NORTON NEWS

MARCH 2021 ISSUE

Please email NNEditor@nortonparish.com Deadline for next month's issue: 12th Mar 2021

BEFRIENDING SCHEME

Concerns around lockdown and shielding from Covid-19 have thrown mental health issues into sharper focus. With that in mind, the Parish Council have recognised that there is a need for a befriending service that would connect local residents who would like to hear a friendly voice and chat about things that aren't pandemic-related with volunteers prepared to call them on a regular basis.

While the Parish Council doesn't have the expertise to set up its own befriending scheme, it's looking into the possibility of either partnering with an existing service or acting as a conduit between parishioners who would like a chat and potential befrienders.



NORTON NURTURING (NATIVE) NATURE:

This Spring, Norton Parish Council, residents, and our school community wish to encourage the planting of the following local native species in our gardens and hedgerows:

Birdsfoot Trefoil, Bladder and Red Campion, Bluebells, Common Yarrow, Tufted, and Yellow Vetch, Cow Parsley, Cowslips, Creeping and Meadow Buttercup, Field Scabious, Garlic Mustard, Lady's and Hedge Bedstraw, Meadow Cranesbill, Oxeye Daisy, Red Clover, Ribwort Plantain, Rough Hawksbit, White Deadnettle and Wood Avens.

For more inspiration for noticing and nurturing native nature at home in Norton, please visit https://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/home-ideas

PLEASE BE VIGILANT

The Parish Council have been made aware of acts of vandalism of signs on the Village Hall and by the New Dawn Inn.
We ask that all residents please keep an eye open for this type of issue and report instances via the Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp Group or directly to the Parish Council. Thank you.

PLAY SPACE UPDATE

We are still on hold at the moment with regards to the Play Space, due to the ground still being saturated. Thank you to all of those who have been in touch to offer help with planting trees in the Play Space. We will be in touch very soon to arrange the planting. If anyone else is able to help with the planting please do email: nortoncouncil@gmail.com.

NORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1924-2021?

"We had very much hoped to celebrate our 97th birthday in February, but a global pandemic rather changed things this last year. With many of our decreasing number of members in the vulnerable category, and the closure of the Village Hall, we have been unable to continue. Most of our members do not 'do' Zoom.

Failure over the previous two years to attract new members to join and take on roles within our WI has led to the very difficult and sad decision to close. This will take effect before the end of March 2021.

It is a real shame to do this, just 3 years before our centenary! With so many new people in the Parish, perhaps there are some that would like to revive the WI in Norton? With that hope in mind, funds will be held over for the next 3 years. Should that be the case, please feel free to contact me and I will happily give further information."

Margaret Edwards, on behalf of Norton WI

Mme9edwards@gmail.com
01452 731218

GLOUCESTER CLAY SHOOTING CLUB UPDATE

"As most of you are aware, Tewkesbury Borough Council have decided not to proceed with any further action against the clay shooting club with regards to noise and our environmental impact.

This, as I'm sure you can imagine, to us is very good news. However, we have taken on board points that were raised during our many meetings with the Environmental Health Team and have decided to put into place a series of works at the club that will lessen our environmental impact and improve the way the club operates:

1. Trap houses will be covered with noise absorbing materials to reduce reflected sound and the main concrete walls covered to reduce possible noise reflection as much as possible.
2. All plastic cartridges are now recycled instead of being sent to landfill - an additional cost but one we feel is warranted and worthwhile.
3. We are now encouraging members to move from lead shot to steel and composite shot materials, with a goal to be lead-free within 5 years.
4. Encouraging members and visiting shooters to use fibre wadding in cartridges instead of the usual plastic. Any plastic wadding fired will be collected and recycled.
5. Constantly monitoring innovations within the industry that will help us to improve and reduce our impact on the surrounding countryside and Norton Village.

As a club, we will be forever grateful for the wonderful support we received from so many of the villagers, Norton Parish Council and our local councillors. We have also listened and over the coming years intend to improve how we approach our sport and understand our impact on the environment around us.

As these improvements are carried out, we will keep the village and the Parish Council informed with regular contact and emails.

Shooting will commence again in line with government guidelines and as and when our regulatory board allows.

We hope you're all well and keeping safe."

Martin Blandford
Gloucester Clay Shooting Club.

NORTON RFC

We are still waiting to see when rugby activity can resume. Whilst you aren't able to watch Norton Warpigs play at the moment, you can see our shirt on display again in the stands at Twickenham during this Six Nations Tournament. We are still making provisional plans for our 10 year anniversary celebrations this year, We hope this will be in August/September.

Due to growing interest from supporters, we will be making Norton Warpigs club kit available to all. All our on-field and off-field kit is made by Akuma. It's good quality and looks great! Please get in touch with Gary to see what is available: kdkmotorsport@ymail.com

We hope the Warpigs Trotters Running Club will be able to resume in March/April. Get in touch if you want to join.

To keep up-todate with the club's activities, follow the Norton RFC Community page on Facebook. Stay safe and remember to support Norton Warpigs!



A PLEA FROM A FORMER PARISHIONER

"Hi there. My name is Tina Leverton, formerly Johnson. When my Dad left Robinswood Barracks, we came to live at no 1 Norton Farm Cottage, Wainlode Lane in 1965.

My Dad worked on the farm for the Whittakers, milking cows.

I'm hoping to get in touch with whoever lives there now, just to find out if any pictures were taken before it was updated.

Also, I'd be interested to hear from anyone who might have some school photos, from 1965 to 1969.

I know this might be a long shot, and I thank you so much, if you can help.

My Mum caught COVID in hospital in October just gone, so I've decided to put a booklet together for myself and my sibling, as I remember more, being the eldest.

I'd be so grateful for any help at all."

My email is tiamarialev333@gmail.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Did you know there is a Norton branch of Neighbourhood Watch? With over 60 villagers in the group, it's a great way to keep in contact in these difficult times. Please email to join:

christine1williams@btinternet.com

USEFUL LINKS & CONTACTS

http://*nortonparish.com*

http://seventowers.org.uk/

nortoncouncil@gmail.com

Norton History

Norton Village Hall

NHS 111 online

Police Non-Emergency: 101

NORTON CHURCH

Although we are not having any services in the church at the moment, we are open on a Tuesday from 10am-4pm for private prayer.
There is also a 10am Benefice service on Zoom every Sunday. Call 07774 803177 for details.
For services in the Benefice please go to: seventowers.org.uk



There is a regular collection of donations for the Gloucester Food Bank at St Mary's in Prior's Norton. Please drop any food items and toiletries every other Wednesday morning. Food is collected from the church between 1-2pm. Upcoming dates are:
Mar 3, 17, 31
Apr 14, 28
May 12, 26
If you can't get to Prior's Norton, please email: NNEditor@nortonparish.com

NORTON & THE LEIGH LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

We have had 12 months without any meetings or visits, but The Journal is still being produced every month by Steve Maidment. As from January, we would like to send out Journals via email to all who can receive it this way. The cost is £6 for twelve issues. We will post The Journal to anyone without email, the cost for this will be £12 to cover postage and printing.
Please email ann.wrench@hotmail.co.uk or contact Sue Phelps 01452 731280 for more information.