

NEWSLETTER EMAIL

nortonnewsletter24@hotmail.com

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>

VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE

<http://nshvillagehall.co.uk>

EDITOR'S NOTE

Items for the Newsletter should be in the box on the Post Office counter or sent by email to nortonnewsletter24@hotmail.com **by 4.00pm ON THE 19th OF EACH MONTH.** Items submitted later risk delays in printing and distribution.

Copies of all Newsletters can be found at nortonsubhamdonpc.co.uk/village-newsletter.

The **NEWSLETTER Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday 20th November at 7.30pm in the Reading Room**

NORTON & CHISELBOROUGH FLOWER SHOW ANNUAL MEETING will be held on **Saturday 2nd November at 2.00pm** in the skittle alley, Lord Nelson, Norton. This will be followed by a light buffet open to all attendees. The 2024 show was a huge success; our aim to break even was achieved, now we can move forward to discuss donations for the community. Do come along, we depend on your support and ideas for future shows.

CRAFTY CRITTERS have been busy knitting and crocheting poppies for display around Norton. We will soon be starting on Xmas decorations! Come and join us on **Monday 11th and 25th November between 1.30 and 3.30pm in the Reading Room.** £2.00 per session including tea/coffee and biscuits. Tricia 882646.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT OCTOBER 2024

PLANNING: The Parish Council had no planning applications to consult on this month.

PARKING: There is an increase in people thinking it's ok to park on blind bends or yellow lines. We have received numerous complaints and photos of evidence over the last few weeks, particularly outside and opposite the shop, right on the bend of the junction with Great Street and New Road. By doing this you are making people drive on the other side of the road, around a blind bend. There have

been several near misses recently. It will only be a matter of time before there is an accident. The bus also needs space to access this junction. The other area of the village which has seen an increase of

parking half over junctions and making visibility extremely dangerous is Rectory Lane and along Skinners Lane, outside the pub. Some of the vehicles parked here belong to people who have drives, but do not use them. You are taking up valuable space for visitors to the pub by parking here. The Lord Nelson provides a good amount of parking in their carpark. If you are visiting the pub then please park in the car park or tightly under the wall. As well as making the junction dangerous, you are blocking people from gaining access to their drives.

SCHOOL PARKING: We have also received reports regarding illegal parking along New Road outside the school at school 'drop off' and pick up' times. Drives and junctions are being blocked. This makes it impossible for people to safely access junctions (Barn Orchard, Hamdon View and Bramley Fields). I shall be writing to the Head teacher at the school to raise our concerns. There are also children trying to cross the road here and cannot see due to inconsiderate parking. Before walking away from your car, look and see if you are causing a visibility issue. Highways ruling – don't park within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction.

DRIVING THROUGH LITTLE STREET WHEN IT'S FLOODED: Residents in Little Street have asked me to highlight the issue of people driving through Little Street when the area is flooded. By driving through the floods, you are creating a swell of water that is going in houses and garages. If you see standing water here, please either drive through very slowly or even better, turn around and use the alternative route by using Great Street.

SANDBAGS: Somerset Council does not provide sandbags and nor does the Parish Council. There is no statutory duty for local authorities to provide sandbags in times of heavy rain or flooding to residents or businesses within Somerset Council area. Homeowners and businesses are responsible for protecting their own property from flooding. Sandbags are effective against short duration flooding or wash from vehicles travelling through floodwater. However, they are not effective against longer duration flooding. Water will naturally make its way through the sandbag, so you should consider more permanent kitemarked flood protection products if your property is at risk of flooding. Using plastic sheeting placed behind sandbags will improve their efficiency. Most local builders' merchants supply sandbags and sand. Residents are advised to take action before flooding is forecast as stock levels in builder's merchants can be quickly reduced once flood warnings have been issued. Local sandbag suppliers can be found by contacting builder's merchants directly. You can buy

bags, filled or empty, from most local builders' merchants including: UK Sandbags, Bradfords, 24/7 Sandbags, Travis Perkins, Wickes, Paulls of Martock, B&Q.

ATTACHING POSTERS TO FINGERPOSTS: All the fingerpost signs in Norton and Little Norton now look magnificent thanks to Peter Callaghan and Steve Collier's hard work. The Parish Council noticed a recent influx of signs being hung or attached in other ways to the fingerpost signs. Please do not attach posters and boards to the signs. The PC have paid to have these signs refurbished and we want them to last!

HAMDON YOUTH GROUP – COULD YOU BECOME A VOLUNTEER? HYG is now in its 14th year. It has done an incredible job working with young people, especially through some tough times including Covid. They provide support for stress and anxiety, with school issues, social media, family and friendships, and provide activities which include sports, arts & crafts and music workshops. They meet at both Stoke and Norton every week. However, they are in need of some more volunteers – could you spare some time? If you would like to find out more information, then please contact John Bailey johnbailey19@googlemail.com or 07887483665. Norton Parish Council have agreed to help fund their youth worker again for 2025-26 with the sum of £2,416.00. This is a 10% increase to last year's funding. The next monthly meeting will be held on **Monday 11th November 2024 at 7.30pm** in Norton Village hall committee room. Louise Brooks (Clerk to Norton sub Hamdon Parish Council) nortonpcclerk@outlook.com

NORTON MOVIE NITES at the Lord Nelson, Tuesday 12th November. Vindication Swim tells the true-life drama of the first British woman to swim the English Channel, battling against both the cold waters and the oppressive society of the 1920s. Doors open 7.45, film starts 8 pm. Tickets at £5 from Norton Shop. The December film will be The Holdovers on **Tuesday 3rd December**, when there will be mulled wine and mince pies. Details in December Newsletter. Tickets £5 on sale in the shop. Doors open 7.45pm. We are continuing our winter season film evenings in the skittle alley until March. Many thanks to the Box Office (Norton Shop), Parish Magazine, Norton Newsletter and The Hambook, all of whom provide great support by selling and promoting our events. Many thanks also to our wonderful hosts Helen and Mark at the Lord Nelson. None of this would be possible without the support of a dedicated committee and of course you, our audience. We have welcomed Caroline Riley to the committee this year and are always looking for new members to join the team. John Bailey, Chair.

SUPERCHEF FROM MAYA PRODUCTIONS Wednesday 13th November, Hamstone Live are promoting two shows in Norton Village Hall at 11am and 2pm. Through singing, dancing, and real-life cookery, young audience members (and adults) can

participate in a unique experience exploring food, gender roles and Latin American culture. All pupils of both Norton Sub Hamdon and West Chinnock primary schools will be attending. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Denholm Industrial we are able to offer this show free to children and £10 for adults. Book online at takeart.org.

NORTON COMMUNITY MATTERS is a small charity that has been set up by a group of local people who love where they live, value the importance of community and want to give something back. Our first objective is to raise funds to buy another defibrillator for the village. We welcome ideas and suggestions from local residents for future purchases, each one will be considered on its individual merits and the impact on our community as a whole. Please email us at helloncm@outlook.com Our first fundraising event is **Quiz Night at the Lord Nelson, Sunday 17th November**. Please contact the Lord Nelson on 01935 881473 to reserve a quiz table. We will also be hosting a **Christmas Market on Saturday 23rd November 2024, 11am to 3pm** in Norton Village Hall, TA14 6SF. Please come along to support us and the fabulous stall holders. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram.

LADIES GROUP Leela Bunce gave an illustrated talk delving into the history of the original Blue Stockings Society and how it has influenced British society, politics and power. An interesting, thought-provoking and amusing evening. Our next speaker on **Tuesday 19th November** is Richard Kay who will bring some antiques for us to guess what and how old they are. There will be a small prize for whoever has the most correct answers. If you think you know your antiques, come along and see how you get on. **Ten Pin Bowling** is arranged for **Wednesday 20th November**. Our **Xmas Party** will be held in the village hall on **Monday 9th December**. Anyone wishing to join us for lunch and an entertaining afternoon please call Sue for details. There are still some places available for the **trip to Wells, Wednesday 11th December** – call Sue if you are interested. Date and venue for our New Year Dinner is yet to be decided, details should be available at our **next meeting on Tuesday 19th November**. Please come and join us if something is of interest to you, visitors welcome at any time. Enquiries Sue 881805.

CAROL SINGING Advance notice so you can save up some money for the Carollers who will be at the **Christmas Market on Saturday 23rd November** 11am to 3pm in the Village Hall. Other occasions are outside Norton Shop in the mid-December, and in the Jubilee Gardens/ local neighbourhood/ Lord Nelson on **Wednesday 18th December**, starting at 6.30pm (please bring torches.) This year we are collecting for Hope and Homes for Children, a charity which is committed to returning children from institutions to their families. For example, Rwanda has recently become the first orphanage-free

country in Africa. Thank you in anticipation. Cilla Caswell.

MOBILE LIBRARY AND BOOK CLUB The Mobile Library will be in Chiselborough opposite the Village Hall on **Tuesday 26th November from 9.30–10am**, and in **Higher Street, Norton from 10.10–10.35am**. The book club will meet on the same day. Anne Fairweather 882 620.

CANTAMUS CONCERT Cantamus are making a welcome return to Norton sub Hamdon on **Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm in Norton Church**. They will perform A Radiant Dawn, a musical celebration of the Season of Advent. Some truly transcendent singing will guarantee another evening to remember. Tickets £10 from Norton Shop; there will be a cash Wine Bar.

JUBILEE GARDEN Please! Anyone willing to spend an hour or so to sweep up leaves or do a bit of weeding or cutting back. Maybe you have some spare bulbs you would like to donate. Let's try and keep the garden looking tidy.

NORTON CHURCH SERVICES for November:
Sunday 3rd, 9.30am Morning Prayer
Sunday 10th, 10.50am Remembrance Service
Sunday 17th, 6pm Evensong
Wednesday 27th, 9am Prayer Book Communion
Details of all services and information about the Benefice are on the website
www.hamhillchurches.org and church notice boards.
Rev Nick Clarke 07485 789968

CHURCH FLAGS The George Cross will be flown from the Church Tower on 2nd and 3rd November for All Saints Day. The Union Flag will be flown on 10th and 11th November for Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day and on the 14th November for the birthday of his Majesty the King.

FRIENDS OF NORTON CHURCH WINE CLUB
The draw results for this month were:
Sara Vann (2), Brian Frosdick, Heather Hawkins, Barry Eastley, Jeremy Reid, Ronan Walsh, Richard Raven, Peter Prager and Alexia Hill. To join the wine club, contact Mary Batstone on 07967 604681 or email marybatstone@gmail.com

THE READING ROOM has plenty of donated books for sale. Pop in while Katy's Bakes is open (maybe grab a coffee and some cake!) or contact nortonrr.bookings@gmail.com at other times.

COMMUNITY LAND TRUST AGM It was a pleasure to see our shareholders and members and to thank our excellent Norton Shop and Post Office staff and volunteers for their outstanding contribution which has led to a small, but very welcome, profit being made. This is a great turnaround since 2022 when closure of the Shop and Post Office was threatened. The CLT remains

determined to provide this vital service. Factors that have led to this include reducing overheads, positive marketing of new and existing products and services, and benefitting from high quality meat and vegetables produced by outstanding local suppliers. Equally popular is the baked produce from small local suppliers as well as our long-standing dairy and bread produce. Every transaction in the Post Office makes a small amount of money towards its financial security, so please use it for banking and other services as often as possible. The CLT appreciates the contribution made by you, our customers, through your donations, attending fundraising events, and kind contributions to our counter collection box – this makes an amazing difference and is much appreciated. Everyone is welcome to become a member of the CLT for as little as £1 and take part in contributing to this vital community resource. Niall Clifford, Chair, Norton sub Hamdon CLT.

NORTON VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS

Thank you to everyone who attended the first coffee morning for this winter season in September at Pentle House, home of Nic and Kevin Boyd. Warm hospitality in a beautiful setting, and raffle, table top sale and generous donations helped us raise £177 for Norton church. The October coffee morning held at Sophie and Charles Snow's home will be reviewed in the next edition. We meet for our Christmas-themed morning at **10.45am on Wednesday 27th November, at The Hollies, Higher Street**, home of Francesca and Ian Chignell. Refreshments, Christmas raffle and a table top sale will help to set the scene! Debbie Bradley 07710 352194

TWO VERY WARM WELCOMES To Tim and Karen Borrett living in Higher Street. They are to be congratulated, as they have already commenced active participation in Norton activities. **And also** to Helen and her dogs Ruby and Pep in Little Norton.

THANK YOU to everyone in Broadmead Lane and the neighbouring streets for their support and sponsorship towards my charity abseil for Yeovil District Hospital. As many of you know, I had cancer last year and I am now thankfully all clear. I wanted to give something back to the fantastic staff at YDH, in particular the new Breast Care Unit, to thank them for their kindness and care. Thank you everyone who donated and supported me, it means a lot. Mary Vincent, Broadmead Lane.

THE TRIANGLE TRUST is a small but dedicated group of volunteers that meets five times a year to consider surgery requests for items for patients' needs at the Medical Centre, and to plan fundraising events. We are holding **two cheese & wine events: Thursday 14th November, 7–8pm** at The Lighthouse, Stoke, and **Tuesday 19th November, 8–9pm** in the village hall, Montacute. Everyone is welcome, come and meet us. The Triangle Trust

Christmas Bazaar is on **Saturday 30th November 30th, 11am–2pm**. Jennie Harris 881718.

CHISELBOROUGH CREATIVES Inspiring Workshops for All. The next workshop is Fermented Foods on Monday 4th November is now full, but we have a waiting list! If there's enough interest we will run an additional workshop in January. Also full are the Christmas Wreath-making workshops on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th December, but if enough interest, we can add an extra group on Friday 6th. Cost: £35. All workshops are held in Chiselborough Village Hall and the price includes refreshments. Further workshops are available in the New Year, details of these can be found on the notice board in Norton Shop. Bookings are made by emailing: debwring@btinternet.com. We hope to see you there.

STOKE SUB HAMDON GARDENING CLUB

A Gardening Club for all, Wednesday 27th November 2024. Have you ever thought about making your own Christmas wreath or swag but not been sure where to start? If so, come to our meeting in November when Angie, proprietor of Cottage Flowers, Ilminster, will be demonstrating how you can make your own Christmas decoration. Angie's

magic fingers will show you how to make a beautiful creation, and her own brand of informal chat will keep you amused and entertained while you watch. Do come and see what we have to offer and stay for a chat over a free tea or coffee after the demonstration. We look forward to seeing you there! Free refreshments; plant sales; raffle. Visitors very welcome £3. Venue: The Memorial Hall, Stoke-sub-Hamdon. 7.15 for 7.30pm

STOKE SUB HAMDON VILLAGE ARTISTS

The Village Art Group as a charity has been serving the hamstone villages around Ham Hill (and beyond) since 1996 and will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in less than two years' time. In that time there have been many changes but the group goes from strength to strength and our enjoyment of art and artistry goes on undiminished. We meet at the Stoke Memorial Hall on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9:30 pm and Friday mornings 10.00 to 12.00 noon during school term time. First visit FREE! Please contact Andrew on 01935 823691, SSHTheVillageArtistsGroup@gmail.com Facebook: Stoke Sub Hamdon The Village Artists Group. Come and enjoy our next workshop with artist Richard Turner who will be demonstrating the use of pastels at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 9th November 10.00 until 3.00.

VILLAGE DIARY OF EVENTS

Saturday 2 November Norton & Chiselborough Flower Show Annual Meeting, Skittle Alley, Lord Nelson 2pm

Monday 11 November Crafty Critters, Reading Room 1.30pm

Monday 11 November Parish Council meeting Room, Village Hall at 7.30pm

Tuesday 12 November Norton Movie Nights Lord Nelson 8pm

Wednesday 13 November, Hamstone Live 2 shows Village Hall at 11am and 2pm

Sunday 17 November Fund raising quiz for defibrillator The Lord Nelson 7.30pm

Tuesday 19 November Ladies Group Reading Room 7.30pm

Wednesday 20 November Newsletter AGM Reading Room 7.30pm

Saturday 23 November Christmas Market in Village Hall 11am to 3pm

Monday 25 November Crafty Critters, Reading Room 1.30pm

Tuesday 26 November Mobile Library and Book Club, Higher Street 10.10–10.35am

Wednesday 27 November Village Coffee Morning, The Hollies, Higher Street 10.45am

Saturday 30 November Cantamus Concert, Church of St Mary 7.30pm

Tuesday 3 December Norton Movie Nights Lord Nelson 8pm

Wednesday 9 December Ladies Group Christmas Party

NEWCOMERS TO OUR VILLAGE If you know of anyone who has moved to Norton, please ask for their details and contact the editors so that we can welcome them to our village.

To advertise in the newsletter the fee is £5 per month or £36 per year. To pay by bank transfer: Santander Bank sort code 09-01-52; a/c name NORTON NEWS; a/c number 22744308. Please insert your name as the reference. To pay by cash/cheque: put your item and payment along with your details in an envelope and place in the box on the post office counter. Editors Chrissie Way 07948 379439 and Rowena Alsey 07778 117705. nortonnewsletter24@hotmail.com

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