

the norton messenger

June 2026



EDITORIAL

Thank you for all the photos being sent in – nice to have some new contributors. Please keep sending them for the front cover and any other small gaps I have.

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.

Diana



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Advertising:
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Facebook:
Norton Village

VILLAGE NOTICES



Better Recycling for Suffolk is just around the corner.



In June 2026, your Recycling and Waste Services will be changing to make it easier for you to recycle more.

In addition to what you recycle now, you'll be able to recycle glass bottles and jars, drinks cartons, a wider range of plastics and food waste from home.

For more information visit:
www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/future-changes-to-bin-collections



VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

Activities at Norton Village Hall

For the latest information, please see our website, nortonvillagehall.com, where you can take a virtual tour of the hall, see the calendar, hire prices, activities, news and more.

Monday	9:00 - 10:00am Main Hall 6:00 - 6:45pm Main Hall 7:00 - 7:45pm Main Hall	Pilates with Paula Paracise Jo's Fit4All
Tuesday	9:30 - 10:30am Main Hall 10:45 - 11:45am Main Hall 7:15 - 9:15pm Main Hall	Serenity Yoga Silver Swans Song Circle
Wednesday	9:15 - 10:15am Main Hall 10:30 - 11:30am Main Hall 6:30 - 7:30pm Main Hall	Power Pilates Hula with Abs Zumba
Thursday	9:00 - 10:00am Main Hall 7:00 - 8:00pm Main Hall	Pilates with Paula Rockfit with Bliss
Friday	9:15 - 10:15am Main Hall 10:45 - 11:45am Main Hall	Zumba Yvonne's Keep Fit Class
Saturday	9:00 - 12:00pm Field (football season only)	Stowmarket Youth FC U9s
Sunday	9:00 - 12:00pm Field (football season only)	Stowmarket Youth FC U12s

For the latest information please visit our website nortonvillagehall.com where you can take a virtual tour of the hall, see the calendar, hire prices, news and more.

To make a booking, please use the booking request form on the website or contact: bookings@nortonvillagehall.com

We always welcome new members to help us run and improve this important village amenity. If you are interested in getting involved, please email committee@nortonvillagehall.com.



Medication Reviews

Many of our patients are on regular repeat prescriptions which require monitoring at least annually, sometimes more frequently.

Medication reviews are carried out to ensure that medicines are **safe, effective, and appropriate** for your current needs. They help to:

- Reduce harm by identifying unnecessary, duplicate, or interacting medicines
- Check that treatments are working as intended
- Optimise prescribing, including stopping medications where benefits no longer outweigh risks
- Support your understanding, adherence, and shared decision-making
- Manage your long-term conditions such as diabetes or asthma
- Reduce medicines waste and improve value for money

In essence: they ensure you are on the *right medicines, at the right dose, for the right reasons, at the right time.*

In the first 4 months of 2026 we have already carried out 2,851 medication reviews.

Over the past 12 months we have been trying to align medication reviews to birthday months.

As part of the medication review you may be contacted with a request for up-to-date height, weight, blood pressure measurements and blood tests.

Please help us by responding promptly so we can provide you with the best possible care.

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

June 2026 Church Services

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

7 th	1st Sunday after Trinity	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church 3 in One	Norton Pakenham
14 th	2 nd Sunday after Trinity	9.30am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
21 st	3 rd 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	4 th Sunday After Trinity	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Holy Communion 11am Family Communion 11am Morning Worship	Great Ashfield Hunston Norton Tostock

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY 4TH JULY 2026 2-4PM

A HISTORY AFTERNOON AT ST ANDREW'S NORTON

Talks to include: The Story of Misericords with special reference to our beautiful medieval examples at Norton & Stowlangtoft by expert Miles Dodds.

History of the stained glass at St Andrew's Norton ...and maybe more!!

Tickets £5 from Janet Bauer 01359 232668 email: janetbauer3545@gmail.com

Refreshments will be served. More info to follow - look out for the posters!

NORTON WI



It was great to see so many at our May meeting and we were thoroughly entertained listening to Helen Taylor talk about her experiences as a student nurse in the 1950's. Times have definitely changed!

Next month, our meeting will take place on Monday, 8th June, 7:30pm at the Baptist Church Hall. The Speaker will be Jonathan Houseago, who will give us an insight into hedgehog ecology, behaviour and conservation, together with ten simple practical tips on how we can make our gardens hedgehog friendly.

New members always welcome. For further information please contact Norton WI on nortonwisuff@gmail.com.



I'm writing this article with just one week to go before we break up for half term. It has certainly been a busy and exciting few weeks at school, with a residential trip, educational visits, a theatre production and even a mini marathon! There is always something happening at Norton, and it has been wonderful to see our pupils embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm and confidence.

In Star Class (EYFS), the children have been exploring their topic, *Living and Growing*, by planting seeds and caring for their plants, learning about how living things grow and change. They also had a fabulous morning when Little City was set up in the hall and the children had the opportunity to explore a variety of different role play stations. In Galaxy Class (Year 1), the children are enjoying their topic, *In the Jungle*. A recent visit to the woods next to school helped them compare our local environment with the mangroves and Indian seasonal forests they have been studying in Geography. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm throughout.

Planet Class (Year 2) are learning about *Transport Through the Ages*, comparing transport from the past with what we use today. They also enjoyed designing and building their own "Ferris Wheel" in Design and Technology, with the classroom transformed through creativity and recyclable materials!

In Comet Class (Year 3), the children recently showcased their learning during a fantastic class assembly featuring songs, slideshows and reflections on the year so far. They are also enjoying reading *The Iron Man* this half term.

In Rocket Class (Year 4), the children have just returned from their first residential trip to Burwell House, where they packed plenty of fun and adventure into one night away. Their topic this term is *Groovy Romans*, and the children particularly enjoyed exploring Roman armour brought in by Mr Deering.

Meteor Class (Year 5) impressed parents and pupils alike with their clarinet performance. Considering many children had never played before September, performing an ABBA song together was a fantastic achievement.

This half term, Supernova Class (Year 6) have worked incredibly hard preparing for SATs week. I am immensely proud of the determination and positive attitude shown by every pupil. The children also enjoyed creating their own soft toys in Design and Technology, which proudly accompanied them during the tests.

The school was delighted to welcome the Bridge Classic Cars Theatre in Education Group for a whole-school assembly linked to History. The children learnt many interesting facts about the history of cars through an audience participation show filled with artefacts, songs and movement.

To celebrate the marathon spirit, every pupil at Norton completed a 2.6km challenge around the school grounds on Friday 24 April. With sunshine, cheering crowds and even a friendly dinosaur along the route, the day was full of energy and excitement. The excitement continued on Saturday 25 April 2025, when 15 Norton pupils travelled to London after securing places in the Mini London Marathon ballot. From warming up with Gladiator 'Fury' at Horse Guards Parade to crossing the finish line on The Mall, it was an unforgettable experience. Joining 20,000 children from across the UK, our pupils showed incredible resilience, teamwork and determination.

Both events perfectly captured the spirit of Norton Primary School: supporting one another, embracing challenges and creating memories to treasure forever.

We still have a few spaces available in our Star Class for September 2025. If you are looking for a school place, please contact the school office — we would be delighted to show you around and share what makes Norton such a special place to learn and grow. Mrs Sparkes - Headteacher



PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on 13th April 2026

PRESENT in the Chair: Mrs. S. Hill

Mr. B. Aket, Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. R. Lenko, Mr. G. Millen, Mr. J. Morgan, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk) LGA 1972 s12 para 40
District Councillor H. Richardson

APOLOGIES: Mr. J. Bolus, Mr. G. Walton, Mr. N. Winstanley

The Council consented to accept the apologies and reasons given.

District Councillor D. Bradbury.

County Councillor A. Mellen

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 and their nature inc. gifts of hospitality exceeding £25. Mr. Lenko declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning item 7.2 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 Emails received concerning vehicles parking on the pavement along The Street restricting use. The van has now been parked in a neighbouring yard so no longer causes a problem. The other vehicle will be monitored and the situation reviewed with further advice being sought if necessary. Bus service – email received from a resident concerning the withdrawal of the bus service. Mrs. Hill had spoken to Richard Winch and gave an update, that Simmonds would be bidding for funding from SCC. Email received from Mr. Williams offering to contact Suffolk on Board concerning using the Thurston school bus with residents changing bus for Bury at the School. The Council agreed to take up his offer of help. Mr. Aket stated he had contacted Turners about using their minibus which is parked all day at the S.A.Hall. He was told they would investigate and get back to him.	Clerk
4.	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION –to receive written reports for information only Report from District Councillor Harry Richardson. Mr. Lenko thanked Cllr Richardson for Locality Budget for the SID and thanked Mr. Bolus for helping to put it up. Cllr Richardson outlined the plans for re-organization but stated there were still some questions on how it would work. He stated the 3 unitary authorities proposed does present questions with the Local Plan because of the boundary changes. It would mean working with Babergh and West Suffolk to create a local Plan on the boundaries. The land supply for each area is different creating a difficulty. He clarified that having a Neighbourhood Plan is very important going forward. Cllr Richardson explained the problem concerning CIL held by different Councils, and the income collected, when reorganization takes place.	
5.	MINUTES	
	5.1 To RESOLVE minutes of Council meetings held on 2nd and 25th March 2026 as true and correct. Prof Jaggard proposed and Mr. Aket seconded, with all in agreement.	
6.	MATTERS ARISING	
	6.1 UKPN update. The draft lease from UKPN has been checked by Birketts and the Parish Council, and is now with the Village Hall solicitor for checking.	
	6.2 Bus service update – see above.	
7.	PLANNING	
	7.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/26/01418 Orchard House, Ashfield Road, Norton Householder Application - Proposed single-storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory The Council supports this application.	
	7.2 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION – DCC/26/01037 Thurston Community College, Thurston. Full planning application – redevelopment of Thurston Community College to include demolition of the existing school buildings and construction of new school building, including sports hall, provision of new playing fields and multi-use games areas, and associated car and cycle parking, access and landscaping The Council had no comment to make but fully supports the proposals.	5

	7.3 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/26/00036 Old Oak Barn, Church Lane, Norton Householder Application - Conversion of cart lodge to form games room, removal of garage doors and addition of stable door. The Council requested assurance there was sufficient on-site vehicle parking spaces to lessen the possible need for on-road parking.	
	7.4 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/26/01416 Land Fronting, Hawes Lane, Norton Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Variation of Condition 4 (Approved Plans and Documents) of Outline Planning Permission DC/25/00562 dated: 05/11/2025 - Erection of 1No self-build dwelling and 4No build to rent dwellings including construction of electricity substation (Access points to be considered, all other matters reserved) The Council object to this application. Recently there have been many variations of different conditions to various plots on this site, it is difficult to understand exactly what is being changed/requested and why.	
	7.5 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/26/01415 Land West Of Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Variation of Condition 4 (Approved Plans and Documents) of Outline Planning Permission DC/23/03760 dated: 01/11/2024 - Erection of 8No custom build/self-build dwellings (Access points to be considered, Landscaping, Layout, Appearance and Scale Reserved) The Council object to this application. Recently there have been many variations of different conditions to different plots on this site, it is difficult to understand exactly what is being changed/requested and why.	
	7.6APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/26/01414 Land West Of Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Variation of Condition 4 (Approved Plans and Documents) of Outline Planning Permission DC/22/01941 (Allowed under Appeal Decision APP/W3520/W/23/3316136) dated: 27/06/2023 - Erection of 9No self-build/custom build dwellings (Access points to be considered, Appearance, Layout, Landscaping and Scale reserved) The Council object to this application. Recently there have been many variations of different conditions to various plots on this site, it is difficult to understand exactly what is being changed/requested and why.	
	7.7 RESERVED MATTERS APPROVED DC/26/00050 Land West Of Suffolk House (Plot 8), Ixworth Road, Norton Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Permission DC/22/01941 (following Appeal APP/W3520/W/23/3316136) Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Submission of details for Layout, Scale, Appearance and Landscaping, Access points to be considered - Erection of 9No self-build/custom build dwellings in relation to plot 8.	
	7.8 OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS Land West Of, Ixworth Road, Norton DC/25/02900 Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access points to be considered, all other matters reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Erection of 2 dwellings	
	7.9 RESERVED MATTERS APPROVED DC/26/00442 Land West Of Suffolk House (Plot 4) , Ixworth Road, Norton Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Permission DC/22/01941 (following Appeal APP/W3520/W/23/3316136) Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Submission of details for Layout, Scale, Appearance and Landscaping, Access points to be considered - Erection of 9No self-build/custom build dwellings in relation to Plot 4 only	
	7.10 RESERVED MATTERS APPROVED Land West Of Suffolk House (Plot 9) , Ixworth Road, Norton DC/26/00581 Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Permission DC/22/01941 (following Appeal APP/W3520/W/23/3316136) Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Submission of details for Layout, Scale, Appearance and Landscaping, Access points to be considered - Erection of 9No self-build/custom build dwellings in relation to Plot 9 only.	

8.	FINANCIAL MATTERS	
	8.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Messenger, March and April, £748.00 LGA1972 s112 BT – vhall wifi £35.94 LGA 1972 s133 Street Cleaner £ 35.15 LGA1972 s112 Harmsworth Marketing Services (NTA Sign) £282.00 LGA 1972 s137 Vertas grass £447.96 Public Health Act 1875 s164 SCC street lights £3201.56 Parish Councils Act 1957, s3: Highways Act 1980 s301 Westcotec S.I.D. £5108.40 cheque no 522618 Road Traffic Reg.Act 1984 s72(1) Clerk's salary £624.00 cheque no 522619 LGA1972 s112 HMRC £ 219.05 cheque no 522620 LGA1972 s112 Twinning Association, donation for hall hire for 40th, £90.00 cheque 522621 LGA 1972 s137 NPC – transfer to Lloyds account £15,000.00 cheque no 522622 LGA1972 s111	
	8.2 Review of salary as stated in Financial Standing Orders 2026 item 4.4. The Clerk asked for this item to be considered in December when the Precept for the new year is discussed.	
	8.3 The Clerk presented AGAR 3 section 1 & 2 for formal approval. Councillors RESOLVED to accept and authorized the Chair to sign the forms.	
	8.4 The Clerk presented the End of Year receipts and payments statement for 2025-2026. Councillors RESOLVED to approve.	
	8.5 The Clerk presented a budget statement for 2026-2027, showing balance brought forward, precept for the year and the budget set against each topic. Councillors did not wish to change this proposal and RESOLVED to accept.	
	8.6 Update on Council subscription to Gov.uk. After some minor problems the email for Clerk: clerk@nortonparishcouncil.gov.uk is now up and running, meaning the Council is compliant with Assertion 10.	
	8.7 The Clerk presented Fixed Asset register 2025-2026. Councillors RESOLVED to approve.	
	8.8 The Clerk presented the CIL report for 2025-2026. Councillors RESOLVED to approve.	
	8.9 Litter bin near pre-school. The Clerk confirmed a request had been submitted to MSDC to inform of a newly sited bin. As there had been no update the Clerk will order the bin. It was commented that the bin near the school was overflowing and had not been emptied. The Clerk stated she had reported this. This will be checked and emptied if required.	
	8.10 The Clerk confirmed receipt of Recycling credit for £540.71	
	8.11 The Clerk confirmed receipt of CIL payment (1/10/25-31/3/26) for £4028.68	
	8.12 The Clerk confirmed receipt of the first half of the precept - £28500.00	
	8.13 Notice received informing of an increase in Grass cutting for 2026-2027 to annual cost £1493.18 (£373.30 quarterly)	
	8.14 The Clerk confirmed receipt of loan statement showing an outstanding balance as at 31 March 2026 - £495,363.75	
9.	REVIEW OF POLICIES	
	9.1 Financial regulations, Financial standing orders, New Councillor Statement, Model Standing orders 2025 Update, Travel & Expenses policy, VAT policy, ICO model scheme, Filming policy circulated by the Clerk. APPROVED by Councillors.	
10	REORGANISATION	
	10.1 A message received from Councillor Matthew Hicks, Leader of Suffolk County Council stating the Government's decision has confirmed there would be 3 unitary councils created in Suffolk replacing SCC and the 5 districts/borough councils. The new arrangement will come into operation in April 2028 with elections scheduled for next year to establish the shadow authorities responsible for shaping and overseeing the transition.	
11	SPEEDWATCH	
	11.1 Strategy to combat speeding – consultant led investigation – No update	
	11.2 Mr. Walton had asked for further investigation of gating at either end of the village. Mr. Lenko commented he had sought quotes for this but they were expensive, around £6-8,000 at each end. He agreed to revisit if required.	Mr.Lenko

12	VILLAGE HALL	
	12.1 Prof. Jaggard reminded that the Hall AGM was on 21 st April.	
	12.2 The Clerk confirmed Phil Williams as Hall rep to access the CCTV. He has been given a copy of the policy and signed his agreement.	
13	PLAY AREAS	
	13.1 Play areas adjacent to Village Hall and Prospect Road. Mr. Lenko stated he was at the play area when the inspection took place and was able to arrange immediate repair to an identified rotten post and bolts on the zip wire. He met with Playdale with a view to replace the wooden train which is in a rather poor state. He has reviewed an “orangutan” wooden structure costing around £13365.00	
	13.2 Gate lock – ongoing.	
14	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN	
	14.1 The Clerk stated she had tried to contact Mr. Poole for an update but with no success.	
15	CORRESPONDENCE	
	15.1 Spring Litter Pick 2026- noted. Mr. Morgan stated he clears various areas and generally the village is quite clean.	
	15.2 NSIP and large-scale energy developments update April 2026 - noted	
	15.3 Sizewell Update and community newsletter – noted.	
16	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting.	
	16.1 Mr. Morgan commented the cricket equipment had been gratefully received by the Woolpit Club and is being well used by the ladies team.	
	16.2 Mr. Walton requested each end of the village be planted with daffodil bulbs and he agreed to get costs for the next meeting.	Mr. Walton
	16.3 Message from Mr. Parmee for Councils to identify land for tree planting.	
	16.4 The Clerk confirmed the APM on 20 th April 2026 - noted	
17	To confirm the date of next meeting 11 th May 2026 plus AGM (bank holiday 4 th May)	
18	There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.48	

ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

This month's speaker was Elmswellian Chris Wiley this time speaking to us about one of my favourite early flowering plants, Hellebores. Hellebores are commonly referred to as winter, Lenten or Christmas rose which gives a clue as to when they flower. Hellebores are a good garden plant, like shade and generally thrive in most garden conditions. They also like a sharp frost which encourages flowering and the flowers are best displayed by cutting back the foliage in September/October time. Hellebores are also not favoured by deer and rabbits due to their glossy waxy leaves which can be a problem for many readers.

If you have ever wondered why Hellebores are relatively expensive to buy its because they need to be hand pollinated to remain true to type, colour with the resulting seeds taking up to a year to germinate and then they need to grown on to a size suitable for retail. Hats off to Chris for his passion for Hellebores and his hand pollination of his collection of over 1200 plants!

Our speaker for 16th June meeting is Jim Paine who will be sharing his nursery experience on 'Trees for all Seasons' covering both ornamental and productive trees for your garden. The meeting starts at 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel, School Road.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing our passion for gardening.

Wendy

For Information contact elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com or myself on 07748 442951.



Norton Baptist Church June 2026

Check the information below for our services throughout June and beyond



Writing this in the middle of May, I look out my window to overcast skies, and I endured a hailstorm earlier today – let's hope that June weather is sunny and warm and gives us time to spend with friends and family.

As always there is plenty going on at Norton Baptist Church so check out the table at the bottom of the page for what is happening each Sunday. As always, doors open at 10am for refreshments and our services start at 10:30am

Two big events to make you aware of that are coming up on **October 17th 2026**. We will be hosting a Pirate Party in the afternoon and, in the evening, we have an event just for the ladies. Both feature a famous guest speaker – more information to come in future editions but please keep the date free.

Finally, we are trialling putting our Sunday morning talks on-line in case anyone would like to listen to them. They are all on our YouTube page, along with some of the songs we use in our services. Go to YouTube and search for "Norton BC" – you should see our logo on the page.

As always, keep an eye on our Facebook page for any further information.

	7 th June	14 th June	21 st June	28 th June
Praise & Worship	10am			
Praise & Worship		10am		
Praise & 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



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

Norton Salvation Army

What's on at the Army in June?



Sunday 7 th (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting)	Breakfast Church	11.00am
Sunday 14 th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Sunday 21 st	Evening Praise	6.00pm
Sunday 28 th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Wednesday 3 rd	Friends Cafe	2.00pm - 4.00pm
	(We are a dementia friendly group offering time out to include carers)	
Thursday 4 th	Band Rehearsal	8.00pm – 9.30pm
Thursday 11 th /25 th	Choir Rehearsal	8.00pm – 9.30pm
Thursdays	Cameo Lunches	11.45am – 1.30pm
	(3 Course Meal £6.00)	

On Sunday 17th June we officially say goodbye to our leader Josh Clark who will be moving to a new appointment in Malton, Yorkshire. We would like to thank him for his ministry over the past year and ask that God will bless him in his new appointment.

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

DOWN OUR STREET

This month looking mainly at Norton Little Green.



The first colourised photo shows cattle and pigs in a yard at Oak Tree Farm. The original photo was sepia and badly cracked, so I am pleased to have a decent copy to share. Although the photo had no further information, I would imagine it was from before WW1. At that time Mr John Tyrrell (1855-1936) was the farmer there and I would not be surprised if it is him in the foreground of the photo with possibly one of his sons in the background. At that time Oak Tree Farm was a farm of 44 acres and like most farmers Mr Tyrrell kept a mix of livestock. The second photo is the farm house. As you can see, the original house was a 3 cell farmhouse dating from the 1600s. In the 1800s, a couple of extensions were added to the north west side. The family also farmed the adjacent Haydon's Farm.



Manor Farm was originally known as Hill Farm and the current name dates only from the later part of the 20th century. It used to be a tenanted holding on the estate of Stowlangtoft Hall and my four times Gt Grand uncle, Henry Craske, farmed it from the 1830s to 1870s. Manor Farm is an exceptional building of great historic interest that fully merits its starred grade II listing. Lying on high ground in Norton Little Green it is approximately 1.3km east of Norton parish church. It formerly adjoined the northern edge of a medieval green that was partly absorbed by its front garden in 1814. It was recorded as 'Nicholls' in the late Middle Ages when it belonged to Ixworth Priory and was acquired by Sir John Sulyard of Wetherden after its dissolution in 1537.

Sulyard may have been responsible for the exceptional southern range of the house, which dates from the second quarter of the 16th century. This range is jettied to the former green with a fashionable array of tripartite windows and contains four high-status rooms, two on each storey, all with roll-moulded ceilings and heated by chimneys in impressive crow-stepped gables. The western gable in particular, with its largely complete pattern of decoration in burnt headers, is among the finest in the county. The property was purchased in 1589 by William Onslow, gentleman, who lived at nearby Norton Hall and appears to have refurbished the house soon afterwards as a lodge or pleasure building where favoured guests could journey from the hall to enjoy special meals and admire landscaped gardens in high Elizabethan fashion. Given its commanding location and unusual layout even before Onslow's acquisition, 'Nicholls' may have served a similar purpose for Sir John Sulyard and even for the Prior of Ixworth. Onslow added a new open-sided loggia with a gallery or viewing chamber on its upper storey lit by one of the largest and best preserved oriel windows of its period in the region, complete with ovolo-moulded mullions and panelled internal walls.



Across the road and down a lane is 'Pantiles.'

The next photo is of 'Haydons' which used to be called 'Tyrrell's Farm' from before 1840 till the early 1900s. It was re-named 'Haydon Farm' when Matthew Johnson from Haydon Bridge, Northumberland bought it.



The two photos above show High Hall, both are colourised from old black and white postcards. The earliest features of this 'halled house' seem to date from around the last decade of the 1500s.

The two photos above show High Hall, both are colourised from old black and white postcards. The earliest features of this 'halled house' seem to date from around the last decade of the 1500s.

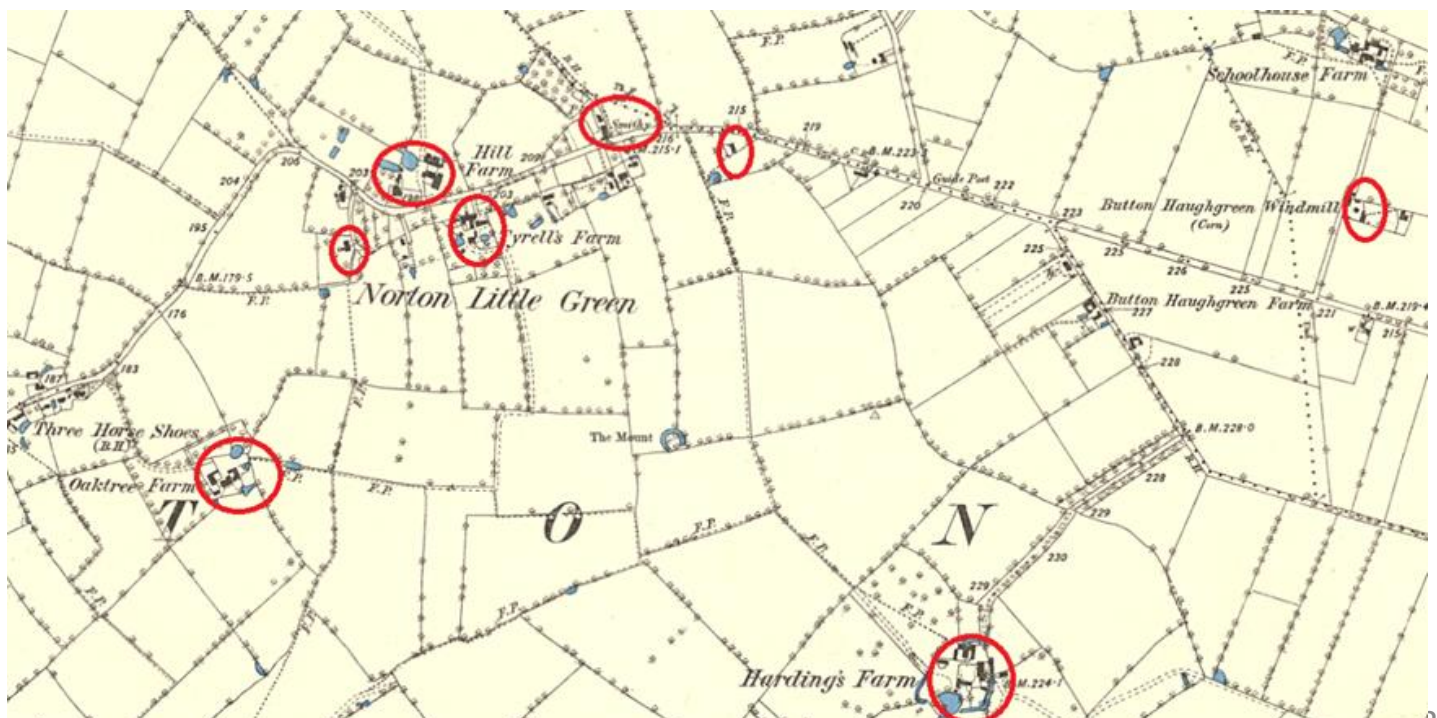
Below left, shows the original 'Southleigh,' which also had been part of the Stowlangtoft estate, before being sold by the Maitland Wilson's to Mr Morley, blacksmith and seed drill maker in 1911. After the death of Valerie Garland (owner) in 2018, the site was sold and the house was demolished and two new houses, 'Southleigh' and 'Anvil Cottage', were built.



Left is Hardings Farm which stood on the edge of Buttonhaugh Green. The farmhouse was demolished and Blacks of Bacton ran a pig farm on the site. It is now an industrial site.



The last two colourised photos show the windmill and roller mill which stood on the edge of Buttonhaugh Green (the windmill was 100 yards east of the parish boundary, just in Gt Ashfield) and were on the current drive to Miles Drainage. The steam mill burned down in late October 1900, but the windmill survived, however it was redundant by then.



This map shows the locations of the photos in this article.

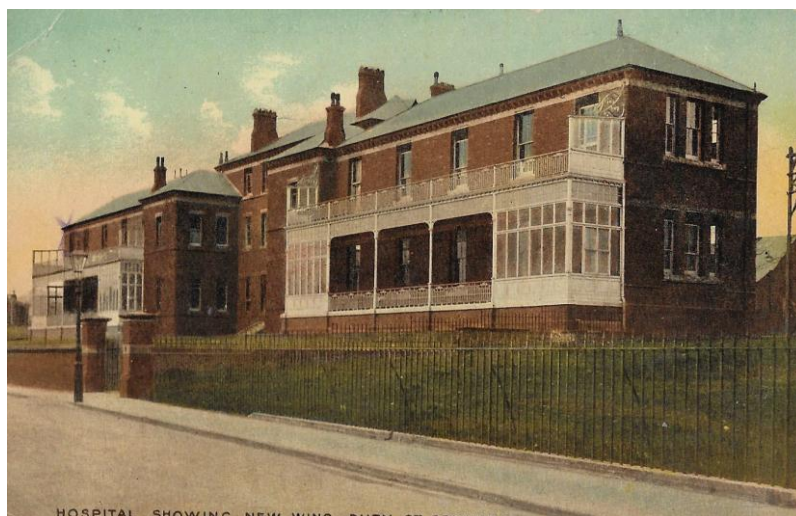
Our next meeting at the **Wesley Hall** (School Rd, IP30 9EE), on **11th June**, will start at **7pm** with our **AGM**, immediately followed at 7.30pm when we look forward to welcoming Terry O'Donoghue for his talk on the **History of West Suffolk Hospital**.

Terry is admirably qualified to give us this talk as he's a Bury Town Guide, historical adviser to both the Guildhall and the Hospital's History Society, as well as Trustee and Secretary of the Bury Society, the local civic charity.

He promises to give us a jaunt through the history of medical provision in the town and, in particular, the founding of the original West Suffolk Hospital and its development through the early years. This not-too-heavy reflection on the last 200 years will inform and amuse, taking in a few of the characters involved, some eccentric, some dedicated, but none of them boring!

Non-members/visitors are always welcome (£6pp, cash only please), so do join us then to find out much more.

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



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