



NORTH ASTON

NEWS

September 2022

#383

NORTH ASTON NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2022, No:383

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Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

Notes from the Chair

A great many plants have suffered badly in the continuing drought but on the evidence of one casual picker the blackberry crop, although small and a bit early, is tasting particularly good this year. Many like to keep their favourite picking places secret but I can reveal that the bushes along the footpath between the park and Nicholsons are looking good and have great flavour.

Again, despite the drought, The Flower & Produce Show was a great success. Well done to all those gardeners who have persevered with growing flowers and vegetables this year.

Ride & Stride is back; on Saturday 10th September Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust are running their event to raise money in support of Oxfordshire's Churches. Interestingly they are promoting what they are calling the "Curiouser and Curiouser" churches. There is a list on their website and you can find out how to take part at <https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/>

A great way to burn off some of that summer Rosé and contribute to the upkeep of our wonderful churches. Best wishes,

Christopher

You can phone Christopher on 340358 or you can email him using: chair@north-aston.co.uk

Coming soon! Plans are afoot to follow up last year's hugely successful Village Party with another similar but smaller event this year. The working title is the **Indian Summer Pudding Party**, with the exact date and venue to be confirmed. The Editor is familiar with Summer Pudding ... that layered delight of bread, stuffed with red fruits and soaked through in sweet syrupy juice, but *Indian* Summer Pudding? Perhaps an added dash of Cinnamon and Nutmeg, or Anise and Saffron? Who knows, but maybe someone will make one and see if it works! Updates imminent via the WhatsApp group.

Church Services in September 2022

N. ASTON	S. ASTON	TACKLEY
Sunday September 4th		
9:30 am Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i>	11:00 am Holy Communion & Baptism (BCP)	5:30 pm Evensong
Sunday September 11th		
9:30 am Family Communion	11:00 am Family Communion & Baptism	5:30 pm Holy Communion
Sunday September 18th		
No Service	10:30 am United Benefice Holy Communion & Baptism	No Service
Sunday September 25th		
9:30 am Holy Communion <i>Morning Prayer</i>	11:00 am Morning Prayer	9:30 am Family Communion

More news is always available from: www.sntchurch.com

You can contact members of the North Aston PCC: Church Wardens: Clive Busby, (casb@north-aston.com, 340470) and Annabel Bevan, (annabelbevan@hotmail.com, 345153). Richard Bailey (LLM, ex officio), Vicky Taylor (secretary), Jeremy Taylor, Ginny Stay, Jane Jana, Les Parry, Beryl Greenwood.

Front Cover. Lynn Quek's winning basket of fruit and veg at last months F&PS!

Planning

Planning Applications

Another relatively quiet month, with just two new applications, one already approved. The second involves the ongoing restoration work being carried out to The Hall. To view details of these and all other Planning Applications submitted to CDC, visit <https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/> and keyword search "North Aston" for more information. To find a specific application, use the CDC reference number.

North Aston Hall, St Mary's Walk, OX25 6AA. An application has been submitted to carry out various internal alterations throughout all floors and levels of The Hall, from basement to the second floor. Comments deadline is 29th Sept, with a target decision date of 10th Oct. Reference Nos: 22 / 02475 / LB

The Turret House, St Mary's Walk, OX25 6AA. An application has been approved to carry out work on trees within a conservation area. This will involve lifting the entire crown of a whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*) and pruning the north side to create clearance from the garage. Reference Nos: 22 / 02191 / TCA

RIDE+STRIDES

Saturday 10th September 2022

This year's annual walk, cycle or horse ride between local churches will take place on Saturday 11th September.

For those who've not been involved before, it's a great excuse to get out on your bike and explore the Oxfordshire countryside. Nearly every church will be taking part, with most of them offering refreshments, and quite a few with generous teas and cakes to keep the cyclists fuelled.

The idea is to raise money for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches by being sponsored for every church visited, with half the money raised going to the participant's own local church – in our case, St Mary's.

If you'd like to take part, there's more information and an entry form to download from www.ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/ or you can call Clive on 338434.

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North Aston Nature Notes

With Stephen Rees

A departure from the usual Nature Notes this month. The enduring dry weather has been great for walking, but has left me with little to say about our local wildlife, so I thought I'd write about one of my favourite things; the Oxford Canal.

I have loved the canal all my life. Our dad was the Water Bailiff at Somerton and my brothers and I were strictly forbidden from the river until we were 16, so all our fishing before then was restricted to the canal. I loved it, and I still do now.

Me and Dave, my middle brother, would walk down to the canal, fish all day in the summer hols, and dad would see us on his way home from work, stop, and give us a lift home.

For us, the fishing was good. Old second-hand peacock quill floats were the order of the day, and our main target was Gudgeon. If we got lucky we might catch a few Roach or Perch, but we'd sit all day to catch 'em ... and have a sneaky fag or two as well.

As we grew older the canal changed. They added some small carp, and that changed everything. They grew really quickly and soon the Oxford became a venue for carp fishers from all over the country.

We made a method of our own to catch them. We would fish through the night with a top from a Fairy Liquid bottle fixed to the line, and a candle in a jar under it. If it shot up, we had a fish on the hook. The bait we used was sweetcorn, stolen from Mum's cupboard.



A few years later they held the national championship on the Oxford. We would be fishing down there and all our heroes out of the *Angling Times* would come walking along, asking us how deep it was, what bait we used, and what we had caught. I even met my hero Ivan Marks one day.

Me and dad spent the day down there when they held the National, walking along, watching one thousand five hundred men fishing. Those days are long gone now, and the canal today is very poor fishing, with few fish, loads of boats, and very sorry water ... but maybe it just seems better in my memory.

Regards, Steve & Wendy

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North Aston Gardening Club

On Saturday 27th of August a very enjoyable and well-attended Flower & Produce Show was held once again on the Green, in perfect weather.

There were lots of entries, in spite of the difficult growing conditions, and many cups of tea and coffee were enjoyed by both the competitors and visitors, and everyone had a chance to vote on the flower entries using a unique North Aston Voting System ... comprising borlotti beans and coffee cups!

The judges did a wonderful job once again. Many thanks to them, and certificates were taken away by the successful competitors. There was a nail-biting conclusion to the Spud-in-a-Tub competition (*well done Tuck!*). Congratulations also to the cup winners - Deirdre for the Tuffrey Cup (this year awarded for the longest runner bean, at over 35cm!), Bill and Tony for sharing the top prize for the most successful vegetable entries, and Franca for her success in the cookery and flower section. Unfortunately the inter-village Tug-of-War could not take place but our friends from Duns Tew came to collect the winner's trophy, as their team had won the tug at the Duns Tew Fête and so became the overall winners.

Many thanks particularly to Chalce for all her behind the scenes organising and preparation, and to all those who helped out with the organising both before and during the event, from putting up the marquees and tables, to helping with the tea and coffee – not to mention providing all the yummy munchies that were enjoyed by all. Without all your help our unique show would never take place. We all look forward to next years show, plan your entries now!!

Tuck

A selection of photographs from the Show is included across the next couple of pages.



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Concert for Ukraine

The Orchestra of St John's will be performing a special *Concert for Ukraine* on Friday 30th September, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm.

This powerful concert will celebrate Ukraine's rich cultural heritage in Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre. The Orchestra will be teaming up with musicians from the New Era Orchestra of Kyiv to culminate Oxford's first **Ukrainian Culture Weeks Festival** with a performance of works by Ukrainian composers, including Silvestrov's poignant *Prayer for Ukraine* and Mykola Lysenko's *Motet* alongside Handel's inimitable *Messiah*.

The concert will raise vital funds for grassroots humanitarian work in those areas most affected by the Russian invasion.

Ticket prices vary from £10 (upper gallery) through to £40 for prime seats, with Ukrainian nationals welcomed for free.

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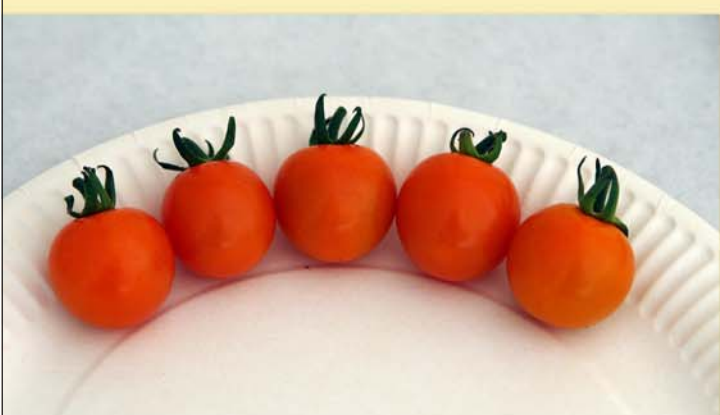
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HOSEPIPE BAN

Since Wednesday August 24th it has been illegal to use a hosepipe to water your garden or wash your car





Announcements

Deddington Farmers' Market

The Farmer's Market will take place on Saturday 24th September. For the latest information, visit the website: www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk

Heyford Park Farmer's Market

Since the beginning of the year a new Farmer's Market has been staged every first Saturday of the month, 10am through to 2pm, on Brice Road, with craft stalls in the nearby Community Centre.

Wednesday Fish & Chips: 7:25 pm to 7:40 pm

Van 99 parks visits the Green every Wednesday, 7:25 to 7:40 pm. To pre-order, email van99orders@gmail.com or call 07484 360719. You can track the van on www.bit.ly/findvan99.

Baby Sitting Service

Susie Taylor's babysitting service - Friday & Saturday nights, or weeknights during school holidays. Call Vicky on 07483 291277.

Dog Walking Service

Evelyn's Dog Walking Service is now available evenings and weekends @ £5/hr. Message or call Lucinda on 07869 282227

Riding & Striding

This year's annual sponsored walk, cycle or horse ride in aid of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust takes place on Saturday 10th September. See page 3 for details on how to take part.

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



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September Birthdays

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Florence Busby
Thomas Cunningham
Camilla Durnin
Karen Hack (née Brown)
Bea Hathaway
Sam Hatzigeorgiou
Clara Nicholson



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.



Aunt Sally!

The nights are starting to draw in (sorry!), so only a few more weeks for Aunt Sally on the Green. This month's dates are 7th and 22nd September from 7 pm. Bring along a bottle or a glass and enjoy throwing sticks! It really is good fun ... honest!



This month's winners were:

1st Prize (£10): Lisa Holloway (#53)

2nd Prize (£5): Miranda Doggett (#15)

It's too late now to join this year's 100 Club, so if you missed the cut you'll just have to watch as other people win the prizes! All money raised goes towards Village Funds. For more info, call Bev on 347434 or email info@north-aston.co.uk.

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

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.

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