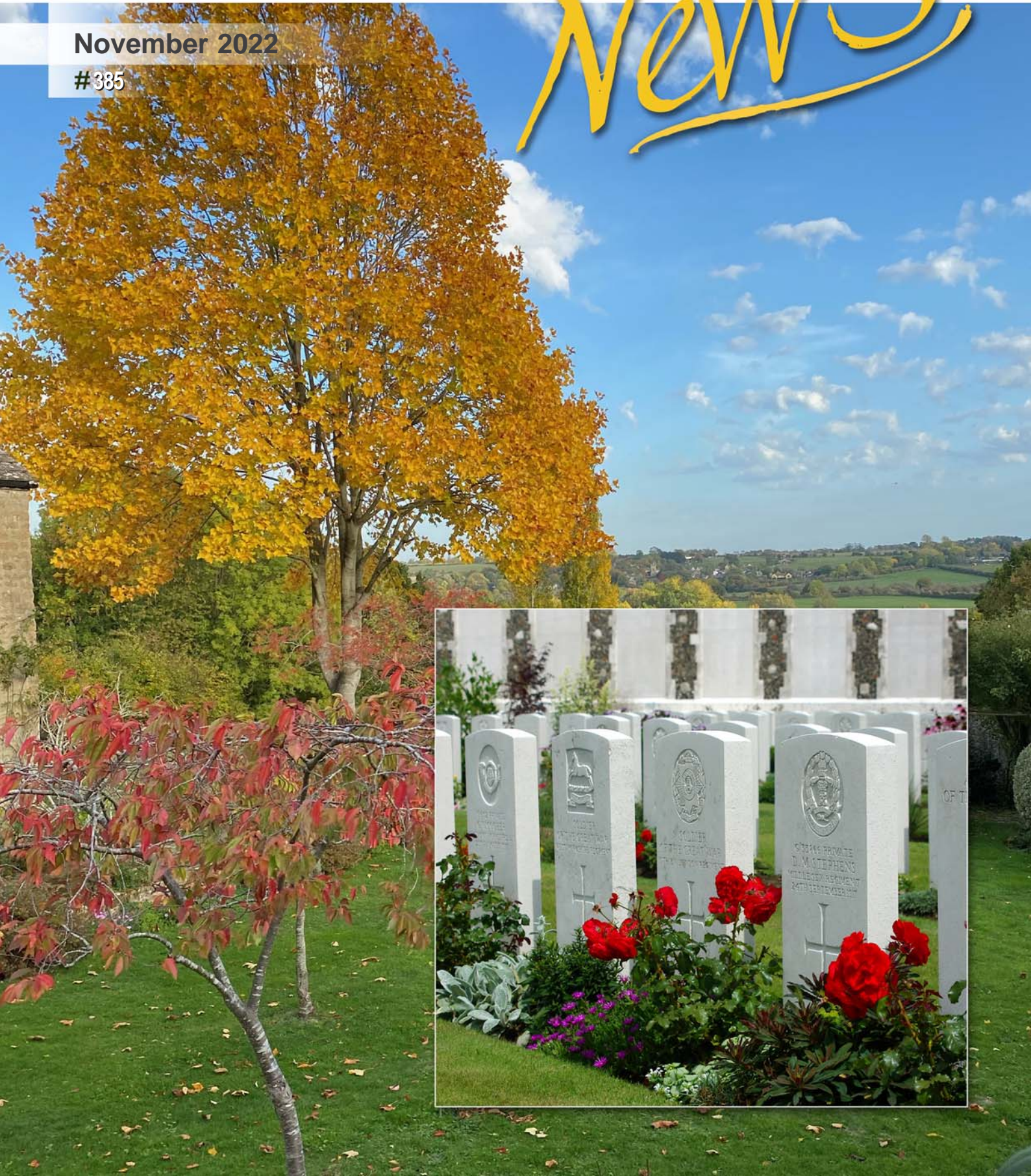


NORTH ASTON

NEWS

November 2022

#385



NORTH ASTON NEWS

NOVEMBER 2022, No:385

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North Aston News

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Nicholson Nurseries

Telephone: (01869) 340342

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CDC Local Councillor

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Email: Bryn.Williams@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk

Thames Valley Police non-emergency: 101

Out of Hours Doctor: 111 or 08453 458 995

Notes from the Chair

It is Remembrance Sunday on 13th of the month.

The guns fell silent on the 11th at 11 in the Great War to end all wars. Sadly we have had quite a few since and a major conflict is going on now. With the time distance one might have thought that Remembrance day would decline in relevance but the opposite seems to be happening.

There is a new film out of "All Quiet on the Western Front", a quite brilliant if harrowing movie; and a new path tracking the complete length of the western front from Switzerland to the sea called the Western Front Way has just been inaugurated, with an accompanying book.

These, and of course the wearing of the poppy, would suggest that Remembrance is still an important part of our national identity.

Best wishes,

You can phone Christopher on 340358

or you can email him using: chair@north-aston.co.uk

Christopher



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Norman West will be visiting door-to-door making his annual collection for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal this month. If you're out when he calls, and you'd like to make a donation and collect a poppy, knock on his door at No. 22 The Green. Thankyou.

Church Services in November 2022

N. ASTON	S. ASTON	TACKLEY
Sunday November 6th		
9:30 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer	11:00 am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer	5:30 pm Evensong
Sunday November 13th		
9:30 am Remembrance Service	10:55 am Remembrance Service	4:30 pm Holy Communion (Said) 5:30 pm Remembrance Service
Sunday November 20th		
10:30 am United Benefice Holy Communion	No Service	No Service
Sunday November 27th		
9:30 am Morning Prayer	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. The glorious colours of autumn, captured by Kildare B-B in the leaves of the Tulip Tree, overlooking the valley with Somerton beyond. Inset, a reminder from Tyne Cot Cemetery that this month sees the annual commemoration of the Armistice of 1918.

Mail to: info@north-aston.co.uk

Planning

There have been no new planning applications recently, but existing projects have all made progress. To view full details, please visit <https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/> and keyword search "North Aston" for more information.

North Aston Hall, St Mary's Walk, OX25 6AA. A decision regarding the application to carry out work to the single storey extension to the rear of The Hall is expected mid-November. Reference numbers : 22 / 02860 / LB and 22 / 02859 / F

North Aston Mill, Somerton Road, OX25 6HZ. A decision relating to roof material, timber boarding and external paving for the poolhouse is expected on 2nd November. Ref: 22 / 02752 / DISC

North Aston Hall, St Mary's Walk, OX25 6AA. A decision on plans for alterations within The Hall, including the re-opening of two cellar windows, was expected late October. Ref: 22 / 02475 / LB



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October 2022

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1st Prize (£25): Karen Hack (#124)
2nd Prize (£5): Rebecca Brown (#95)
Call: Bev (347434) or email info@north-aston.co.uk

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

www.thelittleboxoffice.com/dtdg'." data-bbox="44 515 956 963"/>

Duns Tew drama group presents ...

SMUT'S SAGA

a pantomime!

Can Svein the Vane thwart Smut the Smug's diabolical plan? Will Jarl Smut fall foul of the dreaded Stoneheart? As the longships put to sea nothing is certain.

Tickets - Evenings: £12, Matinée: £7.50 Adults or £5.50 Children

Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd December ~ 7:30 pm
Saturday 3rd December ~ 2:00 pm Matinée
Friday 9th & Saturday 10th December ~ 7:30 pm

During the evening performances a range of snacks will be served in the first interval and of course the bar never closes.

Tickets from: www.thelittleboxoffice.com/dtdg

North Aston Nature Notes

With Stephen Rees

This is Wendy and my favourite time of year for walks. The colours on the trees are so lovely now, and the light seems to be bright but not so dazzling as it is in the summer. On a nice sunny day its warm but not sticky-hot like it is in the summer. It's been a good few weeks for wildlife down in our corner of the world. Our bats have been really busy, more so in the early morning than at night. I love watching them under the canopy of our trees, darting in and out catching moths. It always seems amazing that their normal eyesight is fairly poor, and they use a form of radar.

Our owls have been very vocal too, as they always are at this time of year. Little Owls screeching, and my favourite Tawny Owls hooting all night outside our bedroom. The sound makes me think that we're living in their home, and not the other way round. We are so lucky to live with them.

One Wednesday, towards the end of October, I saw the first arrival of Fieldfares flying over us, chattering away as they do. Last year we didn't see as many as we have in previous years, so I'm hoping there will be lots this year. They will be followed shortly by other migrants birds, like the Thrushes, Redwings, Jays and many others who live with us through the winter. My favourite is the Woodcock, but we see them very rarely now, especially as we're not running any working dogs through the rough wet scrubby hedges and ditches. We are missing our dogs awfully, and to answer everyone who

keeps asking when we'll be getting another, the answer's soon, but it won't be another from a working kennel. We're thinking more of an Aunty Viv type of dog. I have an inkling for a Parson Terrier, but we'll probably end up with a mongrel pup from one of the Welsh gamekeepers we know.

So what else in the wildlife line this month? I've spotted lots of hedgehog poo down here, and along the tarmac road in front of The Hall, which is good news. There have been Muntjac barking in the middle of the night, and Aunty Viv (another mention!) saw an otter two days on the trot.



Two last things. Firstly, my favourite walk recently has been down to The Hall and then along the footpath and over to Hendon Farm, before returning to the lake and back home. It's a really lovely, easy walk with great views, and the chance to meet neighbours and friends. It's just the right distance to bring on the urge for a cup of tea and a chunk of chocolate. Sitting down by the lake, on the big red Hornton stones, and watching the Dabchicks and listening to the Coots is a delight, especially when the sun glints off of the tiny ripples made by a gentle breeze. If you're lucky, you'll see the two resident Kestrels hunting. It is so relaxing and lovely, and you can honestly feel stress and anxiety dropping out of you!

For weeks we came down each morning to find a slug trail across our kitchen floor. It seemed I'd never catch the culprit, until the middle of one day when we found it, right in the middle of the kitchen. Wendy got a piece of kitchen roll and took it outside, with the obligatory ... "and don't come back!" It was a proper ugly job – all green and blue and slimy.



A long, long time ago, slugs were considered very differently from the way they are today. There were people whose job it was to catch them, and they were known as "Sluggers". The ones they collected were impaled on Hawthorn spikes (a very revered plant) to kill them, and then the remains could be rubbed onto warts as a cure. You could also eat them to help clear, ummmm, for want of a better word ... a blockage.

Lastly, I had a call from a lady in Steeple Aston last week, asking me if I would like to go and see her Warwickshire Drooper. I did, of course, and what a very fine example it was too. I think I'll leave it at that for now ...

All the best, Stephen & Wendy

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Out and about this month ...

If theatre is your go-to of an evening, then head into Oxford this November, where Agatha Christie's famous whodunnit, *The Mousetrap* is escaping the West End for a week at the New Theatre. Meanwhile that other perennial favourite, *Dick Whittington* is strutting the boards in The Theatre, Chipping Norton, from 16th November through to mid-January. The *Oxford Christmas Lights Festival* runs from the 18th to 20th November in the city centre. The *Blenheim Palace Illuminated Christmas Lights Trail* also sets off on the 18th, and runs until the New Year. Tickets for that need to be booked online.



Deddington Fireworks Night

Saturday 5th November

Deddington Primary School teachers and parents invite you to join them for a brilliant night of fireworks on the school field on Saturday 5th November 2022. Access is from Earls Lane and the event starts at 6.00 pm, with blast off scheduled for 7.00 pm. Everyone from the parish and beyond is welcome.

There will be a licensed bar, BBQ, coffee stand, tuck shop and the famous 'flashy tat' stand! (You know you want some light-up alien bug eyes!) It's a lovely community event which raises much appreciated money for Deddington Primary School. Funds from last year's event have helped pay for literacy catch up sessions, study guides and farm visits.

Last year's event was enjoyed by a huge and happy crowd, and we're so grateful for your support. So come and join us for a beer and a burger, and 'ooh and ahh' at the thrills of Fireworks Night on Saturday 5th November from 6.00pm.

Advance tickets can be purchased (cash only) from the Flower Shop (Single: £5.00, Family: £14.00) or on the gate (Single: £6.00, Family: £16.00). Under 3s go free. Proceeds on behalf of Deddington Primary School PTA

For enquiries, please email: deddingtonpta@gmail.com

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North Aston Village Meeting

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

Officers Present: Christopher Woodhead – CW (Chair), Niel Nicholson – NN (Treasurer), Eve Rodgers - ER (Secretary)

Others Present: Annie Savage (AS), Julie Al-Nugaidi (JA), Mark Stay (MS), James Taylor (JaT), Chloe Woodhead (CW), Jeremy Taylor (JeT), Trudie Busby (TB), Clive Busby (CB), David Hanna (DH), Marcus Potts (MP).

Village Meeting

The Chair welcomed everyone. The new Officers introduced themselves to the meeting.

1. Treasurer's Report

NN summarised the minimal income and expenditure in the past year. Full details will be presented at the January AGM, at which the precept for 2023/24 will be set.

2. Review of Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan

Full details are available on the CDC website at www.cherwell.gov.uk/downloads/download/523/mid-cherwell-neighbourhood-plan. There is a need for North Aston to participate in the mid-term review team. No nominations were received, so NN confirmed he was willing to attend to represent the village.

3. Traffic Calming

NN offered to take on the role of traffic representative for the village as no nominations were received. He circulated a summary document of a recent meeting he had attended, and of his discussions with the OCC Officer, Dave Catlin.

At present the village is entitled to £14,524 to spend on measures from Section 106 funding paid to OCC by the Dorchester Group. There are two further funding amounts to be allocated between villages affected by the Heyford Park Development, which will be confirmed by Christmas.

The meeting voted on a range of measures which could potentially be implemented within the village, and which will be further discussed once the sum available is known.

The OCC measures do not include work to prevent further accidents at The Fox crossroads. OCC has proposed to lower the speed limit from the dual carriageway to Deddington to 50mph. NN will confirm the village voted to support this. In addition, OCC proposes reducing the speed limit in the village to 20mph and to 40 mph from the Duns Tew Crossroads. OCC is considering altering the junction to improve safety.

4. Any Other Business

A discussion was held around combining the Village Meeting and Village Forum. It was agreed that in future joint meetings would be held. The minutes would differentiate between Village Meeting and Forum business.

Village Forum

1. Treasurer's Report

NN summarised the minimal income and expenditure in the past year. Full details will be presented at the January AGM.

2. Christmas

It was agreed that the traditional **Wassail** of carol singing around the village would take place on Sunday 11th December. MS to confirm details in the NA News/Village WhatsApp. The nominated charities for this year's donations are Homestart Banbury and Banbury Young Homeless Project.

Carols on the Green will take place from 6pm on Christmas Eve. A team of mulled wine makers was agreed and a recipe for the village to be issued! MP will upload the carol sheet to the WhatsApp group and distribute to the village mailing list.

Miranda Doggett is happy to organise the **choir** for the Christmas Carol Service at the Church on 18th December.

The Chair will pursue the question of **Christmas Gifts** for the elders of the village with Lucinda Fuoco.

Christmas Party for children: there are a significant number of young children in the village, so parents who would like to organise a party should contact CW.

3. Village Fête

As this has not been held for three years, the meeting considered whether it was still wanted. The major benefit was that it provided funds for the Church but involved a lot of work by villagers.

Various alternative ideas were proposed (quiz night, pudding clubs, a festival) and it was agreed that a lunch, like the Jubilee lunch this year, was probably more enjoyable and could be incorporated with other fundraising efforts to achieve a similar level of donation to the Church. This will be confirmed at the AGM.

4. Any Other Business

Broadband: MP confirmed the old scheme for full fibre had been abandoned and he has not yet heard what the replacement, if any, will look like. There appears to be capacity within the Openreach cabinet, but this does not deal with the cable installation to each house.

Speed Monitor Batteries: The monitors now have new batteries.

Mullin Motor Museum in Great Tew: Historically the village agreed not to comment on planning applications unless they directly affected the village. A public consultation is being held at the end of October.

Picnic and Chris Tuffrey memorial benches: The picnic bench is beyond repair so will be disposed of. CW agreed to contact Stephen Rees regarding repair of the Chris Tuffrey bench.

Date of next Meeting

The next Meeting and AGM will take place in the Old Bakery on Wednesday 11th January 2023 at 7pm.

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From the FIRE STATION

At one stage in mid-September, our call out total was stuck in single figures – very low when you compare that to the previous three months of over 100 shouts. However, at the end of the month we had a number of serious fires and incidents boosting our total to 19 call-outs.

The start of the month also saw us respond to a rare incident, although one we are constantly asked about – “Have you ever rescued a cat up a tree?!” So we can now all say yes, we have! Some of the crew have been waiting 15 years for this one! The cat, Clyde, had been a fair way up a lovely mature oak for most of the day. Access was limited in the owner’s garden meaning we had to approach from a neighbouring property and erect the 13.5m ladder to allow access to Clyde. The form of the tree and branch positioning meant that a standard ladder pitch couldn’t be achieved allowing some creative firecraft amongst the crew.



After several aborted goes, the ladder was extended to the branch below Clyde, only for him to climb up further. Eventually he came back down and 2 firefighters in *working-at-heights* gear, scaled the ladder equipped with treats and a large net. After 10 minutes of cajoling, FF Louis Martin’s *Dolittle* skills paid off, and Clyde was brought down to the great relief of the owners and was placed in a line bag and passed over the fence.

Whilst the rescue was occurring, the children watching were given a tour of the fire truck to take their minds off events.

With autumn now officially here, please remember to sweep your chimneys before lighting your fires and do take extra care with low sun during those commuting runs.

And finally, a big welcome to CJ Harber who joins us as our latest recruit.

James Greenwood FFD james@cyclogicalshop.co.uk



Bonfire Night falls on a Saturday this year. Please remember that it is illegal to let off fireworks after 11:00pm on any other day except the 5th (midnight). If you’re planning on having a fireworks party on any other evening, then please advise your neighbours so that pets can be kept safely indoors. Call Eileen on 347210, and email info@north-aston.co.uk with details.



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Steeple Aston Choral Society



Handel’s Messiah & Seasonal Carols

Sunday 20th November 2022 @ 7:00 pm
Steeple Aston Parish Church

Tickets £10. Available from choir members,
Steeple Aston Post Office and from 01869 347346

In addition to an abridged version of the *Messiah*, this concert will feature seasonal carols for choir and audience. The soloists are Angela Kazimierczuk (Soprano) and Rebecca Lewin (Contralto). Paul Herrington will play the organ and the conductor is Paul Badley.

SACS is dedicating this concert of *Messiah* highlights to Margaret Mason, stalwart SACS audience member and village legend. Margaret was also a loyal supporter of Woodstock Choral Society’s concerts and we are delighted that WCS members who sang at her Memorial Service in January, will be with us once again, for this concert.

Please come and join the choir and Margaret’s family, for an evening of glorious and uplifting music in her memory.

Announcements

Deddington Farmers' Market

Just two more Farmer's Markets to go this year, with the next due to take place on Saturday 26th November. Did you know that Gift Vouchers for use at the Market are now available in multiples of £5 from the Information Desk? For more information please visit: www.deddingtonfarmersmarket.co.uk

Heyford Park Farmer's Market

The Farmer's Market on Brice Road has been growing steadily in recent months. Staged every first Saturday of the month from 10am through to 2pm, the next will be on Nov 5th. Regular updates on <https://www.facebook.com/heyfordparkfarmersmarket/>

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 Sitter - Friday/Saturday & School Holidays

Susie Taylor offers babysitting on Friday & Saturday nights, or week-nights 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.

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



One of the views enjoyed by Stephen on his Nature Notes walk in October, described in his article on Page 4.

November Birthdays

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



Many Happy Returns to all the North Aston residents who celebrate birthdays this month. If you're not listed, or know someone who should be, please let us know.

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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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