

Dates for your Diary

JUNE

- 3 Hatstand Opera Company, North Moreton House
- 14 WI Meeting, The Barn South Moreton 7.30 p.m.
- 24 The Astons' Fete

JULY

- 1 Celebration of the new CHURN Benefice, Hagbourne School
- 2 Salmon Lunch at Peckwater (in aid of Village Hall funds)
- 2 South Moreton School PTA Summer Fete
- 3 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8 p.m.
- 12 WI Meeting, The Barn South Moreton 7.30 p.m.
- 16 Open Garden at Filberts from 2 p.m.
- 14 - 16 Wedding Dress Display & Flower Festival All Saints' Church

AUGUST

- 6 MCC President's Match and Pig Roast

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Barn Dance in aid of Church funds (North Moreton House)
- 9 Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride
- 13 WI Meeting, The Barn South Moreton 7.30 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 11 WI Meeting, The Barn South Moreton 7.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 8 WI Meeting, The Barn South Moreton 7.30 p.m.
- 11 Soup Lunch and Charity Card Sale, Village Hall

Utilities etc.

Beat Officer: WPC Susan (Pip) 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

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Printed by the CHURN Benefice

Copy for the next issue should reach the Editor by **20th September**

North Moreton News is published four times a year

North Moreton News

Issue 73

June

North Moreton News has now been running for 18 years and has made a vital contribution to village life. In that time there have been but two excellent editors – Ron Quinney for seven years and Gerald Howat for eleven. Now Gerald has decided to hang up his bat and retire from the editorship.

He deserves our grateful thanks. Not only has he provided the usual fare for such publications - a chronicle of day-to-day happenings – but he has also given a historian's insight into times past, and added much colour to the local scene. But the job doesn't end there, as providing the words is only half the work. Arranging printing and distribution has been a significant undertaking, and even though electronic file transfer may speed the former in the future, somebody still has to put copies through letterboxes in remote corners of the parish. Many hours of time are given to ensure that each issue comes out on time and at minimum cost.

I'm sure the village won't want Gerald's pen to get too rusty though. At the national level, there is the fine example of one Lord (Bill) Deedes who is still busy writing for the DT in his ninth decade, long after he gave up the editorship of that publication.

But we wouldn't want Gerald to think that he can follow "Dear Bill" in sponsored wanderings all round the world. A proposal to search for signs of village cricket in Outer Mongolia or Chad might possibly be discouraged. But nearer home....

Thank you Gerald for a magnificent contribution to North Moreton.

Roger Haycock

Continuum

Having produced a village newsletter for over 10 years (10 issues a year!) in deepest Devon, I thought that by moving to North Moreton I had put such matters behind me. Fate, however, has decreed otherwise and I find myself once more at the keyboard. Happily *North Moreton News* is only published four times a year and hopefully someone will take over long before ten years are up...

Gerald Howat is a very hard act to follow, particularly when one is not blessed with his literary skills; I see my role as co-ordinator rather than editor. I shall not attempt to imitate Gerald's excellent Editorials; rather I hope that he and other villagers will provide Leaders on a subject of the moment or of their choosing. I would like to start by inviting one or more of the newcomers to the village to share their impressions of life in North Moreton in the October issue. On the basis that one volunteer is worth ten pressed men, I look forward to a flood of offers.....

On a technical note, I hope to send out reminders and receive copy by email wherever possible (nora.haycock@btinternet.com). I also look forward to receiving any articles, snippets of information or thoughts that you, the reader, feel might be of interest to others. Short non-time-dependent items are particularly useful for those occasions when news is scarce.

Although *North Moreton News* is a secular publication, Father Edwin has very kindly offered to photocopy it for us in the CHURN office at minimal cost – a generous gesture for which we are most grateful.

As in recent years, the autumn edition will come out in October rather than September and the deadline for reports and articles will be 20th September.

Nora Haycock, Editor

North Moreton Parish Council

Planning issues

In the March issue of *North Moreton News*, I mentioned the Planning Applications which were pending for the A J Machinery site. At a meeting on 8th March, SODC's Planning Committee decided by a

2005/6, however, police and partners are keen to see it fall even further. Publicity materials such as posters, leaflets and drinks coasters are being delivered to houses and businesses and displayed in car crime hotspots to raise the awareness of car crime and to increase the amount of information being passed to police.

We all need to remember that car crime is opportunist and that by remembering to take simple precautions such as removing valuables such as mobile phones, laptops and CDs and by investing in good security devices such as steering locks, we can deter thieves.

Police also need more information on those people committing car crime and where it is happening so they can make arrests and better target their resources. If you have any information you can contact the police direct on the single non-emergency number 0845 8 505 505.

The Crimestoppers charity also provides a 24-hour contact number for people to pass on information without speaking to police or the need to leave a name. It is hoped that by publicising the Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 number more information will be passed to police, allowing swifter and more effective investigations into those responsible for such crime.

Theft of and theft from vehicle 1 April to 31 March:

2004/05	2005/06	% Change
Henley: 335	295	-11.9
Thame: 508	550	-8.3
Didcot: 192	148	-22.9
Wallingford: 214	171	-20.1

ST PETER'S NURSERY & FARM SHOP

Bear Lane North Moreton

Open 10am – 4pm Every Day

(except Tues)

Shrubs, Perennials, Bedding Plants

Local Dexter Beef & Home-made Cakes

Gifts Ideas, Planters & Body Shop Products

to all, whether experienced or novice, old or young, male or female. Details from MTTC Secretary, Roger Templeman, CD2ROM@aol.com, 813913 or visit www.mttc.moonfruit.com or www.ddtta.org.uk.

An Exhibition of Wedding Dresses and Festival of Flowers

..... will be held in All Saints' Church over the weekend 14th - 16th July - book these dates in your diary now! For further information or offers of items for display, money for flowers or other help, please contact Vicki Squires (817964) or Mary Greene (813396).

Open Gardens

On Saturday 16th July the garden at Filberts will be open from 2 - 5 p.m. under the National Garden Scheme - entry £3 (children free). There will be a plant sale in aid of village charities and teas will be available in the Village Hall.

The NGS is the main donor now to Marie Curie Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Relief, (£10 million to Macmillan over the last 20 years) as well as a major donor to some community nursing and carers' charities and to charities related to gardeners such as Perennial. It also sponsors 'Careerships' for trainee gardeners with the National Trust.

Barn Dance

Saturday 2nd September sees the welcome return of Ted Morse to guide us through a Barn Dance in aid of All Saints' Church to be held in the Barn at North Moreton House (by kind permission of Katie and David Miles). Details to follow but a great evening and a good supper are guaranteed!

Car Crime in the Thames Valley Area

Thames Valley Police, SODC, local businesses and residents have joined forces with the Crimestoppers charity to bring a car crime awareness campaign to your area.

Fortunately, car crime (theft of and theft from vehicles) has fallen across South Oxfordshire Local Police Area (LPA) by 7% between 2004/5 and

narrow majority to support the application for two houses to go on the site. We hope this brings to an end a long and very divisive chapter in North Moreton's recent history. Mary Greene managed very effectively to persuade her fellow District Councillors to support the application against advice from the Officers, and we hope that the Parish Council input helped as well.

A proviso for granting the application was for the applicant to agree with North Moreton Charitable Trust (NMCT) and NMPC to do some environmentally enhancing work on the Farmoor Allotment which adjoins the AJM site. The Allotment is currently not being used, and NMPC/NMCT consider that there is an opportunity to gain some modest benefit for the village which should not be missed. NMCT is currently considering exactly what should be done.

Recreation Ground

We are delighted to see that the new goalposts provided by the Recreation Committee and recently installed on the Croft seem to be proving very popular.

Trees

It is perhaps worth a reminder that residents need approval from the District Council to cut down any trees located in the North Moreton Conservation Area.

Roger Haycock, Chairman

North Moreton Fête

At 2.00 p.m. prompt, Alex Forrest from Central News opened this event and with the weather holding fine it soon became one of the best fêtes ever. Masterminded by Nora Haycock and her committee, there were many interesting stalls and fun things to do. Lined up for all to see was a fascinating array of vintage cars and motorcycles and a fire engine to be marvelled at by the youngsters.

A dedicated children's corner with games and craft activities was a great success alongside a bouncy castle! Pets were not left out as they had a chance to shine in a fun pet show. Tea and ice cream at the pavilion were available throughout the afternoon for those who needed refreshment and the Bear served beer and food for those wanting something more substantial.

Many bought raffle tickets ahead of the day and yet the raffle operators were kept busy throughout the afternoon. The raffle made a record £1,951 and the fete overall made a record £4,684! A great result for which the Parochial Church Council want to express their immense gratitude and wish to thank Nora Haycock and her committee, namely Trevor Denning, Heather Skevington, Mavis Crickmore, Claire Steen, Kathy Tebworth, Alison Esse and Mary Greene; the sponsors; the stall holders and organiser and everyone who gave so generously on the day.

Patrick Greene, Churchwarden

Moreton Cricket Club

With the season well under way and sadly a quick exit from the National Village Championship, we are looking forward to the next 'big' social event which is The President's match which takes place on 6th August. This will be followed by a Pig Roast on The Croft to which all are invited - details will follow later. We also have two 'Club matches' in which all volunteers are welcome; they will be held on the 4th June and the 27th July, again look out for details. As last year, a Race Night will be held later in the year.

North Moreton Village Hall

Many thanks to all who braved an extremely inclement morning to support the Tabletop Sale and Coffee Morning held on the 18th March when we raised over £100 for hall funds. Particular thanks to those who took tables and helped set up and clear up the hall.

Over the weekend of 17/18 June - weather permitting - we hope to treat the exterior of the building with preservative and repaint the doors and windows. If anyone is able to spare an hour or two to help or could loan suitable spraying equipment, it would be much appreciated. Please contact Gar Evans on 813858 or turn up on the day.

Our next fundraising event will be the Salmon Lunch which will be held in the garden at Peckwater on Sunday 2nd July, 12.30 for 1 p.m. The format will be the same as last year: a three course lunch with a welcome drink - an alternative main course will be available by prior arrangement and a Licensed Bar will be available. Tickets are £10 and can be obtained

from Nora Haycock (812202) or Trevor Denning (812968) - numbers are limited so book early to avoid disappointment!

South and North Moreton Women's Institute

The committee for the on-coming year was elected at the March meeting, Liz Elliot being re-elected as President. An interesting and varied programme of meetings was planned, starting in April with Polly Vacher's talk "Wings around the World - Voyage to the Ice", which proved very popular.

The annual National Resolutions, 'Renewable Energy' and 'Sport for a Healthy Lifestyle', were discussed at the May meeting, whilst in June there will be a flower demonstration, with the chance to join in and have a try. The July meeting will be held in the garden at 'Thornlea', South Moreton. A fine evening is on order!

Meetings are held at the WI Barn, South Moreton on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and new members are always welcomed.

Penny Busby

Moreton Table Tennis Club

The 2005/6 Didcot & District season has been another successful one: our A team has retained its newly-won Division 1 status, our B team has gained promotion as champions of Division 3, and the D team similarly in Division 4. We won the Bidmead Cup beating Grove in the final. Other honours include Division 1 champion, best player in Division 3, DDTTA Junior Champion and high county rankings for some of our juniors. We have also introduced table tennis to a number of adults and children who have enjoyed the experience and improved their standard of play. Our venue at South Moreton School, which accommodates 5 tables, has been used by the Didcot League, Oxford County and SODC for championships and coaching courses.

In the district, MTTC is second only to Abingdon in terms of membership and number of league teams. We want to continue to grow at all levels, both for competitive play and social enjoyment. On Wednesdays during the summer we are offering junior coaching from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. in co-operation with SMS, and from 7.30 p.m. open