

NORTON NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022 ISSUE 529

NORTON SHOP WEBSITE:

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

FESTIVAL WEBSITE: [https:// 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/>

VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE.

enquire.nshvillagehall@outlook.com

CHURCH FLAG The George Cross Flag will be flown from **1–7 November** for All Saints Day and All Souls Week and the Union Flag will fly on **13th November** for Remembrance Sunday

NORTON MOVIE NITES AT THE LORD NELSON.

Start the winter months on **Tuesday 1st November** with The Electrical Life of Louis Wain (cert 12A, 111 mins). Benedict Cumberbatch plays the eccentric British artist whose playful pictures of cats won the public's affection in the 1880s. His quest for understanding 'electrical' mysteries leads to a better understanding of life and the love he shares with his wife (Claire Foy). Tickets at £5 on sale in Norton Shop from 24 October. **Please note** the usual Movie Nite slot of second Tuesday has been changed this month to allow for improvements to the pub's loos. Doors open **7.45 for start at 8.00 pm**.

BOOK CLUB will meet on at **1.40 pm** on **Tuesday 1st November and also on Tuesday 29 November** at the home of Lydia Hoare, Strapp Farm, East Street in Chiselborough, when the mobile library will also call 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. The Library Van will be in Higher Street in Norton sub Hamdon at **2.30pm on Tuesday 1st November and also on Tuesday 29 November**. Come and see the great selection of books and audio books to borrow and no fines for late returns! Books can also be ordered for collection each month.

HRCA HORNBY MODEL TRAINS. We are a small group of enthusiasts who have moved from Yeovil to Norton Village Hall. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is **1st November, 3.00 pm until 6.00 pm**. Admission charge for members and visitors £3.00. Nominal charge for refreshments. For more details, please ring Roger Waters 01935 881529

CRAFTY CRITTERS will be meeting in the **Reading Room** on **Mondays 7th and 21st November** between

1.30 and 3.30 pm. Some people are working on their own project, others making pieces for Yeovil Hospital baby unit. Come along and see what everyone is making - maybe pick up some inspiration! £2.00 per session including tea/coffee and biscuits. Tricia Walton 882646

THE NORTON NEWSLETTER AGM will be held on **Wednesday 9th November at 7.30pm** in the **Reading Room**. All welcome.

LADIES GROUP Our speaker for the October meeting was Lynne Orchard who spoke of all the hard work the many volunteers have done to create the Jubilee Garden. Through Lynn's determination and enthusiasm her vision to have a pleasant place to meet, in peaceful surroundings, a place for the whole community to enjoy, is slowly coming to fruition. What a transformation - something Lynn should be very proud of and a beautiful asset for the village. Earlier in October we visited Shepton Mallett Prison for a 2 hour guided tour. Some areas were built in the 1600s - the building had a strange feel about it, being the most haunted prison in England. We learned about the conditions that men women and children were kept in, and the jobs they did whilst there. Some gruesome details were divulged and chilling places visited. None of us were in a hurry to stay, but found the tour very interesting and heard some amazing stories about the history of the prison and its prisoners. A small group took part in a trail around Ilminster on a code cracking exercise, which included parkland, a canal and a stream, as well as the town itself, in order to find answers to clues found en route. This enabled us to crack a code. Another absorbing day out on one of our annual trails. We welcome Richard Kay, of Lawrences Auctioneers at our next meeting on **15th November**. He is one of our most popular speakers and his presentation "A Masterpiece on your Mantlepiece" looks at art on our Christmas cards. On **23rd November** we are arranging another ten pin bowling afternoon. On **Monday 28th November**, there will be a craft afternoon in the **Reading Room**, making head attire for our Christmas party. On **Wednesday 7th December** there is a visit to Wells with lunch and a carol concert in the cathedral. **Wednesday 14th December** will be the date for our Christmas Lunch Party from **12.30-4 pm**. The names lists will be available at our November meeting if any members wish to join the above events. We meet on 3rd Tuesday each month in the **Reading Room from 7.30pm**. New members and visitors are always welcome and can be sure of a warm welcome. Sue Lowder 881805

HAMSTONELIVE presents 'The Syrian Baker - Knowing Where You Belong' **Friday 18th November 2022, 8.00pm at Norton Sub Hamdon Village Hall** With 5% of the world's population on the move at any one time, desperate to get away from trouble, this is a story about two people deciding to go home despite what they might find when they arrive. Told with affection, irrepressible humour &

bread – because without bread nothing happens – The Syrian Baker is about knowing where you belong, how much we all have in common and how small actions can make the biggest difference. Join us for an evening of stories, make friends as we share freshly made bread, Syrian coffee & maamoul like the ones from the Caffe Piazza in Homs old town. **Tickets available at Norton Community Shop. Adults - £11; Children (12-16) - £6.**

THE READING ROOM: *Waterstones @ The Reading Room* is returning to the village on **Monday 21st November through to Sunday 27th**. There will be a huge selection of books available, all genres for all ages, together with jigsaws and book vouchers. Pop along for your Christmas presents and stocking fillers.

NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS - The first coffee morning of the season held at Luccotts, Jennie and Malcolm Reid's home, in September was a great success. Lots of home-grown vegetables and fruits were kindly donated to the bring & buy table and the raffle was quite competitive for Richard Osman's newly released Thursday Murder Club book! Over £170 was raised for the church. November's date for the diary is **10.45am on Wednesday 23rd November at The Hollies in Higher Street**, Francesca and Ian Chignell's home. The theme for the table top/bring and buy sale is "**Christmas**" and a bumper raffle will be held too. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome. Sophie Hale and Sophie Snow

ADVANCE NOTICE: FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH are hosting an Illustrated Travel Talk on India on the 20th January so do reserve the date in your diary. Details to follow next month.

READING ROOM NEWS: As mentioned in October's Newsletter we were unable to upgrade the kitchen roof as planned due to the bad state of the wooden joists. We have received an estimate for the work and will shortly be organising various fun fund-raising efforts to cover the cost. Watch this space for further news of events!

Thanks to the generosity of local people, we have received more books for sale – we are adding an additional bookcase in the hallway so there are even more books to choose from. Come along and grab a bargain!

If anyone would like to join us in keeping the Reading Room open for the Village and local area to enjoy, please contact us at nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com. The current Committee have all been in place for several years and feel we would benefit from some fresh ideas. The Committee only meets a few times a year and it doesn't take a lot of time. Please consider joining us – members of the Committee are shown on the notice board outside the Reading Room if you'd like an informal chat with one of us. Tricia Walton, Secretary. 882646.

JUBILEE NATURE GARDEN. Hopefully most of you will have seen great progress with the garden. The grass is growing well and the herb garden has been planted. Please feel free to help yourself to any of the

herbs when cooking a special meal (as long as you invite me to dinner also!) Thank you to Trevor Harris for the Bug Hotel - absolutely super, and I love the name. Just need a few broken air bricks to be pushed in - if anyone has some - also fir cones etc. Over 200 bulbs have been planted, so come the spring it should look lovely. Many thanks to all of you that have donated bulbs and come to plant them. Help with clearing leaves goes on. Also many thanks for Katherine Crouch for sowing the grass seed. Lynn

BENEFICE CHOIR If you enjoy singing, why not dust off your vocal cords and join us! The Benefice Choir originally operated for a number of years in pre-covid days to sing at mainly festive services in the churches across the 7 villages in our Benefice. The idea is to sing music of various types which enhances worship - especially at times like Easter and Christmas. During the pandemic, we were obviously not able to meet and sing, and we now feel it would be good to meet again and enjoy singing together. **Sunday 27th November** is Advent Sunday, and a service is being planned to take place in Norton Church at **6.00pm** on that day. This would seem an ideal opportunity for the choir to get together and sing various pieces of music within that service - simple anthems, hymns and descants. Practices will take place in Norton Church on the 3 Friday evenings prior to that date - **11th, 18th and 25th November, from 7.00pm until 8.00pm** (maybe a few minutes later - certainly no later than 8.15pm). We are a happy group of singers who enjoy singing, and work hard during the hour's practice - but we also enjoy good humour! You would be most welcome to come along and join us, or just sit in for all or part of a practice. If you can read music, fine, if not, equally fine - just come and have a good sing! So that I can get some idea of numbers likely to turn up and get music sorted, or if you would just like some more details, please could you contact me by e mail (preferably) or phone. Also if you know someone who may like to come and sing, please encourage them to do so. All music will be provided. Let's get together and raise the roof once again! Look forward to seeing you. Chris Denman. denmans77@sky.com 01460 74696

TINKERS BUBBLE FESTIVE WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP! Together we will be creating beautiful, 100% compostable, wreaths from a wide array of foraged materials! **Friday 2nd December at Chiselborough Village Hall.** £15 per wreath. Please book a space in advance to ensure that there are enough materials by contacting Megan on 07800917463 or at mwilloughby29@hotmail.co.uk. The space will be open from **5-9pm** - pop in whenever, allowing for an hour to create. A glass of mulled apple juice/mulled cider will be included and festive snacks will be available to purchase.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB. The draw results for October 2022 were as follows: Liz Fish, Tim and Pam Williams (2), Nick Hale, Richard Raven, Peter Willsher, Heather Hawkins, Rowena Aley, Janet Hutton and Roger Hardisty To join the club contact Mary Batstone on 882644 or email marybatstone@gmail.com

NORTON CHURCH Services for November Sunday 6th 9.30am Morning Prayer, Sunday 13th 10.50am Remembrance Service, Wednesday 23rd Said Communion 9.00am, Sunday 27th Advent Carol Service 6.00pm, Wednesday 23rd Said Communion 9.00am. Details of all services and information about the Benefice are on the website www.hamhillchurches.org and Church notice boards. Rev Nick Clarke 07485789968

AN ADVENT CAROL SERVICE What's that? Norton Church is hosting a Benefice Advent Carol Service at **6.00pm on Sunday 27th November** which will bring together all seven churches of the Ham Hill Villages Benefice. It is hoped that Norton parishioners will support this important event. As an Advent Carol Service may not be familiar to many it should be explained that the Service will include some of the lovely hymns (Carols) of the Season of Advent together with readings which will prepare us for our celebration of Christmas. Rev Richard Terrell

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR OCTOBER The Parish Council managed to have a very successful monthly meeting at the beginning of October.

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

Resignation of Stuart Maunder: The Parish Council received the resignation of Stuart Maunder towards the end of September. Stuart has been a Parish Councillor for Norton for many years and the Parish Council wish to thank him for all his hard work over the years.

The Parish Council is currently working with our Monitoring Officer to follow the correct procedure with regards to advertising the vacancy. If there is anyone who fancies becoming a Parish Councillor then please do get in touch with the Clerk to find out more about the role. nortonpcclerk@outlook.com Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council meets on the second Monday of every month except August.

You can become a councillor as long as you are: British or a citizen of the Commonwealth or European Union. At least 18 years old. Registered to vote in the area or have lived, worked or owned property there for at least 12 months before an election. You can't be a councillor if you: work for the council you want to be a councillor for, or for another local authority in a political restricted post; are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order; have been sentenced to prison for three months or more (including suspended sentences) during the five years before election day; have been convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court.

If you are in any doubt about whether you are eligible to stand as a councillor, you should contact the electoral services department at your local council for advice. The next Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday 14th November 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

GUARDIANS OF MARTOCK CHURCH CONCERT 12th November 2022 Event: The Glastonbury Brass Band. The Band perform a variety of music from

popular songs to a traditional brass band repertoire. An excellent opportunity to see a first-class band. **Date:** Saturday 12th November 2022 **Venue address:** Martock Church; TA12 6JL **Performance time:** 7:30pm **Admission fee:** Tickets: £12 or £10 at Guardianstickets@gmail.com /Martock Gallery/ Martock Newsagent **Website:** www.martockonline.co.uk/events <https://www.facebook.com/glastonburybrass>

STOKE SUB HAMDON VILLAGE ARTISTS The venerable Village Artist Group established in 1996 remains a small but friendly 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, West Street, TA14 6PZ. We practise all forms of the visual arts in a relaxed atmosphere and have a pool of incredibly talented and sociable people who would always welcome new members joining us. 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 Malcolm on 01 935 829513 malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com or Allison 01935 823394 alidunford101@outlook.com for a chat and free introductory session.

YEOVIL BUS USERS GROUP My name is Linda. I am the lead for Yeovil Bus Users Group and part of Somerset Bus partnership, meaning I invest my time in protecting and improving bus services in and around Yeovil and Somerset, I'm in contact with County Councillors and transport companies alike to address situations and the focus is very much passenger led. I have been the voice for people like you! Regarding our bus services at present, the government has been supporting them with the DFT Bus recovery fund, which has kept several of our services running throughout the covid epidemic. However it is becoming evident that after March 2023, this money will be withdrawn! At present buses in the county have not recovered to passenger numbers pre-covid, and are running about 60%, whilst other counties numbers have increased faster. So now is the time to make our mark. Already there has been an improvement with increased numbers on some routes which is positive news, but this trend needs to continue so that we can keep our buses going and that will be with your help. Increased usage is the strongest way to keep our services running in March 2023 and beyond. Buses support the local economy, the environment, the health and well being of many residents, and are lifelines for others. They are important for the social interaction and connectivity which was cruelly taken away by covid. This is why I am appealing for people who would be interested in becoming bus champions - people who realise the importance of public transport and are willing to discuss/ spread the word about buses. Plus be willing to put up information and posters in local areas, and regularly check timetables, making sure they are up to date.

People in the surrounding rural areas are often missed out and the Somerset partnership and I realise that these services are as important if not more so, and I hope that with your help we can increase information understanding and passenger usage. If you would like

to know more or be involved please do not hesitate to contact me by email : yeovilbus.usergroup@email.com or on Facebook 'Yeovil bus users 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 Paul & Naomi, Matt & Hannah and Rachel

VILLAGE EVENTS

Tuesday 1 November Mobile Library Higher Street 2.30pm
Tuesday 1 November Movie Nites Lord Nelson 7.45pm
Monday 7 November Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm
Wednesday 9 November Newsletter AGM Reading Room 7.30pm
Monday 14 November Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 15 November Ladies Group Reading Room 7.30pm
Friday 18 November The Syrian Baker Village Hall 8.00pm
Monday 21 November Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm
Wednesday 23 November Village Coffee Morning The Hollies 10.45am
2023
Friday 20 January Friends of Norton Church Travel talk on India

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.

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