

Dates for your Diary

OCTOBER

- 3 Harvest Festival at South Moreton School 1.30 pm
- 4 North Moreton Toddler Group, Village Hall 9.30 - 11.30 am
(weekly thereafter)
- 6 Jumble Sale at South Moreton School 2 pm
- 10 W.I. meeting, North Moreton Village Hall 7.30 pm
- 19 Halloween Disco South Moreton School

NOVEMBER

- 10 Soup Lunch & Charity Card Sale, Village Hall 12.00 - 2.30 pm
- 12 Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 8.00 pm All welcome
- 14 W.I. Meeting, North Moreton Village Hall 7.30 pm
- 17 South Moreton School Children's Festive Fun afternoon
- 17 St James Singers Concert, All Saints' Church 7.30 pm
- 17 Race Night at The Bear at Home
- 24 South Moreton School Quiz Night

DECEMBER

- 12 W.I. Meeting, North Moreton Village Hall 7.30 pm

North Moreton Parish Council

Parish Clerk Required

Duties average 3 hours per week - Salary paid

For more information contact

Roger Haycock - NMPC Chairman on 812202

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North Moreton News

Issue 78

October 2007

Since 2001 the beautiful garden at 'Filberts' has been opened in July for charity as part of the National Gardens Scheme. On 15th June 2008 they will again be opening but this time they will be joining with other gardens to form a village group. As a new listing in the famous 'yellow book', this should attract a lot of interest.

Most villagers will be aware that the tower and parapet of All Saints' Church need extensive (and expensive!) repairs: and most of us, even if not regular church-goers, use the church for special family occasions - or simply value it as an important and historic part of our village. The Open Gardens day will give us all an opportunity to help raise funds for its restoration.

Whilst the garden entrance money will go to the charities supported by the NGS, we will be able to retain the bulk of any 'value added' events - but we need ideas and volunteers!

In addition to teas and plant sales, we are hoping to hold a photographic exhibition in the Church and a craft and produce market on the Croft or in one of the gardens. Home-made jams, jellies and chutney all sell well and it's a great way to use up those surplus apples and tomatoes.

If you have any suggestions or can help with promoting the event, we would love to hear from you - contact Nora or Roger Haycock on 812202. In the meantime, mark the date (Sunday 15th June) in your diary and spread the word among your friends!

For more information on the National Garden Scheme and the charities they support, visit their website www.ngs.org.uk.

North Moreton Parish Council

Vandalism

The Recreation Ground and Playground have again been subject to vandalism over the past few months with fences being broken and needing expensive repairs. The 'Recreation Committee' are thanked for their help in organising and financing the repair work.

Thanks are also particularly due to Jonathan Slade who was public-spirited enough to apprehend some trouble-makers, follow them to South Moreton, and file a report with the police. We are most grateful to him. The police have made some follow-up enquiries, but at the time of writing have not been able to clearly identify the culprits.

All parishioners are urged to be vigilant, and report problems – or even potential problems – to the police or the PC. It would be very helpful if anyone could get a photograph of troublemakers.

Parish Clerk

The Parish Council is without a Clerk, since the departure of Janet Bullard, who is warmly thanked for her efforts over the past two years.

We would prefer to find a local recruit if possible, and anyone wishing to find out more about the job and payment terms should contact Roger Haycock (Peckwater, 812202). The nominal time required is about three hours/week. To fill the void, Sue Harrison has been appointed Responsible Financial Officer and Roger Haycock will be acting Clerk.

Travellers

There was concern recently that the Travellers who had been removed from the site on Hadden Hill had been seen again in the district. A few days later, a mobile home was sighted parked without the owner's permission in a local field. The

Community Support Officer

Thames Valley Police have appointed a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), Thomas Mynehan, to work alongside our beat officer, PC Susan (Pip) Walker. He is based at Wallingford and has special responsibility for North & South Moreton along with six other nearby villages.

Tom attended the last Parish Council Meeting when he was informed about the recent vandalism on the Croft and residents' concerns about speeding in the village.

He will patrol the village as often as possible, either on foot or bicycle and would appreciate hearing any concerns you may have.

He can be contacted on 0845 8 505 505 or thomas.mynehan@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

Useful Information

Beat Officer: WPC Susan (Pip) Walker - 0845 8505505

PCSO: Thomas Myneham - 0845 8505505

Crime Stoppers: 0800 555 111

Acting Parish Clerk: Roger Haycock - 812202

Parish Council Chairman: Roger Haycock - 812202

Village Hall Bookings: Anne Silvester, 17 Bear Lane - 811646

Concessionary Travel Tokens: SODC - 01491 832000

Mobile Library: Bus Shelter - alternate Wednesdays, 10 - 10.15

Refuse & Recycling Collections: Thursdays

Garden Waste Collection: alternate Thursdays

Postal Services: The Village Hall, Brightwell - Wednesdays & Fridays 9.30 - 12.

Back from a Foreign break ?

...if so, did you know that any currency (coins and notes) that you have left over could be used by Help the Aged to fund disadvantaged older peoples' services?

They work with a currency specialist, Coin Co International, who collects the currency and then for a fee, ships it back to its country of origin or smelts down currency no longer in circulation. The charity receives funds from this activity.

Research has shown that there is approximately £100 million worth of currency lying around in homes, so why not have a look down the back of your sofa or in old drawers and transform any currency found into a donation as well?

Your small change really could make a huge difference to older people.

For more information, contact the Recycling Hotline 0870 7700 446 or take your coins and notes to your local Help the Aged shop.

ST PETER'S NURSERY & FARM SHOP

Bear Lane North Moreton

Open 10 am - 4 pm Tuesday - Sunday & Bank Holidays

Pop in for Autumn planting ideas, Bedding, Bulbs, Baskets plus Mature trees, Cottage garden perennials, Shrubs, Bamboos & Climbers.

And whilst you're here visit our Farm Shop for Gift Ideas, Fantastic Planters & Pots, Garden Furniture and of course Beef straight from the Farm

Come in and see us or call Jon & Annetta on
01235 511348 or 07850 040311/07855 951388

landowner was promptly alerted and the mobile home has moved. Thanks are again due to those who have kept their eyes and ears open, as it is easier to prevent problems than solve them in retrospect.

Rural Transport Survey

North Moreton Parish Council is taking part this month in a Public Transport survey being run by Oxfordshire Rural Community Council (ORCC). The timing is appropriate because the County Council will shortly be considering bus schedules and subsidies for the next four years. We are well aware that our current bus service is far from ideal, but it is difficult to argue for a better service if very few people are using the one we've got.

ORCC have prepared a pro-forma questionnaire, but in our view it doesn't ask very helpful questions and we shall be making some additions and modifications. In particular, we want to try and find out what in the way of improved service - if anything - will persuade people to use public transport. NMPC urges you to fill out the questionnaire as fully and as honestly as possible, even if you have no interest at all in using public transport, as good data will give us good arguments. You'll hear shortly from Roger Templeman.

Roger Haycock, Chairman

Bus Passes

If you are eligible for a Bus Pass but don't feel that you will use it enough locally, now is the time to think again.....

From April 2008, a new national scheme will replace current local schemes and entitle anyone who is over 60 or disabled to enjoy free off-peak travel anywhere in England (excluding long distance services such as National Express). For further information call 01491 823413 or visit www.southoxon.gov.uk/buspass.

North Moreton Village Hall

Many thanks to everyone who supported the book sale on 8th September when we raised a magnificent £313 for Hall funds. These sales are proving very popular and we are now attracting buyers from a wide area and being offered a good selection of books, both fiction and non-fiction. We are very grateful for all the hard work put in by Kate and Gar Evans - collecting, sorting and advertising. The next sale will be at the end of January – watch this space for the exact date.

Our next event will be the popular Charity Card Sale and Soup Lunch to be held in the Hall on Saturday 10th November from 12 noon to 2.30 p.m. Come along and choose your Charity Christmas cards without having to worry about parking meters, and as usual, there will be a selection of delicious home-made soups on sale.

We are delighted that Alison Sanders has joined the Management Committee but we would still welcome more members, particularly someone to represent younger residents. If you would like to know what's involved, do give Nora a call on 812202.

The Christmas Party season will soon be upon us! The Hall is an excellent party venue for all ages: and don't forget that we have tables, chairs and crockery for hire – contact Ann Silvester on 811646 for availability and charges.

Nora Haycock, Chairman VHMC

The Village Hall is short of one folding table and twelve green stacking chairs - the latter have gradually disappeared over a couple of years.

Would you please check that you don't have one or two tucked away in a dark corner of your garden shed!!!!

Recycling

A reminder that the deadline for completing SODC's questionnaire on recycling has been extended to Friday 5th October - so if you haven't already done so, visit www.southoxon.gov.uk/haveyoursay today and have your say! You will also find online a list of what can and cannot be put into the green recycling box.

Obviously there are many opportunities for recycling clothes, accessories, books, toys and small household items but other items can be more difficult.

Old spectacles are welcomed by Vision Aid Overseas and can be left at any Vision Express or Specsaver store - there is a Specsaver store in the Orchard Centre at Didcot.

Many used printer cartridges are worth £1 each to charities. Call 0800 435 576 or email disabilitybags@inkagain.co.uk for a Freepost envelope which will benefit the Downs Syndrome Association, Headway, Parkinson's Disease Society and Action for blind people.

The Sue Ryder Hospice at Nettlebed welcomes most saleable items including sports equipment, fabrics, curtains and furniture for their regular sales. Items should be delivered between 9 a.m and 12.30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. They are not able to collect but the Wallingford Sue Ryder shop runs a collection service for larger items of furniture which covers North Moreton. Ring 01491 825714 for collection.

Items can also be recycled via Freecycle: visit www.freecycle.org for more information.

Finally, for clothes and small items, don't forget the Jumble Sale at South Moreton School on Saturday 6th October, and for books, the regular book sales in the Village Hall - ring Gar Evans on 813858 for collection.

Neighbourhood Watch

Derrick Stevens is standing down as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Elm Road after nearly 15 years in this role and we would like to extend our thanks to him for all his efforts during this period. If anyone would like to take over responsibility for Elm Road - or any other area in the village - they should contact Carol Rudd, Regional Watch Administrator on 01235 556937.

Ringmaster messages and items of possible concern to residents will continue to be circulated to everyone on the village email list: if you would like to have your address added to or removed from this particular circulation list, please let me know (nora.haycock@btinternet.com) and obviously it would be good if you could pass on relevant information to neighbours who are not on email.

Nora Haycock NW Coordinator

North Moreton Toddler Group.....

meet every Thursday from 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. in North Moreton Village Hall. Do come along for a coffee and a chat whilst the little ones let off some steam! £2.00 per session - includes tea/coffee/biscuits.

Charity Christmas Card Sale
Saturday 10th November
12 noon - 2.30 p.m.
North Moreton Village Hall
Selection of delicious
Home-made Soups on Sale

Moreton Cricket Club

The season has just drawn to a close and I think we can count it as a good season with plenty of games played and many players turning out for the club despite the wettest summer for some time.

We are now looking forward to next season which will be the 150th anniversary of the club. One of the highlights will be a match against the 'other' MCC from Lord's which will take place on 'The Rec' and various other events will be arranged to celebrate our birthday. In the meantime we wish a speedy recovery to our President, Gerald Howat, who is presently in hospital recovering from a stroke but will hopefully be joining us in the not too distant future.

For your calendars, the annual Race Night will take place on the 17th November in The Bear. There are a limited number of places so make sure you book in time - it's always a great night!

Trevor Denning, Chairman MCC

Wings around Britain

Those who read about Polly Vacher's epic venture in the June issue of *North Moreton News*, may like to hear that, despite the horrendous weather conditions & floods during the early part of the summer, she successfully completed her schedule by the deadline of 31st July.

She visited 216 airfields including Heathrow and Gatwick, sold out of the first print run of her book *Wings around the World* and raised over £30,000 for Flying Scholarships for the Disabled. Well done Polly!

South and North Moreton Women's Institute

The garden meeting at the home of Pat Storch and the summer outing seem distant happy memories as we move into the Autumn part of our programme.

The September meeting at North Moreton Village Hall was on the History of the Kings African Rifles. Mr Mark Thomas gave us a fascinating talk about how he came to be interested in this subject, with anecdotes about the time he spent in Africa with this regiment. The map he brought to aid his talk enabled us to see not only the countries of Eastern Africa that he referred to, but also to realise how many changes have happened in this vast area of Africa.

The next meeting on 10th October, is a bring and share Harvest Supper. We will be entertained in November by 'Pandemonium' a folk and Ceilidh band, whilst the December meeting will be a talk on British Wildlife.

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at North Moreton Village Hall and are pleased to welcome new members. Please contact Judy Hollings on 814137 or Sandra Monk on 812721 for further details.

Penny Busby

Gala Concert by the St James Singers

All Saints Church, North Moreton will be hosting a **Gala Concert** by the St James Singers on Saturday 17th November at 7.30 p.m. This is a fundraising event to help with the restoration work on the tower with a ticket price of £10 per person. There will be free light refreshments and a glass of wine during the interval. With the new church heating in place it is hoped to fill the church for an excellent evening of entertainment.

The programme will be titled 'Aspects of Song' – A cappella music and readings encompassing some 400 years of English, Welsh and Scottish song, interspersed with poetry and prose from some of the greatest writers of history. The programme will celebrate some of this year's famous anniversaries; the birth of Thomas Morley and Charles Wesley and the Act of Union, plus crossing the Atlantic to commemorate the abolition of slavery.

Please note this event and date in your diary to avoid disappointment, as tickets will be limited to the seating capacity of the church.

Tickets available from Patrick Greene 813396 & Sue White 812102.

Patrick Greene, Churchwarden

Moreton Table Tennis Club

For the 2007/8 season Moreton Table Tennis Club has entered 6 teams in the Didcot & District Table Tennis League, one each in Divisions 1, 2, 4 & 5, and two in Division 3. The league players' ages range from 11 to over 70 years, with even younger ones playing for fun. The home venue is South Moreton School which is hired on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings for matches, practice, coaching and social play: times vary each week depending on league commitments: anyone interested in playing on any basis should contact Roger Templeman (cd2rom@aol.com). Prior to the league starting, the Oxfordshire Table Tennis Association staged its junior (under 18) ranking event at South Moreton School: Moreton players were ranked 1st in the Boys' section and 2nd in the Girls'.

The Club would be grateful to receive Tesco Sport vouchers from anyone who is not collecting them for other purposes.

Roger Templeman