

CRICKETERS

MALE or
FEMALE -

go along to a
Home Match on
August 14th or
21st, September
4th or 11th

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ISSUE 285

COMMUNITY

MATTERS

NORTH
NIBLEY

needs

YOU!

And in 2023 a new
HEADTEACHER
see Page 11

PARISH COUNCILLORS

see page 5

email MANDY ROSSITER

clerk@northnibleyparishcouncil.org.uk

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FIELD
COMMITTEE
MEMBERS

email

PAUL FINDLAY
pfindlay513@gmail.com

SINGERS IN
COMMUNITY CHOIR

see page 4

choirs@rowanarnes.com

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To co-ordinate and supply our lovely volunteer delivery team email us!



Nibley Swifts Update July 2022

by Peter Kirmond

<https://nibleyswifts.org>

You will remember that, as a result of a huge response from residents around the village my hope of putting up a few swift boxes turned into a project of fairly epic proportions resulting in over EIGHTY boxes all over North Nibley plus a dozen or so more down at KLB.

As I write this update in early July we are in the peak season for swift activity: we have three nests with young in the boxes on our house and swifts have been reported swooping low around many of the other houses in the village that now have boxes. It was never likely that any of these new residences would be nested in this year but the hope was that birds looking for a nest site for next year would find them and possibly even start nest building.

By the time you read this many of the birds will have already headed south but here's a brief summary of what's been happening:

The 3 pairs of birds nesting on our house (36, The Street) have produced six chicks (a 100% improvement over last year's 3)

I set up a camera in one box and put a live stream of it on the Nibley Swifts website (search for 'Nibley Swifts' and then go to 'Box 2 Live Stream').



Although the chicks should have fledged by the time you read this, there are edited highlight clips if you

scroll down the page – they make quite entertaining viewing!



I've been ringing the adults and chicks so that I can monitor the population in coming years. This is perfectly safe when done properly and will provide valuable data which will help inform how to best encourage these nationally threatened birds.

It also lets us follow the life history of the local nesting birds – several of the adults that nested on our house last year have returned this but not necessarily to the same nestbox and not necessarily with the same partner! See the website for more details. Sound systems playing the swift 'scream' call have been set up at various strategic points around the village and have been working well drawing in the birds to the new homes they are being offered. Groups of birds have been reported swooping fast and low in Pitt Court, Forthay, Barrs Lane, New Road, The Street and Stancombe View. In several of these places they have been seen taking a close look at the boxes, landing on them or even going inside for a closer inspection. This all bodes very well for at least some of the boxes being used next year. All in all, it's been a brilliant first year for the Nibley Swifts project so a huge thank you is due to all the people who enthusiastically got involved by having boxes on their houses and reporting sightings. I would be happy to produce more boxes for 2023 so, if you'd like to get involved, get in touch!

VILLAGE



Our outside meeting to Wortley House for a Garden Visit went very well; thank you to Elaine for organizing it.

On a very hot July afternoon Village Eye members donned their summer dresses and sun hats in order to visit the beautiful gardens of Wortley House. Created over the last 30 years the garden has grown from a smallish walled garden at the rear of the house when the present owners purchased the property to a 20 acre site extending to the tree line of Wortley Hill.



A mixture of the formal and informal make up the garden including roses, herbaceous borders, pleached lime avenues, a nut walk, ponds and wildflower meadows. There are strategically placed statues, follies and urns along with a large area of unmown grassland featuring a thatched hut providing views across to the Severn Vale.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon with the owner, Jessica, proving a very knowledgeable guide and we all agreed that this was indeed a hidden gem.

August 8th Chris Evans from Dundry Nurseries talking about his charity the Butterfly Garden for disadvantaged teenagers in the garden. A very entertaining speaker.

September 12th The meeting will be an outside meeting at The Old Passage Inn, Arlingham, for afternoon tea at 3.00pm .

The cost is £15 a head. Val Quest will be arranging it and she can be contacted on 01453 544096 if you cannot come to the August meeting where bookings will be taken.

October 10th We have a change of speaker. Margie Hoffnung (a local resident) will be talking to us about Rosemary Verey and her famous garden which Margie was involved in for some time.

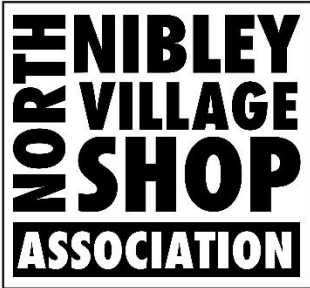
November 14th The Holfords of Westonbirt with Tom Potts

On a sadder note we have lost two long time members Rosemary Davies and Dawn Keynton both stalwart members over the years.

We shall miss them and our thoughts go to their families.

We would welcome any new members who would like to come and join us. We meet at 2.30pm, usually in the Village Hall.

Pat Symons 01453 845154



Community facility continues

orders.nibleyhub@gmail.com

Did you realise that you can still order local milk, eggs, bread and Forthay Granola. Email your order by 11.00 am on Tuesdays to collect from Thursday each week from T&Cakes? orders.nibleyhub@gmail.com

The Shop Association regards the retaining of this small selection of locally produced staple foods, previously available in the village shop, as an important community facility and one that Tarragon kindly and willingly embraced when she expanded the cafe into the whole shop premises. She has a small, appreciative cohort of regular takers-up, but can cope with more, either weekly or on an occasional basis.



Milk is now only delivered on Thursday mornings but will be kept refrigerated if it can't be collected until the weekend.

Bread is delivered on Thursday and Saturday mornings from Walkers bakery and you can order anything from their extensive range of breads, rolls, buns etc as well as their popular range of flour. Save yourself a trip into Wotton!



Folk with an overabundance of garden produce, vegetables, plants and the like, can still donate their excesses for others to enjoy, as has always been the Nibley way. Earlier in the year there were a variety of baby plants left over from successful sowings, later there will be gluts of rampant courgettes morphing into marrows and other vegetable excesses, then fruit appears, apples, pears and plums make use of the shelves outside T & Cakes. So, keep your eyes peeled.



If you think these garden products are worthy of financial contribution, please pop a small donation into the black letter box. All funds raised go towards the purchase of plants for the planter and its upkeep.



News from The Chapel



Contacts: Sue Convery 547939
sueconvery@gmail.com
 Dave Purnell 07775876738
davidpurnell48@hotmail.com
 Administrator: Lisa Osborn
lisa.tamburrano@gmail.com

WEEK-DAY EVENTS IN THE CHAPEL

COFFEE, CAKE, CRAFT AND CHAT

Normally in the Chapel every **Wednesday**,
10am-2pm



Last meeting before our summer break 20 July, restarting Weds 7th September

with space for those wishing to bring their art or craft activity.

Why not pop your head round the door and just come in for coffee, tea, cake and a chat.

NORTH NIBLEY COMMUNITY CHOIR

Normally **Mondays**
7.30-9pm



Restarts Mon 5 Sept after Summer break

£6 per session; all welcome to join.

The Choir meets for fun during the school term, but there are opportunities to perform in public at Christmas and at concerts as arranged during the year.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Led by Paul Woolner
Sun 14th August at 10am

All welcome!

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Led by Rev. Ray Avent
Sun 28th August at 10am

All welcome!

TABLE TENNIS

Normally **Tuesdays**,
10am-11:30am, term time only.
Restarts Tues 6th September after summer break. £1.50, includes coffee and biscuits. *All Welcome*



DANCEFIT

Dancefit classes **throughout summer every Thursday**,
10am- 11am, except cancelled on **28 July**.

£5 a session pay-as-you-go



ChurChapel
Churches together North Nibley
Churches Together

Harvest Service

with tea & cake

Sunday 11th Sept @ 3pm
 Donations to food banks



CHAPEL A.G.M. MEETING

With cheese and wine
Tues 6th Sept @ 7pm
 open to anyone who wants to come!



ChurChapel
Churches together North Nibley
Churches Together

Bible Studies

With open discussion
 Led by Paul Woolner
 Starting from:

Tues 20th Sept @ 7pm
 Everyone welcome

LET'S HAVE FUN!

Children aged 3-11 and their parents are welcome to join in crafty activities, stories and lunch

Sat 17th Sept
10:00 – 12:00



Rag Rug 6 week Course

Starts
Weds
14 Sept



Led by Julie Davies
 contact Sue Convery to join at: sueconvery@gmail.com

CAFÉ CHURCH

Led by
 Chris Lowther
 from Open Doors
Sunday 25th Sept at 10am



All welcome!

*Looking for Rag Rug Bodgers to borrow; age of tool immaterial
 If anyone has one we can borrow please let Sue Convery know: sueconvery@gmail.com*

Helpers needed for Messy Church. Any ages, teenagers to grannies. Every other month **Saturday 10-12noon** (9.30-12.30 for helpers). Finish with lunch for everyone. Very flexible schedule.
 Contact Sue Convery
sueconvery@gmail.com

Parish Council Matters

Farewell

Unfortunately for the Parish Council, Cllrs Symons and Burton have both decided that it is the right time for them to relinquish their responsibilities as members of North Nibley Parish Council. Both Councillors have served on the council for around seven years, stepping up to Chair and Vice Chair positions over the past 12 months. Prior to being co-opted onto the council, Cllr Symons also clerked for the council from 2008 to 2016.

Both Cllrs Burton and Symons will be greatly missed for their many strengths, diplomatic mannerisms and their passion for North Nibley community. Each remaining member of the council, and myself have all expressed our sadness, but understanding of their decisions to leave and wish them all the best. Cllr Burton was presented with a bouquet of flowers, and a donation to Focus support and information centre at Cheltenham General Hospital Oncology Centre was made on behalf of Cllr Symons by way of thanks from council members both present and past.

Councillor Vacancies

Following the resignations of Councillors Purnell, Symons and Burton, North Nibley Parish Council will have three councillor vacancies.

The council hope to interview and fill the first vacancy by co-option during the August meeting.

If no request for an election has been received before 29th July at SDC then the council will be aiming to interview and fill the second and third vacancies by co-option at the September meeting.

More details on becoming a councillor can be found on the Parish Council website. We strongly recommend having a chat with one of our councillors so that they can tell you how great it is to be a councillor, contact details for the current council members (John Hay, Tim Andrews, Keith Larkin and David Palmer) can be found on the website.

Planning

There were no planning applications for the Parish Council to consider at June's meeting. Comments on planning applications can be made by accessing the web portal, where you can also raise your own comments.

The link to Stroud District Planning Portal:

<https://publicaccess.stroud.gov.uk/online-applications>

Road Safety

Councillor Cohen continues to support North Nibley Parish Council in its fight for Road Safety in the village and as part of this has recently carried out site inspections with individuals from Gloucestershire Highways and Public Rights of Way to review the conditions along Road Green, Wood Lane and New Road. Councillor Cohen provides the council with a monthly report and this is shared retrospectively on the parish council website with the PC minutes.

Annual Clean Up Day

Due to the pandemic North Nibley has been unable to arrange the annual clean up day over the past two years and are now delighted to announce that we are able to hold one this year. The date of the annual clean up will be **Saturday 1st October 2022**, hopefully the foliage will have died back by then and the weather will be kind to us. More details will be posted on the website, Facebook and Noticeboards nearer the time.

Play Area in North Nibley

The fund raisers have done a fantastic job and thanks to a number of grants the target has almost been met. Conversations are still being held over the location of the proposed play area. Once a decision has been made a public consultation meeting will be held,

Local Issues

Footpaths – Please continue to make contact with Cllr Hay with your thoughts on our local footpaths and highlight any improvements which we could consider making.
john@haymail.net

Other key points from PC meetings:

Broadcasting PC Meetings – Broadcasting our meetings continues to be a work in progress as we develop and practice with the technology. We hope that you are finding the streaming option useful and appreciate your patience and understanding when things don't quite go to plan.

Next Meeting Dates

The Parish Council understand that you may not feel ready to attend physical meetings yet and therefore I am still happy for you to continue to email me your comments for the open public session within the meeting.

The next meetings of the council will be held on the following dates in the **Village Hall at 7:15pm**.

August 1st

September 5th

October 3rd

November 7th

*Please note that to be quorate there must be at least three councillors in attendance at the meeting. Currently, we only have four council members, and therefore due to holiday season and rising covid rates there is a higher than usual risk of a council meeting being cancelled at short notice.

All the best,

Mandy

Mandy Rossiter, Clerk - North Nibley Parish Council

clerk@northnibleyparishcouncil.org.uk

07920 103 953

www.northnibleyparishcouncil.org.uk



Nibley 2022 rolled out the red carpet and an A-list of performers, activities and entertainment for all in the movie themed weekend that is the festival's best yet.

Always an exciting and diverse line-up of music that gives a platform to those up and coming artists and to more established, well-known bands a chance to connect with fans.

There were many highlights including UK rock legend Feeder, who put on a stellar show, and 'get the party started' Dutty Moonshine Big Band with a mix of musical genres. Wonderful acts ranged from the hugely popular BMX stunt team to guest cameos by the Bat Mobile, a 'Wookiee' and various walkabout movie characters.

There was a welcome return of comedy with The Cheshire Cat, and the Vinyl Frontier was ever popular with the late night revellers. The wellbeing area increased in size allowing for a gentler festival vibe. Nibley had something to suit all moods.

'Feeder' a UK rock legend!



NORTH NIBLEY





Soloist 'Wildwood Kin'



The festival organisers appreciate that it's a team effort and they wish to thank all those who gave up their time to volunteer, to their sponsors, especially Renishaw who have unrelentingly contributed to the event over many years, and to the local community. The festival is hugely grateful to the Nibley village for their patience and support. They strive to improve the running year on year and will be reviewing everything in the coming weeks.

This year was particularly special for Festival Chair Tom McCarthy as it's his last in the role. He said "Wow - what an amazing weekend! I can't thank the team enough for their hard work creating such a sensational event. It's my last Nibley as an organiser. I've had the most amazing experience but from now on my involvement will be helping put the bunting up only!

We've had our best Nibley yet and some wonderful charities and organisations will benefit from all the hard work. After such a tumultuous few years the organisers, volunteers, sponsors and our wonderful community should feel very proud of what we've achieved."



MUSIC FESTIVAL 2022





North Nibley Preschool



Wow! As you read this the summer holidays will be in full swing. We can't deny it is good to have a summer break and enjoy time with our families. We had a jam-packed July and enjoyed many activities, and because the weather has been so lovely, we have had some of our lunch times in the garden.

We said some farewells at the end of term as 11 of our children have left us to start their new journey at primary school. It was so nice to be able to take the children to school to meet their new teachers and it has been lovely having primary school teachers visiting us. The children are very excited!

Tears were had during the last week from parents and staff. It is always a mixed bag of emotions. We had a fabulous leavers' party. Again, it felt like something special was being achieved. We had a children's entertainer by the name of Magic Marie who really makes the children and parents laugh! She pulled out rabbits from hats and was thoroughly entertaining. We also had a bouncy castle which was so much fun. The adults enjoyed it, too! We gave all our children some leaving gifts and our leavers some extra-special gifts, gifts to keep those memories alive.



Staff, committee members and friends had a great time at the Music Festival on the Preschool stall. We did not stop on the Friday and particularly on the Saturday. We are very grateful to the Music Festival for allowing us to come back. It was surreal at times, soaked through in the morning and by 6pm some of us were looking a little red! We have raised approximately £700, and we are very happy with this. Thank you, Music Festival Team.

We have some new starters coming to us soon and can't wait to get to know them. Our AGM will be held on Monday 12th September @8pm in the Village Hall. We have our rescheduled Quiz & Booze night booked for October.

During the holidays the emails will be checked every few days except for one or two weeks. These will be checked by the admin team, who do know what spaces are available and will most likely be able to answer any questions. As we always say, there are very few available spaces remaining for 2022/23, but please get in contact with us if you think you'd like to come to us. See www.northnibleypreschool.co.uk or follow us on Facebook. We already have new children booked in for 2024. Enjoy your holidays and we will see you in September 2022, when our little ones come back looking so much bigger! Stay safe and be happy, from all of us in the North Nibley Preschool Team.





A Trial to Watch

As another year rolls around to the end, we've been able to put back in place certain 'staples' of the school year - Sports Day, Play Leaders' Sports Day (inspired by the Commonwealth Games), trips and the Summer Production. This year we visited a 'nursery rhyme' themed world in which Mr Wolf was on trial for crimes against the woodland folk - Little Red, the Three Little Wolves and any creature both small and edible.

Providing evidence for the prosecution and defence were characters such as 'the Mole' (secret agent), Granny and Hugh Mann. The audience - predominantly parents but also past pupils, governors and ex-members of staff - formed the jury, with the play providing alternative endings according to how they voted with their flashcards.

Taking the main parts were this year's Year 6, who in the last issue gave voice to their reflections on their times at North Nibley. They certainly reminded us all of how it should be done. Confident, articulate, measured and fun - all characteristics that we hope to impart in this, the last 'big' event before the Leavers' Service and Secondary School.

Musically, all the juniors have set a very high standard for future productions. The singing was sophisticated, with many solos and frequent singing in parts. The audience were wowed!

We've always seen the summer production as a part of the curriculum. Obviously, stage craft features highly, but we also learn to work together, understanding that we can achieve together far more than we can apart, and for some being this public in speaking, singing and moving, challenges us to step beyond our comfort zone.

As we break for the summer, find new ways to challenge yourself. Do something new. Be brave. That, too, is learning and progress in personal development.

Paul Batchelor, Head Teacher



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Walking in the beautiful valley

Firstly, a big thank you to Claire and Roly Brown for giving us their children's old buggy in cold February this year. We pumped up the tyres and it was ready to go!

I've had from October '21 until June '22 on maternity leave and a big favourite hobby are my daily walks. Some of you have probably seen us!! I've walked about six miles almost every day for about 8 months.

Now that I have returned part-time to my job as a business psychologist and wellbeing specialist, it's made me reflect on the benefits of walking. Here they are...

- Walking benefits our mental health - we feel happier, in fact regular exercise helps clear the stress hormones out of our body!
- Walking improves our strength and stamina - good for all the systems of the body.
- Walking is a great way to meet the neighbours! We've enjoyed meeting so many of you all.
- And finally walking is a zero-carbon way to travel: environmentally and Nature-friendly.

Highly recommended walking!

After all these walks, I hope my son grows up to love walking, too!!

Sarah (Ashen Plains, Waterley Bottom)

Dear Readers,

By the time you read this, it will be widely known that I have published plans for an early retirement and will be leaving at the end of December.



Without a doubt, the school at North Nibley and the community around it (including yourselves) have been a blessing and joy to me, and I will miss the work hugely (but not so much the workload!). Of course, I will miss the children most of all! I will have plenty to say on the matter over the Autumn term, including in these pages, so stay tuned and have a wonderful summer! Best wishes,

Paul Batchelor,
Head Teacher

www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk



North Nibley Historical Group

Thursday 1st September
7.30pm at the Chapel

*"The Sealed Knot Society –
what is it and why did we join?"*

with Jenny and David Earle

On The Edge Editors Please note the deadline for the **October** issue is **Saturday 10th September**

Please email to nibleyote@gmail.com

Dave Beer 546251, Sue Devine 543748

Dave Earle 546659, Alison Edwards 543441,

Kate Gordon 543329, Di Hay 544965,

Ann Larkin 543320, Sue Shrimpton 544409

Please contact an editor if you wish to use any item from this publication.



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Ramblings about the Parish Church

I was doing my duty at the Music Festival when across the field, St Martin's caught my eye - what a magnificent building! And from the Severn Vale, our church and monument can be seen for miles. Much of it was built in the fourteen hundreds and it has 'witnessed' so much history and it stands on the site of a much earlier church.

In days gone by Sunday church attendance was pretty much obligatory and in my mum's time it was twice on Sunday plus Sunday School. By the time I came along it was just twice on Sunday, but the village still had two shops, one of which was a post office, a garage, our own policeman who lived in the village, a garage, a village nurse and most important of all, four pubs: yes, four, which opened twice a day! Whoever would have believed that drinking in a pub would go out of fashion? We also had seven milking herds of cows scattered around the parish.

Times have changed and we must expect that because society itself has changed out of all recognition this past fifty years or so. Supposing that the church closed, which it might, it would be stripped of all the good bits, locked up and we might be allowed into it once a year or so for a special service. This would suit the bats and other wildlife that live in various parts of it, but it would be

the death knell for the school children who get so excited when they come in for services. It would be the end for Christmas services like Christingle and the carol services. It would be the end for people wanting to get married, buried, christened in the 'family church' and it would be the end of Sunday worship for the congregation.

But, God has been busy in the village and has sent us a number of new, youngish, forward looking people who have joined the group who make decisions about the church. These people, along with us oldies, are open to all sorts of ideas to keep the money coming in to fund the upkeep of such a magnificent building. I've seen churches around the country doubled up as a village shop, café, indoor glamping and village hall and all sorts.

So, with that in mind, we are organising Strawberry Cream Teas at Hunt's Court on 20th August, 4 – 6pm with the aim of having a good time, raising funds for the Children's Society and getting ideas, however wild, to find an income for the church, and modern uses for the oldest village building, so that we can use it rather than have it locked up and decaying!

Have a good summer!

Peter

547521 (not after 6.00 pm, please) pcemarsh@gmail.com



Strawberry Cream Teas
at Hunt's Court
Saturday 20th August
4pm – 6pm
Everyone invited!
Donations welcomed for

The Children's Society

For details Please contact Sue Devine
Telephone: 543748 suedevine@hotmail.com

SAVE the DATE! Saturday 15th October
Harvest Supper/Curry Night
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St Martin's Church

Rev'd Lesley Hewish,
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Services in August:

SUNDAY 7th TRINITY 8
9.30am Informal Service of the Word
With Rev'd Lesley Hewish

SUNDAY 14th TRINITY 9
9.30am Holy Communion
With Rev'd Sue Phillipson-Masters

SUNDAY 21st TRINITY 10
9.30am Informal Service of the Word
With Rev'd Lesley Hewish

SUNDAY 28th TRINITY 11
9.30am Holy Communion
With Rev'd Peter Marsh

Services in September: for details, please see Church noticeboards

SUNDAYS 4th and 18th
9.30am Informal Service of the Word

SUNDAYS 11th and 25th
9.30am Holy Communion

Audio-services continue every Sunday on YouTube — the link is via our website www.northnibleychurch.uk



Rev'd Lesley is curious.....what does St Martin's Church mean to you?

The Church is not just a building it's US, as a community, working together and supporting each other.

So let's do some blue-sky thinking!!!

What more could our building be?

What more could we be as a faith community?

We don't care how wacky those ideas are...let's hear them!!!!

Please get in touch by email vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk

I am going to be in T&Cakes in Nibley from 2 - 4pm on Thursday 18th August ...
.....why not come and join me for a cuppa? I'll be at the Strawberry Cream Teas at Hunt's Court on the 20th August 4-6pm as well do come along then!