

March 2024



Produced by the churches of
Cauntoun, Cromwell,
Norwell and Ossington

www.becktrent.org.uk/ccno-parish-magazine



CCNO Parish Magazine – March 2024

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Beck & Trent Parishes

Services March 2024

		St Andrew's Caunton	St Giles' Cromwell	St Laurence's Norwell	Holy Rood Ossington	All Saints' Sutton	St Mary's Carlton
<i>first Sunday</i>	3 March <i>Lent 3</i>	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion				10.30 a.m. Joint service at Methodist chapel	3.00 p.m. Evensong
<i>second Sunday</i>	10 March <i>Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday</i>			10.30 a.m. Mothering Sunday service		9.00 a.m. Breakfast church at Methodist Hall	11.00 a.m. Mothering Sunday service
<i>third Sunday</i>	17 March <i>Lent 5</i>				10.30 a.m. Holy Communion		3.00 p.m. Evensong
<i>fourth Sunday</i>	24 March <i>Palm Sunday</i>					10.30 a.m. Holy Communion	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion
<i>Wednesday</i>	27 March <i>Wednesday in Holy Week</i>				7.00 p.m. Compline		
<i>Friday</i>	29 March <i>Good Friday</i>		12.00 noon to 3.00 p.m. All Age Prayer Stations				7.00 p.m. Tenebrae
<i>fifth Sunday</i>	31 March <i>Easter Sunday</i>	6.00 a.m. Dawn Service	10.30 a.m. Easter Holy Communion, joint service at St Laurence, Norwell	10.30 a.m. Easter Holy Communion, joint service with St Giles, Cromwell		2.00 p.m. Easter Service, joint service at Methodist Chapel	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion
<i>first Sunday</i>	7 April <i>Easter 2</i>	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion				10.30 a.m. Joint service at Methodist chapel	3.00 p.m. Evensong

Beck & Trent churches update

March will take us through the grey days of Lent to the bright sunrise of Easter. We travel from a time of fasting and reflection, through the bleakness of Good Friday to joyful rejoicing as we celebrate Christ's resurrection on Easter Day. And all this in one month. Check the services table to find out which special services are taking place. You will be welcome at any or all of them.

Lent is broken on Sunday 10 March by Mothering Sunday. This is a day to think about relationships we have now and which we have experienced in the past. For some these thoughts are full of happiness and we give thanks for that. For others some of those thoughts may be painful as loss and broken relationships are recalled. Most of our churches will be having special services on Mothering Sunday. We encourage people of all ages to come together.

Safeguarding

PCC members regularly update their safeguarding training to ensure that they know how to respond to any safeguarding issues that might arise. There is a network of support in parishes and in the diocese. If anyone feels vulnerable in any way please do not hesitate to make contact. Details about support available are included in the opening spread of the magazine every month.

Easter Sunday falls right at the end of March and, with that in mind, we wish all our readers a joyful Easter in the way that Christians greet one another saying 'Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!'

Help, support and contacts

We want to assure you that even though we have no vicar at the moment the church is here to help, support and advise you.

Churchwardens:	Caunton	Irene Crossley 01636 639 123
	Cromwell	Sarah Clark 01636 821 943
	Ossington	Robin & Jane Drury 07951 439 840
Other contacts:	Norwell	Adrian Anderson 07542 638 748
		Elizabeth Jones 01636 636 365



Also in the Benefice:

Carlton-on-Trent Edith Crowther (PCC Secretary) edithtamworth@gmail.com
Sutton-on-Trent contact the Administrator (see below)

- For baptisms, weddings and funerals contact the churchwarden or the administrator, Lorna Caddy, on 01636 555082 / 07568 929232, or email lorna.c.caddy@gmail.com
- Deanery Administrator paula.carlin@southwell.anglican.org 01636 817988

Beck and Trent website: www.becktrent.org.uk

Safeguarding in our churches

Ensuring that children, young people and adults are kept safe whilst in our care is an integral part of our church life. If you have any concerns about Safeguarding contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team:

email: safeguarding@southwell.anglican.org

or report a concern on <https://southwell.anglican.org/contact-safeguarding> or contact 01636 817200

Outside of normal office hours:

Nottinghamshire: 0300 456 4546

Nottingham City Council: 0115 876 1000

Bawtry: 01302 796 000

From the church



Life out of the Dirt

A few years ago, a friend gave me a plant pot that she had painted black and written 'Flowers grow in the dirt' across it in white ink. It was not the most glamorous of gifts but the point she was making would stay with me through the traumas of Covid and its consistent current of negative news stories, through family bereavements and other difficult situations.

What looks like dirt, waste on the ground, can be a source life and beauty!

I am reminded of this as daffodils and snowdrops begin to flower, springing up from the unseemly brown muck below.

And I am reminded again as I reflect on the events that Christians celebrate at Easter.

I wonder what it would have been like to have followed Jesus to Jerusalem around 2,000 years ago. To have watched as the man you thought was going to bind up the broken-hearted and bring freedom for the captives died in agony on the cross. To have known that the one whom you believed was the Son of God lay lifeless in a tomb. To have felt the overwhelming despair and disappointment of that moment, and perhaps the fear and dread for your future in the light of his brutal demise.

What would I have done next? I like to think that I would have been one of the few who went to the tomb that first morning, perhaps like two of his disciples, Peter and John racing there, or maybe like another follower, Mary, peering tentatively in. If I had seen the empty tomb and neatly folded grave clothes, would I have been full of questions, or anger, or would I have believed?

And what if, like Mary, I had been greeted by the risen Jesus? Mary doesn't recognise him at first, mistaking him for a gardener. It feels so appropriate: gardeners spend time tending the dirt. They get close to the messiest places with soil caught in their fingernails. Gardeners bring beauty out of the earth.

And this is what God specialises in. He raised Jesus from the dead! He brings life out of the places and situations that feel most bleak, breathing hope to those enveloped in despair and disappointment.

As we move into this Easter season it is our prayer that, whatever situations you may be facing, you might know this God of hope, who is able to bring life out of the dirt.

Reverend Emily Charkham

Assistant Chaplain to the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham

Verse of the month:

"In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade."

1 Peter 1 v 3 & 4

The Easter message in two verses.

THE POTTING SHED

The Potting Shed is a pioneering Church of England church, here in the middle of rural Nottinghamshire.

We were launched in 2017, and since then have met together in various places, including a marquee and a farmer's barn. We currently meet in Norwell Village Hall on Sunday afternoons at 4pm.

We love to welcome people and families of all ages and stages of life and faith to our Sunday gatherings, and our midweek activities too.

We value hospitality, creativity and community. We love to learn about and worship Jesus in contemporary, creative and informal ways.

During **Lent** we will be focussing on Jesus' final words spoken from the cross. We'll be looking together at a different phrase each week. For more details see www.thepottingshedchurch.org/whats-on. All welcome! Age-appropriate activities will also be available for children in our break-out group called Potting Shed Kids.

FIND OUT MORE AT:

WWW.THEPOTTINGSHEDCHURCH.ORG
FACEBOOK: /THEPOTTINGSHEDCHURCH
INSTAGRAM: @POTTINGSHEDCHURCH
OR EMAIL US VIA: OFFICE@
THEPOTTINGSHEDCHURCH.ORG



Palm Sunday (24 March) – join us for a Messy Church service with activities and worship at Norwell Village Hall (NG23 6JW), after we've processed through the village with our very own 'donkey'. Meet at St Laurence's church at 4pm. Children's tea provided after the service.

EASTER...



Easter Sunday (31 March) – a morning service for all including Holy Communion at St Laurence's church (NG23 6JN). Come and celebrate with us at 10.30am! Easter egg hunt at the end of the service!



St Laurence's church,
Norwell

Good Friday (29 March) – drop in to St Giles' church, Cromwell (NG23 6JE), between 1-3pm for reflective prayer station activities and led worship at regular times during the afternoon.



St Giles' church,
Cromwell



March is synonymous with the hare. 'March madness', as it's known, is a sign that spring has arrived.

Hares, which are usually nocturnal, become increasingly active in the daytime due to their instinct to mate: female hares are only receptive for a short time, usually just a few hours. The 'boxing' behaviour of hares was once thought to occur between rival males, however it has been found that it is between females and potential suitors.

Males are polygynous and mate with multiple females, however females must choose the best male to father their offspring. The boxing behaviour usually occurs when a female rejects the advances of a male, however this isn't a complete rejection as females test their potential suitors before mating. The female tests the stamina of the males to ensure that they are physically fit and she assesses his strength in the boxing ring as it were.

Females also lead their suitors on a chase around fields and meadows (hares can run at up to 40 mph!) and, in doing so, she soon determines the fittest male (in the biological sense) who can afford to use valuable energy reserves chasing her. This will be the male she will mate with and his genes will be passed on to her offspring. Luckily human romance isn't so arduous!

It has been found that female hares can undergo superfetation (see Naturewatch May 2021 for more information) and can mate with a second male whilst she is already pregnant with another male's offspring. Her offspring from the first father will be developing in her uterus and embryos conceived from the second male will be



Hares Boxing. Nic Relton. RSPB.

present in her oviducts, before implanting in the uterus after she has given birth.

At the end of the summer season testosterone production in males decreases, the males' six months of mating come to an end and they can enjoy a much-needed rest. For the female however, her work is only just beginning. After a 40-day gestation period, females give birth to 4 to 6 babies called leverets in a small depression in the earth called a form.

Each leveret will be placed in a form of its own to reduce the chance of being detected by predators, such as buzzards or foxes. As they are solitary, mother hares must leave their leverets when foraging, and the leveret will remain crouched and still until the mother returns at dusk for the baby to feed on her fat-rich milk. After a month the babies are weaned and ready to fend for themselves but, with a lifespan of just 3-4 years, hares live life on fast-forward!

Adam Breslin
adamnaturewatch@gmail.com

BIRD *Watch*

This is compiled from an unusual temporary office – a hospital bed at King's Mill, Mansfield from which I can see a remarkable example of the adaptability of birds. Just as buzzard and red kite, which forty years ago were not seen in eastern counties, are now commonplace, so the peregrine falcon has come out of the west and is to be found nesting locally in some unexpected places.

One of these is on a ledge below a ward window at King's Mill and, though there are no birds here yet, I can see the nesting site from which we have watched the tiercel, or cock bird, launch himself to pick off small mammals in nearby fields. Like cathedral towers and power pylons, the rather stark face of the hospital building offers similar height and security to the cliff faces and crags of the birds' former habitat.

The last year or two have seen a noticeable increase in the numbers of raven, another bird that seldom bred outside Wales and Scotland. It appears that they, too, are becoming migrants of necessity and, like human refugees, their need for food, a home and some security is stronger than any inherent compulsion to cling to homeland. The comparison can continue: provided that

the migrants are prepared to integrate with their new communities they can generally be accepted. Only when numbers show an imbalance and resources are inadequate can trouble surface.

It was man's actions that drove red kite to near extinction in this country and severely reduced buzzard numbers. In the same way it is largely man's intervention that is driving the migration spread. Stations at which red kite come, in their hundreds, to be hand-fed have allowed many more people to see this splendid bird, but certainly not in its natural habitat and, possibly, to the detriment of its scavenging instincts.

Peter Geldart petergeldart@btinternet.com

We wish Peter – and all who are ill – a speedy recovery.

RAIN *Watch*

After an extremely wet start – 5% of the expected total annual rainfall in the first two days of January – the rest of the month was relatively dry. As a result we got 94% of the expected Norwell long-term average ie 4.6cm (1.8 in), rather than 4.9cm (1.9 in).

Andrew Ward wardha@aol.com



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The growing unrest and farmer protests that have been going on for months across Europe, largely unreported in mainstream media, have finally reached our shores. Farmer demonstrations in France are nothing new but many other countries have experienced tractor 'go slow' processions on motorways and worse. The main thrust of the protests has been the worsening situation regarding unsustainably high production costs, and crop losses because of extreme weather. These factors, together with further environmental regulation, are putting farming families under mounting pressure.

Welsh farmers demonstrated in large numbers last month after their government announced its agricultural support scheme would make it compulsory for every farm in Wales to turn over 10% of its land to trees and a further 10% to wildlife and environmental measures. With margins already very tight, these measures would mean large numbers of Welsh farmers would no longer be profitable.

Here in England farmers are slower to protest although tractor blockades have taken place at Dover to highlight the undermining of farm gate prices by cheap

food imports. Lack of profitability has caused farmers to look at alternative income streams such as carbon capture and renewable energy, although not all farmland is suitable. However no other industry is expected to 'diversify' into other unrelated sources of income to help sustain the main line of business. It isn't suggested that striking doctors should turn their hand to boatbuilding for example!

Increasing numbers of farmers are putting their land to uses other than food production however the UK is currently not much more than 50% food secure at a time when the global situation has become rather unstable. Government of any political persuasion needs to remember that the best way of keeping the population fed is by its own land and farmers.

Janet Carr jecarr@live.co.uk



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Dates: 4, 11, 25 April & 2 May 2024 **Time:** 7.00pm – 9.00pm. Tea and coffee included.

Venue: Norwell Village Hall

Cost: £75 per person. Max 12 participants. Full payment is required before course commences.

Apiary sessions: Following the course, there will be daytime & evening sessions to enable candidates to have hands-on, practical experience with live bees.

To enrol, express an interest in joining the course, or if you have any questions please contact David Knibbs 07932 032213 david@davidknibbs.com

Caunton church news



As I'm writing this the sun is shining and it looks set to be a lovely day! Snowdrops and crocuses are all around and daffodils have suddenly sprung up letting us know that spring is truly on its way.

The season of Lent has started and the insides of our churches will look a bit stark with purple being the colour of Lent and no fresh flowers to brighten things up. But we shouldn't be feeling glum, as this leads us to Easter Sunday when Christ is raised from the dead, thus fulfilling the Prophet's promises.

CHURCH ROTAS

Cleaning

Sat 24 Feb & 2 March – Charlotte & Bo
Sat 9 & 16 March – Dave & Joy
Sat 23 & 30 March – Irene & Pat

Flowers

No flowers in Lent
Sat 30 March – Easter flowers

Refreshments

Sun 3 March – Mary & Mike

EASTER

Easter Sunday will see us celebrating with our traditional 6.00am Dawn Service on 31 March. If you can, please do come and join us as we welcome the light of Jesus into our church.

Refreshments in the form of hot cross buns and other Easter treats will be available after the service.

Easter flowers will be arranged in Church on Saturday 30 March. If you wish to purchase Easter lilies or other flowers as a form of remembrance for a loved one, or would like to help with the flower arranging, then please contact Irene on 639123.

We are grateful for the volunteers who keep the church clean and see that flowers are replenished, however we would welcome other offers of help.

If you feel you would like to help then please contact me.

Irene Crossley

irenecrossley50@gmail.com



Dean Hole - a village community space

Live & Local

Saturday 9 March, 7.30pm – 'Auf Wiedersehen, Me Duck'

Compelling vocals and thoughtful acoustic guitar from Anglo-German duo Paul Walker & Karen Pfeiffer featuring handpicked folk favourites and well-crafted originals.

There will also be a raffle

Tickets £13 (cash only)

To book your ticket please contact Pat (636523) or Irene (639123).

Saturday 27 April, 7.30pm – Hoagy

Chris Ingham Trio – A unique and fascinating celebration of the music of singer-pianist-songwriter Hoagy Carmichael.

Details as above.

Bingo – Friday 8 March, 7.00 for 7.30pm

All welcome.

Quiz – Saturday 23 March, 7.00pm

Another quiz evening courtesy of Chris Ward.

Teams of 4 – £5 per person to include supper but please bring your own drinks and glasses. There will be a raffle. Contact Pat or Irene.



Caunton Parish Council – notes from 14 February meeting

Flooding

A flood action group has been formed.

This is independent of the Parish Council and aims to help current and future flood victims with knowledge and support. It will work with the Council to look at future flood planning and alleviation.

Our whole drainage system from Mill Lane down will be fully assessed by Nottinghamshire County Council very soon.

Potholes

Potholes remain an ongoing subject. Please report them on the VIA portal. For more information go to www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole

Planning

We discussed the onset of the Great North Road Solar Park and now want more community opinion. We are sending out an informal poll to determine the strength of feeling. The plans are still not fully clear: the formal consultation will be in the autumn when revised plans will be published. More information: *page 15*.

New courts and improvements at Caunton Tennis Club were supported.

Play equipment

We are looking to repair and replace various items. If anyone has access to grants or donations please let us know.

School

We look forward to positive engagement with the Team Education Trust and the local authority during the ongoing community engagement in the conversion to an academy. We have the community interest firmly in our sights.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 13 March at 7.30pm in the Village Room at Dean Hole School. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Any representation to the Parish Council should be made to the Clerk at parishcouncilcaunton@gmail.com

Steve Routledge, Chairman

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Caunton Local History Society

Details of our next two talks are below:

12 March: City of Caves – Nottingham

Speaker - Dr Charlotte May

Did you know that there are over 800 caves in Nottingham? As one of the city's unique heritage assets they have been used for everything from pub cellars and ale storage to medieval tanning and malting. Discover where the caves are and how the change of land use has impacted the creation of, and access to, various cave sites. At Dean Hole Community Centre.

9 April: Elizabethan Wall Paintings in the Saracen's Head Hotel, Southwell

Speaker - David Johnson

Join us for an exploration of the Elizabethan wall paintings in the Saracen's Head Hotel,

Southwell. Dated by dendrochronology to c.1460, the building is made from close-studded timber framing.

Details of the summer trip will be posted in later spring.

We always meet at 7.30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and almost always at Dean Hole Community Centre (School).

Visitors are especially welcome to attend. Attending your first talk with the society is free and the cost for returning as a non-member is £3. Full membership for 2024 is £20.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you would like to add your name to our mailing list and hear about talks, summer trips and local visits, please email Lynn.

Lynn Thompson lynn1485@gmail.com



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Caunton
Garden Society

Spring Show 2024

At Caunton Dean Hole School
Manor Road, Caunton

Sunday 7 April 2024

at 2.00pm

Presentation of prizes at 3.00pm



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Entrance is free and refreshments are provided



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<http://cromwellvillage.org.uk>

Cromwell Village Hall

The Hall can be used for meetings, conferences, workshops etc. If you have any queries please contact Claire Davies on 07796 133656.

Thursdays 6.30pm – 7.30pm:

YOGA CLASSES

£7 per class. Contact Bridget for details:
bridget@healthandharmony.yoga



Great North Road Solar Park – Joint Parishes Action Group

On 7 February there was a meeting in South Muskham Village Hall of the Joint Parishes Action Group (JPAG) which was formed to coordinate a response to the Great North Road Solar Park (GNRSP) proposed by Elements Green. 28 people were present and 16 parishes were represented. Also present was Mr D. White from North Clifton to share advice gained from his own experience fighting against the "One Stop" solar park proposal which will be of comparable size (770MW) to our own GNRSP (880MW). The "One Stop" Solar Park is heavily concentrated geographically around the two villages of North and South Clifton.

After a lot of discussion the meeting decided to assess community support. A quick poll of the meeting revealed that nine parishes strongly opposed the GNRSP and seven parishes were generally neutral. It was proposed that an accurate poll of each parish

would try to determine the level of community support. A draft questionnaire would be produced for consideration.

The meeting chose to set up a small "strategy group" to act independently of the meeting. The parishes would split into local groups and representatives from the groups would then form the Strategy Group which would work alongside any Community Action Group formed, and report back to the larger JPAG. Cromwell would fall into a group with Carlton on Trent, Sutton on Trent, and Weston.

It was agreed that any Community Action Group would be best placed to raise a "fighting fund."

In all these discussions the Cromwell position was one of neutrality and no commitment was made.

David Swift

Cromwell Parish Meeting

The next scheduled Meeting will be the AGM on Monday 8 April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Accounts for the year will be presented for consideration and officers will be elected for the coming year.

There is an urgent need for volunteers for parish officers to keep the current system going. The jobs need not be difficult or time consuming.

David Swift, Chair
cromwellparishmeeting@gmail.com

To subscribe to the Cromwell Messenger please sign up at cromwellvillage.org.uk/messenger.html

To share news and information with the village please contact Tracy Koefoed on 07788 313620.

Cromwell Village WhatsApp group

Anyone wishing to join a Cromwell Village WhatsApp group should contact Jo Myers
07711 177194 or
jo.myers66@yahoo.co.uk



The church is here for the parish. The PCC will provide help, support and information. The contact is:

Adrian Anderson: andersonassociates@btopenworld.com and 07542 638 748

Elizabeth Jones: emjones.norwell@btinternet.com and 01636 636 365

Initial enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals to the Benefice Administrator, Lorna Caddy on 01636 555082, mobile 07568 929232 or email lorna.c.caddy@gmail.com.

Pancakes at the Plough

Once again this ever-popular event was a total sell-out. The evening commenced with a delicious buffet selection of savoury pancakes, salad and chips, followed by the dessert option of orange and lemon, and fruit salad pancakes. Everyone tucked in with gusto.

This was followed by a 'Lent-themed' riddles quiz in which lively teams eventually discovering the solution – 'tempted'. An additional puzzle – an unintended numbering riddle – added hilarity to the occasion.



Our thanks go, as ever, to the wonderful Elizabeth Jones who organised the event and the entertainment and, of course, to Linda, Mel and the staff of the Plough for their

generous hosting of the event.

MARCH AND BEYOND

Mothering Sunday

Sunday 10 March at 10.30am is our Mothering Sunday Service led by David Milner. We invite you to come along at 10.00am and enjoy some refreshments before the service starts. Everyone is welcome – young and old – to celebrate our mothers, whether they are with us in person or in our memories. We'll be thinking about the ways in which we are all bound together by love.



Listen to the bells!

On Monday 11 March visiting Bell Ringers will be attempting to ring a peal. Starting at 10.00am this will take approximately 3 hours – a major feat of endurance. You should be able to hear this around the village or you can get close to the action by dropping in at St Laurence's.

Easter

Easter is very early this year and we have the familiar services to mark this very important event in the church calendar.

Monday 27 March sees the annual School Easter Service. Though this is provided by the pupils and staff of Norwell Church of England School, all are welcome to join the junior members of our church at 9.30am.

On Good Friday (29 March) there is no service at St Laurence's but we are invited to join the parishioners of Cromwell and drop in on the All Age Prayer stations at St Giles' Church any time between 12noon and 3.00pm.

Our Easter Day service on Sunday 31 March at 10.30am is a joint event with the Potting Shed Church, led by David Milner and Alison Jones. The service is for all ages and Holy Communion will be celebrated. This is one of the most important days in our church calendar and we very much hope you can join us in celebration.

Decorating the church for Easter

We'll be decorating the church on Saturday 30 March. Help is always appreciated as are gifts of spring flowers and foliage. If you would like to make a donation for Easter lilies in memory of a loved one please give it to Elizabeth Jones or Barbara Bateson.

Preparing the churchyard for Easter

Please would you remove all Christmas wreaths before Easter. If you are unable to do this for any reason we shall be taking them away so that the churchyard is ready for Easter flowers.

April Service

Our monthly Holy Communion service is held on Sunday 14 April 10.00am and led by David Milner.

String Quartet Concert

Saturday 13 April sees 'Music through the Ages' from the renowned Highly Strung String Quartet. This is a candlelit concert in St Laurence in aid of the much-needed Church Gates. Booking details in Norwell community news.

Annual Church Meeting

We have our Annual Church Meeting on Wednesday 24 April at 7.30pm at St Laurence's Church. As ever we will be reviewing the finances and fabric of the building to ensure that we can continue to maintain our historic church in 2024.

Several significant changes to those involved in supporting the church on both a practical and spiritual level took place in 2023. New individuals have joined the Parochial Church Council and many people have given their time and energy to activities such as the

churchyard work parties. We plan more of the same in 2024.

While the burden of responsibility on some of our more long-standing PCC members has reduced in the last twelve months we still need more people to become involved in supporting St Laurence's.

Whether you come from a direction of faith, or simply a desire to maintain a historic local landmark, all help is gratefully received. You are welcome whether or not you regularly attend services. However we do encourage you to attend the annual meeting to find out more about what we have planned to maintain and improve St Laurence's this year and in future years.

We would particularly welcome new members to join the Parochial Church Council: if you would like to become a member or vote for such members we would ask that you make sure that you are on the church electoral roll. If you wish to check whether you are already on the roll, or to be added to it, please contact John Hobson (636619).



Norwell community news

Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse Parish Council

After what seemed a relatively slow start to the year in terms of my submission to the magazine, I am now pleased to be able to update you fully since our first meeting of 2024.

The meeting was very well attended, largely due to the results being shared of the village poll surrounding the proposed sale of land at the Parish Gardens/Allotments. I can now formally advise that the poll results were as follows:

- Those in favour of selling the land - 83 votes (45%)
- Those against selling the land - 98 votes (54.1%)

Following the announcement, and a lengthy discussion by the Council, the decision was ultimately taken not to sell the land. As a Parish Council we would like to reiterate our thanks and commend the Community Shop Group for their efforts and desire to pursue this project.

Turning to other issues within the parish, we hope the community has been able to attend any of the community engagement events put on by Elements Green concerning the proposed Great North Road Solar Farm. Cllrs Robertshaw and McQuilkin attended a second meeting of the Joint Parish Action Group, and we can confirm that a survey will shortly be made available to every adult on the electoral roll for completion. Please can you ensure that you complete this and return this where possible so that we can fully understand your position. This survey will be available in hard copy and electronically. More information: *page 15*.

The Parish Council has also decided to increase the parish precept by 5% as we enter the new fiscal year. This will lead to

a Precept of £9,579 which will make the annual cost to a Band D property £40.43.

As we look to the months ahead in the parish, despite the GNR weighing heavily on our area, we hope that we can bring some joy to the Parish through our celebrations to mark the 80th anniversary of the D Day Landings. You will see from the poster that we have another free community day arranged for Sunday 9 June which we hope will be well attended.

As ever, if parishioners have any questions or queries about the Council, or any issues that need raising, please do email norwellandwoodhousepc@gmail.com.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 28 March. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Cllr Ashleigh Robertshaw (Chair)



More details on page 27



Facebook: Search for
"Norwell and Norwell
Woodhouse Villagers"

Norwell Community Shop Group

As many readers will be aware, we established the steering group in November 2022. Since then we have worked incredibly hard to look at how to bring a community shop to our village. We have worked with several specialists alongside the Plunkett Foundation and sought advice from far and wide. We looked at all the possible options that we could to assess the financial and practical viability.

We were finally able to bring a proposal forward which was recently voted on. The public vote was close but ultimately not enough for a majority and the Parish

Council voted against selling the land. Whilst this is not the outcome for which we had hoped, considering all the time we put in, we accept the decision and none of us regret for a second giving it our all and knowing we did everything we could. We have all learned a huge amount along the way.

Thank you for your support and understanding. While this is the end of the road for us as a community group, we wish the best for all the community in the future.

Thank you.

Norwell Community Shop Group

Music through the Ages by Candlelight

**WITH HIGHLY STRUNG
STRING QUARTET**

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 2024 - 7.30PM

IN AID OF ST LAURENCE'S
CHURCH

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH
EVENTBRITE - £20 (INCL
WELCOME DRINK ON ARRIVAL)

St Laurence's Church,
Norwell NG23 6JN

A candlelit concert in St Laurence's to raise funds for the PCC to acquire new gates for the churchyard will take place on Saturday 13 April at 7.30pm with a performance of music through the ages by the renowned and local Highly Strung String Quartet. All proceeds will go directly to the church to help with the gate fund.

Tickets are available online via the Eventbrite website: search the Music section for 'Music Through The Ages by Candlelight - Highly Strung Quartet' or go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/music-through-the-ages-by-candlelight-highly-strung-quartet-tickets-831688080437?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1

Norwell community news (continued)

Norwell Solar Farm Steering Group

I want to update you on the recent activities of the steering group which is working to oppose the proposed Foxholes Farm solar development.

We have received feedback from some villagers who have seen the work on Bathley Hill and are concerned that this means that the development is going ahead. I would like to make it clear that planning permission has not been granted for this project. Indeed the proposal has not yet been considered by Newark and Sherwood District Council and, to the best of our knowledge, no date has been set for this to take place. The project cannot go ahead until planning permission has been received and the Steering Group is and will be doing everything we can to ensure that planning permission is not given due to the highly inappropriate location of this proposed solar development.

It is our understanding that the works on Bathley Hill are archaeological investigations and work consequent on that

activity. The fencing is signed as being in place for health and safety reasons which makes sense when public footpaths are in proximity to excavation work.

The steering group continues to meet regularly, to monitor any developments in the planning process, and to complete reports which can be used to support our position and be submitted to the planning authority at the appropriate time. Most recently we have completed a Residential Visual Amenity Assessment which demonstrates the impact that the solar farm would have on houses in view of the proposed development.

Please do continue to give us your feedback. You can reach us on savebathleyhill@gmail.com and may I give my thanks to the members of the steering group who are putting in a tremendous amount of time and effort to ensure we have the best possible chance to successfully oppose this project.

John Hobson, Chair of Steering Group

Request for help with magazine delivery

We hope you appreciate your free parish magazine coming to you regularly each month.

We have a fantastic band of sorters and deliverers and every part of the parish is covered. But we need some reserves for when people go away on holiday.

Could you spare an hour or so each month to help with delivery in Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse?

We need a reserve to count out the magazines into bundles for each deliverer and leave them at the telephone kiosk for deliverers to collect.

We also need reserves for delivering. The parish is divided into eight areas, including Norwell Woodhouse. The number you would deliver varies between 22 to 33.

If you think you could help please contact Elizabeth Jones on 01636 636 365 or emjones.norwell@btinternet.com

Your support would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

norwell **VILLAGE HALL** Village Hall News

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank our community, which came out and supported us so well for our Burns celebration in January. A great time was enjoyed by all and, yet again, we were oversubscribed, which is excellent news as it is one of our main fundraising events.

Thank you also to our visiting piper Grant Champion and to locals who delivered the toasts so eloquently – Ken Auld, David Purveur and Jo Dewberry.

If anyone would like to make a private donation to the Norwell Village Hall Charity please get in touch.

Forthcoming events:

- Quiz Night (Saturday 20 April)
- Race Night in conjunction with Norwell Sports Association (Saturday 18 May)
- The popular band Elegantly Wasted returns for a 70s Night (Saturday 15 June)
- Norwell Open Gardens (Sunday 30 June and Wednesday evening, 3 July)

Please put the dates in your diary: we look forward to seeing you there. For further details please see the Norwell Facebook page and village noticeboards.

I would like to finish by thanking all the volunteers on the committee, and beyond, who help with our events and the general running of the hall.

Ann Gibson, Norwell Village Hall Committee

Your Village Hall

Unfortunately several misapprehensions regarding the running of the hall have arisen recently which could lead to confusion. We hope the following will allay any concerns.

Our hall is unusual, in view of its excellent size and facilities, in that it has no paid managerial staff: it is run entirely by volunteers and this keeps the price of rental

down, making it one of the cheapest in the area.

It is a registered charity and therefore the committee is bound by strict legal and financial regulations with decisions on its governance available for scrutiny by the Charities Commission.

There are also strict deeds of covenant which determine the core function of the hall and ensure that they are not endangered by new enterprises: these are separately considered by the trustees who are independent of the committee but are also members of the village.

Those involved in managing and running the hall believe strongly in the provision of a community facility and there is a conscious decision to keep rental charges as low as possible, despite huge increases in running costs, especially fuel. Therefore, to keep this business strategy working, and our books in order, we carry out several fundraising events annually. These events also have the advantage that they, hopefully, create enjoyable village occasions while effectively subsidising rental fees for the benefit of the community – well over 90% of hirers are locals.

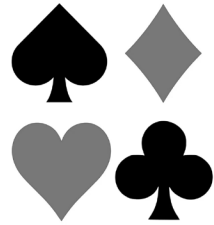
Recently many thousands of pounds were spent on decorating the main hall and replacing the fire doors. Currently we are looking at repairing the hall floor which was extremely expensive last time it was done. Unfortunately we cannot expect the heating boiler, the only one like it in the country, to last indefinitely. Expenditure associated with this activity must come from income generated by the hall: we receive no external funding.

Committee members spend many hours maintaining the infrastructure, running the diary, liaising with hirers and creating events, however when we hire the hall for personal events or clubs that we have initiated we pay the same fees as the rest of the community: there are no subsidised rates for any hirers.

**Charity Bridge Festival
Monday 29 April 1.30pm-5.00pm**

Norwell Village Hall, NG23 6LF

Bridge -Tea – Cake - Prizes:
£10.00 per person



Norwell Bridge Group invite you to join in their second, fun, friendly Duplicate Bridge Tournament in aid of Beaumond House Community Hospice. Come alone or with a partner. Our tournament Director has confirmed it will involve only a simple move between tables!

If you have never played in a Bridge Tournament you'll be safe joining us!

Numbers are limited so to confirm your place please email Simon Wyatt
by Thursday 28 March 2024: s.wyatt255@btinternet.com

Look forward to seeing you,
Caroline and Simon Wyatt

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If you wish to join our
friendly little community

Contact Andrew or Helen on

01636 636337

wardha@aol.com



Norwell CofE Primary School



It is amazing to think we are now heading towards Easter and looking forward to our Easter Service.

February was a very busy month in school! Years 3 and 4 completed their Forest School sessions at Perlethorpe, run by Notts Outdoor Education, and loved the opportunity to spend time in nature working with their friends.



The Year 5 children also spent the day focusing on mental health and wellbeing at 'NottAlone Live' at the YMCA in Newark as part of Children's Mental Health Week.

The Year 1 children had the opportunity to go to Tuxford and take part in a gym festival with many other local schools.

Years 5 and 6 visited Lincoln Castle to find out about 'Crime and Punishment' as part of their topic and Years 3 and 4 visited The Lincoln Museum as part of their topic on the Anglo Saxons. Trips like these help to bring their learning to life!

Some of our older children have also taken part in Young Voices, the largest school choir in the world, which was held at the Sheffield Arena. All three schools (Norwell, St Matthews and Dunham) took pupils and it was another brilliant event. The opportunity to sing with thousands of other children was too good to miss! Everyone sang their hearts out and enjoyed the spectacular event. We were so proud of their achievement and hard work!

Just before the half-term break we had our first trip with some of the children to help tidy up the allotment ready for the new growing season. Last year we achieved our Level 3 RHS Gardening School Award and hope to achieve the next level this year!

Looking at the diary, March is busy too with exciting things like World Book Day and Science Week taking place. The Year 5 children are looking forward to starting their NICAs Level 1 Climbing Award at the Mill Adventure Centre.

Please note the last day of this term is Thursday 28 March as the Friday is Good Friday. So school is closed for the Easter holidays from 28 March and reopens on Monday 15 April.

Best wishes.
Kathryn King

Book Club

This month we are reading "Wide Sargasso Sea" by Jean Rhys. Considered a modern classic, this short, intense novel tells the story Antoinette Cosway, the mad woman in the attic whose presence haunts Jane Eyre. It's set on a run-down plantation in the West Indies, seething with resentment, passion and menace. We shall discuss it on Wednesday 27 March.

More information about the Book Club from *Helen* 636337.

February meeting: AGM and Norwell's lost buildings

Roy Pilgrim is continuing as Chairman and Sue Capewell as treasurer and membership secretary. Filling the position of secretary was a sad reminder of the death of Kate Nichol Smith. It was decided that the position of secretary would be shared. Our efficient treasurer will also act as general secretary and minute taker; Pamela Dixon and Elizabeth Jones will work together as meetings secretaries. So, we'll have a secretarial 'triumfeminate'! The



following were co-opted as committee members: Michael Jones and Lorraine Pilgrim.

The chairman and treasurer were pleased to report that 2023 had been a successful year and that finances were in good heart. A full programme is planned for 2024.

The presentation of pictures of the lost buildings of Norwell was fascinating as it revealed an apparently tranquil rural past with some modest but most interesting buildings. At one time we had three pubs – those were the days! Hearteningly some of the character of the parish has remained and The Plough is still here. The Elephant and Castle in Bathley Lane survived to the 1960s although it stopped functioning as a pub at the beginning of the 20th century.



March meeting: Thursday 21st, 7.30pm, Norwell Village Hall

Art on our doorstep, the Duncan Grant murals. Why ...censored for four decades?

Duncan Grant (1885–1978) was a painter and designer and a member of the Bloomsbury Group. In 1958 his murals in Lincoln Cathedral's Russell Chantry were unveiled. Initially praised, the murals dedicated to St Blaise, the patron saint of wool workers, exposed scandalous narratives, leading to the chapel's closure for almost four decades.

David Ives delves into the saga of this ecclesiastical art which mingles ambition, scandal, and restoration. Discover the untold tale of the Russell Chantry's murals, exploring the intricate balance between art, faith and controversy.



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Woodhouse Parish Council
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2024**

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Wednesdays 6.30 - 7.30pm
North Muskham Rural Community Centre

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Norwell Village Hall

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From the Church

Due to a mismatch in the supply of vicars to services, Ossington will not have an Easter service this year. The normal pattern of a service on the third Sunday will therefore mean that the next one at Holy Rood will be on Sunday 17 March at 10.30am. Despite the best efforts of the administrator, at the time of going to press a vicar had yet to be found for this service either.

Parish Meeting

At last month's Parish Meeting the lean-to barn extension at the Post Office Farm site adjacent to the airfield was given unanimous support.

The proposed information board for the former airfield site was discussed. It will have a map of the airfield as it was, together with information and photographs to give context to the site as it is now. An appeal for anyone with memories, photographs and reminiscences to come forward was launched (see below).

Great North Road Solar Park

A Joint Parishes Action Group has been established, with Parish Council representatives attending from all 18 parishes affected. A core strategy group is to be formed to focus on the challenges ahead.

In order to correctly determine public sentiment, a community questionnaire is currently being drafted. In due course these will be delivered by volunteers to all households in the affected villages. Feedback from every resident is very important so please complete and return yours once you receive it. *More information: page 15.*



Facebook: Search for
"Ossington Village Group"

Luncheon Club

This month's event will take place on Monday 18 March at 12.45pm. As usual please book your place with Mary Brown on 01636 821029 or by email marybrown3@hotmail.co.uk.

Coffee Morning

The second village coffee morning is planned for Saturday 23 March from 11.00am. Last month saw the launch of the appeal for ideas and photographs for the airfield information board. This month's coffee morning provides another opportunity to come and be part of the planning and design of the board. Come for a chat, coffee and home-made cake as well!

Janet Carr jecarr@live.co.uk

Thought for the day...

Ralph Waldo Emerson was a 19th century American poet, lecturer and philosopher. His work emphasised the importance of compassion and self-awareness in everyday life, and suggested that the purpose of life is not to be happy but to be useful.

Write it on your heart
that every day is the best day in the year.
He is rich who owns the day,
and no one owns the day
who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.
Finish every day and be done with it.
You have done what you could.
Some blunders and absurdities,
no doubt crept in.
Forget them as soon as you can,
tomorrow is a new day;
begin it well and serenely,
with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old
nonsense.

This new day is too dear,
with its hopes and invitations,
to waste a moment on the yesterdays.

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Southwell, NG25 0PJ



Hey there Delilah - dog grooming



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Safer Neighbourhoods Group

A meeting of the Safer Neighbourhoods Group was held at South Muskham Village Hall on 18 January.

All parishes reported problems with speeding traffic but there was less crime reported in the Autumn quarter. The police speed cameras are receiving their annual recalibration so that the evidence gathered cannot be challenged in court. A series of cases were reported in Southwell where driveways were very poorly resurfaced for very high prices. Parishioners are warned to refuse such "door-to-door" workmen.

Little Carlton is to receive an interactive speed sign in the 40-mph section of the A616 when the location has been finalised. Some fly-tipping was reported on the A616. Road closures, which were necessitated by the recent floods, resulted in the village being used as a "rat-run" and, on one occasion, the closure notice placed on Kelham Lane was stolen.

Ossington also suffered fly-tipping. The advice is to report it at once to N&SDC

and get it removed, as one lot acts as an invitation to another. The Council will investigate if there is any useable evidence.

The theft of a motor bike from Sutton on Trent was quickly solved as the police used the tracking device to locate it in Newark with several other stolen bikes. The value of "trackers" on high value and desirable vehicles was again demonstrated. In contrast, the quadbike stolen from Caunton, reported last June, is still missing.

On the Norwell/Caunton border, a load of cables has been burnt to recover the metal. Empty containers of accelerant were left and the field has three large burnt areas and a scorched hedge.

From Cromwell, the "raid" on the Cemex quarry was mentioned but no progress was reported.

The next meeting will be on 18 April at 5.30 pm at South Muskham village hall.

Any reports should be sent to cromwellparishmeeting@gmail.com

David Swift

Rail safety

Network Rail has contact details for anyone wishing to report trespass or vandalism on the railway:

Call 0800 40 50 60 or text 61016

Museums of Tuxford

The Walks of Life Museum is getting ready for opening at the end of March. We will be running a workshop series on traditional building skills such as lime plastering.

With Mothering Sunday in mind, Princess Diana was a famous mother who came from a regal family. **The Museum of the Horse** will be displaying a state coachman's uniform from her family estate Althorpe.

For opening times and details see our Facebook pages or contact dianehunt08@btinternet.com (Walks of Life) or sally@dogart.com (Museum of the Horse).

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Dean Close 11.00-11.15am

Mondays 18 March, 15 April, 13 May, 10 Jun, 8 July, 5 August, 2 September, 30 September, 28 October, 25 November.

Enquiries: 01636 812148 or email southwell.library@inspireculture.org.uk

Cromwell

Yew Tree Cottage, Great North Road: 10.00-10.45am

Tuesdays 5 March, 2 April, 30 April, 28 May, 25 June, 23 July, 20 August, 17 September, 15 October, 12 November, 10 December, 7 January 2025.

Enquiries: 01623 677200 or email worksop.library@inspireculture.org.uk

Norwell, Ossington and Moorhouse

Norwell Norwell Primary School 1.10-1.30pm

Norwell Old Chapel, Main Street 1.35-1.50pm

Ossington Speaker's Cottages 2.00-2.10 pm

Moorhouse Thoroton, Weston Road 2.15-2.25pm

Mondays 4 March, 29 April, 24 June, 22 July, 19 August, 16 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December and 6 January 2025

Enquires: 01623 677200 or email worksop.library@inspireculture.org.uk

Carlton on Trent Village Hall

Film Club – Sunday 10 March, 2.00pm

Morris – a Life with Bells On: This movie follows the fortunes of an avant-garde Morris team in their struggle to evolve Morris Dancing.

Free entry, just turn up 5 minutes early for refreshments before the film starts.

For details of all other events visit <https://cotvillagehall.yolasite.com>

Retford and District Photographic Society

The current programme is at www.retford-photographic.co.uk. Meetings take place on Monday evenings in St Joseph's Hall, Babworth Road, Retford at 7.30pm until the end of April. A warm welcome awaits guests and potential members.



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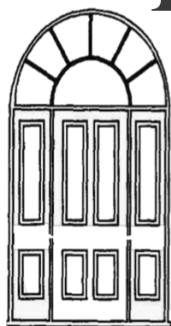
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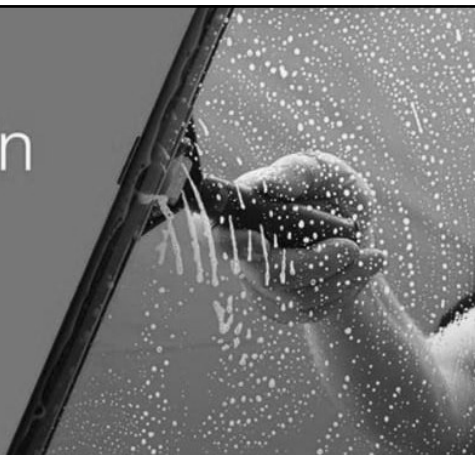
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If you have anything for the village news sections or articles or reports for the magazine
please contact the Editors by the 15th of the month:

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As always the editorial team welcomes your feedback.

Please send any messages to ccnoparishmagazine@gmail.com

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