

# NORTH ASTON

NEWS

May 2018

#331



# NORTH ASTON NEWS

MAY 2018, No: 331

## Useful Contacts

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Lynn Quek, Acting Chairperson

Email: [lsquek@doctors.org.uk](mailto:lsquek@doctors.org.uk)

### North Aston Pet Alert

Please notify of any Firework Parties

Deirdre Oakley: Tel (01869) 340646

Also email: [info@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:info@north-aston.co.uk)

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Website: [www.northastonorganics.co.uk](http://www.northastonorganics.co.uk)

### Hillcrest Care - Park Farm House

Telephone: (01869) 349922

Email: [parkfarm@hillcrestcs.co.uk](mailto:parkfarm@hillcrestcs.co.uk)

### Nicholson Nurseries

Telephone: (01869) 340342

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### North Aston 100 Club

Beverley Rees. (01869) 347434

### Old Bakery Bookings

Mary Healy. Tel (01869) 347702

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### Village Marquee Bookings

Niel Nicholson. Tel (01869) 340342 x202

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### CDC Local Councillor

Bryn Williams, Deddington

Telephone: 07836 271998

Email: [Bryn.Williams@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk](mailto:Bryn.Williams@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk)

**Thames Valley Police non-emergency:** 101

**Out of Hours Doctor:** 111 or 08453 458 995

# The Chairman's Mark

## Minutes

All the current village issues were discussed at our last meeting so please take a few moments to read the Minutes published on pages 5 and 6 of this issue of the News.

## Fête

Preparations for the Fête are now under way and it would be great to have offers of help well in advance. We will also be looking for some top prizes for the raffle, so if you have something to offer (like the odd Ming vase that's just lying around collecting dust) or if you have a good contact with a local business that could offer vouchers etc. please get in touch.

## Speedwatch

Robert and Liz Hite have offered to kick-start the Community Speed Watch again, but it does need a small team to make it viable. If you could offer a couple of hours a month, please let me know.

## Rogation Sunday

I don't normally promote church services but I did want to highlight Rogation Sunday on 13th May. There's no sitting in pews but instead there is a procession around the village, giving thanks for our wonderful community and it's beautiful countryside. Everyone is welcome, whether you are a regular churchgoer or not. It starts by the allotments at 9.30 am. You will be taking part in a tradition that goes back centuries.

Telephone: 01869 347 806

email: [chair@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:chair@north-aston.co.uk)

Mark



The winners of the April Big Draw were:

First Prize (£100): G Short (#52)

Second Prize (£5): V Short (#27)

This month's 100 Club was the last for the 2017-18 season, with a bumper bonus prize of £100 going to Gwen Short. Many congratulations! Amazingly, the second prize went to Val Short. Both have been long-standing supporters of the 100 Club, but we need more members like them if this very worthwhile fund-raiser is to continue. This month every household will receive an envelope inviting them to join (or re-join), so please give it a try!

### A Huge Thankyou ...

... to Norman West, who has managed the 100 Club (and so much else besides) for longer than most of us can remember. He has decided to retire from this duty, and will be handing over the tin of random numbers to his neighbour, Beverley Rees. We are all enormously grateful for everything Norman has done (and continues to do in other capacities) for the village. From now on, though, Bev will be running the Club, and chasing up lapsed members! For further information or to request membership, please phone 347434. Remember ...

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

**Front Cover:** Thanks to motorsport photographer and writer Ian Wagstaff for this excellent all-action shot of a Kingfisher, taken at the end of April. If you'd like to contribute a photo to the News, please send at hi-res to [info@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:info@north-aston.co.uk).

## Announcements

### Deddington Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market will take place on May 25th this month. Battle through the crowds to support our local farmers and growers, including North Aston Organics, who 'stand' at the Market every 4th Saturday of the month.

### North Aston Tennis Club.

Last year keen tennis players in the village were invited to join the *North Aston Tennis Club*, and Chloe Woodhead has very kindly offered to continue this into 2018.

The courts are at Folly Field House, not far from the church. If you would like more information and details on how to join the Club, please email Chloe on [cewoodhead@btinternet.com](mailto:cewoodhead@btinternet.com) or telephone her on 01869 340358.



The next meeting of the North Aston Discussion Group will be held on Thursday May 24th at 7.30 in the Old Bakery.

It will be lead by Paul Honess and will be considering our relationship to animals - their use, welfare, rights and responsibilities.

It should be a very interesting conversation. Everyone is welcome, with shared drinks and nibbles.

Contact Tony Buxton for information on 01869 347767 or by emailing [antony.buxton@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:antony.buxton@conted.ox.ac.uk).



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Tel: (01869) 347702

visit the website at:

[www.northastonorganics.co.uk](http://www.northastonorganics.co.uk)

# May Birthdays

Richard Boss

Linda Brown

Clive Busby Hal Busby

Holly Busby Iris Busby

Sarah Godwin

Oscar Le Clercq

Deirdre Oakley

Matthew Rees

Oscar Taylor

Bianca Waszynska



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.

## ARBOCARE

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# North Aston Nature Notes

## With Stephen Rees

January, February, March, April ... blimey the year is getting on quickly now it seems.

Well, we had a good few days of sunshine in April, and what a difference it made! People seemed to be in a better mood but, more importantly, Nature loved it! Lots of different trees and hedges came into bud and blossom that week, and the Clover came up and opened, the Dandelions were in flower and the Bumblebees - big and small alike - came awake and started feeding in a frenzy of haste.

I was mending a leak on an oil line in a ladies garden out at Wooton when this Bumblebee came up to have a look at what I was doing. Then, on closer inspection, I noticed it wasn't a bee at all, but a Hummingbird Hawk Moth. It was the first one I'd ever seen, right in front of me and not a foot away. It was just hovering there, with its long black pin-like thing on its nose hunting for nectar. It was the same colour as a fox and truly beautiful. I texted Wendy, all excited, only to be deflated by her saying she sees them lots, and they are common, and they like Lavender.



Talking about me old wife, she has just walked in the open door after a bike ride and shown me a photo of a field full of Cowslips. It was the most either of us have ever seen, and it was out in the Cotswolds somewhere, and very pretty.

Anyway, back to local news after that distraction and a cup of tea. We have put this year's bird boxes up now, on and around the village green, so go and see how many you can find. This brings the total on the estate to 65, I think, but I need to check our records because something tells me it might be 68.

The owl box below our summer house has got Jackdaws nesting in it for the second year on the trot, so I don't think I made it the right size for owls. Hey ho, will try a different style next year.

The Little Owls are back at the same spot as last year. Every night one flies out of the same oak tree when Penny and I walk past it. There's a hole in the trunk of said oak, and I'm thinking they may be nesting in it, so I will keep a close eye on it and report more next month.

I saw my first Swallow over our cottage on the morning of Sunday 15th April, and then two more on the Monday, but haven't seen another since. There doesn't seem to be many down over the river at Somerton yet either.

Marcus texted me the other day to say he'd had a wonderful afternoon sat in the garden drinking wine and listening to a Cuckoo calling very close by. Wow, that's amazing! I'm thinking. That's really early, and then I remembered he was out in France. Ha ha! That's cheating and it doesn't count Marcus!

Two things we have read in a magazine are worth commenting on. The first I read in our RSPB mag was a letter from a lady who had seen a Sparrow Hawk flying alongside her car many times, down her village lane, just above the road. I have also seen this a lot of times too, so I read on with interest. It turns out they do this because our cars flush little birds out of the hedgerow as we go by, and the Sparrow Hawks have clocked on to it for an easy meal. Wild birds and animals never cease to amaze me with their intelligence.

The second was an article Wendy read about Shrews. They're savage little devils, and they have to eat their own weight every day and think nothing of eating each other. Flipping heck - even Billy doesn't eat his own weight every day, and he eats me out of house and home!

Well, I'm thinking that's about it for this month. Not much I'm afraid, but hopefully more Swallows will come soon, and maybe more Cuckoos than last year. Enjoy the blossom, and get gardening ready for the Flower & Produce Show later in the year!

Bye for now, Steve, Wendy & Penny

*This month's photos don't relate directly to Steve's text, but were submitted by Annie Savage - thanks Annie!*



There will be a collection this month for the annual *Christian Aid Week*. Envelopes will be distributed with this month's edition of the *News*, and a door-to-door collection will take place during the early evenings of Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th May. Please don't forget, if you're a UK taxpayer, to complete the Gift Aid portion of the envelope, allowing Christian Aid to access an extra 25% from your donation.

If you know you will be away and would still like to make a donation, please leave your envelope at No.3 Somerton Road.

*Many thanks, Vicky Taylor & Annabel Bevan*

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# North Aston Village Forum

Thursday 12th April 2018 ~ Notes

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**Officers present:** Chairman Mark Stay (MS), Treasurer Lisa Honess (LH), Secretary Annie Savage (AS).

**Those present:** Councillors Bryn Williams (BW), Tony Buxton (AB), Tuck Hatzigeorgiou (TH), Marcus Potts (MP), Trudy Busby (TB) Clive Busby (CB), Les Parry (LP), Robert Hite (RH), Sophie Hills (SH), Girls from Park Farm (CH, LB, SB), Emma Sale, Mary Healy (MH), Jeremy Taylor (JT), Stephen Walters (SW).

**Apologies:** Niel Nicholson

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MS welcomed those present to the meeting and in particular so many representatives from Park Farm. He explained the background to the Village Meeting and Forum and the differences between the two.

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## Village Meeting

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### 1. Risk Assessment

MS went through the items on the Risk Assessment (*available for inspection upon request*) and asked if anyone had any comments or amendments to be made. The only action arising was the Insurance policy, which it was agreed will be reviewed in June. MP proposed the meeting should approve the Assessment. Seconded AB. No objections or abstentions.

### 2. Annual Governance Statement

LH advised we are exempt from the audit which is normally carried out which will save funds. We do however have to comply with a list of criteria being met. MS read out the list of conditions to the meeting. AB proposed we accept and CB seconded. No objections or abstentions.

### 3. Village Meeting Accounts

MS read through the accounts statement showing the income and expenditure for the previous year. The meeting was asked for comments or if amendments were required. None was put forward. TH proposed approval, seconded by RH. No objections or abstentions.

### 4. Election of Data Protection Officer

MS reminded the meeting that additional legislation meant that, as a public authority, we are legally required to have a Data Protection Officer. MP summarised the changes to the laws governing data protection which come into effect in May (GDPR). He emphasised the penalties the Village Meeting could face in the event of a breach or non-compliance and confirmed that he was willing to take the role on but requested the meeting's approval for expenditure of £147 for an Information Pack which would provide the policy statements, documents and information necessary to support him in the role. He also advised if any business owner in the village required assistance with GDPR, he would be willing to help.

CB proposed the appointment of MP. SH seconded. No objections or abstentions.

RH proposed the meetings approval of the £147 for the information pack. Seconded by ES. No objections or abstentions.

### 5. Planning Applications

MS reminded the meeting that historically only matters affecting the entire village were publicised to the village for discussion. Most applications are small, although North Aston Hall has applied for a number of permissions which involve significant development.

The proposal is now that notification of all applications will be published in the North Aston News and notices displayed on the Village Notice Board. This is a less selective process which means that all residents can choose to respond if an application is felt to be relevant to them, rather than it falling to the Chair to decide. There was agreement by the meeting that this was acceptable.

The Village Meeting closed.

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## Village Forum

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### 1. Park Farm

SH introduced everyone from Park Farm and in particular CH, who then detailed her proposed trip to Kenya next year. She has lived at Park Farm for 4 years and it has always been her dream to go to Africa. She has the opportunity to visit Kenya next Easter but has a target of £2000 to raise. £1,000 has already been achieved and she is undertaking further activities to achieve the remainder and would be very grateful for any support.

Details of her activities will be published in the *North Aston News* and she has a Just Giving page. SH said they are arranging a Curry & Catch-up night to which everyone in the village is invited.

### 2. Fête

MS asked for volunteers to form a fête sub committee. TH, CB, MH, TB, SH, SB, LB and LP all offered help. LH thought Paul Honess would be willing to join too. Initial meeting was set for Tuesday May 1st at 7.30 in the Bakehouse.

MS asked if the meeting was happy for the funds to be split 50/50 as in past years with the proceeds being divided between the Village and the Church and the meeting was in agreement. CB summarised how the church spent the money and confirmed the first project to restore the windows had been completed.

### 3. Mikron Theatre

The Mikron Theatre Company has confirmed the return on 12th August. Publicity will follow.

### 4. Armistice Day Commemoration

MS asked for a group to help with plans. MS, TB, CB and MP all volunteered to assist.

### 5. Defibrillator

AS outlined the costing. She has applied for grant funding from the *British Heart Foundation* and the outcome should be known early in May. If successful, the total cost is estimated at c £1440 plus the cost of a telephone box.

MP has sourced a possible box which is likely to cost around £1000 making the total approximately £2500. In addition to BHF, AS has applied for a grant of £1000 from SSE but the outcome won't be known until after the closing date in May.

MS asked if the meeting was happy to wait until the outcome of the grant applications was known and for approval to spend £1500. MP proposed the meeting should approve, CB seconded and there were no objections or abstentions.

SH mentioned Park Farm may be able to carry out fund raising. CB emphasised a red box is preferable.

### 6. Traffic Calming

MP reported that he and Niel Nicholson had been researching the most appropriate materials for kerbing and it was agreed that the August Forum meeting would begin on the Village Green, where the work is required, and samples would be provided for people to see. JT asked if he could join the sub group.

MP produced drawn plans for possible chicanes and confirmed that it was now feasible to install solar lighting to conform with legal requirements for low-level lighting of chicanes. A long discussion followed at the end of which it was agreed that the rekerbing would take place but the subject of traffic calming could follow.

RH advised that volunteers are needed to help with the Community Speedwatch camera, and training would be given. CB confirmed the batteries on the traffic calming box on the eastern end of the village will be replaced soon.

### 7. The Fox Crossroads & Main Road

SW outlined problems following the recent accidents at the Fox Crossroads This has been raised with OCC and the councillor responsible for highways, Cllr Arash Ali Fatemian, is holding a

meeting next week on this matter. Cllr Fatemian had sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting but has asked for dates of future meetings. It was agreed to wait for his findings.

### 8. North Aston 100 Club

BR confirmed she was taking responsibility for the 100 Club but new members are needed if it is to survive.

### 9. Village Charity

MS briefly spoke about the idea of a Village Charity and it was agreed that he would report back to the next meeting with specific proposals.

### 10. Sharing Responsibilities

MS asked if anyone was willing to take responsibility for following through with some of the matters which could have benefit/impact on the village, such as community, health, children and young people.

The secretary receives emails from various organisations and it would be useful to have a specific person who would be willing to take things forward in each area. LH offered to look after children and young people and MH volunteered for community matters, but asked if she could have help with items relating to the elderly. More details will be placed in *North Aston News*.

### 11. Any Other Business

CB raised the matter of the Soho sign on the main road and asked why we weren't consulted.

JT raised the matter of a sign on the main road advertising a car repair business in Brackley. MP advised that temporary signs promoting events are considered acceptable so long as they are removed within 36 hours of the event.

MH suggested it would be a positive thing if people who felt certain things needed doing in the village, such as litter collection, could volunteer to be part of an ongoing working party who would be happy to help identify issues and organise sorting them out.

JT referred to the poor condition of the roads. BW advised we could report problems on the FixMyStreet website.

*(The full URL is [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com), but this site seems to be updated only rarely, and still lists problems going back several years. For county-specific issues and more immediate action, please register with <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk>, as this appears to be more effective.)*

### Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for 9th August 2018, starting on the Village Green at 7.30pm.



Park Farm house has had a successful couple months.

We have won an award from the WoW! Fund (*Work-Life Works! is a grant available to organisations looking to encourage the introduction of Work-Life strategies*) which will allow us to build a new relaxation space in the garden! We have also attended the community Village Forum meeting, which our girls really enjoyed, and we hope will allow them to participate in events within the wider community. Some of the young people in our care are setting up a sweet store in the village and seem to be really looking forward to this.

One of our young residents is currently raising money for her trip to Africa where she will be working alongside an orphanage. Park Farm are also holding a 'Curry Night', when we will be raising money for charity. Our curry night will be held on the 5th May between 6-8pm and will be £5 per person (*see advert alongside*). We love raising money for charity so please email [parkfarm@hillcrestcs.co.uk](mailto:parkfarm@hillcrestcs.co.uk) if you would like to attend.

Over the Easter break our residents enjoyed going go-karting, which was a new experience for the majority and they really seemed to enjoy their time. Some of our residents also went to West Midlands Safari Park, which they loved; they spent a great day out in the sun learning about different animals in the wild. They gained a vast amount of knowledge on this trip and also enjoyed going on the funfair rides.

As we had lovely weather the last couple of weeks our residents enjoyed sun bathing in the garden and held a BBQ. We're really looking forward to the next month, and hope that it is as fun filled and eventful as the Easter break. Wish us all luck with our exams, and we will update you all on how things are going next month!  
*All at Park Farm*

## Events

### Curry Night

There will be a fund-raising Curry Night at Park Farm on Saturday 5th May between 6 and 8pm. The charge will be £5 per person. If you fancy a curry, and contributing towards a worthy cause, then please email [parkfarm@hillcrestcs.co.uk](mailto:parkfarm@hillcrestcs.co.uk) to reserve your place and to give them a better idea of numbers.

### Oxfordshire Artweeks - May 5th - 13th

If you haven't done so before, visiting the studios of working artists can be an inspiring experience. Oxfordshire Artweeks, which has been running since 1981, is an opportunity for people to see creative works, often in interesting settings.

Bicester Sculpture Group Exhibition is just such a place. The Studio set in the garden of the Old Vicarage behind St Edberg's Church in the town, was set up in the 1990s by George Muller, himself a celebrated stained glass artist. He had the vision of creating a space for artists to work together and inspire each other to explore their work in a shared studio. It currently hosts 24 sculptors working in a range of materials and producing a variety of artistic responses to the world around us.

Do go along to this free exhibition and maybe find your own creative inspiration! The artists will be delighted to see you and happy to discuss their work.

Put the date in your diary; Saturday 5th May to Sunday 13th from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm.



# About our Advertisers

An occasional feature about the companies that advertise in the News

Arbocare Tree Surgery is an long-established tree surgery, and ground maintenance company based near Didcot. Founded by Mike Harvey, Arbocare operates widely throughout the county and within the Thames Valley.

The company's Royal Forestry Society (RFS) qualified arboriculturists have over 20 years of experience and have built up an excellent reputation due to their professional and ethical approach to tree care.



Arbocare also offers comprehensive ground maintenance services, and can cater for all garden and estate requirements, from modestly-sized domestic gardens through to high profile clients, such as the National Trust. This includes work on sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) and landscaping.

The company can carry out comprehensive tree management projects, including planting, tree removal, stump grinding, tree surveys and decay detection, as well as turfing and decking.

All work is carried out by fully qualified and experienced staff, who have the benefit of the appropriate certification and experience. See their advert on Page 3.

## PLANT SALE SATURDAY 12TH MAY

In aid of Médecins Sans Frontières  
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**Biennials:** white foxgloves, and **Perennials:** *Ajuga reptans*, comfrey, eragrostis, erigeron, geraniums, hosta, iris, libertia, poppies, salvia, scabious, sedums, verbenas, plus a few shrubs

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### Renewal Time!

This month's draw was the last of the 2017-2018 period, with a top prize of £100. Now is the time to renew for the next 12 months. If you've never taken part before, please contact Beverley (347434) to register your interest. The odds of winning are better than the lottery!

**NorthAston**  **MidCherwell**  
Neighbourhood Plan Forum

Printed copies of the Mid-Cherwell Submission Plan can now be perused at The Yurt over a cuppa and a piece of cake.

## Planning

At the recent Village Forum meeting it was agreed that rather than the committee making decisions on whether or not certain applications should be discussed, a simple announcement of all planning notices will be included in the *North Aston News* and full details pinned to the village noticeboard.

This will become a regular feature in the *News*. The following notice(s) have been submitted to Cherwell District Council and details are available on the CDC website: [www.cherwell.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk)

### 2 Greenside Cottages

Reduction in height of 1 *Chamaecyparis* (False Cypress conifer).

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# From Thames Valley Police

*This month's updates and information*

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## Dog Microchipping

Having your dog microchipped can make a huge difference when looking for and trying to identify a missing dog.

Since April 2016 it has been a legal requirement for all dogs to be microchipped by 8 weeks of age.

Each microchip has a unique number that must be registered on a Government-approved database along with information about your dog and you as its owner. If your dog is not registered on one of these databases you can be fined.

It is important that the information is kept up-to-date so that if your dog does go missing, you can be contacted at the correct phone number or address.

Reporting a lost dog to the police as soon as possible is also important, including making us aware of the microchip number so we can record this on our database. This will make it easier for us to identify any dogs that are found and check to see if they have been reported as missing or stolen.

It is also recommended that you record the loss or theft of your dog online using sites dedicated to finding lost and stolen dogs. Often these sites work with police and other organisations, such as local Neighbourhood Watch Groups and Veterinary practices, to try and find them.

In 2016, the Dogs Trust recorded that 9,000 dogs were reunited with their owners due to being correctly microchipped. At the same time, the PDSA reported that 11% of dog owners did not realise that it was a legal requirement to have their dog microchipped.

## Heading for the World Cup?

Unlikely ... but possible. The 2018 FIFA World Cup will take place from 14th June – 15th July and worldwide demand for tickets is expected to be significant. Action Fraud have been alerted to several websites which are offering World Cup Tickets for sale, some at highly inflated prices. This is illegal.

FIFA has issued a reminder that [www.FIFA.com/tickets](http://www.FIFA.com/tickets) is the only official and legitimate website from which to buy World Cup tickets. Any tickets obtained from any other source, such as ticket brokers, internet auctions or unofficial ticket exchange platforms, will be automatically rendered void and invalid. If you are thinking of going, then exercise caution when buying tickets, and you'll also need a Fan ID card, available from [www.fan-id.ru](http://www.fan-id.ru).

In addition, websites offering non-existent package deals and flights have also been reported, although those recommending hazmat decontamination suits and SCBAs are thought to be genuine.

## TV Too Good to be True?

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) has warned of an increase in reports where fraudsters are offering a discount on television service provider subscriptions.

Cold-callers, purporting to be from a TV provider, offer a discount on the monthly subscription. Victims have been told that their subscription needs to be renewed or that elements or all of the TV equipment is overdue an upgrade.

In order to process the discount, the fraudsters ask for confirmation or provision of bank account details. The scammers may also request the victim's identification documents, such as scanned copies of passports.

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The fraudsters are using the following telephone numbers: 08447 111444, 02035 190197 and 0800 151 4141. Callers are usually feminine and with an Asian accent.

Subsequently transactions have been made using the victim's account details. This type of fraud is nationwide and since the beginning of this year (2018), there have been over 300 related Action Fraud Reports. All the usual safeguards apply - don't answer or respond to cold-callers offering deals that are even mildly suspicious, or too good to be true.

## No! I'm Martin Lewis!

I'm sure you've heard about this through news reports of Martin Lewis's current court case against Facebook, but if not ... Martin set up and operates a well-respected website under his moniker of Money Saving Expert. It offers free advice on finance, investment, and everyday money-matters. It's a great site, with excellent content and a huge following, so no wonder advertisers have been cashing in on Martin's reputation.

However, some websites alleging to offer cryptocurrency investments are dishonestly using the image of Martin Lewis, and suggesting that he is endorsing their services.

The adverts have appeared widely, and lead to an explanatory article where Martin's image is presented alongside fake quotes recommending investments in bitcoin and other digital currencies. Alternatively clicking on the advert will take you to a page where you are required to supply contact details so that the company can phone you and encourage you to invest.

Martin Lewis never advertises. He says: "If you ever see an advert with my face or name on it, it is without my permission, and usually a scam". Other similar websites are also misusing images and fabricating recommendations from the better-known investors on Dragons Den, claiming that the Dragons are using their services to invest in cryptocurrencies. The current advice is ... don't get involved in these virtual currencies unless you have millions in spare cash and know exactly what you're doing, because the bubble could burst tomorrow.

Find out more about this, and uncover genuine advice, on [www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com).

If you have been affected by any type of fraud, report it to Action Fraud by visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or by calling 0300 123 2040.

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## Data Protection - the Important Bit

Don't ever ask "what did the EU ever do for us" until you're reminded that the new General Data Protection Regulation act comes into effect on May 25th.

This new law could - should - change how we receive emails, at least from law-abiding European-based companies. After 25th May, any company sending you a marketing, sales or promotional email must have had your active consent to send that message to you.

There are various criteria for establishing consent. You may have subscribed directly by clicking a box, thereby inviting the company to include you on the mailing list, send you a newsletter, or contact you in the future. They may claim "legitimate interest" because you purchased something from their website, or you're registered with an associated club or organisation. Whatever the grounds, you, the recipient, must have made an active, positive choice to be associated with that company. Forgetting to uncheck a tick box, or failing to unsubscribe from their last mailshot, is no longer enough.

If you use mailing lists and haven't yet achieved GDPR compliance, call me. It could save you a lot of grief and, potentially, thousands of pounds in fines.



# The Church MATTERS



## Generosity

Following our Annual Congregation Meeting in April, I want to take a moment to talk about generosity. I am genuinely touched by the generosity we are seeing at St Mary's at the moment.

Over the last year, while we focussed on trying to get our 'St Mary's For Everyone' projects up and running, and while we gave around £1,000 away to charity as a parish, our income exceeded our expenditure by around £4,000. This wasn't because we spent nothing - we met all our bills - but because everyone was truly generous. Thank you.



For sure, nothing unexpected hit us - we had no holes in the roof or churchyard walls falling down. But this means we are able to look forward to next year confidently, thinking about how we meet our bills again and how we continue to serve the whole village - as well as being a bit readier to meet any unforeseen things that may come our way. Thanks again to all who support us.

In addition, Part One of the 'St Mary's for Everyone' projects is underway, fully funded, and two chapel windows are being restored as I write. More than this, we are getting very close to funding Part Two, the renovation of the lychgate and renewal of the path so we have step-free access from the car parking area to the church door. To that end, we are looking at putting this work out to tender, and are putting in process the permissions needed - both from the diocese, and from the necessary conservation/planning authorities too. There's an outside chance this work might even happen during this year...

As a church we are very grateful to all who have made personal donations, and to all the grant giving bodies who are joining with us to make these things possible.

Jane McArdle is putting a lot of work in here, as is Beryl Greenwood and of course Clive Busby too.

I am very touched by the generosity of Annabel and all the Bevan family with their time, as they have given so much of it in taking forward our churchyard project. Working through church records and identifying areas of the churchyard that might be re-used so we can keep the churchyard open for village burials has not been easy. We now think we have a way of doing this, and I told the annual church meeting that the PCC and I will be looking to take this forward over the year ahead.

I'm also very grateful for the generous offer of a new stained glass window in the church. While we are fundraising for very practical things (renovations, paths, loos etc) it is wonderful also to be able to think of adding something artistic and creative in our generation to our beautiful church building. A stained glass artist has been commissioned to bring us a design, and the PCC will meet to see the next stage of this in May. Fair to say - there are folk who are very excited by this gift, and folk who are not. Personally, in a year where I have seen generosity at every level in the life of the church in North Aston, I am excited by every gift: by those who have signed up to our new Parish Giving Scheme, by those who fill Mary's Meals mugs, by those who are contributing to the 'St Mary's For Everyone' projects, by those who give of their time to clean the church and arrange flowers - by every bit of generosity there is in this place. If you want to be generous - thank you! There's a Scripture that says "Whoever sows generously will also reap generously...for God loves a cheerful giver". Amen. We depend on such generosity, and in the month of the Christian Aid collections, I can only commend such a heart, such a life.

*Revd Marcus Green*



Any comments about the above are very welcome. More news is always available on our website: [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com)

Please email our Rector Marcus Green: [steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:steeplerector@hotmail.co.uk) or tel: 340 903

You can also email Clive: [casb@north-aston.com](mailto:casb@north-aston.com) (tel: 338 434) or Annabel: [annabelbevan@hotmail.com](mailto:annabelbevan@hotmail.com) (tel: 345153)

Any other member of the PCC will also be very happy to talk, and they are: Richard Bailey, Beryl Greenwood, Vicky Taylor, Jane McArdle, Ted Short, Jeremy Taylor and Norman West.



# CHURCH SERVICES

## PARISH WORSHIP IN MAY & JUNE

**NORTH ASTON**

**STEEPLE ASTON**

**TACKLEY**

### Sunday May 6th 2018 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:30 am  
Holy Communion  
*Book of Common Prayer*  
**Revd Marcus Green**

11:00 am  
Holy Communion  
*Book of Common Prayer*  
**Revd Marcus Green**

5:30 pm  
Evensong  
**Revd Marcus Green and  
Canon Robin Gibbons**

### Sunday May 13th 2018 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

9:30 am  
Rogation  
**Clive Busby**

11:00 am  
Family Service  
**Revd Marcus Green**

5:30 pm  
Holy Communion  
**Revd Marcus Green and  
Canon Robin Gibbons**

### Sunday May 20th 2018 - Day of Pentecost - Whitsunday

9:30 am  
Holy Communion  
**Revd Marcus Green**

11:00 am  
Holy Communion  
**Revd Marcus Green**

5:30 pm  
Informal Service  
**Revd Marcus Green and  
Canon Robin Gibbons**

### Sunday May 27th 2018 - First Sunday after Pentecost - Trinity Sunday

9:30 am  
Morning Prayer  
**Revd Marcus Green and  
Richard Bailey**

11:00 am  
Morning Prayer  
*with Children's Church*  
**Revd Marcus Green and  
Richard Bailey**

5:30 pm  
Holy Communion  
**Revd Marcus Green and  
Canon Robin Gibbons**

### Sunday June 3rd 2018 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am  
Holy Communion  
*Book of Common Prayer*  
**Revd Mervyn Puleston**

11:00 am  
Holy Communion  
*Book of Common Prayer*  
**Canon David MacInnes**

5:30 pm  
Evensong  
**Canon Robin Gibbons**

Bible Study happens most Mondays at 2pm in the Rectory.

Thursday Morning Prayer is at 10am on May 10th.

Families are welcome to **all** Sunday services within the parish.

Visit the Benefice Website for further information [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com)

### North Aston News

The *North Aston News* is designed and produced by CMC Graphics, printed by Nicholson's 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 mailed out to an extensive emailing list every month. To be added to that list, please contact the *News*. We welcome contributions, which need to be in an electronic format (except Classifieds and Announcements). To submit an item, please email: [info@north-aston.co.uk](mailto:info@north-aston.co.uk).

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF  
STEEPLE ASTON WITH NORTH  
ASTON AND TACKLEY  
[www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com)

Bringing the love of Jesus to the heart of our communities through worship, word and works of witness

Come and Worship with us!

**Steeple Aston Church:**  
25 Peter & Paul, Steeple Aston, OX25 4JF  
Sundays at 11am

**North Aston Church:**  
52 Mary the Virgin, North Aston, OX25 4JH  
Sundays at 9.30am

**Tackley Church:**  
52 Michael, Tackley OX25 3JF  
Sundays at 9.30am

Your Kingdom Come

The United Benefice of Steeple Aston  
with North Aston and Tackley