

Useful Information

Beat Officer: - PC Steph Bromwich 0845 8505 505
PCSO: Emma Wilkes 0845 8505 505
 Email: WallingfordAreaNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
Crime Stoppers: 0800 555 111
Parish Clerk: Andrew Wise 01235 511427
Parish Council Chairman: Roger Haycock - 812202
SODC Councillor: Leo Docherty 07908 686 706
OCC Councillor: Patrick Greene 07899 878 344
Parish Transport Representative: Ros Templeman 07969349831
Village Hall Bookings: Heather@skevington.org (818231)
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator: Nora Haycock - 812202
Concessionary Travel Tokens: 0345 3022313
Mobile Library: Wk 2 Wednesdays: Bus Shelter 10 - 10.15
Postal Services: The Village Hall, Brightwell:
 Monday - Friday 9.30 - 12.30. 01491 834728
Citizens' Advice Line: 08444 111 444
Refuse & Recycling Collections: alternate Thursdays
Garden Waste Collection: alternate Thursdays with recycling
Black Bin dates: 9/23 June, 7/21 July, 4/18 August
Green & Garden Bins: 3/16/30 June, 14/28 July, 11/25 August
Please note change of collection days in June

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY HAVE MOVED TO PREVIOUS PAGE

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Printed by the Churn Benefice

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

*North Moreton News is published four times a year & can also be read on line at
www.North-Moreton.com*

North Moreton News

Issue 93

June 2011

North Moreton 100 years ago

The 2011 Census will show that there are about 330 people living in the parish of North Moreton, in about 130 households. Only a handful of us still work on the land: many of us commute daily to jobs involving offices, computers and teams of colleagues from near and far.

Life was very different in 1911. The newly-released Census returns for that year, taken with Gerald Howat's writings, present a picture of an impoverished agricultural village.

There were fewer people and only half as many households: 260 people in 65 households. Four families had seven or more children living with their parents. The village still had seven farms and four pubs. One (and only one) commuter had arrived, bringing with him the village's first motor car. As far as I can tell, all of the other jobs were either in the village or within easy walking or cycling distance.

At least two villagers worked for the Great Western Railway. Almost everybody else worked on the land or in the trades needed to sustain an agricultural community. There was a blacksmith, a miller and a thatcher; and in addition to 21 farm labourers there were cowmen, shepherds, carters, horsemen and hay binders. Life was tough, but perhaps especially for the elderly. The oldest resident was 95 years old. The first old age pension – a means-tested five shillings a week for those aged over 70 – had been introduced in 1909; but many people kept on working, on the land and elsewhere, well into their 70s and beyond. Martha Wing, the village sub-postmistress, was 72 in 1911 and continued to work a 12-hour day until she died at the age of 86.

In June 1911, two months after the Census, came the Coronation of King George V. There was a grand celebration, but one villager disgraced himself by drinking too much and pelting the tug-of-war team with oranges.

As recorded by Gerald Howat, let the last word be with Bud Finch:

“Well, there we were – a quiet little village of farming folk, people working on the railway and one commuter. Then came the war in August 1914”.

Nick Sanders

Would you believe that Nick recently bought a copy of Bud Finch Remembers from a bookshop in Santa Fe, New Mexico.....!

North Moreton Parish Council

Elections.

In a contested election, Sue Harrison, Roger Haycock, Ian Shipton, David Tebworth and Ros Templeman were elected to serve a four year term. David Tebworth is welcomed as the new recruit to the Parish Council. Roger Haycock was re-elected as Chairman, and Ros Templeman elected as vice-Chairman.

Special responsibilities.

Each of the councillors has some special areas of interest:

Sue Harrison: financial control and waste collection issues.

Roger Haycock: liaison with Recreation Ground Warden and Moreton Cricket Club, NM Emergency Plan and flooding issues.

Ian Shipton: health and safety issues, especially Recreation Ground.

David Tebworth: external affairs, particularly Didcot expansion issues.

Ros Templeman: highways and public transport, including being Parish Transport Representative.

Keith Hutchence.

Keith Hutchence leaves the Council having served since 1995, for essentially all that time as Chairman or vice-Chairman. His many efforts are greatly appreciated and his wise counsel will be sadly missed. For all that time Keith has played an active part in all aspects of the Parish's and Council's life. In particular he has spent huge amounts of time trying (generally successfully) to protect the interests of the village and villagers against housing encroachment from Didcot expansion, initially as part of the "West is Best" campaign, and recently in the current efforts by the Didcot Ring of Parishes (DROP) to challenge the SODC's Core Strategy, which NMPC (and the other village parish councils) thinks is seriously flawed. Keith will be a hard act for his successor to follow.

Roger Haycock, Chairman NMPC

Dates for your Diary including Forthcoming Events

JUNE

- 1 /15/29 Mobile Library
- 8 WI Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 16 Ladies Day at the Bear

JULY

- 2 Pig Roast and Air Pageant, Melhuish Farm 12 - 4pm
- 4 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm
- 13 WI Garden Meeting 7.30pm
- 13/27 Mobile Library
- 28 - 31 Beer & Cricket Weekend, MCC & The Bear at Home

AUGUST

- 10 WI Summer Outing
- 10/24 Mobile Library
- 20 Copy due for September issue of North Moreton News!

SEPTEMBER

- 7/21 Mobile Library
- 12 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm
- 14 WI Meeting, Village Hall 7.30pm
- 24 Happy's Circus visits South Moreton School 2pm

Don't forget that to avoid double-booking you can check and register your preferred date on the Events Calendar on North-Moreton.com !

Wallingford Parish Choir

Wallingford Parish Church Choir who, under their director Dr. Sue Ledger sing at St Mary le More and St Leonard's churches, last year beat competition from across the UK to be picked by Universal Music as Britain's favourite parish choir.

Their prize was to record *The Hymns Album* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra; this was released on 18th April and rose to 2nd place in the ClassicFM Classical Artists Album chart as well as to number 39 in the pop charts based on CD sales. They also performed for ClassicFM in the Royal Albert Hall and may be asked by Decca Records to record another two albums.

The choir, which has 33 adults and 19 juniors with ages ranging from six to over 70, also regularly appear as the fictional choir in the TV drama *Midsomer Murders*.

Oxfordsharecarshare.com

Concerned about rising fuel prices? Looking for a way to lessen their impact on you? Well, we have the answer: Oxford Car Share.

The scheme provides a free service for you to find others to share your journeys with, cutting your travel costs in half or by even more.

The scheme is available to anyone living, working or travelling in or through Oxfordshire. Registration is completely free, and there are no obligations involved in using the service. You can choose whom you wish to share with from the matches generated for you; how often you wish to share, whether you wish to be the driver or the passenger, or to alternate.

It really is entirely up to you and you don't even need to own a car to use the site - just register as a passenger. Register today at www.oxfordsharecarshare.com.

Patrick Greene

As long-term residents of North Moreton will know, Patrick and Mary Greene have lived in the village since 1964 and have both contributed hugely to Church and community events.

In 1995, as well as becoming Church Warden, Patrick was elected to South Oxfordshire District Council to represent the Hagbourne Ward, and in 2001 to Oxfordshire County Council.

In May this year he stood down from the District Council and I am sure that we would all like to thank him for his hard work on our behalf in this role and wish his successor, Leo Docherty from South Moreton, well.

Patrick served as Chairman of the District Council in 2005/06 and this year sees him become Chairman of the County Council. We hope that he enjoys his year as ambassador for Oxfordshire and its Council.

North Moreton Village Hall

The Book Sale held at the end of March was, as always, well attended and made over £860 - £500 of which was placed in the hall contingency fund and the rest donated to the Tower Fund. As ever, huge thanks to Kate and Gar and their team - all things being equal there will be another sale in October.....

The overhead lights in the main hall have been replaced with new more efficient units and the wiring is in place for the wall lights. Now comes the tricky bit - choosing the lights themselves..... Hopefully we will have found some that we all agree on before the evenings start to draw in!

A small 'housekeeping' plea: would all users please ensure that anything edible is left in tins or plastic boxes. The mice in North Moreton are very partial to biscuits etc but we would prefer that they find their treats elsewhere.

Nora Haycock, Chairman VHMC

Moreton Cricket Club

The season is well under way now with many matches having been played and won! We have progressed to the semi final of the Berks/Surrey Group of the National Village Championship, the next match being played on the 29th May. We are fast approaching the Cricket and Beer festival weekend so watch out for further details of that; it promises to be another excellent few days with games and the 6 a side competition being played over a four day period. There could be nothing better than watching some exciting cricket whilst supping some of Tim's many beers – we look forward to seeing you there.

If you want to win a cricket bat for a mere £1 then visit The Bear where you will find the entry form. The draw will be made during the festival weekend.

Trevor Denning, President MCC

Kids' Cricket Coaching

Rowan (our qualified/ accredited coach) is running coaching sessions for youngsters as follows:-

Dates: Sunday mornings as follows:-

May 22, June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24

Time: 10.30am-12

Meet on The Rec by the Cricket Pavilion

Age Range: 8-15 years

Cost- £4 / session- pay on the day OR

Free for Moreton CC Members.....

Junior membership costs £25.

Please email Tim Howarth (tim@bear-at-home.co.uk) for a membership form, and you can pay direct into MCC account

Bring....Sports kit with trainers, cricket kit if you have it, but gear will be available. Drink, hat and sun-cream.

Wheelie Bin Collections

Do you know that if you register your mobile with South Oxfordshire District Council you can receive a text message to remind you of changes to collection days due to Bank Holidays or adverse weather conditions?

Just text 'waste' and your normal collection day to 07797 870 370 and you will be sent a reminder the day before your collection.

The collection due on Thursday 2nd June will take place on Friday 3rd (green & brown bins) and the one due on Thursday 1st September will take place on Friday 2nd (grey bins). Please note that these collections will start at 6 a.m. on these dates so unless you're an early riser you will need to put them out the night before!

Wheelie Bin Cleaning by GreenCleen Ltd

Most of you will have had a green label attached to one of your bins during the past few weeks. Chris and Jacqui Gibson who are residents of Bear Lane have taken on the Wheelie Bin Cleaning franchise for South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse and are offering a cleaning service once every four weeks i.e. 13 times per year.

The cleaning process is carried out on the rear of a specially converted vehicle with the use of two high-powered rotating nozzles. All bins are washed inside and out and deoderised to leave your bin smelling clean and fresh. All the water used is recycled and refiltered on board leaving absolutely no mess.

The normal price for 13 washes, if paid in advance is £45 per bin (£3.46 per wash), however, as a special offer to the residents of North Moreton, Chris & Jacqui are reducing this to £39 per bin if paid in advance (£3.00 per wash) and they'll also clean your food caddie for free. This offer lasts for the duration of June, so if you're interested, either call Chris on 01235 519522 or email south-oxon@greencleen.co.uk.

Neighbourhood Watch

PCSOs Claire Beale and Taqwa Galpin will both shortly be taking maternity leave (must be something in the air...) and will be replaced by Emma Wilkes who writes.....

“I would like to introduce myself as the new Police Community Support Officer for North Moreton. Having spent the past four years working in Oxford City Centre I am looking forward to getting to know the area and of course the community within it. If you have any queries for me then please feel free to email me at emma.wilkes@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk, or you can phone my work mobile number 07800 702188 which will be answered if I am on duty. If you wish to have a prompt response then please call 08458 505 505 which is the non emergency number for Thames Valley Police, and a message can be left for me using my shoulder number C9976.

We also provide a free service called Community Messaging which provides information to subscribers about crime and police activity in their area via phone or email. It also includes information on what we and our partner services are doing to bring offenders to justice or combat anti-social behaviour. More information can be obtained via our website, and you can sign up at the following:
<http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx>

We look forward to meeting Emma in due course. Ed.

Black & White Masked Safari Supper

5th March seems a long time ago now but you may like to know that, in addition to being a great night out, the Safari Supper raised the magnificent sum of £1453.50 which was divided between the Tower Fund and the Air Ambulance. A big thank you to Libby Macdonald and her team and to everyone who took part - and we look forward to the next one.

An additional £138 was raised for the Air Ambulance by a ‘bucket run’ through The Bear organized by Drew Morris.

Progress on the Tower Project at All Saints’ Church

The report given to the Annual Parochial Meeting in March gave a fuller summary of the progress and plans. The PCC and the Rector have done a lot of work behind the scenes and at last there is something to show for it. The tower is now shrouded on a framework of scaffolding. The replacement, repair and repointing of the stonework is in progress. Over the summer months you should see a restored parapet and repairs to the walls, mullions and louvers of the tower.

We have been generously supported by various grant-giving organisations who have asked us to arrange some publicity in appreciation of this. But above all we value village support. It is your generosity and evident commitment that has impressed English Heritage. It has encouraged them to offer us a further maximum grant of 80% of the cost of a major improvement in the protection of the church against the elements. This particularly applies to the 14th Century Chantry Chapel, which earned All Saints a place in Simon Jenkins ‘The Thousand Best Churches of England’. During this summer much investigation will be done to confirm the causes of the visible damp in Chapel, Chancel and Nave and to assess the need for new timbers, lead roof covering, and rainwater disposal arrangements. If we can raise the balance of the funds needed the work will be done in 2012.

We offer our apologies to our bell ringers and hope they will have access again before too long. We much regret that we have to keep the church locked over this period of about three months, though Sunday services will be held as usual. A notice on the church door will give information on access to the key.

The PCC will be happy to give further information. Sue White has much of the detail, and will be keeping in regular contact with the architect, Simon Shew, and the contractors.

South and North Moreton Women's Institute

Sue Harrison was unanimously re-elected President at the AGM in March. Sonia de Haviland gave a very interesting talk on Alternative Therapies at April's meeting. After a short demonstration, members were given the chance to practise a hand massage on each other, which was great fun. The two resolutions for this year's National Federation campaign were discussed at May's meeting. The first, against proposals for mega farming and the second against the closure of local libraries, produced lots of interesting discussion. The newly formed Theatre Group went to Oxford to watch Matthew Bourne's version of the ballet "Cinderella". All those who went agreed that it was a brilliant production and look forward to our next theatre trip.

In June we are holding a special evening entitled "Wines for Summer Drinking". The speaker, Mrs. Valerie Calderbank has visited us before and it is bound to be a very lively evening. We would be pleased to welcome visitors and new members to this and any of our meetings. There is a garden meeting in July and we are in the process of planning the summer outing to take place in August. Most meetings are held at North Moreton Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month. Please contact Sue Harrison on 817042 or Liz Elliot on 82562 if you would like to come along and join us.

Penny Busby

Next issue of North Moreton News

Contributors please note that the next issue of North Moreton News will be published on **1st September** and not 1st October as in previous years.

Copy should be received by **20th August**.

South Moreton School News

Hopefully you will have received a letter recently informing you about a very exciting project that South Moreton School are developing. We have an area in the school grounds that is currently used for storage and we are planning to clear it and create an exciting community outdoor learning area. A very active community group have been busy developing a number of creative ideas to involve as many people as possible in the project. Thank you for the generous offers of help and ideas.

Look out for flyers about the forthcoming open day on Saturday 4th June celebrating the new fitness centre at the boxing club in South Moreton. The club have very kindly said they will donate proceeds to the school. The event will run all day from 10am- 4pm. There will be a fire engine on display as well as a chance to bid for a ride in a helicopter. The club will have posture and yoga demonstrations and much more! Do come along if you can.

Another date for your diary is September 24th when the circus comes to South Moreton! There are no animals in the circus but there are many performing artists. Do look out for flyers nearer the time.

Did you know that South Moreton School is a member of a federation of village schools and they in turn are all members of the Didcot partnership of schools? Throughout the year there are many links made between the schools for example numerous cross school events including: a sports day, netball, cricket, rugby and football tournaments as well as athletics events, cross country, country dancing, picnics, art, writing, problem solving and music activities for different age groups. In addition Years 5 and 6 benefit from visits to the two local secondary schools in Didcot. All these activities give the opportunity for children of all ages to meet and work with others to experience inspiring learning opportunities.

Susan Gopall, Head Teacher

Sm-ARTy Kids

Sm-Arty Kids has launched lively art & craft classes in Wallingford and Didcot for under 5s. Sm-Arty Kids has been started by Susannah Stobart from North Moreton, who as a mum herself has identified a real need for genuinely innovative and varied art & craft classes locally. Sessions will allow children to explore creativity, express themselves and have fun with their adult carer. Not forgetting that the classes allow the adults to keep the mess of creativity out of their homes! All of the classes will be themed and are designed to have a positive effect on creativity, imagination, fine motor skills, the child's thought process and much more. The programme of classes will introduce a wide range of tools, materials and themes. At the end of each class children will have at least one finished product to admire. Susannah genuinely wants to tailor the sessions to the ages and interests of the children attending so pop along and get involved.

Regular Term-time Classes:

Mondays, 10-11am at Centre 70, Wallingford

Tuesdays, 10-11am at Ladygrove Community Centre, Tamar Way, Didcot

Wednesdays, 10-11am at Centre 70, Wallingford

(Please contact Susannah at Sm-Arty Kids about classes during school holidays)

Cost per session will be £6 on the door or £5 per session if paid termly.

For further details contact Susannah on 07792 470830 or email smartykids@hotmail.co.uk

The Porch Coffee Morning

North Moreton PCC would like to thank everyone for their support and generous donations of food and clothing for The Porch.

The Coffee Morning raised £207 which includes a donation of £31 from the Lent Lunches.

Liz Elliot

North Moreton Toddler Group

meets in North Moreton Village Hall, from **10am - 12 noon on Thursday** (term time only).

The session is **£2.00** per family. This includes

- tea and coffee and biscuits for you,
- a healthy snack for the children and general play,
- weekly art/craft activity and a sing-along.

Babies, toddlers and pre-school children are welcome.

Sessions will take place on Thursdays between **6th June to 22nd July** when we break up for the summer holidays.

For more information, please contact Cath Pagnillo 07984611007 cpagnillo@btinternet.com.

HAPPY'S CIRCUS is coming to town, courtesy of South Moreton Primary school.

Date: **Saturday 24th Sept**

Time: 2 pm

Venue: **South Moreton Primary School,**
High Street, South Moreton

If you would like to secure your place at this fabulous family event contact:

Sharon Clark on 07711 519586 or email the school at office.2566@south-moreton.oxon.sch.uk

for tickets.

Single ticket £7

Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) £25

The Royal Wedding Celebrations

Mention the prospect of a party to most of the villagers in North Moreton and you can be sure of a good turnout – and so it was on 29th April.

Whilst the guests were assembling in the Abbey to get the best seats in the house, a team of volunteers were erecting tents on the Rec. in preparation for North Moreton's own celebrations. Richard Macfarlane's marquee formed the main structure and, with the addition of two smaller marquees, provided a total seating capacity of just over 120.

After the warm up act in Westminster Abbey, 26 village children sat down at a colourful table with personal balloons attached to their chairs to enjoy a delicious traditional tea coordinated by Mills Masters. Afterwards children's games were organised by Debs & Gordon Caporn and a good time was had by all! Every child who attended received a commemorative mug.

Meantime, Rob Nickless was up with the lark slowly roasting the pig for the evening celebration and Katie and Nora were busily chopping and mixing salads for the 120 attendees whilst keeping an eye on events in the Abbey.

The Bear provided a satellite bar beside the tents and a variety of delicious desserts were contributed by volunteers; many thanks! The evening concluded with everyone raising a glass of bubbly to the happy couple.

An ad hoc committee had been formed / press-ganged just after Christmas. Meetings were held in the Bear on a regular basis, but despite this, the final result was a great success. Thanks go to Nora Haycock for keeping everybody on the straight and narrow, Katie Miles and Roger Haycock for providing guidance and to Trevor Denning for acting as treasurer and master of ceremonies.

This was not a fundraising event. However, there was a small surplus at the end which will be put towards the purchase of a tent for future village events.

Next year is the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Time for another committee to volunteer.....

David Miles

North Moreton Fete 2011

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the 8th of May a special day not only for me, but also for the numerous attendees who visited The North Moreton Fete. After much hard work it was a thrill to see how volunteers rallied round and made the day go so streamlined. John Jones, Gar Evans and Chris Lewis did much of the hard work before hand, as well as afterwards, sorting tables and chairs and without their hard grafting the day would not have worked.

We had 31 stalls and many of the North Moreton residents committed to rerunning the same stalls and this was a tremendous help; others pitched in to try something new. I also had valuable assistance creating and putting posters up around the area to advertise the event. I do hope the helpers and volunteers were able to revel in how much enjoyment was provided to the crowds.

Mrs. Money Penny and her "cost centres" worked very hard to sell raffle tickets in the lead up to the Fete and with help from Patrick Green on the day, they managed to raise a substantial amount towards the total sum raised of £4000; a big thank you to the McGregor family, in this current financial climate I feel this is an excellent outcome! The PCC, who also helped an enormous amount with the Fete, are very grateful for this as the total made will help towards the basic expenses of running the church. Again I thank you all for a special spring day to remember.

Vickie Squires

Heather & Rowan McGregor would like to thank everyone who donated prizes, or bought tickets, for the raffle. We made approximately £1500 - please can you all start thinking about what you would like to donate for next year as we will be running it again then!!