

# NORTON NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022

## ISSUE 520

### NORTON SHOP WEBSITE:

<https://www.nortonshop.co.uk>

### FESTIVAL WEBSITE: [https://](https://www.nortonfestival.org)

[www.nortonfestival.org](https://www.nortonfestival.org)

### PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

<https://nortonsubhamdonpc.co.uk/>

### FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WEBSITE:

<https://nortonsubhamdonpc.co.uk/friends-of-norton-church/>

**YOUR COMMUNITY SHOP** Throughout the last two years of the pandemic, Norton Shop has stayed open and has served this community. We have continued through lockdowns, shortages and all sorts of difficulties and, I feel proud to say, we have provided a vital service to everyone in this community.

The Shop has been run by members of this community for over seven years now and some of our volunteers have been with us all that time. Until recently we have also been lucky to have new volunteers coming forward to join our team. However, time and the effects of the pandemic are now taking their toll and many of our volunteers have left but not been replaced. **NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP.** If we don't find new volunteers, we will have to cut our hours. Joining our team is not hard work, the training is not hard, the duties are not hard. Joining our team is a sociable, enjoyable activity – ask any of our volunteers and they will tell you that they enjoy their time in the Shop. You can work on the days and the times that best suit you, whether weekly, fortnightly or just occasionally to fill in. **PLEASE** think seriously about joining us. If we don't find enough new volunteers, we might not be able to serve you so well when the next snow falls or the next lockdown occurs. We are there for you when you need us – now it's your turn to be there for us when we need you.

**SO PLEASE POP IN AND PICK UP A VOLUNTEER FORM. IT'S EASY, IT'S FUN. GIVE IT A TRY. PLEASE.** Liz Maunder.

**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.

**THE READING ROOM'S AGM** will be held in the Reading Room on **Thursday 3rd February 2022 at 6.30pm.** Everyone is welcome to come along and see what has been happening at the Reading Room this year. If you would like to join the Committee and be involved in the future of the village's unique historic building, either contact us via our email below, or just come to the meeting. Tricia Walton Secretary Email: [nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com)

**CRAFTY CRITTERS** will be meeting in the Reading Room on the **8th and 22nd of February** between **1.30 and 3.30pm.** Come and join us as we chat whilst we work. £2.00 per session including tea/coffee and biscuits. Tricia Walton 882646

### NORTON MOVIE NITES AT THE LORD NELSON, Tuesday 8th February.

*The Last Bus* (12A, 86 mins) stars Timothy Spall and Phyllis Logan. Pensioner Tom travels from Lands End to John O'Groats using his free bus pass on local buses. Meeting various characters along the way, and receiving random acts of kindness, he becomes a minor celebrity by the end of his journey. **Doors open 7.45 pm, film starts 8pm.** Tickets £5 in advance only from Norton Shop.

**NORTON VILLAGE HALL** We are pleased to say that the Hall is getting back into a routine, after the Christmas break. We have had all our regular classes return, and bookings are coming in nicely. Several events that were postponed last year have re-booked - so we keep fingers crossed that 'Mr Covid' behaves. We will be holding our AGM on **Tuesday February 15th from 6.30pm** in the Meeting Room at the hall. Come and see how your hall is run - and hear about the plans for the future. Everyone is welcome.....we will be pleased to see you and receive your feedback. Jennie Harris. Secretary Village Hall Committee.

### LADIES GROUP OUR ANNUAL NEW YEAR

**DINNER** held at The Lord Nelson, did not disappoint. The food was delicious and plentiful, the conversation flowed, and a happy few hours were spent catching up with everyone. Sarah Bailey will be demonstrating her skills as a cartoon artist at our next meeting on **15th February Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Reading Room.** We are hoping to organise an outing for late February and details should be available at the meeting. Ladies Group meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Reading Room at 7.30pm. New members and visitors are always welcome. Contact Sue Lowder 881805

### HAMSTONELIVE 2022 AT THE NORTON

**VILLAGE HALL** In collaboration with Norton Village Hall we have 2 more great national acts coming to our village in 2022; - **Friday 18 February 2022 at 7.30pm – A Night with Tango Calor– For all ages** Tango Calor will take you on a journey from the back streets of Buenos Aires to the salons of Paris. The trio has performed for tango milongas (dances) around the country and at festivals such as Womad and Glastonbury, and abroad. Indira Roman is one of the great singing stars of latin music. She is accompanied by Mirek Salmon one of only a few Bandoneon( Argentine concertina) in the UK. The instrument is the true sound of the tango and this show moves from high energy latin rythms to the heartbreaking songs of Carlos Gardel. Tickets available at the Village Shop

from 24 January 2022. Adults - £10; Children( under 15 - £5) - **Sunday 27 March 2022 at 8.00pm – Josephine – Suitable for audiences aged 8+** The Egg Theatre, Bath has teamed up with the Holm Theatre to create a new play with original music, choreography, and design about the iconic entertainer, spy, civil rights activist, Josephine Baker. She was recently elected to the prestigious French Pantheon. Tickets available from 21 February 2022. Adults -£12; Children - £6 **Tickets; Available from the Village Shop, [www.takeart.org](http://www.takeart.org), John Bailey (01935881227) Venue; Norton Sub Hamdon Village Hall, Recreation Ground, New Road, TA146SF Contact John Bailey on 881227 with any queries.**

**HAMDON HA! HA! IS BACK IN 2022** with another great comedy line-up hosted by Sandi Smith. Headliner Danny Buckler, is joined by Eva Bindeman, Mel Owen and Walter Jack. Come along for a great night of laughter with some of the rising talents on the UK stand-up comedy scene. **8.00pm Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February at the Lord Nelson.** Tickets £10 from the pub.

**THE MOBILE LIBRARY** will be coming on **Tuesday 22nd February from 2.30pm to 3.00pm (please note earlier time)** to Norton in Higher Street. Come and see the great selection of books and audio books in the Mobile Van. Books can be ordered for collection.

**NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS** A note on the January marmalade coffee morning held at Sophie and Charles Campbell's will be included in the next Newsletter. In the meantime, here's a new date for the diary - the February coffee morning will be held at **10.45am on Wednesday 23rd February at Rendells in Little Street**, Pam and Mike Rastall's new home in the village. The theme for the raffle and table top/bring and buy sale is "New beginnings". Refreshments will be served and all are welcome. Sophie Hale and Sophie Snow

**SEED SWAP AT TINKERS BUBBLE** You are welcome to drop in to a seed swap between **14:00 and 16:00 on Saturday 26th February**. All are welcome to bring and exchange vegetable and flower seed. Seeds that you've saved yourself are particularly exciting, but anything viable for this coming growing season may be of interest, or just come along to chat with other growers and have a look around our gardens. Please bring your spare seeds and empty packets, and we will provide tea. We will meet in the sawmill/barn in our car park at the bottom of our hill (up the no-through road from Little Norton). Contact [tinkersbubble@riseup.net](mailto:tinkersbubble@riseup.net) with any questions.

**PANTOMIME SOCIETY**. We are pleased to announce that we will be presenting our 10th biennial Pantomime. ( Oh yes we are!!! ) COVID permitting of course. The tickets will be on sale from Monday February 14th from Norton Community Shop. (Thanks to them for their help as always.) The performances will be on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Friday**

**11th and Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of March**. More details in next month's issue. We are asking for your help please on **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>** from **10am** onwards, we will be holding a day of scenery painting, etc. Refreshments will be served during the day (any donations of cakes would be appreciated - see Jennie if you can help please). Just to pop in anytime... spend an hour or more to suit yourself... it is an open hall. You don't need to be an expert, just to be keen and willing to help us. Hope to see lots of you there sometime during the day. Thank you. Jennie Harris

**NORTON FESTIVAL GARDENS** Norton Festival will be holding a 'Gardens Open Event' during the summer and details will soon become available. We shall be pleased to receive further offers. In particular for the Church area of the village for **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May** and the Higher Street area on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July**. Gardens are grouped into areas, will be opened from 2pm until 6pm and limited to 6 or 7 gardens on each day, so that visitors have plenty of time to chat and appreciate the gardens. They will be open on the third Sunday of the months of May, June and July but later months may be considered. We are not looking for 'Show Gardens' but simply something that owners would like to share with their visitors, be it small, floral, fruit/vegetable or 'work in progress.' If you would like to have your garden open please contact the Event Organiser, Mrs Anna Terrell on 01935 881330 as soon as possible for further information. Richard Terrell Norton Festival Coordinator

**THE NORTON & CHISLEBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW** committee are delighted to confirm that both the Plant Sale and the Flower Show will be back this year. We have a strong new committee and we're all fired up to bring you the biggest and best show yet! Dates for your diaries: **Plant Sale Saturday, May 7th 2-5pm; Flower Show Saturday, 20th August 2-5pm**. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to grow some plants for us for this year's Plant Sale. We would also welcome any donations of growing trays or pots. Please contact Sarah Murray on 881883. Katherine Crouch has offered some of her more unusual seeds to growers who would like to bring these plants on for her. Please email Katharine to arrange collection [info@katherinecrouch.com](mailto:info@katherinecrouch.com)

**NORTON CHURCH Services for February:** **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer 9.30am, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Common Worship and Communion 9.30am, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Prayer Book Communion 9.00am, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Evensong 6.00pm** Details of all services and information about the Benefice are on the website [www.hamhillchurches.org](http://www.hamhillchurches.org) and Church notice boards. Rev Nick Clarke 07842192402

**FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB DRAW** results for January 2022 are: Brian Frosdick (2), Jeremy Reid, Robert Vaux, Jenny Byham, Malcolm Reid, Chris Westwood and Barry Eastley. Contact Mary Batstone on 882644 to join.

### THE FNC TRAVEL TALK BY MONTY HALLS

With attendees describing the evening as inspiring, dynamic, uplifting and emotional amongst many other highly complimentary reports, the talk by Monty Halls on the 14<sup>th</sup> January proved to be a wonderful evening of entertainment and excitement. Monty's personality and style shone through, with his talk ranging from his experiences in the Royal Marines, through working with Nelson Mandela and leading expeditions across the world. Descriptions of individuals he has met ranged through the young Marine selling his flag from Afghanistan (possibly) to hedge fund managers and "Legless Barry" tempting Tiger Sharks towards the cameras through to the personal journey of the Marine brutally wounded by an IED, now on the world kayaking circuit, and brought the audience from laughter through all other emotions. It seems appropriate that a key Monty message to "Grasp the Moment" applied so much to himself when a telephone ringing in an empty MOD Office one evening led him from a possible marine biology career to one of Expeditions and Media. Of course such successful nights do not just happen and the FNC thanks must go not only to Monty and his team but also to Malcolm Reid who, grasping the moment, when he met Monty one day by chance, asked him to consider a talk, and then "Cracking On" he followed up over 18 months to make the evening happen, much to the joy of all who attended and to benefit the FNC funds by nearly £900 which will help enormously in maintaining the fabric and structural stability of our Norton church.

**NORTON FESTIVE WINDOWS 2021** - The Public Vote. Many thanks to everyone who dressed up their windows and took part in the public vote. The most votes were cast for Nicola Rusling's window and the prize of chocolates was kindly donated by the Village Shop. John Bailey

**CAROL SINGING** A big thank-you to everyone who sang and donated to the chosen charities. We were blessed with the weather and the singing was superb. From the shop carolling I sent £130 to Shelterbox. From the Carol Singing evening I sent £300 to Hope and Homes for Children. I will leave receipts and Thanks for our donations inside the Norton Shop. Happy New Year Cilla Caswell

**YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!** Anyone interested in helping to get the Jubilee Garden off the ground on part of the old school porta-cabin site, please get in touch with me on 01935 882 602, or call and see me. Whether you can be part of a committee, or hands on help, without your help this project can't take place. Hopefully work could get started as soon as weather improves and days get longer. It would make such a difference to the outlook from the West door of our beautiful church. **Plus update!** Not a lot of feedback at the moment. I realise it is a bad time of the year, but a native hedge needs to be planted before the end of March - also best for trees, I believe. If anything is to happen to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee it needs to start soon and grants need to be in by the end of February. It will be a shame if we can't use this space for the

community. Please do help if you can. Lynn Orchard

**ROTARY** Hi, I am Peter Prager, a member of the Rotary Club of YeoVale, one of the local clubs in your area. I have recently moved into the village. As a movement we support communities / charities at the local, national and international level. Currently we are looking to collect used stamps for the Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance, including any old stamp books or collections you need to get rid of. We are also collecting ring pulls from cans / tins for the Purple Community Fund in the Philippines. The Purple Community Fund convert the ring pulls into products like handbags and sell them to raise funds for poverty-stricken families in the Philippines. For further info on our Rotary club and what we are doing please see our website online at [yeovale-rotary.org.uk](http://yeovale-rotary.org.uk) For the used stamps, and ring pulls please tel 01935 881565 and I will be happy to pick up. Peter"

### PARISH COUNCIL PARISH REPORT FOR JANUARY 2022

**Planning:** The Parish Council had 1 planning application to make their observations on this month:

21/03627/HOU & 21/03628/LBC - 3 Blackspur Cottages Higher Street Norton Sub Hamdon - Installation of gas fired central heating system. The Parish Council had no objections.

They were also notified from SSDC that the following planning application has been approved: 21/03252/HOU - Hunters End New Road Norton Sub Hamdon. Demolition of single storey side extensions and rear conservatory and the erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension, provision of enclosed porch. The Parish Council had no objections to this planning application.

**Vacancy:** We currently have one vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Please see the notice board for details.

**Trees for the recreation field:** Brimsmore Garden Centre have very kindly offered to replace one of the liquidambar trees that was vandalised in 2021. The Parish Council will purchase a second tree to replace the other liquidambar that was also vandalised. The Parish Council will be involving a few of the children from Norton School who will come and help plant the tree and learn from Brimsmore about the importance of trees for our environment. **The next meeting will be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.30pm in the committee room in the village hall (depending on the latest Covid restrictions).** 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)

**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 meet in the Memorial Hall, Stoke Sub Hamdon one morning and one

evening a week during term time to paint and chat. We do need some new blood in the group, not only to join us but also to help run the show. You will receive a warm welcome and we are really looking forward to seeing you there. Contact Malcolm-01935 829513 or [malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com) for details.

**STOKE GARDENING CLUB** New members always welcome and first meeting is free! The contact number for the Gardening Club is 01935 829408.

**APPEALING AGAIN** The more it changes, the more it stays the same. Some countries may become more stable, others enter into strife, autocracy, war, or suffer famine, disease, climate emergencies. Thus refugees, within their own countries or elsewhere, close by or overseas, continue to grow in numbers and to need support from those who are able to give. Refugee Support Group (RSG) is still seeking goods to supply to RAFT (refugee aid from Taunton) now in its seventh year. Raft, with the help of other charities, sends them to wherever they are needed in Europe and the Middle East. Currently, Raft is asking for:- . Winter clothing for men - only small and medium sizes now please; Women's and children's winter

clothing; Baby clothes, including knitted garments, from size 3 months please; Suitable footwear for all; Toiletries for all; Blankets; Sleeping bags; Materials for sewing purposes which can include sheets and pillowslips and duvet covers (not duvets). Summer clothing requested from April. I am also hoping some blankets may still be found for us during these winter months. It is worth noting that Raft has also helped homeless people in the area when possible. I am also collecting banana boxes in which to pack clothing and footwear to be transported overseas as larger boxes are now in short supply. Supermarkets, large and small, and perhaps greengrocers may be willing to donate rather than recycle elsewhere. My local Co-op store is supportive in this way. Every little helps. Thank you all for your support, past, present and future. Geraldine Downey RSG 01460 271358

**HAMDON COMMUNITY CHURCH (HCC)** Look out for us during 2022 on posters, newsletters, Facebook and Instagram @hamdoncommunitychurch. You are very welcome to join us for any of our activities. For any further information contact [info@hamdonchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@hamdonchurch.co.uk) Paul & Naomi, Matt & Hannah and Rachel

**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER** should be in the box on the **Post Office counter**, or sent by email to: [nortonnews@hotmail.com](mailto: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 get their details and ring or email the editor 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) and Assistant Editor Mrs Chrissie O'Brien, email: [nortonnews@hotmail.com](mailto: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 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 EVENTS

Thursday 3 February Reading Room AGM Reading Room 6.30pm  
Tuesday 8 February Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm  
Tuesday 8 February Norton Movie Nites Lord Nelson 7.45pm  
Monday 14 February Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm  
Tuesday 15 February Ladies Group Reading Room 7.30pm  
Tuesday 15 February Hall AGM Village Hall 6.30pm  
Friday 18 February Hamstone Live Village Hall 7.30pm  
Saturday 19 February Hamdon Ha Ha Lord Nelson 8.00pm  
Tuesday 22 February Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm  
Tuesday 22 February Mobile Library Higher Street 2.30pm  
Wednesday 23 February Coffee Morning Rendells Little Street 10.45am  
Saturday 26 February Tinkers Bubble Seed Swap 2.00pm  
Thursday 10 to Saturday 12 March (inc) Pantomime  
Sunday 27 March Hamstone Live Village Hall 8.00pm  
Saturday 7 May Flower Show Plant Sale 2.00pm  
Provisional Festival Dates Sundays 15 May, 19 June and 17 July  
Saturday 20 August Flower Show Recreation Ground 2.00pm