

# NORTON NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2019 ISSUE 494

*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 Thursday 12th December**

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

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

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

**ADVERTS – No new adverts this month**

## NORTON EVENTS AND NEWS

**THE UNION FLAG will be flown from the Church Tower from Monday 23rd December to Monday 6th January for Christmas through to Epiphany.**

**Lynn & Mike Orchard** wish a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all of our friends, neighbours and clients. We will be making a donation to charity in lieu of sending local cards.

**Norton Village Hall** . The committee would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Thanks for all your support over the past year.

**CHRISTMAS OPENING AT NORTON SHOP AND POST OFFICE** **Christmas Eve** – the Shop and Post Office will close at 4.30 p.m. **Christmas Day and Boxing Day** – the Shop and Post Office will be closed. **27th and 28th December** – the Shop and Post Office will be open for their normal hours. **New Year's Eve** – the Shop and Post Office will close at 4.30 p.m. **New Year's Day** – the Shop and Post Office will be closed. **Last Posting Dates: 1st Class Post – Friday 20th December 2nd Class Post – Wednesday 18th December.** The Directors of the CLT, and our Shop and Post Office staff wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful band of volunteers, without whom we could not keep the business going. If you would like to help Norton Shop to keep helping you, why not pick up a volunteer form from the Shop?

**WANTED!** Owing to ill health of one of our most dedicated volunteers we desperately need one or more volunteers aged over 18 to work alongside our youth worker. Meetings are on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Our young people are lively and engaged and deserve to have their youth club. Our alternatives without more volunteers are to pay for a youth work assistant which will take a big chunk of our hard-won cash, or to close the youth club. Please contact Lou on the details below. With Christmas looming we have festive programmes both in Stoke and Norton, and Norton, both from 7pm. **Stoke Youth and Family Centre on Monday from 7pm 2nd December** Media/ Quiz/World aids day. **9th December** Christmas decoration Making **16th December** Christmas Fun **6th January 2020** Return after break **Norton Village Hall** Meeting room on **Wednesdays from 7pm 4th December** Quizes **11th December** Christmas arts/crafts **18th December** Christmas Fun 8th January Welcome Back For more information please contact Lou Chant on 07402987921 or email [lou.chant@cyp.me.uk](mailto:lou.chant@cyp.me.uk)

**THE READING ROOM CAFE** I am getting really excited about spending my first Christmas in Norton. Tuesday Christmas Lunches have captured the imagination of many and I've only got a few spaces left. Do call me as soon as possible to see if I have had any cancellations. Naturally I will be open the other 4 days of the week in December (18th to 21st) and will have some scrumptious Christmassy fare on the daily menus. I really look forward to seeing you during the weeks leading up to Christmas, when I will also be selling my Chutneys, Mince Pies and seasonal Sausage Rolls. **I will be closing on Saturday 21st December** just after we have drawn The Reading Room Raffle at 4.00pm. Please do support our Raffle – see below for details. Special thanks go to our Community Shop for their kindness and The Lord Nelson for supporting us so generously. **I will re open on Friday 3rd of January** for breakfast and light lunches. Amanda mobile 07713 170058 or 01935 881505

**NORTON READING ROOM RAFFLE:** Tickets are now available for the first ever Reading Room Christmas Draw. 1st prize – A Luxury Hamper full of Christmas Fayre, 2nd prize – Steak night for 2 and a bottle of prosecco at the Lord

Nelson, 3rd prize – A Norton shop bag full of shop goodies! Pop into the Reading Room to see the Hamper or the Shop to view the 3rd prize. Tickets can be purchased at both places for £1.00. Draw to take place in the **Reading Room at 4pm on 21st December**. Tricia Walton, Secretary.

**NORTON PRIMARY SCHOOL would like to invite everyone to their Christmas Bazaar on Saturday December 7th from 12 – 4 at Norton Village Hall.** Lots stalls, crafts, games, Face Painting, Cuddly Toy stall. Raffle with some amazing prizes. Hot dogs, refreshments, and much more. Father Christmas will also be there. Please come. Support your primary school. We would be glad to see you Friends of Norton School.

**NORTON MOVIE NITES AT THE LORD NELSON, Tuesday 10th December.** *Yesterday* (cert 12A, 116 mins), stars Himesh Patel and Lily James in a lighthearted rom-com about a struggling musician who wakes up in a world where no-one has heard of The Beatles. What an opportunity! Directed by Danny Boyle with a screenplay by Richard Curtis, an enjoyable tribute to the Fab Four's song catalogue. Doors open 7.45 pm, film starts 8 pm. Tickets £5 in advance only from Norton Stores from 1st December.

**LADIES GROUP** Ian Williamson gave an interesting talk on his experiences on a trek in Vietnam to raise money for St Margaret's Hospice. Meeting the locals in rural communities along the way, and helping them with their communal projects. Our Christmas Party takes place at the **Village Hall on 13th December**, any member who wishes to attend should ensure they have added their name to the list. Don't forget your Secret Santa Gift and decorate yourselves with tinsel/sparkles etc. Our New Year Dinner will be held at **The Lord Nelson, from 6.30pm on Tuesday 21st January**, please ensure your menu choice is noted on the list by 20 December. Sue Lowder 881805

**VILLAGE CAROL SINGING** The carol singers will meet at **6.30pm on Wednesday December 18th** at the **Church Gate**. You are most welcome to join in. Bring a torch!! The bellringers started this tradition 20 years ago and a considerable amount of money has been raised for the FNC and other charities. Thank you in anticipation. Cilla Caswell

**LIBRARY MOBILE VAN IN NORTON** The van comes and parks by Pippins in Higher Street each month from **3.25 until 3.45pm** – the next time will be **Tuesday 17th December**. Come and check out the new van packed with some great books!

**AN ILLUSTRATED TALK** by John Forrest and Roger Caesley of 'daring do' by two men of a certain age – not so young but not too old! The talk entitled "GRAND CANYON – 2 MEN on a RAFT" will be presented on **Friday 17th January 2020** in the **Norton sub Hamdon Village Hall at 7:00pm for 7:30pm** with a wine and soft drinks cash bar available. Tickets at £7 are on sale in the Norton Village Shop and will be available at the door on the night. All are welcome and all proceeds from the evening will be used to maintain and preserve the fabric of Norton Church. Friends of Norton Church

**NORTON CALENDAR 2020.** The Friends of Norton Church committee have prepared a Norton 2020 Calendar which is now on sale in the Norton Community Shop. With some familiar (and some not so familiar) scenes of Norton sub Hamdon and the surrounding area, the calendar is available at £7 with all proceeds being used to support the fabric of the Norton Church.

**NORTON 2020 FESTIVAL** The following Events have been booked and invite entry into your 2020 Diary:-  
**Saturday 29th February** - Avon & Somerset Constabulary Male Voice Choir Concert; **Saturday 4th April** - Parnham Voices Concert. **Both at 7.30pm, Gardens Open on Sundays from 2pm on 17th May; 21st June: and 19th July.**  
**Saturday 3rd October** - Mendip Singers Concert; **Saturday 28th November** - Cantamus Concert. **Both at 7.30pm**

**FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB DRAW Results for November Pub Draw:** Will Tate, Kate McBain, Roger Webb **Subscription Draw** Rob Vaux (2), Sara Vann (2), Barry & Karen Eastley, Jenny Byham (2), John Hull (2), Become an FNC Wine Club Member. You can win some elegant wines. The more you put in, the more likely you are to win, and you're funding a good cause. Contact Jonathan on 881063 to join

**NORTON PANTOMIME SOCIETY.....**We are still working hard planning the Pantomime. We keep on being asked which one it will be.....I am at Liberty ( with permission from our Director ) to give you some clues. ' Journey back in time for this madcap medieval romp. Will Prince Arthur get to save the beautiful Guinevere from the Wicked Morgan Le Fay? Will Merlin discover the secret of eternal youth --- and why is a man in a dress in love with King Uther? To find out book the dates. buy the tickets, and join us for this crazy fun filled adventure.' If you want to help in anyway, backstage, scenery, teas, in fact anything at all, please contact Jennie Harris on 881718. Also for questions, queries, or anything else. JH for Norton Pantomime Society.

**NEWSLETTER AGM AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.** The thirty sixth AGM of the Norton Newsletter was held on Wednesday 6th November in the Reading Room. Audited Annual Accounts were presented by the Treasurer as follows. For the year ending 31st October 2019 the cash balance was £3963.88. Income came from advertisements £521.00, donations £143.00 and Shop collection box £374.89. 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 Louise Brooks who puts our newsletter on to the Parish Website each month and to all advertisers for supporting the newsletter. Also thanks to the organisations and individuals who have donated this year including the Ladies Group, Stoke Gardening Club and Movie Nites.

**NORTON "BOUNDS" BREAKFAST WALK - SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER 2019** For the first time in 24 years the timing was amended. Apologies to anyone who was inconvenienced. However it did allow us to have a great breakfast in the Nelly and see the great win over the All Blacks. The weather was not as positive but we still had 8 hardy souls who braved the wind and rain. See you all next year. John Bailey

**CHURCHYARD MOWERS.** The Merry Mowers of St Mary's Churchyard are extremely appreciative to the Parochial Church Council in approving the costs to repair and restore our mowing machines. Over the past 4 years we have been very lucky in receiving help from two of our mechanics - however this year it was time for the 6 machines to go to the Crewkerne Horticultural 'Hospital' for professional repairs. Sadly 2 were condemned, however 4 are able to be repaired, but within a matter of days we were offered another machine, so we now will have 5 restored machines in the stable - so we will be able to start the 2020 season with renewed vigour and machines! Unfortunately as so often happens each season, one or two of our mowing team reach a certain age or decide to move from the village, so we have 4 gaps in our team for next season. If you are interest in joining us- we would appreciate about 8 hours of your time next season - spread between March to the end of September. The comments we get from both villagers and visitors about how well the grounds are kept, makes it all worth while. Please consider being a part of the dedicated team - no joining or annual membership fees - it's fun and as many know, very close to The Lord Nelson after an hours mowing! Chris Westwood. c.westwood51@btinternet.com 01935 881 681.

## DECEMBER NORTON CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday	1	4.00pm	Christingle
Sunday	8	9.30am	Communion
Sunday	15	6.30pm	Blue Christmas Service
Tuesday	17	7.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday	22	8.00am	Communion
Tuesday	24	4.00pm	Crib Service Christmas Eve
Wednesday	25	11.00am	Communion Christmas Day

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT 2019

**Planning:** The Parish Council had 3 planning applications to make their observations on this month:

19/02438/LBC Rose Cottage Higher Street - The carrying out of alterations to rear internal door/window and the removal of a ground floor partition wall. No objection

19/02868/HOU Masons, Little St. Erection of 1st floor extension with 2 dormer windows and alterations to the driveway. No objection

19/02819/HOU Chinkwell House Little Norton - Alterations and the erection of a two storey rear extension to dwelling/house & 2 metre high boundary wall. No Objection

They have also been notified on the following 3 applications from the planning department:

19/02250/HOU 33 New Road, Proposed replacement porch. APPROVED

19/02431/LBC 2 Blackspur Cottages, Higher Street. Replacement Staircase. APPROVED

19/02111/HOU & 19/02112/LBC - The Orangery, Great Street - Demolition of existing garage block. New garage block adjacent with auxiliary accommodation above, associated landscaping works and alterations to existing vehicular access. APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

**Annual presentation from Hamdon Youth Group:** John Bailey and Mrs Liz Maunder attended the meeting and gave a presentation to the Parish Council reporting on another great year. They thanked the Parish Council for their continued support. Councillor More informed them that they will have the agreed 10% increase in grant (agreed in 2017), which would bring the annual grant to £1,815.00 for 2020/21. Mr Bailey talked about how they have had a successful year with grants and funding which have given them some security for next year. He also talked about how brilliant it was having a permanent site at the Hamdon Youth and Family Centre and the difference it had made to the group. HYG are now registered as a charity.

**Is there a requirement for CCTV at the recreation field/carpark/village hall entrance?** There have been more reports of vandalism at the entrance to the village hall – this time with the flowerpots being knocked over and emptied Other recent incidents have included eggs being thrown at the windows and chewing gum being pushed into the door locks. The Clerk was requested to investigate the costs regarding installing CCTV by the Chair. A quote was received from SES in Yeovil. The Parish Council had mixed views on whether CCTV was necessary. The Clerk will get one more quote before the next meeting and put this on the Agenda for December.

**Budget for 2020/21:** The Clerk/RFO has been working on the budget for the next financial year starting in April 2020. It is likely that The Parish Council will also be responsible for more 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 keep it at the same amount for another year - £19,200.00.

**Boules Court:** Several points of concern were raised regarding the proposed boules court. These concerns have been sent to the boules action group. This will be discussed again at the December meeting as the group need to form a constituted body. The concerns included the duplication of facilities with Stoke, safety issues on what is predominantly a play area plus other items.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 9th 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](mailto:nortonpcclerk@outlook.com)

## OTHER EVENTS AND NEWS

**TRIANGLE TRUST CHRISTMAS BAZAAR on Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> at Stoke Memorial Hall.**

**From 2 - 4pm.** Always a great afternoon. All usual stalls, including Crafts, Christmas goods, books, Tombola, Grand Raffle, refreshments etc etc. Father Christmas will be there with a free gift for every child. Everyone welcome.

All proceeds to support Hamdon Medical Centre, to buy medical equipment etc, to benefit all Patients. Contact. Jennie Harris. 01935881718

**SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER from 7pm-9pm** at Holy Trinity Church, Lysander Road, The Mayor of Yeovil presents The Phoenix Voices in concert, with music to suit all tastes from Slade to Shakin' Stevens to Lennon to Faure. Conductor Kris Emmett directs the choir and orchestra in an evening of everybody's favourite Christmas music. Tickets, including refreshments, are available on the door for £7/£4 or securely through our website:

<https://www.thephoenixvoices.co.uk/book-online>. Our popular raffle includes a top prize of a weekend break away and proceeds from the event will be going to the Yeovil District Hospital Breast Cancer Appeal. See posters in the village. S Wickstead

**YEOVIL CHAMBER CHOIR** 'Light in The darkness :Music for Winter and Christmas' Includes music from Handel's Messiah, Bach, and Purcell and Victoria, plus carols with soloists and introducing our new conductor William McElwee.

**Wednesday 11th December 7:30 St Andrew's Church**, Preston Grove, Yeovil. Tickets on the door £10 to include refreshments.

**BOOK CLUB** will be on **Tuesday 17th December** and will start this month with a lunch in the **Cat Head from 12.00** . Books can be borrowed from the Library Van which arrives at 2.35pm. Ring Janet Hutton on 881566 for details.

**STOKE GARDENING CLUB** – No meeting this month. For details about the club contact Sue Winwood 01935 823671

### SEASONAL IDEAS FROM THE VILLAGE AGENT

**Make sure you get out and about!** The darkness and bad weather are very isolating and it is easy to stay in and then realise you haven't seen anyone in an age! Office and many other workers, go to work in the dark and go home in the dark! Keeping in touch and making friends via community activity reduces isolation and also means people are thinking of you and will miss you should you have an accident over the Christmas break. We have a listing of the local Christmas events on our website <https://somersetagents.org/somersetchristmasevents/or> call us on 01823 331 222. Perhaps you could take an elderly neighbour with you?

**Get out in the light.** Take a lunch time walk and expose some skin to soak up some daylight. This helps regulate your sleep patterns so you feel less tired in the winter. The NHS suggest there is not enough sun to gather your vitamin D however. "In the UK, sunlight doesn't contain enough UVB radiation in winter (October to early March) for our skin to be able to make vitamin D. During these months, we rely on getting our vitamin D from food sources (including fortified foods) and supplements". <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/how-to-get-vitamin-d-from-sunlight/>

**Free Flu Vaccination Check with your GP** to see if you are eligible for a free flu vaccine or buy one from your pharmacy. Even if you don't feel you are in an at risk group for flu complications, by protecting yourself you minimise spreading infection to others who may be more vulnerable than yourself. "Flu is an unpredictable virus that can be unpleasant, but if you're otherwise healthy it'll usually clear up on its own within a week .It can cause severe illness and even death among vulnerable groups, including older people, pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition .Certain people are more likely to develop potentially serious complications of flu, such as bronchitis and pneumonia. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/who-should-have-flu-vaccine/>

**Watch out for Scams:** This is the time that fraudsters increase their campaign. With stress and rushed purchasing, people are less likely to spot a con. <https://www.which.co.uk/news/2018/12/12-scams-of-christmas-what-you-need-to-watch-out-for/> Watch out for counterfeit goods which could be potentially dangerous and counterfeit websites which do not have the HTTP// or the lock symbol. Sometimes it is placed on the website and not on the address to catch you out. Some websites are dressed up to look like a big brand so watch out for small differences - .com instead of .co.uk perhaps. Fake holiday offers are also rife, as are phone calls about your phone or internet being cut off. Phishing is also increased as people are less likely to notice they have opened an incorrect email. Never buy goods from your work

computer as you could unwittingly expose your client's personal data to phishers or unsecured web pages and never use public wifi to shop.

If you are travelling at Christmas, do use the AA driving in winter guide and if you are travelling abroad, well I am very jealous! Cath Holloway 07968521746 cath@somersetccc.org.uk

**NO NEW ONE OFF ADS**

**TO ADVERTISE in this newsletter the fee is £18 for twelve monthly adverts or £1.50 for single months. Contact the editor on 881566 or email nortonnews@hotmail.com**

**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**. In December the deadline is a week before.

**NEWCOMERS TO OUR VILLAGE.** If you know of anyone who has moved in to Norton, please ring or email the editor 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 Editor of the Norton Newsletter. None of the information published within expresses the views of either of the Editor 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 7 December School Bazaar Village Hall 12.00pm  
Monday 9 December Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm  
Tuesday 10 December Crafty Critters Reading Room 2.30pm  
Tuesday 10 December Movie Nites Lord Nelson 7.45pm  
Tuesday 17 December Mobile Library Van Higher Street 3.35pm  
Friday 13 December Ladies Group Christmas Party Village Hall 6.00pm  
Wednesday 18 December Village Carol Singing Church Gate 6.30pm

#### **2020**

Friday 17 January FNC Talk Village Hall 7.00pm  
Friday 31 January FNC AGM Reading Room 7.30pm  
Saturday 29 February Male Voice Choir  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday 5 – 7 March Pantomime Village Hall  
Saturday 4 April Parnham Voices Concert