

NORTON NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018 ISSUE 414

The Norton Newsletter Committee wish all our readers a very Happy Easter.

VILLAGE WEBSITE. www.nortonsubhamdon.org.uk

The Newsletter is available on the above website amongst other news and events in the village.

CHURCH WEBSITE. www.nortonchurch.org.uk

COMMUNITY LAND TRUST WEBSITE. www.nortonclt.btck.co.uk

SHOP WEBSITE www.norton-shop.com

FESTIVAL WEBSITE: www.nortonfestival.org

ADVERTS – One advert to sell a 'ride on' lawn mower – see 'one off' ads at end of newsletter.

NORTON NEWS AND EVENTS

CHURCH FLAG The George Cross Flag will fly from the Church Tower from 31st March to Monday 9th April for Easter Week.

NORTON SHOP AND POST OFFICE The CLT would very much like to thank all our staff and volunteers for braving the recent snow and bad weather to keep the Shop and Post Office open as normal. We would also like to thank the customer who offered to fetch extra supplies of milk and bread! It was good to see so many people using our Shop and we are proud that we were able to serve our community. We hope that you will continue to support us throughout the year and help us to make sure we can always be there when we are most needed.

EXTRA THANKS One customer in particular in Little Norton was very grateful to the shop for delivering urgently needed supplies through the ice and snow – much appreciated. Editor

ENERGY DRINKS The CLT has taken the decision to prohibit the sale of energy drinks to young people who are or appear to be under 16 years of age, unless they are accompanied by a parent/guardian. This decision has been taken in the knowledge that many major retailers have already banned them and that there is pressure on the Government to introduce legislation. The Directors of the CLT and the Shop Managers and Committee have decided that we wish to add our voice to this growing pressure.

NORTON CAFE AT THE READING ROOM is still going strong - **open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10.00am-4.00pm.** We've been trying out different things on the menu, and avocado on toast with smoked salmon and poached eggs is proving a favourite. Also full Afternoon Tea £10 per head- although please book in advance on 881276/881505(Reading Room). We're hoping for some Spring weather soon and will be adding a 'Somerset Platter', our take on the ploughman's. Also handmade ice cream from MyKitchen in Merriott. **We're open on Good Friday until 2.30pm but will be closed the following week (4th-6th April)**

HAMDON YOUTH GROUP is continuing to run two sessions on Monday evenings in the Lighthouse Café to accommodate all the young people who wish to join in. **The exceptions to this are on Bank Holidays (April 2nd and May 7th).** From 6.30 – 8.00pm young people from school years 6-9 will have the following programme in April: **9th** Stress ball making, **16th** Fun games night/Bingo, **23rd** Programme Planning / Mug Cakes, **30th** Movie night. The later sessions, **8.00 – 9.30pm** for Years 9 and older will have the following programme: **9th** Food games, **16th** What it is to be a man, **23rd** Programme Planning / Mug cakes, **30th** What would you do if . . .? All sessions cost 50p. Norton sessions on **Wednesday evenings in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall** are open to all and focus on special projects. It is hoped that these will soon include stop-frame animation. For more information please contact Lou Chant on 07402 987921 or email lou.chant@cyp.me.

MILITARY WIVES CHOIR The Yeovilton Military Wives Choir is coming to Norton Church on **Wednesday 11th April** to give a Concert at **7.30pm.** Their visit is anticipated to be very popular and it is recommended to make early purchase of an Advance Ticket, £7 from Norton Community Shop. 'On the Door' entry (no ticket) will only be £8 if space permits. A Wine Bar opens at 7.00pm. Further information on the Choir and the whole Season of Music for the 2018 Norton Festival can be obtained from publicity leaflets and by visiting www.nortonfestival.org Richard Terrell

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB Main Draw Winners: Rowena Aalsey, John Ashton, Charles Campbell, Brian Frostdick, Malcolm Reid, Tony Brook, Rob Walters, Richard More, Peter Willsher and Michael Zair. **Pub Draw winners:** Dave Brodie, Roger Hardisty (2), Stephanie Bailey. The next draw will be held on **April 13th at 7.00pm in the Lord Nelson**. Shares for this club are still available @ £1 per month. Please call Roger Webb on 881096 for a form.

LADIES GROUP The AGM was well attended, and the existing Committee was voted to carry on for another year. Once the formalities were over we looked back on the past season and reviewed our programme for the next. We enjoyed a quiz and raffle, and a glass of wine and nibbles helped the evening along, enjoying one another's company. At our next meeting on **17th April**, we shall welcome back Karen Stead-Dexter who will be demonstrating Bach Remedies, explaining what they are, and what they do. We shall have the chance to make our own essence to take away, so if you wish to take part an extra £5.00 will be required to cover ingredients. A trip to the Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury is also planned for the **24th April**. New members and visitors are always welcome. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the **Reading Room at 7.30pm**. Sue Lowder 881805

COFFEE MORNING The next Coffee Morning, supporting the Parish Church, is on **Wednesday 25th April at The Herb Garden, Great Street**. There will be a Bring & Buy theme of 'How does your garden grow' inviting all things that are garden related. Your support is appreciated. All are welcome.

NORTON & CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW are excited to announce our **DUCK RACE Bank holiday Monday May 7th**. Ducks will be launched from **The Lord Nelson, Norton Sub Hamdon – 12.00pm** Tickets available from The Lord Nelson and Norton Village Shop - £1 per Duck We have 300 available so you'd be "Quackers" to miss out! First Prize £25 • Second Prize £10 • Third Prize £5 Come along for a Quacking Family Day Out and why not give your Duck a name?? Special Prize on the Day for the Best Named Duck!!! Tickets will be on sale from **Tuesday April 3rd**.

CHRISTIAN AID. Please note there will be no door to door collection in Norton for Christian Aid Week (**13th-19th May**). There will however be a collection at the church and a Coffee Morning on Saturday **12th May**. More details to follow next month. Bill Caswell.

MEDIEVAL MUSIC A merry band of musicians performing Medieval and Renaissance Music on handmade reproduction instruments are in **Norton Church** for a Concert on **Saturday 19th May at 7.30pm**. Sine Nomine are sure to entertain and intrigue their audience. An Advance Ticket, £7, may be obtained from Norton Community Shop and further information on this event and the whole Season of Music for the 2018 Norton Festival can be obtained from publicity leaflets and by visiting www.nortonfestival.org Richard Terrell

ALLOTMENTS There are allotments available at the Rodbard and Bailey allotment gardens at Greenhams Cross, Norton. If you would be interested in renting an allotment or finding out more about the joys of allotment gardening in such beautiful surroundings, please contact Liz Maunder on 881152 or at stuartandlizmaunder@yahoo.co.uk

NEWCOMERS TO OUR VILLAGE We welcome Nic and Sophie Hale who have recently moved in to Pippins in Higher Street. We hope they will be very happy in our friendly community.

FRIENDS OF NORTON SCHOOL NEWS We would like to welcome Mary Gravenstein as our new FONS Chairperson and we look forward to working with her to plan events. Mary has a son in the Reception class. We have raised lots of money for the school and pupils over the years so it is really good news that we can continue. The Usborne Sponsored Read was a huge success, raising over £1200 for new school books. Also, the children were able to spend half of what they raised on books for themselves and the book fair was really well attended. There will be a clothes collection on **Friday April 13th**, after the jumble sale and School holidays, by Bag2School for which we receive 40p per kilo. Details of what they can accept can be found at www.bag2school.com/what-we-collect so please start collecting! Also, anything suitable that is not sold at the jumble sale will be sent to Bag2School. Please leave bags at the top of the school steps by 9.00am on 13th April. If you have ideas for any of these events, for future fundraising, or you would like to lend a hand, then please feel free to share your ideas with us when you see us in School, message us via our Facebook page: Friends of Norton Sub Hamdon School or email Emily at ejwaters40@yahoo.co.uk.

NORTON MOVIE NITES AT THE LORD NELSON. The movie nite season closed in March with the excellent film *Churchill* covering the preparations for D Day. A thank you to all those involved in the showing of films, and a special thanks to Mark and Helen for making the Skittle Alley available for use by NMN. The 2018 / 2019 season will commence in September watch this space to find out which film will captivate all.

THANK YOU Dear Children, Parents, Friends and Neighbours, I would like to say thank you and good luck in your futures to all the children I have had the pleasure of working on behalf of over the last 12 years at Norton school. I have sadly had to leave my employment there but I will miss the job, the role in the community and the experiences I was able to help give the local children. It has been a pleasure to be a part of the life of so many young people and the time I

spent with them will always form some of my fondest memories and remain some of my most inspiring experiences. Truly, thank you and good luck in all you aspire to achieve in the future. Chris Maunder

HANSEL AND GRETEL In March we were treated to the Norton Pantomime Society's rendition of the tale of Hansel and Gretel. Exceedingly well costumed, the whole cast played out the story involving a witch, her trainee, (dim) bird spotters, a rather swarthy Dame Doris, innocent children, and of course the audience who were contradicting the cast whenever the opportunity arose ("Oh no they didn't; oh yes they did!"). Plenty of laughs, songs, music and sound effects were included and the whole evening was a splendid entertainment. I am pleased to report that (1) the nasty witch who apparently operated in the Nortonia woods did not survive and Tinkers Bubble people are safe, (2) her trainee did not heed the instructions she had received and is now living a normal life making gingerbread biscuits for Dickon at the Community Shop, (3) the Dimmer bird spotters ultimately found good B&B accommodation in Chardonia, (4) Dame Doris is still sweeping the floor "wanting to be free", and finally, (5) the wicked step-mother has stayed in Majorca. Hooray for Nortonia.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR MARCH 2018

Planning: The Parish Council received three planning applications to make their observations on for this month: 18/00288/S73 Former Garden Centre site, New Road.- application to vary condition 02 on approved plans 14/04642/FUL. Revised drawings to accommodate minor alterations to window and door positions on plots, apart from plots 13-16 and plots 18-20 which have been amended to accommodate affordable housing provision. Alterations to external materials to provide a mixture of natural stone and render to plots 2,3,11,1 and 13-20 and render to garages. The Parish Council had to submit their observations before the March meeting due to time restrictions set by SSDC. The following was sent to SSDC

Due to this application missing the February Parish Council meeting, the Parish Councillors have only seen this application individually and therefore it has not been discussed publicly.

Firstly, I need to confirm - Nobody has any problems with the small change to the layout of the site and the breakdown of the affordable element.

However, the following points have been made:

- This is a traditional hamstone village. One of the original stipulations that the Parish Council asked for was that the development should be in natural stone. It is important that this development fits into it. Now there seems to be a fair amount of render being requested.
- It is felt by some Parish Councillors that this will cheapen the look of the development. It is important that the render should not be visible to the road or Ham Hill and should be kept to a minimum.
- The Parish Council would like to request that a coloured render like K-rend be used. This is due to it requiring little maintenance. If these houses are to be affordable homes, then residents will not have the income to do maintenance on cheap render. The cost of painting normal render is expensive and could easily be neglected. We would request that the colour of the Krend be of a 'hamstone' colour rather than the off white, as shown on the plan please.
- Although no Parish Councillor has actually objected to the white UPVC windows and doors, a lot were not keen on this proposed change - again, some feel this would cheapen the site.
- All the Parish Councillors want to reiterate that there should be no parking allowed on the New Road frontage of this site - this is a fast road with parking already present from the existing houses. It is also right by the entrance to the school and therefore a very busy road.

18/00610/FUL Keepers Cottage, Little Norton – Erection of an oil fuel tank. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

18/00529/FUL Willow Barn, Higher Street – Insertion of 3 windows to ground floor rooms. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

The Parish Council have now received notification on one previous planning application that was discussed at the February meeting:

18/00020/FUL Cartbridge, Little Street. Erection of a five bay garage – REVISED PLANS

This planning application has now been withdrawn.

Annual Village Litter Pick:

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who turned up to help on Saturday 17th March. It was fabulous to see you all especially as the weather wasn't brilliant. It was so lovely to see Ben out helping again ...A special 'thank you' for his efforts ... great to see a young resident of the village taking part and caring about his environment.

Change of Venue for Parish Council Meetings:

Please note: all Parish Council meetings will now be held at **The Committee Room, in the Village Hall from April 2018.**

Libraries Consultation: The libraries consultation continues and recent community engagement events have been well attended. It is important that as many people are encouraged to engage with the consultation as soon as possible to provide comprehensive feedback from those who may be affected by any potential changes in the service. No decisions will be taken until the results of the consultation have been fully analysed. The consultation runs to **22nd April** and further details can be found at <http://somerse libraries.co.uk/consultation/> If you use the library then please do this.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 9th April at 7.30pm in the Committee Room in the Village Hall.** Members of the general public are more than welcome to attend. 881882

APRIL CHURCH SERVICES IN NORTON

Sunday 1	6.30pm	Communion Easter Day
Sunday 8	9.30am	Communion
Sunday 15	No Service at Norton	
Sunday 22	8.00am	Communion
Sunday 29	No Service at Norton	

Whole Benefice Service Sunday 29th April at West Chinnock 10.00am

SPECIAL SERVICES IN APRIL

April 1st Resurrection Sunday (Easter Day). Each of our churches has a service to celebrate the Resurrection – you can attend in Norton or, if more convenient, you'd be welcomed at any of the other churches in the Benefice. The day will start with a **Sunrise Service on Ham Hill at 6.30 am (at the Toposcope).** The service at **Chiselborough at 8.00 am** will use the Book of Common Prayer and those at **Middle Chinnock at 9.30 am** (including the Benefice Choir), at **West Chinnock at 11.00 am** and **Norton at 6.30 pm** will be from Common Worship.

THE CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING This will be held in the **Norton Reading Room at 7.30 pm on Thursday 12th April**. At this meeting various people are elected (Church Wardens, Church Council members), and various reports are given (accounts, deanery synod, state of fabric, electoral roll, review of year). Rev Peter Thomas 881202

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

BOOK CLUB will meet on **Tuesday April 3rd at 2.30, in Chiselborough Village Hall.** The Library van will be coming to the village that day. The book under discussion is David Mitchell's 'Slade House'. Join the group for tea, cake and bookish chat - all are welcome. Bring your own library card and discover the Library Van service. There is an excellent lift system for anyone who finds the steps too steep. Just ask Ken. Anne Thomas

HONEY POT will re-open on **April 14th** and be open from **10 - 12 noon on Saturdays 14th, 21st and 28th.** Looking ahead to May - we will be holding a Grand Open Weekend **5th - 7th May**, with long opening hours, books, displays, creative activities and delicious refreshments - so pop it in your diary and roll along to The Rectory, Cat Street, Chiselborough to discover our book-themed delights! Many thanks to those who supported our snowy Fairtrade Tea - we were able to send £400 to Traidcraft Exchange, which, taking advantage of the UK Government scheme to double donations = £800. Wonderful! Anne Thomas 881202

STOKE GARDENING CLUB. The next event will be on **Wednesday 25th April** in **Stoke Memorial Hall at 7.30pm** and will be a talk entitled '21st Century Gardens' to be given by Sally Gregson. Further details from Sue Winwood on 823671.

BARN DANCE with local band 'Fiddlestix'. **Friday, April 27th in South Petherton Parish Church, 7 for 7.30pm.** Tickets £8 (under 12s half price) includes Ploughmans supper, from N&D News or 01460 249288

RUSSIAN CONCERT AT MARTOCK CHURCH Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm - The LYRA singers from St Petersburg at Martock Church. These four opera singers (soprano, contralto, tenor & bass) are part of the LYRA organisation that sends groups of 4-5 singers to the USA, mainline Europe and Britain each year. They sing Russian Folk Songs and Orthodox Church chants and have been very well received at numerous locations throughout Britain. Readers may remember that a similar group, The Blagovest Ensemble, sang in Martock Church in 2005, 6 and 7. Their 3 concerts were attended by 890 people and their share of the ticket receipts was £2,500 when we charged £5 to £7. . Tickets will be £10 on the door or £9 from 01935 822706.

THIS MONTH The Cuckoo. The arrival of the cuckoo is said to be the signal that spring has come. Generally it is heard from April to June and there are various dates in April that are called 'Cuckoo Day'. In the Middle Ages people were fascinated by the cuckoo and built up a number of fanciful notions concerning its behaviour. It was believed to be able to forecast the future and as a result of the popularity of this talent did not have enough time to build its own nest, hence its habit of laying its eggs in the nests of other birds. If you should hear the cuckoo sing on St Tiburtius' Day (14th April) you should turn over all the money in your pockets, spit and not look at the ground! If you do this and are standing on soft ground when you do it, you will have loads of good luck. However, if you are standing on hard ground the cuckoo's call means bad luck. Perhaps a time to listen out for the first cuckoo! Richard Terrell

VILLAGE AGENT UPDATE Last month I suggested talking in the library. This month I am suggesting talking to other people in cafés! Community Council For Somerset have developed a range of cafes (our nearest is Street at the Bear Inn 10-1 every Monday) where you can get lots of useful information all in one place! There will be lots of people on hand who can give you advice from a range of professional agencies from health and care, to finance, in an informal, relaxed environment. Let me know if you would like to see a café coming to our area and with enough interest, we can organise one! Don't forget there is also a coffee morning in most of our villages, where you can come along for an informal chat and meet the neighbours. The times and dates of yours are in the parish magazine, or ask me as I can also try to organise some transport if you are struggling to get there under your own steam or need someone to introduce you for your first visit. There are also some villages that have the support of a CAB member who will support with free advice. Martock, Somerton, Ilminster and Wincanton all have walk in CAB sessions. Spring may be the time to tidy and reorganise of the house. For some, this can be a struggle, either because you do not have the physical strength to clean and tidy or because it has got a bit on top of you and you don't know where to begin. Sometimes you may just have so much super stuff, you don't know how to organise it, or what to throw away or sell. There are many online face book "buy and sell" groups which are great because you can see if anyone wants your things before you lug it to the car boot and try to sell. You can also advertise small items for free in the local newspapers. There are people available to help you make the heart wrenching decision whether to save or sell, and also people who will help you with the physical clear out. Call me or google the Somerset micro provider list for ideas of people who can help. Remember, however messy your house is, try to keep your escape routes clear including trip hazards on the stairs. The fire home safety service will be happy to support you with how to discover your escape routes and plan your de-clutter. Call them on 0800 05 02 999. Alternatively, when the weather is better, spend more time outside! Not sure who to turn to? Village Agents are a charity that work with individuals and social groups to give confidential support and advice. We can enable people to be more independent in their home, manage personal finances, care for family members and advise on just about anything! You can find Cath at local coffee mornings and events. Call and email me. cath@somersetccc.org.uk 07968521746

ONE OFF ADS: FOR SALE: RIDE ON LAWN MOWER with high tip grass collector. ISEKI SXG 19, diesel. Only 150 hours work. Fully serviced. £5500 Ono. 881460

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER should be in the box on the POST OFFICE counter, or sent by email to: nortonnews@hotmail.com by **4.00pm on the 19th of each month** except near Christmas when the deadline is the **12th**.

NEWCOMERS TO OUR VILLAGE. If you know of anyone who has moved in to Norton, please ring one of the editors on the phone numbers below with their details so that we can welcome them to our village.

THE NEWSLETTER is produced monthly by the Newsletter Committee and is distributed free to every house in the village by volunteers who give their services free of charge. The Editor is Mrs Janet Hutton (881566), Assistant Editor Mrs Daphne Bishop (881888) email: nortonnews@hotmail.com. NB. All emails are replied to as soon as possible - please check if no acknowledgement is received by the deadline date.

DISCLAIMER. This edition of the Newsletter contains information which has been supplied directly to the Editors of the Norton Newsletter. None of the information published within expresses the views of either of the Editors or Members of the Norton sub Hamdon Newsletter Committee and should not be relied upon. Any comments should be addressed to the Committee via the Newsletter email address.

DIARY OF NORTON EVENTS

Wednesday 11 April Yeovil Military Wives concert Church 7.30pm
Thursday 12 April Church Annual Meeting Reading Room 7.30pm
Friday 13 April FNC Wine Draw Lord Nelson 7.00pm
Tuesday 17 April Ladies Group Reading Room 7.30pm
Wednesday 18 April Crafty Critters Village Hall 2.30pm
Wednesday 25 April Village Coffee Morning The Herb Garden 10.45am
Saturday 28 April Flower Show Plant Sale 11.00am
Monday 7 May Duck Race Lord Nelson 12.00 noon
Saturday 12 May Christian Aid Coffee Morning
Saturday 19 May Medieval Music Sine Nomine concert 7.30pm
Saturday 14 July Chris Denman Colours of the Organ Afternoon
Saturday 18 August Flower Show Norton Rec 2.00pm
Saturday 6 October The Brue Boys concert 7.30pm
Saturday 1 December Cantamus concert 7.30pm
Friday 14 December Ladies Group Christmas Party – Village Hall