

NORTON NEWSLETTER MARCH 2020 ISSUE 497

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

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

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

ADVERTS – One new advert this month for Katy's Bakes – see bottom of adverts page.

NORTON EVENTS AND NEWS

START OF BRITISH SUMMER TIME. Please remember that the clocks go forward by one hour at **1.00am** on **Sunday, 29th March.**

VILLAGE EVENT CLASHES. Sometimes there is so much going on in this village that clashes of events happen, which is a shame as people have to choose which one to go to. Event organisers might like to check with me before fixing a date in case another big event has already been booked - I often get advanced notice of events to put in the diary at the end of the newsletter. Editor

CRAFTY CRITTERS will be getting together in the **Reading Room** on **Tuesdays 3rd, 17th, and 31st March at 2.30pm.** Please feel free to join us for a bit of 'crafting' and a natter. Tea and coffee will be available from Amanda. Looking forward to seeing everyone there. Tricia 882646.

CAMELOT THE PANTO is nearly upon us. Performances are on Thursday 5th, Friday 6th and Saturday 7th March at Norton Village Hall. Tickets from the Village Shop. Adults £7. Children under 14 £4. Plenty of tickets for Thursday and Friday nights, as I write this, Saturday looks to be selling out. Doors open 6.30pm, starts 7.00pm. Interval Bar / Soft drinks etc. Everyone welcome. Proceeds in aid of the Village Hall. Jennie Harris for Norton Pantomime Society. Any info, please ring 01935 881718.

NORTON MOVIE NITES AT THE LORD NELSON, Tuesday 10th March. Official Secrets (cert 15, 112 mins), stars Keira Knightley and Matt Smith in a compelling account of the true events which led to the Iraq War. A forceful exposé of what happened when an honest person challenged corrupt power. **Doors open 7.45 pm, film starts 8.00 pm.** Tickets £5 in advance only from Norton Stores from 29th February.

READING ROOM CAFÉ I would like to thank all of the customers who enjoyed the Tapas Evening we held recently and to those supported my 'Valentine Take Away' evening. I have been encouraged to continue the Take Away themes; do watch out for further details on these. My next Saturday Supper will be a Bistro Evening on **Saturday 28th March.** Please call in or telephone me for bookings. In order for me to visit my family in the North of England, the cafe will be **CLOSED on Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th March.** I will be re opening the cafe on **Wednesday 19th March at 10.00 am.** Finally, I want to sincerely thank everyone for the fantastic support you have shown to me over the past 7 months - you have made me very welcome. I love playing a small part in making this such a fantastic village. Amanda. Mobile. 07713170058 or Reading Room. 881505.

LADIES GROUP Our imaginations were running wild when we all took part in a writing workshop led by Tamsin Cooke. Tamsin guided us through a process for writing a short adventure story. It was fun, and as some amazing plots unfolded, there was much laughter throughout the evening. **Tuesday 17th March** will be our AGM in the **Reading Room** - as usual there will not be a speaker as we shall look back on the past year, and forward to what we have planned for this one. We hope to hold a raffle and all contributions will be very much appreciated. There will be a team quiz and wine and nibbles will be provided. This is a good opportunity for anyone thinking of joining our friendly, casual group, to come along and see if this is something you would enjoy. Non members and visitors are welcome at any time. For more information contact Sue Lowder 881805

HAMSTONELIVE 2020 AT NORTON VILLAGE HALL In collaboration with Norton Village Hall we have another great international act coming to our village in 2020 on **Saturday 21st March** – John Osborne with 'John Peel's Shed' -for all ages. A homage to the late great John Peel and direct from Radio 4, Soho Theatre and Glastonbury. Writer and theatre maker John Osborne brings his Edinburgh sell out show. In 2002 John Osborne won a competition on John Peel's Radio Show - his prize was a box of records. This is an ode to radio and a unique opportunity for any Peel fans featuring a selection of records previously owned by the late and infamous John Peel. Tickets available from the Village shop. £10 adults; £5 children Contact John Bailey on 881227 with any queries Website: www.takeart.org

LIBRARY MOBILE VAN IN NORTON The van comes and parks by The Pippins in Higher Street each month from **3.25pm until 3.45pm** – the next time will be **Tuesday 24th March.** Come and check out the library van packed with some great books!

COFFEE MORNING The Coffee Morning, at **10.45am on Wednesday 25th March,** is being hosted by Karen and Barry Eastley at **Manor House Grounds, Higher Street.** As usual it will have a Draw and invite participation in a general Bring & Buy. The Mornings, which last for about an hour on the fourth Wednesday of most months, support the Parish Church and are enjoyable social gatherings. All are welcome.

NORTON COFFEE MORNINGS are well established in the village. As the latest in the line of organisers, we've been running them for the last four years. We have greatly enjoyed doing this, but now feel it is time for others to take over and bring some fresh ideas and energy to them and Sophie Snow and Sophie Hale have very kindly agreed to take them on. So, as we step down, we want to say thank you, to all those people who have helped during our tenure – with the raffle and sales table, making and serving coffee and teas, washing up; for donating prizes for the raffle and items for the sales table. Thanks must also go to everyone who has so generously hosted a coffee morning and made us welcome in their homes. And of course, tremendous thanks go to everyone who

has so loyally supported the coffee mornings, whatever the weather! Together we raise almost two thousand pounds each year for the church. But the coffee mornings are so much more than a fund-raiser – they are always, and without exception, very happy sociable occasions to meet friends, neighbours, newcomers and spend an hour enjoying good company, warm hospitality and a cup of coffee. We do hope you will continue to support the Sophies as you have supported us. We wish them as much enjoyment as we have had, and thank all of you once again for your help, your hospitality, your support and your generosity. Tricia Kirkham and Anna Terrell

PARNHAM VOICES The Parnham Voices will be performing in **Norton Church on Saturday 4th April**. They are an a cappella chamber choir formed in 2002 with singers coming from a wide area centred on Beaminster, Dorset. They sing all types of music from medieval to modern, sacred and secular – including masses and motets, anthems and folk songs, Victorian pieces and evergreens from the 20's and 30's. Tickets are now on sale in the Community Shop at £7 each or can be purchased by Post by telephoning 01935 881330 (cost £8 including handling). This is another Concert in The Norton Festival 2020 series and is not to be missed. To avoid disappointment you are advised to buy your ticket NOW

SAVE THE DATE – 15TH MAY The **Reading Room Committee** is planning a major fundraising event on **Friday Evening 15th May** in the **Village Hall**. Renowned local photographer Matilda Temperly will give an illustrated talk about her latest book 'A View from the Hill', followed by a delicious Somerset ploughman's supper prepared by Amanda. There will also be an auction of Somerset experiences and Matilda will be available to sign her book. The evening is being supported by the Somerset Cider Brandy Company. We hope this will be a fun, social evening for everyone to enjoy. Tickets go on sale from early April. More details next month – watch this space! Tricia Walton, Secretary.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH – SUMMER TALK – 19TH JUNE The Friends of Norton Church are delighted to announce that we are very fortunate to have 2 retired BAC engineers and a BA pilot who have "volunteered" to provide an illustrated presentation on their experiences of Concorde; the high speed, the high altitude and high jinks of the high rollers who were privileged to fly in it during its heyday. The talk will take place in the **Norton Village Hall on Friday 19th June** which is announced now to enable you to make a note in your diaries. Further details on times and tickets etc will be advised in later editions of the Newsletter and Parish Magazine.

THE PINK PALACE SEWING STUDIO, Norton-sub-Hamdon.

Do you like stitching in all its forms? Would you enjoy sewing with a friendly group of like minded people in a warm, relaxed atmosphere? The Pink Palace Studio is a lovely garden room dedicated to stitching with crafting tables and plenty of plugs for sewing machines for up to 8 people. We are starting a Wednesday Group and if you would like to come on your own or bring a friend you are most welcome. We are a friendly club and our ethos is to share skills and ideas as well as having workshops every so often to broaden our minds. Commencing at the beginning of April we will meet alternate Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm. For further information and to come and see the studio and have a chat with a cup of coffee and a slice of homemade cake please contact: Jayne English Phone or text: 0777333 4950
email: thepinkpalacestudio@yahoo.com

PLEASE RESPECT THE NOTICES - NO ACCESS MEANS...NO ACCESS HEADLAND BETWEEN NORTON AND CHISELBOROUGH ROADSIDE This is not a footpath or a permissive path. The last couple of years, Mr Holloway has kindly allowed walkers to walk along the headland as the road between Norton and Chiselborough is dangerously narrow. He recently put his in-lamb ewes in the field and put 'NO ACCESS' signs at every entrance. **However, people are still walking through with their dogs and are completely ignoring the signs.**

Once again, sheep have been chased by dogs. It can result in pregnant ewes aborting their lambs. If this continues, the land will be closed off permanently, all year round. People do not seem to have any respect for the landowner's animals or his request to keep out at certain times of the year. **PLEASE HAVE THE COURTESY TO KEEP OFF THIS PRIVATE LAND WHEN REQUESTED. THANK YOU.**

THE FRIENDS OF HAM HILL is the charity supporting activities and conservation in your local country park. We help to raise funds for special projects, educational activities and events in the Country Park. In 2019, we funded the new Woodland Playzone, the Roman Treasure Trail and the Tree Planting. Our funding comes from all those who pop their change into a collection box, bought a calendar, came to the pub quiz or from the activities undertaken at the fayres and events we attended this year. Donations also have been given by local businesses, community organisations and clubs that enjoy the park and who are great supporters of the Friends. We recognise that everyone has a choice of which charities and good causes they support and we want to say a very big **THANK YOU** for supporting us in 2019. Alongside the Rangers and the South Somerset Countryside Team, we have some ambitious plans for 2020 to make Ham Hill Country Park better than ever. We will keep you posted through local publications, community notice boards and social media, so keep an eye and ear out. If you want to know more about our activities, follow "Ham Hill Country Park" on Facebook or email at HamHillFriends@gmail.com Best wishes Friends of Ham Hill

LEAD THEFTS FROM LOCAL CHURCHES We have been informed that there has been lead stolen from the roof of several local churches including Barrington and Kingsbury Episcopi. Can we ask all villagers to be extra vigilant and phone 999 if they see anything suspicious. Thank you, The church wardens

CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA We start a new rota for Church Flowers at Easter, so we are looking for names to fill it. It is not an arduous task, once a year, doing the flowers on the altar pedestal and the altar brass to make everything at the east end shiny and welcoming. Three new flower arrangers joined during last year and say how much they enjoy it. It would be good to let others who like arranging flowers know how welcome they would be. Does anyone, or two, out there fancy taking over the rota from Ruth and Christabel who have been doing it for longer than they can remember, and would love to see fresh ideas? We look forward to hearing from you and answering any questions you may have. Ruth Cannon 881519 or Christabel Cumberlege 881255

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB DRAW RESULTS: Subscription Draw : Richard More (2), Nicky Brodie, Janet Hutton, Jenny Byham, :Rob & Di Waters, Mary Morgan, Jeremy Reid and Alec Secombe. The Pub Draw result TBA. To join the wine club please phone Jonathan Binns on 01935 881063.

MARCH CHURCH SERVICES IN NORTON

Sunday 1	11.00am	All Age Service
Sunday 8	9.30am	Communion
Sunday 15	6.30pm	Evensong
Sunday 22	8.00am 11.00am	Communion Mothering Sunday Service
Sunday 29	No Service at Norton. Combined Benefice Service West Chinnock Church 10.00am	

MOTHERING SUNDAY There will be an extra Family Service at **11.00am on Mothering Sunday, 22nd March** in Norton Parish Church. This will be in addition to the usual 8.00am Prayer Book Communion.

Visit www.hamhillchurches.org for services and other activities around the Benefice

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY

Planning: The Parish Council had two planning application to make their observations on:

20/00270/HOU - Hopes Little Street Norton Sub Hamdon.

Removal of existing 2 roof lights and installation of 2 dormer windows. The Parish Council had no objections

20/00253/S73A - Land Adjacent To Quinta Ham Hill Road Norton Sub Hamdon

Application to vary conditions 2 (approved plans) and 4 (finished floor levels and ridge heights) of planning approval 16/00976/FUL to allow changes to design, floor levels and fenestration of the dwelling and the repositioning of the garage.

The Parish Council had no objections. There was a request for the hedging on the west side of the site to be kept, to screen the cottages nearby.

Annual Village Litter Pick 2020:

The date for the village litter pick had been set for **Saturday 21st March** and will begin at **9.30am** (Finishes by 11.30am) This year it will start from a new venue – **THE COMMITTEE ROOM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**. If anyone could please spare an hour or so of their time we would really appreciate it. It would be lovely to see some new faces. We look forward to your help.

CCTV: We have now won a grant from SSDC to pay for half of the cost of the CCTV that will be installed hopefully within the next few weeks. The village hall committee also plan to install another security light.

Parking on New Road: We have now received numerous complaints regarding the parking of cars on New Road opposite the school outside the new houses. The Highway Code states:

DO NOT stop or park-

- near a school entrance
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space

This is a very busy part of New Road, firstly with children being dropped off and picked up from school, but also when there are events on at the village hall.

We have already had one site meeting with Highways and intend to meet again. They are very aware of the issue and are monitoring it regularly. The police have also been informed and now regularly patrol this area.

Visibility is now very poor and is dangerous when leaving both the school/village hall car park and Hamdon View. Please always park responsibly. Before you walk away from your parked car, think whether you have left it in a hazardous place.

Dog Bin on New Road: The dog bin was installed back in September 2019 following many complaints of dog mess being left on the pavement on New Road (between the school and the shop), and also on the footpath that runs down to the church. There were complaints that children who were walking to school were treading in dog mess which was then being walked onto the school grounds and into classrooms. SSDC held many site meetings in New Road, the recreation field and Rectory Lane. They leaflet dropped the whole of Rectory Lane and Broadmead Lane reminding residents that by law, dog owners must bag and bin any dog mess their dog makes. They then identified areas where new bins had to be located to try to stop this problem and encourage residents to bag and bin it. This location was a specified point. The Chair explained that when deciding where to position the bins, several factors were considered by both the SSDC and Parish Council and correct procedures have been carried out throughout. These include identifying problem areas, safety of the operatives emptying the bins and positioning the bins such that they are visible and easy to use. The other major factor is access to land. We cannot put a dog bin on private land. To move the bin to behind the hedge would not fulfill the above criteria.

The issue regarding noise of the bin lid has been addressed. SSDC will install rubber buffers which will stop the noise. The bin is now on the rota for emptying and is emptied weekly. It is a new bin which is green in colour. Regarding the complaint that it was too close to the school - It was pointed out that there is a dog bin that is closer to the school than this one. SSDC reported that the bin is full every week, indicating that the bin is in the correct location. Apart from this single complaint all the feedback the Parish Council have received has been positive and supportive. (Two further complaints were received in February 2020 following requests from the original complainant).

The Parish Council and SSDC have agreed that they will review the location of the bin in September, after the bin has been installed for a year.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 9th March 2020 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. Email: nortonpcclerk@outlook.com)

VILLAGE AGENT UPDATE March brings a stirring of energy. You can hear it around you in the bird song and see it with the early flowers and excited anticipation of the summer months ahead. Mother's Day was traditionally a time to return to the Mother Church, to your family and your roots. A time to reflect and feel grateful for the support you have received and the beautiful world around you. Today mindful reflection and gratitude for even the smallest things has been proven to increase your mental well

being, and an important way to feel good – try 5 minutes of this type of thinking when you wake up in these lighter mornings, it's a great positive start to your day!

CCS Somerset Agents are around to help you to get the most out of your life and work with anyone who asks for support – check out the website www.somersetagents.org **Carers Agents** will support you if you are over 18 and are looking after someone in an unpaid capacity whether that's your child if you are their Carer, partner, relative or friend – lots of advice and support options can be found at www.somersetcarers.org or by calling our freephone helpline 0800 3168 600. We have a new Carers Group starting in Yeovil on Monday 2nd March at the new beautifully refurbished Samaritans building Marley House - follow the Samaritans signs on Manor Road from opposite the entrance to the Octagon theatre

Finally, our **Transport agent** is working on transport solutions for the whole county. To find out more pop-in to any of our Talking Cafes – free drop in's – and meet one of the CCS Agents who can set you up with the right support for you. Local Talking Cafés: **South Petherton:** South Petherton Library, 3 St. James St every Friday 10am – 12 noon and **Yeovil:** HomeFirst @ Yeovil Hospital, in the Canteen every Wednesday 2pm - 4pm Community and Village Agents help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals and statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs. We can offer advice and support to find local groups and activities available in your community. Please visit www.somersetcc.org.uk and www.somersetcarers.org or call me to find out who can advise you. **Cath Holloway 07968521746 cath@somersetcc.org.uk**

OTHER EVENTS AND NEWS

THE OLD MALT HOUSE JAZZ BAND - 12th March at 7.30pm A Swing and Jazz collective playing a range of music from the 20's and 30s with their own particular take on popular melodies of that time. **Martock Church;** Church Street; Martock TA12 6JL Tickets: £10 or £9 at Martock Gallery/Newsagent or Contact: 01935 829576 <http://www.martockonline.co.uk/events>

BOOK CLUB will be on **Tuesday 24th March at the home of Pam Horrell, Cross House, Chiselborough TA14 6TR** Books can be borrowed from the Library Van which arrives at **2.35pm**. Ring Janet Hutton on 881566 for further details

YEOVIL CHAMBER CHOIR CONCERT. A Russian evening of 'The Mighty Handful: Creating a Russian tradition' - this will include choral music from the five self taught composers who made up the 'Mighty Handful' – Mussorgsky, Rimsky Korsakov, Cui, Balakirev and Borodin. The concert will be in **St Andrew's Church Yeovil on Wednesday 25th March at 7.30pm**. Preston Grove BA20 2BQ Tickets £10 and include refreshments.

Yeovil Chamber Choir are also running a 'Come and Sing' Day on **Saturday 25th April** which will feature Monteverdi's Vespers 1610 from **10am to 5.00pm** at **St Andrew's Church** Preston Road Yeovil BA20 2BQ Fee £15 (includes music hire) . To reserve a place email yeovilchamberchoir@hotmail.com or phone 01935 829513 .

A COFFEE MORNING ON FRIDAY MARCH 27TH IN CREWKERNE MUSEUM From **10.30 to 12 midday** the museum will open for Refugee Support Group to serve coffee and home baking to raise money for a refugee charity which safely and legally transports people bombed out of their homes, to host countries willing to receive them. (Very much in the news from Syria). Please drop in during a shopping trip to Crewkerne, perhaps meet a friend there, and visit our produce stall - all for a very worthwhile cause. Geraldine Downey RSG 01460 271358

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

Tuesday 3 March Crafty Critters Reading Room 2.30pm
Thursday, Friday, Saturday 5 – 7 March Pantomime Village Hall
Monday 9 March Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 17 March Crafty Critters Reading Room 2.30pm
Tuesday 17 March Ladies Group AGM Reading Room 7.30pm
Saturday 21 March Litter Pick start at Village Hall 9.30am
Saturday 21 March Hamstone Live Village Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 24 March Library Van Higher Street 3.25pm

Wednesday 25 March Coffee Morning Manor House Grounds 10.45am
Tuesday 31 March Crafty Critters Reading Room 2.30pm
Saturday 4 April Parnham Voices Concert 7.30pm
Saturday 2 May Flower Show Plant Sale Village Hall 2.00pm
Friday 15 May Reading Room Fundraiser Village Hall
Sunday 17 May Gardens Open 2.00pm
Friday 19 June Friends of Norton Church talk
Sunday 21 June Gardens Open 2.00pm
Sunday 19 July Gardens Open 2.00pm
Saturday 15 August Flower Show Village Hall and Rec 2.00pm
Saturday 3 October - Mendip Singers Concert 7.30pm
Saturday 28 November - Cantamus Concert 7.30pm