



Norton-in-Hales Monthly Messenger

November 2018

Website: www.nortoninhales.org



Dates for your diary

- Sunday 4th November Praise and worship at 11:15am, St Chads
(Mark 12:28-34)
- Thursday 8th November An evening of Jazz with Eric Newton Good Time New Orleans Band,
7:30pm at St Chad's Church. £12:50 including buffet.
- Sunday 11th November Remembrance Service at 10:45am, St Chad's
- Sunday 18th November Family Service at 11:15am, St Chads
(Mark 13:1-8)
- Friday 23rd November Ian McMillan & Luke Carver Goss, 7:30pm, Jubilee Hall. NO BAR -
Bring Your Own drinks and glasses! Tickets are priced at £12.50 see
the poster for more details.
- Saturday 24th November Christmas Fair, 10am- 2pm, Jubilee Hall. Come and buy your bespoke
hand made Christmas gifts from a wide range of stalls, including
horseshoe gifts, sweets, wreaths and a wide range of crafts.
Refreshments will also be on sale.
- Sunday 25th November Holy Communion at 11:15am, St Chads
(Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37)
- Sunday 2nd December Lessons and Carols Service at St Leonard's Woore, 10:30am,
Tuesday Coffee Morning ~~NO service at St Chad's~~
In the village hall from 10am – 11.30 everyone welcome.

St Chad's Flower and Cleaning Rota for October

	FLOWERS & BRASSES	CLEANING
4 th Nov	Sue Tudge	
11 th Nov	Sue Tudge	Sue Tudge
18 th Nov	Elizabeth Taylor	
25 th Nov	Elizabeth Taylor	

For any contributions to the Monthly Messenger, please email hannahmariahague@yahoo.co.uk
Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.



A View from the Vicarage

“Lest we forget!” These three important words hold so much meaning, if we but remember them. On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, one hundred years ago, the guns fell silent and World War I came to an end. When the final numbers were tabulated, the total dead and wounded in the European war were staggering! Was it worth it? Had the peace lasted, we might have said yes, but alas the world would witness another war of devastation and carnage a mere twenty-five years later.

As a community we gather once a year to remember, not just those who fought and died in these two world conflicts, but all the men and women who serve in the armed forces. It is a solemn time of reflecting and appreciating those who committed their lives to defending our freedom. The names of the dead are read aloud, and a time of silence is marked to remember them. It can be a time to reflect on a lot of topics: international rivalries, greed, jealousy, and racism to name but a few. Too often we think, “Why can’t we all just get along?”

We live in a world of tremendous migration of peoples from around the world travelling in search of a better life. It is on a scale which we have difficulty imagining, but it is creating distress in so many places. Some believe we should allow people to move and live wherever they choose—a world without borders. Idealistically that sounds good, but on a practical level it can cause even greater upheaval. God gave us all the resources we need to meet everyone’s needs. Those resources are spread across the globe, to encourage us to live and work together.

Jesus told us that we should love God and love others as we love ourselves. Simple formula, but oh so hard to implement! Loving God is the easy part. Loving ourselves is easy too, but to love others (and here God meant ALL others) as we love ourselves . . . well that’s another matter altogether. It takes a great deal of love to be willing to share one’s abundance with strangers, especially foreign strangers. That’s where the greed and jealousies come into play.

So how do we do it? Perhaps it’s as simple as looking to God for inspiration. God loves us so much that He was willing to sacrifice His only Son. Jesus came and died on the Cross as an atonement for our sins (our wrongdoings). If we but love Jesus for doing this for us, then we are forgiven in the eyes of God and will be welcomed into His eternal Kingdom someday. If we are honest, there is plenty in our lives that needs God’s forgiveness. Sometimes I wonder how He can forgive so much of what I’ve done wrong! But that’s what His love and mercy are all about. He loves us so much He was willing to give us a “get out of eternal death” card, if we but love Jesus, accept that He had to die for our saving, and then live a life reflective of our appreciation.

And that means—loving others! ALL others. We are not to pick and choose whom we wish to love, but to be willing to love everyone, regardless of their circumstances and/or relationship to us. We are to seek ways to live together, to share resources so no one goes without the basics, and we are to try to be one. We have a long way to go! A good starting point is coming together at church to learn about God’s love and to hear Jesus’ challenges for us to change our ways. If we can’t come together on the community level, how do we ever expect to come together on the international level? Please join us on Sunday 11 November at 11:45am at St Chad’s to remember and to share in God’s love for us and our love for one another.

Rev. Don Alcock
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Messages...



Cricket News

The cricket season finally came to an end at the end of September. The summer of 2018 will go down in the annals as one of the hottest and driest summers making the grass growth slow and the wickets brown and hard. Our supporters witnessed some very close and exciting matches throughout. Membership increased with more locals enjoying playing, notably new inclusions were Chris Green, Tom Storey, Cam McDonald and find of the season fast bowler Jamie Shaw. Both the first and second teams remained in their respective divisions for next year with first team comfortably finishing mid table and the seconds narrowly missing relegation.

The club as usual put on several functions during the summer including the annual sheep race which gained a following from far and wide and an Evening with Ryan Sidebottom and comedian Dom Woodward among other things.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our match day sponsors for their loyal support. A big thankyou to all the supporters who come, watch, drink and socialize at the matches and everyone who has paid a part in contributing to running of our village cricket club.

A very special mention must be made to Jim and Lyn who look after the flowers at the club I think they make it the most beautiful and special cricket club in the area.

Harvest Supper and Barn Dance

It was great to see our barn full of people dancing the night away at this recent event – many thanks to all those who supported us, we are very grateful. In total we made just under £800 which will help to keep St Chads going!!! The food and band were all fantastic making a very enjoyable evening. Mary Tavernor



100th Armistice Anniversary

11th November 1918 - 11th November 2018



On 11th November at 1145 a short commemoration gathering will be held at the village War Memorial at which a new plaque will be unveiled. The plaque will name all those from the parish who fell in armed conflict in service of our country. You will be most welcome to attend.



Norton Nature Notes

30th August to 21st October 2018

Chris Green

The fieldfares have arrived! Another sign that the summer is well and truly behind us. Alastair N reported a flock of about 50 birds flying over the village towards Betton -their 'tsak-chack' call standing out of course. This was on the afternoon of the 21st October.

The end of summer brought us some quick-changing and unsettled weather and surely left our swallows and house martins (and a few swifts) in no doubt that it was time to depart south. I didn't note the date I last saw one the hirundines year so if you did please let me know.

Tom S may have seen a peregrine out on the Bearstone Road. His description certainly matched that of an adult male. Keep your eye out for this raptor. In more recent spells of warm weather our buzzards have been taking up on the thermals and this has been reported by several people. The buzzard has excellent eyesight and uses the extra height to search for and spot its prey from a distance and uses the thermal to save energy.

The sweet clear notes of the robin are welcome across village gardens and if you have been getting through those Autumn jobs outside I expect you have been visited by one, as I was this morning, in search of food in the disturbed soil. Another common bird in the village that is also quite a character is the jackdaw – Mel reported that they roost in a favoured gap in the church and have done for many years. The jackdaw is a sociable species and lives in a community with other jackdaws, this includes roosting in a favoured spot that they line with soft material.

There has been an abundance of fruit and berries this year in both the wider countryside and our gardens. Hawthorn and sloe berries in particular are a feature of the hedgerows around the village and you may well have noticed the bright red holly berry being more prominent this year – this will be of great help to our winter thrushes.

It has also been an excellent season for fungi especially the *Agaricus*, or that which we would commonly call the mushroom. In much of the pasture around the village colonies or rings of mushrooms appeared in mid September and were quite prominent, this includes giant puffballs. It goes without saying that all fungi must be considered poisonous and you should "never munch on a hunch" – unless you are an expert it is best to enjoy fungi for their natural beauty and the enjoyment of finding them. Partons Pool has had some particularly fine shaggy ink caps which are still emerging. If you spend a few minutes on the stepping stones at this important wildlife site in the village you may also see crayfish, brook trout and grey wagtail. A short visit I took there recently provided all three along with some noisy woodpeckers.

Who will be the first to report a redwing? They won't be far off. On a clear still night they can be heard migrating – stand outside and listen for a high pitched 'shrie'.