

# Moulton Matters

December 2023



Village News and Events

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If you have an advertisement or an article you would like to submit for the newsletter, we publish them quarterly. Please ensure that articles reach us by the **15th February 2024** for distribution on or about the **1st March 2024**. For advertising rates please check page 9.

Wishing All Our Readers

A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

## **Dear Reader – Update on Colin!**

Colin is on the move again. Having finished his time at Stoke Mandeville Spinal Hospital he is now due to move to Royal Buckinghamshire Independent Rehabilitation centre for intensive physiotherapy in order to retain and improve his level of strength and capability before returning home, hopefully early next year..

Jerry and I visited him recently at Stoke Mandeville and he was very chirpy and able to move around the hospital in a self propelled wheelchair—he does have an electric wheelchair for long journeys but feels it is cheating using it around the wards and prefers to build his stamina by self propelling.

Work has started on the necessary alterations to his home but this will take some time so Colin is unlikely to be home before early next year and then another set of challenges awaits.

Returning home after 9+ months in hospital must be wonderful but then the realisation that everything has changed and neither he nor his home is as it was when he left that fateful Saturday morning for a bike ride!

We will all be so pleased to see him home but then life begins a very different chapter for not just Colin but Shirley too! We send them both all our love.

## **The Future of Moulton Matters**

The cost of producing Moulton Matters, like everything else, has increased and so we have had to put our advertising rates up by 10%.

The revenue from advertising must cover the printing of 4 issues—currently it does not and we have to keep dipping into Community pots. We lost a lot of advertisers following Covid, many of them went out of business and we need to get back up to that pre-Covid level.

As you will see from the above report, Colin is doing very well and soon to return home however we have discussed his continued participation with Moulton Matters and reluctantly he does not think he is able to assist me much with setting up. However, he will proof read from the March issue onwards and we will then see how things go. So if anyone is interested in helping me especially finding new advertisers please give me a call. Jill 07966 133551.

## **Moulton Parish Council Report**

A meeting of Moulton Parish Council took place on Monday 18th September 2023. County Councillor Andy Drummond and District Councillor Roger Dicker attended the meeting. Minutes of the meeting are available on the Parish Council's website.

### **Moulton Housing Needs Survey**

The results of the Housing Needs Survey showed that Moulton has a higher portion of 4+ bedroom homes and a lower portion of 1 and 2 bedroom homes than is typical in England. House prices in Moulton are 9 times the median workplace income making them unaffordable for those on lower than median incomes. The survey results showed that 70% of households that responded would support a small developed of affordable homes for Moulton Residents with small family homes, housing for older people and 1-2 bedroom homes for couples the most popular. Councillors on the Housing working group met Sue Downs from Community Action Suffolk to discuss the way forward and will be presenting its suggestions at the November meeting. If the decision is made to proceed, a steering group of Moulton residents would need to be set up to move the project forward. If you are interested in getting involved, please let the clerk or one of our councillors know.

### **Planning applications for the former Animal Health Trust site**

Moulton Parish Council received 33 planning applications for 203 homes on the former Animal Health Trust site. Most of the applications for Lanwades Park were made under General Permitted Development rules which means that they did not follow the normal planning process and all the normal material considerations used to decide on the merits of an application are not taken into account. Moulton Parish Council objected to the applications and has subsequently found out that West Suffolk Council has issued a Refusal of Certificate of Existing Lawful Use as it does not believe that the site meets the criteria for General Permitted Development regulations.

### **Boy's Grave junction on the B1506**

This junction has been the site of a number of accidents in recent years. Moulton Parish Council asked Suffolk County Council (SCC) Highways to check the signs at the junction to make sure that none were missing. One Give Way has been ordered for replacement. Some of the directional signs are also missing but as they are not mandatory signs, SCC has tentatively scheduled them for replacement in

2024/25. Moulton Parish Council is looking into the feasibility of funding the signs themselves with contributions from County Councillor Andy Drummond and Kentford Parish Council.

Speeding is also a concern at the junction and Moulton Parish Council asked if SCC would consider reducing the speed limit along this section of the B1506. Suffolk County Council's Safety and Speed team have confirmed that a 40mph limit would not be considered here, regardless of the results of any speed survey, as this location does not meet the majority of their criteria for a 40 mph reduction to a national speed limit carriageway. They have advised that a 50mph zone from Kennett, extending to the Newmarket side of the crossroads is more likely to be approved but this would be strictly dependent on the outcome of a speed survey and any recommendations that are made. There would have to be either a very high volume of speeding traffic here or other exceptional circumstances involved before any reduction would be considered here (the collision records here alone are insufficient for this) and Suffolk Police do not currently consider this a site where they recommend a speed reduction. Moulton Parish Council has arranged an initial speed survey with the cost shared between Moulton PC, County Councillor Andy Drummond and Kentford Parish Council.

### **Update on the 20's Plenty for Suffolk campaign**

Moulton Parish Council's request for a review of 20mph speed limits in Suffolk has been refused by Suffolk County Council. They will only implement 20mph speed limits on a detailed case-by-case basis through the well-established Traffic Regulation Orders, where special local circumstances apply, proven by data and surveys. The cost of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is at least £5,000 in addition to the cost of speed surveys which would have to be funded by the Parish Council. A TRO and traffic survey would be required for each road, making the cost prohibitive for rural parishes. Moulton Parish Council agreed to challenge this response and push for more enforcement as well as they would like to work with Suffolk County Council to make communities safer and reduce speeds in parts villages where vehicles and people mix and especially where there are no pavements.

### **Finance**

Councillors reviewed the Parish Council's expenditure to date against the budget for 2023/24. The budget is currently on track.

## **Change of meeting time**

Please note that future parish council meetings will take place at 6pm to fit in with the Pilates class in the main hall. Please use the side entrance to access the Lanwades Room.

## **Surviving Winter Appeal**

Suffolk Community Foundation and Citizens Advice have launched a campaign to support people who are struggling to pay their heating bills. To get help call the Surviving Winter team at Citizens Advice on 01473 298 634.

## **Multiply Suffolk**

Multiply Suffolk offers bespoke coaching, training, and mentoring to support you into learning and employment across Suffolk. Multiply Suffolk will provide opportunities for you to improve your knowledge, understanding and use of maths in daily life: at home, in learning and in work.

To find out more visit <https://learnsuffolk.org/multiply/>

## **Headway Suffolk to open new outreach hub in Haverhill**

Headway Suffolk is looking to open a new outreach hub in Haverhill for adults living with brain injury, stroke or neurological conditions.

Headway Suffolk is a registered charity that supports adults living with brain injury, stroke and neurological conditions through an extensive range of rehabilitation, therapy and care services.

To find out more, contact Headway on 01473 712225 or email [helenmfairweather@headwaysuffolk.org.uk](mailto:helenmfairweather@headwaysuffolk.org.uk)

or visit [www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk](http://www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk)

## **Next meeting.**

The next meeting of Moulton Parish Council will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6pm in the Lanwades room in Moulton Village Hall. Please use the outside entrance which can be accessed via the playing field.

## **Parish Council contact details:**

Clerk: Joanne Kirk Tel: 07880 686069 Email: [moultonpc@gmail.com](mailto:moultonpc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.moulton.onesuffolk.net](http://www.moulton.onesuffolk.net)

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## From the Vicarage

‘Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's’ or so Jesus is recorded as saying in Matthew 22. 21. It is not the most obvious start to a Christmas message from the Vicarage for 2023!

Most people regard this quote as rendering unto the Government the taxes demanded and for which there is no choice. We all deplore the state of our roads complain at the failures of the NHS and Social Services but do we want to render any more money in Tax? Many go out of their way to avoid it.

Do we render unto ‘God the things that are God's’? No one will force us to give our time or our money if we don't but in the same way the institutions like the church, let alone charities community organisations and such like all suffer if we don't. I believe that we suffer too as people.

It is very easy to fail to render to God the things that are God's because sometimes we don't know what they are and if we do know how much of whatever it is should we render?

For perhaps 2 Millenia many Christians have tithed by giving 10% of their income and or time to the church and or charitable organisations to support others. There is also the whole issue of giving time to God to ask what God is saying to us through prayer and

consideration of the Bible. We believe that if we can get into tune with God – we will have happier and more contented lives. Perhaps we should do a little more rendering of our thought processes to the things that are of God?

Perhaps God is asking you to give a present of time or money to those people and organisations in need and perhaps not just give to those who will give us something back. Shall we give a thought to those less fortunate in our world especially perhaps in Palestine this year - and let's not forget the church here in Moulton and wonderful community organisations – let alone national charities? There is the Foodbank which we are supporting once again and perhaps come and join us for Christingle and Carols on the 10<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm when much of our offering is for the Childrens Society.



May each one of us be Blessed this Christmas with the great gift of the Christ child entering our hearts. Shall we remember that following Christ by rendering the things that are Gods to God gives a life of generosity and joy.

With every good wish for a Happy Christmas.

Chris

Rev Canon Chris Childs The Vicarage The Street Gazeley CB8 8RB

**PS And on a personal level** can Wendy and I thank so many of you for your kind messages and prayers of support whilst we were on our recent Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We were there when the present troubles began but were evacuated to Jordan only missing 36 hours of the 10 day trip. Our tour company were brilliant and the prayers of you all helped at certain anxious times. We pray earnestly for peace in that troubled land.

Chris and Wendy

## A Note from St Peters Church

**Thank you** for the support you give to the parish church in so many ways. Like a lot of people and organisations we are struggling financially this year and facing a significant deficit in our funds. Despite careful management and effort we are likely to have to default on some of our payment to the Diocese which principally goes to support the clergy including me! This would be a first for Moulton and not something we aspire to. We are asking our sister churches in Gazeley, Higham, Kentford and Dalham for support but they too have their own issues. If anyone can help – amidst all the other pressures – it would be most welcome. Thank you once again. Our church account is

St Peter's Church Moulton.

The sort code is 20 60 38

Account No: 70655740.

Cheques may be left with our Treasurer Geoff Dobson at 23 Lark Hill. His email is [dobsonjune@yahoo.com](mailto:dobsonjune@yahoo.com) and my phone number 01638 429212



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# September's Macmillan Coffee & Bake Sale

**Wow! Wow! Wow!**

**Moulton certainly knows how to support a  
worthy cause!**

**We raised a truly amazing £1923**

**Our grateful thanks to our wonderful bakers  
Dorothy and Zayana.**

**Thank you to those who donated ingredients,  
donated money and to those who bought the  
cakes and coffee. Also thanks to Hugo, Harriet  
and the shop team for hosting the event.**

**All proceeds go directly to  
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# ST PETER'S CHURCH NEWS

**You are all very welcome to join us.**

**Sunday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** Family Advent Service 10.45am

**Sunday Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** Carols & Christingle 4pm

**Sunday Dec 17<sup>th</sup>** Holy Communion 10.45am

**Monday Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day** Family Service 10.45am, followed by an abridged Holy Communion.

These service details are displayed on the church gate noticeboard, the welcome table in church, and in the copies of the 'Worship Diary' available for you to take home. Church is usually open this time of the year from 10am to 3pm each day.

Thank you for the food items you have donated to **St Peter's Pantry**. This has helped people in deepest need. We will also be collecting for the **Newmarket Food Bank** this December, please be generous. If you could provide Christmas food and/or treats that would be much appreciated.

We have enjoyed two special Autumn Evenings at St Peter's Church. In October Charlie Haylock entertained us with the historical background to our surnames along with details of geography and social history stretching back centuries.

Julian Pardoe just recently filled our imaginations with 'Traveller's Tales' a bespoke cantor across some of the lands he has travelled to for work and for pleasure. The 'Fork Supper' created and served by church members and friends was truly scrumptious. These events, with your support helped to raise funds for St Peter's Church and Viv Houghton has kindly donated £50 from her 2024 Calendar sales. Thank you all.

In the autumn of 2008 Monica Penn started a **Bible Study Group** in Moulton. Membership has altered of course, but this October, five of us were able to reflect on 15 years of meeting regularly to read, discuss and pray together. Rev Adam Barclay led a Holy Communion service just for us to celebrate our special fellowship seeded by dear Monica.

Another wonderful week in October saw Moulton Primary School celebrating their 'Harvest Festival' in church. The following day, Moulton Pre School came too. It is a privilege as churchwardens to share the worship of our children from our community at St Peter's.

These words were part of our prayers the previous Sunday.

“In this **Harvest season** we give **thanks** for Moulton Pre-School and Moulton Primary School who will bring to this sacred space the gift of themselves, their eagerness, happiness, and joyful surprise. The development of their skills in listening drawing reading writing speaking and presenting, is their **harvest gift**, grown and nurtured by their parents, grandparents, carers, support staff and teachers. May we give **recognition and value** to those who taught us, trained us, encouraged and challenged us in the decades of our lives. **Gracious God**, teach us to celebrate the innumerable blessings you shower on us each day. Teach us to **celebrate** all that we have received. May we show **our gratitude** by offering back our lives in your service to the glory of your name. Amen” .

Keep well and stay safe. May God’s infinite grace enfold us and those we love this Christmas time.

From your Churchwardens: Anne Garmston 15 Dalham Road 01638 751188  
& Bob Saltmarsh 10 Dalham Road 01638 750190



### **Dalham & Gazeley WI Ladies of Moulton**

Ladies of Moulton you are invited to Dalham & Gazeley WI where you will find a warm welcome. As well as our monthly meetings we have a regular walking group and book club as well as trips out. Our next meetings are

5th December - speaker Lindsey Barrell - subject "Burlisque, me and the WI"

No meeting in January as we are going out for our Christmas/New Year lunch.

6th February - speaker unknown at time of publication but come along and be surprised!

The cost to come as a visitor is only £3 which includes refreshments and entry to a monthly raffle. Where else can you go for all that? Hope to see you there,

Gazeley Village hall at 7.30 pm.

For any further details contact Wendy Childs 01638 429212

## Shop News

### Whoosh, another year gone at New Moulton Stores and Moulton Lawn House!

As we fly towards the end of another wonderful year my mind turns to the Christmas Season at New Moulton Stores and I thought it would be a good time to force a pause, to breathe and celebrate all that the year has brought us. Our social media posts and Insta account provided the perfect way to relive and reflect on another fast paced, fun year at The Moulton Hub!



Liz joined our team late last year and has brought a new level to what we offer for breakfast, brunch, lunch, and everything in between! We often get asked for menus, but it changes every day, growing in variety so it's easier to keep our 'menu' to the verbal kind! From her famous Paradise Cake to traditional Bread Pudding and fabulous scones, everything that Liz bakes goes down a treat! Frittatas, quiche, bakes, soup, coronation chicken, coleslaw, potato salad – the list goes on and on. People travel far and wide to sample the tasty selection which in turn grows our Moulton Stores 'family' of customers daily.

The whole team just loves getting to know the newbies while bantering with the old favourites. Never a dull moment.

Like all families some members of the team have found their wings and it was time for them to fly the nest. As you read this many will be aware that Ellie has left us to pursue a career in the Education sector closer to her home in Bury St Edmunds. She has been an important member of the team for two years growing from part time to full time. She will remain a treasured member of the New Moulton Stores family. All the best Ellie from all your friends in Moulton. Phoebe left us in September. However, I'm managing to persuade her to come back to help out and this is hugely appreciated! Thank you, Phoebes.

In November the bright light that is Lauren joined Team Moulton. She brings huge life and energy, her friendly approach appreciated by customers and staff alike. She really can turn her hand to anything and she has already become a hugely valued member of the shop and PO team.



It made me think...every single one of our team brings their own individual sparkle and personality into New Moulton Stores. This, with our diverse range of skills and life experience combine to create the uniqueness that is Team Moulton. Being such a small team each individual counts but it is the atmosphere created by the collective that makes it even more special. This special collective 'family' bond is best observed in store when listening to the constant banter between the team and the customers – such joy in the laughter, such a likeminded approach from a diverse range of individuals, it truly is very special!



As we welcomed new faces for interviews this comment was repeated, so many impressed by the warm, friendly welcome and lovely atmosphere that can be felt deep within the shop.

This is a comment we often hear from customers, and it is great to hear from prospective employees.

The Bed and Breakfast has seen many happy guests throughout our busy summer which continued into Autumn with more rooms filled with guests for the sales. Kate, when she is not helping serve in the shop or sorting out the stock from Bookers deliveries, has worked tirelessly keeping those rooms in shape and they don't look any different to the day we opened! The standard is pristine, and it is something we hear commented upon as we welcome each guest into their temporary home. We are fortunate to have many repeat visitors drawn back by the friendly atmosphere and immaculate rooms.

We even hosted our first private function for a surprise 70<sup>th</sup> birthday last month, it went down a treat! The hosts used the space as their own decorating it with balloons, family photos and banners. We stocked the fridges and Liz worked all day preparing an incredible spread. Another example of family in the literal and broadest sense.

## Shop News Continued...

How can I finish without mentioning our very own Moulton family wedding... In September Martin and Brittney pledged their love and lives to each other at a wonderful wedding in Martin's Irish homeland. With Hugo as a very dapper MC, 65 of Brittney's family and friends travelled from Australia to celebrate the union of 2 remarkable families brought together by love. The joy of seeing the families meet, hug and party for the first-time face to face was a real privilege.



So, upon reflection, the real message here is of a teamwork bond, of working better together, of the strengths and ties that bind us like a family. This venture is only possible because we are one strong team. From Hugo on the clock 24/7, Liz in the kitchen, Shell, Fran, Mel, Ellie, Phoebe, Lyn, Jas and now Lauren on the shop floor and Kate in the bed and breakfast – we couldn't do it without you - you are Team Moulton!

To our loyal customers both old and new, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your loyalty and friendship, you are a huge part of what makes New Moulton Stores such a unique and happy place. You too are part of Family Moulton.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful Christmas, all the very best for 2024 and we look forward to welcoming you back to The Moulton Hub very soon.

Harriet x

## Moulton Amateur Dramatics

**This year's Musical Extravaganza is "Moulton's Shop of Horrors!"**

No, it's not a Pantomime. Rehearsals are now in full swing with performances in February half term. See page 21 for details. **Would you believe it**, our production was planned and in rehearsal well before the John Lewis Christmas ad appeared!

# Moulton Christmas Light-Up

Everyone is invited to take part in our annual

## Moulton Christmas Light Up Competition

Commencing 1st December.

All you have to do is decorate your garden or outside space ready for Christmas.

A panel of Judges will tour the village on **15th & 16th December** and award prizes for the best displays.

The theme this year is:

### Winter Wonderland



No entrance fee! Just decorate! Lots of prizes to give away . So why not join in the fun!

The winning displays will be posted in the village shop and Moulton Facebook.

Why not take the opportunity over Christmas to walk around the village after dark and view all the beautiful lights!





## **Moulton Village Hall**

**Everyone is Invited to our  
Christmas Open Afternoon**

**in the hall on**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2 – 5 pm**

**A chance to meet with friends and neighbours before  
the Big Day**

**Mulled Wine Tea Coffee Cake Hot Dogs**

**On Sale—cash only please**

**Bouncy Castle.**

**If you are very good**

**Father Christmas will pop in for a visit at 3:30 pm**

**Raffle**

Moulton Amateur Dramatics Presents

# Moulton's Shop of Horrors!

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**Evening Performances**  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024**  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024**  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**Matinee**  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Performances start at 7:30 and Matinee 2:30  
Licensed Bar, Ice creams & Snacks on sale  
Cash only please  
Bar & Doors open 7 pm & 2 pm (Sat Matinee)

**Tickets on Sale**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> January 10-11am**  
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## What's Going On at the Village Hall?



After several weeks of hard work by the Village Hall Committee, the Village Hall's 'Little Garden' is finished. It offers a safe outside area to play for Moulton Preschool, Moulton Minis and Beavers and certainly smartens up the whole area.

Thanks in particular to Dick, Jerry, Ryan and Alex who have done the bulk of the digging, sanding and painting in their spare time.

**We have a Christmas Open Afternoon on Saturday 23rd December 2023 from 2-5pm. All welcome! Entrance Free! Hopefully Father Christmas will visit.**

***From all members of the Moulton Village Hall Management Committee we send you Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.***



THE  
PACKHORSE INN  
MOULTON

## FESTIVE FEASTING

### Winter Garden Tipi

From November 23rd our Winter Garden Tipi is back! Tuck into seasonal dishes and warming drinks by our crackling log fire and flickering flame heaters.

### Highland Park Supper

Join us on the 7th December for our Highland Park Supper. Tuck into a specially created menu complete with Whisky cocktail pairings. This evening will be held in the Club Room, hosted by Joseph Ellis, a Whisky specialist, who will guide you through the Whisky pairings.

To book tickets for our Highland Park Supper or for more information on events and experiences, head over to our website: [thepackhorseinn.com](http://thepackhorseinn.com)

## Moulton Wildlife Group

It's been a colourful summer. There has been continual flowering in the wild flower area bordering The Green.

Our new bed by the church ford has also been beautiful with cornflowers, poppies and corn marigolds. We expect to expand this in the next few months.



The new hedgerow along the playing field has had some casualties, but the majority of shrubs and small trees have survived. Particular thanks to Douglas James, John Gunson and Sarah Arnold for clearing the hemlock and nettles beside the hedgerow.

There are now nest boxes in 2 of the trees on Maltings Close and we have installed a bat box, with Tim James' help, by the river.

Over the winter we hope to set up a bird feeding station on the playing field opposite the shop.

**All Volunteers welcome!**

**Anne and Jeff Collins 01638 750284**

**[moultonwildlifegroup@gmail.com](mailto:moultonwildlifegroup@gmail.com)**





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## Luncheon Club

Community Luncheon Club takes place on the last Tuesday of each month. Please note we are starting again on Tuesday 30th January 2024 and will continue through until July 2024

Volunteers always welcome.

Look forward to seeing you soon.

Yvonne, Dorothy,  
Zayana & team



## Moulton Community Speedwatch

I would like to thank all our volunteers for their continuing support in our efforts to help reduce the volume of speeding traffic in the village.

The recent report from Brake, the road safety charity, shows a 20% increase in road deaths last year compared with 2021 where vehicles travelling above the speed limit were involved

It is in all our interests to ensure we drive at speeds suitable for the road conditions which in many cases should be below the speed limit.

This is particularly important on rural roads where frequently the 60 mph National limit is unsuitable. Roads around the village have numerous blind bends where there can be many hidden dangers and speeds should be such that vehicles can stop safely within their sight line.

As we are approaching the festive season lets all take care and ensure we drive safely and have a great holiday!

We really do need to have more volunteers to help us in our efforts and it would be great if you could spare some time to help.

On behalf of the Speedwatch group have a great Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

Graham MacGregor      07802 242880      [gmacgregor@macglebe.com](mailto:gmacgregor@macglebe.com)

### Letter of Concern

Dear Readers:

Once again 2 Maltings Close, has had a blocked sewer problem which overflowed from a manhole between No 2 and 4. Anglian water responded and cleared it but it is not at all nice when the sewerage is running down your drive.

Anglian Water found the blockage, cleared it and once again it was found to be congealed fat, wipes and industrial wipes (which are a lot thicker). Please do not flush or pour down the sink or drain, any oil, grease or wipes so we can keep the sewers of Moulton clear as they should be. This is the second time in just over one year that this has happened in Maltings Close.

As I used to work for Mayes the builder, when the site was built, I know where the sewer pipes are - the bungalows behind no 2 & 4. These bungalows and the right side of the Close are linked to the main sewer pipe which comes down inbetween no 2 and 4.

Kind Regards, Mr/Mrs Gammon

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## Afternoon Tea at the Jockey Club



On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Jill Goodwin was invited to the Jockey Club in the High Street for a very special afternoon tea.

Jill felt privileged to be part of an event organised by the Rotary Club, hosted by the Jockey Club and supported by leading organisations and retailers in the town.

The occasion followed a special award ceremony that took place in September where people who work hard and selflessly for and in the community in a variety of ways were acknowledged.

Jill had been very kindly nominated by Moulton's own Ian Garmston.

Everyone nominated joined together for a short tour of the Jockey Club and then a delicious afternoon tea. Jill was given a special certificate to mark the occasion.

## MOULTON OIL SCHEME

Things seem to be returning to normal with oil deliveries. The last village order went smoothly and all deliveries were made on time. Oil prices remain high as I expect they will through the winter. The weather has been fairly mild which has helped oil consumption. Some new residents to the village have joined the scheme and these orders will help keep prices and the number of tankers travelling through the village down.

The next order dates are:-

January 10 February 21 March 28 May 9 June 20

To place an order email me on [moultonoilscheme@outlook.com](mailto:moultonoilscheme@outlook.com)  
or call me on 01638 482012

Have a Merry Christmas,  
Lesley James



## Farewell Concert and Christmas Carols



### Moulton Community Choir.

By the time this edition of Moulton Matter comes out our community choir will have bid a fond farewell at our last concert to our brilliant choir director for the past 12 years Judith Fisher who is moving to sunnier climes in Italy. She has been an inspiration to all members of the choir past and present and we have enjoyed learning and performing over 136 different pieces from all musical genres since 2012.

We will be joining and singing with children and staff from Moulton Primary School and their families for the ever popular Christingle service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December in St Peter's Church at 4-00 pm

On Friday December 15th we will be singing with a variety of other local choirs and the Newmarket Town Band at the Rotary Club Charity Carol Concert in Tattersalls sale ring at 7-30 pm in aid of SERV Blood Bikers charity who fulfil a vital role in transporting emergency blood products to hospitals in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

Tickets for this are £7 or £6 concessions and can be obtained at Goldings shop in Newmarket.



***The choir wishes everyone a Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year in 2024***



## School Report

It has been a happy and productive autumn term so far here at Moulton CEVCP. Our new Reception children have settled in so well, and we can't quite believe that we are already hosting open mornings for next year's new children.

We have had lots of sporting success this year, so far: we have won boys' and girls' football tournaments, and we have taken part in multisport activities. We also did well with cross-country at the start of the term.

We have been really to have visits from our local community this term. Reception class have met a local policeman, the fire service and a paramedic. Y1 children had a visit from a nurse from West Suffolk Hospital – we are hugely grateful to our local community for helping to bring our curriculum alive.

We are very much looking forward to advent and the Christmas build up. Our Reception children will be performing their nativity to the community on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9:30am. Let the school office of Reverend Chris know if you would like to come along to see our youngest children in action, and to enjoy coffee and cake afterwards.

We were treated to our annual performance from the Theatre Of Widdershins this term, a little earlier than usual. We will never tire of the children's faces as they watch the puppets in awe.

Our PTA Christmas Fair will be on 8<sup>th</sup> December at 3:30pm – do come along and join us. There will be games, refreshments, Santa, and lots of festive fun!

***On behalf of all the staff, children, and governors, we wish you all a very merry Christmas, and a happy new year.***



## School Report continued...



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### **Badminton**

Did you know that we have a group who play in the Village Hall on a Thursday Evening 8-10 pm?

They are in need of players so if you would like to join them please contact Yvonne on 01638 750547 or Gwen on 01638 750131.

Or just come along. It is a very social group and you will be made very welcome.

### **Carpet Bowls**

This group is about to be disbanded and the equipment sold unless people volunteer to help organise and run it. We have one volunteer but need more help!

This used to be a very social group but they have not come back to play since Covid.

The hall needs the space the large carpets take up in the storage area. If the group is active it is not a problem but it is two years now since most groups reformed and if the group is to disband their very expensive equipment needs to be moved out and sold.

***Last Chance To Save Carpet Bowls!***

## Moulton Scouts

Hello again everyone!

We are the 1st Moulton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts! We meet every Tuesday night (during term time) at the village hall. We are run by an awesome team of grown-ups and teenagers who all volunteer their evenings to give children life skills and memorable experiences.

So, we are currently most of the way into our autumn/winter term, and so far Cubs and Beavers have earned their Animal Carer badges, a lot of artist badges because of our project with Newmarket Voluntary Service to create Christmas cards for local people. Cubs have been learning about food safety, and hygiene before making a 2-course meal and learning table laying and etiquette. Beavers have been learning various forms of communication, such as Braille, Semaphore and morse code. Scouts brushed up on their map reading skills before putting these skills into practice with some hikes and a camp at Bradfield Combust near to Bury St Edmunds.

Scouts were given the opportunity to make their own way to camp by hiking there in small teams using their maps, compasses, and skills that they have learnt through their time in the scout movement.

We also proudly represented the scouting movement by marching at the recent Remembrance Church Service at Gazeley Church.

We are always looking for extra pairs of hands, (as we are very busy and oversubscribed) we're a friendly group of adults with various ages, jobs and experiences, if you are willing to donate a couple of hours a week please contact us at [gsl@moultonscouts.org.uk](mailto:gsl@moultonscouts.org.uk).

Scouting can't happen without people like you!

Toby Walker 1st Moulton Cub Section Leader







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## Six wildlife highlights to look for in December

December is a time of year when some of us will be busy preparing, shopping and organising ahead of the festivities at the end of the month, but some people prefer things quieter or simpler. As always, wildlife will be ever present in our lives and I hope that no matter how you spend the month, the list of highlights below will help you enjoy the month:

### 1. Harrier roosts in reedbeds

If you have a reedbed nature reserve nearby, such as at RSPB Lakenheath Fen or the National Trust's Wicken Fen, it's worth paying a visit at dusk to look for raptors roosting- these should mainly be Marsh harriers but if you are lucky you may also see Hen harrier joining them too. It can be really exciting watching these beautiful birds of prey come in from all directions just as the light is fading; to glide over the reeds and then drop into their favoured spot for the night.

### 2. Lesser redpoll and Siskin on bird feeders

If you have Goldfinches visiting your garden bird feeders, you may also spot a couple of other finches which only visit for the colder months. Both Siskin and Lesser redpolls are smaller- roughly Blue tit-sized, but very different in plumage. Siskin are a streaky yellow and black in males, with female birds more greenish in colour. Lesser redpoll are a mixture of cream and grey with black streaks and a small red patch on their forehead. Males have a red/pink flush to their breast which varies quite a bit in intensity.

### 3. Mistle thrushes beginning to sing

In quiet areas with tall trees surrounding open farmland or parkland, you may hear the beautiful, haunting warble of a Mistle thrush. They are roughly the size of Jackdaws and their song a repeated short tune, often going on for half an hour or more. They breed early- often laying eggs in February- so their singing starts early too!

### 4. Jays collecting acorns

These colourful members of the crow family will be busy carrying acorns- up to six at a time- to spots to bury them ready for Spring. Then, when the Jays have hungry chicks to feed, using their amazing memory they'll return to the burial site, pull up the seedling and snip off the fat first pair of leaves ('seed leaves') to feed to their youngsters.

## 5. Corvid roosts in tall trees

Whilst Carrion crows are solitary, Rooks and Jackdaws will nest and roost communally and these roosting sites can number thousands of birds. If you see corvids flying overhead as the light begins to fade, try to see where they end up- they'll take you to their roost. If it's in a public area, then pause a while underneath as darkness falls to watch them swirling, lifting and settling again in a noisy rabble. All this communication is thought to be the birds reinforcing bonds and keeping up-to-date about good feeding spots.

## 6. Keep an eye on the 'Northern lights'

Believe it or not, every now and again it's possible to see the Aurora Borealis where we live. Keep an eye on this website <https://aurorawatch.lancs.ac.uk/> or download the 'AuroraWatch' app if you are able- these track the Earth's geomagnetic activity hour by hour, and if it's dark and clear where you are at the time of a 'Red' alert, you're in with a chance. If you can find somewhere with a clear view towards the northern horizon, away from major sources of light pollution, like towns and industrial areas, you'll have the best luck.



## Parish Council

The Parish Council meets regularly in the village hall and residents are all welcome to attend. Meeting dates and Agendas are listed on the village website at the bottom of the page and are also regularly posted on the village noticeboards.

### PARISH COUNCILLORS

David Almond (Chairman)	01638 428250
Mark Price (Vice Chair)	01638 750200
Ryan Bragg	01638 751153
Ed Chambers	01638 750014
Richard Edge	
John Derry	01638 751902
Jane Horsnell	01638 750879
Douglas James	01638 750897
Tim James	01638 482012

### CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Joanne Kirk 07880 686069 email: [moultonpc@gmail.com](mailto:moultonpc@gmail.com)

Parish Priest	Cannon Chris Childs	01638 429212
Village Archivist	John Gunson	01638 750131
County Councillor	Andy Drummond	01638 751411
District Councillor	Roger Dicker	01638 750392
Member of Parliament:	Mathew Hancock	
Parliament Office		02072 197186
Constituency Office		01638 576692

### MOULTON MATTERS

Jill Goodwin	<a href="mailto:jerryjill99@hotmail.com">jerryjill99@hotmail.com</a>	01638 551851
Colin Wilkinson	<a href="mailto:c.wilkinson67@btinternet.com">c.wilkinson67@btinternet.com</a>	01638 552779

### MOULTON VILLAGE WEBSITE

<http://moulton.onesuffolk.net>

# Telephone Directory

## Medical

Addenbrooks Hospital	01223 245151
Newmarket Hospital	01638 558400
West Suffolk Hospital;	01284 713000
Oakfield Surgery	01638 662018
Orchard House Surgery	01638 666887
Rookery Medical Centre	01638 664338

## Churches

All Saints Church (Rev Chris Childs)	01638 429212
Catholic Church (Fr Leo Marianu)	01638 662492
St Peters Church (Rev Chris Childs)	01638 429212
St Peters Church Wardens - Bob Saltmarsh - Anne Garnston	01638 750190 01638 751188

## Newmarket

Citizens Advice Bureau	01638 665999
Day Centre	01638 664262
Dial-a -Ride	01638 608080
Library	01638 661216
Leisure Centre	01638 662726

## Moulton Village

Ash Tree Veterinary Surgery	01638 554477
Pack Horse Inn	01638 751818
Village Shop	01638 750242
Village Hall Bookings (Jill Goodwin)	01638 551851
Village Oil Ordering Scheme (Lesley James)	01638 482012
Village School Head Teacher (Deborah Shipp)	01638 750236
Village Website (Ryan Bragg)	01638 751153

## Travel

Newmarket Taxi Hire	01638 561561
Nation Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Stagecoach CamBus	01223 423250

## Emergency

Fire, Police, Ambulance	999
NHS	111

## Non-emergency

Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
Power	105
Water	0800 145145
Police	101

## Moulton Village Hall

### Management Committee Officers

Chairman	Richard Marshall	750488
Deputy Chairman	Alex Nicholls	07817 234337
Treasurer	Jerry Goodwin	551851
Secretary/Fund Raising	Jill Goodwin	551851 (07966 133551)

The General Manager, Stuart Wright is responsible for taking bookings. To make bookings, or make enquiries about the hall, please contact Stuart on 07821 394479 or email: [villagehallmoulton@gmail.com](mailto:villagehallmoulton@gmail.com)

### Please note MVH Birthday Party Hire Policy

MVH offers the hall facility for children's birthday parties 0-12 years and adult birthday parties 40+ only. Residents may apply in writing to the bookings clerk for the hire of the hall for teenage birthday parties and 20's and 30's birthday parties. MVH Committee will consider individual requests.

### If you are interested in joining a group or activity, set out below are the names and contact details you will require:

Monday	Pre-School	09:15	Susan Wade-Miller	07958 290837
Monday	Pilates	17:30 - 18:30+	Alison Wilson	07752 360839
		18:40 - 19:40	Alison Wilson	07752 360839
Monday	Parish Council/ Village Hall Committee meetings TBA			
Tuesday	Mini Tots	10:00 - 12:00	Emily Tasker	
Tuesday	Healthy Walks	10:00	Ron Wallwork	07460 041643 01638 751869
Tuesday	Community Lunch	13:00 - 15:00	Last Tuesday in the month	
			Yvonne Slater	01638 750547
Tuesday	Cubs/Beavers/ Scouts	18:00	Paul Walker	<a href="mailto:gsl@moultonscouts.org.uk">gsl@moultonscouts.org.uk</a>
Wednesday	Pre-School	09:15	Susan (as above)	
Wednesday	Yoga	18:15 - 19:15	Bridget Pooley	07758 540739
Wednesday	Dance	19:30 - 20:30	Private Hire	
Thursday	Pilates	09:30 - 10:30	Alison Wilson	07752 360839
Thursday	Bridge Club	14:00 - 16:00	Pat & Paul Harris	01638 500325
Thursday	Mindset Yoga	18:15 - 19:15	Victoria Steenkamp	07810 544588
Thursday	Badminton	20:00 - 22:00	Yvonne Slater	01638 750547
Friday	Pre-School	09:15	Susan (as above)	
Saturday	Panthers U 10/U8/ U7	10:00	Mark McTrusty	<a href="mailto:mmct@live.co.uk">mmct@live.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:secretary@moultonpanthers.com">secretary@moultonpanthers.com</a>



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