# Norton Canes Festival

Saturday
5th July 2014



All aboard



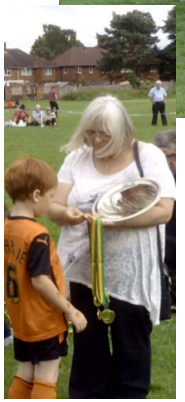


Team Talks



Norton Primary Win the Trophy





Councillor Mrs Ann Bernard presents medals



August 2014 Issue 7

# Norton Canes Village News

## Stone Me! Would you believe it?



Eagle-eyed villagers may have noticed that a historic rock, which used to stand in Norton Green Lane, has been removed and there is a wooden seat in its place next to the bus stop.

Recent scientific tests have revealed the rock dates back an incredible 300-400 MILLION years.

According to Dr Peter Floyd of the North Staffordshire Archaeological Society, the boulder type is believed to be dolerite.

It originated from the Ice Age when two ice flows from Scotland and Yorkshire are believed to have collided in South Staffordshire, bringing rocks to the surface.

Local councillor Sheila Harding believes many of the smaller ones ended up in village garden rockeries – their owners unaware of their historic significance.

The Norton Green Lane rock was originally found in Little Wyrley in a field owned by the late Hamish Wallace of Little Wyrley Hall. Mr Wallace gave permission for the rock to be transported by tractor to Norton Green Lane where it sat from 1999-2014.

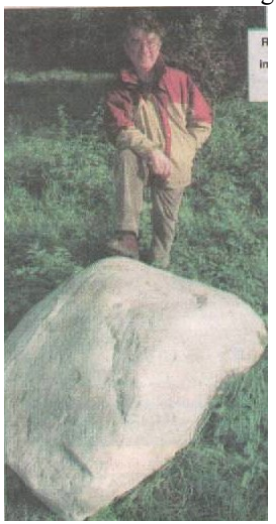
Local farmer, the late John Benton extracted samples from the rock, then parish councillor Sheila Harding and local historian Roger Knowles arranged for boulder samples to be analysed by the Open University.

Local farmer John Bridgen and his nephew Jamie hauled the rock into its present position in the garden at the junction of Walsall Road/ Burntwood Road.

An information plaque will be installed in the garden in the near future.

"It looks great," Councillor Harding said. "It sits against the back wall in a quiet area."

A full report about the rock can be viewed at the parish office or ring Sheila for more information on 01543 275013.



*Roger Knowles October 1999*

Norton Canes High School students have been busy creating artwork to commemorate World War I for a village display. The artwork pictured depicts an aerial view of Cannock Chase, concentrating on areas with links to WWI.

*See report Page 7*



Hi everyone.
Welcome to edition 7 of the Newsletter.
I hope you enjoy it – even those who have trouble with the font size!
One local resident wrote in to say he enjoys the magazine but struggles with the font size. I sympathise. I'm writing this with the spec's very firmly sitting on my nose.
We would love to have the font size larger, but as you can probably see it's a squash to fit everything in as it is.
But just for you, my bespectacled friend – the next bit is in a bigger font!

Having just written the front page story about the rock I am feeling rather guilty about asking my long-suffering partner Alex to take various rocks from the garden to the tip.

Yes, I'm also guilty of calling his beloved rockery 'Stonehenge', teasing him mercilessly about the big rocks he used – and telling him that coach loads of people would be turning up to see the pond and rockery in the back garden!

Back to normal font (sorry): It was my pleasure to have attended two great events at Jerome Primary School: the end of year show (see picture in this newsletter) and a 'Jerome's Got Talent' event. The kids worked really hard and thoroughly entertained us all.
In the leaver's play I had to titter at the joke about Robin Hood being so reliable he could do anything asked of him.
'The Reliant Robin couldn't go round corners fast though'..... was the reply.
If you would like anything included in the newsletter email me cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk
Warm wishes
Janet Lee
Ed'

Items for Issue 8 By September 30 *please For distribution Beginning of November*

**Our gardens**

In recognition of the 100-year anniversary of World War 1 the parish council has planted poppies on the Millennium garden.
This has been made possible thanks to the support of Dobbies **'herewegrow'** scheme which provided the seeds free of charge.
You will see the various garden areas in the village, which are now blooming with plants and flowers.
Many of these are kindly donate by Mr and Mrs Gerry Kean of Stag Crescent who provide us with plants for our garden areas each year.





**LOCAL WORSHIP**

**St James The Great**
**Services:**
Our main service is Mass, celebrated in response To Jesus' command to 'do this in memory of me'.

Sunday: Mass 8am.

Family Sung Mass 10.30am. (Sunday School is held during the service).

Weekday Mass on Wednesday 11am and Thursday 7pm.

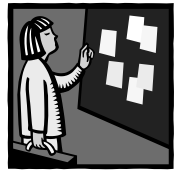
Rector: Fr. Neil Hibbins 01543278969 email: neil_hibbins@lycos.co.uk
Church Clerk is Mary Carpenter 01543 275296 email: mary.carpenter@tiscali.co.uk
Church Wardens: Joyce Bennett 01543 277713, Kim Lloyd 01922 413718

**Trinity Methodist Church**
Poplar Street, Norton Canes. WS11 9SG

Morning worship Sunday 11am
Minister Rev C Parkes 01543 682277
Senior Seward: Ian Straughan 01543 276695

**NORTON CANES PARISH COUNCIL 2013 ~ 2014**

| | |
|---|---|
| Cllr J. Bernard (Chairman) | 01543 274427 |
| Cllr J. Preece (Vice Chairman) | 01543 278872 |
| Cllr J. Beddows | 01543 279991 |
| Cllr Mrs A. Bernard | 01543 274427 |
| Cllr Mrs Z. Stretton MBE | 01543 276959 |
| Cllr P. Gilbert | 01543 276973 |
| Cllr Mrs J. Davies | 01543 275032 |
| Cllr J. Bridgen | 01543 271679 |
| Cllr J Hampshire | 01543 279850 |
| Cllr Mrs M. Hopley | 01543 274396 |
| Cllr Mrs S. Harding | 01543 275013 |
| Cllr R. Knowles | 01543 279313 |
| Cllr R. Horton | 01543 270801 |
| Clerk to the Parish Council Mrs L. Florence (between 10am-2pm) | 01543 276812 |



**Useful contacts for district and county matters**

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

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The district councillors are: | Cllr Mrs Zaphne Stretton | on 01543 276959 |
| | Cllr Mike Holder | on 01543 279475 |
| | Cllr John Preece | on 01543 278872 |

County councillor: Diane Todd on 01543 278778

# NOTICE BOARD

Norton Canes RVS – Darby and Joan Club
For over 50s

Every Wednesday from 1.30pm - 3.45pm
At Norton Canes Community Centre

Come along and enjoy live entertainment
Bingo and parties for special occasions

We also arrange outings and holidays

Cllr Zaphne Stretton MBE and the committee look forward to welcoming new members and anyone prepared to give 'a helping hand'

Ring 01543 276959 for information

Norton Canes Neighbourhood Network
The Library
Tuesday September 2.
9.30am-12noon
Information, advice and updates on local projects.
Help and advice from voluntary organisations
Call 01543 500404 for info.

Activity invite

Two friendly clubs take place each week at Norton Canes Library.

There's a Knit 'n' Natter with fun and chatter every Tuesday from 2pm-4pm.
Admission is free.

Or join the Card Club on Thursdays, from 1pm-3pm. The charge is £1 (not inclusive of materials).

World War I
Commemorative Event
Community Centre
August 3
3pm - 5pm

Exhibition by Norton Canes Historical Society
Rolling Newsreel

Book and pictures produced by Norton High School students on display

Short Service
World War I food and other refreshments

British Legion attending

WWI music by Peter Howard

Housing Drop-in Sessions



Do you need help and advice on housing issues?
Do you want to move, downsize – or need to move due to medical problems?
Drop-in advice sessions are held at Norton Canes Library fortnightly on Thursdays from 9am-1pm.
Cannock Chase Housing invites you drop into one of the sessions where you will be offered advice and assistance.
Or you can ring housing assistant Lorraine Thiselton on 01543 464768.



Norton Canes Fun Day

Residents flocked to the village's third annual Fun Day – and the weather was kind.
There were numerous stalls and children enjoyed a day of entertainment.
The event began with a small carnival procession (thanks to Hawkins Logistics who provided the trailer and driver).
Essington Silhouettes Marching Band and Cannock Chase Drum Corps provided music along the route.
Some children turned up in fancy dress.
The event was organised by Norton Canes Parish Council and the Community Centre.
A parish council spokesperson said: "We are grateful to the band and Drum Corps for their support. Well done to those who attended in fancy dress, but it was disappointing not many more were involved.
"Many thanks to all the helpers and marshals. Without their support we would not be able to organise this event."
There was an Inter-school football tournament on the day with various age group teams taking part.
Organisers said the tournament was 'a great success'.
Norton Canes Primary school were overall winners. The victorious team was presented with the Inter-School Shield for 2014.
A parish council spokesperson added: "Many thanks to Ryan Horton, Sally and Rachel from the primary schools for organising the teams."
(See pictures on our back page).

## Civic Service – an invitation to you

Norton Canes Parish Council chairman Cllr John Bernard will be holding his Civic Service on Sunday September 7 at Trinity Methodist Church, 3pm.
This will be followed by refreshments at Norton Canes Community Centre.
All residents are welcome to attend.

## Norton Canes Library – implications

You may have read in the local press recently that Staffordshire County Council is proposing changes to how library services will be delivered in the future.
This will have implications for Norton Canes Library.
A Norton Canes Parish Council spokesperson said: "We are actively involved with the county council to ensure the best possible service is available for our community."
Suggestions by the county have included using volunteers to man library services.
*The Newsletter will keep you updated when we have more information about developments.

The Parish Notice board outside the Co-op contains information which is updated regularly on Parish matters. You can also find information on the parish council website at **www.nortoncanesparishcouncil.co.uk**

## Parish Council – the Vision Decades Ago

Long, long ago before Norton Canes Parish Council even existed I remember leafleting roads in the village asking whether villagers would like to have a parish council.
Former village resident Sam Whitehouse asked if I would help him to establish whether there was an interest.
Sam, who now lives in Chasetown, has handed over the original Steering Committee Minute book which makes fascinating reading.
Minutes reveal a public meeting took place at the old Community Centre (a tin shack-like place on Brownhills Road for those of you who remember).
The meeting was held on December 9 1980.
Present were: The Rev Brian Skelding, Cllr Sam Whitehouse, Mr Attenborough, Mrs B Price Mr Wright (the latter three from the Association of Local Councils) and Mr Davis from Cannock Chase District Council Treasurer's Department.
About 40 members of the public attended, including Cllr Percy Shaw, Cllr Mike Holder, former Cllr Mrs Catherine Bhageerutty, and Messrs D Clarke, K Darby and F Small.
Also attending were members from the village Historical Society, Scouts, Guides, PTA Music and Drama Society, and School Boards of Governors.
The Rev Skelding outlined his own experiences as a parish councillor and 'enumerated the advantages that a parish council could offer'.
He said if it was agreed a parish council should be set up it would be 'in the spirit of co-operation with the district council and free from political and religious bias'.
Interestingly Cllr Whitehouse's visions largely came to fruition.
In the document he says a parish council's function could be 'maintenance of landscaped and planted areas, provision of bus shelters and road-side shelters, provision of benches, collection of litter in central areas, **publication of a parish magazine** and **s**upport for local organisations.
The cost of having a parish council at the time was an estimated £5 per year for each household.
A vote was taken and a steering committee was set up to take the idea of a parish council further.
The first people to serve on the steering committee were: M Holder, S Whitehouse, D Wood, C Bhageerutty, D Thompson, A Sutton and Mrs Robinson.
More extracts from those days in the next edition.....
Thank you to former Cllr Sam Whitehouse for the loan of the documents.

### Norton Canes WI

Members meet on the first Wednesday of each month.
And you are invited to join.
A spokeswoman for the WI said: "We have lots of really good speakers at the moment, so please try to come and join us.
"You will be made very welcome.
"We recently had a Mrs Kath Reynolds giving a talk about 'Gymslips and Chalkboards'. She was so good. She took us all back to our schooldays and we all had a really good evening with her."

The message is: come on ladies and see what we are all about.





## What's on at Norton Canes Community Centre?



*Cake decorating classes (the basics) take place every Thursday from 7pm-9pm.
For details ring Brenda on 01543 523624 or 07972 785 072
*Phyllis's card class takes place every Wednesday from 11am-1pm.
Admission is £3 which includes a drink.
For details ring Phyllis on 07968 291 694.
*Norton Canes Family Fun Club meets every Tuesday and Thursdays during school holidays from July 29-August 28, 10am-1pm, for ages up to 11 years.
There are craft activities, cooking, lots of toys, Wii, X box and pool table for older children. Admission is £1.50 per child.
For details ring 07845 678 003 or 07936 347 050.

User groups at the centre:

**Mondays**: Playgroup, 8.15am-1pm.
Watercolours, 10am-1pm. Ring 01543 275013
Sewing group, 1.30am-3.30pm. (private group)
Kano Judo Club, 6.30pm-8pm.

**Tuesdays:** Playgroup, 8.15am-3pm.
Poundshedders, 7pm-8pm. Sue 01543 278534
Indoor bowls, 7.30pm-9.30pm. Ann 01543 279185

**Wednesdays:** Playgroup, 8.15am-1pm
Phyllis's card class, 11am-1pm.
WRVS, 1.30pm-4pm. Mike 01543 276959
Zumba, 7pm-8pm. Nev 07894 947 334
Line dance, 8pm-11pm. Nev

*As you can see the Community Centre is very busy but if you would like to book it for an event please call Wendy on 07845 678 003*

**Thursdays:** Playgroup, 8.15am-3pm.
Chris's card class, 10am-12 noon. Chris 07964 578 545
Kano Judo Club, 6.30pm-8pm.
Cake decorating, 7pm-9pm.

**Fridays:** Playgroup, 8.15am-1pm,
Krafty creations, 10am-12 noon.
Tea dance, 1.30pm-3.30pm. 0121 360 1474.
Jenny's Social, 7.15pm-10.15pm. Jenny 01922 415232.

**Saturdays:** 1st and 3rd Saturday – Jenny and Terry, 8pm till late.
2nd and 4th Saturdays, Nev's Line Dance, 7.30pm-midnight.

**Sundays:** Zumba class, 6.30pm-7.30pm with Nev.

**If you could host a fundraiser to help towards printing costs of this magazine please contact the parish council clerk Linda on 01543 276812 (10am-2pm) or email her nortoncanesparishcouncil@live.co.uk**

# *NORTON AND DISTRICT*

## *Independent Family Funeral Directors*

*1-3 Shaw Court, Brownhills Road, Norton Canes WS11 9SE*

*Telephone 24/7 01543 278577*

*Email: nortonanddistrictfd@gmail.com*

*Bereavement is the one fact in life that we will all have to face in our lifetime. As a small family funeral directors we are more that aware of what a hard and confusing time dealing with a death of a loved one can be, Our aim is to serve the people in and around the Norton Canes area, providing the right information and calmness amid all the confusion, giving everyone their dignity and peace of mind. All of our funerals are catered for what you want,* ***not what you can have.***

***HERE ARE JUST A FEW SERVICES WE PROVIDE***

COFFIN AND MONUMENT STONE SHOW ROOM

NEW FLEET OF DAIMLER HEARSE AND LIMOUSINE

HORSE DRAWN AND MOTOR CYCLE HEARSES

ADVICE 24 HOURS DAY OR NIGHT

| | |
|---|---|
| BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING | FLORAL TRIBUTES |
| PRE-PLANNED FUNERAL | HOME VISITS |
| PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST | DHSS CATERED FOR |
| NO TIME LIMITS ON VIEWING | NO HIDDEN CHARGES |
| NON-RELIGIOUS FUNERALS | GREEN FUNERALS |

*We are extremely dedicated to our business and believe that all our clients are treated how we as a family would expect to be treated. As a family run business commitment and understanding and going the extra mile is normal.*

*Please feel free to drop in to our premises for a chat and a coffee or tea, Everyone is more that welcome.*

**01543 - 278577**
**See our website: www.nortonanddistrict.co.uk**




Reminisce



Some readers may remember this village landmark.
The photo, taken in a back garden in Red Lion Lane in 1962, shows Conduit Mount in the background.
It's quite a striking feature of the village. There is now a housing estate there instead.
The lady in the photo is Rose Whitehouse, who grew up in Norton Canes.
She was visiting her sister Enid and brother-in-law Ray Groom, who was a local postman for many years.

### Norton Canes Historical Society & Family History Group

Historical meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Norton Canes Library, 7pm-9pm.

Meetings for 2014:

September 9: speaker Tony Hunt about The Gaskin Murder
October 14: Ned Williams – Pat Collins 'King of Showmen'
November 11: David Robbie – J R Tolkien and the Great War
December 9: Christmas social evening
Coffee mornings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Norton Canes Library, 10am-12 noon (incorporating Family History Group).

2014: Coffee Mornings and Family History Group:
Thursdays Mornings at the Library:
September 18, October 23, November 19 (no meeting in December).

### Old Turf Tavern

Excavations are going well at the sight of the former Turf Tavern – Historical Society members and friends have now exposed the foundations and are breaking through to the cellar (don't suppose there is any stock left in there)!
Volunteers are always welcome. If you have any spare time give Roger Knowles a call on 01543 279313


**Would you like to advertise your business in this newsletter and reach every home in the village?**
**A half page ad' costs just £25, full page £50, double page spread £100.**
**For details ring the parish council clerk Linda on**
**01543 276812 (10am-2pm) or email her nortoncanesparishcouncil@live.co.uk**

## *Letters to the Editor*

Dear Ed'
Being a local woman who is a horse owner I had to reply to your anonymous letter in last edition's Letters to the Editor regarding horse poo.
There is one significant difference between horse and dog poo.
Dogs are carnivorous and horses are herbivorous.
Dog poo is dangerous. Fall head-first in a pile and you will need a doctor; head-first into horse poo and you just have to wash it off.
Basically it is just grass and cereal, much of it undigested, which is safe to compost and can be picked up without the need for gloves.
Having said that however, riders can't exactly jump on and off with a carrier bag to collect it whilst out on a hack. That would be foolhardy and dangerous to other road users.
Also any horse owner will tell you that the amount of time that goes into looking after horses does not leave a great amount to trawl the length of your ride hunting for a poo which may already have been put on someone's roses.
Fear not, it will biodegrade – completely - and just needs a quick swill off should you be unfortunate enough to get it on your shoes (not very likely though as it is illegal to ride horses on footpaths) or car tyres.
Remember, horses were used as transport for millennia prior to the use of cars which, although practically indispensible to most of us, do pollute the atmosphere and damage the world we live in irreparably.
If you have chosen to live in the countryside, especially so close to Cannock Chase I'm afraid that horse poo comes with the territory.
I am fed up with people who 'tut tut' when my horse does his (quite pleasant smelling) droppings in their proximity.
I want to say to them: "Get used to it or go and live in an urban district."
But of course I just smile politely and tell them it is a present for their garden.
K. Meredith,
Norton Canes

Dear Ed'
We have just had the Norton Canes Village News delivered – and browsing through I came across the post-card sent by Miss Gibbs where she refers to 'lots of planes flying over'.
I know Sam Whitehouse has researched it, but he may not know that there was an RFC airfield in Chase-town.

It was located in and around the Cedar Road area on what is now the Oakdene estate. So it is quite possible that she did indeed see lots of planes.
After all, they had to train the pilots.
Many thanks – and keep up the good work.
Mick Collingswood

**Norton Canes Watercolour Club**
**i**s on summer break
back September 8
10am at
The Community Centre
Brownhills Road

We are always looking for people to help deliver this newsletter. If you could deliver in your road or near please contact the parish council clerk Linda on 01543 276812 (10am-2pm) or email her nortoncanesparishcouncil@live.co.uk






# The New Kia VR7 Special Editions

## 4.9% APR FINANCE

PLUS 3 YEARS SERVICING FOR JUST £99



### Kia Rio 3dr 'VR7'

£195 DEPOSIT AND £195.99 PER MONTH*

£10,495 SAVE £1000

VR7 Special edition – available in 4 stunning colours – Choice of Clear White, Galaxy Black Metallic, Bright Silver Metallic and Blaze Red Metallic • Alloy Wheels • Bluetooth with Voice Recognition & Music Streaming • Air Conditioning • Reversing Sensors • Leather Trimmed Steering Wheel & Gearshift • USB & AUX Ports • All-round Electric Windows • Electrically Adjustable & Heated Door Mirrors

### New Kia Picanto 5dr 'VR7'



£163 DEPOSIT AND £163.82 PER MONTH*

£8,990 LOW RATE 4.9% APR*

### New Kia Cee'd 1.4 5dr 'VR7'



£225 DEPOSIT AND £225.24 PER MONTH*

£14,000 SAVE £1000

PLUS £1175 DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: NEW KIA RIO 1.25 VR7 3DR*

| Cash Price | Cash Deposit | Amount of Credit | Charge for Credit | 36 Monthly Payments | MVRT/Optional Final Payment | Total Amount Payable | Mileage Per Annum | Excess Mileage Charge | Interest rate (Fixed) | Term (months) | APR (representative) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| £10,495.00 | £195.00 | £10,300.00 | £1,080.64 | £195.99 | £4,335.00 | £11,585.64 | 6,000 | 14.9ppm | 2.52% | 37 | 4.9% |

www.acorn-group.co.uk

KIA

## Acorn Kia

CANNOCK ROAD, BURNTWOOD, WS7 1JS. Tel: 01543 331353

Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the vehicles shown are Highest: KIA pro_ceed GT Tech 1.6 T-GDi 201bhp, M6: Urban 29.1 (9.7) Extra Urban 46.3 (6.1). Combined 38.2 (7.4). CO2 emissions are 171 g/km. Lowest: KIA Picanto 3-door 'I' 1.0 68bhp M5: Urban 52.3 (5.4) Extra Urban 78.5 (3.6). Combined 67.3 (4.2). CO2 emissions are 99 g/km.

MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. Price and specification is subject to change without notice. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customers only. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Ask your dealer for full details. 15 years' servicing (i.e. Cars–3) for £99 offer is only valid on applicable "VR7" models. Log onto kia.co.uk/3yr15yr for full details, subject to availability. Offers correct at time of going to press. Plus locations, dealers only. *4.9% APR representative available on Kia Contractual Sale on Picanto, Rio and cee'd models. 10% minimum deposit required on cee'd models. Maximum term of 36 months. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. **Finance subject to status, written quotations on request guarantees and indemnities may be required, please ask for full details.




Busy Norton Canes High Students



A group of students will be have been involved in a project to mark Young Teen Fiction Book Awards Celebration Day

Eight students from year seven and eight have been selected to champion the novel Geek Girl by Holly Smale during the awards day which takes place in Rocester on July 1.

The students have written a script and made a film with film practitioner Charlotte Bailey.

The film, which was made at Chasewater Innovation Centre, will premiere at the awards day ceremony.

Students will use the film as part of their Arts Award qualification.

The project also involved Norton Canes Library.

Student Alex Sutton, who plays the part of Harriet Manners, is pictured.




Year 8 students have been involved in a community project remembering soldiers from our village who fell in World War 1.

A book of the students' artwork and creative writing will be on show at Trinity Methodist Church and Norton Canes Community Centre as part of a commemorative event in August.

The photo shows artwork by Kate Perry and a poem by Leia Coleman-Green.

Selected students are working with Stafford artist Lisa Henderson to create artwork based on aerial views of Cannock Chase as shown on front page of this newsletter.

Year 7 students attended the annual Open Door event at St James' Church in the first week of July.

**Norton Canes Brownies**



The only Brownie group in the village meets at Jerome Primary School on Tuesdays from 6.30pm-8pm.

If you would like more information about the group ring Jane Hickinbotham on 07703 640 623.

## Norton Canes Neighbourhood Network

Network meetings are held each quarter and are attended by representatives of local charity groups working in the village – or by anyone who can offer support to residents.
These include Metropolitan Housing, Cannock Chase Council Housing Department, Norton Projects, Hearing Impaired Rehabilitation, South Staffordshire Mental Health, Support Staffordshire and Richmond Fellowship (mental health support).

At the last meeting, held in June, two speakers attended: Lorraine Thisleton, from Cannock Chase Housing and Sheila Harding from Norton Projects.

Lorraine explained the current situation regarding the allocation of appropriate accommodation – and the difficulties facing the housing department due to benefit changes.
She outlined her role dealing with rents and estates and explained how she can help residents in need of support to make housing applications.
Lorraine gave statistics to show how many applications the department receives each month, the number of properties available and the banding system for allocation.
Lorraine holds One Point drop-in centres across the district.
Norton Canes Library hosts the drop-in session one day a week, 9am-1pm, on alternate weeks (details from the library).

Sheila Harding, on behalf of Norton Canes Parish Council Projects committee, outlined the volunteer work which has been carried out over the years for the benefit of the village.
Included was information about a book that is being produced for sale which contains poems and art work by children from Norton Canes High School in commemoration of our village involvement in World War One.
The primary schools have also been writing poems and painting pictures for the Best Kept Village competition for which Norton Canes is entered. Judging for this competition takes place in May and June and results are announced later in the summer.
The village Jubilee Garden has been completed.
The Millennium Garden now has an Ice Age Boulder in place small samples of the rock were passed around at the meeting – *see story page 4.*
Friends of Norton Canes continue to support projects, including the Family Fun Club, Christmas Lights and the Norton Canes Festival.

Neighbourhood Network meetings are open to all residents from the village or representatives from organisations and bodies working in the community. The aim is to allow an exchange of information.
The next meeting is on Tuesday September 2 at the library, 9.30am for a 10am start.
After the meetings there is the opportunity for people to network.
Neighbourhood Network is always looking for volunteer speakers to give a short talk (15-20 minutes).
Anyone who can help can ring Jan Matthews at Support Staffordshire on 01543 500404.

Owl - Would you like to be kept informed about crime, suspicious incidents and scams in your village ?

OWL (Online Watch Link) is the award winning communication network used by thousands of residents and businesses in Staffordshire to receive alerts and advice from Staffordshire Police and Neighbourhood Watch agencies. Anyone can register and it is completely free. Register your details at www.owl.co.uk or phone Staffordshire Police on 101 extension 4216.



**Keep this newsletter to hand – so you won't forget any dates!**








# CARPETS DIRECT 2U®

*Your Local Discount Carpet Store*

**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** 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. Most recently, **Carpets Direct 2U** is proud to have opened a new retail store at **10 Cannock Road, Swan Island, Burntwood** where the family look forward to serving both existing and new customers in **Burntwood** and the surrounding areas. **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 for **£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.

## Rugs

RUGS DIRECT 2U®

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 **08454 501221**. **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.

## Customer Satisfaction

**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 the third year 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.

**Sincere thanks to all customers, old and new, for taking time to forward your recommendations.**

- Web: www.rugsdirect2u.co.uk
- Email: info@rugsdirect2u.co.uk




visit our website at **www.carpetsdirect2u.co.uk**



## NORTON CANES FLOWER CLUB

Here we are already half way through 2014 and at the Flower club members have enjoyed a variety of topics.
There have been practical evenings, a demonstration from Wendy Pitkin, an open evening with Glenice Yates at the High School - and in June a strawberry tea (which was delicious) and talk about the medicinal properties of plants which everyone enjoyed.
We are now looking forward to the rest of the year.
There is no meeting in August as a visit to the Dorothy Clive Garden and to Bridgemere Garden Centre is being arranged for August 20.
If you are interested in attending, please ring for more details.
On September 17 there will be a demonstration by Kay Higgins – 'Around the World in 80 Minutes'.
October 15 is a practical/workshop evening fronted by members of the club and usually a fun evening to enjoy.
Why not come and have a go?
On November 26 we have our Christmas demonstration at the Prince of Wales Centre in Cannock.
This will be by Michael Handy who is a national demonstrator.
This Christmas theme is entitled 'Spirit of the Season'.
Please contact Marjorie on 01543 279133 for details and tickets.
Members meet on the third Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm, at Trinity Methodist Chapel, Poplar Street Norton Canes.
New members and visitors are always welcome.
Just come and see what we are about.
For more details ring Jose Aulton on 01543 278370 .

*It's all happening at Norton Canes Community Centre*



**Make a diary note of anything you may be interested in:**

Thursday July 24: Summer Fun Day, 1pm-4pm.
Tuesday July 29: Fun Club, 10am-1pm.
Thursday July 31: Fun Club, 10am-1pm with visit from the RSPB
Sunday August 3: Commemoration of the beginning of World War I. Exhibits and newsreel to be shown. The event starts at 3pm.
Tuesday and Thursday August 5-28: Fun Club 10am-1pm. (August 21: Fun Club includes pirate magic show).
Saturday August 16: Michael Buble tribute night. Doors open 7.30pm.
Saturday August 30: Fish and chip supper. Tickets from Beryl Hall.
Sunday September 28: Local comedy duo Dandy from 8pm. Tickets from Community Centre committee members.
Saturday October 11: Boot sale, 11am-2pm.
Sunday October 26: Halloween disco with Mike and Sully, 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday October 28 and Thursday October 30: Fun club, 10am-1pm.
Sunday November 16: Remembrance service, 6pm.

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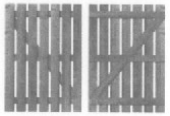
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CLOSEBOARD



Fundraising is continuing for Defibrillators for Norton Canes. If you can offer any help or have ideas please contact one of the following:

Mort Bakewell 01543 278368
Mobile: 07939 366012 email: mortbakewell@talktalk.net
Jenny Dunn 01922 415232 Pam Ratcliffe 01543 277803
Cllr John Preece 01543 278872 email: johnpreece77@hotmail.com
Cllr Sheila J Harding 01543 275013 email: ashinnorton@btinternet.com



**Friends of Norton Bog**

If you would like to join the work party on the first Sunday of every month you will be made most welcome. All equipment provided.

We are also looking for volunteers for the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month at **Chasewater.**

For details call Rob Davies—Staffs County Council Ranger Service
On 07855 336 907 / 01543 871 773

Or Steve Archer—Staffs County Council Head Ranger
On 07817 863 303

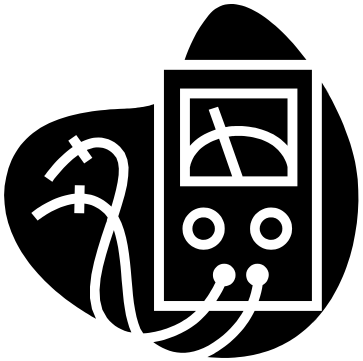



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Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies



**Jerome Primary School** Year 6 leavers' production Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies took place on June 30 and July 1.
When the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and his gormless guards threaten the villagers of Sherwood, feisty Maid Marion hires a band of freedom fighters for protection.
But when Robin and his Merry Men arrive, she soon discovers they're not exactly what she'd ordered.
But she persuades the hapless heroes to make the performance of their lives.....
The children only had two and a half weeks to learn it – but the production is regarded as the school's best play so far.
The pupils performed the play to the school and to parents and friends.
Headteacher Mrs Hawkins said: "Year 6 pupils worked so hard all year.
"This production was a great opportunity for the children to have fun and create an event they will always remember.
"They made their parents and staff very proud."
Year 6 teacher Mrs Ball added: "I am proud of all the children who took part.
"I think this is the best play we have had at Jerome. Next year we are going to have difficulty improving on this."




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Saturday November 8
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Tables £5 in advance from
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Gill: 01543 276330



# Car Friend

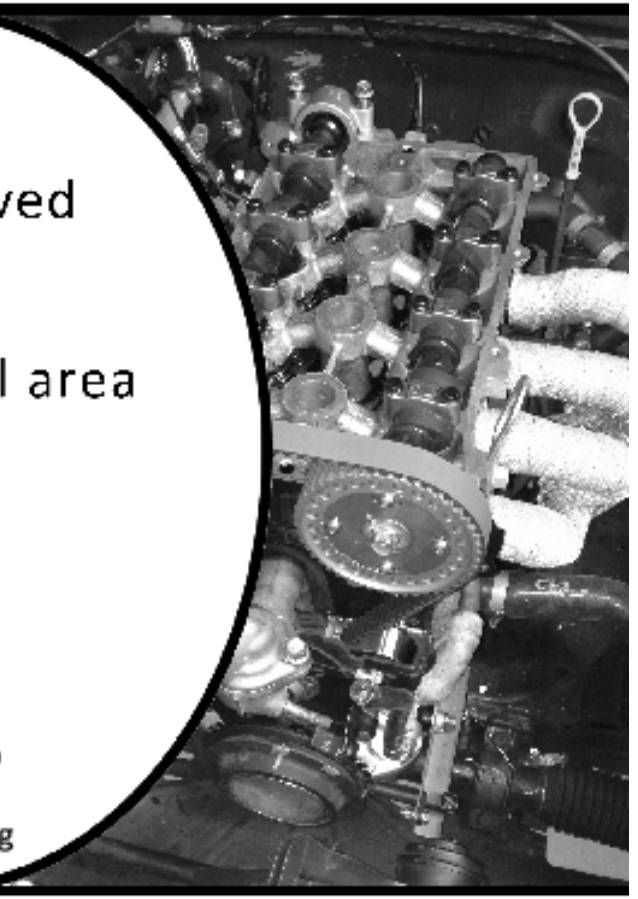


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