

NORTON NEWSLETTER JULY 2020 ISSUE 501

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

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

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

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE <https://nortonsubhamdonpc.uk>

Dear Readers

A welcome sign of a return to a slightly more normal life in the village with the first 'event' in August – the AGM of Movie Nites - see below for details! Amongst the items that have been sent in are two charming poems from a Poetry Competition run by our school – they really do lift the spirits in these challenging times. Aside from that, our shop, pub and café are still providing a brilliant service which has made our lockdown in this village so much easier, so continued thanks to them. Keep going and keep safe! Editor

Norton Shop and Post Office

We are so proud that we have been able to stay open and help everyone over these difficult months; and we will continue to do so. We have worked incredibly hard to source supplies and, on the whole, we are keeping our stock levels pretty near normal (with one or two exceptions which seem to be common to all shops!). We have enjoyed keeping in touch with our regular customers and welcoming many new ones, who, perhaps, had not previously appreciated either the range of stock or the level of service we provide. We have ordered a screen to be installed across the till area – but, as you can imagine, demand is such that we are having a long wait for it to be delivered.

Did you know that we are able to supply your meat needs – not just sausages and bacon, but also your Sunday joint, burgers and barbecue needs, beef steaks, pork or lamb steaks, mince, chicken portions and whole chicken etc. All from the Butcher who supplies the sausages and bacon we sell. Just order what you would like and we can supply it within 48 hours (but for Sunday joints, please order by Thursday). I can assure you that it is superb meat! We are pleased to tell you that we have started another new service to add to our Delivery Service.

You can now use our PHONE AND COLLECT service. This is for customers who are in receipt of our delivery service but might just want a little drive out or to visit the Post Office or for those customers who are vulnerable, need help or have difficulty with their shopping. It is not intended for those who are able to do their own shopping because that could create more demand than we could manage.

To use the Phone and Collect Service please phone the Shop (01935 881200) to place your order, giving as much notice as possible in case we need to order items in for you. You can then tell us when you are coming and we can meet you outside or be ready for you when you come in. Please note – this is NOT replacing our delivery service which will continue for as long as it is needed. This is just to add another service for you – use either service each week.

Our Post Office has seen exceptional levels of business too and, like the shop, has kept going, with the staff working incredibly hard to manage their extra work in the usual efficient and friendly way we all expect. We are indebted to all our staff, both in the Post Office and the Shop and our incredible team of intrepid volunteers – regulars and new team members – who have worked so hard and so cheerfully.

As things slowly get back to normal, supermarkets become more organised with their deliveries and more people go back to work, we hope that you will not forget that we have been here for you all the time. And our queues are shorter and more friendly than those at supermarkets!

We hope that you appreciate the extra mile we have gone to. We hope you will continue to support us as lock-down eases we want to continue in the long term and be available if there is another crisis!

NORTON SHOP AND POST OFFICE – BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR THE COMMUNITY SHOP and TAKEAWAYS: Community Shop phone number 01935 881200 **Lord Nelson** - email mark@thelordnelson.co.uk or phone 01935 881473 for collection or delivery. **Reading Room Café** 01935 881505 or via Amanda's Facebook page.

NORTON MOVIE NITES AGM will be held at **7.30 pm on Tuesday 11th August**, at **Manor Farmhouse** if weather and social distancing allow, otherwise via Zoom. Everyone welcome to attend for news of future films and ideas for the future of NMN in general. Interested parties to contact John Bailey, 01935 881227, johnbailey19@googlemail.com

SALE OF WORK BY MOISH SOKAL As Moish cannot hold his annual exhibition this year he is holding a major and unique online sale of his work, dating from over the 30 years he has been travelling and painting, at very much reduced prices. Visit www.moishsokal.co.uk to travel the world in safety and find beautiful original paintings, prints and cards for yourself or as gifts at prices way below those at his exhibitions. This opportunity has only come about because he has had the time to go through his whole body of work during lockdown so it will not be repeated. Don't miss it!

UPDATE FROM MR CASWELL, CO-HEADTEACHER, NORTON-SUB-HAMDON AND WEST CHINNOCK CE PRIMARY SCHOOLS We now have children from Years R, 1 and 6 attending the schools as well as the children of key workers. Pupils and staff are in small 'bubble' groups and other protective measures are in place. Children at school and home have taken part in a poetry competition with entries from children from both schools. The children had to write an 'ekphrastic poem', inspired by a work of art. Thank you to local author Tamsin Cooke who judged the poems. She said that she loved reading all the poems and that each of them had so many special qualities. The winning poems are published here. They are by Ruby and Ava who, as well as having their poems published, will each receive a £20 book token. Runners up were Jessica, Reuben and Harrison who each receive a £10 book token. Well done to everyone who took part.

Hello Sunshine by Ruby McNeill

(after a painting by Blenda Tyvoll)

2 little blue birds
Sitting in a tree
Singing the biggest song
Just for me

2 little blue birds
Watching the sun rise
Watching all the insects
What a tasty prize

2 little blue birds
Watching the leaves fall
On an autumn morning
Waiting for their friends to call

Judge's comment:

This poem feels joyous, just like the picture. It has a lovely rhythm and the rhymes are well thought out.

Water Lilies by Ava Robertson

After 'Water Lilies' by Claude Monet.

Beside a meadow,
under a bridge,
lies a beautiful water lily pond where no one goes.

This pond has its treasures, colours and wonders.
Every time I feast my eyes on the shimmering water, I feel a sparkle appear in my heart.

I wish I could be a part of this magic,
Belong within the cool clear water,
to move amongst the silky pink lilies.

It is my dream!

The green, tangled leaves remind me of when I used to swing side to side from the branches of my forest playground,
The lily pads float like miniature trampolines.

The shaded, blue sky above beckons me again to this peaceful grotto,
a glittering expanse so enchanting.
I sit and imagine the world beneath.

Judge's comment:

This is such an enchanting poem, seizing the sense of wonder in the picture. The imagery is beautiful, inviting and incredibly effective.

STOKE GARDENING CLUB COMMITTEE have been meeting online via Zoom to ensure that monthly meetings can resume following this Covid-19 lockdown as soon as restrictions on social groups are lifted. However we will need to ensure that all measures which are relevant at that time are in place to ensure the safety of our members and visitors. We would like the planned meeting on September 23rd to take place but will confirm the date in the September issue of the newsletter and on our club Facebook page. We know many people who have not previously been growing produce in their gardens or on allotments have been giving it a go during lockdown. So maybe you would like to become a member of the club where you could meet with others who share that interest and would be willing to offer hints and tips gathered over the years. Please make contact Gardening Club 01935 829408 for more information. Regrettably we have to confirm that the Produce and Flower Show due to be held on Saturday 1st August has been cancelled.

READING ROOM BALLOON COMPETITION Grateful thanks go to our worthy treasurer, Sophie Snow for organising a great Bank Holiday Competition for the village. She and her family blew up 268 balloons and packed them into her mother's car. Throughout the day visitors guessed how many she was able to get into the car. We were delighted the winner was Alice Sangani. She guessed 267, just as we were closing the competition, the very last entrant. Brian Shrubsole was a close second with his choice and Janet Hutton followed up in 3rd place. Emily Clark won the children's prize, with Harry Callaghan and Tilly Orchard in 2nd & 3rd place. We raised just over £130 after costs which were equally divided between the NHS and the Reading Room. Special thanks go to Amanda for giving the first prize of Tea for Two. Peter Callaghan Chairman.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH Winners of the Friends of Norton Church Wine Club Draw for June 2020 Janet Hutton, Chris Westwood, Mary Edmund (2), Jennie Byham, Roger Hardisty, Pete Wilsher, John Forrest and Alec Seccombe. We hope to welcome players in the Pub Draw at The Lord Nelson next month.

SUNDAY REFLECTIONS During lockdown many people are visiting the Norton Festival web site to read a Sunday Reflection. Every Thursday a reflection is added, for the coming Sunday, taken from the normally used Common Worship Lectionary. Past Reflections are also on the site for a week or so. If you also would like to reflect on the readings simply visit www.nortonfestival.org then, under 'Recent Contacts' click 'Coronavirus' for information and prayer and click 'Sunday Reflection' for a Gospel reflection.

SOMERSET SIGHT WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO LACK SIGHT NOT VISION. Do you have a couple of hours a week to spare? Would you like to help someone in your local Community? Then why not consider Volunteering for Somerset Sight? We are a long established local charity covering the whole of Somerset and have visually impaired Service users all over the County just waiting to meet someone like you. Our Volunteer Visiting Service provides an invaluable lifeline to many lonely and isolated people who may otherwise not see anyone from one week's end to another and a friendly face once a week or once a fortnight can make an enormous difference to someone's life. If this is something you would like to do then please contact Avril on 01823 336143 Or email avril@somersetsight.org.uk Company No: 8432686 : Charity No:1154472

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR JUNE 2020

The Parish Council managed to have a very successful monthly virtual meeting via Zoom at the beginning of June. .

Planning:

The Parish Council had 1 planning application to make their observations on.

Ref. No: 20/01326/HOU – Peacehaven, Great Street, Norton Sub Hamdon. Demolition of existing annexe, erection of a two storey and a single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling, together with external alterations.

The Parish Council had no objections to the actual planning application. However they have stipulated that they would like to see a condition added that screening has to be included. This planning application would make the house vast. It sits in a very open location within the centre of the village. It is viewed by the road, recreation ground and field. The Parish Council would like to see landscaping and natural screening added to the conditions.

New Parish Councillor: Following the recent advertisement for a new Parish Councillor, we are now in the position to announce that Rachel Cumberbatch will be Co-opted onto the Parish Council. This was a unanimous decision by all of the Parish Councillors. Rachel will be Co-opted onto the Parish Council as soon as we can hold a public meeting (although if we still have to hold virtual meetings by September, we will Co-Opt via Zoom, which is permitted).

Footpath to Chiselborough via the two footpath bridges: The two footpath bridges that are situated on the footpath to Chiselborough are now a step closer to being repaired. The one nearest Norton will be completely renewed whilst the one nearest Chiselborough will be refurbished. Both bridges are currently closed, but are still in regular use. **May I just remind you that if you do use these bridges, you do so at your own risk.** The bridge work will start hopefully in July/August, **and this footpath will be completely closed to walkers - AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE, so please do not walk all over the farmer's land trying to get across.**

Unfortunately, over the last couple of months, people have walked all over their land where there are no footpaths. Gates have been left open several times and on one occasion, allowing the cows to enter a field set aside for winter forage.

PLEASE SHUT ALL GATES WHEN WALKING THE FOOTPATHS. There is another footpath that takes you to Chiselborough that starts either from Minchington rec, or Little Street.

Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the public can walk freely on mapped areas of mountain, moor, heath and registered commonland without having to stick to paths.

They don't have automatic access to walk across agricultural or other private land.

The farmer would like to thank you for your co-operation regarding this matter.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 13th July 2020** at 7.30pm. This will be a virtual meeting via Zoom due to the school currently using the village hall for extra classroom space.

Members of the general public are more than welcome to join us but will need to email me to request the joining code. Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) – nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

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

Monday 13 July Virtual Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

Tuesday 11 August Movie Nites AGM Manor Farm House 7.30pm

Saturday 3 October - Mendip Singers Concert 7.30pm

Saturday 28 November - Cantamus Concert 7.30pm