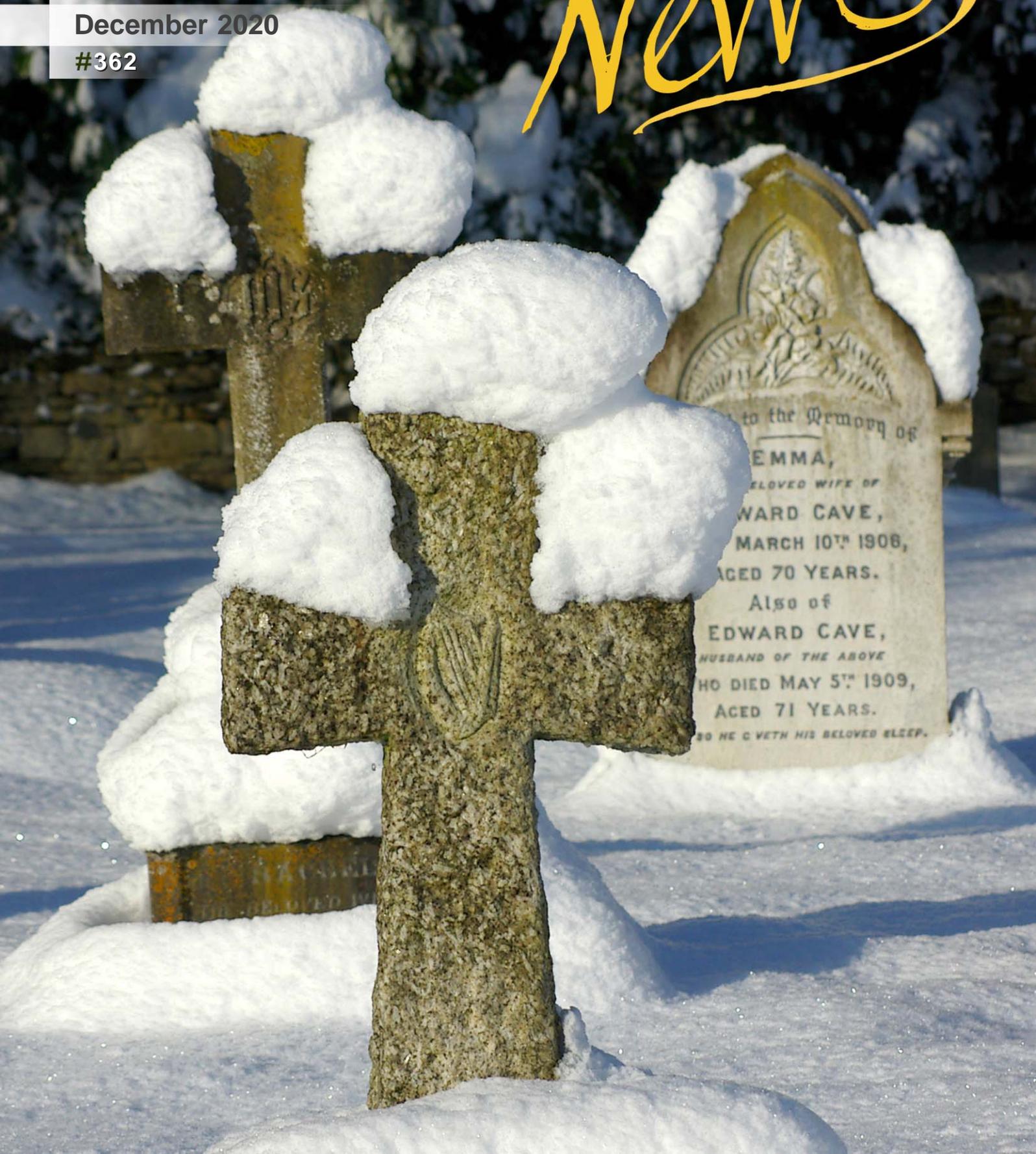


# NORTH ASTON

NEWS

December 2020

#362



# NORTH ASTON NEWS

DECEMBER 2020, No:362

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Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

# Notes from the Chair

## Merry Christmas One and All!

*With the new rules published from Boris himself it would seem that we will be able to enjoy a semi-normal Christmas...if only for a few days.*

*I know that the village have figured something out as a substitute for the annual Carols on the Green on Christmas Eve (further details here in the News) which will be so lovely – a true testament of what a fantastic community we have here in North Aston.*

*I do hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas. I for one will be enjoying probably one too many snowballs and definitely one too many mince pies.*

*Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!*

You can telephone Lucinda on **340588**  
or email: [chair@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:chair@north-aston.co.uk)

*Lucinda*

## Tier 2 - What it means for us

From December 2nd North Aston falls into a Tier 2 status area, thanks largely to the higher-than-average number of Covid cases in Oxford. What will this mean for us? Here are the essential restrictions that will be in place.

- You must not socialise **indoors** with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble.
- You must not socialise **outside** in a group of more than 6 people, including in a garden. This is the 'Rule of Six'.
- Businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a COVID-Secure manner, unless required by law to close (see below).
- Restaurants can remain open, but pubs & bars not serving substantial meals must close. Alcohol can only be served with food.
- Hospitality businesses selling food or drink for consumption *on their premises* are required to ... provide table service only ... close between 11pm and 5am ... and stop taking orders after 10pm. Patrons have until 11pm to finish their drinks and/or meals.
- Hospitality businesses offering food and drink for consumption *off the premises* can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through.
- Public attendance at events is permitted, but limited to 50% capacity (maximum 2,000 people outdoors or 1,000 people indoors).
- Places of worship remain open but you must not socialise indoors with people not in your household or support bubble. Numbers are restricted at weddings to 15, 30 at funeral ceremonies, 15 at wakes.
- Organised outdoor sport, physical activity & exercise classes can continue. Indoor sport and exercise is only permitted if it is possible to socially distance from people you do not live with.
- Aim to reduce the number of journeys you make. Stay local, and work from home if possible.

If you travel to a part of the country that is in Tier 1, you must still continue to follow Tier 2 rules. Avoid travel to (or overnight stays in) Tier 3 areas other than where necessary, such as for work, education, to receive medical treatment, or because of caring responsibilities. You can travel through a Tier 3 area as part of a longer journey.

Please see previous editions of the News for lists of companies local to here that are offering delivery services. In addition, several local pubs and restaurants are still offering very tempting take-away menus. Please support local hospitality outlets ... you may need them later!

*Front cover: It looks set to be a chilly start to the month, and this view from St Mary's churchyard is a reminder that we haven't seen proper snow for a few years now. Perhaps 2020 has yet more to offer even yet! Photos for the front cover are always welcome.*

## Planning

### 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.

**Nicholson Nurseries, The Park, OX25 6HL.** The application for the construction of a new timber-framed barn at the nursery has been approved. Reference 20/02213 / F

There are currently no other significant planning applications going through at CDC. As a community, we are maintaining a close watch on any further developments with regard to Heyford Park, the proposed Middleton Stoney "busgate" and, as of November, the planned 500-bed hotel and leisure complex in Chesterton submitted to appeal by Great Wolf Resorts.

## Notices

### Minibus Service

The Officers of the Parish Meeting have been asked to determine if there would be support for the introduction of a 16-seater minibus service to link North Aston with Banbury.

How frequently the service would operate, and at what times, might depend upon the level of interest. If you feel this is a facility that might be helpful to you, then please either email Annie ([secretary@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:secretary@north-aston.co.uk)) or phone her on 347767 and let her know. If there's a good response the idea can be taken forwards. Please let her know as soon as possible.

## Carols on Zoom

We are unable to hold our traditional *Carols on the Green* this year. However, the festive celebrations are not totally lost ... and there will now be an on-line gathering on Christmas Eve at 6 pm to sing some carols and 'share' a glass of wine.

The plan is to join up virtually using Zoom. The event will be very low key (*depending upon whether you're a baritone or a soprano?*) and likely to last just 15-20 minutes. A few of the most popular carols will be sung, and people can either join in, or just listen to others. The Rector will say a few words, and if sufficient people become involved, we may step outside (weather permitting!) and sing the last carol from our doorsteps.

Use the Zoom link at the foot of this page (or click it, if viewing the PDF version) and follow the instructions to join the "meeting". Those registering will receive a copy of the North Aston Carol Booklet as a PDF, to print out or view.

## December Birthdays

Paul Brown  
Clementine Le Clercq  
Stefan Liberadski  
Joyce Morley  
Joshua Potts  
Tony Rees  
Caroline West & Peter 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.

## Plans for Christmas

One of the difficulties faced by the Village Meeting and the Forum is the lack of regular Meetings, other than those held online. In the absence of this ability to meet, the Officers have taken a decision regarding payment for ongoing services (such as newsletter costs, mowing, and specific gifts from the village for Christmas) and have agreed, subject to any objection being received no later than 5th December, to allocate a maximum of £400 from village funds for Christmas and these other essential purposes.

As we are unable to organise a party for the children and *Carols on the Green* has had to be cancelled, we also thought it would be nice to give all the under-18-year-olds a little gift instead. Although the committee is permitted to take such decisions, and it was felt that nobody would disagree in these exceptional circumstances, we do want total transparency. If you have any views on this, your comments are welcome by the date specified.

**Village Meeting:** Sadly we remain unable to meet fully at present, but one of the obligations the Village Meeting has is to set the annual parish precept. To meet this legal requirement we are announcing an online meeting of the Village at 7pm on Thursday January 7th 2021. All are welcome, so please let Annie Savage know if you would like a Zoom invitation (347767 or [secretary@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:secretary@north-aston.co.uk)).

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



Many thanks to all those who donated in the box at the top of the Green, and in other ways contributed so generously to the 2020 British Legion Poppy Appeal. Despite being unable to carry out the normal house-to-house collection, a record total of £750 was raised in North Aston. Each year the Appeal generates approximately £50m to help the RBL in its support of serving and former military personnel & their families in times of need.



The winners of last month's draw were:

1st Prize (£10): Katie Peacock (#2)

2nd Prize (£5): Oscar Taylor (#122)

Congratulations to this month's winners! If you'd like to know more, contact Bev on 347434 or email [info@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:info@north-aston.co.uk).

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

# North Aston History Notes

## With Stephen Rees

Welcome all, not to *North Aston on Sea* but to *North Aston on Mud*! The ground workers are busy putting in the pipes for the new heating system and are really doing a great job under difficult conditions. Where they have gone across people's lawns they have left all as tidy as possible, although below us it looks like the Somme! They had to dig trenches three times with diggers because they kept flooding with ground water, and now it's just a mass of boggy mud. Wifey is thinking of turning it into a massive gunnera plantation. All seems to be going well now, and I really don't envy them the job.

So, moving on, I'm thinking this will probably be the last of my North Aston History Notes for a bit – until I can think of some more that might be of interest. I know there is a lot more to say about the old residents and, after lockdown is over, I will try to have a few chats with some of those members of our little village who remember the olden days. Until then, here are a few memories of being a kid in North Aston ...



### 1976! What a fantastic year!

I was a good-looking, agile and quick-witted 11-year-old, and it was hot ... really hot! It was the hottest summer I can remember, and the holiday seemed to go on for ever. We got kicked out in the morning (Mum hated summer holiday time, with toooooo many kids under her feet!) and we all used to meet at the fountain. What was it going to be today? Fishing at the Back Brook? Nah, too far to walk. Swimming in the river at Somerton? Hmmm, maybe, but again a walk, and it's flipping hot, and I've got no money to buy any sweets from the shop. It's got to be another water fight!

North Aston water fights were famous throughout the world. We were the best. World Champions! No ... really, we were. We had everything you needed – a big village green, a big fountain in the corner with a big tap and, best of all, Fairy Liquid bottles. That was always the weapon of choice for any good-looking 11-year-old.

We'd all had water pistols for our birthdays, but it was the Fairy Liquid bottle that really used to float our boats. We would pester Mum for them to the extent that she would empty it into a cup just to get us out of the house. Armed with a new bottle, we would swagger like John Wayne to the fountain, fill it up, and game on! No-one was safe within 6 feet.

I was a lovely child really. Honestly, I was! I was even in the choir, and the reason I was in the choir was Karen. She was a year older than me, really hot, but best of all, she had Polos. We would sit in the choir pew, nudging each other, and sharing Polos. Heaven.



One other thing I want to mention is the village water supply. I used to hang around with Clive, who was the farm manager then and drove a white Morris Marina pick-up. We used to stand up in the back while he drove around the fields checking the sheep. I can remember going with him to check the water tanks. There was a big underground reservoir at The Fox that supplied the whole village with water, and Clive would dip it to see how much water there was. In olden times it was fed by a steam-pump two fields away, but by then it had been replaced by an electric one. Next to it was another underground brick-built domed chamber that held spring water, I can remember Clive racking the weed out of it with a long-handled fork.

In the next field down was an even older hydraulic ram that used to do the job before. It was a really great bit of kit, but it wasted four gallons with every one it pumped. Clive said it was the job of Eric and his dad Percy, gardeners at the Manor, to look after our water in those olden days.

From the reservoir at The Fox the water would come down to the village by gravity, through an old asbestos pipe. That was fine – the pipe was so scaled up with lime that it wasn't a problem. Just opposite the Post Office there was an old hand-operated pump that used to be the water supply for the village. (*You can still see the recess in the wall*). We had great fun with that when we were kids, so they took it out!

There is another ram in, funnily enough, Ram Spinney, which we used to love watching as kids, waiting for it to go 'thump'. Clive seems to think it used to feed water to The Hall. Just behind Mark's organics there is a small well in the ground, and I think the ram also topped that up. My dad caught a big pike when he was young and kept it in there as a pet. Clive also says he has memories of filling a bath at night from the old system and having freshwater shrimps come out of the tap. Happy, happy days.

Merry Christmas to you all, and roll on spring!

*Regards from Stephen, Wifey & Penny the dog.*



*Feeding frenzy! Thanks to Annie Savage for this photo of Long-Tailed Tits enjoying the delights of fat-balls at her bird table. As the winter gets colder, please don't forget to feed our garden visitors.*

# Announcements

## The pressure is on ... almost!

Work is progressing well with the District Heating System. Part of that work will include the installation of a new pump that will increase the water pressure throughout the village. This is due to "come on stream" later this month.

The pressure will be increased steadily, so you may not immediately notice the difference, but by the end of December your cold water taps should have a much improved flow. Anyone with upstairs tanks may also appreciate how much faster it will re-fill. Unless you have a mains-pressure hot-water system, such as a combi-type boiler, your hot taps will not be effected.

## Warning to Parents

There have been reports of small silver gas cylinders being found recently around the village, mainly along the verges of Somerton Road. These have most likely been thrown from passing cars, but parents ought to be aware that these are spent cartridges of Nitrous Oxide or *Laughing Gas*. In recent years N<sub>2</sub>O has become another of those substances exploited for its supposed narcotic effects. In truth, what the gas does is starve the brain of oxygen, causing blackouts that users interpret as a 'high'. Side effects can be nausea and vomiting, as well as heart and lung strain. Excessive abuse may cause permanent brain damage. There have been nearly 40 deaths so far in the UK. Please be aware.

## Deddington Farmers' Market

The Farmer's Market will be on Saturday 19th December. Please socially distance and wear face coverings when dealing with traders. Please check [www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk).

# Advice from TVP

## Fake Paypal Emails

Action Fraud is warning those selling online to be on the lookout for fake PayPal emails. This year 21,349 crime reports were made to Action Fraud about these emails, with victims losing a total of more than £7million. Those reports made up a third of all instances of online shopping fraud during 2020.

Criminals send fake PayPal emails to trick sellers into believing they have received payment for the items they're trying to sell. Once the item has been despatched to the criminal, the seller is out of pocket, unpaid, and with no recourse to PayPal's secure payment system.

## Fake HMRC Covid-relief emails

With the government offering grants to small businesses and the self-employed during periods of lockdown, criminals are attempting to exploit the situation. Emails have been circulating that include links or attachments with re-directs to pages where individuals can, supposedly, apply for help. Instead they are exposed to phishing scams, where personal details are compromised and the criminals can intercept any payments that the victim may legitimately claim.

Those who are eligible should already have received two such grants from the government, and a third becomes due shortly. Head for Google, and search for 'Self-Employment Income Support Scheme' or visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and use the search bar there. If you have already received those first grants, you should also have had a direct email from @tax.service.gov.uk by now advising you to revisit your account on the website any time during December to register for the third. If you receive any emails that are not from @tax.service.gov.uk, be very wary!

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01869 340342



## The secret diary of a District Councillor, Aged 59¾

Just when you thought you had a plan, along comes something to knock you off balance, or to put into context, to knock the entire planet off its axis. My initial reaction when asked to write something for the *North Aston News* about 2020 was, actually I've not much to say, but in reality much has happened even under the restrictions we've been under, for good bad or indifferent reasons.

Firstly I'd like to reiterate a message that I've shared with all the parishes within our ward and those further afield. It is truly humbling to see the many communities near and far come together in these difficult times. Residents have turned their hand to numerous skills and talents they either never had or definitely didn't know they had. Truly inspiring. The shock and horror that we all experienced during the first Lockdown brought out the very best in us and proved that we humans can, in desperate times, be remarkably resourceful. The pandemic has wreaked havoc on a global scale, whether the UK has got off lightly or not is still up for debate, but there have been many who've been hit harder and are less able to react to such an emergency.

Anyway back to my year, I don't want it to be a party political piece, perish the thought. We'd had our own challenges throughout 2019, it was meant to be a lifelong dream come true, building our own home, or at least renovating an old barn. What was supposed to be a 10 month project turned out to be 24 months of pain – well, make that 23 of pain and a final month of joy as we're now within sight of the finish line. It was not helped by an unscrupulous contractor, incompetent trades, unreliable suppliers and of course the Lockdown which added an additional six months to our build.

The first three months at CDC was business as usual, meetings at Bodicote House, site visits, chats with parishioners and the regular monthly parish council meetings, but we all knew that something rather unpleasant was on the horizon. As it dawned on us that a Lockdown was likely, I was forced to get Dad's Taxi out one more time and on March 21st duly drove to London to pick up all four daughters as they were already ensconced in one flat together. Sure enough, we went into Lockdown on March 23rd but at least we were all together. No more face to face meetings, no more site visits, no more parish council meetings, no more visits to Bodicote House and at times not much in the way of outside activity, down to once a day if I recall correctly.



This year's Tractor Run, organised by RC Baker in aid of Katherine House Hospice, will pass through Deddington on Friday Dec 18th.

The great British public sprang into action and volunteers appeared everywhere, I'm proud to say that many sprung up in our villages, North Aston included, and I was able through CDC to donate to some very worthy groups in our patch, as have my fellow councillors Hugo and Mike. Once it was clear to CDC that to continue council business we'd all have to go online and conduct meetings remotely, we were all given training in how to navigate and interact via Microsoft Teams. Since mid-April all our meetings have been held remotely, as has my normal day job, although that has also been affected dramatically by the pandemic. April also brought another less than welcome surprise, our entire family caught the virus and were laid low for several weeks. Whilst our daughters, who are in their 20's, breezed through with mild symptoms, Jenny and I took more than three weeks to be rid of it. Having initially thought it a heavy dose of flu, it quickly escalated, thankfully no doctors or hospitals were involved but it brought into sharp focus just how serious it could have been and also how fortunate we all were.

Our youngest daughter, who's still at university, rolled up her sleeves and worked in the village Co-op, whilst the rest of us continued to work from home. The first two months were relatively quiet from a CDC point of view as councillors and officers adjusted to working remotely, however by July rules were slightly relaxed and site visits were allowed and, as if by magic, I had several planning disputes and applications that needed my attention – from a safe, socially-distanced position of course. The government by this time had put the furlough scheme and other initiatives in place which has saved many,

*Continued overleaf ...*

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*Continued from previous page ...*

but several have sadly fallen through the cracks. The NHS and our Emergency Services proved just how important and valued they are, the clap for carers, NHS and Emergency Services was a wonderful initiative and got us all out on the street. Captain Tom became a national hero and lifted our spirits, and everyone was doing their bit to help those less fortunate.

The Lockdown was finally relaxed in late Summer but a nervous British public were reluctant to return to work, or at least return to their offices. Three of our daughters returned to London but after only a few weeks they came back home one by one as they could achieve far more here and enjoy the countryside without fear of being cooped up in a tiny second-floor flat.

Our PC and CDC meetings continued to be held online, by this time though, we were experts at multi-tasking, muting the mike and switching off the camera at key moments if supper arrived unexpectedly. With some of the meetings going on until beyond 11.00pm, sustenance was often required. We now find ourselves in the midst of a second Lockdown with stricter Tier 2 restrictions announced for next week. However, the number of Covid-19 infections in Cherwell is dropping considerably but we still have some way to go. With a vaccine on the horizon there is hope that 2021 could be a better and safer year than 2020.

Back at Bodicote House, CDC like many other local authorities is feeling the pinch. The government has helped a great deal financially but the next few years will be tough. CDC has agreed a revised budget for 2021 and will be dipping deeply into reserves in order to maintain frontline services. Rough sleepers and the vulnerable were housed in hotels and hostels throughout the first Lockdown and many voluntary and community organisations were supported financially. We have done a great deal to ensure our residents and businesses have the best chance possible to ride out the pandemic, but sadly some do fall between the cracks, be they self employed or owners of smaller businesses or the hospitality and performing arts industry who have suffered more than most.

As December rolls in and misty mornings and frost greet us each day, our thoughts inevitably turn to Christmas, I hope that families can be together at such an important time and that we reflect on what has been a difficult and challenging year. Some within our midst will have lost loved ones and my thoughts are with those who have suffered such terrible losses or experienced the ravages of the virus, or have been separated from loved ones, especially the elderly in care homes. But there are also the positives, and the way in which many in our communities responded; volunteering and stepping up to help, some discovering long-lost skills or talents unbeknown to them, and all of them willing to help and make a difference. We have all played our part in some small way, but those who truly deserve our thanks are the brave ones on the frontline; our NHS, our carers, key workers, the Emergency Services and the unsung heroes who stepped up in the face of adversity. That is what I'll remember and that so many communities within our patch did us proud.

I'd like to wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas and that 2021 will be a year to remember for all the right reasons. Thank you.

*Bryn Williams*



We find ourselves back under lockdown and things have immediately quietened down – so perhaps people are listening! Just six shouts this month, five stand-bys and one fire call, when Deddington and four other crews attended a local house fire. The seat of the fire had been extinguished by the time Deddington arrived, so the crew focused on smoke clearing from all the rooms of the house.

Eagle-eyed observers will have noticed the new automatic station doors that have now been installed, and the station is also getting updated shower and toilet facilities. Training courses are still going ahead, albeit in a slightly modified format, to try and minimise any contamination as doing everything with a two-metre gap is extremely difficult!



With no Remembrance Day parade in Deddington on Sunday 8th November, firefighters paid their respects at the station at 11am, and were joined by Charlie Greenwood, resplendent in his Scout uniform.

*James Greenwood FFD  
james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk*

### 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



## Nicholsons in December

The nursery is now open for Christmas Trees (Mon - Sat: 8:30am to 4.30pm) and through December will also open on Sundays (6th, 13th & 20th, 10am to 3pm)

There may not be a Christmas Fair this year, but every Saturday and Sunday throughout December the nursery will be inviting a small selection of local artisans to showcase their creations and share their stories. This will be supported by the usual seasonal treats from the Yurt!



**Opening times for The Yurt during December**  
Monday - Saturday: 9am - 4.30pm  
Sundays: 10am - 3pm, lunch between 12 – 3pm



### Easy Mince Pies

Lucinda has come through with another appropriate recipe this month, with those perennial favourites; Mince Pies!

#### Ingredients:

- 225g cold butter, diced.
- 350g plain flour.
- 100g golden caster sugar.
- 280g mincemeat.
- 1 small egg, beaten.
- Icing sugar to dust.

#### Method:

To make the pastry, rub the butter into the flour, then mix in the golden caster sugar and a pinch of salt.

Combine the pastry into a ball – don't add liquid – and knead it briefly. The dough will be fairly firm, like shortbread dough. You can use the dough immediately, or chill for later.

Heat the oven to 200°C / 180°C fan / gas mark 6.

Line 18 holes of two 12-hole patty tins with pastry by pressing small walnut-sized balls of dough into each hole and spreading it evenly up the sides.

Spoon mincemeat into the middle of each pastry case, pressing down gently to fill the gaps. Take slightly smaller balls of pastry than before and pat them out between your fingers and hands to make round lids. These should be just big enough to cover over the tops of the pies. You can roll it out and use a cutter if you want to be really neat.

Top the pies with their lids, pressing the edges gently together to seal – you don't need to seal them with milk or egg as they will stick on their own. Brush the tops of the pies with the beaten egg.

Bake for 20 minutes until golden. Leave to cool in the tin for 5 minutes, then remove to finish cooling on a wire rack. To serve, lightly dust with the icing sugar.

## Artweeks 2021

Just a reminder that the deadline for registering entries for next year's Oxfordshire Art Weeks festival is 31st January 2021. Just visit [www.artweeks.org](http://www.artweeks.org), where you will find all the information you need to enter.

The 2021 festival will take place between 1st–23rd May, with our region focused on 1st -9th May.



# NORTH ASTON ORGANICS

## Vegetable Stall

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

- Wide variety of fresh seasonal organic veg at affordable prices
- Minimal packaging & zero food miles
- Supporting the local economy



Too busy? Why not try our Veg Box Scheme? Fresh vegetables delivered straight to your door!

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Tel: (01869) 347702

visit the website at:

[www.northastonorganics.co.uk](http://www.northastonorganics.co.uk)



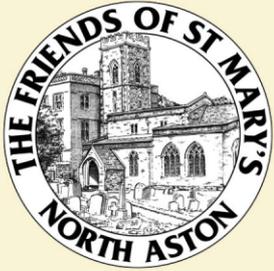
### Hello North Aston!

Sorry we haven't been around recently; we have been isolating at Park Farm! We have spent our time in isolation eating good food, having spa nights and exercising in the garden. We're out of isolation now just in time for Christmas, and can't wait to see some of village over the next few weeks on our walks and bike rides.

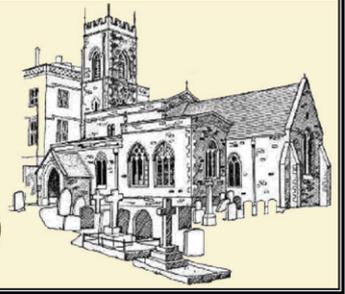
We celebrated Remembrance Day and Diwali in November, which we really enjoyed, and we also enjoyed creating some arts and crafts for these.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

*The Park Farmers*



# The Church MATTERS



So last month's attempt at saying what we were doing was very quickly made nonsense as Lockdown:2 pushed us all back indoors... And as we reach December, the question we all have is - what will happen at Christmas?

## 1. Services in Church

It looks like we can hold services, so this is the plan. We are holding Christmas Services in North Aston on Sunday December 20th at 4pm and 6pm; in Tackley on Thursday December 24th at 2.30pm and 4.30pm; and in Steeple Aston on Christmas Day we have Christmas Family Communion at 9am and 10.30am.

Also there will be *Carols on Zoom* on Christmas Eve, organised by Niel, and you can find out more about that on page three of this newsletter!

Sadly, we're still not allowed to have congregational singing in church, but we are hoping to have a small choir at each service which will sing some carols for us. There will be readings and we will have the Crib and a tree and lights, and we will do our very best to celebrate together.

As ever with our services just now - it would be really helpful if you could book if you are coming. We will do our best to get you in if you come, but when we are full we will have to apologise and close the door. I am really sorry! So book early! Julian for Tackley (331252), Clive for North Aston (340470), and Eileen for Steeple Aston (340099).

There are other services, but these are our special Christmas services. See the rota on the back page for full details.

## 2. Online Services

We will have two special *Worship at Home* services on our [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com) website over the Christmas period, in addition to the usual weekly services.

From December 20th, we will have a Carol Service, with readings and carols, and a super choir leading us. You can watch at home and sing along as much as you like! We hope this will be a really lovely way to celebrate Christmas, and it will be filmed inside our benefice churches. We will also make this available via the phone line service, so people without internet will be able to ring 929021 and listen in. From December 24th we will also have available a Christmas Communion Service. This too will be filmed inside our benefice churches, and will also include some Christmas music, as well as being a full communion service. I shall be thinking of you all as I record this, so why not take a moment and keep a little bread and wine, and join in in your family or by yourself at some point over Christmas?

## 3. Compact Concerts

Although November's concert had to be postponed we are still planning to have Nick Cleobury's Aston Singers performing a concert of Christmas choral music at 6pm & 8pm on December 12th at Steeple Aston Church. Given that full 'live' carol services are a bit beyond us this year, do book up for this. Tickets are limited (and going fast), and are £12 via Eileen on 340099. The choir is singing the same programme at both 6pm and 8pm, and each concert lasts just under the hour.

We are very much hoping to re-arrange the November concert for early in the New Year.

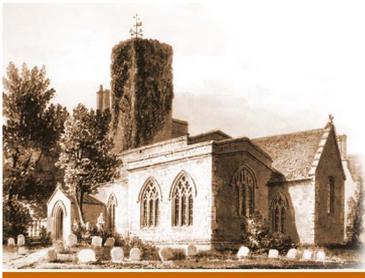
## And then...

From January we are looking to go back to weekly services in all our churches. The upside is there will be no more need to book to come to church (please still book for any December service); the pattern will be weekly Morning Prayer in North Aston, Evensong in Tackley (apart from the last Sunday, when there will be Morning Prayer), and Holy Communion will be at Steeple Aston. As ever: feel free to go to whichever service you like - even if it isn't your own village!

*Revd Marcus Green*



Any comments about the above are very welcome. More news is always available on our website: [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com)  
Please email our Rector Marcus Green: [steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk) or tel: 340903  
You can also email Clive: [casb@north-aston.com](mailto:casb@north-aston.com) (tel: 340470) or Annabel: [annabelbevan@hotmail.com](mailto: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 ~ DECEMBER

### NORTH ASTON

To book a seat at any service at North Aston call **Clive on 340470**

### STEEPLE ASTON

To book a seat at any service at Steeple Aston call **Eileen on 340099**

### TACKLEY

To book a seat at any service at Tackley call **Julian on 331252**

### Sunday December 6th

No Service

No Service

5:30 pm  
Benefice Evensong for St Nicholas' Day  
**Revd Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons**

### Sunday December 13th

No Service

11:00 am  
Benefice Holy Communion  
**Revd Marcus Green**

No Service

### Sunday December 20th

4:00 pm & 6:00 pm  
Christmas Services  
**Revd Marcus Green**

No Service

No Service

### Thursday December 24th - Christmas Eve

6:00 pm  
Carols on Zoom  
(See Page 3)

No Service

2:30 pm & 4:30 pm  
Christmas Services  
**Revd Marcus Green**

### Friday December 25th - Christmas Day

No Service

9:00 am & 10:30 am  
Christmas Family Communion  
**Revd Marcus Green**

No Service

### Sunday December 27th

Online Service Only

Online Service Only

Online Service Only

Please remember to wear face coverings or masks to all services

Children and families are welcome at all services. *Worship at Home*, our online service, will continue each and every week, and is accessible through the website: [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com). Our phone service for those without Internet access can be found by calling 929021 - it's a local call.

### 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 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@north-aston.co.uk)

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF STEEPLE ASTON WITH NORTH ASTON AND TACKLEY

[www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com)







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

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

Tackley Church:  
St Nicholas, Tackley OX5 3AF  
Sundays at 5.30pm

Your Kingdom Come



The United Benefice of Steeple Aston with North Aston and Tackley

The United Benefice of Steeple Aston with North Aston and Tackley