

## NORTON NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023 ISSUE 539

### 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/>

### VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE.

<http://nshvillagehall.co.uk>

### NEW ADS

**Accommodation to Rent and Community Care – see end of the newsletter. Three new adverts for Yoga, Karate and Fascia – see ads page.**

### NOTE FROM THE TREASURER OF NORTON NEWSLETTER PAMELA RASTALL

Could I kindly and respectfully remind all contributors to Norton Newsletter that we can only continue producing the newsletter if you donate when sending in your items for print. There is a box in the post office on the counter for you to place your donations – it would be helpful to know who is donating so please can you enclose your cash in an envelope or with a slip of paper with your name and amount. We can also accept your donations by bank transfer sort code 090152 a/c number 22744308 Norton News. Please include your name as reference. Unfortunately the printing costs have tripled this year and as treasurer I would like to be pro-active in reminding everyone that we are currently running at a loss which cannot be sustained for much longer.

### NORTON SHOP AND POST OFFICE/CLT

**AGM** We are pleased that our sales data have continued to indicate a higher trend compared to the same time last year as we approach the one-year anniversary of the shop's threatened closure. Also approaching is the CLT's annual general meeting that will take place in October, open to all members who will be eligible to vote. We need six new directors to fill the current vacancies and to replace the directors who are standing down as they have served a three year-term. For non-members

who wish to attend the AGM in order to cast a ballot or propose a candidate the deadline for submitting a membership application form is **September 25th**. The board meeting on **September 26th** will be the final opportunity before the AGM to approve new members. We are eager for new directors to step forward in order to ensure the future of the Shop/PO and other community projects. Nominations for new directors are required to be completed and submitted prior to the AGM. Forms for membership and nomination are available at the shop or by contacting the secretary. Please deliver completed forms to the shop or to the secretary: Ian Murray, Homestead, Higher Street, Norton sub Hamdon, TA14 6SN. [secretary@nortonclt.co.uk](mailto:secretary@nortonclt.co.uk)

**HORNBY MODEL TRAINS EXHIBITION** of 2 and 3 Rail 00 Gauge alongside traders' stalls. This will be held in **Norton Village Hall** on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September from 10.30am until 4.00pm**. Entry £3.00. Refreshments will be available. Contact Roger Waters 01935 881529

**LADIES GROUP** We want to thank everyone who supplied cakes and helped us serve refreshments on Norton and Chiselborough Flower Show Day. Your contributions are really appreciated. It helped to make it part of a fantastic day.

**READING ROOM NEWS:** The roof work is due to commence at the beginning of the month and planned to be completed within 3 weeks (weather permitting!). The Reading Room (including Katy's Bakes) will be closed during this time, but should be open again from the 25<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to welcome Katy back on the **26<sup>th</sup> September!** If there are any delays the Committee will put a notice on the board outside. Keep your fingers crossed for dry weather! The replacement of the rotting window frames is on hold awaiting planning approval (the building is grade II listed). It is thought that the window for the hallway/cloakroom was a replacement from around the 1970s and the Committee wondered if anyone has pictures of the Reading Room prior to this date? If you do, please let us know at [nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com). Many thanks. Tricia Walton, Secretary.

**NORTON MOVIE NITES** starts its 19th season at the **Lord Nelson** with **Allelujah** (cert 12A, 99 mins) on **Tuesday 12th September**. With Judi Dench, Derek Jacob and Jennifer Saunders, **Allelujah** tells the story of a geriatric ward under threat. Written by Alan Bennett and Heidi Thomas, with good humour and drolleries, this is a warm and moving film. Tickets at £5 on sale in Norton Shop from Friday 1st September. Doors open 7.45, film starts 8 pm.

**LYNX WORLD SPEED RECORD.** The FNC are most grateful for all those from far and near who were able to join us in July for Malcolm Reid's splendid talk on the successful Westland World Speed Record attempt. Achieving a delicate balance between covering the crucial technical and scientific aspects that enabled the speed record, the talk also covered the key people involved. The description of individual personalities, their confidence and their bravery in taking up the challenge, was much appreciated by those in the audience who knew them, and the success achieved is clearly a source of continuing and justifiable pride for all those involved in the project. With over £700 raised on the night, the evening, after payments due, made a much valued contribution to the funds supporting the maintenance of our church. For something very different but also very entertaining see details below of the Pulman Talk.

**POLITICS AND RELIGION IN ANGLO SAXON TIMES - IN AND AROUND THE HAM BENEFICE.** On **Friday 15th September at 7:00pm for 7:30pm**. David Harrison, a local historian with particular interests in the age of Anglo Saxons, has kindly agreed to provide the Friends of Norton Church Pulman Talk **in the Church of St Mary in Norton-sub-Hamdon**. Covering our local background and geography as it was in Anglo Saxon times, this promises to be an interesting and (by accounts from those who have heard David talk) an amusing and entertaining insight into times past. Ever wondered if Alfred did burn those cakes and the heart of Harold did get taken from the battle at Hastings and get buried in Montacute? Come along and find out as David delves into the complex relationship of kings, bishops and the everyday people in pre-conquest England, and into famous characters you will have heard of and many you probably will not. **Tickets at £5 are available in the Norton shop or at the door on the night and a cash bar will be available.**

**MOBILE LIBRARY AND BOOK CLUB.** The Mobile Library will call in **Chiselborough** opposite the Hall on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 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 venue details and times etc or if you would like to join our friendly book club.

**CRAFTY CRITTERS** are having a break from their get-togethers whilst work is being carried out on the Reading Room roof. Our next meeting is due to be held on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September** between **1.30 and 3.30pm**. If there is a delay due to the works overrunning I will put a note in the noticeboard outside the Reading Room. Hopefully the weather will be kind and everything will proceed as planned! Looking forward to catching up with everyone after our summer break. Tricia Walton. 882646

#### **NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE**

**MORNINGS:** The monthly village coffee morning season starts again on **Wednesday 27th September** at Nic and Kevin Boyd's new home, **Pentle House**, in Little Norton. We are 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 a car to pick you up and return you back to Norton afterwards. The morning starts at **10.45am** and the theme will be "Entertainment", so please bring along any unwanted, pre-loved or second hand jigsaws, board games, DVDs or books for the sales table. Refreshments will be served and there will be a raffle too. Funds raised are for the church and everyone is welcome. Sophie Hale (881521) and Sophie Snow (881099)

**NORTON FESTIVAL FOLK** Rumpled Muslin, highly acclaimed in the London Folk Scene, is coming to perform in **Norton Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October**. The group, who all live in London, weave intense harmonies through their mainly traditional material, haunting ballads and humorous songs. It includes Alison Frosdick, whose parents live in Norton. The evening is likely to prove very popular with tickets being snapped up. So don't delay to purchase your ticket (£10) early from Norton Community Shop to ensure a seat and aid us in our arrangements. Richard Terrell (Festival Coordinator)

**TINKERS BUBBLE OPEN DAY – Saturday 7th October** We will be hosting our annual

open day again this autumn, on **Saturday 7th October**. Anyone is welcome along to see what we get up to, have a look around our land and some of our buildings, and have a chat with us. There will be tours and a Q&A to find out more about the community and land management, some craft demos including apple pressing, and some interactive activities including hopefully something for children. The day will run from **11am to 4pm**, and you are welcome to drop in whenever suits. Entry is free, and there will be food and drink for sale. More details will be added to our website as we work out the specifics of what we will be up to and the timings of the day. Have a look at [www.tinkersbubble.org/Events](http://www.tinkersbubble.org/Events) for details. The site has some steep paths and can get muddy, so please wear appropriate footwear. Our car park is small so no parking on site – we suggest walking from the village, or if people are coming from further away, parking in the Ham Hill car parks. People with mobility issues can get dropped off at our car park. Our events page on the website also has info about our forthcoming '3 Acres and a Cow' performance. Questions to [tinkersbubble@riseup.net](mailto:tinkersbubble@riseup.net)

**NORTON SUB HAMDON and WEST CHINNOCK PRIMARY SCHOOLS** Open Day Norton and West Chinnock Schools are delighted to invite prospective parents, children and families to our Open Day on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. We would like to welcome you to visit us throughout the day with drop-in tours of Norton School in the morning and West Chinnock in the afternoon. Norton sub Hamdon School tours are between 9.30am and 11.30am West Chinnock School tours are between 1.00pm to 3.00pm. We very much look forward to welcoming you to our schools on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**. For further information please contact the school offices  
[norton.sh@nortonandwestchinnockschoools.co.uk](mailto:norton.sh@nortonandwestchinnockschoools.co.uk) 01935 881815  
[westchinnock.407@nortonandwestchinnockschoools.co.uk](mailto:westchinnock.407@nortonandwestchinnockschoools.co.uk) 01935 881367

**THE EXMOUTH SHANTY MEN ARE COMING TO NORTON VILLAGE HALL!** The Exmouth Shanty Men will perform a variety of sea shanties, from traditional songs to modern ones. They have released numerous albums and have toured extensively throughout the United Kingdom and Europe. They are known for their energetic performances and ability to get the audience involved. The Exmouth Shanty Men are a passionate group of musicians dedicated to keeping the tradition of

sea shanties alive. They are a joy to watch and listen to, and always put on a good show. **Proceeds will be split between Norton Village Shop and Norton Village Hall.** Bar / Raffle / Black cow vodka stand - Come and try the Worlds smoothest Vodka! Saturday 21st October - Doors Open at 6.30pm, Performance Starts at 7.30pm Ticket Price: £15.00 **Tickets available from: Norton Sub Hamdon Village Shop**  
For more information email:  
[brooksinsomerset@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brooksinsomerset@hotmail.co.uk)

**NORTON AND CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW** On 19<sup>th</sup> August we were able to enjoy another fabulous annual flower show with many thanks to the brilliant efforts of the committee and their helpers. After the very impressive musical parade through Norton's streets, what a fantastic array of produce in the marquee – flowers, vegetables, arts and crafts and the bustling variety of all the stalls. A full report of the Flower Show will appear in next month's edition.

**MARGARET RADFORD** John would like to thank everyone for the cards, messages of condolence and kind offers of help after the sad loss of Margaret, and also say thanks to Tracy and Colin of A E Stoodley & Son and Helen and Mark at The Lord Nelson for their great support.

**JUBILEE GARDEN.** Visitors to the garden will see that the wild flower area has been scythed down. Some of the growth has been left for more seeds to drop ready for next year. Many thanks to Larry. Thank you also to Roger for kindly placing the brass name plaque on the notice board, which was also his work. Looks absolutely great! Please if anyone can spare a hour or so Saturday mornings in September from **10am-12pm** I would be most grateful - mainly for weeding and tidying the area, also possibly planting more bulbs on the top bank, ready for next spring. Thank you once again to all of you who have helped in any way to make this a garden that everyone is welcome to enjoy. Please play table tennis and badminton, but no football in the garden please! Lynn Orchard.

**FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB.** The draw results for August 2023 were as follows:  
Sara Vann (2), Alec Seccombe (2), Charles Campbell, Tim & Pam Williams, Penny Cudmore, Peter Willsher, David Batstone and Lindsay Elliot. To join the wine club contact

Mary Batstone on 07967604681 or email [marybatstone@gmail.com](mailto:marybatstone@gmail.com)

**NORTON CHURCH Services Sunday 3rd**  
Morning Prayer **9.30am, Sunday 10th**  
**9.30am** Communion, **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm**  
Evensong **Wednesday 27<sup>th</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

**SUPPORTING OTHERS** At least monthly a car delivers provisions from Norton to the Lord's Larder in Yeovil, helping well over 700 people each month. We specially acknowledge and thank the person(s) who so very generously donates items purchased from the Community Shop. Not only does this support people in need but it also supports our village shop. Thank you to all who are supporting our village endeavour. A notice on the Collecting Bag is regularly updated with the latest needs of the Lord's Larder and other information. Richard Terrell

**PARISH COUNCIL - Just a reminder that there is no meeting in August.** Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) [nortonpcclerk@outlook.com](mailto:nortonpcclerk@outlook.com)

**STOKE-SUB-HAMDON GARDENING CLUB**  
On **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September** Derek Dexter will present his talk "Fuchsias My Way". Derek has been growing and showing fuchsias for over 20 years and was awarded bronze, silver and silver gilt at the 2019 Hampton Court Flower Show. Free refreshments; plant sales; raffle. Visitors very welcome – first visit free!  
**Venue: The Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon. 7.15 for 7.30 p.m.**

**FOR DETAILS OF MARTOCK CHURCH CONCERTS** see [www.martockonline.co.uk/events](http://www.martockonline.co.uk/events)

**STOKE SUB HAMDON VILLAGE ARTISTS**  
We are a very friendly group of amateurs who meet at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings during school term time. We share an enjoyment of traditional art at all levels and seek to develop our artistic skills through discussion and an encouraging environment. There are regular workshops generally led by a local artist along with an annual show. Should you wish to learn more about our group, please contact Andrew on (01935) 823691 or [SSHthevillageartistsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:SSHthevillageartistsgroup@gmail.com).

Facebook: 'stoke sub hamdon the village artists group'. We look forward to hearing from you.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP (RSG)** The very successful event in June, Music in the Meadow, raised almost £1500 for two refugee charities. It was our sixth Music in the Meadow as well as other events over the years, and will likely be our last as we are struggling to find committee members. While we are continuing to collect and receive donations for Raft, fundraising will be out of the question unless there are other volunteers willing to commit to the group. Thus, your help is very much needed. Raft (refugeeaidfromtaunton) after eight years continues to request donations to send to refugee camps overseas, with some for refugees settling in Taunton; some of the latter are now volunteering at the charity. Raft can be found on Facebook showing immediate needs. During September donations of summer clothing and footwear will still be accepted. From October we are seeking clean warm washable clothing and suitable footwear for all – from babies to older people. Unopened hygiene products, toiletries and off the shelf medication for every group are always in short supply, plus new underclothing. At present prams, buggies and travel costs are needed too. Refugees from wars and from natural and climate disasters are constantly increasing and it seems an insurmountable issue. US President Theodore Roosevelt once said, 'I did what I could, where I was, with what I had.' RSG and Raft would say the same. Thank you generous supporters, Geraldine Downey, RSG, 01460 271358

**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.

**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.

**ADVERTISEMENTS: ACCOMMODATION.**  
Annex to charming cottage in centre of Norton sub Hamdon available informally for visiting friends & family of local residents. Double bedroom, private shower room, sitting room & fully equipped kitchen for self catering. £65 a night. Minimum 2 nights. (Small single room also could be available for extra £20 a night) 01935 881233 or email: woodiana39@aol.com

**ALISON'S HELPING HANDS COMMUNITY CARE AT HOME** My name is Alison and I

have lived in Norton for nearly 4 years now. I am starting up a Care at Home service, and will be offering services in the home for anyone who is in need of help in the surrounding villages. I am quite prepared to be adaptable and undertake a range of duties to include help around the house, shopping, companionship, dog walking, personal care if necessary and can also help with any administrative tasks. I have a clean driving licence, DBS Certificate, Safeguarding Certificates. If you think you might be interested, please contact me on 07544 683 873 or email [Alisonshomecare@outlook.com](mailto:Alisonshomecare@outlook.com) and I can arrange a visit to discuss your specific requirements.

#### VILLAGE DIARY OF EVENTS

Tuesday 12 September Movie Nites Lord Nelson 7.45pm  
Friday 15 September FNC Pulman Talk 7.30pm  
Saturday 16 September Hornby Exhibition 10.30am  
Tuesday 19 September Mobile Library Higher Street 2.00pm  
Tuesday 19 September Ladies Group Village Hall 7.30pm  
Monday 25 September Crafty Critters Reading Room 1.30pm  
Wednesday 27 September Village Coffee Morning Pentle House Little Norton 10.45am  
Saturday 7 October Tinkers Bubble Open Day 11.00am  
Saturday 7 October Festival Folk Night Norton Church 7.30pm  
Wednesday 11 October School Open Day 9.30am  
Saturday 21 October Exmouth Shanty Men Village Hall 7.30pm  
Friday 10th November Phil Okwedy "The Gods Are All Here" Village Hall  
Saturday 18th November John Osborne "John Peel's Shed" Lord Nelson  
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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