

NORTH ASTON

NEWS

October 2022

#384



NORTH ASTON NEWS

OCTOBER 2022, No:384

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Thames Valley Police non-emergency: 101

Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

Notes from the Chair

We are just back from France after a week's holiday. Last Monday as the sun shone, I thought I would dutifully watch a few minutes of the Queen's funeral and then get on with the important daily holiday task of Rosé drinking. Several hours later I found I was still watching as the cortège rolled into Windsor. I surprised myself by being very moved and emotional, especially by pictures of the Queen's horse Emma. In fact much of France was also absorbed by the funeral which is testament to the high regard in which she was held.

But now back to real life: and there is to be Village Meeting – there is more information later in this Newsletter – on 26th October. I hope lots of the village will come. It will be my first meeting in the Chair, so perhaps I could ask everyone who does come at least to pretend that I and the new team know what we are doing.

Autumn, which is suddenly upon us, seems to be the running season. And your not so sedentary Chair is training hard for the Oxford half marathon on 16th October, running on behalf of Home Start Banbury. If you see the shambling wreck of a human waddling along Middle Aston lane it will probably be me. Any resemblance to my image of running like Mo Farah is purely coincidental. Best wishes,

Christopher

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

Church Services in October 2022

N. ASTON	S. ASTON	TACKLEY
Sunday October 2nd		
9:30 am Harvest Festival	6:00 pm Harvest Festival & Harvest Supper	9:30 am Said Holy Communion 5:30 pm Harvest Festival & Auction
Sunday October 9th		
9:30 am Family Communion	11:00 am Family Communion	5:30 pm Holy Communion
Sunday October 16th		
No Service	No Service	10:30 am United Benefice Holy Communion
Sunday October 23rd		
9:30 am Holy Communion	11:00 am Holy Communion	5:30 pm Evensong
Sunday October 30th		
9:30 am Holy Communion	11:00 am Morning Prayer	5:30 pm All Soul's Evening Service

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. Ivy flowers provide vital sustenance to butterflies, bees and other insects at this time of year, especially to those like the Red Admiral which need to build up reserves ahead of a long winter of hibernation.

Planning

Planning Applications

Two fresh applications this month, and updates on two more. 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 made to carry out alterations and partial rebuild of the north elevation of the single storey (rear) extension to North Aston Hall. Comments due by 20th Oct. Reference numbers : 22 / 02860 / LB and 22 / 02859 / F

North Aston Mill, Somerton Road, OX25 6HZ. Discharge of conditions relating to roof material, timber boarding and external paving for poolhouse. Ref: 22 / 02752 / DISC

North Aston Hall, St Mary's Walk, OX25 6AA. The application to carry out various internal alterations to The Hall is now at the consultation stage. Planned works include the re-opening of two cellar windows, replacement of floorboards, removing modern gypsum plaster, restoration of damaged fireplaces, restoration to window architraves etc. Ref: 22 / 02475 / LB

The Turret House, St Mary's Walk, OX25 6AA. The application to carry out work on trees within a conservation area has been approved. Reference Nos: 22 / 02191 / TCA

Village Meeting

Wednesday 26th October

There will be a Village Meeting later this month - the first under the auspices of our new Officers; Christopher Woodhead (Chair), Neil Nicholson (Treasurer) and Eve Rodgers (Secretary). There are details of some of the topics for discussion on page 6, but a full Agenda will be circulated via email, and published on the Noticeboard, later this month.

If you have any items you'd like to raise for discussion, please can you submit your ideas to Eve at least ten days before the Meeting. You can email secretary@north-aston.co.uk and you can phone or text her on 07714 917719.

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North Aston Nature Notes

With Stephen Rees

We had a few days' holiday last month in Suffolk, mountain biking along beaches and following forest trails and tracks. It was really good fun and I only fell off once ... which is good for me! It was good to be in a different environment and see different types of wildlife.

We were only a couple of miles from the RSPB nature reserve at Minsmere. It has it all: heathland, marshes, coast and forest. I'd thoroughly recommend it if you're anywhere near. On our bike rides we stopped to watch Redshank on the mud flats and in stubble fields, and also saw many Stonechats. That's a little bird that I'm particularly fond of, and one we do see here, down on the flood meadows, but not many. Other birds on the estuary were Peewits (Wendy's favourite) and little Sandpipers that run along, fly a bit, then run again as they try to get to the best food before the other birds do.

My best spot was when we were pushing our bikes up an unrideable shingly bit. When we got to the dunes an Adder went straight across in front of me. It's only the second I've ever seen, and it really made my day.

Wendy found a Samphire plant and picked a bit, and we tried it. The taste was very salty but crisp and crunchy. I had a look in my books when I got home, and discovered it's been used for centuries. Shakespeare mentioned it in two of his plays. The name comes from the French "Saint Pierre", Saint Peter, the patron saint of sea-goers, through "Sampiere" to Samphire. Another common name is Glasswort. In the 17th



century it was used in the glass making industry as a source of soda ash. Commoners were allowed to collect it and sell it on market day. Best of all, maidens would put it under their straw mattresses at night because it was believed to make young men very keen and more potent. I love old English folklore!

Well that's it then for now ... although I can also recommend Suffolk Gin if you're out that way.

All the best, Stephen & Wendy

Don't miss the End-of-Summer

PUDDING PARTY!

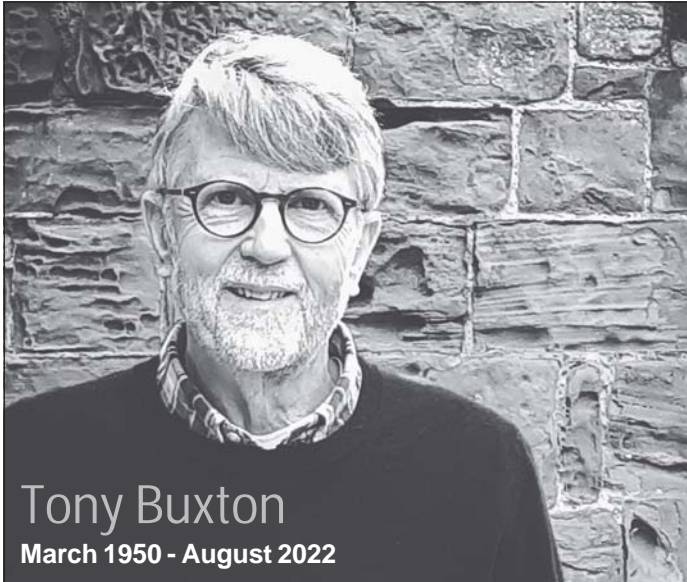
Saturday 15th October - 8pm The Orchard Barn

A relaxed time and place to get together ...

No booking required ... just come along!

Bring a pudding or dessert to share and something to serve it with, plus your own drinks, glasses, bowls and cutlery.

See you there!



Tony Buxton
March 1950 - August 2022

I am sure I speak for many when I say that we were deeply saddened to hear of the death last month of Tony Buxton. He became a part of our community almost nine years ago, and in that time he made a huge impression on everyone he met. Tony was kind and generous, and made an enormously positive contribution to village life through his involvement with the Village Meeting, and especially his support of Annie during her time as Secretary. He also took on the challenging role of coordinator for the Traffic Committee at a time when we faced the threat of "Busgate" and in recent months had been working on the proposed traffic mitigation possibilities for the village with OCC. We shall all miss him dearly, not necessarily for his administrative skills, even though they were notable, but most especially for his friendship. MP

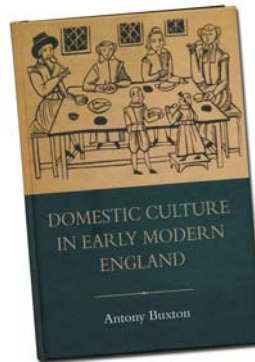
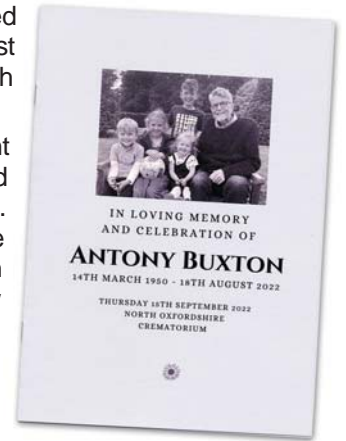
North Aston was a much-loved home for Tony, who died in August after being diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer in April.

Although in village terms a recent resident, he was very interested in and engaged with village life. He moved out of Oxford to live with Annie in Middle Cottage in 2013 and very soon realised how much the community meant to him. He was happy to take on roles including coordinating the village Traffic Committee.

Originally from a small village in Dorset, Tony moved to Italy after he left University, where he trained as a furniture maker and restorer. He spent many years running his own small business in various workshops in Oxford before moving into research and teaching for Rycotewood Furniture College and the Department of Continuing education at the University.

His funeral was a lovely, warm celebration of a rich and interesting life and he will be much missed. Annie

Tony was also a highly respected academic, lecturing on design history, material and domestic culture, and publishing various papers and books, including a detailed treatise on domestic life in "early modern" (17th and 19th century) England.



HEYFORD PARK PANTRY

Your urgent help is needed ...

I'm sure none of us needs reminding of the appalling hardships some families, especially those with young children, are facing and will continue to struggle with over the coming months.

Like many community organisations, The Pantry at Heyford Park has become an essential service for people who simply do not have sufficient resources. There will be a collection over the first weekend in October - the boxes will be in the bus shelter at Nicholsons gate and outside Middle Cottage on St Mary's Walk from Friday through to Sunday evening, so please please dig deep and give as much as you are able. In-date non perishable food, toiletries, pet food, toilet rolls and washing products all welcome. Thank you so much. Annie

RIDE + STRIDES

Over £377 raised for the OHCT

Congratulations to Mark Stay who, with spirited support from Tuck Hatzigeorgiou, visited 15 churches (and The Barley Mow!) to raise £377.50 for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, with half of that going to St Mary's. Thanks to all this year's sponsors, but it's not too late to add your support - drop off any additional donations with Mark as soon as possible.

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North Aston Village Meeting

Wednesday 26th October 2022 ~ 7 pm ~ The Old Bakery

The proposed Village Meeting for 26th October includes a review of the Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan

The Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan (NP) came into force in May 2019 and has been used to determine planning applications in all twelve member parishes since that time, including North Aston. Two reports published so far show that locally generated policies have had an impact on decisions made by Cherwell District Council. These policies were developed as a result of intensive community engagement in the period 2015-16. Further information and the original report are available on the Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan Forum website: <https://mid-cherwell.org.uk/approved-plan/>

Six years on, it is time for the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan to be reviewed, as a result of both national and District level changes to planning policy, and because there are new challenges – climate change, major development proposals, and more. This review will take place over the next few months and a consultant (O'Neill Homer) has been commissioned by the Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan Forum to provide support for this work, using a government grant intended for this purpose.

The starting point for the review is for each member Parish Council (or Parish Meeting) to gather views from residents on the effectiveness of the plan, and what new or revised policies they would like to see come out of the review. At the initial review the top issues were traffic, amount and type of new housing, local facilities and the environment.

In order to gather initial views, a Village Meeting has been organised for Wednesday 26th October at 7pm. The Village Meeting will be followed by a Village Forum Meeting.

We have been asked to nominate a representative from North Aston to sit on the review team, so if you would like to get involved, please let us know.

A full agenda will be posted on the village notice board in early October and emailed to those on the village email list.

Many thanks, Eve Rodgers (secretary@north-aston.co.uk)



IF OXFORD SCIENCE + IDEAS FESTIVAL

IF Oxford, the city's science and ideas festival, returns this month with a mix of 100 events for all ages across 25 venues, plus many more online.

Events span all scientific topics in a wide range of formats, from Art & Culture, to Environment, History and Health. There are hands-on practical events, visual demonstrations, talks and lectures, as well as interactive and online.

Events are structured to appeal to a wide range of ages, with plenty to entertain children as well as adults.

For more information & to book, visit www.if-oxford.com.

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From the FIRE STATION

Pleasantly at the tail end of summer with a crispy lawn and wilting plants we've found ourselves busy with more than 60 shouts over the last two months, comprising a number of stand-bys and fires, RTCs and humanitarian assistances.

For the two hottest days, when we were being told by the media how to apply suntan lotion and sit in the shade, we were called out to a couple of fires in the open and burning stubble – but certainly weren't rushed off our feet. However, for the following two weeks we found ourselves attending more field and wild fires than we usually would!

Several incidents saw us fire fighting for extended periods. Field and straw bale stack fires need constant watching and monitoring. Field fires find us damping down and beating the flare up areas, often working in conjunction with the farmer ploughing fire-breaks to prevent the flames spreading to surrounding areas and buildings.



Stacks of straw bales, due to their size and intensity, often require damping down of the immediate area and a "watching brief", followed by mechanical assistance – whereby the stack is slowly pulled apart to allow the fire to be treated in smaller portions and allows the dry unburnt fuel to be safely removed before it ignites. In all cases, such fires will often take several days to burn out and have to be constantly monitored. Crews are therefore rotated, but this does obviously lead to a tying up of precious resources. Not all these fires are accidental, so please be careful with naked flames and make sure all incendiaries are fully out before disposing of them.

In one 24-hour period we did need to cover Bicester station on five separate occasions, which taxed our usual good humour, but managed to provide valuable assistance to the ambulance service in helping move a poorly casualty from their front room into the waiting ambulance.

The crew attended a familiarisation visit to Oxford London Airport, in case we are called there to provide support at an emergency. This allowed close inspection of fuel depots, roads, RVPs and aircraft hangers. However, as we are always available at drill or training, the visit was cut short by responding to a RTC involving leaking fuel just outside Hopcrofts Holt – working with TVP to mop up the spill! Our visit was therefore cut slightly short....

James Greenwood FFD james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk





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News from NICHOLSONS

A round-up of news and events from Nicholsons in the weeks to come:

Seasonal & Sustainable Wreath Workshops 1st & 3rd December 2022

Melissa Dinwiddy, owner of Bunch, the floral studio in Bloxham formerly known as *Whispers & Snippets*, will be in The Orchard Barn for a series of seasonal wreath-making workshops in December. Melissa utilises environmentally friendly practices as part of her workshops and arrangements, and will demonstrate how to weave a willow frame and embellish it with British foliage and flowers. Those attending will visit The Yurt for a two-course seasonal lunch and a glass of house wine or soft drinks. Full details and on-line booking at www.nicholsonsgb.com/yurt/events-december/

The Yurt is also taking bookings for Christmas brunches or lunches over the festive period. These are available Tuesday through to Saturday. Email theyurt@nicholsonsgb.com for more information.

One-to-one plant consultations (lasting up to an hour) can be arranged through consultations@nicholsonsgb.com. The service is an opportunity for garden owners to visit the Plant Centre and discuss their aspirations with one of Nicholsons' Horticultural experts. Get advice on topics such as screening, hedging, ornamental and fruit tree choices, topiary, climbers and herbaceous border planting, and much more. For more information and access to a booking form, please visit: www.nicholsonsgb.com/plants/consultations/

Announcements

Deddington Farmers' Market

Now with a 4.5 star rating with TripAdvisor, this month's Farmer's Market will take place on Saturday 22nd October. For more information please visit: www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk

Heyford Park Farmer's Market

The new Farmer's Market on Brice Road is staged every first Saturday of the month, 10am through to 2pm.

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

Van 99 continues to call at the Green on a Wednesday, 7:25 to 7:40 pm. You can email an order to van99orders@gmail.com, call 07484 360719, or 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.

Pudding Party!

Don't miss this special event on Saturday October 15th. The perfect end to Summer. See details on Page 4.

October Birthdays

Daniel Durnin
Olivia Durnin
Tom Godwin
Paul Honess
Bev Rees
Jimmy Rees



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.

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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Final Call for Aunt Sally!

This will be the last month for Aunt Sally this year, with the evenings getting darker so much earlier now. Start time will be 6:30 pm, and matches could be weather-dependant, so dates will be announced via the village WhatsApp group. If it gets too dark, flood-lights are certainly a possibility!



This month's winners were:

1st Prize (£10): Louise Young (#56)

2nd Prize (£5): Neil Nicholson (#47)

More lucky winners in the North Aston 100 Club, raising money for good causes and taking home cash prizes in the process. For more information, 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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