

the norton messenger

July 2024



EDITORIAL

Thanks to Dave Ling for the amazing photographs from the water meadows and to Ashley Ruffles for the photographs of the Northern Lights seen recently.

Please send any contributions for the Messenger to the address below by the 15th of the previous month.

Best wishes, Diana

CONTENTS

Village hall news	2
Northern Lights photos	2
Norton school	3
Parish Council minutes	4-6
Salvation Army	7
St Andrew's Church news	8
Church lights	8
Down our Street	9-11
Elmswell History group	12 -13
Local Business Adverts	13-16



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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Norton Parish Council have invested in 3 pieces of adult exercise equipment. Situated next to the children's playground it is the perfect location for parishioners to get fit whilst watching their children play. We hope the equipment will be well used. Enjoy!

Robert Lenko

Norton Parish Councillor



Thank you to Ashley Ruffles who sent in these photos of the northern lights over Norton.



I write this article two weeks into Summer 2 wondering whether the rain will ever stop and the sun may begin to shine. I am hoping that by the time you are reading this the sun will be shining and there is no need for umbrellas! Summer 2 is a half term which is full of business and excitement, with children beginning to think and prepare for the next step in their educational journey as well as enjoying the remaining weeks with their current class teachers and all the learning which will take place.

In this half term we are looking forward to a multitude of events including an Ultimate Frisbee Enrichment Day, the Key Stage 2 children's performance of their production 'Cinderella' and Norton's Got Talent. We have also got several trips booked to support and embed the children's learning.

This year we decided to hold our Sports Day a little earlier than normal. We were fortunate with the weather, although it was a little chilly the rain did hold and the children were able to compete in races and sporting events. As well as displaying their sporting talents, it was also lovely to see the children encouraging and supporting each other as they competed.

The children have also been fortunate to attend a 'Prayer Space' which was held at Norton Baptist Church, and was organised by Bury Christian Youth (BCY). All the children got the opportunity to be still, to reflect and contemplate. They were able to record their thoughts, prayers and ideas in many creative ways.

In Star Class (Reception) the children are continuing their topic on 'Living and Growing' and this half term they have some caterpillars which require looking after. Over the coming weeks the children will be watching carefully as these caterpillars change, recording and discussing the change in their appearance. The children are also excited about going on their first school trip to Lackford Lakes. In Galaxy Class (Year One) the children have started their new Geography topic called 'Let's go to the jungle'. The children will be looking at the locations of different types of jungle around the world, including cloud forests and mangrove forests. They will be finding out about the features and weather in these jungles and then comparing them with a British woodland.

Planet Class (Year Two) also has a new topic for this half term, G'day Australia. The children will start the topic by finding out where Australia is in the world. They will then find out about the weather in Australia, features of the landscape, learn about the animals there and make comparisons to the UK. In Comet Class (Year 3), their new topic is 'Commotion in the Ocean', where the children will be learning about the 5 oceans of the world, the different layers of the ocean and the creatures that live in each layer. A trip to the SeaLife Centre is also planned, with a talk from an expert. Rocket Class (Year 4) shared with enthusiasm what they have been learning through the year when they performed their class assembly. The children did an amazing job and it was impressive to see just how much they had covered and enjoyed in their learning. This term the children will be learning about deserts; where they can be found in the world and how deserts and sand dunes are formed. In Meteor Class (Year 5), the children are looking forward to playing their clarinets as part of a musical performance with other schools in the local area.

This will be the last half term for our children in Supernova Class (Year 6) and so the term will involve transition events to their new secondary schools as well as preparing for the production when they will be taking on key acting roles. They have been enjoying a 'Come Dine With Me' Experience as part of their Design and Technology, where as a class they have been cooking and making a starter, main and desert for other children to score.

As our Year 6 children prepare to leave, we welcome our new Star Class children who will be joining the school in September for some Come and Join In sessions. The current children in Star Class are doing an amazing job of showing the children their class and all the fun activities they can do inside and outside of the classroom.

I look forward to sharing news of the end of term production and other events in my final newsletter for this academic year.

Thank you, Mrs Sparkes



PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13th May 2024

PRESENT in the Chair: Mrs. S. Hill
 Mr. B. Aket, Mr. J Bolus, Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. J. Morgan, Mr. G. Walton, Mr. N. Winstanley,
 Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk) LGA 1972 s12 para 40
 County Councillor A. Mellen
 District Councillor D. Bradbury.
 District Councillor A. Davies.

APOLOGIES: Mr. R. Lenko

1.	Welcome and protocol reminder	
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 and their nature inc. gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 -none b)To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda. Mrs. Hill stated she had been approached concerning Planning item 8.1 so took no part in that discussion. 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 Memorial bench for Evie. Proposals had been circulated. Health and Safety concerns expressed of finger/arm traps at the back of the seat. Councillors commented on perhaps locating the bench in a corner position, or moving one of the other benches. The Council are fully supportive and understand fundraising is happening. The Council requested a cost of the bench and agreed to meet any shortfall following fundraising. District Councillors felt there would be funding available from their locality budget. Head Teacher concerning dead elm tree. Following an inspection of the trees the Head reported a dead elm on the Council side of the boundary. The Council agreed to the work being carried out and Gadd Brothers would attempt to do outside of school hours. Councillors asked for the cut wood to be 4 foot lengths and stacked in the area as an ecopark. Letter received from Mrs. Rogers concerning moles and footpaths the contents of which the Council noted.	
4.	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION –to receive written reports for information only •Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen Money is incoming from the Government (£10.9m) which will result in two new facilities for SEN – 126 new places for 3-16 year old with several learning difficulties and an alternative provision pre-school. Grant money is available for Suffolk Homes to improve energy. Resurfacing money has become available. Prof. Jaggard commented on verges being a problem. Councillor Mellen is investigating signs warning “slow down children crossing”, as requested at last month’s meeting. •Report from District Councillors Austin Davies and David Bradbury. Capital Grant schemes are available for up to £10,000. Locality funding is available.	
5.	MINUTES	
	To RESOLVE that the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 8th April 2024 and planning meeting on 15th April 2024 are a true and correct record. Mr. Aket proposed, Prof. Jaggard seconded with all in agreement.	
6.	COOPTION – No update on cooption to the vacant post.	
7.	MATTERS ARISING	
	7.1 Bus service Questionnaire – Results. 35 responses received mostly asking for 9am into Bury for College, Hospital etc, with requests for buses during holidays and on a Wednesday and Saturday. Mr. Winstanley will contact Stevensons, and it was also suggested asking Danns Coaches and Vertas about minibuses.	Mr. Winstanley
	7.2 Street light update along Ixworth Road. Another site had been suggested but unfortunately the resident had rejected	Clerk
	7.3 Rights of Way application, Ixworth Road. Prof. Jaggard took the necessary application papers to complete.	Prof. Jaggard
	7.4 Village Hall noticeboard – in progress. Mr. Walton has spoken to Mr. Wise.	Mr. Walton
	7.5 Village Sign – cleaning. Upon inspection it was felt this was not required yet.	4

	7.6 UKPN update –UKPN has agreed the lease now needs to be reengaged and progressed. Fields in Trust need to be informed to get their requirements for consent and deed of dedication. Norton Village Hall need to be party to the lease as it falls on the land leased to them	Clerk
	7.7 Gov.uk update. It is recommended by SALC but not mandatory, showing the Parish Council as a tier of government, but it can be expensive to set up.	
8.	PLANNING	
	8.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION Barn at Haydens Farm (The Woodshed), Ashfield Road, Norton - DC/24/02070 Householder Application - Erection of single storey extension and replacement roof. The Council had no objection to this application.	
	8.2 PERMISSION GRANTED Aquarius, Ashfield Road, Norton, DC/24/01084 Erection of single storey side / rear extension, addition of solar panels (following demolition of existing structure).	
	8.3 DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS Land West Of, Ixworth Road, Norton Proposal: Application for DC/23/01570 Condition 3 (Surface Water Discharge Prevention)	
9.	FINANCIAL MATTERS	
	9.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Clerk's salary £416.00 and expenses £95.66 LGA1972 s112 Clear Insurance £1546.57 LGA1972 s111 Freshairfitness deposit £2400.00 Public Health Act 1875 s164 Vertas £365.23 Public Health Act 1875 s164 Vertas £332.03(paid on 24.4.24) Public Health Act 1875 s164 Tenhats, May Messenger, £395.00 LGA1972 s142 Clerks & Councils subscription £15.50 LGA1972 s112 MS Oakes, stage payment £82,012.54, Santander cheque 522557 LGA 1972 s133 HMRC £104.00, Santander cheque 522558 LGA1972 s112	
	9.2 To receive and approve AGAR 3 section 1 and 2. The Clerk presented The Annual Governance Statement to Councillors. The Council RESOLVED to approve.	
	9.3 The Clerk confirmed receipt of VH CIL £7600.31	
	9.4 The Clerk confirmed receipt of CIL payment £16314.63	
	9.5 To review Insurance cover for 24-25. Councillors RESOLVED to accept the insurance schedule as being sufficient coverage.	
	9.6 Donation request by SARS. RESOLVED to use the allocated budget of £400	
	9.7 Coronation Commemoration noticeboard. First thoughts have been put together with properties of interest in the village. The list will be distributed to Councillors for clarification. Rather than photographs they will be line drawings. Dr. Mason has maps to use and agreed to liaise with Barconwood about draft.	
	9.8 The Clerk confirmed four June bookings for Planning Training.	
	9.9 The Clerk had circulated the internal control statement to March 2025. Councillors RESOLVED to accept and adopt.	
	9.10 The Clerk circulated a budget statement which was approved by the Council	
	9.11 The Clerk stated Vertas carried out a first cut of the Play area hedge in March and would be adding it to their programme to cut in August.	
10	SPEEDWATCH	
	10.1 Update on Speedwatch. The ANPR camera returned and data awaited.	
	10.2 Parish Council strategy to combat speeding. Suggestions made about gates at the roadside into the village, chicanes, speed bumps, road narrowing. With the additional development along Ixworth Road it was suggested trying again for 40mph between Stowlangtoft and Norton, and asking Stowlangtoft to apply as well.	Clerk
	10.3 Update on small solar SID located in Heath Road. Mr. Lenko stated the site had been accepted by SCC but there were more forms to complete.	Mr. Lenko
11	VILLAGE HALL	
	11.1 Update on progress. Anticipated completion is now July. Mr. Aket enquired about a grand opening. This is still under discussion.	

	11.2 Update on correspondence with Birketts & Lottery The first draft for registration required a plan which was purchased. Market value was also required and Mr. Walton sourced this and the Clerk forwarded to Birketts. The assurances for the final application for the Lottery grant have been made and a decision to finalise the £70,000 application should be made soon.	
12	PLAY AREAS	
	12.1 Play area adjacent to Village Hall - no problems to report.	
	12.2 Play area in Prospect Road – no problems to report	
13	CORRESPONDENCE	
	13.1 MSDC Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Policy Consultation - noted	
	13.2 Clerks & Councils Direct and Suffolk View magazine – noted.	
14	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting.	
	14.1 Mr. Walton enquired about the street cleaner. The Clerk reported he should be back this month after his health problems and hospital stay.	
	14.2 Mr. Winstanley stated he will contact Richard Parmee in the Autumn about the Playing field wild flower area.	Mr. Winstanley.
15	To confirm the date of next meeting: 3 rd June 2024	
16	There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.16	





Norton Salvation Army

Woolpit Road, Norton, IP31 3LU

What's on at the Army in July?

Sunday 2 nd	Brunch Service (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting) (Leading our Service for the morning will be " <u>Salvation Brass</u> " who are visiting our area)	10.45am
Sunday 9 th	All-Age Worship (Led by area Community Youth Worker Stuart Hendry)	11.00am
Sunday 16 th	Evening Praise (Led by Maj. Doug Askew, with Band & Choir participating)	6.00pm
Sunday 23 rd	All-Age Worship	11.00am
Sunday 30 th	All-Age Worship	11.00am
Mondays (School Term Time)	Toddle song (Children 0 – 4yrs - £1.00 family/session)	9.00am – 11.30am
Wednesday 5 th	Friends Cafe (We are a dementia friendly group, free for all to attend for a chat & refreshments)	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Every Thursday	Cameo Lunches (3 course meal for £6.00)	11.45am – 1.30pm
Thursday 6 th /20 th	Band Rehearsal (Anyone who enjoys brass band music is welcome to come & listen)	8.00pm – 9.30pm
Thursday 27 th	Choir Rehearsal (Please feel free to come along & join in if you like singing)	8.00pm – 9.30pm
Friday 21 st	Adult Craft Club (Enjoy an evening out along with a "Crafty Cuppa")	7.00pm – 8.30pm

Unwanted clothes & shoes:

Why not help to protect the environment by donating your discarded clothes & shoes in the clothes/shoe bank in our car park. Available 24hrs.

If you would like to make contact with Norton Salvation Army please e-mail:
Valerie.ling@salvationarmy.org.uk OR Peter.newson@salvationarmy.org.uk
We will be pleased to help you where possible with any questions/queries.

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

July 2024 Church Services

Our beautiful and ancient church is open every day for visitors and private prayer.

7 th	6 th Sunday after Trinity	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church- Saints	Norton Pakenham
14 th	7 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
21 st	8 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion 6pm Evening prayer and Praise	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Tostock
28 th	9 th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Holy Communion 11am Family Communion 11am Morning Worship	Great Ashfield Hunston Norton Tostock

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH LIGHTS

The St Andrew's Church (Norton) floodlights for the first two weeks of July is sponsored by Thelma Howes to celebrate family birthdays.

If you would like to see the church lit up in 2024 please consider sponsoring the lights (£20 a week) or if you would like to celebrate an event or remember a loved one contact: Philippa Wilding email pfwilding@btinternet.com Teleph one 07776443004



EXPLORING THE PAST

A Norton Local History Afternoon



St Andrew's Church, Church Lane, Norton IP31 3NB
Sunday 14th July 2024, 2.00pm - 5.00pm

2.00pm & 4.00pm: Tours of the Archaeological Dig Site
(by Institute of Archaeology, University College London)

3.00pm: "The Buildings of Norton" - a talk by David Burt

Also: An Exhibition of Finds unearthed during The Dig
&
A Photographic Exhibition depicting the History of Norton

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Donations in aid of St Andrew's Church

For further information please contact : Martin Wood on 01359 242367

DOWN OUR STREET

Just a quick update on projects that I am currently working on in my role as Village Recorder.

I am updating the pen portraits of men who served in the military during WW1 and the info about those who lost their lives in WW2. I have found a newspaper report of Norton men serving in 1915 and at least three men's names do not appear on the 'Roll of Honour' which is located in St Andrew's Church. I hope to have this work completed and available before Remembrance Sunday.

Sadly, there is hardly any record of the names of Norton's women who served as nurses etc. and I have not been able to find any information about men or women who served in WW2. I would be grateful for any names and service information for them. We must remember what our villagers did for the country.



War Nursing Services.

The War Office issued a list of 335 names of ladies who have been brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for War by the chairman of the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society for valuable Red Cross nursing services rendered during the war.

The list included the following:—

SUFFOLK.

Allen, Nurse Miss M. C.,⁴ V.A.D., Shrubland Park Hosp., Coddanham, Ipswich.

Baker, Nurse Miss M., V.A.D., Red Cross Hosp., Sudbury.

Bruce, Nurse Mrs. A., V.A.D., Red Cross Hosp., Northgate Street, Bury St. Edmunds.

Downing, Nurse Miss R., V.A.D., Suffolk Hosp., Ampton Hall, Bury St. Edmund's.

L-R. Ruby and Florence Downing of Mill Farm, The Street, Norton and with other nurses at Ampton Hall.





I have recently produced a database of known burials (Names and Dates) at the Baptist Church and I am currently producing a map of locations of graves in the graveyard. Photos have been taken of all the surviving gravestones, but a couple are needing to be cleared of weeds so I can get better view of the names. Hopefully this will all be completed by early July.



My next undertaking is a major job to produce a database on Excel, recording admissions to the old school from 1871 to November 1914. I have got just over 1,500 children to record, with dates of birth, roads lived in, father's names, dates of leaving and outcome after leaving Norton School.

As we have been recently commemorating D Day, I thought it would be appropriate to remember Norton lad Cecil Francis Brinkley who served with 1st Bn. Hampshire Regiment.

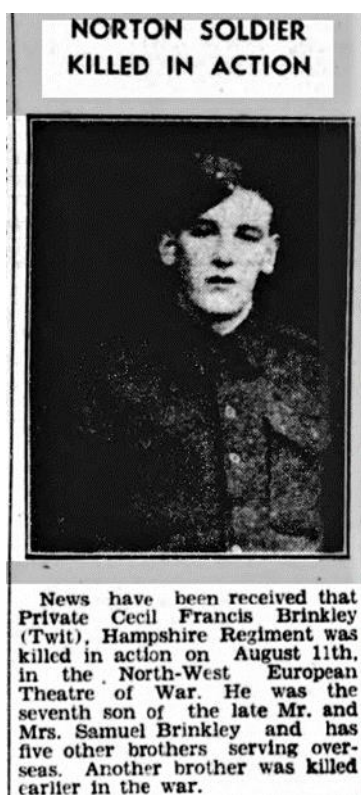
Cecil was born in Norton in Dec 1925, the 11th of 12 children born to Samuel and Ellen (Nee Fisher) Brinkley. Like most village boys, he had a nickname, ('Twit'). He had been a member of the Norton ATC.

When the 1st Bn. left its sealed camp in the New Forest on 31st May 1944 bound for the port of Southampton, it was with the purpose of assaulting the enemy's defences at Arromanches for 'Operation Overlord'. The men embarked and waited on board until the convoy sailed 5 days later. Their task was the vital one of piercing the elaborate defences on the Normandy coast and they were in the first assault on Gold Beach at 07:25.



Painting of 1st Bn Hants on 'Gold' Beach June 6th 1944, by Leslie Arthur Wilcox.

The battalion suffered 182 casualties on this single day but remained operational (The CO was badly injured and the 2nd in command was killed.) and soon captured Le Hamel and Arromanches. Fighting continued through the high hedges of the 'Bocage' region. Cecil was killed in action on 11th August 1944 and is now buried at the St Charles de Percy War Cemetery, which is the southernmost of the Normandy cemeteries. The majority of those buried here died in late July and early August 1944 in the major thrust made from Caumont l'Evente towards Vire, driving a wedge between the German 7th Army and Panzer Group West near Villers Bocage. I have found a 'Graves Concentration Report' which indicates that he was buried near where he fell, at or close to Rousseville, in 1944, but when the St Charles de Percy Cemetery was formed his body was exhumed and brought to this central War Graves Site. This happened on 5th May 1947 (almost 3 years later). The cemetery contains 809 Second World War burials. **Cecil was aged 18.**



ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

Our June meeting started with our A.G.M. at which a new interim Chairman was elected and additional helpers came forward, so our group is happily able to continue into its 25th year.

We then welcomed local historian, Sarah Doig, for her talk *"The Real Basil Brown, Rickingham to Sutton Hoo & Back"*. She recounted how, from a very early age, Basil was interested in and enthusiastic about first astronomy and then archaeology which he loved to share with everyone, and particularly with the local youngsters in his "Brown School of Archaeology". From his prolific writings in copious notebooks and diaries as well as photographs and memories of Basil from local residents, we learnt that his initial enthusiasm was fostered by his grandparents' stories of hoards of gold coins. Born in 1888, Basil left school at 14, but attended local evening classes to continue his learning and thirst for knowledge. In 1932 he published a book on astronomy, and took over the farm tenancy following his father's death, after which he did a variety of jobs until he was employed by Ipswich Museum where he stayed, on and off, for the rest of his life.



Travelling everywhere on his trusty bicycle, among his first finds were a series of kilns in Wattisfield, a Roman villa in Stanton, and he was also one of the first archaeologists to find the Anglo-Saxon settlement in West Stow. He returned to the Sutton Hoo dig many times, but reported a "distortion of facts" on some occasions. His house was said to be like a museum in itself, with artefacts scattered in every room, and his scratch-built numerous garden sheds (in which he loved to spend time) were a sight to behold.

Finally in 1968 the British Museum acknowledged his contribution to the Sutton Hoo ship-burial finds, but more recently in Rickingham there is a road named after him and a commemorative Blue Plaque has been mounted on his house for the village's most famous long-term resident and celebrity of whom many had very fond memories. Basil died in 1977 at the age of 89, leaving a lasting legacy to Suffolk and British history.



Our **Guided Tour Outing to Ely's Fenland Museum** will be on Saturday **13th July**, for which there may still be tickets available by the time you read this - £5.50 for members or £6.50 for non-members – do be in touch a.s.a.p. if you'd like to join us at Ely.

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

FROM THE ARCHIVE – 19th July 1957:

Ken Lightfoot became a railwayman at Ipswich railway station when he was demobbed from the army. His first job was as a porter, which meant he did everything. On this Friday, a couple of specialised pigeon-racing wagons came in which he had to load up with hampers of birds going to Calais to be released on the Sunday to race back to Suffolk. Ken put buckets of maize and water in the wagons for the journey (Ipswich, London's Liverpool Street, Dover then ferry to Calais). Off they went – job done; or so he thought..... At the end of his shift, Ken went back to the parcel office to get his bike, only to find another hamper there, containing two pigeons he had missed, which belonged to a pigeon racer in Elmswell. He decided to hide them over the weekend and release them on the Sunday so they would look like they had raced home with the others. He stowed the hamper behind some parcels and came in secretly on the Saturday to feed them.

On the Sunday, he released them and went home feeling pleased with himself, having checked with a pigeon fancier friend how long it would take the other birds to fly in from France. On Monday morning, Ken reported for work only to be called into the Stationmaster's office. "How come", the angry Stationmaster demanded, "two pigeons got home on Sunday afternoon when the race had been called off in Calais due to fog over the Channel?!" *(Thanks to Ken Lightfoot, railwayman and raconteur; 'The Ipswich Book of Days' by Rachel Field)*



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