NORTON NEWS

AUGUST 2023 ISSUE

Please email NNEditor@nortonparish.com Deadline for next month's issue: 26th AUG 2023

VILLAGE HALL WINS MASSIVE FUNDING!

The Village Hall has secured funding of over £138,000 for maintenance and improvements to both the premises and the playing fields - with the potential for a further £30,000 to come!

This is fantastic news for the whole community. This time last year the Hall was closed because of an unsafe roof, with the future of the building in doubt. Now, the future looks bright, as this funding will enable the Parish to transform the Village Hall and maintain the fabric of the building for years to come.

The funding has had an immediate impact as arrangements are underway for three priority tasks - refurbishment of the Hall's toilets, the construction of a lockable partition between the internal entrance lobby and the main hall to meet the school's safeguarding requirements, and resurfacing of the car park and construction of a new entrance to Old Tewkesbury Road with greatly improved visibility.

A huge "thank you" is due to everyone who worked so hard to obtain this money for Norton.

But this is your Village Hall. Therefore, a public meeting will will be held in the autumn to consult residents on how the bulk of the funding should be spent. Watch this space for details!



REDUCTION OF A38 SPEED LIMIT

Following pressure from Norton and Down Hatherley Parish Councils, Gloucestershire County Council (in its capacity as local Highway Authority) has agreed to conduct a feasibility study into the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the speed limit on the A38 from 50mph to 40mph between Down Hatherley Lane and the turning into the village at Old Tewkesbury Road. There's still a long way to go, but this is an important step towards lowering this speed limit which Norton Parish Council championed last year.

As part of this feasibility study it's necessary to consult local residents on the proposals, (which also include "no overtaking" markings on the road), and so a public meeting will be held for this purpose in due course. Make sure that you come along and have your say!

CO-OPTION TO FILL PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

At election time in May, only four nominations were received for the five seats on Norton Parish Council. Residents were therefore invited to put their names forward as candidates for the vacancy. Three residents applied. and, at the July Parish Council meeting, Helen Costin was chosen to fill the vacancy and has been co-opted onto the Parish Council.



WATCH THE RUGBY WORLD CUP FINAL!

Following the success of the Coronation celebrations in the Village Hall, the Management Committee has decided to hold another social event so that residents can meet in the Hall to watch the Rugby Union World Cup Final on Saturday 28 October, kickoff at 8.00pm. A full bar, food and light refreshments will be available. Put the date in your diary. More information in next month's Norton News.

NORTON CHURCH

Norton church is open daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm for private prayer. 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 Marys in Prior's Norton. Please drop any food items and toiletries every other Wednesday morning. Food is collected from the church between 1-2pm.

Items currently urgently needed:
Longlife milk (not chilled)
Tinned cold meats
Longlife fruit juice
Jars of pasta sauce
Tinned/cartons of custard
Tinned tomatoes/tinned veg
Packets of "Pasta n Sauce"
Tins of soup/cup-a-soup
Tinned ready meals
Small jars of ccoffee
Packet mash
Savoury rice
Bottles of squash
Tinned fruit
Tinned fish
Fray Bentos pies
Biscuits/Snack bars

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT (AKA STAVERTON AIRPORT)

The Parish Council's Vice-Chair, Anne Marie Delaney, has been appointed to represent Norton on the Gloucestershire Airport's Consultative Committee. Anyone who has any issues relating to the operation of the Airport should send details to nortoncouncil@gmail.com so that Anne-Marie can raise their concerns with the Consultative Committee.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Did you know there is a Norton branch of Neighbourhood Watch?

With over 100 villagers in the group, it's a great way to keep in contact. Please email to join: christine1williams@btinternet.com

WRITE A WILL MONTH

What happens to your home, possessions and savings if you die without making a will? Many people assume that their spouse or partner will automatically inherit everything, but that's not necessarily the case. The laws of intestacy (where there is no legal will) will take over, and this may cause your loved ones severe financial and emotional distress.

It's not easy to talk about what happens when we die, but making a will can ease the burden on your family and friends when the time comes.

Longfield Community Hospice has teamed up with three local solicitors to offer a will-writing service during September. Rather than pay legal fees, for a donation of £90 for a single basic will, or £160 for a pair of basic 'mirror' wills, you can get expert advice and support to make a legal will. 100% of your donation will go to Longfield.

"We'd like to say a huge thank you to the solicitors for giving their time and expertise for free," said Louise Cook, Head of Fundraising and Marketing. "This generous gift will make a big impact; allowing us to care for more terminally ill people and their families when they need it the most."

"You don't have to leave a gift in your will to Longfield, but we'd be very grateful if you do. Legacies help to fund our Hospice at Home service, enabling people to die with dignity in the comfort of their own homes."

All appointments are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Book your appointment for September and make your donation now as places are limited.

To find out more about the Write a Will scheme, visit www.longfield.org.uk/write-a-will or call the team on 01453 886868.

BILLY KNICKENBURG - 1923-2023

The Parish Council is sad to announce the death of Engelbert (affectionally known as "Billy") Knickenburg who died peacefully on Thursday 20 July.

Billy, a former German soldier who never went home, celebrated his 100th birthday in March and was a much-loved character who had lived in the same house on The Green since 1963. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and neighbours in Norton. The Parish Council, on behalf of the whole village, sends its sincere condolences to Billy's family.



USEFUL LINKS & CONTACTS

HTTP://NORTONPARISH.COM
HTTP://SEVENTOWERS.ORG.UK/
NORTONCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM
NORTON HISTORY
NHS 111 ONLINE
POLICE NON-EMERGENCY: 101
NORTON VILLAGE HALL