

NORTON NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2018 ISSUE 418

VILLAGE WEBSITE. www.nortonsubhamdon.org.uk

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

COMMUNITY LAND TRUST – for information please see village website above

CHURCH WEBSITE. www.nortonchurch.org.uk

FESTIVAL WEBSITE: www.nortonfestival.org

ADVERTS – no new adverts this month.

NORTON EVENTS AND NEWS

CHURCH FLAG The Union Flag will fly from the church tower for Norton Flower Show on **Saturday 18th August**.

Norton Movie Nites Our AGM will be held at **8.00pm on Tuesday 7th August** in the **Lord Nelson skittle alley**. Everyone welcome to come along. Dates (all Tuesdays) and films for the autumn season: **11th September** Hunt For the Wilder People; **9th October** Finding Your Feet; **13th November** Lady Bird; **11th December** Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool. More details in the September issue.

NORTON CAFE @ THE READING ROOM has had a busy (and hot) start to the summer. Our reputation is growing and we have seen visitors from far and wide (Australia, Germany, The Netherlands) We would like to thank our loyal locals who come every week and hope to see some new faces. We would like to open on Saturday and are looking for someone to work at the Cafe 3 Saturdays per month from 10.00.am – 4.00pm. You would need to be confident and have the ability to multi-task as the role includes cooking, making teas and coffee and washing up! Please contact Jo Parker on 01935 881 276 or 07544307035 if you are interested. The Cafe will be closed for 2 weeks for the holidays **from Monday 13th August**. Will re-open on **Wednesday 29th August**. Happy summer everyone! We hope the weather continues.

NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB for JULY 2018: Main Draw Winners: Jenny Byham Niall Clifford Penny Cudmore Nick Fox John Hull Nina Prince Rob Vaux Roger & Di Waters Roger Webb **Pub Draw Winners:** Lindsay Higgins and Kate McBain. The next draw will be on **Friday 17th August at 7.00pm in the Lord Nelson**. To join the Wine Club please contact Jonathan Binns on 881605

NORTON & CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW Saturday 18th August 2018 2.00pm-5.00pm Norton Recreation Ground Get your entries ready! This year there are over 140 different categories for adults and children to enter so there really is something for everyone - from vegetable and flower growing to photography and creative arts, plus cookery classes including baking, preserves and wines. A list of categories, entry forms and rules can be found in the Flower Show Schedule which is available at various locations including the Norton Shop or from any of the Committee members. Entries should be registered at the **Norton Reading Room on Wednesday 15th August between 7.00pm and 8.30pm**. If you would like to be part of our wonderful show and can spare an hour or two to help out either before, during or after the show, please contact Sarah Murray 01935 881883 or by email at murray152@btinternet.com

NORTON SUB HAMDON TASTER HEALTH WALKS South Somerset District ' Healthy Lifestyles team coordinates 30+ regular health walks, and our aim is to start a walk in Norton sub Hamdon. Taster walks will be running in September (Thurs 13th, 2pm; Weds 19th, 2pm; Weds 26th, 10am). Walking is a great way to explore the outdoors, meet new people and get a bit more active. All of our walks are led by qualified leaders, and the scheme is accredited through Walking for Health. All the walks are of varying lengths. We are offering taster walks in the hope that these walks will become regular if we can find volunteers to lead walks in the future. We can offer free training for this. More details to follow in the September newsletter, but if you would like more information, please contact the Catherine Devonshire, Healthy Lifestyles Officer, Catherine.Devonshire@southsomerset.gov.uk; 01935 46237

CALLING ALL HOBBYISTS ! The 2019 Norton Festival is inviting you to be involved in an Exhibition in the Church of your hobby, interest etc. It will be held over the second weekend in October 2019. There's a lot of creative activity in our village – from art to zymurgy and everything in between – that would be of general interest and will help to reveal Norton as a diverse and interesting community. At this stage we are wanting to establish the level of interest from people who might exhibit to know whether the idea will be accepted. Further information may be obtained from leaflets that are available locally and from the Coordinator, Richard Terrell, 2 Hamdon View. A positive response, to the Coordinator, is requested by **17th September 2018**, so that decisions can be made. Richard Terrell (Coordinator)

LADIES GROUP A small but perfectly formed group of us went on an adventure to Brownsea Island on a glorious day, with warm sea breezes . We wandered along the footpaths taking in the delightful views and saw the famous red squirrels. The time flew by and we managed to board the last ferry back to the mainland before heading home - a perfect day. A second visit to Sculpture by the Lakes was arranged for their Open Garden Event - the weather was kind and the lakes glistened in the sun highlighting the Sculptures surrounding them. A pleasant afternoon was had by all. At time of writing Our Garden Party is set take place on 24th July, I'm sure this will be a very enjoyable evening with plenty of warm sunshine, I will report in the next issue. We take a break in August, and will return on **18th September**, and look forward to visiting the Parkinson's home for our next meeting. Sue Lowder 881805

NEW ARRIVALS We welcome Mick and Chrissie who have moved in to Bridge House, Little Street and Andrew Watson who is in Lintels, Great Street and we hope they will enjoy living in our village.

SUE WEBB My family were surprised at how many people sent condolences and attended the celebration of Sue's life at the crematorium. An even bigger surprise was the substantial sum of the donations received for the Triangle Trust. Thank you for your kind words and offers of help. Roger Webb

SCHOOL NEWS Governors' update from Norton and West Chinnock Schools. This academic year is coming to a close after another busy and successful year. Recently we have had ITV West come to film at both schools to explore the benefits of having mixed aged classrooms. This is something that we feel is hugely beneficial, particularly for the confidence and emotional well being of the children. This will hopefully be aired in September so we will keep you posted.

Debra Harris will retire at the end of this academic year. Debra has been such an important part of Norton school as a teacher but also as a staff governor. In fact, it has been so long that she has represented the staff at the governing board that we know it is definitely over 15 years but can't be more accurate than that!! We wish Debra all the best in her retirement and thank her for all the hard work she has done for the school for so many years.

We are also very sad to lose Jo Gill and Sarah Hunwicks from the governing board. My two previous chairs have been so vital in ensuring that the governing board is thriving . They have been a huge support to the schools over the last 15 and 5 years respectively. Thank you so much for the hard work you have voluntarily put in to ensure the schools are achieving to the best of their ability. Also Stephen Wassell has retired and again his contribution has been very much appreciated over the years.

So with these changes come opportunities! The governing board is still strong but we now have vacancies that you may want to consider. The schools are vital parts of Norton and West Chinnock villages and being a governor is a challenging yet rewarding way to support the community. If you would like any further information or are interested in knowing more about being a school governor please get in contact with me through the school office. Ollie Donaldson Chair of Governors

AUGUST CHURCH SERVICES IN NORTON

Sunday 12	9.30am	Communion
Sunday 19	6.30pm	Tent 'Songs of Praise'
Sunday 25	8.00am	Communion

TENT SERVICE 6.30pm Sunday August 19th Once again we will be celebrating in song on Norton Rec in the Marquee to conclude the Flower Show weekend. This year the selection is very personal. This will be my final Tent Service – so I will be telling something of my story through hymns and songs that have been important to me. Rev Peter Thomas 881202

ONE FOR ALL An informal All Age Worship, is held in Norton Church on the first Sunday of odd months at 11.00am. It has familiar hymns/songs, a lively presentation of the gospel for the day, dramatized reading and prayers. The Service, which is suitable for all, lasts little more than half an hour and provides inspiration and encouragement to both new and long-term Christians. The next All Age Worship, on **Sunday 2nd September**, considers the words of Jesus about the importance of having a pure heart.

HONEY POT Thanks to all who contributed clothing for Pilsdon. This was taken down at the beginning of the month and was gratefully received. Honey Pot is closed during August (except by arrangement) but will be Popping Up at the Flower Show in Norton on 18th - so do come and find us - complete with our water bucket challenge and children's craft activity in aid of Akamba Aid Fund. Looking ahead: the Annual Charity Breakfast will be on **Saturday September 15th at Chiselborough Rectory.**

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR JULY 2018

Planning: The Parish Council received one planning application to make their observations on for this month: Application for consideration:

18/00726/FUL Rocklands House, Little Street. Conversion, side extension and alteration of existing coach house to form a separate dwelling house. No objections.

Notifications on past planning applications:

18/01097/FUL – Bridge House, Little Street. Erection of a wall (part retrospective) – Approved

18/01353/FUL – Lynfield, New Road - Replacement roof structure to existing flat roof extension. Approved

17/04124/FUL - Land Opposite Tinkabee Cottage, Little Norton, Norton Sub Hamdon, Stoke Sub Hamdon, Somerset,, NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL. Still waiting for a date.

Defibrillator Training Session: The Parish Council is looking into holding a FREE training session for village residents on how to use a defibrillator. If there is enough interest, it will probably be held in the autumn (a date will be agreed when we know how many people would like to do this). There will be a limited number of 16 spaces on the course, so it would be a first come first served basis. If you would be interested in attending then please let me know by either emailing me at: nortonpcclerk@outlook.com or Tel: 881882 - Thank you.

Bonfires: I have once again received many complaints about people lighting bonfires in their gardens which are then left to burn for a couple of days or longer. We would please ask you all to have respect for your neighbours when contemplating lighting a fire, especially with the beautiful weather we are experiencing at the moment. People like to have their windows open at night, dry washing outside and sit in their gardens in the evening and all of these simple pleasures are being spoilt by others. It is also extremely dry everywhere at the moment so there is a huge risk to bonfires getting out of control very fast. Please do not leave bonfires just smouldering and never leave a bonfire unattended. If it doesn't burn straight away, please extinguish it. Thank you.

New Road Closure: We have been notified that part of New Road will be closed due to the need to put in new drainage pipes. The road will be shut from 30th July for approximately 33 days. The diversion to Stoke will be via the A356 to Holy Tree. We have been notified that the N81 bus will not be able to come to Norton whilst the road is shut. The Parish Clerk had written to the bus company suggesting that they could come to the bus stop and then turn at the Great St junction. (They have refused to do this under health and safety restrictions - too tight to turn here due to the way people park right on the junctions). Maybe if you know of someone who regularly catches the bus and it is their only way of getting to town, you could offer a lift to them during this period.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 10th September at 7.30pm** in the **Committee Room** in the **Village Hall**. Members of the general public are more than welcome to attend. A reminder that there is **no Parish Council meeting in August**. Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) – 881882
nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

STOKE GARDENING CLUB. The next event will be on **Saturday 4th August** in the **Memorial Hall** and will be a Flower, Produce and Craft Show starting at **1.45pm**. This is a free event. Further details from Sue Winwood on 823671.

ATTENTION QUIZ TEAMS! For all those who enjoy pitting their wits against others at quiz nights there is a brilliant opportunity for you to do so on **Saturday August 18th at 7.30 pm** in **The David Hall, South Petherton**. In teams of four at £6 per head (including light supper) you can savour the cut and thrust of competition between teams from various local villages. Or, on the other hand, you can simply enjoy a relaxing night out with friends, with an added interesting component. At the same time this will be a great opportunity to help raise money to provide practical and psychological help to those who find themselves without home or country. There may not be much in the news these days about refugees but the Syrian government, helped by Russia, is still bombing its citizens, killing hundreds and creating thousands more bereft and homeless persons. In Italy and Greece, for example, thousands more from war torn countries are stranded in camps as borders are closed to them. Money raised from this quiz will go towards assisting separated families to be reunited. Please unite your teams and book your tickets from The David Hall by Wednesday August 15th - info@thedavidhall.org.uk - or in person. Thank you for your support. Geraldine Downey, Refugee Support Group, South Somerset. (RSG)

BOOK CLUB is enjoying some whodunnits over the summer, plus 4 books by Angela Thirkell. We will be meeting at **Chiselborough Village Hall** at **2.30pm** on **Tuesday August 21st** to discuss these over tea and cake. All are welcome and we are expecting the Library Van to visit. In September there will be a special Angela Thirkell talk by June Cox on 19th. More in next month's news. See Anne Thomas for more details or ring on 881202.

YEOVIL ROTARY CLUB announce a lighthearted and fun **Call My Bluff - Wine Tasting** evening at **East Coker Hall** on **Friday 7th September** - Bring your own picnic, nibbles & supper - where tables of six people are anticipated (but lesser numbers will be combined). We hope you can come and bring some friends with you. Proceeds will help support the **New Oncology Unit at Dorchester County Hospital** plus other local Community projects supported by the Rotary club of Yeovil. Tickets are available from Rotarian Tony Turner - sagturner@outlook.com - 01935 475770.

THIS MONTH Lammas Day The first of August is Lammas, a festival to mark the beginning of harvest when people would go to church to give thanks for the first corn to be cut. Farmers would make loaves of bread from the new wheat crop and give them to their local church, where it would be used as the Communion bread during a special thanksgiving to God for the harvest. The custom ended when Henry VIII broke away from the Roman Catholic Church and

nowadays the 'Harvest Festival' seems to have taken its place. At this time of year Exeter holds a Lammas Fair, an ancient tradition in which a large white glove is put on a long pole decorated with flowers. This is a sign that the merriment is beginning and derives from the tradition that at Lammas farmers would give their workers a present of a pair of gloves. Richard Terrell

VILLAGE AGENT'S REPORT. August brings the summer holidays! This can be a joy but also can have some additional strains. The 6 week school holiday may increase your stress levels, perhaps with finding child care, entertainment on a budget for parents and meeting the demands of 'at home' kids. For those who are older and don't get tied up in child care provision, the summer holidays means that the local places to visit such as social groups, National Trust venues and supermarkets are suddenly packed with children with energy to spare! I can almost hear those clattering feet and screams of joy along the supermarket aisles as I sit here typing! At least the daily commute will be quieter for a few weeks. Another potential strain is that this is the time that most people take their annual leave (me included) and so it begins to feel like nothing gets done! Appointments are thin on the ground and groups take their annual break. Farmers will be working hard to bring in the crops or worrying about the quality of their harvest if it is wet. The best stress relief is free and all around us. So take advantage whilst the weather is good (Oh I hope I haven't jinxed the weather by saying that!)

Take time to sit under the shade of a tree and appreciate the way you can feel the temperature drop on your skin as you move out of the sun. If it is raining, look out of a window and look closely at the patterns of the rain on the windows. Take time with children to look closely at nature. I whiled away several hours with my daughter once, banging the earth to bring up worms and studying their movements. We then watched the way the ants run in circles and work as a team. Belly breathing is an amazing way to slow and reduce stress. Take 5 minutes to stop and slowly breathe in, inflating your stomach, holding for a count of 10 and then breathing out for a count of 10. Repeat 10 times, listening to your breath and imagining breathing out all the bad air and feelings, and bringing in the new. There are many apps to help you do this such as "calm" and "Headspace". I found it very difficult to breathe slowly enough and at first would count very fast and finish quickly but discipline and practice has helped me slow down and I find it really works! There are also some lovely children's meditation videos that you could complete as a family so you don't get disturbed mid breath! Don't underestimate the power of a smile. Pulling your face into a smile when you are feeling frazzled can immediately pour good feelings into your system. Just trying to take your face from a grimace into a smile can inject a little humour into yourself. Perhaps google some laughter therapy videos for some amusement. Enjoy the long days of summer and relax!

My role in the community has changed. I am now working with unpaid carers who care for their families and friends. I am supporting unpaid carers in South East Somerset to connect them with community resources, support groups and personal support around benefits and allowances. The funding cycle for Village Agent in South East Somerset has come to an end. CCS are looking for new funding opportunities to maintain this Village Agent position. In the meantime we have a new team of Community Agents and Village Agents in South Somerset. Two Village Agents are funded by the CLICK federation of Doctors surgeries, 2 Community Agents funded by Somerset County Council and 2 Village Agents funded directly by their parish council. For more information please visit www.somersetcc.org.uk and www.somersetcarers.org

HOW SAFE IS YOUR WATER SUPPLY? Having a private water supply can be a real boon. Cheaper than mains water, control over chemical additives and often with better pressure, a private supply is also not subject to imposed drought restrictions. Many farms, businesses and homes rely on a private supply either through preference or practicality. Indeed, the South West has around one third of all the private supplies in England. Cool, fresh and delicious - spring water on tap can be one of the perks of rural living.

The quality of private water supplies, however, can be extremely variable. It's vital to ensure the safety of your supply for yourself, your guests, livestock or customers. In fact, it's a legal requirement if you run a commercial activity where you supply water to your customers, such as a campsite, B&B or rental property. Owners can help safeguard their supplies by protecting from contamination by livestock and other hazards, installing treatment apparatus, and making sure the water is stored and distributed safely before use.

Private water supplies often pose a health risk because they are not managed or tested in the same way as public supplies. Common problems include bacteria, heavy metals such as iron, manganese, aluminium, lead and arsenic, as well as nitrates, nitrites, ammonia and other minerals. Sometimes the contamination may affect the appearance, taste or smell of the water but it is often not obvious. The best way to be sure your supply is fit for use is to have regular testing carried out.

Professional testing should include metals such as iron, zinc, lead, nickel and copper that may result from deteriorating pipework or other sources. It should also report on chemical levels from disinfection products. The key benefit of engaging a reputable professional laboratory is that they can provide microbiological testing which will identify health hazards such as E.coli. Not all labs offer this service, so always check what is included when choosing a company. It is highly recommended that a laboratory accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) is used rather than internet testing kits which are very unreliable and often give misleading results.

Somerset Scientific Services, part of Somerset County Council, have been supplying impartial advice and testing for over 50 years. Contact them for information or a quote for a comprehensive UKAS accredited testing package. SSSmailbox@somerset.gov.uk - 01823 355906 - www.somersetsscificservices.co.uk

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 in December 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), 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

Tuesday 7 August Movie Nites AGM Lord Nelson 8.00pm
Friday 17 August FNC Wine Club Draw Lord Nelson 7.00pm
Saturday 18 August Flower Show Norton Rec 2.00pm
Sunday 19 August Songs of Praise in Flower Show tent 6.30pm
Wednesday 5 September Crafty Critters Reading Room 2.30pm
Monday 10 September Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 18 September Ladies Group Apple Barn 7.30pm
Wednesday 26 September Village Coffee Morning Highwoods House 10.45am
Saturday 6 October The Brue Boys concert Norton Church 7.30pm
Sunday 14 October NGS Open Garden The Flax Barn
Saturday 1 December Cantamus Concert Church 7.30pm
Friday 14 December Ladies Group Christmas Party – Village Hall
Friday 11 – 13 October The 2019 Norton Festival Weekend