

the norton messenger

December 2025



EDITORIAL

It's a packed edition, so I have to tell you about the WI meeting here –

"All are welcome to the newly formed WI at the Baptist Chapel on Monday December 8th at 7.30pm. Please bring a plate of food to share and £2 to cover the cost of the hall hire"

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.

Happy Christmas!

Diana

CONTENTS

Village classes	2
Village events	2
St Andrew's Church	3
Baptist Church	4
Elmswell Garden Club	4
Norton Primary School	5
Parish Council Minutes	6-8
Parish Council meeting dates	8
Down our Street	9-11
Neighbourhood Plan	11-12
Twining Association	12
Salvation Army news	13
Local Business Adverts	13-16



Editor:
Diana Ferrar
nortonmessenger@gmail.com



Jillian Rowland
nortonparishclerk@outlook.com nortonmessengeradvertising@gmail.com



Advertising:
Fran Bolus
nortonmessengeradvertising@gmail.com



Facebook:
Norton Village

VILLAGE EVENTS AND NOTICES

NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

IP31 3LE

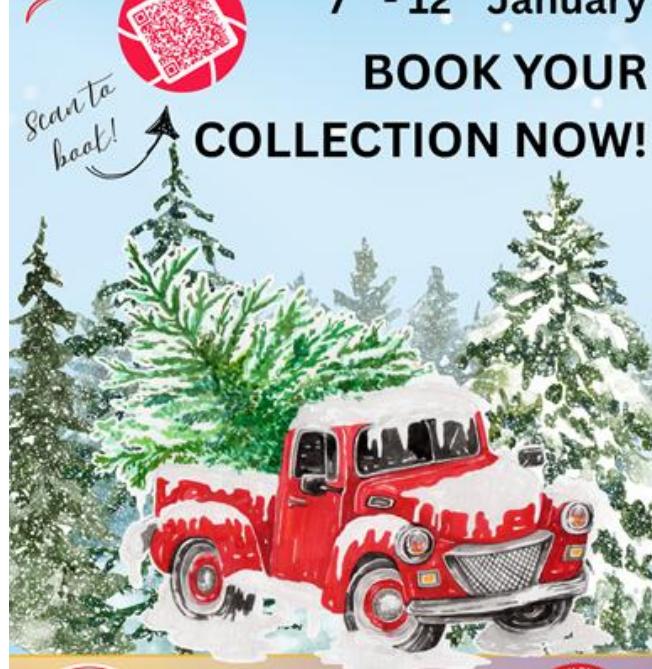
MONDAY	6.00pm - 6.45pm 7.00pm - 7.45pm	Paracise Jo's Fit4All	 
TUESDAY	9.30am - 10.30am	Serenity Yoga	
	10.45am - 11.45am	Silver Swans Over-55s Ballet Class	 
	7.15pm - 9.15pm	Song Circle Ladies' Choir	 
WEDNESDAY	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Zumba	
THURSDAY	9.00am - 10.00am 7.00pm - 8.00pm	Pilates with Paula Rockfit with Bliss	 
	9.15am - 10.15am 10.45am - 11.45 am	Zumba Fitness with Yvonne	

For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com

TREECYCLING 2026

7th - 12th January

BOOK YOUR
COLLECTION NOW!







WINTER COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 2026

09:30hrs TO 12:00hrs

STREET FARM, WOOLPIT ROAD,

NORTON IP31 3LU

IN AID OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, NORTON

GIANT TOMBOLA

COFFEE, TEA, SCONES & CAKES

PLUS TROPIC SKINCARE PRODUCTS



ENQUIRIES TO PENNY MATHIESON 01359 232472

SUFFOLK PUNCH TRUST - GREEN PUNCH
SAVE OUR SUFFOLKS

NORTON & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION





Wines from around the World

Norton Village Hall

31st January 2026 - 7.00pm

Entertainment by Wesley Ukulele Band

Experience a selection of seven various wines
from around the world including canapés.

Compère: Mr. Robert Stopp

Bookings
N&DTA nortontwinning@gmail.com

or Kelly Limer
kelly.walton53@yahoo.co.uk
07709463020

or Angela Walton
angela@legendservices.net
07702954299

Raffle to be held on the night

BACS Payment
Norton & District Twinning Association
52-30-31 52649741
Add reference: your surname

Tickets £22 each

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

December 2025 Church Services

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

7 th	2nd Sunday of Advent	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church Remembering	Norton Pakenham
14 th	3rd Sunday of Advent	9.30am Family Communion 11am Family Communion 2.30pm Carol Service 3pm Carol Service	Great Ashfield Pakenham Hunston Tostock
21 st	4th Sunday of Advent	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 3pm carol Service 4pm United Village Carol Service 5pm Carol Service 6.30pm Carol Service	Tostock Stowlangtoft Norton Salvation Army Great Ashfield Pakenham
24 th	Christmas Eve	3pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion	Tostock Pakenham
25 th	Christmas Day	9.30am Family Festival Communion 9.30am Family Festival Communion 10.30am Crib Service 11am Family Festival Communion 11.15am Family Festival Communion	Hunston Tostock Great Ashfield Norton Pakenham
28 th	1st Sunday of Christmas	10am Benefice Communion Service	Norton

Crib services at Tostock on Christmas Eve and at Great Ashfield on Christmas Day children are invited to come dressed as Angels, Shepherds or Wise Men.

Norton Village Carol Service this year at Norton Salvation Army. This is a United Service from Norton Churches Together. The School choir will sing, the Norton Salvation Army band will play, and there will be a collection in aid of EACH.

Christmas Day Services are for the whole family and will include some treats!

We look forward to seeing you! Happy Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.

Revd Katherine Valentine.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH LIGHTS

The St Andrew's Church (Norton) floodlights for Christmas week is sponsored by Susan Palastanga

Fondest Memories of Doug & Hilda Mingay, Norton

Wherever a beautiful soul has been there is a trail of beautiful memories.

Loved and missed so very much.





Norton Baptist Church

December 2025

Check the information below for our services throughout December and beyond



As always, December is a very busy month in the church calendar. Lots of opportunities to gather together and look forward to Christmas.

There are loads of things happening in the lead up to the big day.

December 14th at 10:30am is the “Norton Baptist Church Scratch Nativity!” – bring the family for this fun filled event where we put on our very own Nativity Play using anyone and everyone to play as many different parts as we can fit in. Come along and you never know – you could be Mary, Joseph, a Wiseman, Shepherd or take the starring role as the donkey!!!

December the 21st @ 4pm is the Village Carol Service. This year we joining together at the Norton Salvation Army. Come and join with Norton Churches Together, the Norton Salvation Army Band and The Norton School Choir as we truly welcome in the Christmas Season.

On the 24th December we will be holding our Carols by Candlelight service at 6pm.

On Christmas Day we will be celebrating together at 10am for a short, family friendly service

7 th Dec	14 th Dec	21 st Dec	24 th Dec	25 th Dec	28 th Dec
Morning Worship 10:30am	“Scratch Nativity” 10:30am	Village Carol Service @ The Salvation Army 4pm	Carols by Candlelight 6pm	Christmas Day Service 10am	No Service at Norton Baptist

Email us: nortonbaptist@btinternet.com

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



ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

At our latest meeting, we were joined by Chris Wiley, a local plantsman who founded the Sustainable Plant Store in 2022 and also coordinates Bury in Bloom. Chris shared his passion for snowdrops and he has over 1000 cultivated varieties in his personal collection.

Galanthus is the Latin name for the snowdrop and there are currently over 3000 known cultivated varieties and surprisingly they have a huge flowering period with some flowering as early as November with the later ones starting in March. Snowdrops can be planted as bulbs now or ‘in the green’ (in flower/with growth) in February or March. Chris shared some of his varieties with the group and the most popular one was ‘Grumpy’, pictured. This cultivar was discovered in a garden in Cambridge about 20 years ago. Snowdrops have had a recent resurgence in popularity with some of the rarer ones selling for hundreds of pounds per bulb!

Chris sells snowdrops as well as perennials, trees other bulbs and gifts online through his store sustainableplantstore.com and if you do fancy one of those rare cultivars then now is the time to treat yourself to an early Christmas present.

Our last meeting of the year was in November and we do not meet again until February. The Committee are busy finalising next years programme of speakers and visits. More details to follow over the winter months.



Norton CEVC Primary School

School Close Norton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3LZ

Headteacher Mrs Lisa Sparkes

office@norton.suffolk.sch.uk 01359 230520 www.norton.suffolk.sch.uk



I write this article two weeks into the second half of the autumn term, with the first sounds of Christmas songs and carols beginning to be heard around the school.

We ended the first half term with the Year 6 children enjoying a fantastic residential at Bawdsey Manor. The children worked together in many team-building activities, supporting and encouraging one another as they faced new challenges such as going on the giant swing and abseiling down a wall. The Bawdsey Manor staff commented on the children's impeccable manners and what a delight they were to have at the centre.

On Tuesday, 11 November, Upper Key Stage 2 walked to Norton's War Memorial to take time to remember and reflect on the service and sacrifice of all those who have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. The children listened to Flanders Fields read by James and Ivy and heard the Last Post played.

Our PE enrichment activity at the end of Autumn 1 was Quidditch! The children had a great time scoring goals through large hoops and practising their aim. This half term, our enrichment activity will be Musical Theatre.

In Star Class, the topic for this half term is Celebrations. The children have already been creative in producing some exciting Bonfire Night pictures and, as Christmas approaches, they will be exploring how people celebrate before and during this special season.

In Galaxy Class, the children have been learning about homes in the past and enjoyed their visit to Christchurch Mansion Museum in Ipswich to learn about life in a Victorian household.

Planet Class have started a new science topic on materials. The children have been exploring how different objects are made from different materials and discussing their suitability for different purposes. They have also enjoyed their English work linked to the book The King's Pants. Their final task within the unit was to write to the King himself – we wait excitedly for a reply!

In Year 3, the children are continuing their topic Stone Age Rocks by looking at the Bronze and Iron Ages. As part of their learning, they spent a day outdoors with Memma the Cavewoman, experiencing life as a cave person. The children learnt how to start fires (safely!), prepare and cook fish over the fire, and make flint tools – the list goes on! In Art, they have been investigating how Henri Matisse used positive and negative space in his artwork. Taking inspiration from his work, we created our own pieces exploring positive and negative space.

In Year 4, the children have started their Ancient Greece topic. They have enjoyed writing their own Greek myths and learning about ancient Greek culture. In gymnastics, they have been practising different rolls and developing the skills needed to create sequences.

As historians, Year 5 are learning about why and how the Anglo-Saxons settled in Britain. They began their topic with a visit to Sutton Hoo, where they thoroughly enjoyed the interactive displays in the visitor centre. The children are making good progress on the clarinet and we look forward to hearing them play in assembly.

In Year 6, our geography work this half term is focused on energy and power. Building on their science learning from last half term, the children are exploring where electricity comes from, how it is generated, and the differences between renewable and non-renewable energy. They will also examine the causes of global warming and the impact of climate change.

Our EYFS and Key Stage 1 Christmas production this year is A Wriggly Nativity! We have planned both an afternoon and an evening performance to allow the children to showcase their talents. We will also hold two Christmas Carol Services at the Salvation Army, where the Christmas story will be told through song and Bible readings. The Carol Services will take place on Monday, 15 December, at 9:30 a.m. for Key Stage 2 and 10:30 a.m. for EYFS and Key Stage 1. We warmly invite parents, carers, and members of our local community to join us.

To round off our festive season, we'll be enjoying our school Christmas Dinner during the last week of term.

Wishing you all a wonderful and healthy Christmas,

Mrs Sparkes



PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th October 2025

PRESENT in the Chair:

Mrs. S. Hill
 Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. G. Walton, Mr. N. Winstanley, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk) LGA 1972 s12 para 40
 County Councillor A. Mellen
 District Councillor H. Richardson,
APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Aket, Mr. J Bolus, Mr. R. Lenko, Mr. G. Millen, Mr. J. Morgan,
 The Council consented to accept the apology and reasons given.
 District Councillor D. Bradbury.

1.	The Chair welcomed everyone	
2.	Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests a) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) and personal interests in items on the agenda inc. gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 -none b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda - none c) To receive requests for dispensations - none	
3.	PUBLIC FORUM – to receive reports for information • Members of the public–to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance - none • Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email Request from Preschool to cut back hedge and clear ditch. The Council had no objection to this work being carried out.	
4.	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION – to receive written reports for information only • Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen SCC has submitted the business case for one unitary authority, so awaiting Government assessment and then consultation. The Local Nature Recovery strategy has been approved, supporting Government plans. The latest financial forecast looks like an overspend of £30m, but the Designated School Grant is predicted to be £63m overspend. However, most Councils are in a similar position. • Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson and David Bradbury In October Mid Suffolk will do a call for sites for residential use across the District. Grant Funding sessions at the Blackbourne Centre on 6 th November, 9am-2.30pm.	
5.	MINUTES	
	Motion by Prof. Jaggard to accept amendment to minutes on the discussion between Village Hall and Council. APPROVED by Mr. Walton, seconded by Mr. Winstanley, agreed by all. Councillors RESOLVED to approve the minutes of Council meeting held on 1st September 2025 are a true and correct record with the amendment.	
6.	MATTERS ARISING	
	6.1 Bus stop at crossroads - ongoing	
	6.2 UKPN – FIT update. The Clerk has contacted Birketts and Mr. Cooper concerned at the lack of update. Mr. Cooper assured things would take time but would progress.	Clerk
	6.3 Withdrawal of Bus service. Dan's Coaches had withdrawn service and could not see it would be reinstated. Mr. Winstanley will contact them again as Tostock has now been added to the service.	Mr. Winstanley
	6.4 Booking thermal imaging cameras. It was agreed to go ahead with this booking for January/February next year and to advertise to residents. Prof. Jaggard offered to use the camera.	Clerk
	6.5 Remembrance Day memorial service 9 th November. Mrs. Hill agreed to speak to The Dog about providing refreshments after the service. The memorial needs a clean.	Mrs. Hill
7.	PLANNING	
	7.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) Land West Of, Ixworth Road, Norton DC/25/04182 Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) of DC/24/02272 dated: 11/07/2024 - Erection of 4No detached dwellings with garages. The Council had no comment to make.	

	<p>7.2 APPLICATION FOR ADVERTISEMENT CONSENT - DC/25/04346 Budgens at Norton Service Station, Woolpit Road, Norton Application for consent to display an Advertisement(s) - Retention of 3no. vinyl decals on freestanding ATM The Council had no objection or comment to make.</p>	
	<p>7.3 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/25/04345 Budgens at Norton Service Station, Woolpit Road, Norton Full Planning Application - Installation of freestanding automated teller machine and bollards (retention of) The Council had no comment to make.</p>	
	<p>7.4 DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 Martindale, Halls Lane, Norton DC/25/03756 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/22/02777 - Condition 4 (Materials)</p>	
	<p>7.5 PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) HAS BEEN GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS Three Bridges, Ashfield Gardens, Norton DC/25/03217 Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act for DC/22/06158 (1no dwelling) for the variation of Condition 2 (Approved plans and documents) - Erection of 1no detached dwelling with detached garage. Part regularisation and demolition of existing buildings.</p>	
	<p>7.6 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ENQUIRY Land West Of Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton EN/25/00516 Nature of Problem: Alleged commencement of works on site prior to the completion of the access following grant of permission DC/24/04807 – no current update.</p>	
8.	FINANCIAL MATTERS	
	<p>8.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Clerk's salary £624.00 LGA1972 s112 Messenger, £363.00 LGA1972 s112 MSDC Play area Inspection £116.90 Local Gov (Misc. Provisions)Act 1976 s 19 Legend Services, lock and chain to playing field, £66.60 Public Health Act 1875 s164 HMRC £210.45 cheque no 022605 LGA1972 s112 St. Andrews Church, upkeep of churchyard, £550 cheque no 022606 LGA 1972 s214(6)</p>	
	8.2 The Clerk confirmed receipt of second instalment of precept £27500	
	8.3 The Clerk had forwarded budget statement – APPROVED and noted.	
	8.4 The Clerk confirmed submission of Recycling claim £594.42 and VAT return of £5985.67	
	8.5 The Clerk circulated a copy of Section 3 External auditor report for 24-25. Comment noted stating financial risk management was not reviewed and approved by the authority during the year. The Clerk explained to the auditor this had been done in February 2025, but the loan risk had not been listed so this was added and approved in July 2025. However, the auditor did not accept this explanation.	
	8.6 Update on Council subscription to Gov.uk. The Clerk has undertaken a couple of webinars and requested a quote from Aubergine website provider, which had been circulated to Councillors. The Clerk agreed to investigate further before a decision, but in principle it is right way forward.	Clerk
9.	REORGANISATION/DEVOLUTION	
	<p>9.1 Local Government Reorganisation circulated and noted. 9.2 Three Councils for Suffolk business case submitted to government by MSDC circulated and noted.</p>	
10	SPEEDWATCH	
	10.1 Report received and circulated from Speedwatch Coordinator, with a request for another "kill your speed sign" just after the garage and one near Little Haugh entrance. A new SID is planned for near The Gardens. It is frustrating that the damaged and missing reminders will not be replaced.	Clerk
	10.2 Draft proposal to combat speeding presented by Mr. Winstanley. He has put together names of consultants to contact for quotes. Councillors agreed to this being taken forward.	Mr. Winstanley
	10.3 30mph between Norton and Stowlangtoft – draft letter for Highways by Prof Jaggard circulated and approved by Council to be submitted to Highways with Councillor Mellen being copied in.	Clerk
11	VILLAGE HALL	
	11.1 Report from VHMC October 2025 received and noted.	7

	11.2 Wifi. The Clerk reported she had subscribed to BT for a business account as the previously account set up by the Hall had been wrongly listed as domestic. Connection is now awaited.	
12	PLAY AREAS	
	12.1 Play areas adjacent to Village Hall and Prospect Road – all OK. However, at some point the wooden train will need replacement due to deterioration.	
13	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN	
	13.1 Update on survey, Survey stats had been circulated. The next meeting with Ian Poole is on 11 th October.	
14	POLICY AND FINANCIAL STANDING ORDER	
	14.1 To receive Model Standing Orders. APPROVED by the Council	
	14.2 ICO Freedom of Information Act circulated and APPROVED .	
15	CORRESPONDANCE	
	15.1 Suffolk Emergency Planning - Community Rest Centre Training - noted	
	15.2 Sizewell community newsletter -noted	
	15.3 Woolpit Health Centre - Open Evening Tuesday 14th October 2025, 18.30. Mrs.Hill and Mr.Walton agreed to attend.	
	15.4 PC dates for 2026 – circulated and approved.	
	15.5 Citizens Advice AGM 31st October 10am Stowmarket. – noted.	
	15.6 Community Emergency Planning – Norton - noted	
	15.7 Sizewell C September project update - noted	
	15.8 Clerks & Councils Direct – noted.	
16	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting. None	
17	To confirm the date of next meeting 3rd November 2025	
18	There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.36	

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

First Monday of each month, plus additional meetings as required by urgency of business. Meetings are held in the Norton Baptist Church at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated.

5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 13th April (6th April – Easter Monday)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 20th April 2026, 11th May (Bank Holiday 4th May), 1st June, 6th July, 3rd August, 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November, 7th December

Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council – 11th May 2026

Members of the public are invited to give their views/questions to the Parish Council on issues on the agenda or raise issues for consideration or inclusion at future meetings. Please lodge this with the Clerk one week in advance of the meeting date. Items received after this time may be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Alternatively members of the public may submit comments on any item on the agenda via email to the Clerk: nortonparishclerk@outlook.com ahead of the meeting.

DOWN OUR STREET

Last month I started looking at the family of Robert and Elizabeth Downing who lived in Mill Farm. I focused on two of their daughters Ruby and Florence who were Red Cross nurses during WW1.

In 1928 Ruby married Rudolph Dutton and they lived at Quarry House in Stanton Street, where they brought up their family. Before marrying, Rudolph had worked with his father in Bury St Edmunds in the antiques trade. He became a wholesale fruit and vegetable salesman and during WW2 he was one of Norton's ARP wardens. An ARP warden's main and best-known task was to check everyone's blackout. It was illegal to show any light after dark, so he would patrol the streets, and if he saw a chink of light, he would shout "Put that light out!". If necessary, he would knock on doors to reinforce the message. The purpose, of course, was to prevent Nazi bombers from recognising centres of population from the air.



Quarry House, Stanton Street.

Florence Vere Downing born in 1898, was the fourth child of Robert and Elizabeth. She married Harry Baker of Elmswell and they had two sons. The Baker family were millers and had 'Home Mill' often referred to as 'Baker's Mill,' near the level crossing and Crown Mill, a hundred yards away along the railway on the Wetherden side. I remember visiting several times with my grandfather. Both of these buildings have since been demolished to make way for housing.



These two photos show 'Home Mill',
Elmswell.



Bakers (now their grandchildren) still farm some land in Norton between Saunderson's Lane and Little Green, but most of their farming interests are centred around their farms in Elmswell, Woolpit and Drinkstone.

With regard to Robert and Elizabeth's other children, their daughter Ivy married John Stennett of Grove Farm, Thurston (220 acres of the land is now part of the Black Bourn Valley Nature Reserve managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust). They sold up and bought the 400 acre Rougham 'Place Farm', just outside Beyton. The farmland was cut in half by the building of the A14 Beyton bypass in the late 1970s.

Ivy and John had four sons, but in September 1945 tragedy struck as Thomas Stennett, aged 18 was driving a lorry stacked four feet high with apple boxes. His 14 year old brother, Billy and another lad were standing on the back, steadying the load when the lorry turned a bend in the road and the apple boxes toppled onto the carriageway taking Tommy with them. He sustained head injuries and was taken to the American hospital at the nearby Rougham Aerodrome where he was treated by a surgeon. Despite the best attempts to save him, he died from a fractured skull and bleeding on the brain.

Robert and Elizabeth's oldest son was Arthur, always known as 'Pim.' He became a farmer at Elm Farm, Thurston Great Green, next to where Seaman's Builders is located.

Frank, was the youngest brother and he became a farmer in Norton, residing at 'The Beeches', now renamed as 'Suffolk House' (opposite 'Old Forge Close'). The site, up to Heath Road corner, was redeveloped in the early 2000s with six houses being built on the orchard and tennis court. Frank married Connie Coleman from Hunston Green and they had two children. Their son David, built Rookery Farm and will be remembered by many villagers. He later moved to Norfolk.

Finally there was Daisy, who married Edward Mitton, who had worked for the Stennetts of Place Farm, Rougham, during WW2. He was another farmer. They continued living in Mill Farm, the original family home. Daisy was a very skilled horsewoman and could often be seen riding sidesaddle along 'The Street' in the 1950s.



The 1935 wedding of Pim Downing to Winifred Cooper. L-R:- Frank Downing, Ivy Downing, Arthur 'Pim' Downing, Winifred Cooper, Daisy Downing, Alice Downing (Nee Burt), Unknown.



Downing's barn, The Street. Now cottages shown below.

Mill Farm House.



Present day view of what was the farmyard with Mill Farm House on right.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

You might have seen members of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee walking around the village during October referring to maps and taking photos. This is part of the Neighbourhood Plan to identify the characteristics of the village. In order to carry out the survey, the village was divided into ten character areas. Some areas are quite small, such as Hardings Lane and Prospect Road, some larger such as Stanton Street, and the centre of the village, from the Salvation Army Hall to the Primary School and Village Hall.

All of this will feed into the Neighbourhood Plan, providing information for any future expansion of the village.

The most likely places for any developments to take place in the village are shown via Mid-Suffolk's Call for Sites. A 'Call for Sites' is a process where local councils invite landowners and developers to suggest land that could be suitable for development. Mid-Suffolk is currently running a Call for Sites exercise from 20 October to 9 January 2026.

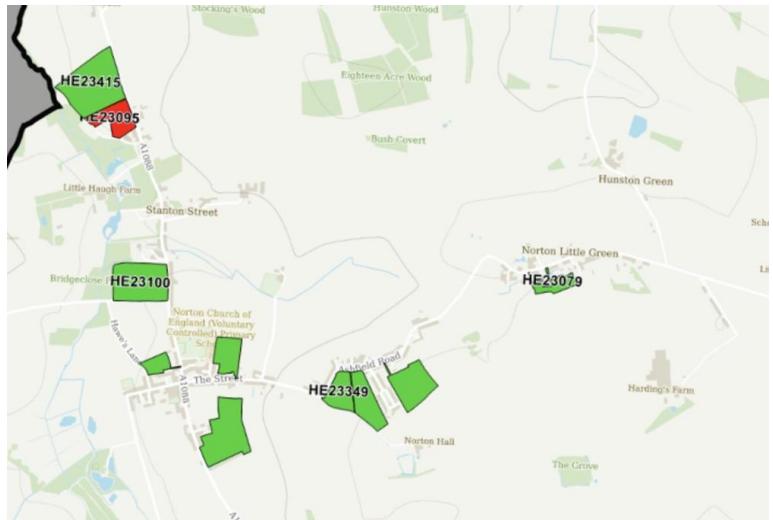
Information from the last Call for Sites process already undertaken (January - February 2024) can be found at www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/joint-local-plan. From this page, scroll down to 'Draft SHLAA Online Map'. This will take a while to load.

Below is just a snap shot of the current sites (green areas) in the village; the red site is already being built on. By zooming in you will be able to see in detail the current sites proposed by developers and landowners.

More detail on each site, for example the proposed number of houses, can be found on the link above the map ([Draft SHLAA 2025](#)), on pages 884-90.

This does **not** mean that these sites will finally be built on, but the information does show where developers and landowners completed the Call for Sites application process in January - February 2024.

Anyone in the village is welcome to join the volunteers on the committee to collect data, analyse the results and write the Neighbourhood Plan. If you want to get involved, please email nortonNP25@gmail.com.



NORTON & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Members Cheese & Wine evening

Friday 14th November saw many of our members gather, and you will see from the pictures included here that a lot of fun was had by all!

If this looks like something you would like to be part of then please get in touch to hear more about the Association and how you could become a member.



40th Anniversary

2026 will be a milestone year for our Association and lots of planning is already going into celebrations.

If you or your family have ever been members of the Association then please get in touch and ...



****SAVE THE DATE: 12th July 2026**
More details to follow soon!**

We would love you to share your memories from the last 40 years, so please send any pictures or stories through to us!

Dates for your diary:

- ❖ **31st January 2026:** Wine Tasting with Suffolk Punch Trust – Green Punch
- ❖ **21st March 2026:** Quiz Night
- ❖ **23rd-27th May 2026:** Exchange visit to Muids



nortontwinning@gmail.com



Norton and District Twinning Association



Norton Salvation Army

What's on at the Army in December?

Sunday 7 th	Breakfast Church (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting)	10.45am
Sunday 14 th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Sunday 21st	Churches Together Village Carol Service in Salvation Army Hall (Band/Singers & School Choir participating)	4.00pm
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 4 th	Cameo Lunches (3 Course Meal £6.00)	11.45am – 1.30pm
Saturday 6th	Card Craft/Coffee & Cake	10.00am – 12.00pm

If you would like to join in with more of your favourite Carols then why not come to the following:-

Wednesday 3 rd	Carols with the band in the centre of Woolpit from	7.00pm
Tuesday 9 th	Carols with the band in Gt. Ashfield Church	7.30pm
Thursday 11 th	Carols with the band in Tostock Church	7.30pm
	(I'm sure both churches would make you very welcome)	

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

LOCAL BUSINESS ADVERTS



Cabinet Maker

Custom cabinetry and furniture made just for you, based in Bury St Edmunds and the surrounding area.

Fitted Wardrobes – Kitchens – Vanity Units – Dressing Tables – Storage Solutions – Dressers and much more.

For enquiries please email or call Oli.



olivertownsend43@gmail.com



townsends_furniture



07724959738



Receive a FREE thermal survey of your home

To book, email us with your preferred dates:

nortonparishclerk@outlook.com

The Parish Council are offering you a free thermal imaging survey of your home between 4th and 10th February 2026.

In just a 20 minute visit from community volunteers, you could learn where heat is escaping from your home and how to insulate it better, leading to:



"We were fairly confident it wouldn't reveal anything too drastic but when we saw the front door a glaring red we could see just how much heat we were losing. Thermal curtains were an easy inexpensive solution. We noticed an immediate improvement." - Mr & Mrs Bridges

Funded by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership. Find out more about this partnership of all of Suffolk's district, borough and county councils at www.sustainablesuffolk.org.uk

Compass Pest Management

for all your pest control needs

25 years experience

Based in Thurston

Rats, mice, moles, rabbits, bird control,
squirrels, insects & bugs, wasps & hornets

7 days a week

Please call Robert 07544 367645

compasspest@hotmail.com

Yoga at Norton Primary School

Tuesday's, 7 - 8:30pm

£8 per class

For all abilities

For more information:

T: 07932 792955

E: yogawithstuart@gmail.com

Member of the Yoga Alliance Professionals



Do you need to get fit and/or
improve your health?

...then come to our fun & friendly classes

Norton Village Hall on Mondays

Paracise at 6.00 to 6.45pm

Jo's Fit4all Class at 7.00 to 7.45pm

(optional online weight loss support can also be offered)



1st class FREE

Contact Jo: 07913 922926

Email: jo@josfit4all.co.uk

josfit4all.co.uk or paracise.com

tllandscapes.co.uk



The Country Life Landscapes



'Growing with you'

BULK BAG

Garden Supplies
& Waste Collection

Tel: 01359 240094

Email: orders@tllandscapes.co.uk



- Design
- Construction
- Maintenance

As well as a complete landscape and
maintenance service, we offer garden
supplies and waste collection



Collection

Green Waste

Wood • Soil

Turf • Weeds

Hardcore • Stone

Brick • Slabs

Concrete • Metal

The Old Tea Room Veterinary Surgery

For a professional caring service

Independent
practice with
a personal
approach



Station Road
Elmswell
Bury St Edmunds
IP30 9HA

Scan for more
information



01359 241761 elmswellvets.co.uk



Flowers for all occasions

Deliveries to the local area or collect from Norton

**Country Blooms
Suffolk**

07913 922926



Email Jo: countrybloomssuffolk@gmail.com

**M E A D O W
G R A C E**

PLUMBING HEATING BATHROOMS

Plumbing and heating engineer with over 20 years' experience. Providing a friendly, reliable and professional service with an emphasis on high standards of workmanship and conscientiousness.

- Full bathroom suite installation (inc. design and management)
- Boiler installation, replacement and maintenance
- Full heating system installation and upgrade
- Hot water cylinder upgrade and replacement
- Power flushing
- All general plumbing

📞 Sean: 07983 403 289
✉️ meadowgraceph@gmail.com
🔗 [instagram.com/meadowgraceph](https://www.instagram.com/meadowgraceph)



Strands

HAIR SALON



IXWORTH

I Have Over 30 Years Experience in
Cutting & Styling Ladies & Gents Hair

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday	8.30am – 5.00pm
Wednesday	8.30am – 5.00pm
Thursday	8.30am – 7.00pm

For a Professional & Friendly Service
Telephone Sarah on
01359 230300

**ADRIAN SAYER
OIL HEATING ENGINEER
ESTABLISHED 1999**

**BOILERS AND COMPLETE SYSTEMS
SERVICED AND REPAIRED**

**BREAKDOWNS
ALWAYS A PRIORITY**

01359 220119
07956 094433

**BOARDY'S
BOILERS**

SEAN BOARDMAN

Managing Director

+44 (0) 7500 495 647 / 01359 231 208
boardysboilers@outlook.com



TIME FOR YOU™
DOMESTIC CLEANING

Are you
tired of cleaning?

*We have the
right cleaner
waiting to help you.*



01359 258991
Regular - Weekly - Cleaner
www.timeforyousuffolk.co.uk

Typically
£18 p.h.

**Rothwell's
Carpet Cleaning**

01638 428 060
www.Rothwells.biz

**Carpet Cleaning
& Stone Floors, Upholstery, Rugs**

Rothwell's has been in business since 1993.
Our large truck mounted machines mean more cleaning
& drying power for the best results possible.
Members of both the NCCA and TACCA.
We will move the furniture for a thorough clean.
100% satisfaction or it's FREE.

Call Oliver and Max Campbell for expert help today.

QUOVE ACCOUNTING

Creative **Accounting.** Dynamic **Accounting.** Efficient **Accounting.**
Innovative **Accounting.** Positive **Accounting.**

Flexible Accounting.

For business
and personal
accounting
solutions.

hello@quove.co.uk
01284 845120
quove.co.uk

3 Brickfields
Business Park,
Woolpit



**YOU NEED IT?
CLARKES HAVE IT!**

CLARKES
OF WALSHAM LIMITED



DAF **ROUGHNECK** **OX** **Makita** **SEALEY**

TIMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS **GARDENING & LANDSCAPING**
GATES & FENCING **AGGREGATES**
BESPOKE JOINERY **TOOLS & HARDWARE**

01359 259 259
clarkesofwalsham.co.uk
The Street, Walsham-le-Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 3BA



01359 230097

Open 6 Days A Week

MOT Testing – Servicing – Clutches – Exhausts
Cambelts – Bulbs – Diagnostics – Wipers
Tyres - Mechanical Repairs – Air Conditioning
Computerised Four Wheel Alignment – Loan Cars
Digital Service Records Updated – Cards Accepted

ALL MAKES OF CAR AND SMALL VAN

*Friendly Staff, All Qualified For Petrol, Diesel,
Hybrid and Electric Vehicles*

(Qualified to Minimum of City and Guilds Level 3 or 4)

Andys Auto Fix Ltd
Woolpit Road
Norton IP31 3LU



TechSafe®