

the norton messenger

May 2023

EDITORIAL

This month's cover photo is another contribution from Dave Ling, taken near the lakes. We also have another Down our Street, more of your pet pictures and the welcome return of the nature notes

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

Best wishes, Diana

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NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

IP31 3LE

MONDAY	9.00am - 10.00am	Ren Yoga
	6.00pm - 8.30pm	Jo's Fit4All
TUESDAY	9.30am - 10.30am	Serenity Yoga
WEDNESDAY	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Zumba
FRIDAY	9.15am - 10.15am	Zumba
	10.45am - 11.45am	Yvonne's Body Work Class

For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com



CARPET BOWLS

In the Baptist Church Hall every Tuesday at 14.00hrs. Come and try it out, free first session - all for enjoyment not competition. If interested please call Ronnie Emmins on 01359 232096



CLICK before you call

Need to contact police and it's not an emergency? Save time, do it online - suffolk.police.uk/contact-us

Don't like waiting in queues?

Then 'Click Before You Call' if you want to report non-urgent crime, anti-social behaviour or a non-injury road incident.

Simply visit our website: www.suffolk.police.uk where you can make a report in just minutes.

Rest assured, all reports made online will be dealt with in exactly the same way a telephone call would be. There is also a vast amount of information on our website and the answers to a large number of questions you may have.

Nearly 20,000 people made reports online last year and saved themselves valuable time.



Scan this QR Code to contact us online!



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY



The VIPs, Suffolks number one male a cappella chorus, singing in the Barbershop style, are recruiting!



Why not come along and have a go, you might be surprised! We rehearse every Tuesday night at Norton Village Hall, (IP31 3LE) further details can be got by scanning the QR codes below or straight from our website www.vipchorus.co.uk



BARN OWLS *Tyto alba*

The barn owl is a very distinctive bird. They have a heart-shaped face, buff back and wings and pure white underparts. They are widely distributed across the UK, and are primarily a farmland bird which hunts for small mammals over rough grassland.

Famously hunting on silent wings, they swoop down on their prey unannounced; a soft fringe along the outside of their flight feathers absorbing the noise of their flight. They listen out for the rustling of small mammals in the grass who remain undisturbed by the sound of the wings flapping overhead.

In winter and sometimes during long wet spells they will often extend their hunting hours into daylight to find the extra food they need to get them through. You can see them as they quarter the fields and ditches and tracks, especially at first dusk. Sympathetic landowners who manage grassland edges, drains and water courses, and field boundaries with grass strips, offer these wonderful but vulnerable nocturnal raptors the chance to eat their favourite meal – the field vole – but they also like mice and other small mammals.



Barn owls usually choose to nest in holes in trees, or undisturbed buildings such as barns and outbuildings, ruins and, in some areas, mines, cliffs and quarries.

Clutch size and breeding success depends on the availability of main prey species, so there is often considerable year-to-year variation in breeding performance. Laying between 4 to 7 eggs is normal with these eggs being laid at two to three day intervals.

Incubation is about 30 to 31 days and the female begins sitting when the first egg is laid. This means the young also hatch two to three days apart and so are at different stages in the nest.

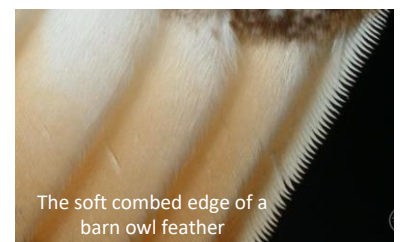
The owlets can manage short flights around 8 to 9 weeks and by week 10 are quite competent flyers.

Did you know?

In the UK we have five resident species of owl: Barn Owl, Tawny Owl, Little Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl.

The greatest known age for an owl in Europe is more than 21 years. There are several records of 12-17 years.

With a wingspan of 80cm to 95cm, an adult barn owl weighs about 680g.



The soft combed edge of a barn owl feather

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: for more details of all our churches - including Norton - see the national Church of England website www.achurchnearyou.com

Our benefice Church magazine is also available online at www.vcnews.org.uk

May 2023 Church Services

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

7 th	5th Sunday of Easter	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church Ascension / Coronation	Norton Pakenham
14 th	6th Sunday of Easter	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Holy Communion 6pm Evensong	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham Norton
18 th	Ascension Day	7.30pm Deanery Communion	Troston
21 st	7th Sunday of Easter	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Family Communion 11am Morning Worship 6pm Evensong	Pakenham Great Ashfield Norton Tostock
28 th	Pentecost / WhitSunday	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Family Communion 11am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Morning Worship	Great Ashfield Norton Hunston Tostock

SUMMER SERVICES

Please note as the weather improves so we see the return of our early communion on the 1st Sunday of the month at 8am and our evening service on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 6pm. These extra services for Summer will continue until the end of September.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - Wednesday 10th May 7.30pm in church.

All welcome.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS - THE STORY OF A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND: An evening of pictures, Bible readings, prayer and reflection.

Tuesday 30th May 7pm in the Martin Room at St Mary's Pakenham.

Come and share some of Revd Katherine's recent pilgrimage experience.

All welcome. Refreshments provided.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH LIGHTS

If you would like to see the church lit up in the evenings please consider sponsoring the lights (£20 a week) to celebrate an event or remember a loved one.

Please contact: Philippa Wilding

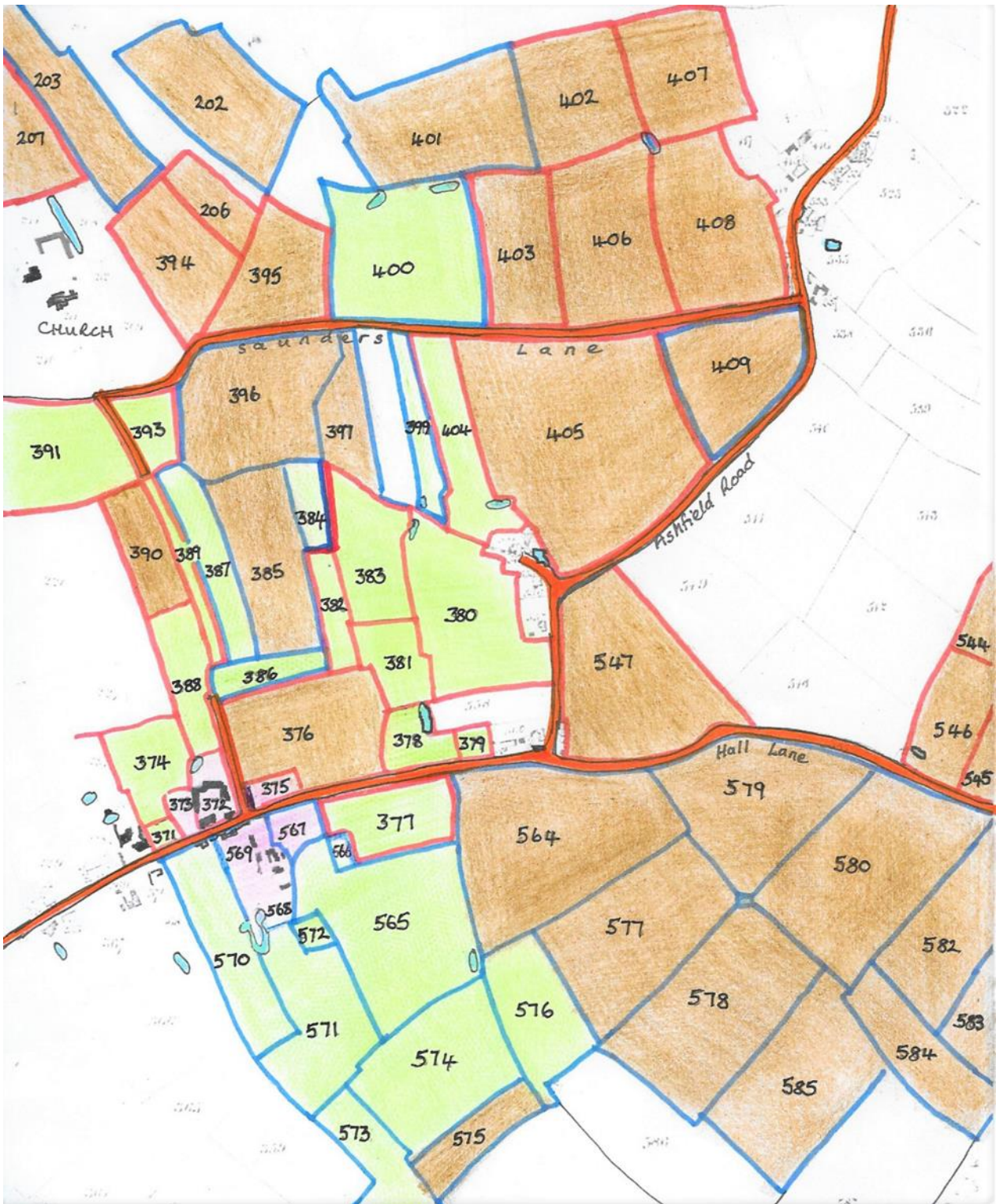
email pfwilding@btinternet.com

Telephone 07776443004



DOWN OUR STREET

This month I am looking at two farms which were located in the middle of the parish of Norton. Rookery Farm was 136 acres and was owned and farmed by Thomas Shipp. Fiske Farm was 111 acres and was farmed by Arthur Burt, who rented the land and house from John Fiske of Saffron Walden. This map with the field numbers dates from 1841. (A few fields are not shown).



Fields with blue edge belonged to Thomas Shipp and those edged in Red were farmed by Arthur Burt. Arable fields:- Brown. Pasture:- Light Green. Farms, yards and cottages:- Pink.

Roads and tracks:- Dark Orange.

Church Lane had not been built in 1841. Saunder's Lane was the way to the Church and Rectory.

<u>Thomas Shipp's Fields. 1841.</u>	<u>Arthur Burt's Fields. 1841.</u>
201. Long Four Acres. 202. Church Field. 203. Church Field. 326. Heath Allotment. 327. Heath Allotment. 328. Manistree's Allotment. 329. Manistree's Low Meadow. 384. Little Sir John's Meadow. 385. The Four Acres. 386. Church Pightle. 387. Dry Close. 396. Deal's Pightle. 397. Honey Acre. 399. Honey Acre Meadow. 400. Gravel Pits. 401. Horse Close. 409. Wood's Pightle. 564. Abbotts 565. Barrow Field. 566. Stack Yard. 567. Farm House and Yards. 568. Farm House and Yards. 569. Farm House and Yards. 570. Old Lay. 571. Home Close. 572. Orchard. 573. Further Home Close. 574. Four Acre Meadow. 575. Furlong Pightle. 576. Little Crawley Meadow. 577. First Five Acres. 578. Second Five Acres. 579. Snellings. 580. Nine Acres. 581. Hall Lane. 582. First Manistree's. 583. Further Manistree's. 584. Lower Manistree's. 585. Third Five Acres. 751. Green Further Allotment. 752. Green First Allotment.	173. Wisdoms. 206. Meadow Piece. (Glebe). 207. Three Acres. 371. New Orchard. 372. Farm House and Yards. 373. Farm House and Yards. 374. Stack Yard Meadow. 375. House and Orchard. 376. Home Barley Field. 377. Camping Close. 378. Old Yards. 379. Upper Stack Yard. 380. Knacker's Yard. 381. Old Orchard. 382. Hinman's Acre. 383. Calves Pightle. 388. Barn Meadow. 389. Church Spong. 390. Little Barley Field. 391. Great Church Meadow. 392. Church Drift. 393. Little Church Meadow. 394. Church Field. 395. Shortlands. 402. Upper Field 403. Old Grass Close. 404. Little Ash Warren. 405. Great Ash Warren. 406. Middle Five Acres. 407. Further Field. 408. Potash Field. 544. Upper Boxes. 545. Side Boxes. 546. Lower Boxes. 547. Mill Hill. 750. Allotment.

Field names and numbers in purple are off the map, either too far to the East or West.

173. Wisdoms was the field where the Council houses on Ixworth Road were all built.

236-9. These four fields are low meadows north of and adjacent to the Sweethill Lane, leading off Tostock Road and across the river. Now part of the Nature Reserve.

750-2. These Allotments were originally part of Buttonhaugh Green and were found near the end of Harding's Lane. (Almost in Elmswell)

For those of you who are new to the village, a few years ago I did explain a few terms relating to fields. 'Glebe'. Glebe land was historically owned by the church and was given to the Rectors, to enhance their income from tithes. The Rector could farm the land or rent it out.

A 'Pigtle'. Odd-shaped fields caused problems which had not been encountered in the days before mechanization. Thus, over several years, fields were reorganized to be acceptably rectangular. This was cleverly and thoughtfully arranged but, inevitably, there were remnants, leftovers, off-cuts or tailings. In most cases, these were small pieces of land, which were essentially triangular in shape. The locals probably referred to these pieces as "pigtails". In Norfolk and Suffolk dialect, this would quickly become pronounced as "pightle". In the 1920's through the 1940's, the word pightle was in fairly common usage but has fallen into disuse in recent years.

A 'Spong'. This is an archaic term for a narrow strip of land or a projecting 'tongue' of land. Church Spong was a strip of field cut off from Barn Meadow and Little Barley field by the old footpath to the church (now Church Lane).

A 'Lay' was a field used for grazing. A pasture not being actively cultivated or a fallow field. Other common spellings are Ley and Lea.

I was intrigued by the name Manistree's. It appears that in the 1700s and early 1800s the Manistree families lived mainly in Pakenham and Gt Ashfield. The National Archives have a document referring to an Edmund Manistree of Norton, clothier, dated 1707.

Field 378, called 'Old Yards' on the Ashfield Road was always reputed to be the most haunted part of the village. Even in the 1970s, I remember that people used to run past the gateway in case they saw a spectral vision or heard wailing. In the 1780s there had been a farmhouse here belonging to the Fiske family, but it burned down along with about 20 other dwellings when a fire spread from a bakery on the corner of Church Lane through to The Common.

Field 377 called 'Camping Close' is nothing to do with tents or caravans! It was the field where villagers played a very rough ball game with no rules, a pre-cursor of football called camp ball.

Field 380 was called 'Knacker's Yard'. It was where old or injured animals were despatched!

Field 574 was called 'Mill Hill'. Although there is no map showing a mill on this field. Fiske family deeds from 27th April 1568 refer to a 'Milhill Close' in Norton. Arthur Burt was born in 1803 and died in 1871. He took over the tenancy of the farm from his father and grandfather.



Photos show Arthur Burt, the farmhouse with his grandson Ernest Burt and an aerial view of the farmhouse, barns and pond.

The stack yard in the 1950s and an aerial view over both farms showing Church Lane to the far side of Saunder's Lane.



Thomas Shipp was born in Norton in 1771. He inherited the farm from his father who was also Thomas Shipp. He lived his whole life in Norton and passed away in 1848. Later the farmhouse became Bridges butchers and then Aldis butchers. The photo shows the house in about 1907.



If you have any old photos showing parts of the village or documents about old houses in the village which you would allow me to scan for the archive, please contact me by phone on 232850 or by email bg55599@hotmail.com

I have been lent Norton Baptist Church photos and am putting a selection on Facebook. Albums and photos can be found at 'Norton Suffolk History and Photos'. David Burt.



Norton Salvation Army

Woolpit Road, Norton, IP31 3LU

What's on at the Army in May?

1st Sunday in month: Brunch Service 10.45am
(Enjoy pastries/Tea/Coffee in a relaxed atmosphere)

2nd Sunday in month: Family Service 11.00am

3rd Sunday in month: Evening Praise 6.00pm
(With Band & Choir participating)

4th Sunday in month: Family Service 11.00am

Mondays (School Term Time) Toddlesong 9.00 - 11.30am

Every Thursday: Cameo Lunches 11.45am - 1.30pm
(Anyone welcome: 3 course dinner for £6.00)

Thursday 4th & 18th: Choir Rehearsal 8.00 - 9.30pm
(If anyone enjoys singing come & give it a go. We'd be pleased to see you)

Thursday 11th & 25th: Band Rehearsal 8.00 - 9.30pm
(If you enjoy Brass Bands please feel free to come & listen)

Remember: Our clothes bank which is situated in the car park is available any time of the day for your unwanted clothes or shoes.

We welcome you to join with us at any time.

A Christian Church and Registered Charity No. 214779, and in Scotland SCO09359
The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 101 Newington Causeway, London, SE1 6BN



Norton Baptist Church

May 2023

Check the information below for our services throughout May and beyond



God's wonderful creation continues to spread vibrant colours across the fields and in our gardens and warmer, longer days are with us as spring begins to push forward into summer.

Before we go any further, we want to say a huge thank you to the Norton School Choir who joined us on Easter Saturday and everyone who came to watch and support them.

The children in the choir were fantastic, the pop-up café was busy as always and the family craft event after the concert was very well attended – we hope everyone who came had fun. Donations totalling over £107 were made and all of this will be going to the Doxa Charity – thank you all again.

Under normal circumstances the services in May would be very straight forward but we like to keep you all on your toes, so we have swapped things around a bit this month.

Our **Praise and Worship** services will still happen on the **7th** and the **21st**, with communion being shared on the **21st** May. **Messy Church** and **Café Church** are swapping around and so **Messy Church** will be on the **28th** and **Café Church** on the **14th**.

The reason for the change is that Caroline and three others are off to Kenya to see where your donations to the Doxa Charity are being used. She will be away from the 4th May through to the 18th.

Our doors are open for all of our services from 10am so why not join us for a coffee/tea before the services start at 10:30am.

Keep an eye out on Social Media for details of what will be happening in and around the village for the Coronation of King Charles – we will be joining the village “street lunch” on the 7th May but lots of other events may be happening.

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

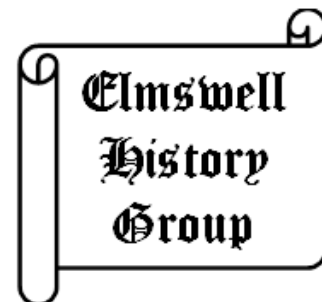
	6 th May	13 th May	20 th May	27 th May	4 th June
Praise & Worship	10am				10am
Messy Church				10am	
Praise & Worship			10am		
Café Church		10am			

nortonbaptist@btinternet.com

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



For our **March** meeting, a good few hardy souls braved the snowy evening to hear Geoffrey Robinson's fascinating talk on "*18th-century Commerce in Worlingworth*", his small village (pop.300-400 in the 1700s) north-west of Framlingham. As detailed on contemporary maps, we were led down Shop Street and shown the main village shops which were owned by the Cordy, Ray, Clarke, and Godbold families.



Like so many others, this rural parish used to be virtually self-sufficient, and a farm labourer's family relied on their village shop for the necessities of life, i.e. food and clothing, although a family's needs were very basic such as flour to make bread and pies, hard cheese (the notorious Suffolk 'bang' also used by the Royal Navy because of its enduring quality on long sea voyages!) and perhaps some rough cuts of meat or bacon, although the 'drinking beer' (or ale) would be have been made at home. From the 1743 map of the Red House Estate, we saw the adjoining farmland, shop and warehouse as well as the maltings, which suggested a much larger concern than just a grocery and drapery business, concluding that this village was, in fact, the centre of a thriving retail business for the surrounding area. This was further illustrated by the 1815 shop inventory of School House which detailed large quantities of all types of fabrics, household goods, and spectacular amounts of alcoholic commodities, e.g. over 400 gallons of spirits, which must have required some form of licensing with the authorities and excise payment. Hence, the wonderful Crown Symbol inlaid by 'blue' flint into the entrance path to the cottage. Whatever the circumstances were in which this lovely house turned from a major trading post through dame school and into the schoolmaster's accommodation in 1875, it would be fair to say that this property was at the centre of a significant commercial enterprise on Shop Street for over 150 years. In honour of the village shopkeeper and philanthropist, James Cordy (with connections to Felixstowe and Woodbridge), one of the newer roads in the village has been name Cordy's Meadow, and we were all pleased to learn that the village now has an all-purpose and well-supported shop once again.

April's talk - In the remote countryside of north Suffolk there is a building of great significance – Halesworth's Walpole Old Chapel, being possibly the oldest independent place of worship in England, and a monument to pioneers. At our April meeting, we learnt more from Miriam Stead about the earliest days of non-conformism in England. She explained how, in 1649, a group of very brave and determined non-conformists established their own place of worship in a converted farmhouse near Walpole. This was at a time when almost everyone was supposed to be Christian and a Church of England member. Struggling against all sorts of practical, legal and social difficulties, the non-conformists and their chapel survived to spawn many other similar establishments throughout our country. This lovely old chapel can be visited on summer Saturdays, 2-4.30pm – www.walpoleoldchapel.org

IDEAS FOR THE MAY HALF-TERM AND BANK HOLIDAYS

1. **Felixstowe's Landguard Fort, Viewpoint Rd, IP11 3TW** – Activities for the kids, with a maze of rooms, tunnels and passageways to explore in this 1740s Grade-1 listed fort. Free entry for English Heritage members, adjacent parking and café overlooking the busy container port to see the huge ships. Then, perhaps take the foot-passenger ferry across the river mouth to Harwich. 01394-675900, www.landguard.com
2. **Electric Palace cinema and Lightship, Kings Quay St, Harwich, CO12 3ER** - While visiting the **Harwich lightship**, why not stroll along the quay where you'll find tucked away in a side street one of the oldest surviving cinemas in England. Built in 1911, it predates virtually all others, and yet it survives to this day as a functioning cinema showing modern films. The Electric Palace is an architectural gem so it is not surprising that the charity which owns it is supported by several national organizations, and it is a Grade-2 listed building. It is readily accessible, being only 100m from the public pier's car park. 01255-553333, www.electricpalace.com



Reuniting a 1923 Steam Traction Engine to Elmswell – We have been contacted by the restorer of a 100-year old Wallis & Stevens traction engine who will be bringing it to Elmswell on Friday 2nd June at about mid-day (parking it at the Tavern, School Rd, IP30 9EE – next door to the Wesley coffee shop) and then will exhibit it at Woolpit Steam Fair, 3rd & 4th June. We understand that the engine was supplied new to Thedwastre District Council, ordered by their Surveyor of Highways, Arthur Daniel Ennals, who lived at Linden Croft. As we hope to put on a small exhibition at the Steam Fair to coincide with this “homecoming”, do come and visit us either at the Tavern or Steam Fair (Warren Farm, on the old A45, Wetherden) during that first weekend in June.

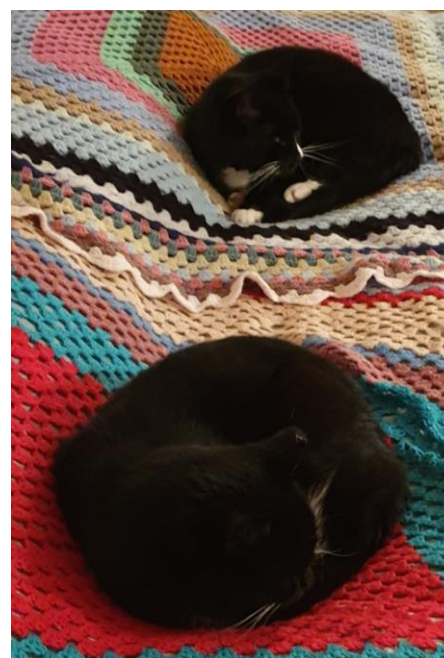


Our next meeting on **11th May – 7.30pm at the Wesley** - will be a screening of Holly Brega’s film “*The Land Girls and Horses of Suffolk*”, after which we will be making a donation to Little Finborough’s Women’s Land Army memorial at the recently-opened Oaks Meadow Project (near Combs). Do join us then.

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


CORONATION DANCE
To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III
 LIVE BAND: *It's Fete* Function Band
Saturday 6th May 2023
 Doors open at 7.00 pm
 Music starts around 7.30 pm
 Licensed Bar
NORTON VILLAGE HALL
 IP31 3LE
 Street food by: "Bad Boi Burritos"
TICKETS: £10
 (Schoolchildren up-to-and-including Year 8 - free of charge but Child's Ticket required)
FUNDRAISING GAMES
 for local charities including:

 Tickets available from Gary Walton - email gary@legendservices.net



**PETS OF
NORTON –
NOAH AND
BILL AND
BEN**



Norton and District Twinning Association



Dates for your diaries...

Thursday 18th May

Bonjour Le Jumelage – Hello French Twinning.

The French arrive in Norton for a long weekend. Everyone in the village is invited to attend a Welcome Reception from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Village Hall. Music from Stanton Folk. Light refreshments.

Our thanks to the Parish Council for their support towards this event. We look forward to seeing you.

Sunday 11th June

Family Treasure Hunt around the village.

Collect your map from the Village Hall at 2pm, follow the trail, solve the clues and join us back at the hall for refreshments.

Entry £5 per family/group. All welcome.

Sunday 16th July

Summer Social

BBQ, Outdoor games and fun. This is a Members only event but if you are interested in joining and want to find out more, please come along. Let us know via the contacts below to allow for catering.

We also host our 50/50 Lotto Draw at the end of each month. £3 per number, the winner receives half of the total money taken.

Contact us via 01359 258529 or nortontwinning@gmail.com



Thursday 18th May 2023
At Norton Village Hall
5pm – 7pm

Please join us to welcome our friends from Muids

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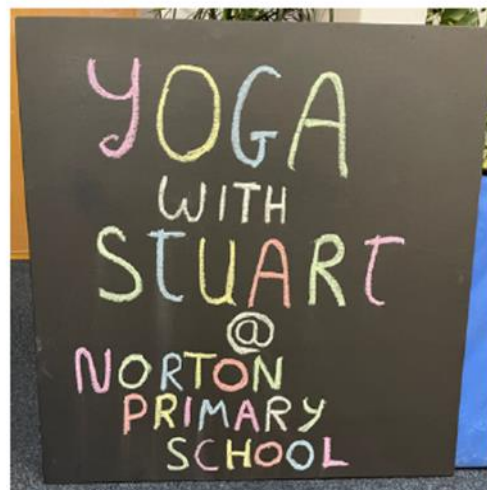
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WHATS ON AT THE NORTON DOG

MAY 2023— We are openserving food all day—Closed on Tuesdays

**LOOK OUT
FOR OUR GREAT
NEW MENU from 12/5**

Call in for BREAKFAST
Monday-Thursday 10am-11.30am
Friday & Saturday 10am-11.30am

Take Away Fish & Chips
Available Monday to Saturday 12 - 6.30pm
Pop in or call to place your order
GLUTEN FREE FISH & CHIPS TOO!

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Wed 31st MAY 7.30 for 8pm start
Cash Prizes * Raffle * Special Menu
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MAX 6 PEOPLE PER TEAM

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Mon-Thurs 8/9/10/11TH MAY

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