

THE *Moreton Morrell* VILLAGER

June 2022

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 5th

The Village Hall Management Team will be
starting a

GARDENING CLUB

at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Gardeners and non-gardeners will be welcome.

More details to follow in the next
issue of The Villager



Sponsored by  WCG

The Parish Council

Chair: Gerry Slora

Vice Chair: Eileen Edwards

Councillors: James Gordon, Bernard Keavy & Claire Monks

County Councillor: Penny-Anne O'Donnell

District Councillor: Anne Parry

The next Parish Council meeting

will be on

Monday 25th July at 7.30_{pm}

and all are welcome to join

For more news from the Parish Council visit

www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk

Pick it up!

*Whatever some people may believe, there's no such thing as the dog poo fairy. So dog walkers, bag that poo - any rubbish bin will do.
(This includes Box Field)*

Together let's put an end to this offensive, harmful litter.

Village Welcome Pack

The Village Welcome Pack is available to anyone who is new to the village or is perhaps returning after a spell away.

*If you would like to obtain a copy please contact
Jane Cleeton: j_cleeton@btinternet.com*

Or call 01926 651529

Or visit www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk to download.

Moreton Morrell



Welcome to Moreton Morrell Parish

News from the Parish Council

Thank you to everyone who came to the parish council meeting this month. This was the Annual Parish Meeting as well as the regular council meeting and we heard reports from various organisations in the village to whom we give grants. All the reports are available on the council website, www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk.

Council update

Cllr Gerry Slora is now Chair of the Parish Council, with Cllr Edwards as Vice-Chair. Thank you to Cllr Rob James for serving as Chair for the last few years.

Village appearance and amenities

Thank you to Jo and Emma of The Seeds of Bloom, who have supplied some new plants for the village signs – they are looking very smart. It's also good to see that the footpaths are being well maintained.

The Parish Council will be attempting to clear a footpath to

Wellesbourne so watch this space for further updates.

Queen's Jubilee Party, 5 June 2022

This will take place at the park from 2pm, with local bands Astella and Ragged Hound, a magic show at 3pm and a hog roast (vegetarian options available) at 5pm. All are welcome. Bring your own drinks, something to sit on and protection from the weather if necessary. Fingers crossed for a fine day.

Parish Plan

Following the response to the questionnaire, councillors are putting together a Parish Plan and we will be sharing it with residents for their thoughts in September.

The full minutes of the meeting are available on

www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk.

The next meeting is on 25 July at 7.30pm and all are welcome to join.

A resident of Moreton Paddox has been researching its history and has created a web page that can be found here :

<https://challinor.one-name.net/ronc/MoretonPaddox> - please note this URL is case sensitive.

If anyone has any corrections, additions, new or better photographs, or new material that they are willing to share, please contact :

moreton.paddox.history@gmail.com

District Councillor Report

South Warwickshire Merger Talks End

Stratford-on-Avon District Council (SDC) and Warwick District Council (WDC) formerly ended political merger talks at their respective Full Council Meetings on 11 May.

Whilst there was a clear strategic logic to the merger, the move to bring matters to a close reflects the different approaches in respect of financial risk and borrowing by the two councils, which raised the need for further due diligence in February 2022 and WDC's Milverton Homes subsidiary, following the production of their five-year budgets (Medium Term Financial Plans, MTFP).

The context for the additional due diligence request was the very high level of WDC borrowings, and at circa £405 million pounds, which showed a £100 million pounds increase since the initial Deloitte's report five months earlier. In addition, WDC's MTFP also reported it would have to make cumulative savings of £7.2m compared to SDC's £2.05m. In comparison SDC has very limited borrowings and takes a very prudent approach to finances.

As council tax payers, residents are entitled to expect that SDC follows best business practice to

ensure that any merger would be in their best interests; a merged Council means the sharing of both reserves and debt and as a member of Cabinet we did not feel it was prudent to expose our residents and council tax payers to that level of debt.

Unfortunately, the timing of the availability of the latest due diligence reports on Milverton Homes Ltd compounded the issue, as there was a reluctance by its Board to agree and issue a Non-Disclosures Agreement (NDA) to the auditors until the end of May at the earliest. This would have meant that the due diligence exercise would not have been completed until well into June.

All of us at SDC were still keen to progress with the merger, but in view of the forecast delays to the Milverton Homes due diligence work, we invited WDC to join us in writing to the Secretary of State requesting the decision on the merger be deferred until these latest findings had been completed in June.

It was disappointing that WDC were not willing to pause the merger process for a few weeks at this critical stage of the talks, as they refused to be joint signatories of the letter we sent to the Secretary of State. It was fully understood by us that in writing to the Government unilaterally asking to extend the

District Councillor Report

process that this would result in WDC calling off the merger.

Despite the outcome this does not mean the end for the positives that this process has generated; both Councils have learned a lot and wish to carry on as good partners.

Whilst the merger exploration costs were £320k of which SDC's share is £162k; the savings achieved as a result of the merger process and the development of shared services will deliver £1.335 million over the next five years.

There are no changes for SDC and WDC residents as both Councils remain committed to delivering great value services.

123+ Waste Collection

Food caddies for the **new 123+ waste collection service** have started to be delivered to residents across the District, in preparation for the launch of the new service on 1 August 2022.

Two food caddies are being delivered to over 62,000 residential households across the District, together with an information booklet explaining how the new waste collection service works and what you need to do.

Residents will be provided with a small 7 litre caddy and a larger 23 litre external food waste bin. The small caddy is designed to be

kept in the kitchen for collecting food waste, which can then be transferred into the external food waste bin for collection.

The external food waste bin is designed to be stored outside and has a lockable lid to contain any smells and prevent vermin getting in. The food waste will be collected every week which will also help to prevent smells.

For more information about the new 123+ waste collection service please visit:

[**123+ Waste Collections | Stratford-on-Avon District Council**](#)

Best wishes for a fabulous Jubilee weekend and look forward to seeing many of you on Sunday 5th June at Moreton Morrell Park.

Anne Parry

Ward Member for Wellesbourne East

Portfolio Holder for Planning Development

cllranneparry@gmail.com

From the Allotments

May is without doubt one of the busiest times for allotment holders – seeds to be sown, planting out of earlier sown and all against a backcloth of just a little concern that a late frost might wreak havoc or strong winds. April and early May were very dry times and so we were glad to see recent rains – much needed. It is a fact that, even if you water plants, you can never replicate the benefits of rain. Sadly it also makes the weeds grow but all part of the fun.

For those with fruit trees on their patches. It would appear the lack of untimely frosts should mean a good all round year for harvested fruit although there are still hurdles to overcome in terms of potential pest damage.

Undoubtedly allotments are not for the faint hearted but they are rewarding. Recently I presented a brief report to our village's annual parish meeting and an extract from it is below:

The allotments at Moreton Morrell are very important and I can report that in the current year we have 100% occupation and a waiting list. The introduction of quarter and half plots has promoted much interest and it is good to see such a range of people now involved. As you know, they are managed by the

Moreton Morrell Allotment Association. The annual rent for the plots as a whole is paid half yearly to the Parish Council out of rents collected from the individual plot holders, each of which enters into contracts of occupation.

If any member of the Council would like a tour of the allotments, please do get in contact

Thank you

This year we have effected some repairs to gate posts on the plots behind the pub and we are seeking to repair the small gate at the top end of the Brook Lane site. We also know that the hedge alongside the path at the pub site could benefit from cutting back. We are in discussion with the Parish Council about these items and how they might be funded. I end with one of the shortest garden poems I know, written by Robert Frost "But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye"

John Moverley
John@dunmovin.co.uk

Nature Watch for May

By Steve Harvey

Now, just to say, I'm scribbling this on location in North Wales. We are tucked in a tiny white cottage with a blue door and windows not far from the top of Mount Anelog. Let's see if this comes out with a bit of a Welsh accent, 'there's lovely'.

Now up here I've seen a Peregrine Falcon dash along the cliff tops, and a Chough (chuff), a very handsome part of the Crow family with red beak and legs. By the end of the 18 hundreds they were declining fast. By 1973 the last pair in Cornwall had perished, yet miraculously, in 2001 they made a comeback. Six of them fly around this cottage calling to each other frequently. On 11 April, flying low over our heads, were a pair of Swallow heading north. Who knows where they were going, they were fast running out of Wales.

Meanwhile, back home, the sprinkling of Hawthorn leaves in the hedgerows have joined together to form a lush leaf tapestry. The white flowers along the hedges, as I scribble this in early April, are Blackthorn. The weather won't settle until they're finished. Chiffchaff were here

singing their name before the end of March about the same time as the Blackcaps started their gorgeous flutey melodies. Muntjacs have been barking in the evening and early morning. Its a little like a dog but one long note lasting a couple of seconds. There's a pair of Muntjac that cross the lane in the evening going to the grounds of the Hall then back out early every morning.

Way up in the blue sky over Moreton Morrell were five birds of prey climbing in the warm air thermal, occasionally diving at each other. I assumed they were Buzzards but no, they were five Red Kite, maybe family groups from last year or juveniles testing their strength. The very next day over the cottage flew four Buzzard and, keeping to one side, a Red Kite. It's busy here.

The Frogspawn has hatched now with tiny Tadpoles wriggling around amongst the pond weed. I'm hoping we haven't got too many Dragonfly youngsters lurking in the depths to eat them all.

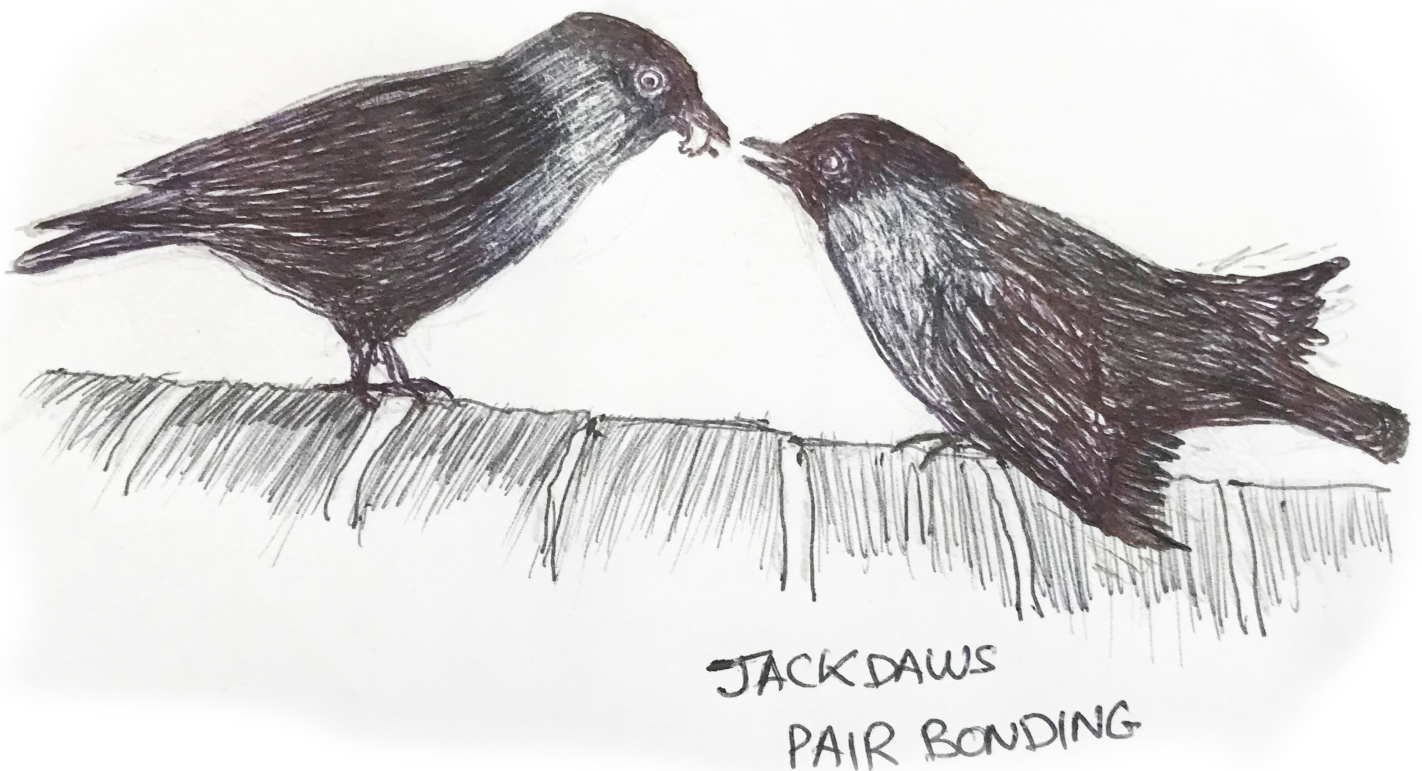
I reckon the Jackdaw Appreciation Society has only one member and that's me!

Nature Watch for May

They've been collecting nesting material for a couple of weeks. I've been putting out the lint (I call it fluff) from the tumble dryer and they've been eagerly collecting it. Jackdaws mate for life so it was lovely the other day, to see a couple on the outhouse roof. The male had been down to get some food from me. It flew up and approached the female who immediately began fluttering her wings and calling just as if she were a baby. The male gently fed her. Very endearing, as she

pretended to be helpless he looked after her. Jackdaws doing 'role play' - the scientists call it 'pair bonding'. Bonding they certainly were.

*Follow me on
Instagram -
steviespics56*



Nature Watch for June

If anyone actually reads this then it will now be June. As I scribble this it is still May. I reckon April/May is my favourite time of the year. Everything suddenly becomes green and lush. Cow Parsley (or Keck in my family), grows tall in the hedge bottoms as if its trying to touch the Hawthorn blossom; the “darling buds of May”. The country lanes are soft and bursting with life. I think by the end of May its almost peaked, nothing quite tops it after that. By mid April the young Robins had fledged and were parked in bushes repeating their one note call to keep in touch with their parents and ask for food. Fluffy, brown and speckled, not looking much like the Robins they would turn out to be. When your parents are so hostile to other robins its best not to look like your own kind until you can look after yourself. Young Blackbirds had also fledged and by May young Starlings were very noisily following their parents around for food.

Our evening after dark there was a tap, tapping low on the back door. One of the Cats was very interested. I guessed it was a Beetle on the wing. On opening the door there was a Cockchafer Beetle, large and clumsy; its a wonder they can fly. The porch

light had attracted it. I picked it up. They don't bite or sting but do cling onto your fingers. I moved it away from the light so it could carry on its mission.

The Tawny Owls are around the cottage and parkland, one calling and the other responding. It won't be long until I hear this year's little Owlets.

One sunny morning I was driving towards Ashorne from Morton Morrell when a Weasel dashed into the road followed by a second. They got to the middle of the road then dashed back to the hedge bottom. Maybe a male chasing a female, I'll never know, but their light brown fur looked great in the sunshine. I go years without seeing a Weasel or a Stoat then see two at once.

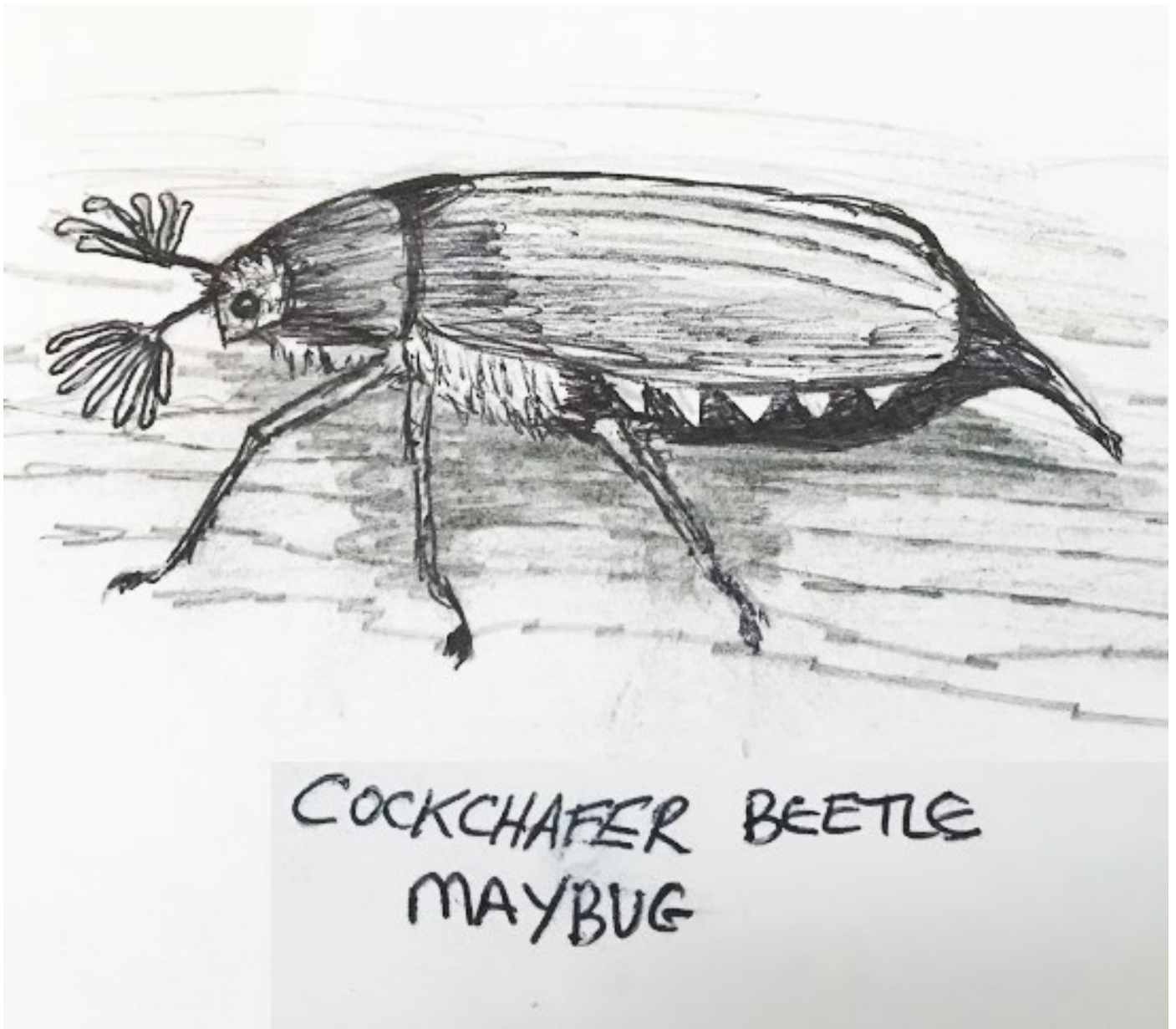
All my female Pheasants have disappeared now, off to nest. I'm visited by one male Pheasant. His wife now she's disappeared is hopefully sitting on a nest somewhere. He still visits for food, strutting up and down looking every bit the expectant father - not smoking a cigarette though (old style reference).

Nature Watch for June

Oh! And at last its happened, well just about. My Jackdaw mates are so desperate for food for their babies they follow me around the garden. Some days they will even come to the car as I arrive home. They know I'm a soft touch so they stay close. For the first time a Jackdaw now will feed from my hand while sitting on the fence. Only one mind you but that's a start as the others sit

around watching. They must think this lone Jackdaw is incredibly brave or dangerously stupid. Needless to say I love it.

*Follow me on
Instagram -
steviespics56*



Your Church in Your Community

Recently the report below was presented to the annual meeting of our parish.

The Church is an integral part of the village and, through our activities in the building itself or the adjacent facilities, or indeed within the community, we aim to continue to strengthen that role. Just some highlights as examples in the past year include the Village Remembrance, a service followed by the act of remembrance itself. We were so pleased that so many attended in 2021 – an important time of village coming together to remember those who gave their lives for our freedom both in the world wars and conflict subsequently. Just before Christmas we had a well-attended event of Carol Singing in the churchyard complete with mulled wine! Back in July 2021, we held a service of thanksgiving for those who were helping us get through the pandemic and this co-incided with the introduction of the rainbow bench in the churchyard, which we are glad has been very well received. There has been a successful carol service and further strengthened links between church and school and in working with the Village Hall.

Aside from these mentioned, there have been many other activities. The holding of successful craft fairs in the church and the Room, quiz nights, games days and much more. Events such as these are seen as so important. Yes, they provide a

very important and needed fund raising role but above all they emphasise the importance of church and community. And we are so pleased that many are taking advantage of the community bookshop in the church.

I have mentioned the churchyard – a great asset to our village and it is so good to see many take advantage of it as a place to rest and take time out from our challenging world.

Looking forward on June 24th there is to be a memorial service for Mme Looi, who was an inspirational Christian and worshipped at our church whenever she was in England from her home in Norway. Thanks to her support, the completion of The Room came much sooner than we could ever have envisaged. We are expecting international visitors to attend as she made so much impact to so many. Two days after this on the Sunday, June 26th, there is to be a Barn Service (more information will be available in the next Parish Magazine)

Thank you

Finally just to return to our churchyard, if you can offer time or resource to help in its maintenance and enhancement, please do get in touch. Recently a great group of people have restored our shed, much needed. Thank you so much.

The College Update

Tutor takes on the baton for Commonwealth Games

A Moreton Morrell College tutor has been named as one of the baton bearers for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

Kevin Redmond will be tasked with carrying the baton through one leg of the Midlands tour as part of Queen's Baton Relay. He coaches as part of the Leamington FC Academy of Sporting Excellence at Moreton Morrell College, while also teaching on the Level 3 Sport course.

Kevin is one of 2022 people given the honour of taking part in the relay, and has been given the honour in recognition in supporting people with disabilities to play and engage with sport.

"Sport has been a huge part of my life since I was a child, so to get the chance to be part of a major international event is really exciting," said Kevin.

Philippa Gerrard, Head of FE Sport at Moreton Morrell College and Pershore College, added: "It will be truly inspiring for our students to see a member of staff represent the industry and college on a global scale.

"I would like to wish Kevin all the best for the baton relay and hope

he enjoys what will surely be an unforgettable experience."



Kevin Redmond

College joins Queen's Green Canopy initiative

Students and staff at Moreton Morrell College have planted a tree to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The college group is taking part in the Queen's Green Canopy, an initiative which invites people to 'plant a tree for the Jubilee' to mark the Queen's 70 years of service and enhance the environment.

The initiative's focus on sustainability mirrors the college group's own green ethos, and the tree planting comes as the college group is awarded the Planet Mark sustainability certificate for an eighth consecutive year, which recognises organisations that make year-on-year reductions in carbon emissions.

WCG reported a 7.5 per cent

The College Update

reduction in carbon emissions in 2020/21 compared to the previous year.

Angela Joyce, Chief Executive of WCG, said: “We are extremely pleased to support the Queen’s Green Canopy initiative and add a rowan tree to the grounds of each of our colleges.

“We run a number of land-based courses at WCG so sustainability is something that is embedded in both our policies and our curriculum, and we have worked hard to reduce our carbon footprint, cut down waste and crack down on single use plastics.”



The tree being planted at Moreton Morrell

Apprentices celebrated in special event

Apprentices from Moreton Morrell College and across the wider WCG college group have been celebrated in a special graduation ceremony at Warwick Racecourse.

The apprentices were joined by family, friends, tutors and employers to celebrate completing their apprenticeships with WCG (formerly Warwickshire College Group). More than 60 apprentices graduated on the evening, with over 170 guests in attendance for the eighth apprenticeship graduation event hosted by WCG. Apprentices graduating are embarking on careers in a wide range of sectors, from engineering and horticulture, to marketing and dental nursing. Outstanding Apprentice for Land-based, Motor Vehicle and Construction went to Jake Summers, a 20-year-old Land Based Engineering Technician from near Hinckley. He had completed his apprenticeship with Chandlers Farm Equipment in Lutterworth, with studies at Moreton Morrell College. Angela Joyce, CEO of WCG, said: “We believe in formally celebrating success at every level of education and we are proud to train more than 2,000 apprentices each year for more than 1,100 employers. “Congratulations to all of our graduating apprentices this year and we wish them all the best as they move forward in their careers.”

The College Update



Apprentices celebrate at graduation ceremony

Carpentry students fundraise for Ukraine charity appeal

Carpentry students at Moreton Morrell College are using their skills to make products to raise funds for a charity appeal which is supporting those living in Ukraine.

Level 3 carpentry students held a stall at the college's annual Lambing and Animals Weekend, held at WCG's Nether Moreton Farm, in aid of Oxfam's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

The group of nine students designed products including planters, bird boxes, garden benches, candle holders, welly hangers and outdoor storage before working out the cost of the materials and

what they should be priced at. Two students then ran the stall at the event, which was attended by more than 4,000 people, taking £800 worth of orders from customers and also raising money by selling raffle tickets.

The group is now busy making the products to fulfil the orders, and 40 per cent of the money raised will be donated to the appeal.

John Billings, WCG carpentry and joinery lecturer at Moreton Morrell College, said: "The students have had to do everything from designing the products and working out costings to marketing these and fulfilling the orders, so it's a great experience for them."



From left to right - Ben Boswell-Brown, Noah Williams, Jareth Brazier, Aled Thomas and Connor Lyne

Newbold Pacey and Ashorne WI

We were delighted to welcome friends, neighbours and WI members from local groups to our Community Coffee Mornings in April and May. Our secretary Trish presented our WI Annual Report to the Parish Council Annual Meeting and we were thanked by Councillors for our work in support of our local community.

Unfortunately, our April speaker (Behind the Crime Scene with ex-police officer) had to cancel at the last minute. Undaunted we raced to buy up Sainsburys tulip stocks, foraged a bit of greenery and our member Sarah Irwin led the group in an impromptu Easter flower arranging session.

May meeting was AGM night so we cleared our throats and sang the WI anthem Jerusalem for the first time since November 2020. We then had a relaxing evening looking back on what we'd achieved in the previous year and forward to what we have planned for 2022/23. We had 21 members this time last year, now we have 31 members and plenty of room for more. We elected our WI Committee which comprises the same eight members with a couple of role swaps. We awarded prizes for our various competitions, voted to create a member's bursary to encourage the pursuit of new skills and are

planning an August coach trip to Middleton Hall Gardens in Tamworth.

Our Craft and Chat group are still busy with red, white and blue wool creating some surprises for the Queen's Royal Jubilee celebrations and the Gardening Group are nurturing dahlias for the flower section of our WI allotment. The Walking Group is off for a five-miler and a bit of lunch in the Cotswolds at the end of the month.

*On the Jubilee theme we are working with Nicky Jones from the Craft Studio, Kineton to deliver a Jubilee Wreath Making Workshop in Ashorne Village Hall on **Saturday 21 May**. We'll provide Jubilee themed decorations and a handmade birch wreath; you just need some extra greenery and your inspiration. Workshop runs 9:30am – 11:30am and the cost is £25. Open to all. To book your place, please email Trish on npandawi@gmail.com*

We will not be running a June Coffee Morning as the hall is in use for village Jubilee celebrations but we'll be back with our hot toasted teacakes and homemade cake on the first Saturday of July.

Why not come along and give us

Newbold Pacey and Ashorne WI

*a try? We meet on the 2nd
Thursday of each month.
7:30pm – 10pm in Ashorne
Village Hall.*

*We also have a book swap in the
Ashorne Village phone box –
open to all.*

*Contact Trish by phone for a chat
or email: npandawi@gmail.com
if you want to find out more.*

*For a membership fee of less than
£1 per week, members can expect
11 meetings per year and
Federation and National WI
magazines without extra cost.
Opportunities to sign up for extra
trips, talks and workshops run
by Warwickshire Federation, WI*

*Denman online and other WIs
will be at your own cost. As a WI
member you are part of the
largest women's voluntary
organisation in the world. There
are around 190,000 members in
5,500 WIs across the UK.*

*Trish Handsley: 01926 651978
Newbold Pacey & Ashorne WI
Npandawi@gmail.com*

*Facebook - Newbold Pacey &
Ashorne WI - Warwickshire*

*Instagram -
@Newboldpaceyandashornewi*

Moreton Morrell is on



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or download the app

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www.facebook.com/Moretonmorrellpaddox



Transport

Dial a Ride UBUS service in Moreton Morrell

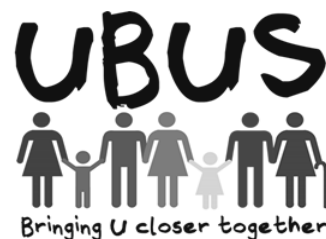
The UBUS dial a ride community transport service operates in Moreton Morrell and surrounding areas on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays between 09:30 - 14:30.

UBUS is available to anyone who struggles to access public transport due to mobility issues, health problems or due to infrequent or no public transport.

Travel locally or into Stratford upon Avon to go shopping, visit friends or attend social groups.

Single journey fare: £2.90 | Return fare: £5.80

To register with UBUS or for more information please call 01789 264491 between 09:30 - 14:30 on weekdays.



COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICE

Our volunteer drivers can take you to medical appointments, lunch clubs, groups, activities and to visit family and friends.

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transport@vasa.org.uk



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vasa

reducing isolation within our communities

RELIABLE SERVICE

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WHAT DOES IT COST?

You pay your volunteer driver **45p per mile** and a **£3 admin fee** to help us sustain the service. **Two hours of waiting time** is included in the cost of your booking.

HOW TO BOOK A JOURNEY

Our booking line is open Monday to Friday between 9.30am & 3pm.

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transport@vasa.org.uk

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS!

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Call 01789 262889 or email volunteer@vasa.org.uk.

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We need your clothes and shoes

Don't forget the school has a hungry clothes monster... or a recycling bin if you prefer!

Have your children outgrown their clothes or shoes or perhaps you need some space for your summer wardrobe! If you have any bedding, clothing or shoes that no longer fit or you simply no longer want or can be bothered to repair! why not feed the blue bin located opposite the main reception entrance to school.

The bin is emptied by an external company and the school is paid an amount depending on the weight of the clothing.



The Silver Line is a helpline for older people that offers information, friendship and advice 24 hours day, 365 days a year.

Originally founded by Dame Esther Rantzen, it is the only national, free and confidential helpline for older people in the UK.

The Silver Line also offers telephone and letter befriending by matching up a Silver Liner to a volunteer for regular conversation.

So if anyone is lying awake at night - or feeling lonely at anytime - or is worried about a problem that they have - and think that a chat with someone friendly who cares might help, **please call The Silver Line on 0800 4708090** www.thesilverline.org.uk



Community



at Moreton Morrell

Suitable for parties,
meetings and regular events

Broadband Wi-Fi available



To make an enquiry please email
contact.tramm@gmail.com

For more details or to complete a
booking form visit

www.midfosse.co.uk/tramm

The Church of the Holy Cross, Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9AL

Help us make The Villager!

Please continue to send your news, events, letters, photos, stories
and comments by email to cleetonjane@gmail.com

The deadline for the next edition is

1st August 2022

This is your magazine, please do contribute in any way you can.

Extra copies of The Villager are left in the church
and a copy is online at www.moretonmorrellpc.co.uk