# the MAGAZINE

## NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Incorporating the villages of Campsall, Norton and Sutton









Join Curtis and his young colleagues as they extend their 'Yorkshire Anglers' group. See page 3

It's all about ......

PARISH PEOPLE

Look WHO's here! See page 6



Rev Dr Richard Walton reflects on his time in the parish as he takes up his retirement in Sheffield. See page 5



Meet Dr Alex Polak, a local hospital doctor relating his experiences, especially over the last year.

What's more, he's also an author and has just published his latest book on 'Magick ' See page 4



SPRING 2021 ISSUE 34

See us at: Norton Parish Website: www.nortonparishdoncaster.org





CLOSED at present but after lockdown by appointment only. Please ring 01302 700565 or text: 07540437299 to book an



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Whilst Village Halls are closed during the COVID restrictions, Group Pilates is vviiist viiiage I iaiis are closed during the COVID restrictions, Group I ildies is available via ZOOM. The on-line sessions take place in the safety and comfort of Contact Caroline on 07752 587600 for details of current and future availability or

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The pandemic has been an extremely difficult time for our local businesses, as we go to publishing our magazine, the hope is that April will bring the re-opening of some of our non- essential businesses. Hopefully others will follow in May.

Local businesses contribute to the everyday life of our villages, they are places where members of our community meet. So as the lockdown restrictions gradually lift, remember to support our local businesses whenever you can.

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# "THE YORKSHIRE ANGLERS" TAKE A NEW LINE.....

Amidst the uncertainty and strain the pandemic has put on the local villages, five lads have set out on a mission to bring fishing back to the community.

Connor Sheldon (15) Kyle Handley (28) Nidge Kennedy (27) and creators James Tiffany McCluskie (28) and Curtis Johnson (27) have been fishing in the local areas and 'vlogging' in the process.

Speaking to them all, they explained "the past year has been a tough one, we originally created the Yorkshire Anglers a few years ago just to show off the fish we had caught and now we feel it holds a better purpose. With all the uncertainties and the announcement that the Government was allowing fishing to continue, we wanted to bring a bit of fun and normality for the people who couldn't get out. So we decided to create a YouTube channel – 'The Yorkshire Anglers', to bring a few childhood memories flooding back for people who haven't fished for years, maybe even persuade some take up the sport for the first time."

"The aim is to promote mental health awareness and to show the next generation that fishing is something you can do on a small budget with your friends and still have fun in the process". With the backing of local tackle shop 'fishing tackle and bait shop' behind them, the Yorkshire Anglers plan to create monthly videos, with future plans of a fishing talk show where the viewers can send in photos, tips and questions and also include interviews from some legends within the industry.

Due to the current climate the Yorkshire Anglers haven't been able to fish as a full group, however with plans of trips across the UK when restrictions are lifted and many different video ideas including a charity match to which they would like to involve the whole community there will definitely be something for everyone.

If you wish to follow or support the Yorkshire Anglers, head over to their YouTube channel and subscribe for free at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/theyorkshireanglers">www.youtube.com/c/theyorkshireanglers</a> or head over to their Instagram @yorkshireanglers and drop them a message for any help or questions you may have.

Stay safe all and tight lines.

Curtis Johnson











**WHAT A CATCH!** 

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Many fish can distinguish colours, though this is only useful in shallow water and in the daytime. Vision probably is black-and-white in deep water and at night, due to low light levels.

Species such as trout, salmon and catfish have an excellent sense of smell. For this reason, anglers that target them, fish with heavily scented or stinky baits!

Fish often produce tens of thousands of eggs. Of these, only a small percentage (perhaps 1 in 10,000) ever make it to adulthood. That's enough to maintain a decent population.

Many fish – such as carp, chub and minnow – appear to have no teeth but in fact have teeth in their throats, called pharyngeal teeth.

Tench are known colloquially as the Doctor Fish as it was thought that other fish rubbed up against them when injured. The assumption was that the slime of the tench could cure injuries in other fish

The eel is the only UK freshwater fish that can swim backwards.

Male sticklebacks, build a nest of vegetation to attract females. The males then closely guard the nests until the eggs hatch.

#### **Norton Health Walks**

Hello again

Hope you are all keeping safe and well.

The walking club was suspended at the start of the pandemic and we will restart when we are allowed, and we believe it is safe to do so. The last year has shown us how much we take for granted, but at the same time given us time to appreciate the nature around us. We are lucky where we live, near to open countryside and the close community of village life.

My heart goes out to those people who live in the city or towns and do not have the freedom of the countryside. Thankfully we have a health service and the wonderful people who work in it. My thanks go out to our local GP services and Doncaster Council and volunteers who have done a fantastic roll out of the vaccine.

Please keep safe and try to keep smiling

Yours, Johnny Atkins.

# Introducing .... DR. ALEX POLAK

Tell us about yourself... did you always want to become a doctor from a young age? What made you choose this route? Where did you study medicine and what brought you to Norton?

I wanted to be a doctor from about nine years old. I wanted to help people, plus the idea of a well-paid job was attractive! Fortunately, I did well at school and got into Leeds University to study medicine. Once I graduated in 2003, I went to work at Pontefract General Infirmary. While there, I met Melanie, who would become my wife. She lived in **Norton** and since her house was larger, I sold my house in Leeds and moved in with her and her mother, where we live now.

# After your training what made you decide on your 'specialism' in the field of medicine?

When I qualified as a doctor, I wanted to become a GP. I went through the training, however by the time I reached the end things had changed significantly. I was attracted to the GP life as it would allow me more freedom, yet also because I liked the idea of seeing the same patients for every problem they had. GPs used to know your lives, how your work and family was affecting your health.



By the time I reached the end of GP training, the idea of 'special interests' had been introduced. This meant the only real general practice one did was when they were the on-call doctor, and even it was simply whoever was sick that day. Other than this, it would be doing lists related to your special interest. This meant essentially being a hospital specialist without the hospital resources. I therefore went back into hospital medicine working in cardiology, which is what I've been doing since 2009.

Clearly the past ten months or so have been particularly harrowing for doctors. Could you relate some of your experiences and the adjustments you have had to make? How has your experience affected your family life?

The last ten to twelve months have been an experience I never expected to have in medicine, and wish had never happened (as I'm sure pretty much everyone would agree). Since my mother-in-law is in a high-risk group due to her medical conditions, and she requires hands-on personal care from myself and Melanie, I have had to shield for her protection. As a result, my working practice has undergone significant changes.

I have been unable to work on the wards or see any face-to-face patients in clinic for almost a year. I used to do three or four clinics per week plus ward work and seeing referrals from other departments. Now I do five clinics per week, all of which are done over the telephone, and deal with referrals via telephone advice to the doctors on the other teams.

As far as family life goes, Melanie and I have curtailed many of our activities. Melanie has not left the house since November 2019. She has been trimming her own hair, she hasn't been to the beauty parlour, and all of our food shopping is now online. I wear scrubs at work now, and those go in the wash as soon as I get home followed by a shower before I touch her every day.

I understand you have recently published a book. Could you tell us about its inspiration, its title and subject matter? How do you find the time to write – how did you allocate it?

I've always loved reading. When I was younger it fed my imagination, then as I got older it became an escape route from life's stresses. I gravitated towards fantasy, such as Tolkien, then moved to urban fantasy.

I went to a gathering called 'Friendsgiving' in the summer of 2019, held by fans of an author I had recently discovered, where I met the author and had a chance to talk to him. He had started his own publishing company and said he was planning on taking on a few new authors so he could mentor them.

I decided to try my hand at writing a book and to my surprise, once I started it the ideas just seemed to flow. My wife was my muse and sounding board, helping me navigate through a few situations and enriching my ideas.

The book is called 'Magick Unveiled' and features a man who runs a 'New Age' shop that deals in genuine 'magickal 'items, as well as more everyday items. He had an experience as a child that convinced him 'magick' was real, though he was never able to use it himself ever again.

He accepts a commission to search for an artefact that most people consider to be allegorical rather than a physical item, which sets him on a course he never even considered possible.

I mostly wrote in the evenings to unwind from the day, plus at weekends or on days off. Fortunately, book one was mostly completed before the pandemic began. Unfortunately, though the author I was talking to liked the book and gave me some suggestions, he realized how much work his publishing company was. He therefore made the decision to only take on established authors. I found a company to help me publish as an independent author, and now book two (The Order of the Nine Seals) is out on Valentine's day.

#### Outside of your professional life, what are your enthusiasms?

I still love reading, then for complete de-stressing I love watching movies and box sets with my wife. I also enjoy gaming on my Xbox, though that sometimes increases my stress when I keep dying! My wife and I are keen cooks, so we love spending time in the kitchen together either baking, cooking, or even making our own sloe gin or coffee liqueur (which is based on my personally created coffee blend, which is actually described in my book!).

### **FANCY A QUIZ?**



Here's one for ALL the family – young and older - you'll all know some of the answers but probably not all of them!

#### Test your Knowledge ......

- 1, How many permanent teeth does a dog have?
- 2, Who was the top scorer in the first Premier league season 1992/1993?
- 3, Which band reformed in 2020 for the last Domino tour?
- 4, How many notes are there on a musical scale?
- 5, Who won the first series of ITV's The Masked Singer?
- 6, What App has been downloaded the most in 2020?
- 7, What do the French call the English Channel?
- 8, Which 1980's band was the Rev. Richard Cole part of?
- 9, Who draw 5-5 with Manchester United in May 2013?
- 10, Netflix's The Last Dance showed an insight into the life of which basketball star?
- 11, Who is the only batsman to record 400 runs in an International Test match?
- 12, Name the song and the artist of the following lyric "Maybe I'm foolish maybe I'm blind thinking I can see through this and see what's behind"?
- 13, What is the capitol of Switzerland?
- 14, How may keys are there on a piano?
- 15, Which Stephen King novel takes place mostly in the fictional Overlook Hotel?
- 16, What was the first single to be released by Oasis?
- 17, How many Grand Slam singles titles has Serena Williams won?
- 18, How many hearts does an octopus have?
- 19, What colour pill does Neo swallow in The Matrix?
- 20, Which chamber of the heart pumps deoxygenated blood to the lungs?
- 21, What are the five colours of the Olympic rings?
- 22, The Animals band formed in which U/K city?

(Answers on page 8 )>>>>>

Thank you to Cllr Eric Lowery



# A FAREWELL FROM FATHER RICHARD WALTON

As many of you will be aware my retirement from Burghwallis and Campsall was set for the 14<sup>th</sup> of February for some time. Of all the years since I came in 2011 this has certainly been the strangest and a rather odd time to leave when it is not possible to mark the moment as, perhaps, we would have liked. Nevertheless, looking back I have very fond memories of being part of the community during this time. Burghwallis and Campsall are very rural communities and very different from where we shall be living right in the heart of Sheffield opposite the Town Hall.

I think that the sense of community has been the important thing for me during my time. Certainly, I have tried to make the church a living part of the community. During my first five years I was working full time in Sheffield as well as living in the Rectory at Adwick le Street (my wife the Rector of Adwick insisted). So, I felt it was important at least to be seen and recognised when I was in the parish. One of the problems of being an un-paid self-supporting priest is that you have to be away from the parish to earn your living. In my first retirement I have had more time to be present.

I remember, rather early on being buttonholed by someone in Church and berated about some issue that had caused them a problem. After I pointed out that I was that vicar, things calmed down. But I am not sure how far back the difficult memories had gone because often people speak to me about my predecessors and it goes back many decades. I wonder sometimes what puzzlement will be caused when people speak about me to some new parish priest in the future. A particular delight for me as an educationalist has been to be involved with the schools at Norton and at Campsmount. I always feel that the children ask me the best and most incisive questions when they visit and are never afraid to put me on the spot – which is just how it should be.

Vicars – or priests in charge in my case – come and go. If you look at the name boards in Burghwallis and Campsall you will see my predecessors listed back to the 13th Century. There were Rectors and Vicars before then but they are not recorded. It is a sobering thought that we are merely custodians of the Christian life of this community for a while – hoping always to build things up rather than manage decline. Nevertheless, I am an optimist and I feel that after some difficult years for the Church of England we are beginning to turn the corner and there are encouraging things to be seen. Oddly, the effect of the pandemic has been to make us interact with people in a different way. If you speak to Fr Chris, he will tell you of the many hundreds of people who have engaged with our on-line manifestations of Church. I am impressed by the fact that our Sunday morning Zoom services have been watched regularly in France, Slovakia, Poland and Bulgaria. A reminder that the Church is wider than a single parish and encompasses the world.

I have also been encouraged by the work taking place within the community. It is good to see that Old Bells is on track for reopening soon; Campsall park has a dedicated team of friends, the overgrown churchyard extension has been cleared by the Parish Council and is coming back into use as is the activity of Campsall Village Hall, Norton Community Hall and the groups that use them.

At the heart of my ministry, alongside leading worship on a Sunday, has been the regular pattern of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals through which I have had the privilege of being invited into the lives and homes of people at the most significant points in their lives - which is after all the work of a priest. I have tried to show that God's love is present in this place and open to all. I hope that as a Church we have been a place of welcome for everyone. There are times through the year when the Church is full. Now and again, when the bells are ringing out and the choir is present and the community is gathered I do feel that God has blessed this place.

So, my final words are to say thank you for being a supportive and loving congregation, as I tell people I have the best parishioners in the world. May God bless you richly in the coming years.

Fr Richard

# Introducing .....RICKY BUTLER

It's a bit difficult to describe Ricky Butler, but here goes – sometimes Ricky Stardust, musician and DJ, film and television actor, extraordinary fund-raiser and on top of all that, designer and builder of life-size models!

Now retired from a busy lifetime of involvement in many areas of show business and the film and tv industry, Ricky is still very actively involved in other pursuits. Some readers may know of some of Ricky's exploits from the past in the village, to others, here's a man of many skills living amongst us – read on!



Ricky worked in many areas of show business for over 50 years in a real variety of roles and mingled with celebrities and the famous. Ricky numbered Bob Monkhouse, Cilla Black, Lulu, Mike Aspel and Ken Dodd amongst his friends as well as those connected with the film industry like Sam Neil. Always fascinated with film, Ricky had acting roles in Pirates of the Caribbean films and even featured as a taxi-driver in the successful TV series, 'Candy Cabs'.







Ricky was interviewed on BBC's 'Look North' programme on March 1st . They were keen to see his great models!

In amongst all this activity, Ricky performed regularly as a DJ with the stage name of 'Ricky Stardust' – rather an apt title, given all the famous he was mingling with, such as boxers Paul 'Silky' Jones and Sugar Ray Leonard (pictured above right.)

Another activity very close to Ricky's heart has always been fund-raising and over his 50 years of involvement he has raised a lot of money for good causes, recognized by many, including formal recognition from the Mayor of Wakefield in the eighties. Not just at home, but concern for others in poorer parts of the world, including raising money to support children with cancer in Cuba.



AND THEN...there are Ricky's wonderful models! Given Ricky's involvement with film, it's not surprising that his striking models have featured in Star Wars presentations and of course, Dr Who and friends. The Tardis took six weeks to build, but what a striking outcome. Looks like Dr Who could step out at any moment!

Despite his retirement from show business, Ricky is still making and building.



Ricky built this R2 D2 for the launch of the film 'Rise of Sky Walker' film premiere in London



Speaking of life-size models, neighbours were surprised to see a 21 feet long Star Wars X-Wing fighter in the area. Ricky and his youngest son, Prince worked on the construction for the best part of a year. It's an accurate replica of a T-65 X-wing starfighter with the AA-589 designation- the craft flown by Luke Skywalker in the Star Wars films.

" All the grandkids love it", Ricky said, "they can get inside it for a ride!"

# **NEWS AND UPDATES**

#### CAN YOU HELP?



Hi, some years ago my mother Ada Hall died. She had an active member of the Methodist Chapel in Norton (which strangely was the woodwork room when I went to school.) All her books were stored with my Sister who passed on a few years ago and my brother In law brought down a box from the attic.

Included in the box was a book entitled 'THE TOPHAM TIGER HUNTERS' and awarded to David Buston. Does anyone know of David Buston so that the book can be returned to its rightful owner?

Thank You, John Wilson- Hall

John can be contacted at jwilsonhall2@gmail.com

### **Rycroft Community Building...new extension**

Many of you will be familiar with the Norton Parish Council Community Building on Ryecroft Road, but you may not realise its diversity. The building provides meeting space, a home for Honeybees Pre-school CIC, a base for the Askern Running Club and changing facilities for all the football clubs who use the Ryecroft Fields.

This means that not only is the building very busy, it has to hold an increasing amount of equipment in storage. Well, we've run out, so the Parish Council has commissioned a permanent extension to the building that will provide ample space for the users and their equipment.

As we go to print, the roof is on and we just await a security shutter and some finishing touches.

THANKS, Kirsop Builders

**MORE SPACE!** 

### Re-introducing ....Rev Chris and Christine Herbert

#### Hello!

We wanted to take the opportunity to introduce ourselves to those of you in the area who don't already know us. St Mary Magdalene church is currently closed due to Covid 19, however we are hoping to be opening again for services from 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021, as long as it is safe to do so. With Revd Richard Walton's retirement I, Chris, am now the sole clergy member at St Mary Magdalene Campsall and St Helen's Burghwallis, After finishing six years of study at Durham University, I am a Self-Supporting Minister (SSM), which means I don't receive a payment from the church and do not live in a vicarage. I have a fulltime job with the Diocese of Sheffield separate to my Priest role, which means I have to balance the two different roles, as both can require me to work both days and evenings.

I, Christine, have been a Lay Reader at Campsall church for a few years, and am now also training to be a Priest and will be ordained in 2022. I also work full time, and like my husband, Chris, will be an SSM.

We have lived in Norton since 2005, attending Campsall church, becoming more involved with Burghwallis church a few years later. You may know us from various village events, so if you see us around, often with our border collie Ruby, please say hello!

As we come out of lockdown, the theme we have chosen at church for 2021 is HOSPITALITY, and we want to make sure that Campsall church is a welcoming place for everyone. We know how much we have missed opportunities to meet others, and we will be finding ways of being together, whether that's essential meetings, social events, or just get togethers to have a good chat.

So when St Mary Magdalene is open again, we ask and pray, that anyone who may have been before, or is curious, just comes along to a service, because you are most welcome! We would also love to hear from anyone who might be interested in supporting a new church venture, 'Messy Church', which is for children to attend with parents. It includes games, crafts, worship songs and a meal at the end. It will probably be once a month. It would be great to have something fun and different for the children in our villages.

God Bless, Fr Chris & Christine (not a father).

## Children's Play Areas - Next Steps SURVEY

Now that we have completed the play area for younger children in Campsall Country Park, which we saw as a priority, we now turn our attention to updating the play equipment and provision in our other village play areas.

The largest of these, and the one most ready for development, is the play area at Spittalrush Lane/West End Road in Norton. We felt that this provision should favour older juniors and so Cllr Hilary White initiated a survey of the wishes of junior-aged children at Norton Junior School into what kind of provision they would like to see

They were asked WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO PLAY AT? Responses were Football, Basketball, Climbing and Assault Course games, along with skating and using a zip-line

Then, WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY MORE IN THE PARK IF THERE WERE MORE ACTIVITIES FOR SOMEONE YOUR AGE? The general response was a huge **YES!** 

And, WHAT EQUIPMENT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ADDED FOR YOU TO PLAY WITH? The most popular answers were:

- Basket ball ring/net
- Climbing net/rope/frame or spider's web
- Football/multi-sports pitch
- Zip line
- Trim trail/obstacle course
- Skate park!

Those responses have given the Parish Council plenty to think about and to prioritise.. We shall be consulting with suppliers and play area designers to consider balanced provision and a challenging but safe activity area in the next few months. WATCH THIS SPACE!







# Norton Parish Council

#### **DONNY SNOW**

The snowfall hides beneath it a multitude of sin

A hedgerow full of rubbish that never found a bin

The boot full of unwanted toys that never found the tip

The builder's waste and toilet bowl that should have found a skip

Its pristine white preponderance this morning makes me feel My landscape's had a beauty scrub, exfoliate and peel

All smooth lines and soft margins of sugar-icing top Disguise the seven fridges dumped amongst next summer's crop

But in this vale of power stations snowfall never lasts Even when the north-east wind sends Scandanavian blasts The snow will melt to slush and mud before this night conspires To hide the hateful fly-tipper and one more batch of tyres

Daniel O'Grady





Like to help?

Just contact communications@don caster.gov.uk and let them know you would like to litte- pick a street or area and when.

They will provide you with hi-vis jackets, bags and litter-pickers and arrange to pick up your filled bags!

All YOU need are some stout shoes and gloves and a street or lane of your choice to clear up.

- Answers to the quiz on pg 5 1.42
- 2, Teddy Sheringham (Nottinaham
- Forest/Tottenham)
- 4, 7
- 5, Nicola Roberts
- 6, Tik Tok
- 7, La Mancha

- 8, The Communards
- 9. West Brom
- 10, Michael Jordon
- 11, Brian Lara (v England
- 12, Human by Rag'n Bone Man
- 13. Bern
- 14, 88

- 16, Supersonic
- 17, 23
- 18, 3
- 19. Red
- 20, Right Ventrick
- 21, Blue, Yellow, Black, Green and Red
- 22. Newcastle

HOW DID YOU DO?

#### Cllr Mike Morgan (Chair) 01302 700149

(Campsall)

**CIIr John Atkins** (Vice Chair) 01302 700892 (Norton)

Cllr Brenda McLaughlin 01302 708058 (Campsall)

**CIIr Gill Morgan** 01302 700149 (Norton)

**Cllr Brian Wood** 01302 700691 (Norton)

**Cllr Colin Wilson** 01302 702479 (Campsall)

**CIIr Eric Lowery** 07754 946758 (Campsall)

Vacancy

**Cllr Lindsay** Shearman (Campsall)

**CIIr Alan Drayton** 

**CIIr Tony Pearson** 07989 656007 (Norton)

**CIIr Hilary White** 01302 700225 (Sutton)

Doncaster MBC Norton and Askern Ward Councillors team are Cllr John Gilliver, (07711 608140), Cllr Austen White (07909 892845) and **Clir Iris Beech**, (07751 658697)

The Parish Clerk is **Dave Telford**. He can be contacted on all matters relating to the work of the Parish Council and enquiries about hire of the Ryecroft Road Community Phone: 01302 883496 Building.

Parish Council Meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month, starting at 7.00pm at Ryecroft Road Community Buildina

Parish residents welcome

#### in 2004) 3, Genesis

- 15, The Shining

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