

## NORTON NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022 ISSUE 524

**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/>

**ONE OFF ADVERT – Free Freezer and Fridge**

**CHURCH FLAG** The Union Flag will be flown from the Church Tower on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June** for HM the Queen's Official Birthday and the George Cross flag on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June** for Trinity Sunday.

**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

**NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS** The April coffee morning was held at Liz and Stuart Maunder's home in Great Street and raised £200 for the church. Although it was a cold spring day, lots of time was spent outside admiring the Maunders' beautiful garden and three greenhouses! Thank you to everyone who came along with items for the bring and buy table and the raffle. The May coffee morning held at Caroline and Barry Brook's home will be reviewed in the next edition. Please note the next coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September** - there is a break during the summer months - and we will meet again at Luccotts in Higher Street, Jennie and Malcolm Reid's home. The theme for the raffle and table top/bring and buy sale will be Harvest Produce. Sophie Hale and Sophie Snow

**CRAFTY CRITTERS** will be meeting in the **Reading Room on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June between 1.30 and 3.30pm**. We will be working on our various individual craft projects

whilst having a chat and enjoying tea/coffee and biscuits. £2.00 per session. Tricia 882646

**BOOK CLUB** will meet on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June this month (not the usual Tuesday)** at the home of Pam Horrell in Chiselborough. The mobile library will still call on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> at 1.40pm** opposite the Hall. Come and join our friendly book club – we are not 'high brow' at all and enjoy a cup of tea and homemade cake while we try to put the world to rights after discussing our latest 'read'! Contact Janet Hutton on 881566 or Anne Fairweather on 882620 for more information. The Library Van will be in Higher Street in Norton sub Hamdon **at 2.30pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

**GARDENS OPEN** As part of the Norton Festival 2022 the following gardens will be open on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June**:- Manor Cottage, Great Street; Tudor Cottage, Great Street; Brookside Cottage, Little Street; The Pippins, Higher Street; Arks Edge, Higher Street. Gardens are open from **2.00pm** until **5.30pm**. At Arks Edge, Cream Teas will be available from **3.00pm** and Musical Entertainment from 4.30pm. The event supports Norton Parish Church.

**GARDENS THANKS** The Norton Church Council would like to thank everyone who supported the recent Norton Festival Gardens Open Event on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May and raised £853 for the church. There is currently great concern for its finances and this support of the local church by the community is greatly appreciated.

**LADIES GROUP** A road trip through the Rockies was the subject of our presentation at our last meeting. Although many had journeyed to this part of the world, it was lovely to be reminded of the beautiful scenery and tranquillity of the region. Our trip to Mapperton House and Gardens took place on 24<sup>th</sup> May, and we are planning a trip to Blue Pool **for 22<sup>nd</sup> June**. At our next meeting on **21<sup>st</sup> June** we welcome Jackie Parsons who will give a presentation on ARK, a day facility on 12 acres of land whose objective is to provide skills and experiences for all in the community. Why not come along and hear of the work they are doing to provide opportunities to all, either as a participant or a volunteer. Our annual Garden

Party will be held on **Tuesday 19th July** and this year our hostess will be Adele. We require you to bring a plate of food to share as usual. Drinks will be provided. Further information can be had at our next meeting in June. We welcome new members and visitors at any time and meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at **7.30pm** - just come along and you will be assured of a warm welcome. Sue Lowder 881805

**NORTON SHOW SAFARI 2022- from 1:45pm, Saturday 25th June 2022 - 4 Shows and a Stroll**

We've had enough encouragement from previous attendees to do this again, so here we go... HamstoneLIVE has booked another 4 high quality performances from professional Somerset performers for you to enjoy while taking a stroll around Norton Sub Hamdon. We have shows from: \* Tor Theatre – Amelia Braveheart, inspired by Amelia Earhart, the aviation pioneer \* Jack & Jordon – a chaotic journey through the minds of two actors, nay, artists \* Bluebirds Theatre – The Popera House presents a quality musical show. \* Out of the Forest Theatre – a dynamic piece from a local company (which means they haven't told us everything yet). Numbers are limited; all shows are outdoors. Join us for another life affirming afternoon with some inspiring Somerset talent. Tickets are £10, available at the Village Shop from 30th May 2022 and online. Suitable for all ages. Call John Bailey on 01935 881227 if any queries, or check out HamstoneLIVE on Facebook.

**FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH SUMMER TALK - FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY – RNLI Lifeboat Operations from Lyme Regis** The Friends of Norton Church are delighted to confirm that the RNLI Lifeboat Operations Manager at Lyme Regis, Nick Marks, will be providing an illustrated talk on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start in the Village Hall of Norton-sub-Hamdon**. The presentation will provide an insight into the work of the RNLI at Lyme Regis, the equipment and people and examples of their call outs. A cash wine and soft drinks bar will be provided. **Tickets at £8 each are on sale in the Norton Village Shop or on the door on the night**. Proceeds from the evening will be shared between the RNLI at Lyme and the FNC's support for the fabric of Norton Church.

**NORTON & CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW & FETE Norton Village Hall and Recreation Ground Saturday 20th August 2022 2.30pm** Our show is back! To celebrate

our return after two years, and to mark the Queen's Jubilee, we will be starting off proceedings with a Musical Promenade through the Village moving towards the Recreation Ground at the start of the show. There will be something for everyone this year, lots of new attractions and stalls selling crafts and gifts, amazing local produce, food and drink stalls and afternoon teas in the Village Hall. The Flower Show itself, now in its 106th year, is open to gardeners, bakers and creative people of all ages and levels of experience. There are over 180 different categories for adults and children to enter - from vegetable and flower growing to photography and creative arts, plus cookery classes including baking, preserves and wines. A list of categories, entry forms and rules can be found in the **Flower Show Schedule** which will soon be available at the **Norton Shop**. We will be distributing it door to door in the local area as well.

**FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB.** The draw results for May 2022 were as follows: Chris Westwood, Niall Clifford, Malcolm Reid, Robert Vaux, Jane Ashdown, Alec Seccombe, Peter Willsher, Liz Fish and Jennie Harris To join the club contact Mary Batstone on 882644 or email [marybatstone@gmail.com](mailto:marybatstone@gmail.com)

**THE READING ROOM COMMITTEE** would like to have a rotating display in the lobby area showing the history of some of the houses in the village. I'm sure there are some fascinating stories attached to many houses which could be included in this display. If you know of any tales/history relating to buildings in and around Norton please contact us at [nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com). My grateful thanks to Muriel Parkinson for coming up with this wonderful idea. Tricia Walton

**JUBILEE SERVICE** Norton Church will be holding a special Jubilee Service at **9.30am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June** to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. It is hoped that the whole community will be represented at this Celebratory Service.

**NORTON CHURCH Services for June:**  
**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Service 9.30am, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Communion 9.30am, Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Evensong 6.00pm, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Said Communion 9.00am.** 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 07485789968

### **JUBILEE NATURE GARDEN UPDATE.**

When you read this article the Grand Opening will have taken place and hopefully all those of you who attended enjoyed the fun and tea and cakes. Thanks to the FONS of Norton School. I feel I must say thank you to everyone that has helped in anyway, and built friendships in doing so, to Katherine Crouch for her expertise and knowledge of plants and keeping me under control, to all the labourers who worked so very hard at no cost, to those that helped with posters and any IT work which I am useless with. To Shane and his wife for letting us plug into their electric and water when necessary - most grateful! To Headmaster Jamie Caswell for his enthusiasm and dedication to the project. To Rev Nick Clarke's patience with me. To Neil Chapillon and his father for helping with the fencing and especially thanks to Steve and Ann Collier for all their work in bringing the kissing gate back to its former glory. So much history - it would be a disgrace to lose it. Thank you also for your kind donations and one in particular the anonymous one that was posted through my door in a white envelope. I really would like to say a very big thank you. Most Generous! Also thanks to the lady that donated a Queen Elizabeth rose for the garden. Thank you to all and I hope I haven't missed anyone. You are all amazing and it brings me to tears. I was first told by some that it wouldn't happen - they didn't understand why I was bothering. Lynn.

**THANK YOU.** We would like to thank everyone in the village who have sent us flowers, cards, and condolences following the passing of our lovely daughter Ruth. Her death has been a hammer blow to the family but we have taken great comfort from your love, support, thoughts and prayers. Thank you again. Muriel & Chris White, Northover, Skinners Lane

**VILLAGE QUIZ** Thank you to everyone who supported the village quiz to raise money for my expedition to Borneo. Many people took part and were so kind and generous with donations. I managed to raise over £400 which was amazing. I will be putting a copy of the answers on the notice board in the shop or you can email me for a copy via [higmans@btinternet.com](mailto:higmans@btinternet.com). Congratulations to the Hewitson family and Carole Gage who were the lucky winners drawn from the hat. Amelia Higman

**SAD NEWS** It is with great sadness, that I have to announce the passing of one of Norton's long-time characters Mr. Rex

Blackmore. He lived in New Road on his own as his wife Janet died a few years ago, He used to help at the Lord Nelson, cleaning, early mornings, until bad legs prevented him from doing this. He was supported by his grandson Gavin, who did so much for him, in spite of the moaning -haha. You might well have seen Rex either on the bus or waiting for the bus to South Petherton or Yeovil. He used to go and meet friends most days, for a chat and a pint. I say chat, but probably a few moans.....Rex would have said himself that he was a miserable old man, and didn't we know it... I had known him since I moved into Norton in the 60's and to the day he died he always called me Mrs Harris - never by my Christian name. I referred to him as Mr. B. He always had banter with anyone he bumped into, usually moaning about everything. I know this post won't mean much to newer residents. but we are gradually losing a lot of so-called characters in Norton, and I feel they should be acknowledged. RIP Mr. B.....xx Jennie Harris.

**PARISH COUNCIL REPORT MAY 2022** The Parish Council managed to have a very successful annual and monthly meeting at the beginning of May.

**Planning:** There were no planning applications to discuss in 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 a new Vice Chair in Cllr. Matraves. In the Chairman's report, Cllr More talked about the very sad passing of our fellow Parish Councillor Richard, who will be fondly remembered by everyone. He worked hard for the village and was very well respected. His death affected us all and his funeral will be remembered for years to come. It was of sign of the great regard in which he was held that his funeral was so well attended, not only by his fellow councillors but by many people from the village, as well as many family and friends. Cllr More spoke about a beautiful handkerchief tree that has been planted in the recreation ground in memory of Richard with all the councillors gathering to see it planted. Cllr More reported on how delighted we have been to receive a grant from SSDC to allow us to renovate the playground equipment on the recreation ground. This will enable us to replace the swings and slide and to purchase a new climbing frame and roundabout. The playground will also be completely resurfaced. Some of the equipment chosen will allow

children with disabilities to use the playground. We hope to renovate the remaining equipment next year. She also thanked all the Parish Councillors for all their hard work throughout the year.

**New Parish Councillor:** Following the start of a new term we are delighted to announce we have a new Parish Councillor. Laura Holt was officially signed in at the Annual meeting and we look forward to welcoming her.

**Play Area in the recreation field:** Due to a health and safety issue with the slide, the Parish Council has made the decision to make it out of bounds. We have taped it off from use and erected signs to inform people that this piece of equipment is out of use. Thankfully we have a new slide on order which is due to arrive when we have the new equipment so it won't be long before children can play on a slide again.

Due to a short delay in the supply of two pieces of new equipment, the upgrade to the play area has been delayed by a couple of weeks, so it is likely to start at the beginning of July rather than the middle of June.

**Reporting a road defect or reporting a street lighting issue:** It is now very easy for anyone to report any road defect or street light problem. Whether it's a pot hole, blocked drain, mud on the road, or a damaged pavement, whatever the problem, just use the link here to report it.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem-on-the-road/>

To report a faulty street light then use this link: <https://services.somerset.gov.uk/report-street-light>

**The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 starting at 7.30pm. 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)

#### **STOKE-SUB-HAMDON GARDENING CLUB**

**June Activities: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall:** Talk by Clive Groves of Groves Nurseries: "A Journey Through the Himalayas Through a Plantsman's Eyes". Meeting includes plant sales; raffle; refreshments. New members always welcome, and your first visit is free! Enquiries: Club Secretary – [secsshgardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:secsshgardeningclub@gmail.com)

**REFUGEE WEEK 2022** Recently, as the war in Ukraine persists, we have been made much more aware of the painful experiences of refugees fleeing conflict or suffering injustice than ever before. There is an understandable desire to offer help and support, but also a feeling of impotence. The week beginning **June 20th** is World Refugee Week. The theme this year is 'Healing' when individuals and communities will be urged to consider how people who have suffered such life-changing disruption can be supported through the process of rebuilding their lives. Refugee Support Group (RSG) will be providing an opportunity for us to help support the future for refugees. Please join us in **Iminster on Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10.30 to 12.30** at **20 Silver Street**, the house just before the Minster, where there will be coffee and home-made cakes and books to buy. It is a chance to meet friends and other supporters and help to make a difference. Thank you.

**STOKE SUB HAMDON 'VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP'** The Village Artist Group is a small, friendly, supportive group of people, of all ages and abilities, who meet weekly - **Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30pm** and **Fridays 10.00 -12.00 midday** during term time at the Memorial Hall, Stoke sub Hamdon to practise all forms of the visual arts in a relaxed atmosphere. We have a pool of incredibly talented and sociable people here who would always welcome new members to join in the fun. If you are interested in venturing out once or twice a week and are looking forward to a very rewarding and affordable pastime, please contact me on 01 935 829513 or [malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com) for a free introductory session and or a chat. Malcolm Uhlhorn, Village Artist Group

#### **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

**ONE OFF AD: FREE: 3 drawer White Beko Freezer 4 years old, likewise small grey/silver Logik Fridge not needed in new house. Contact 881566 for more details**

## EVENTS

Monday 13 June Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm  
Monday 13 June Parish Council meeting Village Hall 7.30pm  
Tuesday 14 June Mobile Library Higher Street 2.30pm  
Sunday 19 June Village Festival Gardens Open 2.00pm  
Tuesday 21 June Ladies Group Reading Room 7.30pm  
Saturday 25 June Norton Safari 1.45pm  
Monday 27 June Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm  
Friday 1 July FNC Talk Village Hall 7.00pm  
Sunday 17 July Village Festival Gardens Open 2.00pm  
Tuesday 19 July Ladies Group Garden Party  
Saturday 20 August Flower Show Recreation Ground  
Saturday 15 October Taunton Deane Male Voice Choir Church

**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 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 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