

NORTON NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE 422

The Newsletter Chairman and Committee wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year

IMPORTANT NOTICE: So that the January issue of the Newsletter can be produced before Christmas and the New Year holiday, the deadline for news items will be a week earlier than usual on Wednesday 12th December

VILLAGE WEBSITE. <http://www.nortonsubhamdon.org.uk>

COMMUNITY LAND TRUST – The CLT is now included in the above website, where it has its own page.

NORTON SHOP: <http://www.nortonshop.co.uk>

CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.nortonchurch.org.uk>

FESTIVAL WEBSITE: <http://www.nortonfestival.org>

NORTON EVENTS AND NEWS

CHURCH FLAGS The George Cross Flag will fly from the church tower from Saturday 23rd December until Saturday 6th January for Christmas to Epiphany.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS: Nick & Gilly Fox would like to wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2019. Lynn & Mike Orchard send compliments of the season to all friends, neighbours and clients. We will make our usual donation to St Margaret's Hospice in lieu of sending local cards.

NORTON SHOP AND POST OFFICE Christmas Opening Hours: Christmas Eve: Open until 4.30 pm. Christmas Day: Closed Boxing Day: Closed 27th - 29th December: Open as normal New Years Eve: Open until 4.30 pm. New Year's day: Closed

NEWS FROM NORTON CAFE @ THE READING ROOM. Our Christmas lunches are full on Thursday 13th December but we have a few spaces on **Friday 14th**. 2 course Christmas lunch of turkey with all the trimmings and Christmas Pudding. £15. Call Jo Parker on 01935 881276 or 07544 307035. We are open until **4.00pm on Friday 21st December** and will be closed for 2 weeks until **Wednesday 9th January**. Happy Christmas everyone!

CHOIR MUSIC TO DELIGHT Six centuries of music – Palestrina and Gibbons, Mozart and Mendelssohn, Bob Chilcott and Tavener – will delight concert-goers attending the Cantamus Concert in **Norton Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 1st December**. The choir from Dorset have an exquisite blend of voices, and their concert brings to an end the 2019 Norton Festival Season of Music. Advance Ticket £7, from the Community Shop. At the Door £8. Visit www.nortonfestival.org for further information. Richard Terrell

NORTON MOVIE NITES at the **Lord Nelson, Tuesday 11th December**, rounds off the screenings for 2018 with *Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool* (cert 15, 104 mins), starring Annette Bening, Jamie Bell, Julie Walters and Kenneth Cranham. A beguiling story of how Hollywood star Gloria Grahame and her younger lover faced up to living with and without each other. Impressive performances all round make this a memorable film. **Doors open 7.45 pm**. film starts 8.00pm. Tickets £5 in advance only from Norton Shop. Contact John Bailey with any queries, 881227. Please don't phone the shop, thank you.

CRAFTY CRITTERS will be meeting in the Norton Cafe at the **Reading Room on Wednesday 12th December at 2.30pm**. After Xmas we will be back on **9th January** to compare any crafty Xmas gifts and see how we're all getting on with our quilt in memory of Sue Webb. Come and join us for a coffee. If you can't make it, then I wish you a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year! Tricia Walton 882646

LADIES GROUP A very pleasant evening was had by all when Sue Gooch gave her presentation on fused and stained glass. She gave step by step instructions on making a stained glass window, and brought examples of each stage needed to make a finished article. She brought some of her fused ornaments for sale and a few of us were interested in

the workshops that she holds locally in Ilminster. It's party time again for those of you who were unable to attend the meeting - please advise if you wish to join us on **Friday 14th December** in the **Village Hall at 6.00pm**. We hope it will be a great success and fun filled evening. Our last outing this year will be to **Broadwindsor craft centre on Thursday 29th November**. Our New Year's Dinner will be held at **The Lord Nelson on Tuesday 15th January**. If you wish to join us please may we have your name by **21st December**. Our last speaker of the season will be Michael Kerr who will give a talk on why he was given The Freedom Of London. This will be on **Tuesday 19th February at 7.30pm in the Reading Room**. On behalf of the committee, may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy 2019.

FNC WINE DRAW results **October Subscription Draw:** Alec Seccombe (2) Charles Campbell (2) Roger & Di Waters, Liz Fish, Michael Zair, Rob & Emily Waters, Rowena Aalsey. **October Pub Draw:** Leah Brimble, Dave Brodie, Andy Holm **November Subscription Draw:** Jenny Harris, Alec Seccombe (2), Penny Cudmore (2), Roger & Jackie Jewell, Lindsay Elliot, Jeremy Reid, Chris Brook. **November Pub Draw:** Jamie Brodie, Chris Westwood, Charlotte Weller. The FNC would like to thank the anonymous donor who gave £20 at the November Pub Draw. The next Pub Draw will be held at TLN on **Friday December 14th** To join the Wine Club Subscription Draw, please contact Jonathan Binns on 881605.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH TALK On **Friday 18th January** Alec Seccombe will present an illustrated talk on 'The work of the **Rhino Rescue Trust** - a trust for all endangered wildlife' Alec Seccombe lives in Norton-sub-Hamdon and has had a lifelong interest in wildlife and conservation, travelling extensively in East Africa. He became a Trustee of "Rhino Rescue Trust" in 1990 and worked closely with the original founder of the trust, Count Maurice Coreth, in setting up and helping to run the operation. When Count Coreth died, Alec took over as Chairman, and retains that role today. The Trust's mission is to protect all endangered species and to help surrounding communities affected by wildlife conflicts. The Trust's work embraces the protection of wildlife from poaching, particularly the Black Rhino, Elephant and Giraffe in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Namibia in Africa and the Indian Rhino, and Tiger in India. The event will be held in Norton-sub-Hamdon Village Hall commencing at **7:00 for 7:30 pm**. A wine and soft drinks bar and nibbles will be available before the presentation. Tickets costing £7 are available from Norton Community Shop or £8 at the door. All proceeds will be used to support the fabric of Norton Church.

LIVE THEATRE, MUSIC AND CIRCUS is coming to Norton Village Hall in 2019. Under the banner of 'HamstoneLive' Lindsay Higgins and I have been working with Norton Village Hall (NVH) to put Norton on the rural touring map for Theatre, Music and other high quality arts productions. The aim is to raise funds for NVH and promote it as a venue for live entertainment. Please make a note in your diaries for the first 2 events, which are suitable for all ages; **1st February** BOJANGLES: The legend of Excalibur - a theatrical, musical journey full of comedy, energy and panache. **29th March** - D'CLICK: Isla - European circus theatre at its very best. Storytelling with acrobatics, and involving a 5m pole (yes, in our village hall!) Beat the post Christmas blues with music and magic at Norton Village Hall. Right on your doorstep. More info and tickets available in January 2019 Contact John Bailey with any queries(881227)

NORTON NEWSLETTER AGM AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS. The thirty fifth AGM of the Norton Newsletter was held on Wednesday 17th November in the Reading Room. Audited Annual Accounts were presented by the Treasurer as follows. For the year ending 31st October 2018 the cash balance was £ 3466.38. The total cost of running the Newsletter was £511.95. Income came from advertisements £ 514.40, donations £114.00 and Shop collection box £401.01. Lorna Noble was thanked for performing the audit. The Chairman and Committee Members all agreed to stand again. The present committee is: Chairperson: Daphne Bishop, Editor: Janet Hutton, Secretary: Chris Brook, Treasurer: Tony Brook Committee members: Adele Wassell and Mauvyn Greenham. A big thank you to the Community Shop who allow all contributions for the notice board in the shop to go in the Newsletter box on the Post Office counter, which provides a valuable contribution to our funds. Thanks also go to the band of deliverers, our proof reader Liz Fish and to Mike Orchard who faithfully puts our newsletter on to the Village Website each month and to all the organisations and individuals who have donated this year including the Ladies Group, Movie Nites and Stoke Gardening Club.

NEW ARRIVALS We welcome Lisa, Jamie and Emily Clark who have moved into 23 New Road and hope they will be very happy in our village and also Patrick and Anne Beasley who have moved in to Church View in New Road.

JUMBLE SALE. We held our Autumn Jumble Sale on November 3rd - it was a great success as usual. We made a fantastic profit of £529 for Hall Funds. I would like to thank all our regular helpers who turn up sale after sale - thank you all so much. I would also like to thank members of Norton Ladies Group who gave their time to help as well. Thanks to all those who donated cakes for the stall, and to all who donated items, and those who came and spent their money. It seems a lot of thank yous, but without all the help from these wonderful people there would be no Jumble Sales. The Village Hall Committee are very grateful too (most of these help as well, oh and ex Committee Members too (in case I get told off - haha). A date for your diaries: **Spring Jumble Sale** is pencilled in for **March 30th** - with or without Flamingo. Thanks to Sarah Bailey (cartoons) for our amazing advertising poster, we had a lot of complimentary remarks.

Other Hall news. We are delighted to have a new member join our Committee Sue Lowder, from Norton Ladies Group. Welcome Sue. So pleased to have you join us. Also we come to the end of our year as a local cause supported in the Local Community Fund run by the Co-op. We really appreciate the support, and we will let you know the final amount in the next issue of this newsletter/Parish Magazine. Jennie Harris for Norton Village Hall Committee.

SCHOOL NEWS We have been extremely busy this month! The disco raised £215, the Smartie challenge made £294 in total (half of this goes back to the classes to spend as they wish and the other half to the technology fund). The Bag2School collection raised £192 - much more than from previous collections. The Christmas Fair total will be in next month's newsletter which will be my last as Secretary. It felt like a successful day and we hope everyone enjoyed it. If you have a Co Op members card, please log on to your membership account and select us as your local charity so that we can benefit from 1% of your spend on CoOp branded products/services. Sign up once and you don't need to do anything else! A big thank you to Jennie Harris who not only donates suitable jumble for our Bag2School collection but has also run the famous teddy stall at the Fairs over the years, as well as helping us out throughout the year. We thank her for taking the time collecting, washing, labelling and running her stall are sorry that she has now run her last one.

NORTON & CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW AGM The Annual General Meeting of The Norton & Chiselborough Flower Show took place on Monday, 22nd October at The Reading Room in Norton. The Chairman extended his sincere thanks to everyone who had made all the events so successful, and particularly paid tribute to Andy Jacobs, who this year resigns from the Committee. Andy has made an exceptional contribution to the Flower Show and its associated events over the many years he has been connected to the show.

Treasurers Report Takings at this year's events: Plant Sale £666.40, Duck Race £345.00, and the Flower Show £3739.31. Overall The Flower Show made a profit of £940.61 on the year. The income from stalls, gate takings and tombola were down a little on last year, but expenditure was also down which left us broadly in line with last year's figures. The income from Grand Draw was up significantly taking £369.00. Income from Patrons subscriptions was £751.00

Changes to Committee Manfred Roper resigned as Chairman but remains as President. Nick Fairweather joined the Committee. Mary Batstone, Sarah Murray, Sara Vann and Kate McBain all remain on the Committee. Andy Jacobs resigned as a Committee Member. Brian Shrubsole resigned from the Committee but remains in a supporting role.

Changes to Flower Show Schedule in 2019 Additional section for 12-18 years olds. Increase the number of points allowed in Group 1 from 12 to 20. Add a section for garlic

Key dates for 2019 Plant Sale **Saturday May 4th, 2.00 – 5.00** Flower Show **Saturday August 17th 2.00 – 5.00**

A full copy of the minutes including the Chairman's Report, Show Organiser's Report and Treasurer's report is available from Sarah Murray.

PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT? Looking for that perfect Christmas present about Norton Sub Hamdon in the past? Look no further, Norton Oral History Group have stocks of both DVD 1 (1890-1946) and DVD 2 (1946-1970) each at £7 plus postage. Please contact John Bailey (881227).

A BIG THANK YOU from Averil Batten for supporting St Margaret's Hospice by buying Christmas Cards from her – over 40 packs were sold in aid of this charity.

CHRISTMAS FOOD AND CLOTHING COLLECTIONS have now been delivered to The Lord's Larder and Pilsdon Community. Thank you to all who helped with this and gave so generously.

AT THE ADVENT STIR UP SUNDAY EVENT we looked at ways of sharing the joy of Christmas, using the theme A Feast for a King. We made place settings 'for a stranger' - to go on our Christmas dinner table - and thought about different ways we could help the needy at Christmas time. This Christmas hang a 'Feast for a King' Crown in your window. Set a place at your table for 'one more'. Support a homeless charity, invite in a lonely neighbour, even just feed the birds - but whatever you do, make it count. Help to make Christmas a time of sharing, caring and generosity. Leaflets and crowns will be available at the back of our churches, during December. They are free - but a donation to charity would be good - it's entirely up to you. 'Merry Christmas everyone!' Anne Thomas

DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES IN NORTON

Sunday 2	4.00pm	Christingle
Sunday 9	9.30am	Communion
Tuesday 18	7.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 23	8.00am	Communion
Monday 24	4.00pm	Crib Service
Tuesday 25	9.30am	Christmas Communion

SPECIAL SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

On **December 2nd** at **Norton** the Christingle Service at a new time of **4.00 pm.**, provides a candlelit service with a difference – the children hold the candles! The symbols of the light and the orange represent Christ shining his light over the world. Always popular with families – and everyone else!

Both schools will hold their carol services in the churches - **West Chinnock's at 6.00 pm. on Monday 17th** and **Norton's at 1.30 pm. on Thursday 20th**

Carol services will take place at **Norton** with benefice choir **Tuesday 18th at 7.00 pm, Middle Chinnock** for West & Middle **Thursday 20th at 7.00 pm** and **Chiselborough Sunday 23rd at 6.30 pm,**

Wednesday December 19th provides an opportunity to sing carols in the **Muddled Man, West Chinnock**, from **6.30 pm**, and on **Friday December 21st** a chance to sing carols around Norton. Meeting at church also at **6.30 pm.**

On **Saturday December 22nd at Norton at 4.00 pm** a more reflective carol service - designed to include those who may be struggling to celebrate Christmas this year.

Christmas Eve brings the delightful **Crib and Carol service at 4.00 pm.** – again carrying candles and singing to celebrate the impending birth of Jesus.

Christmas Day. There will be opportunities for us all to celebrate Jesus birthday, at 'midnight' in **Chiselborough** 11.30pm or morning services at **Middle Chinnock 8.00am, Norton 9.30am or West Chinnock 10.30am.**

There will only be one service in the Ham Hill Villages on the Sunday after Christmas. This year at **Stoke at 10.00am on December 30th - this will be Peter's final communion service in the benefice.**

Everyone is welcome to come to Peter's final service, a "Songs of Praise" with Anne and their sons, Simon & Colin at Norton on January 6th at 3.00 pm, followed by tea at Norton Village hall.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2018

Planning: The Parish Council received one planning application to consider for this month.

18/03330/DPO - Development in New Rd, Norton sub Hamdon. Application to discharge a condition of the S106 agreement dated 26th July 2016 regarding the shared ownership properties.

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the planning officer in charge and informed the Parish Council that after talks between the Housing Provider and SSDC Housing Department all seven affordable homes will be for rent. This change will allow the Housing Provider to own 100% of all the affordable homes. The Parish Council had no objection to this.

Budget for 2019/20: The Parish Council has been working on the budget for the next financial year starting in April 2019. From 2019 The Parish Council will be responsible for restocking the grit in the grit bins from next year as this is another service that SCC will be withdrawing from. It is likely that The Parish Council will also be responsible for other maintenance issues in the village. However, it was felt that it was important to keep the precept at the same amount and a resolution was made to do this.

Grit Bins: There are 5 grit bins in the village which will soon be refilled for the winter with a mixture of salt and grit. All residents are able to use this grit to spread on paths and junctions where there is an issue with snow and ice. Please feel free to do so.

Dog fouling: Once again, there seems to be an increase of dog fouling, particularly in Rectory Lane and leading up the footpath towards the recreation field. One person has been recorded allowing their dog to foul in this area on more than one occasion. If this carries on then the enforcement officer at SSDC will be notified and will be able to hand out on the spot fines. Please pick up after your dog. Thank you.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 10th December at 7.30pm in the Committee Room** in the **Village Hall.** Members of the general public are more than welcome to attend. Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) – nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

OTHER EVENTS AND NEWS

BOOK CLUB has its last meeting of 2018 on Tuesday December 11th. Be sure to come along and collect a book to enjoy by the fire - as you sneak a few minutes away from the seasonal rush. Chiselborough Village Hall from 2.30pm. The Library Van arrives at 2.35pm. Tea and cake, and bookish chat - all welcome. Ring 881566 for more details

'AT A STROKE' BY ANNE THOMAS Thanks to all who came to the book launch - braving the dreadful weather. 'At A Stroke' (a novel in 2 volumes) is available from Anne @ £14. Go to feedaread.com for a preview. Order from Anne (Tel 881202 or email apthomas@hotmail.co.uk).

STOKE GARDENING CLUB. No event in December - contact Sue Winwood on 823671 for events in the New Year.

CHRISTMAS GREENERY Holly, Ivy and other greenery are part of the traditional Christmas decorations but in pre-Christian times, when the Winter Solstice was celebrated, it was a means of warding off evil spirits and celebrating new growth. The coming of Christianity gave many pagan traditions a Christian perspective. The prickly leaves of holly, for instance, now represented the crown of thorns worn by Jesus at His crucifixion and the berries became the drops of blood caused by the thorns. Ivy, which needs to cling to something to survive, became a reminder of our need to cling to God for survival. Laurel, fir and yew trees are now symbols of victory and everlasting life with God. Traditionally Christmas greenery should be taken down, with the decorations, after Twelfth Night (5th January) but during the Middle Ages it was often left hanging until Candlemas (2nd February) when Christians celebrate Jesus as a baby being presented in the Temple. This Christmas the origin of the decorations we use might raise a few questions in our mind but more importantly are we challenged to acknowledge the meaning and true significance of the festival we celebrate. Richard Terrell

CARYMOOR'S FIGHT AGAINST WASTE Carymoor Environmental Trust is a nature conservation and environmental education charity based near Castle Cary. Through our unique site we aim to inspire our visitors to live more sustainably. Since 1996 Carymoor has transformed 100 acres of capped landfill into a species-rich nature reserve. On top of this area of landfill we have developed a range of different habitats with meadows, woodland and wetland now home to a wide range of wildlife. The area of landfill was originally filled with waste from householders from Mendip and South Somerset between 1970 and 2000. Next to this area is the current landfill site where waste from your black bin waste is currently taken. Seeing the scale of the landfill is a great catalyst for change, as once you've seen it you don't want to further contribute to it.

Reducing, reusing and recycling waste is as important as ever. Each year Somerset pays £12 million in landfill tax to bury this waste. Recycling saves the tax payer a lot of money and reduces the amount of natural resources that are needed for new products. It also saves a lot of energy. You can find out where your recycling goes and what it is made into through Somerset Waste Partnership's annual End Use Register: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/end-use-register. Each year around 100 schools come to Carymoor to learn about living more sustainably and to have a first-hand experience of wildlife. The site is all about contrasts, from the sights, sounds and smells of the landfill site to the wildlife and greenery of the nature reserve. Children come to learn about the 3Rs – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle – and we try to inspire them to make changes in school too. This year Carymoor has been working with Somerset Waste Partnership on a new Schools Against Waste programme and we can provide a free visit per year to primary schools across Somerset. Since February we have reached over 12,000 children through these visits and we hope children will take a lead in the fight against waste. You can find out more about what you can recycle at the Somerset Waste Partnership website: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk Carymoor has a team of volunteers who help out with all aspects our work from practical conservation, wildlife monitoring to supporting our education work. If you'd like to get involved or just find out more about Carymoor please visit www.carymoor.org.uk. There are videos and publications available to help you maximise the efficiency of your electricity usage and it is worth taking the time to do this because lots of people don't run them correctly. Order a leaflet from the Centre for Sustainable Energy Home energy Advice Line 0800 0822 234

COMMUNITY AND VILLAGE AGENTS As the winter season fast approaches it is a good time to think about our neighbours within our community. Loneliness is an ongoing problem and it is important to look out for those who may be lonely near you. Do you have an elderly or isolated neighbour who would welcome a friendly chat or an offer to get shopping? Often we can signpost them to support what is in the community such as their local church, community centres, village halls and of course their Village Agent.

Do you know neighbours who are struggling to manage caring for their loved one? They can refer themselves to the Somerset Carers Service where a Carers Agent can visit them in the privacy of their own home and support them in their role as a carer. The Somerset Carers Service has a dedicated Freephone helpline that anyone can call Monday to Friday during office hours – 0800 31 68 600 – www.somersetcarers.org. Perhaps make the Surgery Health Walk part of your new year's resolutions. Village Agents can support you in finding out about your local events maybe an art group, WI or bowling and how to attend these. Radio Somerset also have a 'What's On' section in the mornings to tune into. I support unpaid carers in South East Somerset to connect them with community resources, support groups and personal support around benefits and allowances. We also have a new team of Community Agents and Village Agents in South Somerset for anyone to contact for support and information. Please visit www.somersetcc.org.uk and www.somersetcarers.org or call me 07968521746 on to find out who your local Village Agent is. Cath Holloway

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 a week before.

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

Saturday 1 December Cantamus Concert Church 7.30pm
Sunday 2 December Christingle in church **4.00pm**
Monday 10 December Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 11 December Movie Nites Lord Nelson 7.45pm
Wednesday 12 December Crafty Critters Reading Room 2.30pm
Friday 14 December Ladies Group Christmas Party Village Hall 6.00pm
Friday 14 December FNC Wine Club Draw Lord Nelson 7.00pm
Friday 21 December Carol Singing – meet at church gate 6.30pm

2019

Friday 18 January FNC Talk Rhino Rescue Village Hall
Thursday 31 January FNC AGM Reading Room
Friday 1 February BoJangles Village Hall
Friday 29 March D'Click Village Hall
Saturday 4 May Flower Show Plant Sale
Saturday 17 August Norton & Chiselborough Flower Show
Friday 11 – 13 October The 2019 Norton Festival Weekend