

The North Marston & Granborough magazine



December 2020

“I truly believe that if we keep telling the Christmas story, singing the Christmas songs, and living the Christmas spirit, we can bring joy and happiness and peace to this world.”

— **Norman Vincent Peale**



SAMARITANS

Anyone can contact Samaritans. Talk to us any time you like, in your own way and off the record. We offer emotional support any time for free from any phone on 116 123 - This number won't show up on your phone bill. Or email jo@samaritans.org, or you can go to www.samaritans.org to find details of your nearest branch, where you can talk to one of our trained volunteers face to face.

WELCOME

Thank you for your support of the local community magazine

Welcome to the December edition of the magazine.

This months magazine looks a little different to last years December magazine but it is still filled with great articles and contributions from the 2 communities. Read all about the Sportsfield news and the online events you can attend on zoom leading up to Christmas.

There has been great feedback on having the magazine online, being accessible to everyone. Please spread the word and let us know, if you know someone who does not have access to the magazine online, at editor@northmarston.com

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to
2021!



Stay Safe!

Editor and team

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COVID-19 Update

North Marston & Granborough will start in Tier 2

No household mixing in any indoors setting

Rule of 6 applies outdoors

Pubs & bars open if operating as restaurants

Number of journeys should be reduced where possible

Hands Face Space applies all the time!

Residents who need support

Customer Service Centre

01296 395000 (Monday – Thursday 9-5.30pm and Friday 9-5pm)

Online contact form to request support directly with the support hub

www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/contact-us/

Bucks Online Directory (enter a postcode to see ALL local community support organisations)

directory.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/

Safeguarding adults team

01296 383204 or 0800 137915

Emergency Out of Hours - 0800 999 7677

Safeguarding children team - 0845 460 0001

Emergency Out of Hours - 0800 999 7677

Local Emergency Support - 01296 382414

Emergency Out of Hours - 0800 999 7677

STAY SAFE!

The North Marston Village Support Network still wants to help YOU!

With life returning to a new normal there is a reduced need for the support network in North Marston. However, if you still need help with shopping, prescriptions or a friendly voice on the phone, please contact Pete, Tricia, Aly or Rachel; they will coordinate a volunteer to provide the help you need:

Pete York 670479 or 07969 303 967

Tricia Mc Sweeney 670484 or 07875 085 363

Aly Perrett 670302 or 07814 972629

Rachel Callander 07538 363187

Thank you to all the volunteers during the last 6 months the village has really come together. Thank you!

Granborough Support Network

Now that life is starting to return to a new normal the need for the support group is no longer required. However in the unlikely event of a local or second lock down then we are still here and please do not hesitate to ask for help. Please continue to stay safe and protect yourselves.

Do you have any of the following symptoms?



high temperature



new continuous
cough



loss or change in your
sense of taste or smell



Stop the spread!

get tested if you have symptoms, however mild



If you have coronavirus symptoms, no matter how mild, book a test immediately



You can book a test or order a home test for yourself or someone you live with



Go online to www.gov.uk/coronavirus or call 119



[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)



01296 395000



Buckinghamshire
Council



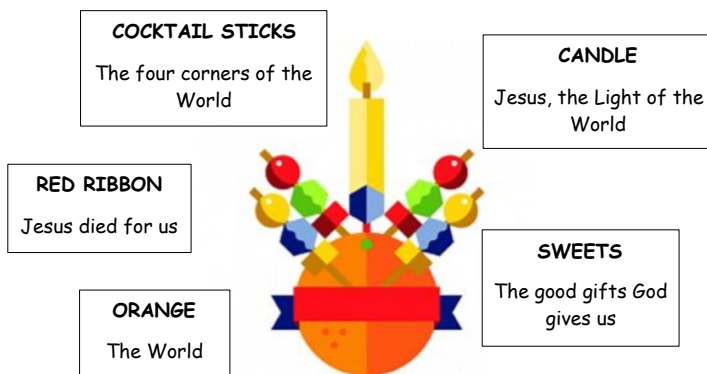
Stay safe, protect Bucks

#StaySafeProtectBucks

EVENTS

Calling North Marston and Granborough...

Please Join Us On ZOOM For a Christingle Service Sunday 6th December at 4pm

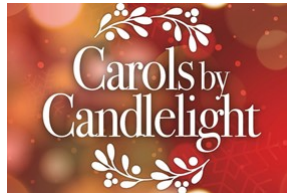


Book your place to receive the link, by **Sunday 29th November**, and we will deliver a full Christingle kit to your door during the following week. We will make the Christingles during the service, turning the lights out and lighting the candles as the evening draws in...

North Marston: Aly Perrett alysonperrett3@gmail.com / 670302

Granborough: Rev. Petra Elsmore: petra.elsmore@gmail.com / 07557045703

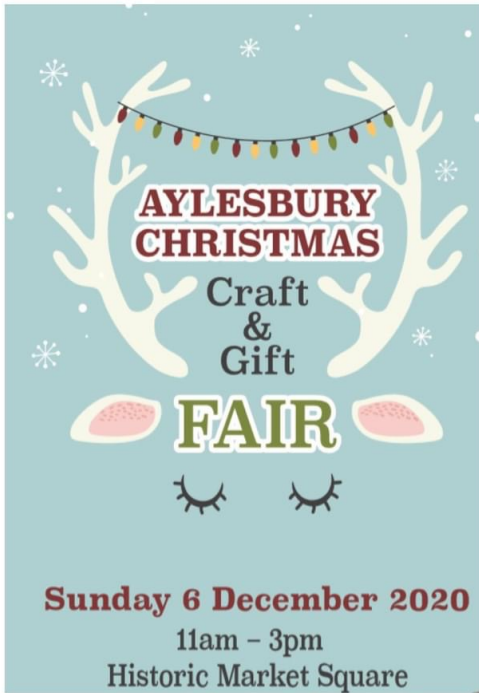
Please join St Mary's
Church, North Marston on
Zoom for



On Christmas Eve at
6.00pm

We know that Carols by Candlelight is an important
part of Christmas for many families in North
Marston: St Mary's is always bursting at the seams!

So, light your candles, and join us on Zoom, for our
service of nine lessons and carols.



Advance notice
& dates for your diary...



Matthew's Homemade

Mince Pies

6 for £2.50



Orders taken in advance for local delivery
07392 294375 or mathew.dell8@gmail.com

Christmas Tree Collection



We'll collect & recycle your real tree, £5 each

Collections on 3rd, 9th & 10th January

To book your collection
amy.dell28@gmail.com or 07392 294376

The Big World Challenge
**QUIZ
NIGHT**
...and Raffle!

Saturday 6th March

North Marston

£10 Quiz Night Ticket

to include Curry/Chilli & Rice

To reserve tickets

amy.dell28@gmail.com or

07392 294376

Raising money for Amy & Matthew's World Challenge trips to Peru with Waddesdon School & Swaziland with Aylesbury High School in July 2021

While there may not be events during the unforeseeable future, please share with us any news, and self-isolation activities to keep us all jolly. Contact: editornorthmarston@gmail.com with your updates.



Marston Mummers 2020: **For one year only: Coming in on an** **electronic device near you!**

Everybody knows that you can't get virus over the Internet, can you?
Can you??

Father Christmas, St George, Johnny Foreigner, Dr John Schorne,
Happy Jack and Beelzebub, not forgetting the 2 meter Roomer, will be
in The Waiting Room then Live Streaming to you.

Keep up with us (if you can) on FaceBook @MarstonMummers

Kilimanjaro Fundraising

As you may be aware, my climb up Kilimanjaro for the dig deep charity has had to be postponed due to COVID-19. The new date for my climb will be in August 2021. These are the new dates for fundraisers which had to be cancelled this year:

16th January 2021 Pilates and Prosecco

19th February 2021 quiz at Wesley centre

19th March 2021 race night at village Hall

24th April 2021 cream tea at no 8

Thank you for everyone's support so far, hope to see lots of you at these upcoming events.

Tricia McSweeney

Spring 2021

Heffervescence concert

Isla St Clair concert



Christmas at the Flicks

1. Name the 1993 film in which a young boy phones in to a talk radio advice show on Christmas Eve because his father is lonely
2. In which film does the lead character meet a barrister called *Mark Darcy* at her parents Christmas party?
3. In the 2002 film, *About A Boy*, the Hugh Grant character (Will Freeman) lives a comfortable life on the income from what?
4. In which 1990 film was a young boy Kevin accidentally left behind when his family went away for Christmas?
5. Which actor played George Bailey who contemplated suicide on Christmas Eve in the 1946 film "*It's a Wonderful Life*"?
6. In this 1951 adaptation of Dickens's "*A Christmas Carol*" the lead role is played by Alistair Sim, what's the name of the film?
7. The song *White Christmas* first appeared in which film?
8. Which 1987 film stars Steve Martin and John Candy as two hapless travellers trying to get home for Thanksgiving?
9. In the 1947 film "Miracle on 34th Street", Kris Kringle is employed as a Santa in which well-known department store?
10. In the 1982 film "The Snowman" who sings the theme song "Walking In the Air"?
11. In the 1961 film *Whistle Down the Wind* who is it the children believe they are sheltering in their barn?
12. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* was a film made in 2000 but based on a book written in 1957 by which famous author?
13. In which Christmas film did Dudley Moore play an elf called Patch?
14. In which film do we see the British Prime Minister going to see a School Christmas Concert with a junior member of staff from 10 Downing Street?
15. In the same film, who plays Harry, the Prime Minister's brother in law?

Answers on page 52

CONTRIBUTIONS



North Marston Community shop Association

The Committee wishes to say to everyone who, during the pandemic, has supported The Shop as a member of staff, a volunteer, a customer or supplier, that without your kindness in using The Shop or supplying it with your delicious food we would not still be here!

We have had to make some very hard choices about how we manage The Shop to keep ALL of you safe during this worrying time. We hope you understand how much we appreciate your kindness and good humour when needing to queue in what has sometimes been uncomfortable weather. You have all been magnificent in your stoicism, good humour and care for others. We are so proud to have such amazing people supporting The Shop.

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to you all for your patience and determination to support The Shop so we can continue to provide delicious food and useful items for you and your families.

We wish you....

A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS
and
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This year the funds raised for the Christmas Hamper (worth £60) will be going to Cancer research UK. At £1.00 a ticket from Karl's Bakery or Karl happy to drop off any tickets on request. Contact Karl on 07917 002800 or karlsbakery@gmail.com. The draw will be on Saturday 12th December & the Hamper will be delivered to the lucky Winner that day. Got to be in it to win it.



Thank you to all who filled shoeboxes this year, I have been able to take 18 boxes to the collection point, I know they will be appreciated by those who receive them thank you. Jennifer Heffer

This event held on Friday October 16th on the Granborough village green was organised by Emily Betts with help from family and friends. With donations of many delicious cakes the stall was a lovely sight. A few deliveries were made but the majority of cakes were sold from the stall. Thanks to the wonderful support of the local residents a magnificent £678 was raised for this worthy organisation.

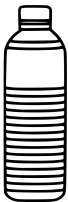
With environmental issues becoming more prevalent, it would be great if we could each do our bit for the environment. So, each month 'mindful eco' will bring you suggestions, recommendations and information on how you can be more eco-friendly :)

Reduce Plastic Waste



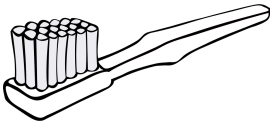
-Every second **160,000** plastic bags are used around the world!
-Less than **3%** are recycled worldwide. The other **97%** end up in our oceans or landfills, taking 500 years+ to break down
SOLUTION:

- Opt for a reusable bag, available from high street shops
- Durable, eco-friendly and stylish



-Every minute **1 million** plastic water bottles are bought in the world and sadly only **9%** are recycled
-They take up to **700** years to biodegrade
SOLUTION:

- Why not invest in a reusable water bottle?
- They are long lasting, come in a wide variety of colours and sizes. Some can even keep your cold drinks colder for longer and your hot drinks hot!



-It takes **400** years for plastic toothbrushes to decompose and if burnt they emit harmful chemicals
SOLUTION:

- Bamboo toothbrushes are a brilliant alternative
 - Bamboo is highly sustainable and is completely biodegradable & compostable
- If you use an electric toothbrush you might want to consider investing in recyclable toothbrush heads

Small changes like these can have massive benefits for the environment if we all work together to reduce our use of plastic & fight this plastic pandemic :)

Burglary Prevention During Winter

To ensure your home is not targeted this winter, here are some top community safety tips to follow as the dark and cold evenings approach:

- 1) **Lock your doors and windows** regardless of if you are in the property or not. The point of entry more than 75% of the time is through a door or window.
- 2) **Lock your UPVC doors with the key.** Flipping the handle is not enough to secure your door.
- 3) **Keep valuable items out of view.** Leaving valuables on view is an open invitation for a thief
- 4) **Property mark your valuables with ultra-violet marking kits or Smartwater.** When goods are marked it enables recovered property to be returned and improves the chance of conviction.
- 5) **The security of the rear of the home is integral.** Many burglaries are carried out via entry of a back door or window so make sure your back doors and windows are secure. If you have a side gate leading to your garden make sure it is locked.
- 6) **Make sure your shed/garage is locked and secure.** Don't give thieves the tools to enter your home.
- 7) **User timer switches.** In the winter months when it's dark and nobody is at home a timer switch can be set to activate a lamp on the landing or hallway giving the impression that someone is at home.

Cold Callers and Scammers – Be Aware!

Thames Valley Police are aware of the increased number of scammers and cold callers in the area. A cold caller is an unsolicited visit or telephone call made by someone trying to sell goods or services. Please be vigilant and below is an example of a sticker that are available for you to buy.

Flocks and Fields

Is sustainable, sustainable?

On a recent webinar with over 700 farmers, the argument was put forward that regenerative/sustainable farming is not in fact sustainable, as it could never feed the world. This got us thinking!

Modern agriculture has allowed exponential growth and crop harvest, it has also led to huge profits for chemical and petrochemical companies, producing ever more sprays and an estimated 186.67 million tonnes of fertiliser this year alone.

Let's address the issue that all farmers agree on that our job is to feed people. Can we feed the world with less intensive farming practices? Yes, we believe we can BUT we need everyone's help. Currently we throw away 30-40% of food that we buy.

Secondly, 90% of the farms in the world are subsistence farms. A subsistence farmer, is one that only produces enough for their own use, without any surplus to trade. Yet they already produce around 80% of the world food. If the efficiency of these farms could be improved by even the smallest percentage, our world food production would increase dramatically.

Next, let's talk cost. Does regenerative farming make food unaffordable? The cost of food is complicated and down to more than just the price we pay in the supermarket.

Part of the problem is we have become used to cheap food. In 1970, around 25% of our income was spent on food, this has now reduced to less than 13%. However, other costs associated with food have sky rocketed. Tax payer money now has to be diverted to farmers to support farms that are selling food below the production cost. Health care costs have sky rocketed as lifestyle disease such as type 2 diabetes and obesity have become the norm. The cost to the planet has been possibly hit the hardest with global warming and extinction of species causing effects that will not only affect us but generations to come.

The choice is then yours, is it better to invest in your health and the health of the planet by buying from farmers and producers who farm in sustainable way, or accept the other costs associated with cheap food?

Until next time, Kathryn and Chris Flocks and Fields

Breathe Easy Winslow and Buckingham!

Unfortunately following advice from the British Lung Foundation we have had to cancel our regular meetings.

Not willing to give in completely to COVID we are now supporting ourselves via monthly meetings on Zoom.

If you would like to join our friendly meetings, which are held on the **last Wednesday of each month**, from **2.00pm**, then please let me know

(see contact details below)

We are continuing with our programme of speakers. We have had a talk on volunteering in Africa, and a talk on the Thames Valley Air Ambulance Service, and we always have a chat about our conditions and how we are all feeling.

We would be happy for you to join us. We already have a member from Oxford so if you have family members elsewhere then please feel free to pass the details on.

With Zoom it doesn't matter where you live.

Breathe Easy groups are a patient led voluntary organisation that aims to support and provide information to patients affected by respiratory conditions, their friends, carers, and family.

Everyone is welcome.

For more information please call Zoe on 07732 867864
be.wnslw_bcknghm@btinternet.com www.blf.org.uk
Charity no.326730

Paula Jenkins

Thought for the month

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

As we reflect on the year just past, and the year to come, the season of Christmas offers us a “still point” at the year’s turning to reflect on what has passed and what is yet to come.

There are many beautiful modern carols and Christmas songs but few evoke the wonder of the season like the traditional Victorian carols.

One of my favourites is this one:

*It came upon a midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all gracious king
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.*

When I was writing to you this time last year, the idea that life could be changed, as it has been, so suddenly, by the global Coronavirus pandemic would have been the stuff of fiction – or of nightmares. We have been through one of the most difficult years in recent memory and, although much is promised by the hope of vaccines which will soon be available, it is not clear how long it will be before what lies ahead looks anything like “normal” again for our lives, our families, our community and our work. The world is indeed a weary one at this moment.

*Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing*

The Christmas story is perhaps more relevant than ever this year. A story of chaos, vulnerability and strange events and yet in the midst of that, the birth of hope and new beginnings. What could be more appropriate as a lens through which to see the coming year?

I pray that as we experience this very different kind of Christmas you will find the old story carries new meanings and fresh relevance for your journey into the new year as you rest a while and listen for the angels.

*All ye, beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow
Look, now for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing*

With every blessing

Petra Elsmore



**Donations from North
Marston, Dunton and**

Whitchurch:

April: 55.5kgs

May: 128.7kgs

June: 138.1kgs

July: 115.1kgs

August: 82.25kgs

September: 59.7kgs

October: 123kgs

November: 67kgs

This is the month for donating Christmas goodies, as well as the usual dry and/or tinned foods, such as

Powdered milk, sponge puddings

Table sauces, e.g. ketchup

Long-life juice

Tinned fruit

Tinned meat and fish

Suggestions: mince pies, Christmas puddings, seasonal biscuits,

Christmas chocolate...

Please leave your donations in the wheelbarrow at the back of 47

High Street

on Sunday 6th December

Thank you! Aly and Dave Perrett



North Marston History Club

Northmarstonhistory.org.uk

"Protecting the future of the past"



Colin Price

23rd January 1945 to

26th October 2020

It was with immense sadness that we said our final goodbyes to our Treasurer, Colin Price, whose funeral took place today at North Marston church. Colin was one of the founder members of the History Club and our Treasurer from its inception.

It is hard to imagine the History Club without his calm, steady influence. He brought wisdom and perspective to all our discussions and in many senses provided us with a compass for our decisions. He was an integral part of the growth of the club from the start, offering reassurance each step of the way, a check against our excesses, yet positive and encouraging as we broke new ground.

Outside the History Club, Colin was a massively respected and liked member of our community, intrinsically embedded within the heart of much of what happened in North Marston. His knowledge and interest in history was an invaluable asset to us, and he wrote a number of the chapters in our village history book, *The North Marston Story*.

Colin has left the Club's Executive Committee with a legacy of memories, and at every decision to be taken in the future someone is bound to ask: "Well, what would Colin say?"

History Club Executive Committee, 13th November 2020



The Cutting Garden - December

There's not much to plant or sow in December but you can harvest lots of seasonal bounty for Christmas décor at home.

A few jobs for December

Prune climbing roses now removing diseased or damaged growth, tie in any new shoots. Prune older flowered side shoots back by two thirds of their length. If any of your rose bushes suffered from blackspot or rust this summer, remove any fallen leaves to reduce the chance of infection next year.

Winter prune wisteria, cut back summer shoots to 2-3 buds.

Leave the faded flower heads of hydrangeas until spring, they provide frost protection to the swelling buds further down the stems.

Clean out the greenhouse thoroughly. Wash the glass, the floor and the staging with horticultural disinfectant to kill any overwintering pests and diseases. Insulate outdoor taps or turn them off at the mains. Pack away hoses that are not required.

Feed the birds! Hang fat balls and keep bird feeders topped up to attract birds, which will in turn eat pests in your garden.

Wash and disinfect bird feeders, bird tables and bird baths

Wash down all of your garden tools and give them a wipe of linseed oil on the wood and metal to help prevent rusting.

Harvest seed heads, berries and hips: it's lovely to make a wreath using anything you can forage from the garden.

Any questions by all means email me and I will do my best to answer
rosie@wildroseflowercompany.co.uk
Follow us @wildroseflowercompany



Christmas Past

The following are extracts from “The Northmarston Magazine” of 1875 and refer to the “Coal Fund” set up to collect money or goods in kind to assist the poorest residents of the village. The fund was overseen by the church.

“All persons in receipt of parish relief may have one hundredweight of coal at half price, before March 1, but if two or more persons with parish relief live in the same house they can only have one hundredweight between them, not one hundredweight each. Those who live below “The Bell” must have it of Carter and those who live above “The Bell” of Jerry Gregory.”

“In future, the vicar will not persuade churchwardens to go round collecting for the coal fund...the Churchwardens find collecting from door to door irksome and trying...Mr Anstiss and Mr Lines, with one or two others, both object to giving coal away...and complain that poor people sat up very late last year burning away their coals! We believe poor people did actually sit up, some of them, till eight o'clock and even till nine! What are we coming to?”

The following is an extract from “The Schornian” magazine of January 1903 and refers to the “Clothing Club” which was managed by the vicar’s daughter, Miss James.

“The Clothing Club money for this year, from our people’s pennies, twopences, sixpences etc amounted to over £33 which has been duly distributed by Miss James, who has again commenced receiving contributions at 10.30 am on Mondays at Vine Cottage. The contributors find the accumulated subscriptions useful at Christmas time, almost like gifts in fact.”

COMMUNITY ROUND UP & VOLUNTEERING

GVH COVID 19 Status

Granborough Village Hall remains closed until Spring 2021 and no new bookings will be accepted at this time. The internal refurbishment of the village hall should be completed by the end of November. These include insulation, redecoration, installation of oil fired central heating, replacement of damaged windows, reconfiguration of toilets to include disabled facilities, an updated kitchen, new doors and flooring.

GRANBOROUGH CROWN OPEN 2020

Just before Lock down 2 a bunch of local hooligans went to work on Princes Risborough Golf course. Conditions were perfect for us Hackers to rip this course up & create history! Joint 1st place went to Tom (the tank) Rogers & David (flump) Coombs. Team event won by Dean Bunyan, Seb Franklin & Tom Rogers. This event has been going for over 20 year with Captain Bill McWhirter at the wheel. A big thank you to to all who were able to attend & hopefully even more entries in 2021.

GRANBOROUGH CHRISTMAS TREE

Our Christmas tree will be displayed as usual at Granborough Village Hall. No celebration event or Carol singing this year, but feel free to add a bauble for a loved one. The tree lights will stay on throughout December & into the New year. In this challenging year, may the light from our tree bring you hope, joy & peace for the future.

Winslow & District Community Bus

Winslow & District Community Bus Newsletter

07483 336440/wdcbenquiries@btconnect.com/www.winslowbus.com

In the past few weeks, we had progressively resumed our scheduled routes to include Wednesday, Friday and Saturday services. Unfortunately, with the announcement of Lockdown 2.0, we will have to suspend most services once more with immediate effect. It is our intention to continue the Wednesday Winslow Market service for essential activities only in line with the new Government National Restrictions.

The Government website describes essential activities as:

“You can leave home to buy things at shops which are open, for instance for food and medicine, or to collect any items - including food or drink - ordered through click-and-collect or as a takeaway, to obtain or deposit money, or to access critical public services”

If you wish to use the Wednesday service, in compliance with the restrictions above, please contact the Bus Co-ordinator, to reserve your place in the usual manner.

We hope to resume additional services once the latest restrictions are eased, currently this is projected as being after 2 nd December.

Other News.....

□ We have some good news! The Bus has recently been resprayed and is now very bright and shiny again. In the course of the next week, we will be adding new and improved signage to complete the upgraded look.

□ In order to reduce our operating costs, we will be ceasing usage of our landline telephone number. In future, all telephone contact should be via our mobile telephone number: 07483 336440.

Sports Field

Whilst this year has been a series of stops and starts, the one thing that has remained consistent is the popularity of the village sports field. Frequented by exercisers, dog walkers, nature lovers, sports groups, local activity groups, the beavers, cubs & scouts, the junior school's Forest School or people just looking for a peaceful haven, the sports field has remained a popular destination.

In a time when we are limited to where we can travel and an increasing demand for space the sports field has proved to be an ideal solution.

Sports Field Committee – Changing of the guard!

There have been a few changes in the Sports Field Committee which include the appointment of Pete Butler as Chair. Trevor Lane has stepped aside from the Chair's role but agreed to remain as the cricket club representative as Richard Devas has stepped down from that role on the committee.

Dave Williams has also joined in place of Barry Kirwan who resigned as chair of the football club earlier in the summer.

Your sports field committee is now as follows:

Pete Butler (Chair)

Andy Keegan (Treasurer)

Gordon Bowden (Secretary)

Trevor Lane (Cricket Club representative)

Dave Williams (Football Club Representative)

Ian Mordue (Parish Council Representative & Clubhouse Facilities Manager)

James Radcliffe (Ground Maintenance)

Trevor Jenkins (Nature Trail & Environmental Manager)

The committee would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt thanks to both Richard and Barry for their many years of service to the sports field and the community. We would also like to recognise Trevor Lane's commitment to the sports field as Chair for the last few years, ensuring that it has been run effectively and in the interests of the

village communities. We are also very pleased that he has decided to stay on the committee as the cricket club representative.

Despite the Covid crisis several key tasks have been completed during the year for which the committee are grateful to the volunteers concerned. These included:

- rolling the field as usual in March
- regular mowing and maintenance of the playing surfaces and trim trail
- repairing the entrance gate support post and pedestrian access
- resetting the dog poo bin which had become loose
- replacing the litter bin next to the pavilion with one with a lid to prevent birds pulling out the rubbish
- Erecting a new sign referring to the Sports Field Rules as well as further smaller signs around the fence line
- Ongoing maintenance and development of the nature trail, pond and surrounds to encourage as much wildlife as possible.

Football Club

Like all sports clubs the football club has faced the same challenges as all grass roots sports but despite this the club has managed to keep going. We have 3 age groups currently playing in the Milton Keynes & District Development League – under 8's, under 9's and under 10's. Unfortunately, the under 18's team was a victim of the health crisis and had to fold without ending the 2019/20 season due to the March lockdown.

The teams are now “on pause” due to the current lockdown but hope to restart the season as soon as the restrictions end. Prior to the current lockdown we managed to run 4 taster sessions on Sunday mornings for our new under 7's team which will be entering the league in January 2021. It has been really encouraging to see the 14 new boys and girls interested in playing for the club so the taster sessions will continue again as soon as we are able to return.

Football

If you have a child who wants to play please contact the following coaches:

Under 8: Nick Thompson, nickasjt@hotmail.com

Under 9: Dave Williams, daveivorwilliams@hotmail.com

Under 10: Graeme Foster, graeme@crackerjack.couk

Thank you

Cricket Club

As with other sports and activities very little cricket was played by North Marston & Granborough cricket club during 2020. The Juniors had six sessions of indoor nets at The Thomas Freemantle School in February/March 2020 before we were stopped abruptly by the government Covid restrictions. Although we had a full league programme in place for all three Junior age teams, we were unable to go ahead with any of these as they were all due to be played in the midst of the first lockdown.

We did manage to practise in the outdoor nets for four sessions at the end of the summer which was great for the young players. It was clear that all those who turned up enjoyed these sessions and the club are hopeful that 2021 will enable us to resume our cricket activities once again.

The senior cricket squad managed to hold outdoor net sessions for several weeks but sadly with the restrictions in place, all but one match was scuppered. This was played at home against the old enemy, Mursley. The result, shall we say, was immaterial.

Nature Trail

Most of the small trees planted into the hedge last winter have come through the winter and are growing well. The wild flowers sown along the fence borders grew well and will hopefully seed more for next Spring and Summer. Foxgloves, Winter Aconite and Bluebells were planted in by the pond. Tawny Owls were heard calling in October, the time they select nesting sites. Trail Conditions prevented work parties clearing and maintaining and there will be much to do as soon as we can gather again.

England Rugby – Helena Rowland

News circulates quickly in the community but many of you may not be aware that we have a rising star in the world of women's rugby, and her family home is in North Marston. Regular visitors to the sports field in North Marston may well have seen a young lady training over the last few years encouraged by her mum, dad, or siblings, in all weathers.

Helena Rowland (21) was recently selected for the England squad and made her international debut on 1st November in the final match of the women's Six Nations Rugby, playing against Italy in Parma. Helena came onto the field in the second half of the match and quickly made an impression with England coming out 54:0 winners and so securing the Six Nations title and completing the Grand Slam.

Helena's second appearance came on 14th November, this time playing against France, in Grenoble, again on the winning side and with a thrilling run in the second half that set England on their way to victory. An audience of 800,000 watched the televised match.

Playing at fly-half, she played the whole match and had a stormer of a game as The Sunday Times endorsed the following morning with the sporting headline 'Rowland inspires Red Roses to victory' *A nice one for the wall of the sportsfield clubhouse.*

Helena appeared for her third cap, and her first Twickenham outing, on 21st November. This was the return match against France and was won by England with literally the last kick of the game.

Although Helena's ascendancy to the rugby 15s squad has been quick, her rugby career, as you might expect, started from a very early age. She began at the age of 6 with mixed rugby in Aylesbury before going onto play at Bicester and Tring and then for Welwyn girls.

Her big break came when she moved to Saracens, where the women's team won the first Premier 15s championship. Helena was then selected to play for the England 7s and played afar a field as Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. She was in the 7s squad for the Olympics, which regrettably had to be postponed due to the Covid pandemic.

With the 7s squad disbanded earlier this year, Helena returned to play 15s at Loughborough and was then subsequently selected for the England 15s team. With the rugby world cup taking place in New Zealand in September/October 2021 and a re-scheduled Olympics in July/August 2021 we are looking forward to seeing much more of Helena next year, albeit through our TV and media channels.

We wish Helena our very best wishes for the future and I am sure we will all join and offer congratulations on her superb achievements to date.

Trevor Lane

On behalf of the Sports Field committee

Christmas Quiz

1. Sounding more like a dog's name, what is Dudley Moore's character called in Santa Claus the Movie?
2. Which Christmas song was the first to be sung in space in 1965?
3. Which of the Seven Dwarfs in the Disney film had a crush on Snow White?
4. What is the traditional name of the cow in the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk?
5. In A Christmas Carol by Dickens, who says "Merry Christmas, one and all"?
6. According to the words of the carol We Three Kings, in which direction were they headed?
7. In which Christmas song do you "make the Yule-tide gay"?
8. In which panto does the character King Rat appear?
9. Which of the Gospels gives the fullest account of the nativity?
10. Shirley Temple stopped believing in Santa at 6 years old when, in a department store, Santa asked for an autograph – true or false?

Answers on page 52

GATHERINGS, CLUBS & GROUPS

North Marston Monday Club

We have decided that it's in everyone's best interest to suspend Monday Club meetings for the time being. We will let you know as soon as the situation changes and hope to see you all before too long.

Best wishes,

The Committee

Oving Tennis Club – your local club



Anyone for tennis?

A sport you can play *right now*

- **Singles**
- **Doubles**
- **Coaching**

We are Oving Tennis Club, 'serving' all the villages around Oving. Come and play on our lovely new courts, next to Oving Village Hall, and see if you'd like to join us and enjoy a summer of tennis. Current COVID restrictions allow us to play singles, doubles and offer coaching – we have an experienced LTA accredited coach who has introduced over 150 children to tennis in the past few years.

Come and try our courts by contacting Gary Paul (garyicpaul@yahoo.com or 07599 478295), or if you would like to know more about membership for individuals and families please visit <http://www.ovingtennisclub.co.uk/>.

WINSLOW DISTRICT RAMBLERS GROUP

December walks (subject to Government guidelines). If any walks are cancelled we will post this on the website www.e-voice.org.uk/winslowdistrictramblersgroup

Saturday 5th December 10.30am WOLVERTON

Meet in the car park at entrance to Manor Farm Business Centre, Old Wolverton Rd. GE809415

Walking down to River Ouse and exploring Flood Meadow Nature Reserve. Dogs on leads 4 miles.

Sunday 13th December 10.30am CUDDINGTON

Park in village streets near The Crown (their car park is for customers only). Circular walk through fields to Upper Winchendon (some livestock), crossing the River Thame and passing the old mill and picturesque village of Nether Winchendon 4.5 miles

Sunday 19th December 10.30am CASTLETHORPE. From Wolverton

Meet in car park on left of Haversham Road from Wolverton.

(GR817422). Walking under rail viaduct and beside the river Ouse and floodplain forest to join cycle way 6 to Castlethorpe beside railway. Exploring village before returning by another route. Wild life and history of the village. 4 miles.

Saturday 26th December 2pm WINSLOW

Meet in Greyhound Lane car park. Traditional walk around interesting old and new parts of the town and some post Christmas exercise. 3 miles

CHURCH NOTICES

**St Mary's
Church,
North
Marston**



**St John
the Baptist
Church,**



St Mary's Church, North Marston and

St John the Baptist Church, Granborough – Notices for December

WE MAY OR MAY NOT BE OPEN FOR SERVICES!

We have no idea, at present, what rules will apply once the current lockdown ends, so in terms of our plans for December, it's a case of Plan A (churches open for services) or Plan B (churches open only for private prayer).

We will be celebrating the birth of Christ, however, with our usual joy and fellowship, whether it is face-to-face, or online.

The programme of services and events for December is:

St Mary's Church, North Marston

Sunday 6th December: ***Zoom*** Christingle Service, shared with Granborough at 4.00pm (see separate poster for details). Please book your place to ensure that you receive your Christingle parcel!

Sunday 13th December: ***Zoom*** Nativity Service with Carols at 10.30am, shared with Granborough. The script for the annual NM *Living Nativity* has been divided up and distributed to various families in both villages, so that their performances can be pre-recorded before the service.

Saturday 19th December: ***Lights of Friendship***, outside the Church at 4.30pm

Sunday 20th December: Family Communion at 9.30 am in the Church
OR *Zoom* Family Communion at 10.30am.

Christmas Eve: ***Zoom*** Carols by Candlelight at 6.00pm.

Midnight Service at 11.30pm, shared with Granborough, in North Marston, **OR** no service.

Christmas Day: Family Communion at 9.30am in the Church, **OR** **Zoom** Family Service at 10.30am, shared with Granborough.

Sunday 27th December: No service.

St John the Baptist Church, Granborough

Sunday 6th December: **Zoom** Christingle Service, shared with North Marston at 4.00pm (see separate poster for details). Please book your place to ensure that you receive your Christingle parcel!

Sunday 13th December: **Zoom** Nativity Service with Carols at 10.30am, shared with North Marston. The script for the annual NM *Living Nativity* has been divided up and distributed to various families in both villages, so that their performances can be pre-recorded before the service.

Sunday 20th December: Carols by Candlelight in the Church or Churchyard, **OR** on **Zoom**, at 4.00pm.

Christmas Eve: Midnight Service at 11.30pm in North Marston, **OR** no service.

Christmas Day: Family Communion at 11.00am in the Church, **OR** **Zoom** Family Service at 10.30am, shared with North Marston.

Sunday 27th December: No service.

If you have not joined a Zoom service before, and would like to, please approach Petra directly by email, and she will send you the link in advance.

Together with the regular ***Sunday Reflections*** and ***Candle of Hope***, we hope that this will mean there is something for everyone. If you would like to receive the ***Sunday Reflections***, please email Petra. If you would like to receive ***Candle of Hope***, please email Janet.

Online Services

You can access David Meakin's weekly service, livestreamed at 11am, on the Schorne Team Facebook page, or later in the day via YouTube.

You can share a recorded service, produced by Steve and Sarah Flashman, which is downloaded to the Quainton Church website on Mondays (see www.quaintonchurch.com).

The Diocesan 10.00am Sunday morning communion service can be livestreamed directly from the Diocese of Oxford's website, with a downloadable Order of Service to accompany it: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

There are very useful resources on the Church of England website: <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Prayers and Support

We are keen to offer all the support we can at this time, and even if we can't visit, we are available for pastoral phone conversations. If you have particular concerns that you would like to share and talk through with someone, then please let Petra or Janet know.

In both parishes we have a long-established prayer ministry. To request prayers for family or friends, please contact one of our co-ordinators or either minister directly. Requests for prayers will be dealt with sensitivity and confidentiality.

Prayer co-ordinator for North Marston Church:

Anne Nicholson nicholsonanne759@gmail.com

Prayer co-ordinators for Granborough Church:

Jayne Evans jaynegranborough@hotmail.com

Alison Rosser paulandally1979@gmail.com

Morning Prayers via Zoom and are open to all. These take place on Thursday mornings from 10.00am – 11.00am. Please email Petra if you would like to join us, and she will send you a link to the meeting. You can be an active participant, or just watch and listen.

The Future

Whether or not the second lockdown is lifted in early December, much caution is needed when we meet with others: social distancing and face-covering rules apply to all of our social interactions outside our homes. This means that loneliness, anxiety and a sense of isolation can be felt by many within our village communities.

It still may not be possible to meet up and see each other in person, but we can keep in touch by phone and email. If you find yourself struggling and need help, please let us know if there is anything we can do.

Clergy

Rev Petra Elsmore: 07365605412 petra.elsmore@gmail.com

Rev Janet Bayly: 670245 janet.bayly@gmail.com

Churchwardens North Marston:

Aly Perrett 670302 alysonperrett3@gmail.com

Tricia McSweeney: 670484 tricia.mcsweeney@btinternet.com

Churchwardens Granborough

Peter Evans 670570 petergranborough@gmail.com

Robert Kemp 670204 rookery4@aol.com

Useful resources on mental health can be found here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/mental-health-resources>

For services and organisations that can offer help and support you can check this link:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/your-mental-health/getting-help>

KIDS & PARENTS

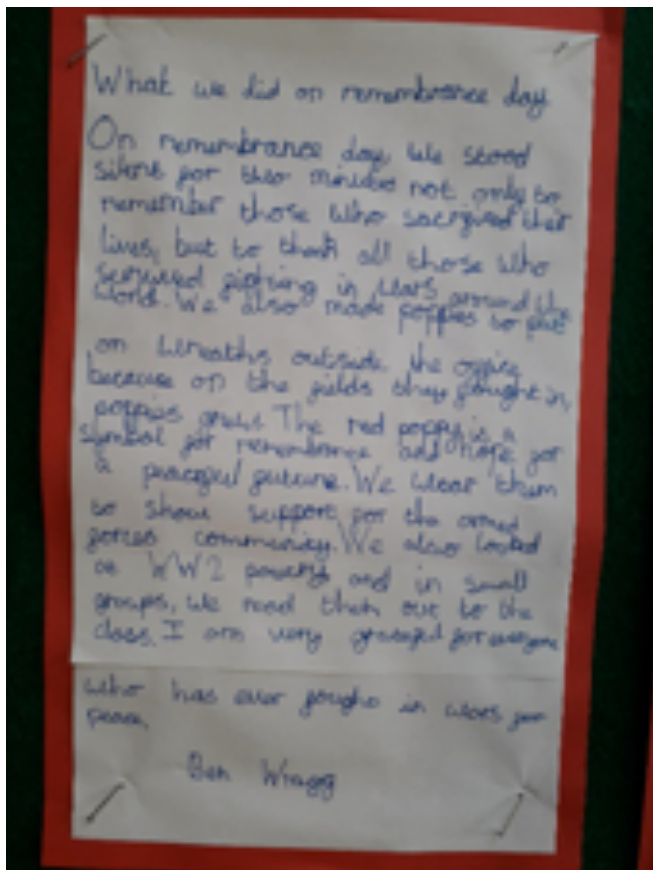
North Marston Church of England School

Challenging each other to love learning and truly care.

"Despite all the current restrictions, pupils at North Marston School are keen to embrace the current school value of "Compassion". As such, they created poppy wreaths and held an outdoor Remembrance service, to remember all our service men and women. They also supported "Children in Need" by making a donation for coming to school in mufti. Great fun was had by all, with a socially distanced dance to "Strictly Children in Need dance" on the playground."

We hope you are all well and keeping safe.

Best wishes, Cathy Gouldstone and Lucy Kent Headteachers.







Santa's Christmas Jokes

What fish is most useful at the North Pole?

A skate!

What is Santa's wife called?

Mary Christmas!

Which burn longer the candles on a birthday cake or Christmas candles?

Neither, they both burn shorter!

Why are Christmas trees always warm?

Because they're fir trees!

Why is it difficult to keep a secret at the North Pole?

Because your teeth chatter!

Why is Christmas pudding like the sea?

Because it's full of currants!

What is a crocodile's favourite Christmas Party Game?

Snap!

What game do cows like to play at Christmas parties?

Moo-sical Chairs!

What did Santa give the octopus for Christmas?

Four pairs of gloves!

What cereal does Santa have for breakfast?

Snowflakes!

1st Granborough Scout Group

WE ARE BACK.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are back. We have been meeting outside, doing lots of amazing activities. We have all enjoyed being back together after months apart or only seeing each other on zoom. The three sections have done a variety of activities, some listed below. Beavers have had lots of walks, studied trees and seen badger setts. Cubs have been on hikes and had fun playing games. Scouts have been on a hike, and managed a kayak session before the weather got too cold.

Beavers (6-8 year old); Cubs (8-10.5 year old); Scouts (10.5-14 year old), Explorers (14 +)

If you are interested in your child joining please do e mail us on the below address.

Adults (18+)

With more people working from home, perhaps you are thinking, "What could I do with the extra time I have gained from not having to travel? I have heard the young people involved in 1st Granborough have so much fun, I could help them!"

Could you give an hour or so occasionally, you don't have to volunteer every week, but you may find you have so much fun you simply want to come back and help every week!

If you have an interest you could share as a one-off please let us know too. Examples of people who have come along to our meetings include: talks on sleep, charity work, first aid learning, making bird boxes out of wood.

Still waiting to hear from someone!!!! Thank you.
1stgranborough@gmail.com

COUNCIL UPDATES

North Marston Parish Council

Playground Update

December 2020

Many people continue to enjoy the toddler area but unfortunately due to ongoing adverse weather conditions (persistent rain throughout October and November) we have been unable to complete the groundworks. With winter on us, we have had to take the decision to delay the seeding for the main grass area until the early spring. We are however hoping to lay the connecting path down to the junior area, once we have had a few consecutive days of dryness, so that the junior area can be accessed in the interim. The pagoda will also be erected over the winter which will provide a great sheltered spot.

Whilst we know this will disappoint many, please be assured that we are keeping a close eye on the weather so that we can make the most of both play areas, whilst we wait for the groundworks to be completed.



New toddler area by the Village Hall includes all play disciplines

Public Rights of Way (PRoW): Footpaths and Bridleways: Responsibilities for Maintenance

The Parish Council is not responsible for maintaining footpaths, responsibilities are divided between landowners and Buckinghamshire Council (BC). This is a quick guide, detailed information is at <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/environment/public-rights-way/>

Trees and hedges: it is the landowner's responsibility to maintain hedges and trees adjacent to PRoWs. BC has powers to require owners to remove overgrowth (Highway Act 1980 section 154). Undergrowth: BC are responsible for clearing any vegetation naturally growing on the surface of a path, and respond to requests for clearance as required.

There is nothing to prevent walkers from clearing PRoWs and Ramblers Association Path Clearing Groups do so in some areas. Leave the landowners vegetation: it is their property.

Autumn cultivation and PRoWs: Legally, a farmer may plough a PRoW only if it is not convenient to avoid disturbing the path, but must reinstate it within 14 days of first disturbance, and the path must be levelled and made visible, and within 24 hours of any subsequent disturbance. Reinstatement must be: at least 1 metre for a cross-field footpath, across the cultivation; 2 metres for a crossfield bridleway across the cultivations.

Report an issue on a public footpath, bridleway or byway online. <https://prow.buckscc.gov.uk/standardmap.aspx>

Eg: broken stiles; overgrown vegetation or fallen trees; damaged or dangerous path surfaces; damaged or dangerous bridges; damaged or missing signposts and waymarks.

Or, The Ramblers Association: Report path problems through Pathwatch and they will alert the local highway authority. <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/advice/pathwatch-report-path-features-and-problems.aspx>

The Ramblers have their Pathwatch App you can download and then report problems on your walk as you come across them.

Granborough Village Hall Needs You

Granborough village hall is a registered charity run by a group of Trustees who are responsible for maintaining the hall and grounds. The hall is for everyone to use and is hired regularly by many age groups for meetings, classes, parties and other events. The Church use it as a hall and the Parish Council meets there. We should have a minimum of eleven Trustees who include the Vicar, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. We would welcome more residents to join us. The only qualifications required are that you live(ed) in Granborough and have an interest in the future of the village hall. We are approaching exciting times as we plan to re-open a fully restored hall in Spring 2021 with a new calendar of exciting events.

We meet between 6 and 8 times a year and organise several social events during the year. We also support other village events such as the Charter Fayre.

Granborough residents have told us how important the village is to all of us! Please consider becoming a Trustee and helping to maintain our historic and rather lovely village hall.

For further information please contact any Trustee or the acting Secretary, Davina Thorogood on 670596.

Granborough Village Hall Committee

Secretary's Report for Year 2019/2020

We currently have 11 Trustees but would still welcome more. During the last year we welcomed Emily D'Espaigne as a Trustee and Secretary. Emily is currently on Maternity leave and we congratulate James, Emily and Harrison on the safe arrival of Samuel.

Our responsibilities are to maintain the hall and grounds to an acceptable standard. The hall is used by many local organizations for meetings, regular clubs and special events. It is used by the Parish Council for their meetings, by the church in the absence of a church hall and as a polling station. It is also hired out to non-Residents.

During 2019 we continued with our fundraising events. These included a plant sale in May, taking part in the Charter fayre, the handicraft and produce Show in September, a coffee morning in October, a quiz night in November and a fish and chip supper in December. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic no fund raising events have been held during 2020.

The plans for the hall restoration were reviewed in early 2019 and the decision to phase and scale down the work using local trades people meant that the estimate of costs was significantly reduced from £238K to around £100K. We achieved our first significant grant from ACRE in mid 2020 and also derived money from Parish Council donations and AVDC micro grants. This boosted our money achieved from fund raising over the past few years and meant that we could begin some of the work.

Taking advantage of the hall being closed due to the current pandemic, internal improvements have almost been completed. These include insulation, redecoration, installation of oil fired central heating, replacement of damaged windows, reconfiguration of toilets to include disabled facilities, new doors and flooring.

We are highly likely to receive the balance of the funds required from WREN shortly and this will enable us to complete the external works by Spring 2021. Meanwhile the hall will remain closed until we can meet the COVID-19 control regulations.

We are grateful to Brian Sear who kept the hall clean and carried out minor repairs for many years. Unfortunately Brian has resigned so we will be seeking a replacement when the hall reopens. We also thank the Williams family who continue to mow the grass.

Our main aim for the future is to complete the restoration work and reopen the hall as soon as possible. Something we can all look forward to!

Davina Thorogood
29/10/20

GRANBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL AGM 2020

A note from the Chairman - David Smedley

I think it goes without saying that the last year has been perhaps the most difficult the VH has faced in at least the last 75 years. Corona virus has impacted on every aspect of personal and community life. The VH has, since the early 1900 been at the centre of village life and activities but all this came to an end with the first national lockdown when we had to take the hall out of use and all regular, annual and one off events had to be cancelled.

It was just about 1 year ago that we were looking at the various quotations for the reduced restoration scheme and agreeing on what we would and would not do. We were also considering the impact on events for 2020 and when the hall would have to be closed.

Perhaps the only positive thing that Covid has given us has been the opportunity to carry out the internal works to the hall whilst normal usage has been banned. For all those who have not yet been inside the hall it has undergone a major transformation with a combination of repairs, improvements and redecoration. Not least amongst these is the new colour scheme, central heating, refurbished entrance hall, new toilets and refitted kitchen. Additionally, there are a number of essential items which are not immediately visible, such as the considerable amount of thermal insulation work, renewed glazing and new electrics all of which will breathe new life into the old building for decades to come.

Unfortunately, it does not look so good externally, but this second phase should start in 2021 with new front timbers, roof repairs and redecoration.

Key to all the work, both completed and planned, has been securing grant aid to bolster our successful fund raising to a level where very extensive work has been possible. This has been key and so my sincere thanks to all involved in this behind the scenes work.

To avoid the perils of omitting someone, as I was away for a good chunk of the year, my sincere thanks to all who have been involved be that a lot or a little in getting the project to this stage, and hope as many as possible will help in the next stages, which will include a good clear out and clean so that as soon as we are allowed the hall can return to use.

David Smedley

Village Maintenance

Potholes & Highway Maintenance

Potholes and Highway maintenance can be directly reported using the following link <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk> You can ask for a reference number so that progress can be tracked. (please pass this onto the Parish Council). In an emergency, for instance a severe road defect, a flooded road, or a tree in the road, call Transport for Buckinghamshire on 01296 382416 or 486630 (out of hours).

Lighting

In the event that you see a light not working or is broken please email the clerk (editornorthmarston@gmail.com) with the following information:

Road Name, Light Number (will be displayed on the column) OR nearest House Name/Number. Your Contact Details

Important Links:

BCC waste webpages – www.buckscc.gov.uk/HRC

SCRAP Fly tipping, advice on disposing of waste responsibly - www.buckscc.gov.uk/fly-tipping

Apply for a waste permit – www.buckscc.gov.uk/wastepermit

Potholes and Highway maintenance -

www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk

Planned Roadworks and diversions – www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads and waste guide –

www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/recycling-and-waste

Bin collections dates:

Recycling Bin

Monday 7th December

Monday 21st December

Wednesday 6th January

Waste Bin

Monday 14th December

Wednesday 30th December

Minutes of the North Marston Parish Council Meeting held virtually on 'Zoom' Tuesday 11th November 2020 at 8.00pm

Due to the coronavirus meetings cannot be held in a public place NALC briefing dated 3rd April 2020

Attendees: Cllr Symonds, Cllr Du Plessis, Cllr Hogbin-Mills, Cllr Martin, Cllr Boyt, Clerk Rachel Callander & 2 members of the public

1. **100 Club Draw:** November Draw: 1st prize 13 Peter Morton, 2nd prize 45 Rachel Callander, 3rd prize 17 Andy Stephenson

2. Planning Applications

- Resolved: 20/03711/APP 2 Church Street – approved subject to seeing floor plans
- Resolved: No Objections 20/03789/AGN Manor Farm
- Resolved: Agreed the installation of a temporary greenhouse on the allotment opposite 33 Quainton Road

3. Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Du Plessis reported –

- a. Work on the new Design Code is also now progressing well with both research into the Code's legal requirements and detailed factual work on the existing housing mix
- b. The next stage is for members of the Group to begin putting together a programme of guidelines for consideration in the Design Code, covering areas such as environmental impact, suitability of materials, energy use, effect on heritage assets and landscape, aesthetic appeal, etc. This process should begin after 12th November
- c. The Group hopes to see the first skeleton of a draft plan from the consultant on 12th November with a presentation to the PC in January 2021

4. Parish Action Plan/Projects Playground –

- a. Cllr Du Plessis reported the groundworks had stopped due to the rain and the grass seed will now have to take place in March as the seed will be eaten by the birds if done before. The path between the 2 play areas will continue over the

- a. winter and the pagoda installed. The grass area will be fenced off until it is seeded but with access to the play areas and zip wire. The damaged cone in the smaller play area has been replaced.
- b. It was noted that dog mess has been cleared up on the path and that NO dogs should be in the playarea at any time.
- c. Agreed PW Landscapes quote for the fence and paving slabs outside the gate on Quainton Road plus levelling of those inside the gate, was approved for £1100 + VAT
- d. Noted the CCTV has not been installed yet. Agreed Cllr Mordue to install asap.

Pond – Trevor Jenkins identified 3 areas to be addressed:

- a. Aquatic compost into the shallow areas where the current plants are so they can thrive. Aquatic compost because it's purpose-made and low nutrient
- b. A barrier to hold the compost back from slipping to the depths, where it will sediment, and be lost from around the plants as above
- c. Surface covering plants
- d. The total cost £600 including VAT. Councillors agreed it is vital to maintain the pond and will review the document and feedback in the December meeting.

Website – Agreed the website needed modernising whilst making it accessible. Cllr Hogbin Mills to address this. The accessibility statement will be put on the website and the Clerk will allocate documents for councillors to review to make accessible through the guidelines.

Traffic Calming – Agreed Trevor Jenkins will present low cost solutions to the PC in the December/January meeting. There are 22 months of MVAS data plus the Truvelo equipment available now. Approved the quote of £185 + VAT for a new battery for the MVAS equipment from Swarco

Kerbing along Church Street – The grant with match funding has been applied for on 26/10/2020

Magazine Update – The monthly magazine went online in November and has received very positive feedback that the whole of the 2 villages can see it online, it is climate and covid friendly.

One objective of the magazine is for all residents to be able to access it and it was agreed that for those NM residents that do not have internet access and used to subscribe can receive a printed copy upon request. An allocation of £150 will be reserved for this purpose.

5. Next Parish Council meeting: December 8th 2020 on Zoom

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The disruption caused to the Neighbourhood Plan process by this year's severe limitations has inevitably resulted in a significant delay to the Steering Group's work, but we still intend to have a North Marston Neighbourhood Plan completed in time for consideration by residents in the early summer of next year. Current legislation stipulates that the earliest a final Plan can be presented for a Parish Referendum is 6 May 2021.

The Group expects to begin the initial drafting of the Plan in January, and we are currently assembling all the supporting factual evidence that will be needed to underpin the stated objectives in the Plan itself. These objectives are largely founded upon residents' responses to the 2018/19 Parish Questionnaire, and they form the basis of the general policies for the future which will be outlined in the final Plan.

To ensure as much parish participation as possible, we remain hopeful of being able to present the initial draft for comment and suggested amendment at an Open Exhibition sometime in the spring, before it is made available for general consultation. However, if that cannot happen then the draft will be placed on the village website for comment. We are very eager to give residents a chance to comment on and make their feelings about our initial findings known so that they can be considered before any final Plan is formally presented.

At the beginning of 2020 the Steering Group was looking forward to completing the North Marston Neighbourhood Plan before the end of the year and giving residents a clear and agreed pathway for the village's future in the face of all the proposed changes in the surrounding area. Circumstances have meant that this was not possible, but we remain committed to working hard to provide a Plan which, as far as we are able, ensures that in coming years North Marston remains the wonderful place to live in that it is today.

Current Group members: Michael Lane (Chair), Trevor Jenkins (Vice-Chair and Secretary), Katherine du Plessis (Parish Council Representative), Marie Cowen, Bev Davis.

Brain Teaser - Answers

- 1.Sleepless in Seattle
 - 2.Bridget Jones's Diary
 - 3.The Royalties from a Christmas song his father had composed
 4. Home Alone
 - 5.James Stewart
 6. Scrooge
 - 7.Holiday Inn
 - 8.Planes, Trains and Automobiles
 9. Macys
 - 10.Peter Auty, a St Paul's Cathedral chorister. Aled Jones recorded a cover version which reached no.5 in the UK charts in 1985
 - 11.Jesus
 - 12.Dr Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)
 13. Santa Claus: The Movie (1985)
 14. Love Actually
 15. Alan Rickman
-

Christmas Quiz - Answers

1. Patch, 2.Jingle Bells, 3. Bashful, 4. Old Buttercup, 5.Tiny Tim
 - 6.Westward, 7. Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas, 8. Dick Whittington, 9. Luke, 10. TRUE
-

North Marston Village Hall Hiring Calendar

Please also see northmarston.org for calendar

Please contact northmarston@gmail.com for 'Zoom' ID & password for parish Council meetings

LOCAL SERVICES

HUNTER PEST SERVICES



Domestic and Commercial Pest Control
Fast, Reliable, Discreet | No call out charge
Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas

Contact Tim Hunter

T: 07976 802362

E: hunterpestservicesuk@gmail.com

W: hunterpestservices.co.uk

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USEFUL NUMBERS

Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	08701	264056
Citizens Advice	Buckingham	01280	816707
NM&G County Councillor	Netta Glover	01296	688357
NM&G County District Councillor	Scott Raven	07841	560877
NM&G Sportsfield Chairman	Trevor Lane	01296	670100
NM&G Football	Barry Kirwan	01296 670135	07956 815489
Snr Cricket Club Captain	Gordon Bowden	07813	351998
Jnr Cricket administrator	Trevor Lane	01296	670100
Jnr Crusaders	Karen Bunyan	01296	670814
'The Crew' (snr Crusaders)	Robert Kemp	01296	670204
Granborough Scout Group	1stgranborough@gmail.com		
Granborough Bell Ringers	Malcolm Newman	01296	670483
Granborough Play Area	Tors Firth	01280	823116
Granborough Senior Citizens	Margaret Inkley/ Jackie Lloyd-Jones	01296	670612/ 670210
Granborough Village Hall Secretary	Emily D'Espaign		
Granborough Village Hall Bookings	Ann Sear	01296	670314
Granborough Parish Council	Tors Firth	01280	823116
Mobile Baker	Karl's Bakery	07917	002800
Mobile Library	(alternate Wednesdays)	01280	813229
Monday Club	Valerie Price	01296	670284

Neighbourhood watch NM	TBC		
Neighbourhood watch (G)	Mark Scholes	01296	670035
North Marston Bell Ringers	Paul Bagni	01296	670522
North Marston Church Wardens	Alyson Perrett/Trisha McSweeny	07814 972629	670484
North Marston Methodist Church	David Heffer	01296	670273
North Marston Parish Council	Rachel Callander	01296	670393
North Marston School	Reception	01296	670286
North Marston Shop		01296	670374
Schorne Pre School	Main line	07703	754397
Village Drama Group (MADS)	Peter Docwra	01296	670567
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The Crown	Public House	01296	670216
The Black Boy	Public House	01296	641258
Oving Tennis Club	Peter Docwra	01296	670567
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Whitchurch Surgery	Reception	01296	641203
Police	Call Centre	101	
Police	Crimestoppers	0800	555111
RSPCA	Command Centre	03001	234999
Samaritans	Call Centre	08457	909090
Traveline	Bus/Train Timetables	08706	082608

IF ANY OF THE CONTACTS OR NUMBERS ARE INCORRECT
OR NEED UPDATING PLEASE CONTACT
editornorthmarston@GMAIL.COM

North Marston & Granborough Calendar

Date	Event	When	Time
6th Dec	NM&G Christingle Service	Zoom	4pm
6th Dec	Aylesbury Christmas Mkt		11-3
12th Dec	Buckingham Christmas Mkt		10-4
13th Dec	NM&G Nativity service with carols	Zoom	10.30
19th Dec	NM Lights of Friendship	St Mary's	4.30
20th Dec	G Carols by candlelight	Church/zoom	4.00
24th Dec	NM Carols by candlelight	Zoom	6.00

2021

16th Jan	Pilates & Prosecco Eve	TBC
19th Feb	Quiz	Wesley Centre
19th March	Race Night	VH
24th April	Cream Tea	8 Carters Meadow

This is your magazine and so we are happy to publish local news within both communities as well as articles of interest such as stories/ poems/announcements/regular columns in the magazine. All contributions to use A5 Word format and 11 point font then send to editornorthmarston@gmail.com by the 20th **of each month**.

We would love to hear from everyone, of all ages in our local communities, so please send in any topic contributions by the 15th of each month, for publication in the following month.