



November 2021:
Term 1 has simply zipped by. Our new starters have settled in well and all have enjoyed getting involved in activities with a Pirate theme -

a child's request. They have made parrots to sit on their shoulders, created pirate faces, treasure chests, pirate ships and been made to walk the plank!

In addition, the children have been exploring transport and moving. They have been asked to park the cars in the right numbered space and moved cars round a road map track following a specific line design (eg. dotted, dashed, zig-zag).

During November we will be talking about fireworks and the myriad of wonderful colours these give us when they explode in the night sky. Around the same time, 4 November, Diwali starts, and we will be talking to the children about this Hindu festival of lights.

Being a not-for-profit charity, we rely on fundraising to supplement our costs and enable us to provide the wonderful early years' experience for your child enabling them to be ready for primary school. During November and December Christmas sweet cones will be on sale as will tickets for our annual Christmas Raffle - numerous hampers made up of donations from parents and local businesses. Please buy tickets/cones to help

us in continuing to provide a service to the local community and surrounding villages.

Numbers at our Monday Baby and Toddler group are slowly increasing. Please do come along and bring friends and expectant mothers too. We would like to ensure that this continues after Christmas - so need more regular attendees to ensure this.



Although we are up to capacity for our 2021/22 intake, with a waiting list in operation, please still contact us if you would like a space in the future. Things do change on a termly basis and some sessions may come available - it's best to ask and get your child's name down on the list so you don't miss out. Deposits are being taken for 2022/23 and even for 2023/24!

Follow us on Facebook or via our website, www.northibleypreschool.co.uk, to see what the children have been up to.

Keep safe and well. North Nibley Pre-school Team.

ON THE EDGE

Issue 277

NOVEMBER 2021



Parrots!



A SCHOOL WITH A HEART FOR COMMUNITY.

Our school vision states “Ours will be a school that works in partnership with the community.” This article tells you more about what that has looked like this term.

The 28th September, saw a large audience gather in St Martin’s for the eagerly anticipated iSingPop concert. With funding and support from St Martin’s, for which we are VERY GRATEFUL, the school was able to engage the talents of the iSingPop team to work with all the classes to learn ‘pop’ songs based around the school’s Christian values. The children spent two days learning the songs and dance moves before preparing for the concert. The children reported...

“One of the people who was leading was called Jessica. She was really good at engaging us from the age of Reception up to the age of Year 6.” (Catriona)

“Jessica kept encouraging us with the dancing.” (Finn)

“Jessica taught us 7 dances in two days and we had to persevere until we finished learning them all!” (Ginny)

“Jessica kept saying we were good even if we made mistakes.” (Anya)

“When Jessica left, we had to still practise the songs and dances in the classroom.” (Ellie-May)

“We all wore brightly coloured t-shirts (or iSingPop tops!) for the concert and we achieved singing all of the songs.” (Lucy)

“In the iSingPop concert, the projector kept flickering on and off which made it even harder to remember the words. However, we successfully pulled it off and it was a great success!” (Harvey)

“The stage wasn’t quite big enough for all of the school so we had to do really small dance moves to prevent us from falling off!” (Harriet)

“Embarrassingly (but hilariously!), Jessica fell off her stage block in the concert.” (Zac)

For the second time that week, we were able to invite members of the local community to join with us, this time for a coffee and cake. On Friday 1st October, Class 4 provided the cake for a successful coffee morning in aid of Macmillan.

Anya said “I think it was an amazing day, because we were raising money for a good cause, to help people with cancer.” Finn added “I enjoyed working in the coffee shop, making teas, coffees and squash with my friends.” Zac enjoyed “... being waiters and servers to the visitors. Just chatting together was very entertaining. Daisy “...got to talk to lots of lovely people.” Ginny said “It was fun to have people around the school, for the first time in ages. I was really happy with the amount of money we raised.” Elijah said “I even enjoyed cleaning up because it meant we got to socialise.”



Thanks to the generosity of Class 4 pupils, parents and the wider community we managed to raise over £700 in order to support the work of Macmillan.



Staying with the 'Community' focus, last year we invited the community to join with us in a sequenced display of 'lit windows' throughout Advent. Our 'Light In Dark Times' initiative proved popular, so this year we are repeating the idea. If you'd like to get involved please contact head@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk, and I will provide further details.

Two years ago we held a 'premises day' where a large group of parents and friends of the school donated time on a Saturday morning to tidy up the site and attend to a good number of maintenance issues, for which we were very grateful (and slightly embarrassed! The number of volunteers meant that the soup and rolls barely went round!) I hope to repeat this opportunity, on Saturday 13th November from 9:00. If you are able to confirm your willingness to be involved, in advance, (head@northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk) I will circulate a list of jobs and plan refreshments accordingly!

Looking further ahead, there are regular opportunities for a skilled 'handy-person' to be employed on an irregular basis to support our on-going drive to improve our site. If this is your line of work (and you have public liability insurance) we'd love to hear from you.



Perhaps I'll see you at our Open Day, on the morning of Tuesday 9th November from 9:15? Watch our video and find out why we are full! <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/open-days/>

Thanks for reading.
Stay well.

Mr Batchelor
Head Teacher
North Nibley C of E Primary School
www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk

St Martin's Church

www.northnibleychurch.uk

Rev'd Rachel Cook, Vicar
vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk
 07483 146531

Rev'd Peter Marsh, Associate Priest
pemmarsh@gmail.com
 01453 547521

(not after 6.00 pm, please)

Sue Devine and John Hay,
 Churchwardens,
 01453 543748 and 544965

admin@northnibleychurch.uk

Kate Cropper,

Tyndale Benefice/Vicar's Secretary
office@tyndalebenefice.co.uk
 01453 842175



Sunday 7th at 9.30am

A Service of the Word with Baptism (postponed from October)

Sunday 14th Remembrance Sunday
 at 9.30am Holy Communion
 10.45 am at the War Memorial



Sunday 21st at 9.30am CHRIST the KING
 A Service of the Word



Sunday 28th ADVENT SUNDAY
 at 9.30am Holy Communion
 at 6.00pm Advent Carols and Readings

Preparing for Christmas with candlelight, and mulled wine

Services for November

Audio-Services continue every Sunday on YouTube—the link is via our website

www.northnibleychurch.uk

The Churches Together Harvest video is still to be viewed on the website, too.



Ramblings of the Associate Priest: Peter Marsh

Harvest is here and I've also seen the first mince pies emerge from the oven at the bakery. I did a stupid thing the other day. I was going to cut grass for someone, was in a hurry and just heaved my big mower into the back of my car. As I did so, I thought, 'I really should tie it down to stop it moving about', but of course I didn't because it was too much trouble. Imagine my happiness when it rolled backwards and smashed my rear window into millions of pieces that I would defy the world's best archaeologist to resurrect.

And that's a pretty good allegory of where we are with Global Warming. We are at the thinking, 'I really should do something about this or the world will be irreversibly damaged to the extent that it will be unable to sustain God's beautiful creation, which includes us'. But we aren't doing anything tangible.

Now I've been told to keep this short, so as we observe, and even engage with, the UN conference on climate change, COP26, in Glasgow this month, we might ponder on the mower incident.

PS You might even hear (or have heard) our church bells ringing out on 30th October : a warning of global warning and a mark of solidarity with everyone who wants to do something about it.



One young man from North Nibley heeded the call and joined the Royal Navy not knowing that his life and death would be inextricably linked with that of Lord Kitchener.

lent his name to the well-known recruitment drive under the slogan "Your Country Needs You". In June 1916, Kitchener was despatched on a diplomatic mission to Russia to attempt to persuade the Tsar to continue his resistance against the Germans. Catching the night train from London he arrived in Scapa Flow and transferred to HMS Hampshire one of the speediest ships in the fleet.

of Orkney, HMS Hampshire exploded and sank, killing 735 crew and all 14 passengers, only 12 crew survived; the official report is that she hit a German mine. So, "Boy First Class" and Field Marshall suffered the same fate.

In June 1916, Gilbert Capener aged 17 had reached the rank of "Boy First Class" aboard HMS Hampshire, an armoured cruiser that had just taken an inactive part in the Battle of Jutland off the north of Scotland, and was at anchor at Scapa Flow.

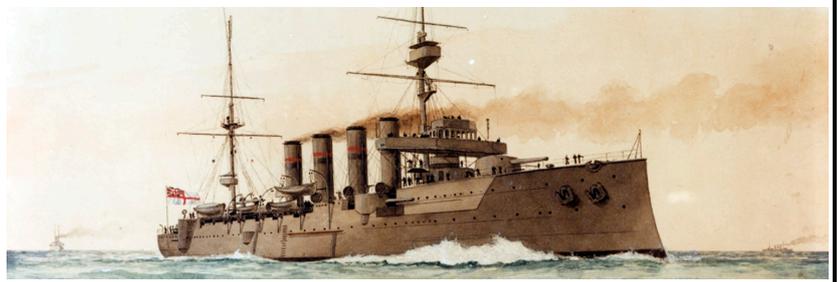
HMS Hampshire set sail on 5th June 2016 accompanied by 2 Destroyers, but the heavy seas they encountered and their inferior speed prevented them keeping up with the Hampshire and they were ordered to turn back.

Gilbert's had a younger brother Percy who had enlisted into the Army and served with the Devonshire Regiment. He almost survived WW1 but was posted missing in France on 28th August 1918 aged 17 and is commemorated on the Vis En Artois memorial.

Lord Kitchener, who had been appointed War Secretary was a charismatic career soldier who had reached the rank of Field Marshall. He soon recognized that Britain's armed forces were vastly outnumbered and

Sailing alone off the coast

Two brothers, both casualties of WW1, cut down in their youth.



Our new administrator is
Lisa Osbourne.
She lives in the village with
her husband and her cat.

She can be contacted at
lisa.tamburrano@gmail.com

Come and join us on Sunday November 7th at 10am
Service led by Paul Woolner Everyone Welcome



HOOORAY!
MESSY CHURCH IS COMING BACK
Saturday November 20th
10am – 12noon
Children welcome with a parent

 **Café Church**
Come and join us for Café Church
on Sunday November 21st at 10am
to hear from Viki
who represents the Charity KIDS STUFF
and find out how we can support its Christmas Appeal



**REGULAR COMMUNITY
EVENTS**
at the CHAPEL
Everyone is welcome
to any of these events.

For more details contact :
info@northnibleychapel.org.uk



Remembrance Service
at the War Memorial,
Sunday 14th November
at 10.45am
Please join us in the annual
commemoration of those
individuals from the village and
all who lost their lives in the
service of their country.

Come back to the Chapel for
coffee and cake afterwards.

At the Chapel there will be displays for one day only of
some of the local stories from World War I and photos,
hopefully some new ones, of bygone village life.

Acknowledgement

*We are indebted to an anonymous subscriber who was
visiting the village last year and was intrigued that we
had two Capeners commemorated on our War Memorial
and set out to try to find their stories. They had also
eluded our attempts to commemorate the WW1 dead
with the information boards we set out around the war
memorial each November. The clue to unlocking the
mystery is that the two boys had their official records
under their Mother's name James, whereas they were
known locally by their father's surname Capener. AK*

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DANCEFIT
Every Thursday
10.00 - 11.00 am
£5 a session p-a-y-g-
Come and join us

Hopefully
Coffee Mornings and
Art and Craft Group
will return soon.



Wreath making will take place
in the Chapel on Thursday
December 9th at 7.30pm
Cost £26 to include all
materials, mulled wine and mince
pies.
A £10 deposit will secure your
place.
Please put it in an envelope with
your name and any dietary requirements and place it
in the Chapel post box. **Deadline to apply 1st December**



September was a month Emma Pingstone will long remember. Part of the now well-established Nibley Hub Runners, Emma decided she wanted to run 100 miles during the month to raise money for The Survivors Trust. An assault victim herself, she has nothing but praise for the help and support she received in the aftermath and which she can still tap into whenever she feels the need.

Emma takes over the story ...

"I decided I wanted to raise money for Hope House, our local sexual assault and rape centre, who helped me in a time of need, specifically to buy clothing for people who use the centre. When a person goes there they may have to give their clothes up for forensic analysis or may just never want to see them again. So, I spoke with Goose & Gander in Wotton, to see if I could raise money to buy clothes to pass on to Hope House. However, Goose & Gander wouldn't let me buy the clothing and wanted to donate it themselves! They were absolutely fantastic and donated 6 large boxes full of tracksuits and jumpers which Hope House were thrilled to receive. Due to Goose & Gander's kind donation I decided instead to raise money for The Survivors Trust which oversees centres like Hope House all over the country and have an online service for those who don't want to see people face to face. They offer great immediate and follow up support".

With a degree in Sports Therapy and after working in that line for the Worcester Warriors and running her own clinic in Swindon, Emma came to live at Sandfield Farm in Smarts Green after her relationship with George Salter, whom she had met at university, turned from friendship to something more! Emma now works for the Ambulance Service, as an Emergency Care Assistant and is training to be a paramedic.

All this seemed quite a turnaround in her life and I asked Emma the reason for this change of career.

"I decided I wanted to help people! I wondered how I could combine my knowledge and love for being outside with that, and the ambulance service seemed the obvious choice. I started on patient transport, taking people home from hospital and just worked my way up from there. I love my job! I love meeting new people and getting to know their stories. When you step into a patient's house you become part of their world for that moment and being able to help them gives me great satisfaction"

Emma's busy twelve-hour shift pattern made running 100 miles quite a challenge but, close to the end of the month, she had almost reached her target. Setting up a Just Giving page to collect donations, she announced on the Nibley Community page on Facebook that she would be running her final 10 miles in one go on the very last day of September, which turned out to be a drizzly grey day. Accompanied by George, his dad Gary (who actually did the whole 100 miles with Emma), friend Zoe and 'team coach' Fiona Dakin and spurred on by other members of the Hub Runners, the team crossed the finishing post on the Knoll and Emma received a lovely bunch of sunflowers from Jill. But what happened next completely took any remaining wind out of Emma's sails...

George got down on one knee
in front of the monument and

PROPOSED!

Emma said “YES”

and the celebrations started.



What a wonderful end to an amazing achievement.

As I write, Emma has raised £1,285, after starting with a target of £500. She is immensely grateful to those who have given so far but would still be delighted to receive donations via <https://bit.ly/3D60Gvy> After recovering from all the excitement (and back to the twelve hour shifts) Emma’s plans are to keep on running and undertake a half marathon. But in the meantime, she has some celebratory partying to do and a wedding to plan.

Massive **congratulations** to Emma and George and very **best wishes** for their future happiness from all involved in On The Edge. Words and pictures Marjorie Wright



Hello everyone

On **Monday 8th November** at **2.30** in the **Village Hall** Val Quest and Lorraine Smith will give us Girls in Cambodia & Vietnam.

Our first meeting for 18 months went well; we were entertained by our local entrepreneur Tarragon, explaining how she came to be in the Village Hub. It was very interesting to see how things developed obviously because she enjoyed it and how she appreciated all the help she had especially the support of her parents.

She finished by giving us a demonstration which involved cupcakes which we then sampled and which everyone enjoyed!

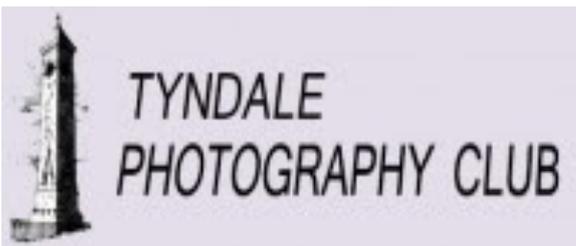
On **December 13th** we will be having our Christmas Lunch at **The Royal Oak** in **Wotton** at **12.30**.

Anyone wishing to join us should contact me to book.

We would welcome any new members who would like to come and join us, it has been a long time between meetings, bring a friend!

I hope everyone is well and will be able to come.

Pat Symons 01453 845154



At our opening evening of the new season members showed images of what they had done or where they had gone during the summer...



Above:
Christine Morgan
Osprey with fish



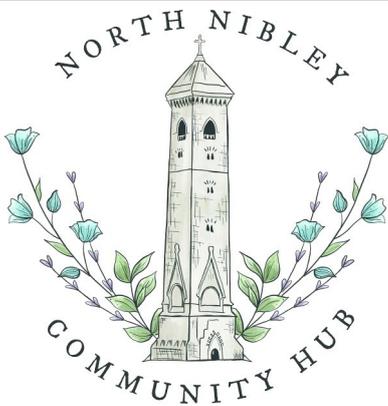
Left:
Diana Baker
Austin 7 display at Newark Park



Left:
Christine Ryske
Aberystwyth Harbour



Left:
George Ryske
Welland Viaduct



T & Christmas

Christmas is coming (oh, yes it is!) and Tarragon has released her Christmas order form (see right hand column). Please make sure you return it asap, and at least by 30 November, to avoid disappointment.

And a Happy New Year

We know 2022 cannot be far behind because the Nibley calendars are hotfooting their way to the Hub. They contain the usual great selection of beautiful images from around the parish and come in the handy appointments style or the large A4 (opens to A3) which shows the photos off in all their glory. Do come in and have a look. They make great Christmas presents for friends and family as well as being an essential ornament for your own wall.

Middlewick Farm Meats

Did you know that we now stock a range of products from a very local farm? Home reared, home butchered quality meat from award winning family farmed livestock and freshly frozen in the Hub for your convenience. The feedback we have received so far has been really positive. Take a look in our freezer the next time you are in – we usually carry a selection including lamb chops, burgers and mince. Check out Middlewick Farm Meats Facebook page for more information about the full range of products available.

The planter continues to flourish

We think it's fair to say that the new planter from Breakheart Community Project has been a spectacular success (thanks to all the volunteers who have keep it watered, deadheaded and fed) and is still looking good as we write this. However, winter is approaching and it will soon need replenishing. We are immensely grateful to Debbie Dinneage who has generously donated plants and spring bulbs to us for this purpose and we may well have replanted it by the time you are reading this.

Contact us:

Carolyn: carolyn@nibleyhub.co.uk tel: 01453 542494
Tarragon: tandcakes19@gmail.com tel: 07805342196
Marjory: marjwright54@gmail.com tel: 01453 542511
Alison: nibley50@gmail.com tel: 01453 546251
Charles: charleslamplugh58@gmail.com tel: 01453 549016
Orders: orders.nibleyhub@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook: **North Nibley Community Hub**
or Instagram: **north_nibley_community_hub**



M: 07805342196
E: tandcakes19@gmail.com
IG/FB: [t.and.cakes](https://www.instagram.com/t.and.cakes)

Christmas Orders

It's that time of year again! I am **now taking orders** for Christmas cakes and other treats for the festive period.

Orders will be taken up until **30th November** so make sure your order is in before then to avoid disappointment.

Please notify me of any dietary requirements or allergies before placing an order.

A 50% deposit of the total of the order will be taken upon order placement.

Christmas Cakes

Rich, moist, fruit filled cake encased in marzipan and fondant icing. Designs vary from painted lettering of festive phrases, fondant decorations and sweet little fondant figures. Gluten free available upon request.

4 inch round
5 inch square
8 inch round
8 inch square
10 inch square

Prices start from £20

Other treats

The list is as follows below with the average number of slices. GF available. **Traybakes start from £20**

Brownies (10)
Brookies (12)
Malteaser Tiffin (12)
Nutella or Biscoff Pockets (15)
Millionaires Shortbread (10)
Date or Mincemeat crumble VG (12)

Place orders either by dropping me an email and I will get back to you as soon as I can - thank you in advance for your patience.

Tarragon and team x



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Hi Speed Broadband

We have recently had gigaclear fibre broadband installed in the hall. Thanks to a Community Hub scheme that Gigaclear run they have provided us with their highest speed line free of charge for a year. Pre School are already benefiting from the much improved connection. This would be particularly useful if you are working from home and occasionally need a higher broadband speed, or for meetings, events etc where reliable connectivity is important.

Welcome to: Lizzie & Matt to 17 Highlands Drive; Sarah & Morgan to Waterley Bottom + A N Other very soon!
If you know of new arrivals do let us know so we can welcome them to our lovely village—thank you.

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On The Edge Editors

Please note the deadlines for the Dec 21/Jan 22 issue is
Wednesday 10th November 2021.

Please email to nibleyote@gmail.com

Dave Beer 5462151, Sue Devine 543748

Dave Earle 546659, Alison Edwards 543441,

Kate Gordon 543329, Di Hay 544965,

Ann Larkin 543320, Alan Shrimpton 544409

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



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NIBLEY SWIFTS



Peter Kirmond updates us on his Swift exploits

Back in the summer I wrote a short piece about the Swifts we had nesting on the front of our house. **Read on...** find out what happened to the chicks and how to get involved in making North Nibley a hub for this threatened species...

There was much interest with people regularly pausing opposite our house (36, The Street) to watch the adult Swifts zoom in and out of the nest boxes. The initial one chick in one nest box turned into three chicks in two boxes. These all successfully fledged in late July and, by now, will hopefully be energising the skies of sub-Saharan Africa. Three chicks may not sound like many but Swifts rarely raise more than two young a year and it has taken several years to get this Swift 'colony' established. These three youngsters are now contributing to reversing the major population decline the species has suffered over recent decades.

A completely unexpected consequence of my earlier article was being contacted by Tim Andrews, (teacher at KLB, apple orchard expert and leading light behind Orchard Revival cider). He is releasing a new cider S.O.S (Save Our Swifts) and a proportion of the proceeds from sales will go towards funding more Swift nest boxes around the village. S.O.S. cider should now be available from local outlets including Wotton Farm Shop, Relish on Wotton High Street and Leaf and Ground.

Tim's incredibly generous idea makes practical the dream I have had all along – that, once we had Swifts nesting successfully on our house, I would get more boxes put up around the village and make Nibley into something of a 'Swift hub'. The eagle eyed amongst readers may have noticed a few have already appeared – on the Howe's house (34, The Street), the Kinnear's (20, The Street), the back of the Chapel and on Dave and Jenny Earle's house (behind the bus shelter). As far as I know, none of these have so far been inhabited by Swifts – although the Earle's one has been 'squatted' in by House Martins who have built their usual mud nest **INSIDE** the Swift box!

There are a couple of remaining 'natural' Swift nest sites in the village. These are between the roof tiles and roof lining and are accessed by the birds swooping in just above and behind the gutters. One of the major causes of the decline in Swift numbers is buildings being re-roofed and this space being made inaccessible. If you are planning major building work it is well worth including potential Swift nest sites in the plans. Quite apart from helping to reverse the population decline, it is looked on very

favourably by planning departments as it helps them achieve their green agenda targets.

My plan is to get at least TEN more Swift boxes up around the village before the Swifts return next May.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

I use a 'pair of semi detached' boxes design (see photo), which provides two boxes for little more than the price of one and Swifts are happy to nest this close to each other.

Here's a brief summary of what's required:

A north or east facing wall with a site 4-6 metres (12 – 20ft) above ground level where the box will fit

A clear flight line into and out of the box i.e. no other buildings, trees, overhead wires etc. near enough to the site to prevent the Swifts from easily flying in and out. • I will build the boxes and fit them to your house:

I will ask you to make **a contribution to the cost** of materials. This is around £20/pair of boxes but S.O.S. cider sales may well bring this cost down considerably depending how well the cider sells and how many people want boxes. Note that commercially available Swift boxes start at around £30 EACH

If required (and you have some spare paint), boxes can be painted to match the wall

Be warned: it may take several years to get Swifts nesting in the boxes but there are tricks we can use to speed up this process.

To make this into a 'proper' project and publicise it, I have launched a website www.nibleyswifts.org which contains all the information in this article, lots of amazing facts about Swifts; even more will be added over time including where all the boxes are and how they are doing.

Grateful thanks are due to the villagers who have already been persuaded to have a box on their house and, particularly, Tim Andrews for coming up with the inspired S.O.S. cider idea and seeing it through to launch.

Get involved – get in touch!

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