Welcome to our Spring 2016 Newsletter Issue 3

Norton Priory as you’ve never seen it before!

Inside:
Meet the new Vicar
Catch up with Taylor
Dates for your Diary!
When a Shark came to Windmill Hill Primary School
Windmill Hill Big Local is a once in a lifetime opportunity for us to make a real difference to our local area. Windmill Hill has been given a minimum of £1m to spend over at least 10 years - so this is no ‘quick fix’ but long term investment. However, it is up to us - the local residents to decide how best to invest this money to make long lasting change that benefits everyone. Interested in helping us? Please get in touch!

Iain Hunter, Chair

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**Handknitted with love**

A little love in every stitch x

Have you always wanted to Knit or Crochet?
Would you like to be part of a Knit & Knatter Group?

Then look out for my Beginners workshops coming soon to Windmill Hill

To be sure of a place call Cath
Tel: 07939 651585

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**Can you help us?**

“Windmill Hill Big Local is always looking for local residents to help us make Windmill Hill the best it can be! Fancy planning fun days, helping at community events, designing the newsletter or being on the Partnership? Get in touch!”

**Don’t forget?**

Big Local has a small grant programme that can fund almost any good idea or community activity up to £500. Have an idea? Get in touch!

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To apply for a **Small Grant (<£500)**, **Volunteer** or find out more about **Big Local** contact Dan Ellis at Groundwork on 07881 335729 / 01606 723160 or dan.ellis@groundwork.org.uk or find me at Windmill Hill Children’s Center most Mondays.

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The new museum is now taking shape with the steel work completed and the first floor gallery above the undercroft well underway. The roof framework above this new gallery has also now been installed and the link space between the undercroft and museum constructed. This link space will be the new reception, shop and event area and promises to be a light and airy space in which our new visitors will be welcomed.

Restoration inside the undercroft is also proceeding well. Each of the supporting medieval pillars sits on a stone ringbeam but in between these solid structures was just mud and infill which had meant the tiled floor had lifted and dropped with water ingress beneath it. This infill has therefore been excavated by archaeologists and drained of water. A special moling machine has created a new drain from which any build-up of water in the future can be drained. The infill was then replaced with a special geotextile membrane and a new concrete floor installed upon which the Victorian tiles can be re-laid. Due to the water damage, many tiles had been lost in preceding decades and replicas are being manufactured at Ironbridge, Telford. With these tiles, the whole floor will be restored and improved lighting within the undercroft will ensure it will look as stunning as it did in the 19th century.

With no further delays incurred during the construction, the museum will open on the 1st August with public events scheduled throughout the month. A weekend extravaganza with reenactors demonstrating the full 900 years of history will take place on the 13th and 14th August.
The Ferry Passes by
(dedicated to my late Grandad Arthur Evans)

River of memories
They travel deep through my soul
Years never fading
Like the constant flow of the Mersey
The white crashing wake
The smell and sound of the cascading river
My mind drawn to the ferry
The workhorse of the Mersey
Powering through to Pier Head
Passengers with cameras taking in the city sights
Our two Liver birds stand guardians above
Looking down on Liverpool front
A river once so busy
Bustling with cargo and passengers for the globe
A stepping point to the Irish Sea and beyond
A river of tidal immigrants whom built our city strong
The ferry fills me with pride
A symbol of our city and its past
Memories drift
My grandad, a Royal Navy sailor
On Wolfhound and Orion he fought
Employed on the docks, the sea in his blood
I am sailing is played in the church
A tear falls
The Mersey flows
Bound in history, generations gone
Do I love my city?
Why?
The ferry passes by

W.S.Elliott 2015
The St Bert's cafe, open Wednesday mornings in term time is going from strength to strength. We now have a steady stream of visitors and a regular group of young mums who use it as a meeting point to have a catch up. They tell me they come for the cakes and enjoy the warm welcome. We always have a good range of homemade cakes and biscuits which change each week and we serve fresh filter coffee.

Do come and join us. If you have not been to St Bert's before come and check us out. We are a growing church with life and energy from tiny children to the elderly. We believe that church is more than turning up on a Sunday morning and we have steadily become more involved with our local community. The Cafe is open each term time Wednesday 10.15 to 11.30.

We are working with the Big Local and host their monthly Lunch Club for Windmill Hill residents which involves a lunch and an activity. St Bert's want to say a great big thank you to the Big Local for a grant towards improving our facilities, we are planning to get disabled toilets as soon as possible.

We look forward to another fun packed summer with fun days and other social events. Keep an eye on your Windmill Hill Facebook page for news of forthcoming events and also our notice boards. We even serve a great breakfast before our morning service every other month. This happens next at 9am on Sunday 20th March. Come and join us, you might find more than a bacon buttie to sustain you, in fact something much more precious and long lasting.

Hi, I'm the Rev. Dr Steve Torr and I'm the new vicar at St Berteline and St Christopher's Church, Norton. I started this new post near the beginning of January having moved from my previous post as Curate in a group of parishes near Stafford in the Midlands. I'm originally from Burton-on-Trent - home of beer and Marmite (of which I like neither) - I'm married to Holly and we have two young children. My post at St Bert's is a part-time post as, during the rest of my working week, I am a tutor in Theology at, and manager of, a Church of England training college situated in Liverpool Cathedral, called St. Mellitus College North West. In my spare time (!) I like to go to the gym, read, watch films and listen to music, as well as spend time with friends and family. I'm really looking forward to settling in to life in the parish and getting to know the people and the area.

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**Big Local & St Bert’s Lunch Club 2016**
**Dates for your diary!**
- Thursday February 25th
- Thursday March 17th
- Thursday April 21st
- Thursday May 19th
- Thursday June 23rd Tea Dance
- Thursday July 21st
- Thursday August 25th
- Thursday September 22nd
- Thursday October 20th
- Thursday November 24th
- Thursday December 15th Christmas Meal

All meals 12-1pm followed by Social activity 1-3pm. **All free!**

**Booking ESSENTIAL to avoid disappointment!**
Call Dan: 01606 723160 or 07881 335729
Jane: 07881857965
A Winter Warmer event for some of Windmill Hills older residents. A 1st Aid course and free winter warmer pack before a hot pot lunch and lots of mince pies!

Big Local also helped organise a Christmas Trip to Southport. A lovely meal and a bit of a dance at the Prince of Wales Hotel!

A full traditional home-cooked Christmas Lunch at St Berts. The deserts were heavenly! Thanks Carole!

A BIG THANK YOU to O2 for printing this newsletter.
LHT offers Employment Support

There are a number of drop in sessions at work clubs across Runcorn with free internet access. Support is given to job seekers to increase confidence, knowledge and job prospects.

- Mondays 10am – 4pm at Halton Lea Library
- Wednesdays 10am – 2pm at Runcorn Job Centre (ask for Vanessa)
- Thursdays 10am – 12noon at Halton Brook Community Centre
- Fridays 10am – 12noon at Murdishaw Community Centre
- Fridays 1pm -3pm at Castlefields Community Centre

We share local opportunities on our Facebook page. Visit www.facebook.com/halton.workclubs

LHT’s employment project, Works For Me provides additional support to those living in our homes.

What is Works For Me? It’s where you can receive information on jobs, training, volunteering opportunities, business support and apprenticeships.

We also provide funding for training and employment;

Future Fund is a grant of up to £500 aimed at those living in our homes with projects linked to education, training or voluntary work.

Help 2 Work Fund is a grant of up to £100 to support people living in an LHT home with transport costs, work clothes or resources as they start employment or an apprenticeship.

Bernie Evans Award For LHT tenants and residents who are entering higher education with bursaries of up to £1,500. We will help support tuition fees, course materials, trips or accommodation costs.

LHT has a number of FREE licences for My Work Search. This is an online job search programme which can increase chances of finding employment. IT support can be given at our work clubs.

LHT is an AQA registered centre. We deliver a wide range of accredited courses to enhance your CV, there are hundreds of courses from Employability Skills, Event Management and even Horticulture.

Sounds good? Want to find out more? Contact Jane on 0151 708 2410 or email jsmith@lht.co.uk

"I have to say that after entering the Windmill Hill Pub after hearing how great it looks and that it served a mean pint I just had to see for myself. On entering the pub as a local resident to Windmill Hill I was very pleasantly surprised....the new manager is very friendly, nice to see real locals back in and that there was no atmosphere other than friendly nods of the heads. The Windmill Pub is a great pub. The new managers have done an amazing job. Great food at great prices and staff are amazing and will do anything to accommodate you within reason. Will I be entering this fine establishment again? - The answer is yes and long may this continue. Finally Windmill Hill has got a great pub which brings all the locals together in this fine community of ours!"

Dominic Egan.
Did you know ?????? Healthwatch Halton is your local independent champion for health and social care across Halton which includes Windmill Hill. Healthwatch Halton is just one part of a network of 148 local Healthwatch organisations across England. Whose aim is to give all members of their communities a powerful voice by making sure the views and experiences of people using health and social care are heard by those who run, plan and regulate health and social care services.

What does Healthwatch Halton do?

Healthwatch Halton works with local people to help make health and social care experiences and services better. We do this by enabling local people to give their feedback and share their experiences of using health and social care services. We provide information, advice and signposting about local services, and gather the views of people within Halton about their health and social care priorities.

Through gathering experiences and feedback from local people we are able to identify themes and trends that can be shared with commissioners and providers. To help improve services for local people, and produce reports which influence the way services are designed and delivered throughout Halton.

Can I give my feedback anonymously?

Feedback can be given anonymously your feedback can make a difference it only takes a few minutes, but the impact could last a lifetime.

Everyone who uses health and social care services has the right to expect a high standard. In order to help those organisations achieve high standards Healthwatch Halton needs your help that is why we actively encourage and welcome feedback. You can review as many services as you like, and if you use a service on more than one occasion you can leave feedback each time you visit.

Healthwatch Halton will ask you for a little information about yourself when you leave a review, but if you prefer you can leave a review anonymously. It is important that you tell us when things are going well and when they are not, so we can do something about it and improve services. You can leave feedback online at WWW.healthwatchhalton.co.uk/your-feedback and submit a review of your experience, or contact us by telephone on 0300 777 6543 (local rate number) or by email at enquiries@healthwatchhalton.co.uk

What will you with my Feedback?

Healthwatch Halton summarises your feedback and provide it to the organisations that deliver our health and social care services in Halton, so that they can get a clear picture of your experiences when using the services they provide. This will help them encourage and reward good practice, as well as identify and rectify any problems you may encounter.
Care at the Chemist

Did you know ??????

If you or your children have a minor condition and struggle to get an appointment with your GP you can access NHS Care at the Chemist Scheme, which is open to anyone who is registered with a GP in Halton! Your nearest Care at the Chemist Scheme is the Wise Pharmacy Ltd, Windmill Hill Shopping Centre!

What is the NHS Care at the Chemist Scheme?

NHS Care at the Chemist is a minor condition scheme, which means eligible patients can receive advice and treatment for a range of conditions direct from their pharmacist rather than going to their GP. If you don’t pay for prescriptions then any medication provided under the scheme will be free of charge, but please remember you may be asked for identification.

Can I still see my GP?

Yes, you can still see your GP in the normal way. Using the scheme does not prevent you from seeing your doctor, but using it for minor conditions can give the doctor more time to deal with patients with more serious illnesses.

What treatments are provided?

Your local pharmacist is able to give advice on a range of conditions and if appropriate can supply medicine from an agreed list to ensure you receive the most appropriate treatment for your condition. Please be aware not all medicines are suitable for all age groups but your pharmacist will be able to advise as appropriate.

The following conditions are currently treated by the NHS Care at the Chemist scheme: Allergies, Athletes Foot, Coughs colds and sore throats, cold sores, constipation, Cystitis, Diarrhoea, Ear wax, Headache, Pain or temperature, Haemorrhoids, Head lice, Indigestion, Infant colic, Mouth ulcers, Minor eye infections, Minor skin reactions, Nappy Rash, Nasal congestion, Oral thrush, Threadworm, Thrush (Genital), Warts and Verruca’s.
It been exciting times recently as Bay TV Liverpool have been filming some of ELLA’s rehearsals and interviewing the directors and some of the performers. Its was shown on 12th Feb at 8pm but catch up on www.baytvliverpool.com

ELLA is also working with another Company from Halton called Andrew and they are getting together to put on a show at the Brindley in May - dates to be confirmed but all information on this will be on at the Brindley website.

ELLA has also been invited to open the Disability Awareness Day this July at Walton Hall Gardens in Warrington! It is their 25th Anniversary and we have been asked to do some performances. We will also be back the Brindley doing what is called “one small step” to raise funds for a cancer Charity.

All this as well as performing Peter Pan at the Brindley this February! We hope to see some of you there! Next year it will be Scrooge the musical.

This all-inclusive group now has 73 plus members and growing. If anybody would be interested in joining they can get in touch with Mal Hampson on 01928 576566. We have a carers group on a Monday night 7pm till 9pm where we do tap, drama and singing. If anyone wants to join come to Castlefields Community Centre, and you will be very welcome, so any carers out there needing a break from there caring role come and join us. x

ELLA do rehearsals at the Castlefields Community Centre every Tuesday 6pm till 8pm, we also have masterclasses and academies for the older ones not in school or College.

As you can see we have a very busy schedule at the moment with lots going on!
Windmill Creative sessions started on January 28th at St Berteline’s church, after the monthly social meal and chat. A group of ladies stayed behind after the meal and got stuck into making their own needle case. As you can see by the pictures, they turned out brilliantly.

It was a lovely first session that left us with a jacket potato, chilli and a delicious slice of cake to take home, a true perk of the job!

The second and third session involved a venue swap, so off we went to Priory View, where we had a hoot making some owl pincushions and plastic bag storage tubes.

These sessions aren’t just about whether you can sew or not, it’s also about being social and getting to know your neighbours. So please don’t be put off if you have tons of experience or no experience at all, it’s really for everyone.

If you would like to suggest ideas for future sessions, after the first set of sessions finish on the March the 3rd, we would be looking for fresh ideas, crocheting seems popular at the moment. As you can see by the sessions coming up, it’s not all about sewing either, we want to offer as many diverse activities as possible, so please do get in touch with your thoughts.

Sessions Coming Up!

February 25th - This session will be held at St Bert’s
Introduction to Lino Printing

March 3rd- This session will be held at Priory View
Introduction to Feltmaking
Learn how make felt from dyed sheep’s fleece.

Interested? Contact Dan 07881 335729
‘Waterways Walks’

This spring a number of guided walks are taking place in Halton, to enable people to discover more about the heritage of their area. The walks are led by David Bissenden MRTPI (Retired) and will be just under 2 hours in length and involve walking a heritage trail of 1 to 2 miles length. The walks are free of charge, though booking is required to ensure that an appropriate number of people attend.

Please e-mail David on bissenden146@btinternet.com indicating which walks you wish to go on.

Old Runcorn  11.00 a.m. Mon 28th March (Easter Monday)

Hale village 11.00 a.m. Tues 26th April

Walk To be finalised 11.00 a.m. Mon 30th May (Whitsun)

The Old Runcorn Walk will be concentrating on the impact of the canals, railway and bridges during the industrial revolution. The Hale Walk will look at the townscape of the village, centred on ‘The Childe of Hale’ area. The guided walks are supported by ‘UnLtd’/ Wellbeing Enterprises CTC, as part of their ‘social entrepreneur’ programme.

Are you ex Armed Forces and need help to pay a bill? You don’t have to be a member of the Royal British Legion to get this help.

There are all kinds of help that you can be given to you Financial, Mental Wellbeing, Physical health, Employability and much more all this is just a phone call away

Help line – 0808 802 8080 or you can visit the Royal British Legion help and advice Centre 25 – 31 Williamson Street Liverpool L1 1EB

Do you or your partner need a break away from it all at Byng House Southport, which is in my opinion a ★★★★ Star Hotel situated on the sea front near the Pier.

All these services are free including Byng House as long as you can produce your basic Armed Forces details.

Alan Leitch
A day in the life of......Taylor Goodall

“Here’s what a typical day would look like for me as a full time athlete...

I wake up in the morning and go to the National Taekwondo Centre to be weighed in, I then do a mental warm up with the psychologist and some college work before my first Taekwondo training session. These sessions involve kicking pads, working on body armours and sparring. After my first session I go to college where I study psychology, then go home for some dinner. Next, I go back to the National Taekwondo Centre for another Taekwondo training session, following that I do a strength & conditioning or cardio session in the gym. Once all my session are done, I try to relax with my friends (the people who I live with) by either going to town or watching a film with them.”

Taylor

Throughout 2015, Windmill Hill resident Michelle Herron was working on a happiness project which is now an eBook that is available free to download from her website. If you could do with a little inspiration follow the link!


Happiness can be found right on your doorstep. Often we go away for holidays and long weekends but don’t get to spend much time where we live. Explore your little corner of the world and become a tourist in your own town. As a starting point, think about where you would take friends or family if they came to visit you?

- What is the local history, are there any historical sites?
- What’s going on in the local park?
- When was the last time you visited the local museum or art gallery?
- Head towards the river, canal, lake or ocean.
- Go walking - through the woods, up a mountain or around your local market. You could even follow a local cycle trail.
Windmill Hill Centre

Windmill Hill Children centre is located opposite Windmill Hill School at the top of Norton Hill.

The centre is open to all children and families in the local area. We offer a wide range of stay and play session for children under 5. We offer bespoke groups such as baby massage and adult learning courses. Pick up a timetable or view our Facebook page www.facebook.com/windmillhillcc

Registering with the children centre is simple, just pop in for a registration form or speak to your midwife or health visitor.

All new registrations from Windmill Hill up to March 2016 will receive a FREE jute bag and goodies.

If you are already registered please bring in this newsletter and we will also give you a FREE Jute bag and goodies

All families that are registered can access our discount ed home safety equipment such as extending safety gate £12.50, socket covers, pack of 4 for 50p or baby harness/reins £2.00.

We also take Healthy Start Vitamin Vouchers which can be exchanged for children vitamins or you can purchase them for £1.50 per bottle.

The centre has a bank of community access computers – to help with online job searches. Just call in.

If you require any information just pop in or give us a call and will be happy to help.

Contact: 01928 717 132 or windmillhillccreception@halton.gov.uk

Kelly Brayshaw

“After relocating from Leeds, I’ve been coming to the Children’s Centre. It has been a great way to meet new people. The place is brilliant and the staff are always very welcoming”

Tanya Louise Lowe

“I started coming during my third trimester to see what the centre was all about, I loved it. I have been coming since my son was three days old he’s now 5 months. I have attended every week. I think it’s fantastic for all ages and I have also made some new friends.”

Mandy Weaver

“We come to a couple of different groups Stay & play and Messy play. He learns about different textures and interaction with other children. I didn’t use the Children’s Centres with my older child, but I have found lots of benefits of using them with my youngest”

My name is Alison and I am a Stop Smoking Practitioner for Halton Stop Smoking Service. The team delivers advice, motivational and behavioural support along with access to nicotine replacement or medication via local one to one and drop in sessions.

I love my job and I am very passionate about our service as smoking still remains the biggest killer. Stopping smoking is a journey and it is very rewarding to see the positive impact that quitting has on the person’s health and wellbeing and their finances.

Find me at the Windmill Hill Children’s Centre on Wednesday evenings between 5.00-6.45pm.
The Loan Shark terrorising young children!

The England Illegal Money Lending Team working alongside Big Locals are encouraging local people to turn away from loan sharks and report the crime if they have been a victim.

There are an estimated 310,000 households across the UK who have borrowed from loan sharks. These criminals may appear friendly at first but will quickly trap their borrowers in a spiral of debt.

Few offer paperwork so borrowers are often in the dark as to how much they are repaying, many will take items as security and some will resort to extreme methods including violence, threats and intimidation to enforce repayment.

The campaign included an assembly for Windmill Hill Primary School pupils The assembly was aimed at giving the youngsters an understanding of the dangers of loan sharks in order to share what they have learnt with their families and avoid borrowing from loan sharks in later life.

Tony Quigley Head of the England Illegal Money Lending Team said “illegal money lending is a despicable crime which causes nothing but harm to our communities. These lenders may appear to be offering a community service but borrowers are often forced to pay back far and above what they have borrowed and can afford. Many are subjected to threats, violence or other callous enforcement methods. We would urge anyone who has been the victim of a loan shark to report them in confidence on 0300 555 2222, as we can help”

Nationally the Stop Loan Shark Project has secured over 322 prosecutions for illegal money lending and related activity, leading to 206 years worth of custodial sentences. They have written off almost £64 million worth of illegal debt and helped over 22,000 victims.

To report a loan shark:
Call the 24/7 confidential hotline 0300 555 2222
Text 'loan shark + your message’ to 60003
E-mail: reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk
Private message us on :
www.facebook.com/stoploansharksproject
Log-on to:
www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks

Windmill Hill residents urged to avoid loan sharks.

Stop Loan Sharks
DON'T GET IN WITH A LOAN SHARK... IT WILL COST YOU AN ARM AND A LEG

LOAN SHARK LENDING IS A CRIME

DON'T BE A VICTIM. WE CAN HELP YOU (IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE)

0300 555 2222
(local call rate, including inclusive minutes from mobiles)

OR YOU CAN TEXT THE FOLLOWING "loan (space) shark (space) +Your Message" to 60003 or email us at reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk

NTSB NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS BOARD

Stop Loan Sharks Illegal Money Lending Team Working with Trading Standards - funded by BIS