June
2022
Issue 38

Norton Canes Village News



Special souvenir edition to

Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of

HM Queen Elizabeth II

Events will be co-ordinated by Norton Canes Parish Council and many other village organisations

They will take place at the Community Centre, St James Church, Trinity Methodist Church, Norton Canes Library, local schools, pubs and clubs.

Come and Join the Party in the Park on Saturday June 4
(See back page for details)

A big hello – and welcome to the 38th edition of your newsletter – your special Jubilee souvenir edition.

There are so many diverse events taking place in the village that I hope you can find one which you will enjoy attending.
As an ageing rock chic I am really looking forward to the rock bands performing at the Brownhills Road Recreation Field. Hope to see you there.

If you are doing your own thing to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee please send us your photos to be featured in the next edition.
I was recently honoured to receive a Norton Canes Parish Council community award for writing this letter as a volunteer.
I was presented with a magnificent silver plaque to keep for a year (donated by former parish councillors Mike and Zaphne Stretton); a beautiful engraved glass vase; and flowers for which I am very grateful.

The plaque and the vase have pride of place in my lounge.
I said on the presentation evening that the award really should be shared with our sub editor/Councillor Sheila Harding who works tirelessly on this magazine – so thank you Sheila.

Also I would like to thank parish councillor John Bernard who invited me to write the newsletter in the first place all those years ago.
Having been made redundant as a reporter when local newspaper the Chase Post closed then freelance work at the Express and Star came to an end I was at a bit of a loss.

I write. That's what I do. So I am the one who is grateful for the opportunity.
Thank you everyone for keeping the newsletter going with your regular flood of articles.
Enjoy the Jubilee whatever you decide to do.
Let's celebrate being able to get together.
Loves
Jan
Editor



Best Wishes from St James' Church

Father Neil Hibbins, from St James' Church, sends his congratulations to Queen Elizabeth on her Platinum Jubilee and wishes Her Majesty continued health and long life.



Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Picnic in Brownhills Road Park

Saturday June 4
3 pm-10 pm

Programme of the Day



3pm-4pm – DJ Jack the Biscuit

4pm-5pm - Sam Doyle, Acoustic entertainer

5pm-5.30pm - DJ Jack the Biscuit

5.30pm-6.30pm - Rocket 51 (rock band)

6.30-7pm – music with Bloke

7pm-8pm Andy Plimmer duo

8pm-8.30pm - changeover with DJ Jack the Biscuit

8.30pm-10pm - Bloke



10pm - close

Enjoy the day. Please help us by disposing your rubbish in the wheelie bin provided on the park . Thank you

Turn to next page to see more information about our talented Jubilee performers:

Our Talented Jubilee Performers

Bloke: local popular local band performing rock and indie covers including Stereophonics, Foo fighters, Killers and Oasis.



Bloke

Meat Loud: The ultimate tribute to Meat Loaf and Jim Steinman. Includes a performance of tracks from the 'Bat Out of Hell' album plus songs from other Meat Loaf albums and other artists, penned by musical genius Steinman.

The Duo was founded in 2018 by 'Meat Loud' (Andy Plimmer) with the awesome Sally Rivers - one of the UK's top session singers and vocal coaches. Sally has worked with some of the biggest names including Annie Lennox, Cher and Mick Hucknall.



Rocket 51

Rocket 51: Staffordshire based rockabilly and rock 'n' roll band covering 60s and 70s music and some of their own songs.

Sexual Chocolate: Duo performing popular acoustic covers.

Sam Doyle: talented and entertaining local acoustic rock guitarist/vocalist performing a varied set of modern and rock classics including Ed Sheeran, The Killers, Arctic Monkeys and the Script. Sam, a local lad, was a finalist in Lichfield's Got Talent and has performed at Glastonbury Music Festival.



Sam Doyle - Acoustic

Jack the Biscuit: our resident DJ and compere for the day.

Norton Canes Parish Council
Invites you to join us at
The Brownhills Road Playing Fields
On Thursday June 2, 2022
for the
National Beacon Lighting to honour
The Platinum Jubilee
of HM Queen Elizabeth II



The programme for the event as decreed by
The Pageant Master is as follows:

8.30pm - Proms Sing Along led by
Aldridge Musical Comedy Theatre Company

9.45pm - Lighting of the Jubilee Beacon

Party On!

Villagers will be spoilt for choice where to go on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend.

The Railway Tavern, Norton Canes, is hosting a Fun Day on Friday June 3 from 2pm.

There will be inflatables for the kids, a penalty shoot out, 'street food', small business stalls and children's play area.

Live entertainment kicks off at 4pm; disco karaoke at 6pm.



Railway Tavern

Girl Guides Jubilee Joy

Queen Elizabeth II has been the patron of Girl Guides since 1952 after becoming a Girl Guide herself in 1937.

During the week of the platinum jubilee celebrations, the 2nd Norton Canes Guides plan to mark the special occasion by having an afternoon tea party and traditional games at our Girl Guides centenary garden at Norton Green Lane in the village.

The girls will all receive a special jubilee badge to commemorate the day.

Helen Jenkinson



Girl Guide: the young Queen Elizabeth II.

Jubilee Exhibition: A Must See

A special exhibition to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, will take place at Norton Canes Community Centre.



Coronation portrait of HM Queen Elizabeth II

The exhibition, called 'Yesterday's News: A Panorama of Royal Events from the Past 300+ Years', will feature original newspapers and magazines with accompanying notes and comments covering the Royal Houses of Stuart, Hanover and Windsor.

Staged by Norton Canes Historical Society, it will be held over Jubilee weekend from Thursday June 2-Saturday June 4, 10am-4pm each day.



HM King George V

Event organiser Roger Knowles said: "Few now know that King George V during the 1st World War was advised to change his surname due to the anti-German feeling throughout the country.



Coronation portrait of Queen Victoria by George Hayter

"In 1917 he changed the Royal surname to Windsor.

"Similarly Queen Victoria, whose name was Alexandrina Victoria (known as 'Drina' to the family and named after Alexander I Czar of Russia), was advised to use her more English name when she became Queen."

Members of the public are invited to bring along their own souvenirs of Royal Events during the exhibition days.

Platinum Jubilee: Let's Party!

Cannock Chase communities are encouraged to take part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations by hosting their own events.

This year sees Her Majesty The Queen become the first British Monarch to reach the milestone of 70 years on the throne.
The end of May bank holiday has been moved and extended and will run from Thursday to Sunday June 2-5 which will provide opportunities for communities to come together and celebrate.

To help you with your celebrations, Cannock Chase Council has produced an Event Information Pack which advises groups on the practicalities of organising their own event such as health and safety, licensing and road closures.
It also gives ideas for activities to run and useful links to other websites.
The majority of street parties and small-scale events will be eligible for free road closures but a fee is payable by businesses or statutory bodies such as parish and town councils.
The information pack is available to download from the council's website www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/platinumjubilee

Cannock Chase Council has created a webpage for the Platinum Jubilee which contains links to the national website and information on local events.
Hundreds of beacons will be lit across the country on the evening of June 2 to mark the occasion.

Cannock Chase Council is working with town and parish councils to provide beacons - designed and manufactured by a local company. People are encouraged to light up their homes with fairy lights or candles.
A new challenge will also be added to the Cannock Chase Can App encouraging people to create artworks that reflect what the Platinum Jubilee means to them. These will be displayed in story walk frames around Hednesford Park during Jubilee weekend.
Celebrations can be held at any point from now to the end of December 2022. Activities could include street parties, festivals, tree planting and craft activities to make your own platinum emblem or crown.

Platinum Jubilee celebrations and photos can be shared on social media by using the hashtag #PlatinumJubileeChase and tagging @CannockChaseDC on Facebook or Twitter, or Instagram and TikTok.
Let Cannock Chase Council know what you are planning by emailing communications@cannockchasedc.gov.uk. See list of community events on www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

Jubilee Message from MP Amanda Milling



I am delighted we are celebrating Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee this June. Her Majesty has shown remarkable leadership during her glorious 70 year reign over the UK and the Commonwealth.

Through the highs and lows of the last seven decades, Her Majesty has provided her subjects with unwavering service and stability.

Her Majesty has now served three generations of subjects. We can never underplay the importance of this astonishing occasion.

I know there are many wonderful events planned across Cannock Chase, including in Norton Canes, to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

I hope you will all be able to enjoy this special bank holiday with family, friends and neighbours as we celebrate Her Majesty and everything she has achieved.

God save the Queen.

As ever, if you have any issues at all that you need my help with, email me amanda.milling.mp@parliament.uk, ring 01543 877142 or visit www.amandamilling.com/contact"

Message from your County Councillor Samantha Thompson

I would like to wish Her Majesty and Norton Canes residents best wishes for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

*Councillor Thompson can be contacted on 07817 265 438 or email Samantha.thompson@staffordshire.gov.uk



Councillor Samantha Thompson

Come and Join the Fun

Join in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations at Norton Canes Community Centre on **Friday June 3.**

There will be a full afternoon's entertainment including song, dance, music and afternoon tea. The afternoon tea will be provided by the Community Centre.

The Friday Tea Dance will host ballroom, sequence, party and line dancing.

There will also be a demonstration of a new dance – The Platinum Waltz – with music by David Read.

Backstreet Theatre Company will be performing a medley of hit songs from the Queen's reign.

The event will take place from 1.30pm-4pm approximately.

Tickets are £10 from Jackie at the Community Centre on 07845 678 003.

Norton Canes Community Centre – Diary Dates

From March 13, second Sunday of each month: family quiz night. Bring own food and drink, £1 per person. Maximum six per team. Doors open 7pm Quiz starts 7.30om

June 3: Platinum Jubilee Cabaret. Music, dance and afternoon tea. Tickets £10.

July 30: A Night at The Dogs.

Sept 11: craft fair.

October 29: barn dance.

December 10 and 11: Panto Aladdin.

*Email nccabookings@hotmail.com or ring 07845 678 003 for more information about any of the above. Time and price of events from July 30 to be confirmed.

Events are provisional and will depend on Covid regulations at the time.

Weekly Events at Norton Canes Community Centre



Monday
L'rythmix Dance Academy (children's dance class). Contact Leela 07821 774 456
Kano Judo: Ian 07549108829
Xaquarians: Jane 07515 931 389
Simply Crafting: Jackie 07570 452 948

Tuesday
Jenny's social dance afternoon
The little group of stitchers: Irene 07985 484 271
Tai Ch: Richard 07724 183 091
Rainbows: See girlguiding.org
Indoor bowls: 07845 678 003

Thursday
Crafty Cards: Jackie 07570 452 948
Crafty Sew and Sews: Jean 07412 191 439
Sugar Craft: Sandra 07792 549 307 Cannock Photography Society: www.cannockps.co.uk

Friday
Tots O'clock toddler group: facebook @totsoclock
Tea dance: 07845 678 003
Xaquarians: Jane 07515 931389

Silver Sneakers: Give it a Go



Silver Sneakers gentle exercise group members meet every Thursday at Trinity Methodist Church, Norton Canes.

Group spokesperson Pamela Louies said: “If you feel you could benefit from exercise please come along and you can have a free class, (thereafter £4 weekly). “There is no obligation to come again if it's not for you. Even if you have a few health issues like arthritis it will help you.”

For more details ring Pam on 01543 899367 or Jan 01543 495796. Members meet at the Poplar Street church from 12.30pm-1.30pm.

Warm Welcome Awaits at Trinity Methodist Church



The church will host a special Service of Celebration for the Queen’s Jubilee on Friday June 3 at 4pm.

The event will be followed by a Bring and Share celebration tea. A warm welcome awaits anyone who would like to attend.

Worship takes place as usual every Sunday at 11am. All welcome.

The church also hosts Girls Brigade meetings. Organisers are now recruiting all ages, but four to 10-year-olds are particularly needed.

The girls meet on Thursday nights at the Poplar Street church from 6pm-8.30pm.

For more details ring Chris on 01543 276695.

To avoid disappointment items for the September newsletter must be emailed to
Jan at cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk
by the end of the first week in August.

Jenny and Terry's Dances

Norton Canes Community Centre

1st Saturday each month Dancing to Jenny's Music

3rd Saturday each Month Dancing to
Top Guest Keyboard Players 8pm-11pm, £5 pay on the door

Monthly Tea Dance every 1st Tuesday in the month.
Dance, Bingo and Raffle
1.30pm-4pm, £8.50 includes food, bring your own drink

2nd, 3rd and 4th (5th) Tuesdays dancing to Jenny's Music
Bring your own food and drink and enjoy a social afternoon
1.30pm-4pm, £4 on the door.

Saturday June 4, 2022 Party Night Dance
to acknowledge and celebrate
HM Queen Elizabeth II, Platinum Jubilee
Theme - 50s style Dress
also
Tuesday June 7, Afternoon Party,
1.30pm - 4.00pm Social, Charity Dance
Dress Code; Red, White and Blue

Look out for our Saturday night Special
'Black Tie Evenings' Dress up, Dance and Dine with us
Information On Notice Board in The Community Centre

Book your tickets early from Jenny 01922 415232 to avoid disappointment.

Time to smile. Enjoy this look back in time written by Glynnis Briscoe (half of Norton Canes fun comedy duo Dandy)

Celebration Time…Come On!



Those were the days: Glynnis with her trade-mark curls created out of rags in her hair!

Gearing up for the big Celebration. Seventy years on the throne.
Her Maj. has been an amazing monarch. I can't imagine what it must be like to have to be polite and focused for so long when you want to take your shoes off and watch telly in your jimjams.
She has never lost her cool or her dignity over all those years.
How many changes must she have witnessed?
Life back in the year of the Coronation was very different.
The wireless was important back then but TV was in its infancy.
Not many people could afford a telly so most of us had to grease round the posh lady in the street who had one. Always one.

Seventy years ago we were transfixed watching a marionette, a teddy bear and a rag doll climbing in and out of a picnic hamper. Andy Pandy and Looby Lou. Andy was waving bye bye on a regular basis.
We 'sat comfortable' and 'Listened With Mother'. We loved Bill and Ben the Flowerpot Men and Little Weed. Their conversation consisted of "Be-pap ickle Weed!" and "Flobadob!" A generation of us grew up thinking this was the normal way to speak.

Great excitement at Christmas when Mr Potato Head was the top present. Mr Potato Head (or as he is called by the opposition - Boris Johnson).

Around this time Harry Corbett put his hand up Sooty the glove puppet for the first time and had his own show.
By pretending Sooty was shy and would only whisper in his ear he got away with it for years.
His predecessor Peter Brough had become unstuck with the popularity of TV as a medium. He had been a big star on radio with his ventriloquist doll Archie Andrews.
Joined on the show by Tony Hancock and Beryl Reed.
Television was his undoing. "Yow cud see 'is lips move!"

Radio Luxembourg was our musical lifeline back then. It always lost the signal and you had to hang upside down out of the window to hear who a song was by.

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Our heroes were Dennis the Menace and Desperate Dan with his cow pies. These days Dan would be a vegan and go to peace rallies and Dennis would be head prefect and launch an anti bullying campaign. Billy Bunter/aka The Fat Owl would have claimed fat shaming and got counselling and compensation.

Ivanhoe and Robin Hood loomed large on the big screen. All over the country kids stole mom's best prop and a dustbin lid and rode the dog up and down the garden with much screaming.

No good sending kids to their room as a punishment today. They've got everything there. Best to send them to your room - there's only Ralgex, knee supports and Gaviscon.

People got their first taste of X-rated films at the pictures and had to prove they were 16. Coughing their way through a Woodbine to look cool. Young lads got their thrills from the ladies' underwear section of their mom's catalogue. Long line bras with front fastening or counting buttons on your liberty bodice. Now they send online photos of their bits and pieces before they agree on a date! Sex is okay but smoking is a crime.

These days watching somebody cook something you can't pronounce counts as entertainment. We watch them cook then order a curry or pizza from Uber Eats.

In 1952 coronation chicken was an exotic piece of cuisine launched to celebrate the Coronation. Most of us in the Black Country at that time were existing on a "piece". This was a doorstop of bread with jam, dripping or bacon licker (liquor). Now we send each other pics of our tea on Facebook!

Back then we got all our excitement doing the conga or the hokey cokey. The guy who invented the hokey cokey died last month. Devil of a job to get him in the coffin….

All this has made me feel very old as if I needed further proof. Went for a blood test a while back…my results came back. "Your Blood Group has been discontinued."

I'll finish with a suitable retro joke. The Queen's television broke recently so she called Andrew over and said: "Andrew, would you toddle over to Currys and get one a new televison set - but don't bring a Philips or a Ferguson. They don't last two minutes!"

Have a great summer, folks.

*Glynnis thanks the 'lovely crowd' who turned up to see Dandy at the Community Centre at the end of April.



Allan and Glynnis Briscoe aka Dandy

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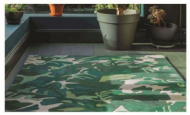
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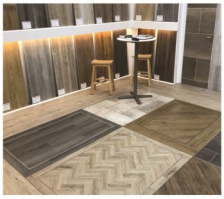
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Carpets Direct 2U is owned by **Robert** and **Mandy Freeman**, and their son **Richard**. The Freeman family have been serving customers throughout the Walsall and West Midlands area for four generations. Their years of retail experience have helped them to identify a niche in the market and come up with an idea that allows them to buy and sell carpets to the public at discounted prices.

Carpets Direct 2U is easily accessible to everyone in the area with retail premises in **Aldridge, Burntwood** and **Pelsall** and a huge warehouse in **Norton Canes** which is open to the public and has thousands of rolls in stock ready for customers to take away.

Carpets Direct 2U has established a reputation for providing customers with good service and quality floor coverings, priced to suit everyone's pocket.

Great Value, Great Quality

So how do they do it? Generally, when buying a carpet to fit your room, this price will include other costs such as storage and distribution by the stockist.

Carpets Direct 2U buy and sell in a different way. In simple terms they buy full rolls of carpet in bulk direct from the supplier, then cut them into standard room sizes and hold the stock themselves at their warehouse in **Norton Canes**. The savings they make are then passed **Direct 2U**. Discounts apply to all ranges. In addition to the vast range of stock they hold, they have hundreds of pattern and sample books to browse through in their showrooms or, you can take away samples to check and match against your individual colour scheme in the comfort of your own home.

Vinyls

The vinyl selection is endless at prices to suit everyone. In the store they stock remnants of all sizes: **2,3** and **4** metre widths with discounts of up to **75% off** normal cut length prices. Any time of the day, every day you can go to **Carpets Direct 2U** and buy a cut-price piece of vinyl, 2m x 2m from **£25**.
If you want a particular range or you don't see what you're looking for, you can order just what you want from a number of sample books and normally get it delivered the very next day.

Fitting Service

Carpets Direct 2U offer a fully comprehensive fitting service, provided by a team of self employed professional fitters with vast experience in the flooring industry. If you require underlay **Carpets Direct 2U** stock a variety and sell it at discounted roll prices, which is half the normal cut length price.

"Everyone's tastes are different whether it be 100% wool carpets or 100% polypropylene stain resistant carpets. The one thing every customer wants is quality carpets at the best possible price and that's what we give at Carpets Direct 2U." **adds Robert.**

Measuring Service

Carpets Direct 2U offer a free no obligation measuring service and are happy to provide written insurance quotations on request.

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Whilst you can find a great selection of rugs in store, you can also shop online at **www.rugsdirect2u.co.uk** or order over the telephone on **01922 691555**. **Rugs Direct 2U** offer quality rugs at the lowest prices. They have rugs to suit all tastes and budgets from retro designs to timeless classic styles from their traditional collections. They offer a wide variety of colours in materials ranging from luxurious wool to durable manmade fibres.

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Carpets Direct 2U/Rugs Direct 2U are delighted to have been voted 'Most Loved Carpet & Rugs Business in the UK' (as voted for by local people) for six years running. See what customers have to say about their service and products on the Best of Walsall website. Log onto the Best of Walsall website to read the numerous testimonials and see for yourself why **Carpets Direct 2U** and **Rugs Direct 2U** are so highly recommended as UK's most loved carpet and rugs business, an accolade they are proud of.

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Leslie Smith

'Queen Elizabeth I, Good Queen Bess,' (Tutbury Castle curator Lesley Smith), continues to support the National Miners' Memorial.

Lesley, who appeared at last year's Chase Arts for Public Spaces (CHAPS) fundraiser, will be presenting An Evening with Peggy Knight, Special Operations Executive in WW2.

This is an evening not to be missed as, through Peggy, we learn more of the dangers of war faced by ordinary people. We also hear how brave those people could be.

Lesley is well known to thousands of people locally, nationally and globally for her work as a historian and her portrayal of notable women characters in history.

Her research and knowledge is thorough and extensive. Anyone who has the privilege of witnessing one of her performances always comes away energised and enlightened.

CHAPS members are thrilled that Lesley is continuing her endorsement and promotion of the project.



WW2 Special Operations executive Peggy Knight

The National Miners' Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, was dedicated in 2021.

Voluntary group CHAPS is now moving to the next stage of fundraising so they can further enhance the memorial site and improve the visitor experience.

The Peggy Knight fundraising event will be held at St Mary's Community Centre & Social Club, Walsall Road, Cannock, WS11 0HE on Friday June 24 at 7pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. Tickets are £15 (includes fish and chip supper).

To buy tickets email info@chaseartsforpublicspaces.co.uk; ring 07971 597 406; or contact Norton Canes councillor Sheila Harding 07733346280

Progress of the project can be followed on the group's Facebook page www.facebook.com/ChaseArtsForPublicSpaces

Norton Canes Flower Club

Summer is coming - light nights and celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - which we are all looking forward to.
Flower Club meetings are getting back to a more normal routine and the change to meeting in the afternoon seems to be appreciated by the majority of members.

In March there was a demonstration by Linda Seabrook entitled 'The Highwayman'.
She produced some wonderful and colourful arrangements with beautiful flowers depicting the adventures of Twm Sion Cati, who was born in Tregaron, and is spoken of as the 'Welsh Robin Hood'. We all enjoyed listening to Linda's narrative and seeing the lovely flowers.



Beautiful arrangement from the 'Highwayman' demonstration.

In April members visited the Dorothy Clive Garden in Shropshire. The weather was kind and we all enjoyed the day which included a guided tour, lunch - and time to sit and wander in the lovely garden.

On May 15 Dean Sharpe demonstrated 'May Madness'.

On June 15 the club will be presenting its first Open Meeting at Norton Canes Community Centre, 1.30pm. The demonstrator will be Lorena Dyer presenting on the theme 'Lipstick, Powder and Paint'. Tickets are available from club members or pay on the door (£8.50). Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the afternoon.

On July 20 there will be a workshop at the club.

There will be no meeting in August but a garden visit may be arranged.

On September 21 there will be a demonstration by Jo Davis entitled 'Blooms and Tunes'.

*Members meet at Trinity Methodist Church, Poplar Street, Norton Canes, on the third Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm unless otherwise stated.
New members and visitors welcome. For more information and tickets ring 01543 277492 or 01543 278370.

Swagman's Tales

The Wildlife on our Doorstep

by Dr Bob Whorton

It's been a strange couple of months following on from the still current avian flu crisis. Birds have adapted a differing routine to their lifestyles. Their behaviour has been very noticeably different to that of preceding years and has seemed quite bizarre at times. I suppose that's only to be expected as the once simple picture in front of them has changed so much in the past six months.
Whole families have gone from the area in what can only be described as a brutal attack by the infamous avian flu.
Plus, there are four new pairs of swans and seven singles flying in from shrinking territories elsewhere.



Mr M and Trinity

The few remaining unaffected local swans have been sorting themselves out, trying out new partners going through the moves and strangely parting company.
Our closest and dearest cob has had no less than three separate encounters over the last four months, but none have seemed to last until the present coupling.

We have seen and recorded various coupling and full-on mating sessions, but alas nothing has yet given our observers an inkling of a 2022 season Swag family, not that it's a bad thing….

Not so sad with one other of our endearing local couples who have gone to nest, protected in their normal isolation.

All the remaining birds are very fit - surviving more than adequately on the natural diets in the pools, lakes and canal system without any intervention, finding and staking their territories.

Further afield another of the unaffected couples has gone to nest, but there has been evidence of avian flu with dead geese and gulls found in the vicinity, so fingers are crossed for them.

Three new couples to the area (from Stourbridge, Telford and Stoke) slightly further afield have bonded and created nests on or near our canals.

A new pair of black swans has settled on an out of the way private pool which I was lucky enough to photograph mating after a tip off last week. Again, a very healthy couple.

The staggering amount of large pike has also increased in the Swag and Chasewater. They can regularly be seen in groups on Norton East Road bridge and along the dam overflow where people have still been feeding them.

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A couple of weeks ago a young lad and his dad landed probably the biggest pike we have seen in recent years, anywhere. Obviously, any cygnets, ducking moorhen and coots are going to fall prey to them.

With regards to nesting birds, please give these areas a wide berth and please ensure that your dogs are on their leads.

Members of the community are urged to report mink sightings to the ranger together with three-word location or a map reference. Same routine with any other animal or birds loose on roads or in distress.

Canal sightings of mink are getting quite common now too. The Canal and River Trust is aware of the issue and would welcome any information.

No bird or nests are safe from these evil predators and vast areas have been affected by their presence.

Mink are an invasive species that arrived by mink farming. Not very clever animal rights activists thought it cool to release them onto the Chase and other open spaces in the county.

They have since bred, spread and kill almost everything they see. They can be very aggressive and if cornered will attack humans.

Several local reserves are seeing them including Wolsely Bridge and the public have been seen actually feeding them on Pelsall Common.



Pesky mink

Both of the local swans that were taken into care over the last few months are doing very well. Wildlife sanctuary Linjoy has done wonders for the poor cygnet that crashed onto the road near the crematorium, double-breaking a leg.

He will stay there until after breeding season has passed, allowing a normal posture to return before being transferred into a bachelor group local to the centre. From there he'll almost certainly find a mate and live a happy life.

The other swan that had been attacked by one of an ever growing contingent of mink has now been released back into the lake and is doing very well indeed. The deep lacerations to the face are now all but gone and the deep black colour is returning to both sides of the face.

Have a happy summer everyone, stay safe and love where you live.


Run By An
FA Level 1
DBS Checked
Coach
£4 Sessions
To Be Paid
Weekly!
NORTON CANES FOOTBALL CLUB
FOUNDED 2001
Norton Canes Football
Academy
Ages 3-6
Contact Joe: 07731572924
Saturday's
10-11am
Join our
Facebook
Group

Wow

Enjoy these beautiful photos taken in Norton Canes.

Local resident Maureen Ansell captured natural light from the moon (some artificial light from the street lamp) and a stunning early morning sunrise from her window at home.

We have had some truly beautiful skies and wild weather over the village. If you managed to capture any awesome photos please share them with us.

Send them to the editor at cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk



By the light of the moon



Sunrise over Norton Canes



Thank you Brenda Benton from Norton Canes for this delightful poem. Picture the scene as you read it……

The Buttercup Field

Today I walked a country lane -
The sun shone brightly overhead
I was lost – deep in thought –
Then, suddenly I stopped
Drank in the beauty of what I saw
A vivid yellow carpet
Shining golden heads
Glistening
Dancing in the breeze
What simplicity!
What joy!
What peace!
Thank You Lord for the glories of nature.
Amen



HELP SUPPORT NORTON CANES LIBRARY

Become a volunteer: a few hours a week can make a big difference

- Meet new people
- Learn new skills
- Get valuable work experience
- Support your local community
- Full training is provided



If you are interested, please contact

Library Volunteers at

libraryvolunteers@mpft.nhs.uk or

Ask at the library

NHS
Midlands Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust
A Keele University Teaching Trust

YOUR LIBRARY
Staffordshire County Council

Norton Canes Library: Something for Everyone



The Burntwood Road library is open as follows:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 10am-1pm;
Friday 10am-5pm;
Wednesday and Sunday closed.

Groups using the centre weekly are:
Little Chicks on Mondays 10.30am-11.45am (parent and toddler group aged six months to five years.

Craft Group on Tuesdays, 10am-12 noon.

Card Craft on Thursdays, 10am-12 noon. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

Let's Get Together Craft Group on Fridays 10am-12 noon.

'Open Arms' (simply pop in if you fancy a bit of a natter and tea or coffee). All welcome on Fridays 11am-1pm.

Knit & Knatter on Fridays from 1pm-4pm.

Groups using the centre monthly are:
1st Wednesday: League of Ladies from 7pm-9pm.

2nd Tuesday: Norton Canes History Group from 7pm-9pm.

A library spokesperson said: "We are always looking for new volunteers. Feel free to come in for a chat."

*Check out www.nortoncanescommunitylibrary.co.uk for latest news and opening times.

Coffee and Chat about Village Issues



A coffee morning will be held at Norton Canes Library on Saturday June 25.
Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) will be attending the event (barring any emergency) to discuss any issues residents might have.
A district and parish councillor will also be in attendance.
There will be free tea, coffee and biscuits available with library staff from 10.30am-12.30pm.
If you have any issues about the village which you would like to discuss, the PCSOs and councillors will be available from 11am-12 noon.

Welcome to New Councillors

Norton Canes Parish Council is now at 'full strength' with 13 councillors working for the village.

New councillors Paul Sanders, William Bird and Steve Loundes were co-opted onto the council at meetings in February and March.

Parish council clerk Linda Florence said: "We would like to welcome them to the council."

Annual Meeting Notice

Norton Canes Parish Council's annual meeting will take place on Wednesday May 18.

The meeting will be held at Norton Canes Community Centre, Brownhills Road, at 7pm.

During the meeting the election of chairman, vice chairman and committees of the council will be decided for the ensuing year.

Congratulations to Councillor John Preece

Councillor John Preece was re-elected as district councillor in the May elections.

Cllr Preece, one of three district councillors for the village, will serve until 2024 when the whole of Cannock Chase Council will be up for election due to boundary changes.

Cllr Preece said: "I am humbled by this result and incredibly grateful to the people of Norton Canes for putting their faith in me again.



Cllr John Preece

"I thank the other candidates for a clean and fair campaign. I am already getting to work on fulfilling pledges I made. I will continue to work hard on behalf of everyone in the village, regardless of whether you voted for me or not. Please get in touch if you need help with any local issues."

*The results: John Preece (Labour and Co-operative Party)1,060 votes (61.5%); Tim Clapham (Conservative) 578 votes (33.5%); Paul Allen (Reform UK) 87 votes (5%).

NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL 2022 ~ 2023

Cllr J. Preece (Chairman)	01543 270789
Cllr J. Bernard (Vice Chairman)	01543 274427
Cllr Mrs A. Bernard	01543 274427
Cllr Mrs S. Harding	07733 346280
Cllr M. Holder	01543 279475
Cllr J. Newbury	07884 111382
Cllr Mrs D. Todd	01543 278778
Cllr R. Wilkinson	07956 994199
Cllr K. Fereday	01543 317967
Cllr D. Bilbie	07376 910135
Cllr P. Sanders	07866 749390
Cllr W. Bird	07400 932929
Cllr S. Loundes	07859 361849

Clerk to the Parish Council Mrs L Florence
01543 276812 (between 10am-2pm)

Useful Contacts for District, County and Other Matters

Residents may wish to keep a note of local councillors' and MP contact numbers if they have any Cannock Chase district or Staffordshire County Council matters to discuss.

The district councillors are:

Cllr Josh Newbury	07884 111282
Cllr John Preece	01543 270789
Cllr Mike Hoare	01543 279989

County councillor: Cllr Samantha Thompson 07817 265 438

Amanda Milling MP on 01543 877142 or email
amanda.milling.mp@parliament.com

This newsletter is put together by just two people:
Editor Janet Lee
Sub editor Sheila Harding
It is published by Norton Canes Parish Council
www.nortoncanesparishcouncil.co.uk

CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINK

Picnic in the Park

DON'T FORGET YOUR CHAIR OR BLANKET!

Saturday 4th June 2022

(3pm - 10pm)

at the Brownhills Road Playing Fields

LIVE BANDS ✲ BOUNCY CASTLE

FREE EVENT

Norton Canes Parish Council

COMMUNITY FUND

Supported by the Parish Council and Lottery funding

For further information contact... **Tel:** 01543 276812 **Email:** nortoncanesparishcouncil@live.co.uk



Thursday 2nd June 2022

Join us at the Brownhills Road Playing Fields, as part of a national event organised by the Pageant Master.

8.30pm - Proms Sing Along

9.45pm - Lighting of the Jubilee Beacon