

NORTON NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021 ISSUE 512

NORTON SHOP WEBSITE: <https://www.nortonshop.co.uk>

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

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

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WEBSITE: <https://nortonsubhamdonpc.co.uk/friends-of-norton-church/>

CHURCH FLAG The Union Flag will fly on **12th June** for HM The Queen's Official Birthday

2 NEW ADVERTS: Companion/Driver and Welding Services – see end of Ads page.

NORTON CORONAVIRUS HELP is still here to collect prescriptions or other items for you if you are unable to get out or even just for a friendly chat. Phone Prue on 881350 or Martyn on 881437.

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.

KATY'S BAKES @ THE READING ROOM Thank you to everyone that has been supporting me while I have been doing take away service. I'm very excited to be opening **Wednesday the 26th of May**. I will be doing light lunches, cakes, cream teas, savoury teas and afternoon teas. If you would like to book a table please phone on 01935 881505 or email me at ktparsons12@hotmail.com. I will be closed **24th of June to 8th of July** due to being on my honeymoon but after that it will be full speed ahead.

THE NORTON NEWSLETTER committee would like to ask if there is anyone who could come and join us. We are very short of members at present and several members would like to retire having been on the committee for a long time. In particular we will be looking for a new editor and treasurer so please consider us if you would like to help continue the monthly newsletter. Contact the editor Janet Hutton on 881566 or email nortonnews@hotmail.com if you are interested. Thank you

NORTON SHOW SAFARI 2021- FROM 1:45PM, SATURDAY 19TH JUNE 2021 - 4 SHOWS AND A STROLL

Since our successful Norton Show Safari in September 2020 it has continued to be a difficult time with no community events whilst we endure the confines of lockdown. Live performances have been on hold again putting many performers out of work. Whilst we are not out of the woods yet, from 17 May 2021 the Covid Regulations allow us to hold outside events with less than 30 people. **On 19th June 2021**, HamstoneLive and TakeArt have put together a safe way for you to enjoy 4 high quality performances from professional Somerset performers while taking a stroll in small groups around Norton Sub Hamdon. We have shows from: * The little Big Horns – Mini funk Brass Band * Wassail Theatre Company and Tall Tails- The Charming Rat - An outdoor pantomime with a Somerset twist * Shoebox Theatre Company – A Walk on the Wild Side – A clown show about connection with nature, with a difference * Kerchief Theatre – Boxes – dynamic theatre about the need for, and the value, of, hope. Numbers are limited, all shows are outdoors and social distancing guidelines will be practiced throughout. Join us with hope to blow away the COVID blues and support our Somerset talent. Tickets available at the Village Shop from **24th May 2021**. We have increased costs for the performers but with local support we have been able to hold the cost to £7.00 each Suitable for all ages. Call John Bailey on 01935 881227 if any queries, or check out HamstoneLIVE on Facebook

NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING Date for the diary – **On Wednesday 23rd June** we are hoping to hold our first monthly village coffee morning of the year in aid of the church. Instead of holding it in a villager's house as normal, it will be held at **10.45am in the churchyard at St Mary's, Norton** as a one off. Tea and coffee will be served and a raffle will take place. We'll set up seats and there will be a gazebo to cope with any difficult weather conditions, rain or shine! For newcomers to Norton, the monthly coffee mornings are normally held on the 4th Wednesday of each month except June, July, August and December. They usually take place in different houses around the village and it is a wonderful way to meet other villagers and learn about Norton's varied groups and wide activities. We haven't met up since February last year, so as restrictions are easing we thought we would have an adhoc get-together this June. We look forward to meeting you there. Sophie Hale and Sophie Snow

NORTON LADIES GROUP Our meetings may be restricted but we can still go out and about and mix, so we are arranging a Garden Safari for our group to visit gardens of other members in the village. This will take place **over 23rd and 30th June**. If you are a group member, who hasn't volunteered their garden, but would like to do so, please contact Sue and we shall add you to the itinerary. **Welcome back Party** - we (the committee) invite all of our members to a picnic lunch Garden Party on **Wednesday 21st July**. Full details of this and the Safaris will be sent to each member in the next few weeks. We are looking forward to meeting you all en mass at one, if not all, of the events. We hope to

commence a normal programme from September when new members and visitors will be made most welcome, subject to any covid restrictions still in place. More information will appear each month in the newsletter, so watch this space.
Sue Lowder 881805

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB The lucky winners of The Friends of Norton Church Wine Club draw for April 2021 are: Janet Hutton, Jeremy & Rachel Reid, Myles & Sheila Wickstead, Mary Edmund, Niall Clifford, John & Elizabeth Forrest, Peter & Marilyn Willsher and Alec Seccombe. If you would like to support the work of The Friends of Norton Church and be in with a chance of winning some good quality wine, please contact Jonathan on 881063, or by email at binnsmeister@gmail.com.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH Friday 6th August - a date to reserve in your diary for drinks and nibbles on the **Norton Village Hall** patio and then inside for the long awaited presentation of **the Supersonic Glamour of Concorde**, including a video of the stars and celebrities who enjoyed the high life while on board . Arranged by the Friends of Norton Church and presented by Martin Philpot, former British Airways Pilot and Malcolm Reid, formerly of British Aircraft Corporation Technical Sales, the evening will commence at **7:00 pm. Tickets will be available in July** from the Norton Village Shop. Come along and find out just what Paul McCartney famously did during his flight ! Barry Eastley Secretary

NORTON FESTIVAL DATES Plans are in hand for the resumption of Norton Festival events. The 2020 series of Gardens Open had to be cancelled but it is hoped that in 2022 this may now take place on **Sundays 15th May, 19th June and 17th July**. These are provisional dates and subject to addition and alteration. Later this year, 2021, provisional arrangements have been made for two concerts originally planned for 2020. On **Saturday 9th October** Wells Cathedral Chamber Choir will visit and on **Saturday 27th November**, Cantamus. Further details will become available in due course but in the meantime village organisations and diaries may like to be aware of the Festival plans. Richard Terrell. Festival Coordinator

A HUGE "THANK YOU" to all who sent me good wishes, cards and presents on my retirement. I am humbled, thrilled and blessed to live among so many lovely people. Lynn Orchard

VILLAGE SALON. I would like to introduce myself:- I am Lisa Doble and will now be operating The Village Salon. Many of you will already know me, but for those who don't, I say "Hello" and look forward to seeing you in the salon. Also, my thanks to Lynn and Mike for this great opportunity. Wishing Lynn the relaxing retirement she so well deserves. Lynn would also like to add that she has a 'Memory book' in the salon and would love people to pop in and write any comments they wish.

THANK YOU. I would like to thank those kind people, who donated Toiletries etc, to be taken to Yeovil District Hospital. This was organised by David Warry at Montacute Service Station, and I have passed them all on to him. Jennie Harris.

NORTON VILLAGE HALL. We are still following all Government recommendations. We are pleased to welcome back some of our regular hirers permitted by the May 17th relaxations. Several things will be on hold until we have the June 21st briefing on the roadmap. (which could possibly change, if the Indian variant changes things.) The Hall kitchen will remain shut, and plans for Meet the Village event will be organised when we know what will be permitted. Masks must still be worn indoors. Hands - Face - Space, still apply. We are very pleased to announce that we have a new Committee Member who was co-opted on at our last Meeting. A big welcome to Nigel. We have also had some interest in the Treasurer's position, so we will have more news of that next month....For enquiries or bookings our Booking Secretary Sam Lewis, will be happy to help. email: enquire.nshvillagehall@outlook.com. you. Jennie Harris Hall Secretary

THE MOBILE LIBRARY will be coming to Higher Street in Norton at **2.50pm on Tuesday June 1st and again on 29th**.

READING ROOM NEWS: Lots of 'thank you's this month. A smart new notice board is now in place outside the Reading Room thanks to the talented Richard Raven. This has information about the members of the Committee and will have booking information and news about events happening in the Reading Room. Katherine Crouch has kindly planted up the outside area for us and we look forward to watching the garden develop over the year. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated second hand books to the Reading Room. The shelves are full of a wide variety of books, including some great holiday reads. Please contact Sophie Snow on 881099 whilst Covid restrictions are in place. Katy now has seating inside the Reading Room and, subject to Covid regulations, can welcome people into her Tearoom. She is getting married at the end of June, so will be closed for a couple of weeks. I'm sure I join with everyone in wishing her and Jack all the very best for the future. If you would like to hire the Reading Room for an event, Gwen Ames our Bookings Secretary can be contacted at nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com Tricia Walton, Secretary

ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY, GREEN LASER. On clear nights with low or no cloud cover (i.e. occasionally), residents of Norton may see a green laser for short periods of time pointing due north from Higher Street. The purpose of the laser is to position a star tracking device to point at the North Star (Polaris), around which all other stars appear to rotate, in

order to facilitate long exposure times for astro photography. There is no need for concern. The laser beam is only used for this purpose, will never be pointed at people, buildings or aircraft, and will only be used momentarily to acquire the target fix. Jonathan Binns

NORTON CHURCH Details of all services and information about the Benefice are on the website www.hamhillchurches.org and Church notice boards.

Services for June **Sunday 13th June - 1030 am** Common Worship Holy Communion **Sunday 20th June - 6.30pm** Compline **Sunday 27th June - 0900 am** BCP Holy Communion. Rev Nick Clarke 07842192402

FAREWELL TO OUR FRIEND ANN ANTELL. This is one of the hardest things I shall be writing for our Village Newsletter. I just felt I needed to say a few words about this amazing Lady..... I could write pages about her, but I need to be brief. Everyone who knew Ann will have their special memories, and words that can be said. Real Village Characters are leaving us, sadly, and Ann was certainly one of those. I have known Ann and her family for over 50 years and she was a great friend to me and 'Honorary Auntie' to my children. They loved going up to Auntie Ann's, and sleeping over. Ann worked at the Norton school for years and years, and there are hundreds of pupils that went through their schooldays, with Ann joking with them, pulling their legs, giving a lot of them nicknames, which some still answer to. Nobody got away with anything with Ann, whoever you were - she treated everyone the same, and had no nonsense. Those that knew Ann knew she had been ill, but she battled through that too. But I don't want to dwell on that. I just wanted to say a few words to thank her for being there, for everyone, and she always made you smile. She had so much love for her family, friends, and all the dogs she had over the years. I will miss her shouting out, 'Alright Mother Harris' every time she saw me. Bye bye Ann, it has been a pleasure to have known you, Rest in peace with Dave, and Mum and Dad - don't cause too much trouble when you get there !!!Love Jennie.

SOLAR POWER OFFER Are you interested in green energy and reducing your bills? Do you want to install solar panels, storage batteries or an electric car charging point? Are you confused about feed-in tariffs and break-even points? Or have you already obtained a quote and want to check if you can get a cheaper price from another supplier? The Solar Streets initiative, run by The Green Group and IDDEA, is installing solar panels in a number of Somerset towns at a discounted price. The initiative is endorsed by SSDC and villages around Ham Hill have joined together to offer this opportunity to residents and businesses. You should always get more than one quote for work, but please consider Solar Streets alongside other providers as a possible solution to your sustainable energy needs. If you would like to know more, please contact Prue Biddle on 881350 or nortonpcbiddle@outlook.com or visit the Solar Streets website at <https://solarstreets.co.uk/>

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR MAY 2021 The Parish Council managed to have a very successful Annual and monthly virtual meeting via Zoom at the beginning of May.

Annual Meeting: The Parish Council's Annual Meeting took place before the May monthly meeting. The election of officers and representatives took place. Councillor More was made Chairman for another year with Cllr. Maunder voted in as Vice Chair again. In the Chairman's report, Cllr More explained that due to the Covid crisis all Parish Council meetings for the previous year have been conducted by Zoom. After a few teething problems, these meetings have been highly successful, safe and fully accessible to members of the public. Covid regulations are lifting, and we hope to resume face to face meetings when it is safe to do so.

The past year's village achievements were discussed and the Chair praised the residents of the village with the support they have given each other during the past year. She also thanked our District Councillor Mike Hewsitson, who has been brilliant with providing support and advice to the Village Hall, The Reading Room and local businesses throughout Covid and the lockdowns they've had to endure. The Financial Report was approved and adopted, and the Annual Governance Statement was approved.

Planning: There were no planning applications to discuss in May.

E-scooters (electric scooters), Segways and Hoverboards being ridden on roads and pavements: The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had reported all the complaints the Parish Council have received to the Police. The Police are already aware of the problem of E-scooters, Segways and Hoverboards on the roads and have already stopped some children and explained that riding on the roads and pavements is illegal. They will now be increasing their patrols along New Road and Great Street. The Parish Council would also like to state that the riding of the E-scooters etc are allowed to be ridden on the recreation ground but only in a responsible manner as it is a public space for all. However, they are not allowed to be ridden on the decking of the village hall.

District Councils give local electors a vote on the future of Local Government in Somerset

A local poll on the two proposals for the future of local government in Somerset currently under consideration – One Somerset and Stronger Somerset – will now go ahead later this month. The poll, which will be independently run and verified by Civica Electoral Services, **will take place from 18th May to 4th June.**

Every elector in Somerset will be issued with a ballot paper and invited to vote by post or online.

The local poll was agreed by each of Somerset's four District Councils at meetings on Friday 30th April. The report considered at the meetings said holding a poll would "give residents a voice in the debate and help the Secretary of State in understanding and determining the level of support amongst residents for each of the options".

The District Councils approached Somerset County Council to take part in the poll. Somerset County Council has informed the District Council Leaders that it will not be participating in or endorsing the poll.

The District Council Leaders have written to the Secretary of State to inform him of the poll and its dates and ask that the result of the poll be properly considered as part of the decision-making process on the future of local government in Somerset.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on MONDAY 14th June 2021 starting at 7.30pm. Members of the general public are more than welcome to attend. (Please email the Clerk for details to login to the meeting) Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

STOKE SUB HAMDON GARDENING CLUB The contact for the Gardening Club is 01935 829408

MUSIC IN THE MEADOW Refugee Support Group (RSG) has provisionally arranged its much appreciated annual (except last year!) open air musical afternoon in the Secret Garden at the far end of West Street in Hinton St George on **Sunday 25th July from 2pm**. As long as all is well we shall enjoy accomplished sitar music from Ricky Romain along with his accompanist followed by folk group Teasing The Cat applying their expertise to traditional instruments and songs, all performing freely for charity. There will be a raffle, interesting stalls, hand sanitiser and social distancing. Tickets cost £10 per adult; a donation for children. Please bring your own chairs and drinks. Please make a note now of the date and look out for our reminder posters. We look forward to a happy event in aid of refugees. Thank you for all your support. Geraldine Downey RSG 01460 271358

MOISH SOKAL'S EXHIBITION OF WATERCOLOURS, 'SAFARI', inspired by his trip to Southern Africa, opens both at the Malthouse Gallery at the lovely East Lambrook Manor Gardens (free entry to the exhibition) and online on his website www.moishsokal.co.uk on **June 5th at 10am. It runs until July 17th from Tuesday to Saturday, 10 – 5** at the Gallery but of course you can browse and buy original paintings, prints and cards online at any time during the exhibition. In addition to the paintings of Africa there are also a series of paintings Moish did of his walks around our beautiful village during lockdown. Cards of these paintings will also be in Norton Shop. If you wish to collect purchases rather than pay for postage contact Moish on 881350 or sokalart@hotmail.com

VILLAGE ARTISTS GROUP (VAG) exists to encourage, promote, and practise the visual arts in all forms - Abstract, Still Life, Landscapes and Portraiture by whatever means, iPad, pencil, pastels, watercolour, oils and acrylic and in, or on, any medium you like. We are meeting again in the Memorial Hall, Stoke, one morning and one evening a week during term time. (All being well of course). We are really looking forward to seeing you there. Contact Malcolm- 01935 829513 or malcolmhorn99@gmail.com for details.

HAMDON COMMUNITY CHURCH. Coming June 2021 For more details please contact Hannah and Matthew Page. connect@hamdonchurch.co.uk Find us on Facebook and Instagram @hamdoncommunitychurch

DOWNLOAD THE ORDNANCE SURVEY 'SECRET STORIES' APP AND DISCOVER MORE ABOUT HAM HILL

We all want to explore the wonders of Ham Hill County Park, but now you can even do it with digital help through an app. SSDC's countryside rangers from Ham Hill have partnered up with Ordnance Survey to launch a digital trail through a free to download OS 'Secret Stories' app. The trail is called 'Ham Hill's Pits of Perils and Rampaging Romans tour'. The app allows you to discover more of Ham Hill's spooky nightlife, fantastic fossils and buried treasures along a trail that is approximately 1.3 miles long. It is packed full of activities and takes around one and a half hours to complete. You can explore the Deep Quarry and learn about its inhabitants, create your own hibernation shelters in the hazel forests, and find out about the war scars and ancient dwellings which are still visible on Ham Hill today. The stories along the trail are told in a similar way to Horrible Histories, which make them fun and engaging for children and adults alike.

Assistant Engagement Ranger, Edd Chilcott, who designed the trail, said: "The Secret Stories Trail 'Ham Hill's Pits of Peril and Rampaging Romans tour' was an absolute pleasure to create; the hill is so full of secrets and surprises and anyone who does this short tour is bound to find out something new about this stunning site.

"If you are interested in wildlife, history, natural history (as far back as Jurassic marine life), geology, or simply messing around in the great outdoors, then download the app 'Secret Stories' and look for 'Ham Hill's Pits of Peril and Rampaging Romans tour'. Click Map in the top right and it's marked near South Petherton. Enjoy your walks. I hope to see you all up on Ham Hill soon!"

Countryside Manager Rachael Whaites says "This new free trail app at Ham Hill developed with Ordnance Survey, is a fantastic new way for people to learn about and have fun at Ham Hill.

"The trail will take you to new areas of Ham Hill and surprise you with the stories you are told. We hope that it will encourage families to explore more of Ham Hill and it's a great way to get active and keep children entertained on a walk. Ham Hill has a wealth of stories to tell and by using this digital app you will really get to appreciate the wonder that is Ham Hill.

"This is the first time we have trialled a digital app at Ham Hill and we would love some feedback on what people think of it. If you download and use the app, please let us know what you think and complete our short questionnaire. If you have an Apple device, simply download the app via the App Store. If you have an Android device, download the app via the Google Play Store.

CATH HOLLOWAY COMMUNITY AGENT Tel: 01823 331222 Mobile: 07968 521746 Email: cath@somersetccc.org.uk Check out the CCS website: www.somersetccc.org.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**. 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 14 June Parish Council Meeting by zoom 7.30pm

Saturday 19 June Norton Safari 1.45pm

Wednesday 23 June Coffee Morning 10.45am Norton Churchyard

Wednesday 21 July Ladies Group Garden Party

Friday 6 August FNC event Village Hall 7.30pm

Saturday 9 October Wells Cathedral Choir Concert

Saturday 27 November, Cantamus Concert

2022 Provisional Festival Dates Sundays 15th May, 19th June and 17th July ,