't even in North Aston ... not even close. Homes in Lower Heyford and Middle Barton were included, but by the same token, several from North Aston were absent.

I queried this, and sent a detailed breakdown of which addresses were incorrect, and which had been overlooked. Our revised 'final list' now stood at 80 addresses, having agreed to add the church and one other. At the end of June Openreach responded with another acknowledgement and a second updated schedule of their own. It had grown again. It now listed 218 properties, including addresses in both Heyfords, a significant number in Middle Barton, and a swathe of homes in Duns Tew and Middle Aston. One address in North Aston was listed four times, while two addresses highlighted as missing previously were still not there. Every connection has to be costed, and covered using vouchers generated by North Aston's questionnaires, so we cannot afford to link up half of North Oxfordshire. I have completed the laborious process of going through the list ... again ... and await further news.



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Still Taking Orders!

Not all the details this month, so please see the June listing if you need to know more before taking advantage of these local companies that are offering doorstep deliveries. Please be sure to mention the *North Aston News* when you order!

North Aston Organics

Visit the pop-up shop behind the Old Bakery, and see Mark & Ginny's advert here on the left.

Mark's Cotswold Bakery

Artisan bakery based in Chipping Norton, with North Aston deliveries each Wednesday. Join the NA WhatsApp "Bread Group".

Manos Deli Jericho

Jericho-based deli delivering to NA. Check the website at www.manosfoodbar.com or call 01865 311782 for information.

Forge House Bakery

Sue Brown's L.Heyford bakery delivers on Thursdays or collect. Email forgehousebakery@btinternet.com or 07584 666561.

Aldens Meatmaster

Wide range of essentials delivered to NA free if you spend £60, or share through the NA WhatsApp group. www.meatmaster.info

Moore & Lyon Farm Produce

Located on the Worton Road and open on Fridays. Email mooreandlyonproduce@yahoo.co.uk or call 07967 530183.

Tip Top Chef, Tony Baughan

Home-cooked frozen & chilled meals delivered Friday pm or Saturday am. Visit www.tiptopchef.co.uk or call 07827 293 800.

Time to Take-Away

A slightly abbreviated list this month. Some pubs may be opening soon, but most will continue with take-away services, including:

The Yurt at Nicholsons. Takeaway lunches, teas, ice cream and cakes, Tuesday to Saturday 9am to 4.30pm.

The White Horse, Duns Tew. A daily evening menu is posted on the website from 6 pm: www.dunstewwhitehorse.co.uk, or call 340272 to order. Mon-Sat & Sun lunch. Call 07818 519659.

Red Lion, Steeple Aston is offering take-away pizzas, priced from £8 to £11. Visit www.redlionsteepleaston.co.uk to see the full range or create your own. Call 01869 340225.

The Cinnamon Stick, Middle Barton is offering takeaway slots daily, 6-9pm, from their menu of Lebanese dishes. Order on-line at www.thecinnamonstick.co.uk. Call 340440.

The Fox at Souldern. Thursday-Saturday weekly, ordered in advance via www.thefoxatsouldern.co.uk from a great pub-style menu. Call 01869 345284 to place an order.

The Killingworth Castle at Wootton. Rated *Pub of the Year* by the Oxford Times, and now offering take-away meals Fri-Sat. See the menu on www.thekillingworthcastle.com or call 01993 811401.

Foodonomics in Somerton. Take a break from home cooking, with quality home-made meals from Somerton! Visit the website at www.oxfordfoodonomics.co.uk/webshop/ to see what's available - chilled for home-warming or ready to eat.

Please support our local pubs and foodie businesses. When they're gone, they're gone!

The Problem with Pedro

Even if they've never actually seen him, I'm sure everyone in the village is familiar with Pedro the Peacock. His amorous appeals for a mate cry out regularly through the night, often starting as early as two in the morning. Sadly, the penetrating tone of his calls haven't met with universal acclaim, and there have been "mutterings" from enforced insomniacs. This is one "Tweet of the Day" that may have been going on too long.

However, salvation is at hand. As we move into July, Pedro's hormones will wane, his tail feathers will begin to fall out, and he'll stop strutting around like a Regency dandy. Realising he's no longer the resplendent beauty he once was, he'll go quiet ... or so I've been assured!



Thanks to Iona Le Clerq and Colin Rainbow for these lovely photos.

The mystery is, where did he come from? Logic suggests he must be an escapee from Hendon Farm, where Danny and Jane have a flock of pea- and guineafowl, but apparently not. Peacocks are territorial, and anyone who's seen Pedro will have noticed the metatarsal spurs on his legs which he would use to attack another male. Fights to the death have been known, so Pedro wouldn't be welcome at Hendon Farm, where one adult male is quite enough, thank you.

Without knowing his origin, it's hard to take him back. If anyone knows where Pedro came from, or if you're missing a peacock, please let us know! In the meantime, those living with him seem to welcome his company, as he sashays round their gardens by day, and roosts in the trees by night.

You can't deny, he's a handsome chap.



From the Fire Station

"Strange times" seems to be a re-occurring theme at the moment, so much so that I am running out of superlatives!

Understandably quiet for this month, with only four callouts for the Deddington crew: one standby at Banbury, and one fire in the open that had been brought under control whilst the crew were on route, so were stood down. Another was a call out for an RTC on the M40 and finally, one assistance call to help the Ambulance service move an elderly gentleman who had become unfortunately trapped.

We have sadly had to say goodbye to two fire fighters: George Williamson has moved to Banbury and transferred to their on-call crew, whilst new recruit Ollie Malpass is looking to join the Paras. Also, Adrian Spillsbury has secured a position with the full-time crew at Rewley Road, and so will be providing limited cover at Deddington for the next six months.



On a lighter note, the Fire Station crew was able to practise socially distanced clapping for the final Thursday key worker 8pm clap, even though they were probably only heard by Deddington Grange. As previously eluded to, Deddington are now wearing their new fire kit and helmets, which is of lighter weight and allows a more tailored fit, which should make the job a little easier. All things being equal, there will be a return to Tuesday drill nights and organised training – evening Power Point training may become a distant memory!

James Greenwood (james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk)

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The Chairman's Bake

Following her Gateau-stromonic solution to beating lockdown Lucinda now offers her recipe for Sticky Cinammon Buns ...

For the dough you will need:

- 175ml warm milk (whole milk or 2% preferred)
- 2¼ teaspoons quick-rise or active yeast (1/4-ounce package yeast)
- 35g granulated sugar
- 1 egg plus 1 additional egg yolk, at room temperature
- 35g unsalted butter, melted
- 390g bread flour, plus more for dusting
- ¾ teaspoon salt

For the filling, you'll need:

- 85g dark brown sugar (light brown sugar also works)
- 1½ tablespoons ground cinnamon
- 35g unsalted butter, softened

For the Cream Cheese Frosting, you'll need:

- 115g cream cheese, softened
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
- 100g powdered (icing) sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions

First, make the dough ...

Warm milk to around 43°C (110°F). I like to do this by placing milk in a microwave-safe bowl and microwaving it for 40-45 seconds. It should be like warm bath water.

Transfer warm milk to the bowl of an electric mixer and sprinkle yeast on top. Add in sugar, egg, egg yolk and melted butter. Mix until well combined. Next stir in flour and salt with a wooden spoon until a dough begins to form.

Place dough hook on stand mixer and knead dough on medium speed for 8 minutes. Dough should form into a nice ball and be slightly sticky. If it's TOO sticky (meaning it's sticking to the bottom of the mixer, add in 2 tablespoons more bread flour.) If you don't want to use an electric mixer, you can use your hands to knead the dough for 8-10 minutes on a well-floured surface.

Transfer dough ball to a well-oiled bowl, cover with plastic wrap and a warm towel. Allow dough to rise for 1 hour to 1½ hours, or until doubled in size. This may take more or less time depending the humidity and temperature in your home.

After dough has doubled in size, transfer dough to a well-floured surface and roll out into a 14x9 inch rectangle. Spread softened butter over dough, leaving a ¼ inch margin at the far side of the dough..

... then make and incorporate the filling ...

In a small bowl, mix together brown sugar and cinnamon.

Use your hands to sprinkle mixture over the buttered dough, then rub the brown sugar mixture into the butter.

Tightly roll dough up, starting from the 9-inch side and place seam-side down, making sure to seal the edges of the dough as best you can. You will probably need to cut about an inch off the ends of the dough, as the ends won't be as full of cinnamon sugar as we'd want it to be.

Cut into one-inch sections with a serrated knife or floss. You should get 9 large pieces.



... Bake ...

Place cinnamon rolls in a greased 9x9 inch baking pan or round 9 inch cake pan. (I also recommend lining the pan with parchment paper as well, in case any of the filling ends up leaking out.) Cover with plastic wrap and a warm towel and let rise again for 30-45 minutes.

Preheat oven to 180°C (356°F). Remove plastic wrap and towel and bake cinnamon rolls for 20-25 minutes or until just slightly golden brown on the edges. You want to under-bake them a little so they stay soft in the middle, that's why we want them just slightly golden brown. Allow them to cool for 5-10 minutes before frosting. Makes 9 cinnamon rolls.

and finish ...

To make the frosting, combine cream cheese, butter, powdered sugar and vanilla extract in the bowl of an electric mixer. Beat until smooth and fluffy. Spread over cinnamon rolls and serve immediately. Enjoy!



The winners of the June draw were:
1st Prize (£10): Lynn Quek (#29)
2nd Prize (£5): Angie Hanna (#96)

Bev reports that the take-up this year has been good, with a significant number of new players, and most of the existing subscribers have renewed for 2020-2021.

The month's grace for lapsed subscribers has now passed, but you can still renew or join as a new member, and subscriptions for the remaining months will be charged pro-rata.

Contact Bev on 347434 or email info@north-aston.co.uk for more details or to find out which numbers are still available.

Remember ...



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

The View from Park Farm

Well, I cannot say much has changed since our last report. It has been interesting and definitely an eye opener! As we have recently had lockdown lifted a little, we have been able to take the girls out in the car and go to nice walks, visit some lovely lakes to feed the ducks, and take a picnic somewhere and enjoy the views!

We have been thoroughly enjoying the sunshine! We purchased a new *slip n' slide* and the girls have been loving this in the garden! We also continue to make the most of lockdown and go on our regular bike ride and walks, I think we have pretty much covered the whole of Oxfordshire now! We have dusted off our BBQ again for this year and have been making use of this weekly! The girls have also found a new love of visiting Avon Dasset and watching the sunset go down. I would highly recommend if you haven't done this before!

The girls are still being home schooled, as they aren't yet being allowed back at school. We have been doing a lot of baking and memorable activities with the girls which they love! There are lots of online virtual activities we have been doing, for example, we have done magic shows and made our own pancakes and *Nutella* with some who lived in Paris.

We have recently had a resident leave to go and live in semi-independent flat, which has been a sad time for Park Farm but also really exciting for her, as she was ready to experience life on her own with everything she has learnt from Park Farm! Hopefully next month we will have more exciting things to share with you all! Stay safe!

From all the girls and staff at Park Farm!

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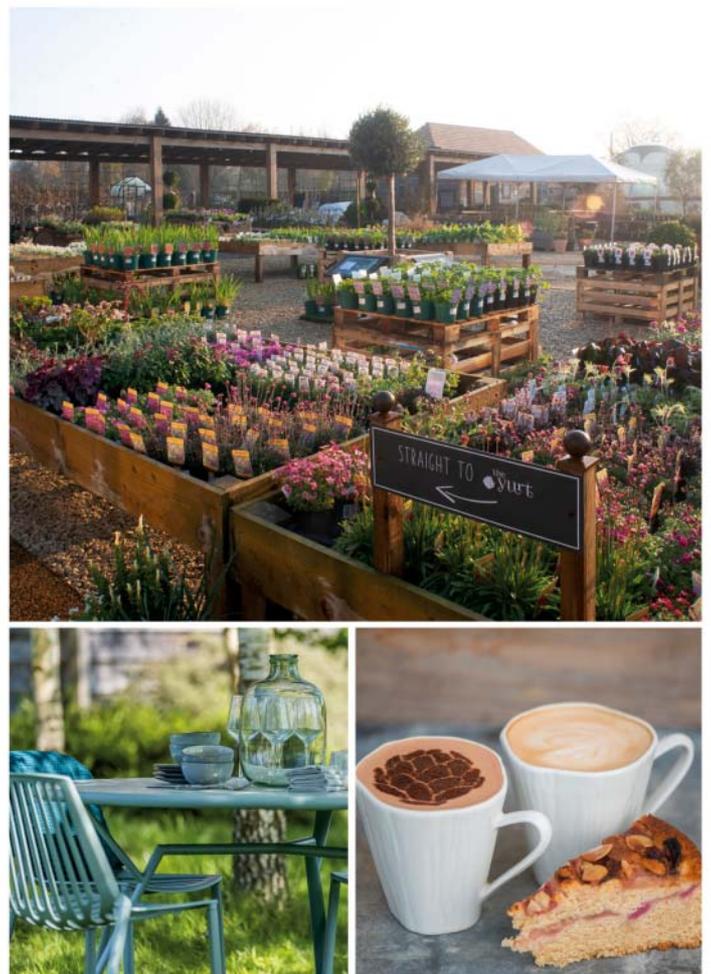
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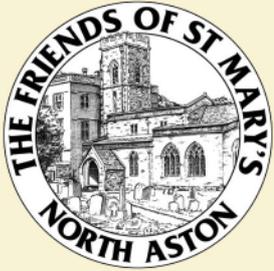
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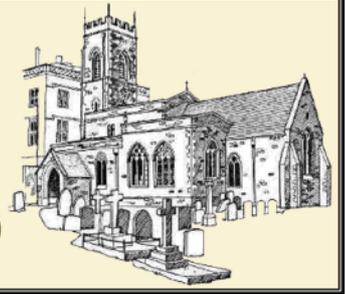
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The Park, North Aston, OX25 6HL
01869 340342





The Church MATTERS



Easing Lockdown ...

You may have read that churches are now open. The government has said we can pray again! Well ... the guidelines may have shifted on church buildings being open, but life is always a bit more complex than newspaper headlines suggest. (I don't think we ever stopped praying ...)

We've been preparing for changes for a while. I cannot tell you how many pages of regulations have been sent - and a lot of them seem to be for cathedrals and big churches with a lot of paid staff. Things do feel a bit different in rural Oxfordshire. Mercifully, the Bishop of Oxford wrote to every parish to say - take this at your own pace, and only do what you can do safely in your setting. So as we move toward a little less Lockdown, I met with the churchwardens of our three parishes and we worked out what we would like to do, what we can and can't do, and what we hope to do.

We'd like to open our church buildings every day as we have done in the past - but the very clear guidelines around keeping buildings safe for everyone means that we just can't do that. We don't have paid cleaners. And without income from regular Sunday services or the summer Fêtes this year, we are financially not in a place even to do some of our regular activities, so adding something new like that is out of the question. What we can do is open one day a week, after we have made sure the three parish churches in the benefice have all been thoroughly prepared.

So our three Benefice churches will open for private prayer, so that anyone can go in and take a quiet moment to reflect in peace, on Saturdays during the day from July 11th onwards. We do need volunteers to help staff the buildings as we do this. If you can help by going regularly on a rota, please let me know - email me or call on 340903. With your help, we will make our buildings available for all our community - even if on a much reduced basis for now.

Very sadly, what we don't think we can do is arrange this and also fulfil the guidelines necessary to be open for family funerals too. So for the time being, should there unfortunately be any call for funerals in the village, we will continue to offer these services in our churchyards only, at the grave side. However, the guidelines are allowing us to talk with families about who attends, so (while keeping social distance) we are very hopeful of allowing slightly larger gatherings.

We also hope before too long to begin to have actual congregational Sunday worship - and the plan is for this also to be our churchyards, not inside the buildings. Current guidelines do not allow any congregational Sunday worship. As soon as there is a change, we will let everyone know. We hope to offer one service in the Benefice every week, moving around the churchyards of the three villages of Steeple Aston, North Aston and Tackley. We are waiting for news on this, though we expect that you'd need to bring your own chair (or rug!) and we will ask that everyone wears a face covering or simple mask, and (again) keeps social distance. When the autumn begins, we will have to think again...

Through all this: *Worship at Home*, our online services, will continue every week via the homepage of www.sntchurch.com. Thank you for the very many messages I get saying how many are enjoying these short services every week! The regular *Rector's Ramblings* emails (which bring stories of good news, arts & sports info, offers of and requests for help, as well as celebrations and prayers from members of our community) will also carry on for now - and you can still sign up by contacting me on steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk. I send these out to the best part of 100 people and I know they get shared around a lot more widely than that - building our community in one more tiny way, at a time when anything that brings us together is worth its weight in gold. For our church has always met in a very special building - but even when the building is closed, the family of the church remains open because of the love that continues to exist from God to us, and from us to each other. And we will always find ways of sharing that love, because things that are precious are always worth sharing.

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: 340903
You can also email Clive: casb@north-aston.com (tel: 340470) 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

NORTH ASTON

STEEPLE ASTON

TACKLEY

The Church will be open on Saturdays (from 11th July) for quiet contemplation

Please see *Church Matters* (previous page) for the latest news on church opening. In essence, there will again be no Sunday services at St Mary's this month.

The vicar's online church service, *Worship at Home*, can now be accessed via a local phone number as well. If people dial 929021 they can choose to listen to the whole service, or just this week's prayers, or select this week's sermon. Given that some people don't have easy access to computers, this could be a very welcome development.

Although the government is saying churches can open for public worship, the truth is that no-one knows when this will happen and this pre-recorded service will remain available every week for the foreseeable future. For more information, please visit the benefice website at www.sntchurch.com.

North Aston WhatsApp Group

The Group remains very active, even now that the lockdown is easing. Members continue to help one another, share ideas, source items, and cooperate to make life a little easier and more amusing. It seems that community spirit thrives! If you have a Smartphone and wish to join, contact Annie on 347767 and she will explain what you need to do and add you to the Group. There are also NA village groups dedicated to specific areas, including remote ordering and gardening. A new Allotment group is being formed!

Thursday Thanks

Thank you to all those who generously left out gifts for the refuse and recycling collections in June, and for the Postie. The feedback and their appreciation has been heartfelt and genuine.

In case you hadn't noticed

We've received an appeal from TVP for drivers to be more aware of cyclists, now that the lockdown is easing. Cycling has become hugely popular in recent months, as the home-bound have embraced the pedal as part of their daily exercise regime. Please take care along country roads, especially the Middle Aston Lane.

Church Worship

Our church buildings remain closed due to COVID-19

We will re-open on Saturdays only from July 11th

In the meantime:

Jesus is risen: though the building is closed the church is a community that is always open

Worship at Home
(our online worship service)
is available from each Sunday at www.sntchurch.com

Be part of our email family by signing up to the Rector's Ramblings emails - steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk

Do stay a while and pray in our churchyard
And as a community we are here to help you:

Contact: Revd Marcus Green
Tel. 340903 ~ steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk

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 sent out to an extensive emailing list every month. To be included in 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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