

Dates for your Diary

(See Notice-boards etc. for details)

OCTOBER

- 4 MCC Committee
- 8 PTA Jumble Sale S. Moreton School
- 9 All Saints' Harvest Thanksgiving
and 'bring and share' lunch
- 12 Mayflowers Club (fortnightly thereafter)
- 12 W I Meeting
- 22 Quinney Day and Gift Day
- 29 MCC 'Race Night' at The Bear

NOVEMBER

- 9 W I Meeting
- 12 Soup Lunch I & Sale of Charity Cards
in Village Hall
- 14 Parish Council Meeting 8pm
- 19 PTA Christmas Bazaar S.M. School

DECEMBER

- 5 S.M. School Christmas Play 1.30pm
- 10 Village Hall Christmas Party
- 14 W I Meeting

JANUARY

- 11 W I Meeting
- 13 MCC AGM
- 31 MCC Committee

FEBRUARY

- 4 MCC Annual Quiz
- 8 W I Meeting

MARCH

- 4 Safari Supper in aid of Church

Utilities

Beat Officer: WPC Tracey Walker - 0845 8505505

Mobile Library: North Moreton Bus Shelter - alternate Fridays, 12.15

Village Hall Bookings: Ann Silvester, 17 Bear Lane (811646)

Refuse Collection: Thursdays

Recycling Collection: (paper, cans & plastic) Thursdays

Postal Services: at 'The Crown', South Moreton - Wednesdays 9 - 12
and at 'The Red Lion', Brightwell - Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30 - 12

Concessionary Travel Tokens: Katie Miles, North Moreton House (813283)

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Printed by Lord Williams's School, Thame

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North Moreton News

Issue 70

October

Editorial

Much ink has been spread in the national and local press upon the circumstances which have led to the resignation of the rector, the Reverend Christopher Walker. Broadly, there is no more to be said. It is our view that the matter has been acted upon with equity. The Rector has been found guilty – whatever sympathy we may have with him in his motives – of an offence in law. The Diocese has shown magnanimity in ensuring that he and his family do not suffer domestically or financially – though the emotional burden has been heavy. The united benefice must move on: not for over eighty years has there been a resident incumbent in North Moreton and, to that extent, changes in organisation will not make a huge difference. But we must anticipate being part of a larger framework and, in doing so, welcome the Reverend Edwin Clements, the Area Rural Dean, to our community.

With the departure of Christopher Walker we lose an extremely talented organist. With that of his wife, Rachel, and of Brian Harrop to live in Kent, we lose two more organists leaving a considerable burden upon John Harrison .

* * *

The Editor of the *North Moreton News* (and his wife) have been touched by the large number of cards they have received after their recent spells in hospital. Partly in consequence of this, the *North Moreton News* will have, as technical editor, the services of Nora Haycock while Gerald Howat will, for the moment, remain as editor. In addition to hard copy to the Editor, items for inclusion can be sent to nora.haycock@btinternet.com.

North Moreton Parish Council

Roger Haycock, the chairman, writes

Parishioners may be interested in the latest status on some Planning activities.

1. **Travellers on Hadden Hill.**

Several residents have pointed out that there are now several more caravans on the site than the eight allowed following the injunction obtained some months ago by SODC. As a result, the District Council took out court orders against four individuals and they were required to attend court on September 23 when they were told to leave the site immediately or face six weeks in jail for contempt of court. The appeal against the original injunction will be heard at the beginning of November.

2. **A. J. Machinery.**

Following the decision by Andrew West and his advisors to appeal against the decision by SODC's Planning Committee to reject their Planning Application, NMPC decided to continue to endorse the view of most parishioners and to support the appeal. However in the last week, NMPC has received indications that the applicant may be considering withdrawing the appeal and submitting a modified application. We await further developments.

3. **Alders Farm Barns.**

NMPC has agreed with the numerous villagers who have raised objections to the proposal to build a house on the small field (Alders Farm Barns) between Long Wittenham Road and Back Lane. We have therefore written to SODC recommending rejection of the application. At the time of writing a decision has not been made by SODC

The Croft

Once again, we are receiving complaints about dog-mess on the ground, particularly near residents' houses. Please take appropriate equipment with you and take the results home for disposal — mess should not be deposited in the litter bins on the field. Gates, where provided, should be closed to prevent stray dogs entering — particularly those to the children's play area where dogs are not permitted.

Exercise Classes in North Moreton!

Come along and try starting at/from the North Moreton village hall with Dee Armstrong of Lifestride

Mondays at 2 p.m. Power Walking - meet at the village hall (an outdoor session aimed at heart and lung improvement - a wonderful fat burner and easier on the joints than jogging!)

Thursdays at 1 p.m. Body Conditioning - in the village hall (body conditioning and pilates to strengthen and tone muscles, with warm up and relaxing stretch to improve flexibility).

Cost £60 per term (Sept-Dec) per class

Be there - or be round!

Thinking Ahead.....

A great deal of fund-raising takes place in the village over the course of a year for the benefit of a variety of good causes both from within and outside North Moreton.

In order to help people plan ahead and to avoid clashes, we hope to produce, in the March edition, a calendar of projected events for the next 12 months. If you are planning an event, do let us know by February 15 for inclusion - even alternative dates or just the month would be helpful.

From SODC

The Council will now collect (for a six months' trial) garden waste for composting. To use the service residents have to phone 0800 7318752 twenty-four hours in advance giving their address or e-mail to public.amenities@southoxon.gov.uk. Contents should be restricted to grass, leaves, hedge-clippings, plants and flowers. Waste bags are obtainable for 65p as above. Further details may be obtained on 01491 823416.

Clear plastic bags for items for recycling can also be purchased at £2.50 for 25. Remember that anything put out in black bags will go straight to the tip.

Electric blankets will be tested free of charge at Henley on October 12. Book on 01865 815607

new architect accredited with English Heritage. Such accreditation is now needed for applications to EH for grants.

A letter of thanks has been sent to Mr Whiteley for his valuable work over many years and Mr Simon Shew Dip Arch (Oxon) RIBA AABC of Gray Baynes & Shew of Oxford has been appointed. Mr Shew has recently made his Quinquennial inspection, the statutory requirement for a five yearly report on the fabric of the church, that indicates we have many tasks still to carry out and finance.

The PCC is still paying off some of the loan we took out to re-lead the tower roof that was completed last year. Gift Day this year is on Saturday October 22. Letters and envelopes will be distributed beforehand. This will be an opportunity for residents and friends of the church to help finance past and new fabric repairs, conservation work and opportunities for new initiatives so that this fine building will be here for our children and onwards for services and community events.

The Parochial Church Council and parishioners sadly bade farewell to Brian and Eileen Harrop in late August. Brian has been a PCC member and one of our organists for many years and more recently Eileen a churchwarden. They have left us for their new home near Sevenoaks in Kent. Eileen is keeping in contact with me via phone and e-mail to help during the time it takes to find a replacement churchwarden. May the Lord bless and keep them and we all wish them the very best.

South Moreton School

... began the year with 138 on the roll and Years 5 and 6 immediately went off to Woodlands, Oxfordshire's Outdoor Education Centre in Glasbury-on-Wye. There pupils enjoyed a week of canoeing, caving, walking and associated activities. The school celebrates Trafalgar Day on October 21. There are PTA events on October 8 (Jumble Sale) and November 19 (Christmas Bazaar). The first performance of the Christmas Play is on December 5 at 1.30 pm and all senior citizens are invited.

Bridge

Is anyone interested in forming an informal Bridge group for beginners/intermediates to play weekly/fortnightly/monthly? If so contact Roger Haycock on 812202 or roger.f.haycock@btinternet.com.

Travel Tokens

These are available for travel to all citizens over 60 through Katie Miles at North Moreton House (813283). Villagers are reminded of a recent change to the bus time-tables(see shelter for details).

The Mayflowers' Club...

...had a most enjoyable visit to Waterperry Gardens; the gardens were tranquil and floriferous and the tea was both delicious and substantial. Thanks are due to the Clay Pigeon Club who made the outing possible. A fish and chip supper is scheduled for October.

Moreton Cricket Club

The Chairman, Trevor Denning writes:

We can look back on another full and successful season with scarcely a ball lost to rain. It included a tour of West Sussex where we played three good matches. Regrettably the Annual dinner which was due to be held in September had to be cancelled due to lack of support.

On October 29 the club holds a Race Night at the Bear Inn organised by Tim Haworth and Ed Squires. The cost of £15 includes a two-course buffet supper, a welcome drink and a race card for the evening. There will be nine races so plenty of opportunity to recoup the cost of the evening with some astute betting! Its promises to be an excellent evening so to avoid disappointment book early through Tim or Ed (goodwoodantiques@supanet.com or ed@dedicatedwines.co.uk).

South and North Moreton Women's Institute

Penny Busby writes:

In July we had a talk by Mrs Rachel Marffy about Pilates. Members were give the chance to take part in some of the breathing exercises and discovered that it was much more complicated than we had thought it would be. We also helped at the Filberts Open Gardens at the end of July by providing the teas. The Summer outing was to Ardington House, where members spent an enjoyable afternoon and ended the day by having tea at the Post Office. We have just had a very interesting talk on stress, with some handy ideas on how to cope with it, by Mr Philip Andrew. A sponsored walk is planned for September 24 when we are raising money for W.I. Funds as well as CHOIX.

We were pleased to see some new faces at the September meeting and would like to welcome new members to join us. Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at the W.I. Barn, South Moreton.

North Moreton Village Hall

Firstly a big thank you to all who supported the Salmon Lunch held at Peckwater on Sunday 10th July either by helping or attending. The sun shone and 39 people sat down to a lunch of melon, poached salmon with salad, and strawberries and cream; a good time was had by all and £330 raised for village hall funds.

Someone asked why the hall needed the money. The hall, a first world war hospital building, was permanently endowed to the church in 1931 to be used 'for promoting, aiding and furthering the spiritual, moral, intellectual and physical welfare of the parish'. Over the years the hall became used more as a 'village' than a 'church' hall, a role which it continues to fill today. However, its position in the centre of the village and its lack of parking mean that the uses to which it can be put are limited but because of the terms of its endowment the hall cannot be sold and the proceeds used to build a replacement in a more suitable position. Obviously it cannot be allowed to fall into disrepair so the shortfall in rentals has to be made up by fundraising. Annual running costs currently stand at around £1500 which includes an horrendous £690 for insurance – the building is made of timber and those who were resident in the village in 1996 will recall the day when a lorry hit overhead cables and set the place alight.....

Although the hall is owned by the PCC, it is managed by a small group of volunteers and we would be delighted to welcome more members – particularly parents of young children. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Nora Haycock on 812202 or email nora.haycock@btinternet.com.

If anyone is modernising an old toilet or bathroom, the committee are looking for an old style overhead cistern with a pull-chain, to replace the automatic flushing system in the Gents which, as we are on a water meter, is very wasteful. If you have or know where to find such an item, please contact Gar Evans on 813858.

Our next fundraising event will be a Christmas Fair and Soup Lunch to be held on **Saturday November 12 from 12 to 2.30 p.m.** Forget cooking

and come along to the hall to enjoy a bowl of homemade soup while choosing from a selection of Charity Christmas cards and trying your luck at a giant tombola. Entrance 50p - children free. Soup, roll & cheese £3.50, Hotdogs £2.50, soft drinks available.

The Christmas Party for the under 8s will be held on **Saturday December 10** — watch out for posters and flyers for details — and the Disco for older children and teenagers will take place in the New Year. Both these events will provide a great opportunity for the younger newcomers to the village to make new friends!

Moreton Table Tennis Club

(Roger Templeman, cd2rom@aol.com)

Moreton TTC embarks on its sixth season and has registered 5 teams in the Didcot & District Table Tennis league - the fifth increase in 5 years. For the first time we have a team in Division 1. The two teams in Division 3 have been strengthened and hope to do well. There are two teams in Division 4, the new one being composed mainly of youngsters and new recruits. The club has increased its profile during the summer by providing a SODC School Holiday Activities course which attracted over twenty youngsters, by hosting the Oxfordshire County junior ranking trials (our juniors were ranked 3rd, 4th and 12th) and the Didcot Closed Tournament, where two of our players were runners up in the Men's Doubles event. We meet at South Moreton School on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the season (September to April) to play league matches, practice and provide coaching.

Diary dates: 2005/6 season begins September 21. Sessions at SMS every Wednesday and Thursday. MTTC hosts the DDTTA Divisional Championships on November 16-18.

For details please contact Roger Templeman (cd2rom@aol.com).

North Moreton Parochial Church Council

Patrick Greene, The Churchwarden, writes:

All Saints Church is a grade 1 listed building and any repairs or conservation work has to be agreed with English Heritage. Our architect Mr Nick Whiteley ARIBA has served us for many years and is now near to retirement. For this reason, the PCC agreed that with the other changes now taking place in connection with church that it was timely to engage a