

Moulton Parish News

Welcome to our first edition of 2002. It's a bit late this year, but work etc have taken their toll on my time!

Hopefully, we will have a good summer this year and with this thought in mind, may I remind you that Moulton has once again been entered in the county Best Kept Village Competition.

Although we didn't do too well last year we hope, with your help, to do better in 2002. So keep your hedges and gardens in tip top shape, remove any litter from the areas around your house.

We will also be running our Best Garden Competition again. Winners will receive gardening tokens to help them do even better in 2003!! So if you are a budding Alan Titchmarsh or Charlie Dymock let's see what you can do this year. N.B only front gardens are judged.

You may have noticed that the parish element of your Council Tax has increased. The villages of Moulton, Davenham and Bostock had to appoint a lawyer to prepare and present residents' case in the Minosus Inquiry. Moulton's share of the legal fees amounted to approximately £1.00 per resident. In addition the Parish Council is planning several major improvement schemes. For details see the last page.

Please help to keep our grass verges green

The Parish Council is increasingly dismayed to see the number of cars parked on grass verges. The verges provide an environmentally pleasing aspect to the village and over the past few years daffodils have been planted to give colour and pleasure to residents. In several areas of the village grass has been spoilt, bulbs flattened and deep wheals etched into the surface by car parking. Please use your drives, garages or the road to park your vehicle—not on the verges.

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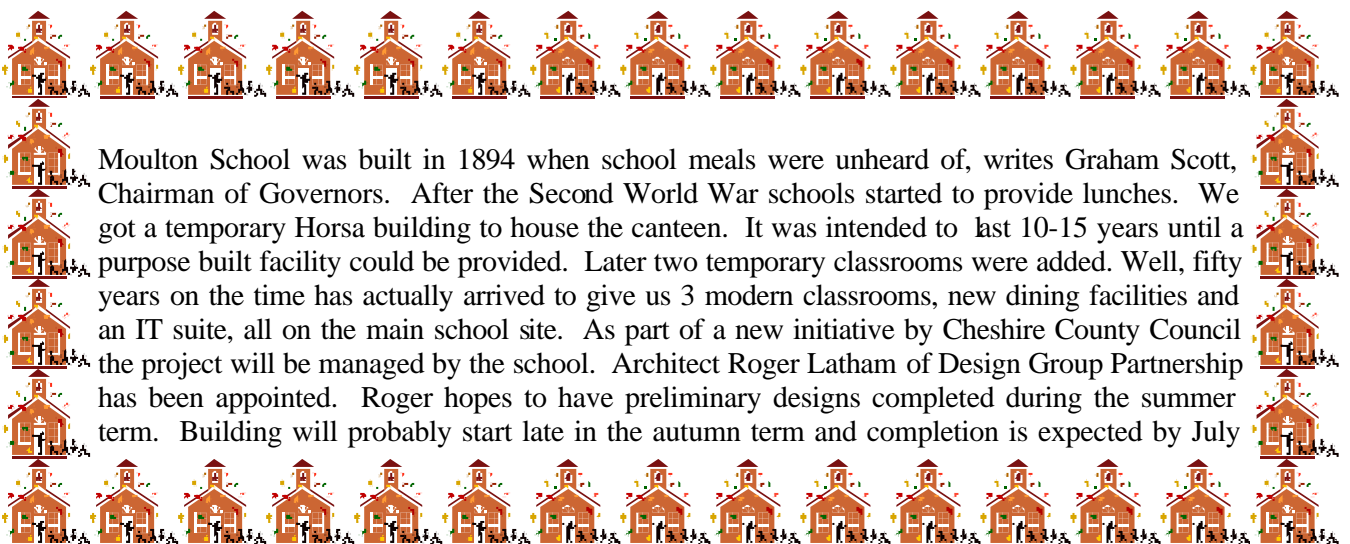
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Jubilee Celebrations

At a recent MADCA meeting it was agreed to canvass village organisations for ideas to commemorate this happy occasion. All organisations have been asked to come back with their views and if there is enough positive feedback a meeting will be called to plan an event/s.

Watch out for further details.



Moulton School was built in 1894 when school meals were unheard of, writes Graham Scott, Chairman of Governors. After the Second World War schools started to provide lunches. We got a temporary Horsa building to house the canteen. It was intended to last 10-15 years until a purpose built facility could be provided. Later two temporary classrooms were added. Well, fifty years on the time has actually arrived to give us 3 modern classrooms, new dining facilities and an IT suite, all on the main school site. As part of a new initiative by Cheshire County Council the project will be managed by the school. Architect Roger Latham of Design Group Partnership has been appointed. Roger hopes to have preliminary designs completed during the summer term. Building will probably start late in the autumn term and completion is expected by July

End of Scouting in the Village?

1st Moulton Scout Group now needs both Beaver and Scout leaders. Both need to be in place by the end of June to ensure that the Group continues beyond the end of July. If we do not achieve this then the Group will be forced to close.

If you know of anyone who may be interested please contact either **Bob on 810601** or **Roy on 553707** as soon as possible.

Although we are a small Group, with an active Cub and Venture Unit, we do participate in many District and County Scout events. You may have heard in the press how the Scouting movement is changing with a more active and dynamic programme being developed. We would benefit greatly from the changes being introduced and would like to ensure that these can be incorporated into the future of the Group. However, this is unlikely to happen unless we get additional leaders.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have supported us over this year with our fundraising events and hope that we are able to continue our work in the village beyond the end of July.

Bob Phillips

News from St. Stephen's - "Little Gems" meets on Wednesday May 8th at 1.30pm - crafts, singing and story for pre-school children and their carers. Future dates: 12th June and 10th July.

On May 9th (Thursday) local churches are gathering together for a celebration of the Ascension. Ascension Day is 40 days after Easter day, and is the time when we remember that the risen Lord Jesus ascended into heaven in front of the disciples' very eyes. To this day he is seated on the throne of heaven, and will one day bring his kingdom (as we say in the Lord's Prayer—Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done ...). Christians from Hartford and Davenham, as well as members of the Methodist Church, will be joining the congregation at St Stephens for the service.

The church Annual General Meeting (April 14th) noted a 5 year plan of works on the church building. We plan to put aside £4,000 a year toward the estimated £20,000 of repairs and maintenance. One of the major works is the refurbishment of the ceiling. We are grateful to a couple of village families for donations toward this work following funerals of loved ones in recent weeks.

The church family at St Stephens is always welcoming to visitors and new members - you never know, you might enjoy it! Why not come this week and avoid the Christmas rush! *Andy Greenhough*

Grants to Village Organisations

If your organisation is thinking of applying to the Parish Council for a grant this year please contact the Clerk (See next page for 'phone number) for an application form, which must be returned by

31st August 2002.

I wandered lonely as a

1,000 daffodils were planted last autumn to augment the planting in previous years. Areas planted included: the bottom of Beechfield and Orchard Rise, St Stephen's Church, Moulton School field, Lawrence Avenue and Jack Lane. If you can think of any areas that might look better with a splash of colour next spring please let the Parish Clerk know.

Old Friends

We would like to invite new members to join us at our meetings, held every other Tuesday in the Village Hall, between 2 and 4.00pm. We play board games, bingo, have a cup of tea and a good old natter. We also arrange trips out on at least four occasions during the year.

FUTURE OF YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE.

Moulton Post Office has been designated a rural office and is therefore outside the scope of the CURRENT closures. Whilst this is good news, it does not mean its future is secure. As this Office is maintained on the custom it undertakes, the oft quoted "use it or lose it" unfortunately rings true.

Whilst we will be doing everything within our means to keep your local Post Office open, we do need your support to achieve this. Transactions such as postage, mobile top-ups, bill payments, meter tokens, Quantum cards, cheque or benefit encashments, foreign currency orders etc all make a difference to securing this office's future if they are done HERE.

A big thank you for all your support to date.

Ian & Sadie Pugh.

Dave to make the Big 3?

In July **Dave Targett**, husband of Pre-School supervisor Gill Targett, will be climbing the three highest peaks in the UK, Ben Nevis, Scafell and Snowdon, in one day, to raise money for Pre-School.

If presented with a sponsorship form please give generously for Dave's noble effort and this good cause. I suggest he attends a few sessions at Pre-School to get into training!.

Jo Kershaw

W.I. NEWS

This February our group celebrated its 26th Birthday and we are pleased to report that we now number 40. We meet at 7.30 pm, on the second Monday of the month, in the Methodist School Room. So why not come and see what's on offer? Forthcoming events include talks on Top Knotch Hats, Herbs, Myths and Spices and Age Concern and trips to the Ribble Valley, Tirley Garth and a game of croquet at Tabley House. September 21st sees our Produce and Handicraft Show in the Village Hall so make a date in your diary to come along and see what we have achieved.

Dee Lambert

Jubilee Service

Special services of thanksgiving to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee will be held at the Methodist Church, on Sunday, June 9th. Revd. Graham Patrick welcomes you all to the Family service, at 10.45 am, and to the afternoon service at 2.45 pm. The chapel will be specially decorated with flowers and refreshments will be served in the Sunday School after the 2.45pm service.

Your village needs you!

Two more people are needed on the Parish Council to make up its complement of eleven. So if anyone wishes to join the Council they should contact the **Parish Clerk, Alan McElhinney Tel: 01928 731 752**

With an aim to modernise the organisation the Guides Association has recently been renamed '**Girlguiding UK: Surprise Yourself**'. In Moulton we have always tried to encourage our Guides to SURPRISE THEMSELVES by introducing new activities, crafts and games, which challenge their minds, teach them self confidence.



At the moment the Younger Guides are planning a Treasure Hunt for the Brownies, whilst the Older Guides are working towards their Baden Powell award, the highest award that Guides can gain. Future events include:

- Relaxation and Yoga
- Hand massage and Hand care
- Aerobic evening
- Chamboree 2002, the Cheshire Scout International camp, where we shall be taking part in all sorts of activities from climbing, sailing, dragon boat racing and crafts. A very busy week!.
- Holiday weekend
- Indoor climbing
- Go-Karting
- Candle Party Fundraiser
- Mother and Daughter weekend in London to go to a concert, see the sights and also SHOP!

**We welcome any Girl aged 10 – 14 years
Come, visit and join, you might just**

Contact: Mandy Wood
Tel 860798
Meeting Place
Moulton Village Hall

Village Survey

Some time ago the Parish Council conducted a village survey. All households in Moulton were given the opportunity to comment on various village features, facilities and activities. As a result of this survey the Parish Council planning committee has drawn up a new village plan.

The plan has now been approved by the PC and is at the consultation stage with VRBC – the aim being to have it adopted as part of the borough strategic plan. The final version should be published in full later in the year. Some of the main topics covered are:

- Redevelopment of the land at the rear of Regent Street
- Increase in parking space adjacent to the Village Hall.
- Development of Moulton Children's Playing Field

Your Council will be making a significant financial investment in the village in the next few years, supplemented by financial support and grants from other bodies and organisations.

It is hoped that by planning for future development of the village we can help to improve the environment for all residents.

Carl Turner

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING-

MONDAY, 20TH MAY, 7.30PM, IN THE VILLAGE HALL (Back Hall)

All Villagers Invited

Pantomime Players of Moulton After a year's break, January 2002's production of "Beauty and the Beast" was a great success. The group put its heart and soul into the show which culminated in Saturday night's dazzling final performance.

Next year's production will soon be written and auditions are to be held in June/July (look out for posters). Rehearsals will commence in October.

If you are interested in taking part, either on stage or helping backstage and are aged between 5 – 105 years, then please fill in the form below and return ASAP, so that we can put you onto our mailing list for future events and activities.

At present we are working with Odin VSRU group to repair our storage garage. If anyone can help with materials for the roof and windows or with the electric's please contact the Odin Unit via James Wood on 01606 – 860798. We look forward to hearing from you.

Pantomime Players of Moulton

NameAge (if under 18yrs)

Address Tel No.

Actor/Actress / Backstage (please delete as appropriate) If backstage please specify e.g. Costumes, Make-up, publicity, Front of House etc

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