

the norton messenger

September 2025



EDITORIAL

A bit of an odd picture for the front page, but one significant for conservation and rewilding here in Norton – any guesses to me at the nortonmessenger@gmail.com address!

This month we have a new article, with a spotlight on a charity supported by people in the village – Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue (SULSAR). If you would like to write an article to include along these lines about a charity or organisation you support please do send it in.

If you have anything you would like to see published send it to the address below by the 15th of the previous month. Including any new article ideas you have.

Best wishes, Diana



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Norton Village

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NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

IP31 3LE



MONDAY	6.00pm - 6.45pm 7.00pm - 7.45pm	Paracise Jo's Fit4All
TUESDAY	9.30am - 10.30am	Serenity Yoga
	10.45am - 11.45am	Silver Swans Over-55s Ballet Class
	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Song Circle Ladies' Choir
WEDNESDAY	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Zumba
THURSDAY	7.00pm - 8.00pm	Rockfit with Bliss
FRIDAY	9.15am - 10.15am	Zumba Fitness with Yvonne
	10.45am - 11.45 am	



For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com

NORTON WI – FIRST MEETING

There will be a meeting of all those who have shown an interest in forming a new branch of the W.I. here in Norton on Monday 8th September at 7.30pm in my house. Please phone me beforehand so I know how many people to expect. My phone number is 01359 230601 or my mobile no. 07548876668. Anyone else out there who is interested but hasn't yet contacted me please feel free to come along. Helen Taylor.



HELP WITH MESSENGER DELIVERY

The monthly Norton Messenger is produced , edited, distributed and delivered by a number of volunteers in the village. Due to some of those volunteers stepping back recently there are three "rounds" of delivery that are currently vacant:

- 1- Along the A1088 from the garage towards Woolpit
2. – Ashfield Road-Honeywood Close / St.Andrews Place and around towards Church Lane
- 3.-Hardings Lane.

If anyone would like to help with any of these delivery rounds please contact Derek Wilding at dmwilding1@hotmail.co.uk.
Many Thanks



Norton Salvation Army

What's on at the Army in September?

Sunday 7 th	Breakfast Church (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting)	10.45am
Sunday 14 th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Sunday 14 th	Harvest Festival Songs of Praise	6.00pm
Sunday 21 st	Evening Praise	6.00pm
Sunday 28 th	Morning Worship	11.00am

Wednesday 3 rd	Friends Cafe (We are a dementia friendly group offering time out to include carers)	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Thursday's	Cameo Lunches (3 Course Meal £6.00)	11.45am – 1.30pm
Thursday 4 th /18 th	Choir Rehearsal	8.00pm – 9.00pm
Friday 19 th	Adult Craft Club	7.00pm -- 8.30pm

Please feel free to come & join in with us at any time: You would be very welcome

Our Clothes Bank situated in the car park is available to you for all your unwanted clothes & shoes.
Available 24/7. Please help us to help others.

If you would like to make contact with Norton Salvation Army please e-mail:

Norton@salvationarmy.org.uk OR Peter.Newson@salvationarmy.org.uk

We will be pleased to help you where possible with any questions/queries

A Christian Church and Registered Charity No: 214779, and in Scotland SC09359

The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 101, Newington Causeway, London, SE1 6BN

Our Hall will be open for signing in of those taking part in the Historic Churches Ride & Stride on Saturday 13th September.

We will also be decorating our Hall for the Sunday Harvest Songs of Praise to which anyone is welcome. If there are those who would like to donate any non perishable foods for the display please bring them along on the Saturday. These goods will be donated to a food bank the following week.

Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride



**Saturday,
13 September 2025
9.00am - 5.00pm**

Local Organiser
from whom sponsorship
forms are available:

Penny Mathieson
01359
232 472

Visit shct.org.uk for more information.

You can also find us on Facebook and X.

Sponsorship money raised will be divided between Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and the church or chapel chosen by the participant.

BEAVER TOURS AND VISIT TO THE WALLED GARDEN

Little Haugh Farm opens its gates to give evening tours into the beaver area, where you will be able to see the amazing work that the beavers have done since their introduction at the beginning of 2024. If you are very lucky, you may even catch a glimpse of the beavers themselves!

The tour includes a walk of the beaver enclosure and a visit to the fully working Victorian walled garden where you will be able to purchase vegetables and fruit grown in the garden and our orchards.

Thursday 11th September

Thursday 18th September

Thursday 9th October

Thursday 16th October

All tours will begin at 3pm, lasting approximately 2 hours. Please bring wellies! Please be aware that the tour is not suitable for children under 7 years of age.

Tickets are £15 per adult and £5 per child

To book tickets, order on our website at www.littlehaughfarm.co.uk/events



SPOTLIGHT ON SUFFOLK LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE (SULSAR)

Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue (SULSAR) is a member unit of the UK's Lowland Rescue service. Alongside Mountain Rescue, Cave Rescue, the RNLI and Volunteer Coastguard, they form the backbone of specialist help for the emergency services when anyone is in need of assistance.



They are on-call 24 hours a day / 365 days a year, with a team of 60+ people ready to respond across Suffolk and the surrounding areas.

Most of their callouts relate to locating vulnerable missing people such as those living with dementia, people who are struggling with their mental health, children, teenagers and anyone the Police deem to be a high risk missing person. The team can also be deployed for other incidents such as flooding and using their drones to support the Fire Service.

In 2024, the team were deployed 43 times and the volunteers gave up over 13,000 hours on callouts, training and fundraising.

The team is based in Woolpit behind the Stag Café and there are several members within Norton. The team will be recruiting soon for all sorts of members; search technicians, 4x4 drivers and fundraisers are always welcome to join.

The team is 100% voluntary and fundraising is always a struggle. The Dog have chosen SULSAR as the charity for their September quiz night – why not put a team together and help support them? www.sulsar.org.uk



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH (Part of the Benefice of Pakenham, Norton & Tostock, with Great Ashfield, Hunston & Stowlangtoft)

Rector: Revd Katherine Valentine Tel 01359 235095 Email: kavalentine677@gmail.com

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com Benefice Church magazine www.vcnews.org.uk

September 2025 Church Services

Open daily for visitors and private prayer. St Andrew's Norton services are highlighted below.

7 th	12 th Sunday after Trinity	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church Back to school	Norton Pakenham
14 th	13 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Harvest Festival 11.00am Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
21 st	14 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Family Communion 3.30pm Harvest Songs of Praise 6pm Evensong	Pakenham Great Ashfield Norton Tostock
28 th	15 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Harvest Festival 11am Harvest Festival 11am Family Communion 3pm Harvest Festival	Great Ashfield Hunston Tostock Norton Stowlangtoft

HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE

Sunday 21st September 3.30pm St Andrew's Norton

Come and sing your favourite Harvest hymns and give thanks for all God's gifts to us in creation. You are invited to bring gifts of produce - imperishable please! - which will be offered up during the service and will go to the Bury Women's Aid centre with our love. All are welcome to stay for a Harvest Tea after the service.

St Andrew's Church
Norton IP31 3NB

plants

DOG SHOW

Tombola



Tea

AND FÊTE

cakes

Fun for all the Family

Saturday 20th Sept.
2.00 - 4.00pm

Fun Dog Classes and Prizes

Registration from 2pm (£10/dog)
includes entry into all classes

Waggiest Tail / Best Paw Shaker
Best Movers (Dog & Owner!)
& other fun classes for you and your pet!

Classes beginning at 2.30pm





Norton Baptist Church

September 2025



**Norton Baptist
Church**

Check the information below for our services
throughout September and beyond



We hope everyone enjoyed their summer break and that you managed to find some sun. It is great to welcome everyone back and we are excited about all of the things we have planned at Norton Baptist for this new term.

All of our services start at 10am with our doors open for tea/coffee/refreshments and the services will start at 10:30am.

Men's Breakfast – we will be starting up a new Men's Breakfast meeting this year. Our first meeting will be on Saturday the 20th September at 8:30am. Come along and join us for a great breakfast and get to meet some of the guys from the village and surrounding area. Please email us to let us know that you would like to come – we need to make sure we have enough bacon sandwiches!!

We will be finishing the last session of the Prayer Course this month so come and join us for that on the 14th September.

The Den will be starting up again on Friday the 19th September at 6:30pm and will be open to anyone in school years 4-7.

As always, keep an eye on the Facebook page for more information and any “breaking news”!

If you need any more information, please email us and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

	7 th Sep	14 th Sep	21 st Sept	28 th Sep
Praise and Worship	10am			
Prayer Course		10am		
Praise and Worship			10am	
Café Church				10am

For all the up-to-date information please “like” our Facebook page. Scan this code to go straight to our page



nortonbaptist@btinternet.com

Norton & District Twinning Association Members Summer Social 2025

On 20th July, after a rainy day, the sun came out as members met at Pakenham Water Mill. We always aim to hold our Summer Social close to the French Bastille Day which is on 14th July.

Plates of food to share had been created and fun and laughter was had by all. Young and old enjoyed games such as badminton and boule by the delightful mill pond as well as the range of toys kindly provided by the mill. Members were able to chat and relax and take in the beautiful scenery.

We are most grateful to Pakenham Water Mill for hosting our event for us. We always welcome new members and you would be welcome to find out more to see if the association is for you. We hold events through the year such as bingo, quizzes and socials to get together. There is no obligation to host a French family from our twin village Muids, Normandy, France or to visit but the option is there for those who might like to try it.



Dates for your diary:

- ❖ **13th September:** Bingo Night
- ❖ **8th October:** Annual General Meeting
- ❖ **15th November:** Cheese and Wine evening (members only)



nortontwinning@gmail.com



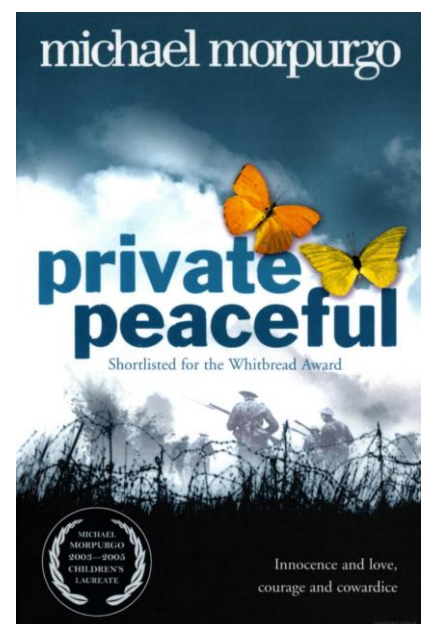
Norton and District Twinning Association

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

Our **July** outing was to Hawstead's Great War Huts, the impressive First World War Heritage Project, which we visited with Woolpit History Group (see photo). The evening's visit was led by local renowned expert WW1 historian, Taff Gillingham, who gave us an enthusiastic and comprehensive explanation of how this project came to be. Following the discovery of an original WW1 Recreation Hut, which was due to be demolished, the project started to find other original buildings across the country that were constructed over a century ago to house the men and women who served during the war. Many of these huts have been dismantled, restored (with as many of the original materials as possible), and re-erected on site to provide a fitting environment for displays and exhibits. This site provides a unique setting in which to learn about the personal, military and social history of the conflict and much more. They offer site tours, March to November, on the fourth Wednesday of the month, which can be booked via their website. This unique venue also holds a wide variety of events throughout the year, including their popular '*Hutted Histories*' talks, exhibitions, film screenings, live performances and tours. As well as children's activities over the summer holidays, they also provide organised and customised school visits throughout the year. The site's series of trenches have been built using the original trench building manuals of the time for reference, so the size, depth and materials are all accurate for those built in France and Flanders all those years ago. There are dugouts, latrines, observation posts, fire steps, and a Regimental Aid Post, with the probable yearly highlight being their '*Trenches by Twilight*' event each December which tells the story of the 1914 Christmas Truce. We concluded with welcome refreshments after what was a revelatory experience for us all. Contact details are 01284-388986, and e-mail - info@greatwarhuts.org, with many more details and images to be found on their website, www.greatwarhuts.org.

Relating to this, readers may be interested in this FROM THE ARCHIVE item of 18th Sept 2011:

A replica WW1 battlefield, painstakingly created at Rise Hall Farm in Akenham near Ipswich, was seen across the country in the ITV drama *Downton Abbey*, featuring Matthew Crawley, heir to the family fortune, dodging muck and bullets at the Battle of Somme. Historian Taff Gillingham, who spent thousands of pounds building trenches identical to those used by British and German troops in WW1, said "*We have ten acres of film-set battlefield there, and we push for historical accuracy. When filming takes place, there's a huge amount of local industry that benefit from it, with up to 100 local extras*". Rise Hall Farm trenches were also used for other TV programmes and played a starring role in the film *Private Peaceful*, based on the best-selling WW1 novel by Michael Morpurgo. (EADT, 2011)



We start our new 2025-6 season of talks on Thursday **11th September**, 7.30pm in Elmswell's Wesley Hall (School Rd, IP30 9EE), when our annual subs of £12 (plus £4 per attendance) will be due for payment. That evening's speaker, Zoe Adlam, will give us her fascinating talk *"Fool's Gold – should the Law of Treasure be Changed to Improve Protection of Portable Antiquities?"*. Do join us then and, if you do not wish to become a member, just £6 is payable as a Visitor.



Portable Antiquities Scheme

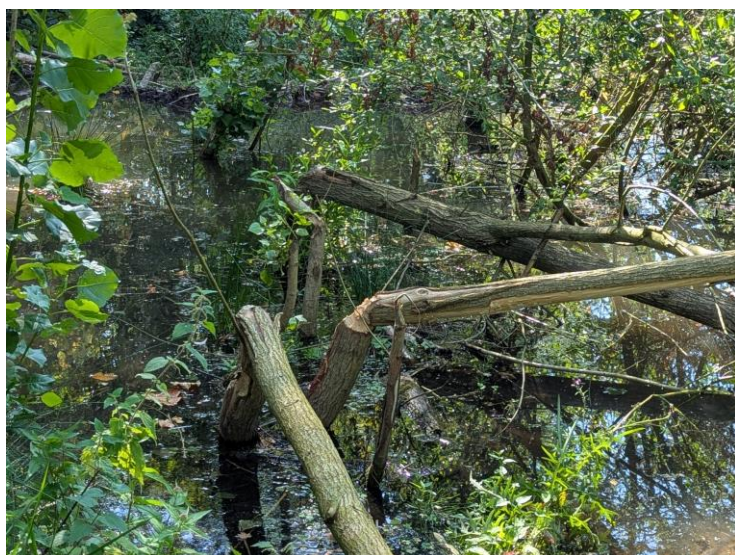
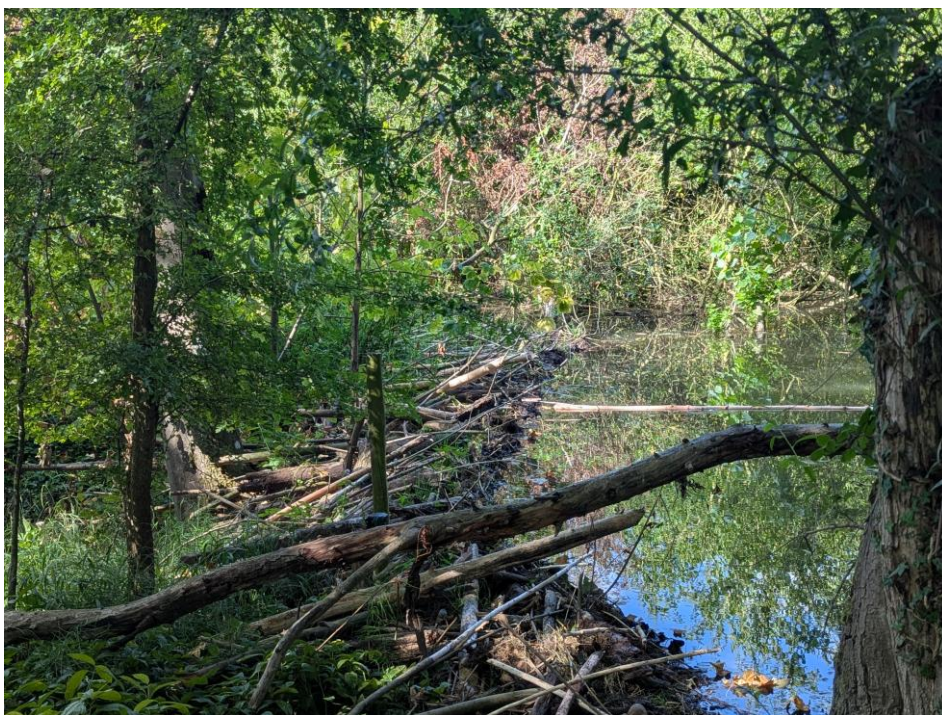
www.finds.org.uk

For further information about our History Group, please visit our website – www.elmswell-history.org.uk – or contact our Secretary, on 01359-242601

PICTURES FROM THE BEAVER TOUR IN AUGUST

Right – the dam built by the beavers – this has raised water levels in the area and increased the diversity of insect life

Below – evidence of the sharpness of their teeth. These grow continually throughout their life and allow them to fell trees to engineer dams and lodges, changing the environment.



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