

# NORTON NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023 ISSUE 538

## **NORTON SHOP WEBSITE:**

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

## **FESTIVAL WEBSITE:** <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/>

## **VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE.**

<http://nshvillagehall.co.uk>

**ADS AND 'ONE OFF' ADS: 1 New Ad for Roofer/Joiner etc - see bottom of Ads Page, and 1 'One off' ad for Babysitting – see end of newsletter.**

**CHURCH FLAG** The Union Flag will be flown from the Church Tower on **Saturday 19h August** for the Norton and Chiselborough Flower Show.

**MANY THANKS** to the Crafty Critters for their generous donation to the Norton Newsletter funds.

## **NORTON SHOP AND POSTOFFICE**

**UPDATE** How time flies! It was almost a year ago that it was announced that the shop/PO would be closing. We are pleased to say we are still here, and our financial figures are showing positive trading growth. There are still challenges with profitability; however, we are working hard to reduce costs, sustain trading growth and improve our margins. The future of the shop and PO has tremendously benefitted from your donations and support. They 'buy time' for us to get the shop into a stronger trading position. We would particularly like to express our gratitude and thanks to Louise Matraives, and her helpers for the coffee morning which raised £1053 and Lynn Orchard, and her team, for planning the BBQ at the Jubilee Gardens in July, which raised £426 and added £300 to the shop sales that day. We also appreciate the anonymous gifts of a Vax carpet cleaner and the donation of £250 to help with the Post Office refresh. We feel surrounded by truly generous folks who care about our community.

Thank you for using and supporting the Shop and Post Office. Ian Murray  
secretary@nortonclt.co.uk 07973226425

**NORTON MOVIE NITES AGM** will be on **Tuesday 1st August, 7.30pm** in the **Lord Nelson skittle alley**. All are welcome to come along and hear what is planned for the autumn season and year ahead. John Bailey 01935 881227.

**CRAFTY CRITTERS** will be meeting in the **Reading Room on Monday 14th August between 1.30 and 3.30pm**. Come and join us to work on your own project or maybe for future inspiration and a friendly natter! A reminder to those of you who have been making items for YDH baby unit, this will be the last date before they all get delivered. £2.00 per session including tea/coffee and biscuits. For further information contact Tricia Walton 882646

## **THE NORTON AND CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>**

**August.** Once again the show will start with a fabulous musical parade which will leave from the **Lord Nelson pub at 2.00pm**. Entry to the show is £1 for adults, children go free. This year entry wristbands can be purchased in advance from Norton Community Shop. **The show will open at 2.30pm and close at 5.00pm**. There are lots of exciting attractions at the show – as well as the usual fabulous tea and cakes, burgers and tombola, there is a wide range of stalls. Lots to do and see for the whole family!

**Flower Show Tombola.** This is not only great fun but is a big fund raiser for the show. To make it a success, we need donations. Please start to put bottles etc. (within their sell by date) aside ready for us to collect, or for you to drop off at Mandeville, New Road. We will be collecting the week commencing **14<sup>th</sup> August**. Unfortunately we cannot accept home made products.

## **Flower Show appeal for committee**

**members.** This could be the last show unless we can get new committee members. It is a great event for the village and it would be a shame to see it go. Can you help? If so, please come and see us at the committee gazebo at the show, or email Anne Fairweather at [e.fairweather1@btinternet.com](mailto:e.fairweather1@btinternet.com)

**Flower show exhibits.** Do you bake a mean Victoria Sponge? Are you proud of your home-grown vegetables? There is something for everyone in the Norton and Chiselborough Flower Show, regardless of how green your fingers are, or whether or not you are a serious contender for Bake Off. Spare copies of the schedule are in the shop, if you don't have one. So what are you waiting for? Start planning for **August 19th**.

**Calling all cake lovers** Are you looking forward to a cup of tea and a slice of delicious cake at the Norton & Chiselborough Flower Show on **Saturday 19th August**? So that you and hundreds of others won't be disappointed, can you bake (or buy) a cake? Any variety, size, shape or flavour will be gratefully received. Cakes can be delivered to the Village Hall on **19th by 12 noon** or can be collected beforehand. Please call Lynne Jones 881650 or Diane Waters 881529 for any further details.

**Flower Show help needed!** Can you spare an hour to help at the Norton & Chiselborough Flower Show on **Saturday 19th August**? Either to wash up or to serve tea and cakes Please contact Lynne Jones 881650 or Diane Waters 881529 Your help will be much appreciated.

**MOBILE LIBRARY AND BOOK CLUB.** The Mobile Library will call in **Chiselborough** opposite the Hall on **Tuesday 22nd August from 1.10–1.50pm** and in Higher Street, **Norton from 2.00–2.25pm**. The book club will meet on that same day but contact Janet Hutton on 881566 or Anne Fairweather on 882620 for details of venue and times etc or if you would like to join our friendly book club

**LADIES GROUP** Ranger Paul McNeill gave a very interesting talk on the wildlife of Ham Hill at our June meeting. He covered many species of flora and fauna that can be found there, from bugs and butterflies, bats and badgers, to the beautiful flowers and herbs that adorn the hill at various times of the year. A few of us visited Blue Pool near Wareham. As the day was overcast the water was more turquoise green. We enjoyed a leisurely walk along the sandy tracks and found time for a refreshing cuppa before it started to rain and it was time to leave. Our Summer Lunch party was enjoyed by all who attended, each bringing a plate of food to share. The buffet was amazing and, between main course and dessert, we had a team quiz. We thought we would add a new dimension to the proceedings this time so Country Dancing was the order of the day, followed by ice creams

and a raffle. Thank you ladies for another memorable lunch party - a very sociable time was had by all - looking forward to the next one! We do not have a meeting in August, but we shall be serving teas at the **Flower Show on 19th August**. However a return visit to **Ark in Merriott** is arranged for **Tuesday 29th August**. On **Tuesday September 12th** we shall visit the Donkey Sanctuary in Sidmouth. Our next meeting will be held in the **Village Hall on Tuesday 19th September** when Magician David Beckley will give, not so much a talk, rather a demonstration of The History of Magic. New members and visitors are welcome at any time - our programme can be found on the Reading Room Notice Board and in the shop. Enquiries Sue Lowder 881805

### **NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE**

**MORNINGS:** The monthly village coffee morning season will start again on **Wednesday 27th September** at Nic and Kevin Boyd's new home, Pentle House, in Little Norton. We're mentioning it earlier than usual, because we will be offering a car shuttle service up to Little Norton for those who don't fancy the walk. Please give one of us a call if you would like a lift, or if you know of anyone who would, and we will arrange for cars to pick you up and return you back to Norton. The morning starts at **10.45am** and the theme will be "Entertainment", so please bring along any jigsaws, board games, DVD's or books for the sales table. Refreshments will be served and there will be a raffle too.

For newcomers to Norton, the monthly coffee mornings are normally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month except June, July, August and December. They 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. Funds raised are for the church and all are welcome. Sophie Hale (881521) and Sophie Snow (881099)

**NORTON VILLAGE HALL.** The Hall is in its 17th year... It was built in 2006... How long ago! It is now beginning to look its age, and is in need of some more work to be done, major and cosmetic.

In the past few years we have installed wall and ceiling fans to help cool the Function room. We have replaced bollards in our car park, re-furbished the floor in the function room. We have had the rear of the building completely stripped back and replaced with new cladding, new windows and doors and fitted CCTV cameras, working with Norton Parish Council, and also installed Wi-Fi.

amongst other things. There are several other projects in hand for the next few months, including: repainting and repairing the rest of the hall exterior. We would love to replace all the cladding but it will need a lot of fund raising for that. We will be looking into grants in the New Year. We have accepted a quote for decorating the Entrance Hall, Meeting room, and Function room, and this will be started in August, fitting in with the bookings. There will be more info next month. Anyone who would like any Hall information, or may be interested in joining our small hard-working friendly committee, please contact Jennie Harris. Secretary 01935 881718

**JUBILEE GARDEN.** Firstly many, many thanks to all who helped make the Village Family BBQ such a great success. Also thanks to all who came and had fun. The Giant Bunny found a new home and the little girl who won it was thrilled. I'm not sure her parents were, though, as they had to get it in the car to return to London! The sun shone down on us eventually, after a very wet and windy day until 4.30pm, which made it very stressful setting everything up during the day. Hopefully soon we will have a badminton net up, and maybe a small tennis net. The table tennis is proving a great success, not only with children, but also adults. I'm so pleased! We now have a notice board, which can be used for advertising Norton village events. Contact me for the key. Mainly it is for info about the garden and photos. We are looking for volunteers come September to tidy the garden ready to plant more bulbs for Spring. Thank you once again. Lynn Orchard

**READING ROOM NEWS:** Replacement of the lean-to roof is planned to commence at the beginning of September and expected to last around 3 weeks. During this time the Reading Room will be closed, so make sure you stock up on Katy's delicious cakes and quiche beforehand! Visitors will have noticed a sign asking you not to open the window in the main room. This is due to the discovery that the window frame is rotten and no longer holding the screws in place. The Committee is in the process of obtaining quotes for the repair/replacement of the window and it is hoped this work can be carried out at the same time as the work on the roof. Our sales of donated books are continuing well and are an important part of fundraising for maintenance and improvement of the room. If anyone has a book they have finished with please consider dropping it off at the Reading Room whilst Katy's Bakes are open, or contact us at

nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com. Many thanks to everyone who has donated books to us – they really make a difference! Tricia Walton

#### **FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE**

**CLUB.** The draw results for July 2023 were as follows: Penny Cudmore (2), John Forrest, Alex Hill, Rowena Alsey, Peter Willsher, Roger Hardisty, Nicky Brodie, Niall Clifford and Tim & Pam Williams. To join the wine club contact Mary Batstone on 07967604681 or email marybatstone@gmail.com

**NORTON CHURCH Services Sunday 6th**  
Morning Prayer **9.30am**, **Sunday 13th**  
**9.30am** Communion, **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm**  
**Songs of Praise, Flower Show Marquee,**  
**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

**MISSING DINNER PLATE.** Ruth Cannon is missing a large white plate (with **home** printed on the back) from the Refreshments in the hall after the service to welcome the new curate on Sunday 9 July. If you find it please give Ruth a ring on 881519.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR JULY 2023**

The Parish Council managed to have a very successful monthly meeting at the beginning of July.

**Planning:** There were no planning applications to discuss this month. However, we were notified of the following: Application No. 22/02733/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building consent to allow revision to approved plans 18/00727/LBC to allow amendments to finish and design (Brook Coach House).

Location: Brook Coach House, Little Street, Norton Sub Hamdon, TA14 6SR

This has now been approved by Somerset Council

#### **Solar Panel warning sign for the School:**

Finally, this has been installed. I hope by the time you read this it is now working!

**Blocked Drains:** The blocked drains in New Road and Little Street have now been jetted. The blocked drain in Little Norton has been reported and should be investigated by Somerset Highways in the next two weeks.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.30pm** in the committee room in the village hall. Members of the general public are more than welcome to attend. **Just a reminder that there is no meeting in August.** Louise Brooks (Clerk to

Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council)  
nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

**MERRIOTT SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB** is looking for new members for its club in the Village Hall. We meet on **Wednesday evenings** from **7pm to 9.30pm** and play matches from time to time with other clubs in the area – we play in a relaxed atmosphere, and play to enjoy the game. The club has three mats and can provide woods for those who wish to try their hand; it is a game for all ages, for both men and women, beginners and experienced alike, we play all year round – in the dry! Prospective players are invited to phone the secretary on 01308 862203 or 07956 598894. Rob.

**STOKE SUB HAMDON GARDENING CLUB**  
In August we are having our members' Summer Party, but we would be happy to welcome you when meetings start up again in September. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month for a talk on any

aspect of gardening – plus: free refreshments, plant sales, raffle. Visitors very welcome – first visit free! **Venue: The Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon. 7.15 for 7.30pm.**

**THE VILLAGE ARTIST GROUP** exists to promote and encourage the arts in Stoke sub Hamdon meeting twice a week in term times. If you are interested in joining this group please contact me on 01 935 829513 or [malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmuhlhorn99@gmail.com) for a free introductory session and or a chat.

**HAMDON COMMUNITY CHURCH (HCC)**  
Look out for us during 2023 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 ADS: BABYSITTING** My name is Georgiana Riley. I am a 16 year old living in Norton who is looking for babysitting jobs this summer. I have experience with babysitting young children but I can babysit any age. I charge £9 an hour during weekdays and £11 on weekends. I am available weekdays, evenings and weekends. I have my DBS clearance and have completed an Optima health screening. I am also available to keep elderly people company for the same rate as I have experience of volunteering with patients in hospitals. If you are interested please contact me via email or text. My email address is [rileygeorgiana@gmail.com](mailto:rileygeorgiana@gmail.com) and my phone number is 07493 822748

#### VILLAGE DIARY OF EVENTS

Tuesday 1 August Movie Nites AGM Lord Nelson, 7.30pm  
Monday 14 August Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm  
Saturday 19 August Norton and Chiselborough Flower Show 2.30pm  
Tuesday 22 August Mobile Library Higher Street 2.00pm  
Tuesday 19 September Ladies Group Village Hall 7.30pm  
Wednesday 27 September Village Coffee Morning Pentle Little Norton 10.45am  
Saturday 7 October Festival Folk Night 7.30pm  
Sunday 10 December Festival Christmas Concert 3.00pm

**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

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