Issue 46 • Autumn 2025

Norton Canes VILLAGE NEWS

Your Community Magazine



Save Our Greenbelt!

Story on Page 3-4

Inside: Village Events • Local Stories • Latest News • Plus More!

Welcome from our editor...

A big 'hello' and welcome to the latest edition of your Village News.

Thank you to all the contributors who keep the newsletter full and busy.

If your organisation has not been featured yet, do get in touch.

A special thank you to our contributor Glynnis Briscoe (aka one half of Norton Canes comedy duo Dandy) who has kept us entertained with her regular articles for years. Glynnis has now decided to hang up her funny bones. (I'm sure you'll be able to create a comic mental image to go with that last sentence).

We already miss her dose of fun, written in her own inimitable style.

The world needs more people like Glynnis to make us smile, so if you have anything to contribute which would lighten the Village News please send in your jokes/daft stories etc.

This is also our first edition with our new sub editor Ben Farbrother so we hope you like his style.

Please send articles to **cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk** or drop them in to the parish office at the rear of the village Co-op.

Loves,

Jan

Parish Newsletter Editor

This newsletter is put together by a small team of two:

Editor: Janet Lee

Sub Editor: Ben Farbrother

It is published by Norton Canes Parish Council

www.nortoncanesparishcouncil.gov.uk

Norton Canes Residents' Group



STOP THE PROPOSED IRREVERSIBLE PLANS TO DESTROY OUR VILLAGE AND GREEN BELT!

SAVE OUR GREEN BELT

change.org

Objection to plans for Village Housing Estate

Newly formed **Norton Canes Residents' Group** is fighting plans to build on Green Belt land in the village.

Bloor Homes is expected to apply for planning permission in October to build a 450-homes estate on land adjacent to Hednesford Road (see map opposite for precise location).

Over 200 people attended a meeting organised by the residents' group about the issue on July 24. Among those attending were MP Josh Newbury and local councillors.

A petition against the proposal has already attracted over 1,000 signatures.

A committee of 15 people, who now meet fortnightly, has been set up to fight the plans.

Objectors say:

- Norton Canes has grown 22% in recent years and more development is unsustainable.
- Road infrastructure is already struggling to cope with additional traffic.
- Local schools cannot provide more places.
- Health services are stretched.
- Sports and Leisure facilities are minimal.
- Local wildlife needs protection.

Residents Group members anticipate Bloor's application will take place in October.

A residents' group spokesperson said: "This is far from a done deal. Save our Green Belt. Watch this space. We need your help."

If anyone would like to join the residents' group please email the chairman Dan Scragg at **nortoncanesrg@outlook.com** or search for the group on Facebook.

The petition is available at local businesses, on social media and on newly formed website **www.nortoncanesrg.co.uk**



The area earmarked for the proposed development site.

Welcome to Our Majestic Statues

If you have been out and about in Norton Canes you may have noticed the beautiful deer statues now in place.

Look out for the statues: in the Millenium Garden (opposite the library), in the Guides' garden (Norton Green Lane), at the Rose Garden (Hednesford Road/Brownhills Road junction) and the Jubilee Garden (Hednesford Road/Burntwood Road junction).

The majestic sculptures are designed to brighten up our public spaces, spark curiosity, and remind us of the pride we share in our community.

A Norton Canes Paris Council spokesperson said: "We hope residents young and old will enjoy spotting them and taking photos.

"The project represents a lasting symbol of Norton Canes' unique identity and welcoming character."

Parish leaders say they hope the statues 'encourage exploration of the village and foster civic pride'.



The beautiful stag statue opposite Norton Canes Library

Norton Canes Parish Council Chairman Report

Welcome to this edition of the village newsletter. As leaves turn brown and the chill sets in, with Bake Off and Strictly returning to our screens, Christmas feels just around the corner.

This is a busy time for the parish council. Following our extremely successful Party in the Park (with beautiful weather), we now prepare for the other two most important civic events.

First, we'll manage the Remembrance Parade on November 9. As usual, we'll march from Jerome School, along Hussey Road, Chapel Street, Church Road and Pinfold Lane, stopping at St James' Church for a service at Norton Canes' War Memorial. Our memorial is very special - a stained glass window depicting a book of Norton Canes' fallen from the Great War 1914-1918. The event begins at 10am, with road closures around the route, so please be mindful when travelling.

Next, we'll host the Lantern Parade on December 7. This village walk from and to the Community Centre gives little ones the opportunity to shine with bright colours, lanterns, and lights. We'll again be joined by Santa, taking time from his busy schedule to join our walk. We'd be very happy to see you there!

I'd like to share something personal. As some may know, my nan passed away in July. She acted as my consort throughout much of my chairmanship, accompanying me to village events. I was extremely proud having her join me at Remembrance Marches, carol services, Christmas events, openings, anniversaries and civic celebrations.

She lived in Norton Canes most of her life, witnessing many changes and remembering old street names like Workhouse Lane and Pudding Bag. She left us from her little High Street bungalow. *Rest in Peace Nan.*



Cllr Preece's nan, Barbara Allport, pictured with Santa.

Meet Your Councillors

Parish Councillors



John Preece
Chairman



Dylan Pickin
Vice Chairman



John Bridgen



Michael Holder



William Bird



Robert Wilkinson



Ben Farbrother



Ann Kirk



Tony Wilson



Jean Hill



Ken Fereday



Dale Bilbie

Contact: **clerk@nortoncanesparishcouncil.gov.uk** or **01543 276812**
www.nortoncanesparishcouncil.gov.uk/parish-information/councillors

Distrct Councillors



Jean Hill



John Preece

County Councillor



Sam Tompson



Daniel Cecil

The Pride of Norton Canes

In the heart of our village, colour blooms in every corner. From the carefully tended garden areas to the vibrant planters and cascading hanging baskets, Norton Canes Parish Council's green spaces are a feast for the eyes and a joy for the community.

Behind the scenes, our groundsmen, Dave and John, work tirelessly to keep these displays looking their best. With an expert eye for detail and a passion for their craft, they nurture every flower, trim every edge, and ensure that the village is always dressed in its finest.



Their work is more than maintenance - it's a labour of love. Every season, they transform our shared spaces into something special, creating pockets of beauty that lift our spirits and remind us what community pride looks like in full bloom.

From the bright bursts of summer to the softer shades of autumn, the gardens, planters, and hanging baskets of Norton Canes are a testament to the care, dedication and hard work.



Thanks to their skill and commitment, the Millennium Garden and other parish spaces are a joy to walk through, providing a welcoming splash of colour for residents and visitors alike. These displays have become a real source of community pride, showing what can be achieved when care and attention go into every detail.

Sadly, over the weekend of 9th August 2025, two of the hanging baskets from the Millennium Garden on the corner of Walsall Road/Burntwood Road were stolen. A Norton Canes Parish Council spokesperson said: "This has left us all deeply disappointed, not only because of the loss itself, but because these displays are there for everyone to enjoy.

"We hope that the people responsible understand the impact of their actions and that, moving forward, our community spirit and respect for shared spaces will keep Norton Canes blooming for years to come."





Meet Local Artist Loz

The amount of talent in Norton Canes never ceases to amaze.

This edition we highlight artist Laurence Robinson (known a Loz).

Loz, age 72, from Church Road, has been painting since he was 38 years old.

He began by using watercolours, taught by Alan Walford at Curborough.

“He was a wonderful tutor and I blossomed under his tuition,” Loz said.

“But unfortunately Alan became ill so I had to find a new tutor.”



Loz with a painting he produced for a couple in Sicily.

Having worked in engineering all his life, Loz is now enjoying retirement, finding more time for his painting.

He started work as an apprentice at Rubery Owen in Darlaston. From 2012-2025 he worked as a local training provider - training the next generation of engineering apprentices.

Loz has attended many painting courses with notable artists such as Terry Harrison, Rosemary Hale and Mary Griffin. It was Mary who encouraged him to turn his attention to soft pastels – which Loz took to immediately.

“After a workshop with Vic Bearcroft I realised my passion lay with painting wildlife and pets,” he said.

Loz is a member of Heath Hayes Art Society which meets at Heath Hayes Library on Monday evenings.

“Painting gives me a sense of purpose,” Loz added. “I hope you like my style.”

Loz is available for commissions and can be contacted on **loz.robinson@outlook.com**

Do you have a special talent which we could highlight in the newsletter? If so, email **cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk**



Pets in Pictures: (from left): Frankie, Coco and Pippa.

ADVENTURE - SKILLS - CHALLENGE

Scouts
1st Norton Canes

SQUIRRELS (4 - 6yrs)
Mon Evening 5 - 6pm

SCOUTS (10½ - 14yrs)
Mon Evening 7 - 8.45pm

BEAVERS (6 - 8yrs)
Wed Evening 6 - 7.15pm

EXPLORERS (14 - 18yrs)
Mon Evening 7 - 8.45pm

CUBS (8 - 10yrs)
Tues Evening 6.15 - 7.45pm

Follow Us

For further information
Email: info@1stnortoncanesscoutgroup.co.uk

Message from your MP Josh Newbury

Together for a Stronger Norton Canes



As summer ends, I've been reflecting on our progress in Norton Canes and across Cannock Chase, as well as the work still ahead to make our village stronger, fairer, and better connected. Being your MP is an honour, but being your neighbour makes this role even more personal.

Bloor Homes Development

Residents and I were taken aback in July by the news that Bloor Homes had put forward plans for 420 houses on land previously rejected during the Local Plan process. This process occurred when I was still a local councillor. Cllr John Preece and myself were closely involved in it. At the time, a far more manageable site of 150 homes was allocated as a contingency, only to be used if other sites elsewhere in Cannock Chase did not come forward.

I attended a packed public meeting in July, followed by a smaller gathering the week after, to hear concerns directly. I also met with Bloor Homes and their PR company to clarify the strength of local feeling, particularly regarding infrastructure pressures, the impact on roads and Five Ways Island, and the lack of meaningful consultation. With a planning application expected towards the end of the year, we must be ready and prepared to fight this damaging development.

I am pleased that Norton Canes Residents' Association has been formed to coordinate the campaign. I have been advising them from the outset and will continue to work alongside them.

Party in the Park

As you will already have read, this year's Party in the Park was bigger and better than ever. It was a pleasure to be part of it again and to roll up my sleeves as a volunteer litter picker. We are lucky to have such a proactive parish council organising events that bring our community together.

Looking ahead to next year, the hunt for sponsors is already underway. Following a visit in August to the award winning Norton Canes motorway services, I have put Roadchef in touch with the parish council to explore how they can support the event. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please get in touch.

Education

As the first Cannock Chase MP from our village, visiting our three local schools during my first year has been a real privilege. My most recent trip to Norton Canes High School involved being grilled by an incredibly switched on group of Year 12 students. Their debate was of a far higher calibre than much of what you see at PMQs or on BBC Question Time!

After years of campaigning alongside Cllr John Preece, we have finally secured investment in our primary school capacity. From this year, Norton Canes Primary Academy has a 'bulge class' of 30 additional places, with another to follow next September. This buys us two years to secure a permanent solution, and I am pressing the Department for Education for the millions in funding needed on behalf of the REAch2 Academy Trust. I will continue to make the case with them.

I did not stop fighting for school places we needed during six years as district councillor for Norton Canes, and I will not stop now as your MP, standing up for our village in Parliament.

This is my home as much as yours and I want the best for it, for our families, our schools and our future. Together, we can make sure Norton Canes gets the attention, investment and respect it deserves, which is why I'll continue to be its voice in Westminster and beyond.



MP Josh Newbury on litter picking duty at Party in the Park.

Annual Exhibition
Saturday October 11, 2025

Trinity Bourne Methodist Church
Poplar Street,
Norton Canes
10am till 4pm.

Refreshments will be available

This year's charity donation will be for
Walsall Hospice in memory of Christine Straughan

Norton Canes Watercolour Club

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Norton Canes Library will be hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning on **Saturday September 27**.

There will be cakes, a raffle and second-hand book sale.

The event will also feature a special open day in the library's community garden.

The message is: come and enjoy food prepared by our volunteers and the garden support group.

For more details ring **Sheila** on **07733 346 280**.



A message from Trinity Bourne Methodist Church

Welcome to our new minister, **Rev Elizabeth Dunning**

Tel: 07866 705517

Services

Sunday Service 11am

Coffee Mornings
3rd Saturday, 10am - 12noon

Harvest Service
September 28, 11am

Remembrance Service
November 9, 3pm

Christmas Service, TBA



Norton Canes Historical Society

Society members meet at Norton Canes Library on the second Tuesday of the month, 2pm-4pm.

Usually there is a speaker giving a talk for about an hour. There is also a raffle and refreshments.

Admission is free. All welcome.

Mo Garbett, Secretary

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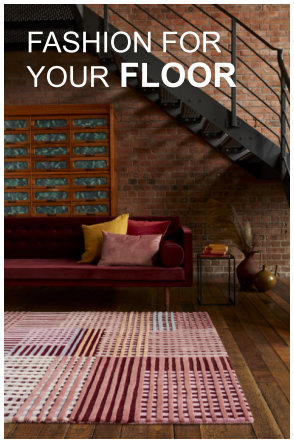


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Large Items Collected from your House via Cannock Chase Council

Bulky waste collections

Cannock Chase Council is able to offer residents, via its waste collection contractor Biffa Municipal Ltd, the collection of bulky items such as settees, beds and wardrobes.

The service is chargeable - the first two units at £22 each, subsequent units £16.50 each.

An example of items that can be collected are:

- Up to 10 black sacks containing household/garden waste
- Sofas / three-piece suites
- Bed (mattress and base)
- White goods (cooker, fridge, etc)
- Televisions
- Dining table and up to 4 chairs

Exceptions:

American style fridge/freezers can be collected for £44 (classed as two items).

Motorised furniture (such as reclining armchairs, reclining sofas and adjustable/hospital beds) £44 per item (each motorised piece classed as two units).

All items to be collected should be placed at the front of the property. If they cannot be placed at the front and need collecting from the rear there is an additional £10 charge.

If you require a collection of larger items such as above ring Biffa Waste Services on **01543 225034**. Biffa will be unable to collect hazardous items, rubble or fence panels.

We would also like to remind residents that some of their household items that are no longer wanted may be useful for someone else.

Freegle is also another way of offering your goods for free to someone else. You may even pick up a bargain for yourself.

Sun Shines on Party in the Park 2025



The sun was shining and the music pumping as crowds gathered for Party in the Park on July 12.

The event was organised by Norton Canes Parish Council.

A council spokesperson described it as ‘a spectacular day of family fun, live entertainment and community spirit’.

“Held under glorious summer skies, the event featured an outstanding lineup of live music, with energetic performances from Stray Reload, The Trip band, Hangover Pending and crowd-favourite Bloke, who kept the atmosphere lively and the audience dancing all afternoon,” the spokesperson said.

“It was a fantastic day for all ages, celebrating everything that makes our community special.

“Once again, Party in the Park proved to be a shining example of what we can achieve when we come together.

“Thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a memorable day.”

Families enjoyed a host of free attractions including bouncy castles, candy floss, and popcorn. A wide variety of market stalls offered local goods, treats and crafts.

The parish council has issued ‘a heartfelt thank you’ to all volunteers, councillors and staff whose hard work and dedication made the event possible.

The council said ‘special thanks’ are due to local MP Josh Newbury who attended with his family and ‘rolled up his sleeves to join in with litter picking’ showing ‘true community spirit in action’.



Parish council chairman Cllr John Preece with CCDC Councillor Sam Thompson







Local Man Tells Car ‘He Loves It’—Boot Opens Instantly

In a bizarre turn of events at a Cannock-based garage, a faulty car boot was seemingly “fixed” with three little words: I love you.

Chris (not his real name) arrived at Car Friend frustrated.



His boot button worked sporadically, refusing to open at the worst times. Demonstrating the issue to the team, he pressed the button—nothing. Tried again—still nothing.

Mechanics suspected a faulty switch, but before diving into diagnostics, one jokingly asked,

“When was the last time you told your car you loved it?”

The team grinned. Chris played along, sighing before muttering, “I love you.”

To everyone’s shock, the boot popped open instantly.
Laughter filled the workshop. Chris, stunned, accused the team of orchestrating the trick. “If I had that kind of power over cars, I’d be working for Ferrari,” one mechanic joked.

The real issue? A faulty boot switch, which was promptly replaced. But ever since, Chris hasn’t taken any chances—each visit, he pats the car and says, “Love you, darling.”

Coincidence? Maybe. But Car Friend insists: “If your car’s acting up, bring it in—no love declarations required... probably.”



Car Friend

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Norton Canes Flower Club

The Flower Club has had a busy time since the last Newsletter.

In February members enjoyed a demonstration called ‘Inspired by Nature’ by Rebecca Morris, from Oswestry. Her designs were inspired by local landmarks like the slate mines and a waterfall. All were colourful and the flowers lovely. Members enjoyed listening to her descriptions of these places and her life as a sheep farmer's wife.

In March members visited Bridgemere Garden Centre where we enjoyed the show gardens and retail therapy.

In April Jackie Page gave her demonstration ‘Connections’ which was greatly appreciated by members as some of her arrangements were constructed without the use of floral foam, with ideas to reduce the use of this medium.

The May meeting was a workshop where members ‘did their own thing’. The results were a variety of arrangements which were an inspiration. This was fronted by Chris who also did an arrangement.

Ruth Mahon was the demonstrator in June with ‘Memory Lane’ taking us to a meadow and teddy bears’ picnic, amongst other memories, using beautiful flowers to represent her inspirations. There was also a small demonstration by Ruth’s mother, who is also a flower demonstrator. This was an afternoon greatly enjoyed by all.

In July we had a workshop with Chris using a lot of garden material.

The club also participated in National Flower Day by placing arrangements in various locations around the village.

Members will be visiting Trentham Gardens in August as there is no meeting that month.

September 17: Demonstration by Minh Lane called ‘East meets West’

October 15: Workshop led by Chris called ‘Container Magic’.

October 29: Annual meeting.

November 19: Christmas demonstration by Claire Bond.

December 17: Christmas meal/party.

2026

January 21: Workshop ‘New Beginnings’.

February 18: Demonstration ‘Blooming Women’ with Jo Davis.

March 18: Easter workshop.

April 15: Demonstration by Jackie Page ‘Spring Splendour’.

Members meet on the third Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise stated at Trinity Bourne Methodist Church, Poplar Street, Norton Canes, 1.30pm. New members/visitors welcome. For details ring **01543 277492** or **01543 278270**.





Beautiful arrangements from Jackie Page’s demonstration.

Let's Get Together - Craft and Card Group

A small group of members meet at Norton Canes Library on Fridays, 10 am- 12 noon.

The £3 charge includes tuition and materials for card making, plus refreshments.

New members are welcome to join this 'small, friendly group' and are invited to turn up for a 'taster session'.

Reading in Comfort

Youngsters taking up Norton Canes Library's summer reading challenge can sit in comfort.

Norton Canes Sew and Sews have created special cushions, planned and designed by member Jean Hill, for this year's challenge.

Jean said thanks are due to former Staffordshire county councillor/now Cannock Chase district councillor Samantha Thompson for sponsoring the cost of the cushion covers from her county council fund.



Jean would also like to thank Norton Canes Parish Council for part funding the cushion pads.

A library spokesperson described this year's reading challenge as 'a huge success'.

> The results will be publicised in the next newsletter and on Facebook.

What's in a Name?

Silver Sneakers is the name of a Norton Canes based gentle exercise group.

Members meet at Trinity Bourne Methodist Church, Poplar Street, on Thursdays, 11.30am-12.30pm.

Member Pamela Louies said: "We enjoy an hour of mainly seated exercise using various pieces of equipment. We have weights, resistance bands and soft balls which help us improve balance and muscle strength as we age.

Pamela said she was sad to report the passing of 'much loved member of the class' Yvonne Hawkins.

"We were all shocked to hear this very sad news and she will be missed by us all," Pamela said. "Donations in her memory were given to St Giles Hospice."

We always welcome new members, men and women.

Anyone who would like to attend the Silver Sneakers class can turn up any Thursday and will be made welcome.

The first week is free (£4 weekly thereafter).

For more details, ring Pam or Jan on **01543 899367** or **495796**.

St. James Church Christmas Services

Dec 21 - Christmas Carol Concert, 6pm
Dec 24 - Christine Service, 4pm
Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Mass, 7pm
Dec 24 - Christmas Day Mass, 9am

What are you doing Tuesday Afternoon?

Come and join us at

Norton Canes Community Centre
Brownhills Road, WS11 9SF

Dance to JENNY'S MUSIC

Social, Sequence, Line Dances

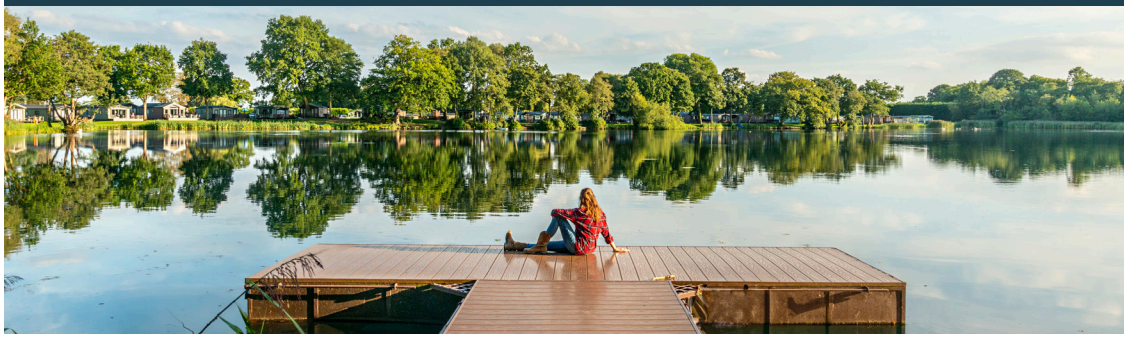
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Happy Retirement Will



Library co-ordinator Will Bird

It's time for Norton Canes Library volunteer co-ordinator Will Bird to enjoy retirement.

But he doesn't plan to put his feet up.

Will intends to spend more time travelling, playing crown green bowls and restoring 1960s record players - hobbies he put on the back burner for the last few years while working as co-ordinator at the library and Information Hub.

As well as being a local councillor, Will has co-ordinated events and volunteers at the library and recently played host to deer family statues awaiting installation around the village.

He has helped with distribution of the village newsletter - and even directed traffic outside the library when the traffic lights were out of order!

A library spokesperson said: "If he was on duty everyone turned to Will. A lot of Norton residents will wish to call in and wish him all the best in his retirement."

Will is staying in post until September 25 and can usually be found at the library on Monday, Friday and Saturday mornings.

Don't Miss Out on Spring 2026!



Get your stories, photos, and announcements into our next issue of Village News!

Deadline: First Week of March 2026

Don't leave it to the last minute! Send your contributions to Jan as early as possible for inclusion.

Email: cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk

NORTON CANES LIBRARY
WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

YOUR LIBRARY

Monday

Little Chicks Stay & Play
9:15 - 10:15

Baby & Toddler Bounce and Rhyme (free session)
11:45 - 12:15

Tuesday

Sewing / Craft Group
10:00 - 12:00

Wednesday

Rhythm Time
(pre-booking req.)

Toddlers
9:30

Babies
10:30

Thursday

Card Craft (FULL)
10:00 - 12:00

Art / Painting Group
2:00 - 4:00

Friday

"Let's Get Together" Card Craft Group
10:00 - 12:00

"Open Arms" Drop in chat group
11:00 - 1:00

"Knit & Natter"
2:00 - 4:00

Saturday

Place of Welcome
Free hot / cold drinks, biscuits and toast
10:30 - 12:30

Toddler Storytime
10:40

MONTHLY GROUPS

League of Ladies
First Wednesday of the Month
7pm

Norton Canes Historical Society
Second Tuesday of the Month
2pm - 4pm

Creative Writing & Poetry Group
Second Saturday of the Month
11am

Air Britain, West Midlands Branch
Last Tuesday of the Month
7:30pm

Library Reading Group / Book Club
Last Saturday of the Month
11am

For more information about our groups, scan the QR code and see more details on our website:

What's On at Norton Canes Community Centre

		Contact
Monday		
X'Aquarians	Line Dance	Jane - 07495473519
Monday Friends	Craft Group	Sue - 07930397167
Tuesday		
White Lotus	Tai Chi	Richard - 07724183091
Jenny's Dance	Social Dance	Jenny - 01922 415232
Rainbows / Brownies		
Indoor Bowls	Short Mat Bowls	Annie - 07845678003
Grace Church	Bible Study	Peter - 07480761099
Wednesday		
NC Craft Group	Card Making	Pam - 07803061871
Weds Social Group		Karen - 07977995408
X'Aquarians	Line Dance	Jane - 0749573519
Thursday		
Crafty Sew & Sews	Machine Embroidery	Jean - 07412191439
Crafty Cards	Card Making	Jackie - 07570452948
Sugarcraft		Sandra - 07792549307
Backstreet	Theatre Group	
Friday		
Simply Crafting	Card Making	Jackie - 07570452948
Boogie Fit	Gentle Exercise	Claire - 07538491849
Tea Dance	Sequence Dancing	Jackie - 07845678003
X'Aquarians	Line Dance	Jane - 07495473519
Saturday		
L'Rythmix	Children's Dance Class	Leela - 07821774456
Social Dance	Week 1&3 - Sequence	Doug - 07944411005
	Week 2&4 - Line	Nev - 0789497334
Sunday		
Shining Stars	Wellbeing	Sarah - 07742336815
Grace Church	Christian Church	Peter - 07400661099

Gentle-Fit



Feel-good fitness

Claire 07538 491849

See back for class details

Monday
10.00am
11.05am
Chasetown Methodist Church,
Lawnswood Ave, Burntwood, WS7 4YE

Tuesday
09.15am
10.15am
Revive Yoga Studio, 45 High Street,
Chasetown, Burntwood, WS7 3YE

Wednesday
10.00am
Penkridge Methodist Church,
2 Clay Street, Penkridge, ST19 5AF

Thursday
09.00am
10.05am
Chasetown Methodist Church,
Lawnswood Ave, Burntwood, WS7 4YE

Friday
11.30am
Norton Canes Community Centre,
Brownhills Road, Cannock, WS11 9SF

Class time 45 mins, no need to book.

Lose weight Tone up & feel good!

CHAPS at the Palace

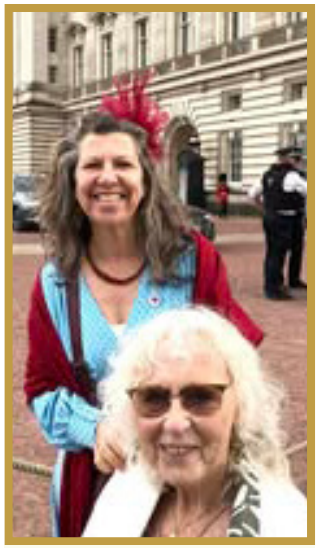
Alongside the honour of being awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service, Chase Arts for Public Spaces (CHAPS) had an invitation for two committee members to attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

Group members asked Lisa Shephard and Sheila Harding, two of the longest serving committee members, to represent them. They were delighted to be able to do so.

The day dawned sunny and bright and Lisa and Sheila enjoyed a wonderful day, brought to life for us perfectly by the poem opposite, written by Sheila.

Thank you Lisa and Sheila. You did CHAPS proud!

Visit **www.chaseartsforpublicspaces.co.uk** or **www.facebook.com/ChaseArtsForPublicSpaces**



Sheila (front) with Lisa on the front courtyard of Buckingham Palace.



Sheila and Lisa on the lawns of Buckingham Palace.



One of the splendid Yeomen of the Guard

The Visit

It was an adventure, a day to remember
The day that we went to the Palace

Lisa and I dressed quite out of character
In dresses, jackets and fancy fascinator

We mixed with the crowds and enjoyed the spectacle
Of the Yeomanry marching resplendently attired
To herald His Majesty and Queen Camilla
Coming to partake of afternoon refreshments,
Their Tea Tent set up to receive special guests:
Though no expense was spared to supply all the rest

What an honour for us to be chosen by the committee
To visit London in this special week
When veterans came together 80 years on
To celebrate the fact that the War threat was gone.
We spoke to many people both Royal and ordinary
And will always remember this example of ceremony

At the end of the day I can honestly say
I will never forget the wonderful day
When the sun shone bright, the trains were on time
The food was good and the company sublime.
The dress fits a treat and the accessories are neat
So **why** was I so apprehensive?

Staffordshire Police Smart Alert

You can have free, localised crime alerts and community safety advice via the Staffordshire Smart Alert app.

The information is compatible for Apple and Android devices.

You can also receive email alerts via
www.staffordshiresmartalert.uk



Capture Norton Canes: Your Photos, Our Cover!

Help us showcase the beauty of our village! We're looking for fantastic photos of Norton Canes to feature on future covers of the village newsletter.

We want beautiful Norton Canes moments:

- Community events and celebrations
- Local wildlife and landscapes
- Families enjoying our parks
- Village life in action

Email your photos to **cannockcp@yahoo.co.uk** or drop them into the parish council office, including your name, where/when it was taken and a brief description.



Lantern Parade

Sunday 7th December 2025

Come along & enjoy our traditional start to the festive season. **Everyone Welcome!**





FREE
SWEETS & MINCE PIES

SANTA CLAUS
will be joining the parade on his sleigh!!

Commencing from Norton Canes Community Centre at 5pm*

**Please be there from 4.30pm to pick up lights for lanterns.*

Bring your own Lanterns. Canes & Lights will be provided.
Children will be making lanterns in their schools and at local groups to enter into the parade. There will be some extra lanterns available, but they will be supplied on a first come first served basis.

For more information contact:
Ginetta Adams: Parish Office, Burntwood Road, Norton Canes
Telephone: 01543 276812 Email: clerk@nortoncanesparishcouncil.gov.uk

This event is organised by Norton Canes Parish Council

