

February 2025

CAUNTON

NORWELL

PARISH
MAGAZINE

CROMWELL

OSSINGTON

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

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



CCNO Parish Magazine – February 2025

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Beck & Trent Parishes

Services February 2025

	St Andrew's Caunton	St Giles' Cromwell	St Laurence's Norwell	Holy Rood Ossington	All Saints' Sutton	St Mary's Carlton	The Potting Shed church
<i>first Sunday</i>	2 Feb. <i>Candlemas</i>	9.00 a.m. Plough service with Holy Communion			10.30 a.m. Joint service at Methodist chapel	3.00 p.m. Evensong	4.00 p.m. at Norwell Village Hall
<i>second Sunday</i>	9 Feb. <i>Fourth before Lent</i>		10.00 a.m. Holy Communion		9.00 a.m. Breakfast church at Methodist Hall	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion	4.00 p.m. at Norwell Village Hall
<i>third Sunday</i>	16 Feb. <i>Third before Lent</i>			10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at The Hut	10.30 a.m. Sutton Methodist Morning Worship at Methodist Chapel	3.00 p.m. Evensong	4.00 p.m. at Norwell Village Hall
<i>fourth Sunday</i>	23 Feb. <i>Second before Lent</i>		10.00 a.m. Fourth Sunday Worship		10.30 a.m. Holy Communion at All Saints'	3.00 p.m. Evensong	4.00 p.m. at Norwell Village Hall (TBC – check website)
<i>first Sunday</i>	2 March <i>Last before Lent</i>	9.00 a.m. Holy Communion			10.30 a.m. Joint service at Methodist chapel	3.00 p.m. Evensong	4.00 p.m. at Norwell Village Hall (TBC – check website)

Beck & Trent churches update

Christmas is already just a memory. The period of Epiphany, when the coming of the wise men is remembered, comes to a close at Candlemas on 2 February. The wise men brought gifts to the stable. It may be that we have some things that we could give

away, so perhaps it is a reminder to us that we might be in a position to donate them to charities. Gifts that are new, or are in very good condition, are always appreciated.

In the calendar of weather February was always described as 'February fill-dyke'. Let

us hope that this is not the case this year as flooding has already been a very real worry in January. We do extend our sympathy to those who have been affected in any way, including those who have felt that they have been living under a threat because of past experiences. Our Benefice is called 'Beck and Trent': both of those waterways, the apparently harmless Beck and the mighty Trent, have caused considerable damage over the years, so they are always watched carefully as waters rise.

In most years Lent starts in February, but this year Easter is late so Lent doesn't start until Ash Wednesday on 5 March. So February really does feel like an in-between

time. Perhaps a pause is an opportunity to start reflecting on our own faith and consider whether it is something we neglect or something we nurture.

At the time of writing, applications for a Mission Associate for our benefice, and also for Mission Associates for the other benefices within our cluster, have just closed. The Mission Associates will be working as a team under a Lead Mission Enabler; they will all be ordained ministers. We pray that this process of discerning God's will for the appointments will be positive and constructive and that there will be someone who is called to serve in the Beck and Trent Benefice.

It is possible to give to your church online. Go to www.becktrent.org.uk/giving or use the QR Code:



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



I don't envy our legislators

In a short article I can't hope to do justice to the topic of assisted dying, but here are my thoughts following the recent debate in Parliament. As a Christian Minister I cannot readily support the idea, since it goes against a major principle of our faith – that all aspects of our life and our death are in God's hands. And I note that virtually all the faith leaders (not just the Christian ones) have spoken against it.

One can well appreciate the desire to spare people a painful and lingering death if their condition has been diagnosed as terminal. One Christian writer, suffering from terminal MS, complains that those who oppose assisted dying "... do not want a sick person to avoid, at their own request, an unpleasant death."

I have also read about a retired doctor, in favour of it, who chose to go to Dignitas, when dying of MS or MND, and received good end-of-life care: he and his family found his final days a time of peace and fellowship as his body shut down. Being with a dying person has been said by many to be therapeutic and precious, for both parties. A former Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, said that when their infant daughter was dying, those last days which he and Sarah spent with her were among the most precious in their lives. "She died in our arms."

However a former Palliative Care Social Worker, now a priest in Canada, tells of being contacted by a lady, not long after the legalisation of assisted dying, who was due to be dying the next day because of pressure from her family. He tells of another lady whose husband had recently used the facility – the day after they had a blazing row that had not been resolved. She was distraught, after years of happy marriage.

On another occasion he was visiting a parishioner in hospital who had suffered from

cancer for many years and whose health had suddenly deteriorated severely. He had been handed a brochure about assisted dying by hospital staff, unasked and without prior discussion with him or his wife. "Hello, Father" he said, "they want me to kill myself." He died naturally some weeks later, at home, surrounded by his family.

Then there is the question regarding the qualified people deciding whether someone is eligible for Assisted Dying. Will they be taken from other health-connected jobs, with doctors in short supply anyway? And where would the necessary funding come from?

I don't envy our legislators. Let us pray for them.

*Revd David Bartlett
Retired priest, Riverside Benefice*

From the registers

15 December 2024 – 15 January 2025

Funerals

All Saints', Sutton	9 January
Gillian Moxon Midworth	
St Andrew's, Caunton	15 January
Dr Peter Reeves	

Verse of the month:

*"Dear friends, since God loved
us that much, we surely ought
to love each other."*

1 John 4 v11

Love and kindness to all.

THE POTTING SHED CHURCH



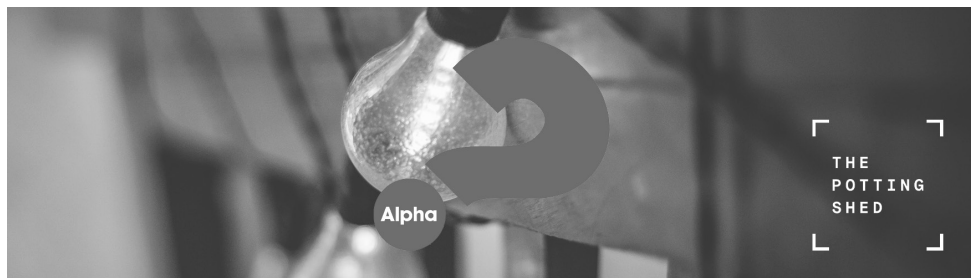
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CREATIVE. RURAL. COMMUNITY.

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. Take a look at www.thepottingshedchurch.org/whats-on for more info!

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



Meet new people and explore the Christian faith together. Alpha is for anyone who's curious. No judgement, no pressure. Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith and purpose, and is designed to spark conversation. Come along, see what you think.



Thurs 23/1	Who is Jesus?
Thurs 30/1	Why Did Jesus Die?
Thurs 6/2	How Can I Have Faith?
Thurs 13/2	Why and How Do I Pray?
(No meeting 20/2 as Half Term)	
Thurs 27/2	Why and How Should I Read the Bible?
Thurs 6/3	How Does God Guide Us?
Sat 8/3	Holy Spirit Day (10am – 2:30pm)
Thurs 13/3	How Can I Resist Evil?
Thurs 20/3	Why and How Should I Tell Others?
Thurs 27/3	Does God Heal Today?
Thurs 3/4	What About The Church?

7:30pm Thursday evenings at Norwell Village Hall

For more info contact: office@thepottingshedchurch.org

The cold days of February are not particularly favourable to most insects, who, as ectotherms, rely on the external temperature to maintain their internal temperature, causing a decrease in metabolic rate and bodily processes.

Winter crane flies or gnats (of the former family Trichoceridae) have adapted to cold weather and can usually be observed on warmer winter days. Distinguished from the true crane flies by their head bristles and three ocelli, or simple eyes, these light sensors, detect changes in the light intensity of their surroundings, an adaptation for the dark days of winter. There are thought to be up to 14 species in the family found in the UK, however known species are continually being reclassified and new species are being discovered.

Physiologically, winter gnats produce an enzyme that allows their wing muscles to function at low temperatures. Within their haemolymph (blood) they produce anti-freeze proteins that act as cryoprotectants. These work by decreasing the freezing point of the blood, allowing the insect to survive even when the temperature drops to minus figures. Another adaptation to the cold is the insect's ability to produce ice-nucleating proteins, that cause ice crystals to form outside rather than inside the cells, allowing parts of the insect's body to freeze during particularly cold periods, without causing permanent damage.

You will most likely see swarms of male winter gnats together, dancing around and competing for mates. Some species of winter gnat adults only live for five days and so must get down to necessary business. Females, who are larger than males, due to needing to utilise body reserves to lay



Trichocera annulata. Graham Hunt. Leicester.

eggs, join the swarm. These then pair up and mate, after which the female lands and lays her eggs in decomposing plant matter, humus (not to be confused with the blended chickpea, lemon garlic and tahini dip!) or manure. The eggs hatch and the larvae start eating their surroundings to ensure they grow through the four larval stages called instars before becoming adults, who do not eat.

From an evolutionary point of view, it is the ability to withstand cold conditions that is the root of the winter crane fly's success. This allows them to pass on their genes to future generations at a time of year when there is a decreased likelihood of coming across predators who prefer the warmer seasons.

Although the swarms of these flies can be somewhat annoying when you are on a winter walk, these insects provide a particularly valuable protein-rich food source for birds and mammals during the harsh cold of winter.

Adam Breslin
adamnaturewatch@gmail.com

BIRD *Watch*

Later December and early January have been more than usually interesting in bird activity. Contrary to reports in October and November that there were lower numbers seen of the regular winter visitors, there have been reports of large flocks of some birds. A large party of 50- 60 fieldfare was seen near Norwell and, even more surprisingly, a flock of similar size of skylarks was noted. Though these are not winter visitors, the RSPB regularly reports that the skylark is one of our most critically endangered species, especially on arable land. The flock seen locally was on over-wintering stubble which suggests that, though individuals or pairs of skylark are present, they are only seen in numbers at a specific source of food, such as spilled grain lying on fallow ground.

The great white egret seems to be establishing residence with us and a pair was observed near Moorhouse. Though it is estimated that only 100 of these birds over-winter in the UK, they have bred in East Anglia.

Another uncommon sighting was of a skein of between 50 and 60 Brent geese. The Brent is essentially a bird of the coastal marshes, mostly on the eastern shores of England, Scotland and Ireland. It is a small goose with dusky grey plumage but with a distinguishing white rump patch. Their call is a hoarse croaking, unlike the clear bark of the larger grey geese. It is rare to see them flying in formation inland, since they normally move in pairs or small numbers over their usual habitat. Perhaps the Brent, like the pink-footed goose, is finding food more difficult to come by in its customary wintering grounds.

At home, I was lucky enough to get a short look at a lesser spotted woodpecker on a

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bird-table. By nature a shy bird, it flew off at the slightest movement through a window. They are much rarer than their larger cousin and hardly bigger than a robin. They have striated black and white plumage and the male has a noticeable red crest. They can be heard drumming and the speed of this sound is slower than that of the greater spotted. They seldom move far from their woodland habitat and sightings are uncommon.

Peter Geldart petergeldart@btinternet.com



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HOLIDAY COTTAGE

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janet.mcferran@gmail.com



RAIN *Watch*

December rainfall was just about what we would expect – 6.2 cm (2.4 in) – which is 98% of the long-term December average for Norwell.

Review of 2024

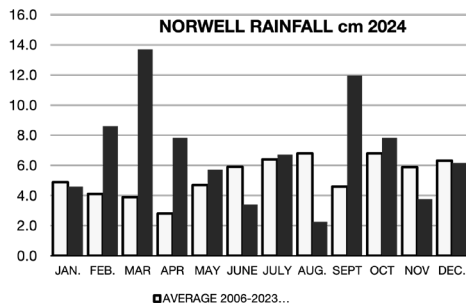
2024 was generally a very wet, cool and overcast year. The spring was particularly poor weather-wise, making it a difficult year for farmers and horticulture.

Across the year Norwell had 31% more rain than its long-term average – 82.6 cm (32.5 in) instead of an expected 63.2 cm (24.9 in).

2024 was therefore the fifth wettest year in the 18 years I've been recording. The perception that it was a wet year was exacerbated by continuing the wet weather in 2023 which, especially in late autumn and winter, was even wetter than 2024.

In the graph below, rainfall in 2024 (the dark bars) is compared to the long term Norwell average (the light coloured bars).

Andrew Ward wardha@aol.com



Great North Road Solar Park consultation

Last month the developers Elements Green announced their statutory public consultation as part of the application process for this Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

The consultation includes a series of local public meetings and webinars for the public to view the updated plans and talk to Elements Green personnel about their concerns and give feedback on the proposals. This will help to inform and influence any further changes to the design before it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in London (NSIPs do not go through local planning procedures).

More information about the proposals including access to documents, FAQs, a virtual exhibition and community access points, and advice on how to respond, can be found at www.gnrsolarpark.co.uk/consultation.

The remaining consultation events take place as follows:

Tuesday 4 February, 2.00–6.30pm: Eakring Cator Hall, Kirklington Road, Eakring NG22 0DA

Wednesday 5 February, 11.00am–6.00pm: Newark Town Hall NG24 1DU

Monday 10 February, 5.30–7.00pm: Online Community Webinar – visit the website consultation page to sign up.

The project communications team can be contacted as follows:

- Email: info@gnrsolarpark.co.uk
- Freephone information line: 0800 175 4054 (9.00am–5.00pm, Monday to Friday)
- Post: FREEPOST GNR SOLAR
- Facebook: Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park

The public consultation closes on Thursday 20 February. Make sure you have your say!



Caunton church news



We will be having our Plough Sunday service on 2 February at 9.00am. The blessing of the plough is an ancient custom that hopes the land will bring forth healthy and plentiful crops. It is especially important at this time as our farmers are facing an uncertain future. Please come and join us if you can.

It was a sad day when we lost another member of our Parish. Dr Peter Reeves sadly passed away on 14 December just short of his 94th birthday. A true gentleman in every sense of the word, Peter was one of those rare people who was really interested in his fellow man, always ready to talk and ask about your family and offering words of wisdom. His contribution to St. Andrew's was immense! Not only a PCC member but he became Tower Captain and was instrumental in raising funds for the refurbishment of the tower and bells. Peter will be greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers go to Jane, Ian and Samuel as well as family and friends.

We also received sad news that Jo Boffey passed away on 9 January. Jo moved from the village a couple of years ago to live nearer to her daughter as her health was failing. Jo was also a great supporter of St. Andrew's for many years. Alongside Geoff, she worked tirelessly for the good of our lovely church as well as being treasurer of the History Society, where she arranged the summer outings. Our thoughts and prayers go to Jo, her daughter, family and friends at this sad time.

RIP Peter and Jo.

Irene Crossley

irenecrossley50@gmail.com



Facebook: Search for
"Caunton Community Page"

Caunton Church Rota

Cleaning

Sat 25 Jan & 1 Feb – Charlotte and Bo

Sat 8 & 15 Feb – Dave & Joy

Sat 22 Feb & 1 March – Pat & Irene

Flowers

Sat 25 Jan & 1 Feb – Irene

Sat 8 & 15 Feb – Charlotte

Sat 22 & 1 March – Bo



Dean Hole – a village community space

Bingo

Friday 7 February, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

Dates for your Diary

Two Live and Local acts are coming to Caunton:

Saturday 8 March – The Pocket Choral Society

A capella harmony, original music, with much laughter and improvised singing sessions. The Pocket Choral Society bring their own songs and new arrangements of well-known Lennon and McCartney, Lou Reed and Tom Waits numbers in an intimate and relaxed way.

Saturday 10 May – American Wilderness Odyssey

Embark on an unforgettable musical expedition through the heart of the American wilderness with three intrepid explorers as your guides.

Tickets for both performances are £13 which includes supper but please remember to bring your own drinks and glasses. There will also be a raffle.

Contact Pat on 07929 136778 or 636523 or Irene on 07814 709969 or 639123.

Caunton: Dean Hole Church of England Primary School

A Happy New Year to Everyone!

We celebrated Christmas with multiple events in December. The children enjoyed their Christmas Party in school and also enjoyed a fabulous visit to White Post Farm, courtesy of the Friends of Caunton School! The children also performed a Nativity with our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children taking the lead roles, very ably supported by children in Key Stage 2.

The children also performed at the Christingle Service at St. Andrew's Church where they sang, shared readings and were able to display their Christingle decorations.

We are delighted to inform you that a decision has been made by the Department for Education regarding the future of Caunton Dean Hole Church of England Primary School. It has been confirmed that the long-awaited decision for the school to academise to TEAM Education Trust has been given the green light.

Caunton Dean Hole C of E Primary School to join TEAM Education Trust

Readers have been waiting for news about the future of Caunton Dean Hole Primary School. Before the Christmas holidays, the Department for Education (DfE) formally approved the academisation of Caunton Dean Hole C of E Primary School. The school will now become an academy and join TEAM Education Trust, a multi-academy trust comprising both Primary and Special Schools.

The move comes after a consultation on the future of the school which led to the informal partnership between Caunton Dean Hole and TEAM Education Trust to ensure the school's future viability and provide additional support and capacity.

Before summer 2023, TEAM Education Trust and Caunton Dean Hole began working together in collaboration, with the school

Our beautiful school will therefore remain open and we can finally work towards full conversion of both Caunton Dean Hole and the creation of the satellite provision. There are more details in the accompanying article.

As we reflect on the beginning of a new year, at Caunton Dean Hole Primary School we have been thinking about the messages in the New Testament and giving thanks in prayer:

Dear Jesus

We thank you for new beginnings.

We thank you for your grace that is always so generously available to us.

We welcome you into our new year and into our hearts.

Amen



Alan Brown
Principal

benefitting from Executive Leadership support and guidance, and specialist teachers in areas where there are currently gaps owing to the size of the staff team.

In addition to academisation, the DfE also agreed to the creation of a specialist resource unit on the Caunton Dean Hole site. The unit, a satellite site of TEAM's Stubbin Wood School, will make provision for pupils with additional needs, and will receive additional funding through an existing agreement with Nottinghamshire County Council.

This small resource unit will serve as an integrated pathway for pupils who will follow a mainstream primary curriculum and will have the potential to join their mainstream peers over time. The introduction of a specialist resource unit to the site will not change the school: Caunton Dean Hole will retain its identity and ethos as a small, rural

(continued overleaf...)

mainstream primary where the inclusive practice allows all pupils to flourish.

The addition of the unit will provide financial sustainability to the school, which has experienced a falling roll over the past few years. Before the partnership with TEAM, the school faced the risk of closure. Now that the academy order has been granted, the school will begin the process of becoming an academy which may take several months to complete.

As part of TEAM, Caunton Dean Hole will receive further support for curriculum development, school improvement and will have access to TEAM Education Trust's network of subject champions, each of whom has expertise in an area of the curriculum. Pupils will benefit from the Trust's unique Kindness Curriculum, its many 'Wow' events, and shared resources which include the hydrotherapy pool at Stubbin Wood School and new technologies such as VR headsets recently purchased by the Trust to further broaden the learning experience.

Sarah Baker, CEO of TEAM Education Trust, said: "We're all very excited that the

school will officially become part of TEAM. We've been working closely with the school, the local authority, the Southwell and Nottinghamshire Diocese and the Church of England to ensure that Caunton Dean Hole C of E Primary School remains an integral part of the local community. The decision by the DfE means that the school will now benefit from the resources and stability of a multi-academy trust, whilst maintaining its identity as a welcoming and nurturing small school."

Nigel Frith, Diocesan Director of Education, said: "It's great to know that Caunton Dean Hole C of E Primary School has a future. In these challenging times TEAM Education Trust stepped forward to take the school under its wing, and they have provided an impressive level of support ever since. The Trust has repeatedly demonstrated its willingness to engage with the Diocese and we are grateful. Children are at the heart of this decision and we hope that this will offer a real opportunity for them to flourish."

*Matt Morris
Director of Transformation
Team Education Trust*



Caunton community news (continued)

Caunton Parish Council – Notes from the meeting held on Wednesday 8 January

We wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Dean Hole School has been given the academisation and is now going to be handed over officially to TEAMS Education Trust. Meetings with the Principal and the incoming Trust are ongoing to safeguard community use and involvement. There is provision for 12 SEN students and any number of mainstream students. Anyone interested in a place is urged to contact the school for a look around.

We have filled several hundred sandbags that are in the new resilience store at the public entrance to the school or bus shelter.

The recent rain has increased flow in The Beck which looks to be working normally. The Drainage Board was active in November and a working party of residents has cleared areas around the cricket club. We are pressing Nottinghamshire County Council for gulley cleaning and completion of works along Manor Road and Upper Mill Lane/Moor Lane to alleviate future water

run-off pressures and to speed the drainage of standing water.

The next stage of consultation for GNRSP is now active and we urge anyone interested to attend the advertised meetings and give feedback. We are particularly bothered about increased water flow from catchments above Caunton from proposed sites. See page 9 for details of consultation events.

Dog mess being left is becoming a problem in areas of the village. Please take it home or use the bins provided.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12 February 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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- Hanging Basket orders/refills service.

Caunton community news (continued)

Caunton Local History Society

Our first full meeting of 2025 is on Tuesday 11 February at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome. If this will be your first visit to the society there will be no charge. Returning non-members will be charged £5 (to include refreshments afterwards).

11 February: The History Beneath our Feet

Speaker: Stephen Flinders

Join us to hear the story behind the accidental discovery of a Derbyshire town's first, and so far only, major archaeological site. An inspiring talk that makes you wonder what might be beneath your feet.

11 March: Do You Remember?

Speaker: Peter Savage

A highly entertaining, light-hearted presentation which invites audience participation. Trivia, memorabilia and a little quizzing to explore events of the last century; some of which had a great impact – lots trivial, some serious and others life-changing. All have come to be accepted and their impact at the time has almost been forgotten.

These talks will be the first of what promises to be a very interesting programme. Other topics will include fortune telling, both ancient and modern, stories of World War 1 through diaries, letters and photographs, and how women in Nottingham supported the world war effort in WW2. There will, of course, be trips in the summer which everyone is welcome to join, so, watch this space to find out when and how you can book to come along.

In the meantime we look forward to seeing you on the second Tuesday of each month – 7.30pm at Dean Hole School.

Lynn Thompson lynn1485@gmail.com





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Cromwell community news



Facebook: Search for
"Cromwell Village Hall"

Cromwell Village Hall

On behalf of all the wonderful people who selflessly support our village hall we would like to thank you for all your hard work, time and devotion.

The committee would still warmly welcome someone to step forward as a new Chairperson. As we indicated before, the role is not at all arduous, and is even quite enjoyable! If you would like any further information please contact

Claire on 07796 133656. Thank you.



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

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Takeaways



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

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.

For details of all current bookings and date availability please see active calendar at www.achurchnearyou.com enter Norwell, Newark into the location box. Select St Laurence's church and then click on Services and Events on the left-hand panel. You can then see details of events or click on the calendar tab.

Christmas services report

Our service of Nine Lessons and Carols was officiated by Rev David Milner who also contributed his time to both services on Christmas Eve. As ever, the carol service was well attended with the traditional telling of the Christmas story, and the additional 'contemporary' report from the shepherds. Thanks to all who read the lessons. The enthusiastic singing of favourite carols was enhanced by the wonderful Village Voices: our thanks to them and to Peter Higgins on the organ.

This was followed by an informal wine and mince pie reception. Thank you to the hard-working team who unflaggingly make these events happen.



The Crib Service was smaller but all those present entered into the spirit of this occasion. There were innovative parts for the congregation to play in telling the nativity story which included references to our very own 'inn keeper'! The slightly different view included a report from 'The Grumpy Owl' and all the youngest members took away a copy of this famous bird's own book. Special thanks to Paul Williams for playing the organ.

The Christmas Eve Communion Service allowed regular worshipers to commence the festive season with this traditional and very special service.

January report

This was a quiet month, giving us time to pause and reflect following the excitement of Christmas and the New Year.

We had our traditional communion service on 12 January – the first Sunday after Epiphany when we celebrated the arrival of the Magi. This was followed on 26 January by the first of our 4th Sunday Services for 2025 with guest speaker Nigel Spraggins helping us to 'Accentuate the Positive'. A full report on this service will appear next month.

Services in February

As reported in January, in addition to the regular service of Holy Communion on the second Sunday of each month, we are also exploring exciting fresh opportunities at

our 4th Sunday Worship: on 23 February we will be 'Preparing for Lent' – a chance to consider whether the season of Lent represents 'less or more' in our daily lives. Once again this service will be led by Rev David Milner.



Coming in March

We offer our grateful thanks to Mel and Linda who will once again be hosting Pancakes at the Plough on Tuesday 4 March starting at 6.30pm. There will be the usual fantastic range of savoury and sweet pancakes, salad and chips, and a 'new' entertainment! Book by 27 February as numbers are limited.

Tickets are £11.00 per person – great value for an evening of dining and entertainment. Please note that any bookings will have to be honoured but payment will be on arrival on the day. It would be helpful if you could bring the odd £1 coin with you although change will be available.

If you would like tickets please contact Elizabeth on 01636 636365 or email

emjones.norwell@btinternet.com to reserve a place and mention any dietary requirements e.g. gluten free, vegetarian. All are welcome. It is a way of reminding us that Lent starts the next day – and having an enjoyable night out in excellent company.

Our special service for Mothering Sunday takes place on 30 March. Though it is the fifth Sunday of the month, the service will be in the informal style of our new 4th Sunday Worship. Please join us in marking this special day for all those wonderful mothers or people who acted as a mother to you.

Save the date!

Our next concert by the popular duo Archangel takes place on Friday 25 April when they bring an exciting new collection of songs and music entitled 'Lullaby of Harlem'.

Update on Rural Church Ministry

We can confirm that the Diocese has obtained significant funding to support new developments in the rural ministry. Applications for Mission Associates have now closed and several applications have been received.

The Mission Associates will be headed by a Lead Mission Enabler and it is hoped that one of the Associates will focus on our Parish amongst others in the Benefice. After initial interviews, representatives, as yet to be selected, will be involved in the second round of interviews. We pray that our Benefice is amongst those that attract applicants to express an interest in working here. Watch this space for more news!

Norwell community news

Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse Parish Council

Dear parishioners,

As the February edition of the magazine reaches you, the Council will only just have re-convened following the winter recess. So a full report and council updates will follow in the March magazine when I will hopefully have substantially more about which to inform you.

However, as residents may be aware, the second consultation phase for the proposed "Great North Road Solar Farm" is now open. Can I please encourage all parishioners, irrespective of your views

on the solar farm, to please make the developer aware. This can be done online or via the postal address given. (See information about consultation events on page 9.)

If you wish to make any representations to the Parish Council, please contact us at norwellandnorwellwoodhousepc@gmail.com or by messaging on Facebook (Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse Parish Council).

*Cllr Ashleigh Robertshaw
Chair of Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse
Parish Council*

Foundation Course in Beekeeping 2025 – suitable for beginners

*Presented by Award Winning Beekeepers
Chris Bateson & David Knibbs*

The course objective is to provide a well-rounded knowledge of keeping honeybees to get beginners off to flying start. A beekeeper needs to be proactive as bees have their own agenda and will carry on regardless. Understanding how and why bees work will lead to a greater enjoyment of your honeybees and to recognise when they need support. No beekeeping experience necessary.

Dates: March 20th, 27th, April 3rd, April 10 2025

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm. Tea and coffee included.

Venue: Norwell Nurseries

Cost: £ 80 per person. Max 8 participants. Full payment is required before course commences.

For full details of the course content and objectives, to enrol, express an interest in joining the course, or if you have any questions please contact

David Knibbs 07932032213

david@davidknibbs.com



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Mondays and Thursdays
10 a.m. – 12 noon
Norwell Village Hall



Facebook: Search for
“Norwell and Norwell
Woodhouse Villagers”

Village Hall News

Thank you to those who supported our recent Burn's Night event, and to those who participated in entertaining us – Village Voices, the piper Grant Campion, toasts from Ken Auld, Brian Crawley and “Show Jo” as well as superb MC Andrew Ward. Thanks also to the hardworking band of volunteers who make these events possible!

The second Live and Local evening is booked for 15 March and will be a musical group called Canteloop whose exciting performance entitled “Whichever, Wherever,

Whenever” is a fusion of jazz, soul, hip hop and funk. This is suitable for adults and children over 12.

Tickets for the concert (£12.50) and food (£7.50) are now available at norwellvillagehallliveandlocal@gmail.com

Any suggestions for future events please contact us.

*Ann Gibson,
on behalf of Norwell Village Hall Committee*



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Norwell community news (continued)

Norwell Bridge Group

We hope your new year has started well. We have got off to a brisk start, winter being the best time to play Bridge perhaps. Our group is always grateful to our neighbours who accommodate our Monday afternoon parking display with good humour.

As ever, as a group, we are mindful of the challenges that hospices have to overcome nationally to continue to deliver their in-house & outreach services. In 2024 we donated £965 to Beaumont House Community Trust. It seems so simple

when, by tossing £2 each week into a Tupperware box, our little group of players can enjoy ourselves and make a difference in a small way to an important local charity.

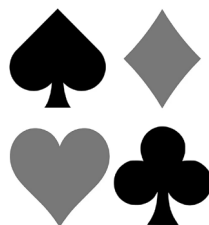
Our Bridge Tournament raises about a third of our total annual donation. If you play Bridge and would like to join us on 17 March in Norwell Village Hall then you will find the contact details in the tournament advertisement displayed separately.

*All the best from
Caroline & Simon Wyatt
On behalf of Norwell Bridge Group*

Charity Bridge Festival Monday 17th March 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 third, fun, friendly Duplicate Bridge Tournament in aid of Beaumont 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 20th February: s.wyatt255@btinternet.com

Look forward to seeing you,
Caroline and Simon Wyatt

Christmas Wreaths

Thank you to everyone who purchased wreaths and arrangements this year. Special thanks for all the donated foliage and holly. The magnificent sum of £740 was raised for Beaumont House Hospice.

Norwell CofE Primary School



February is a busy month! We would like to welcome all our new starters and their families to Norwell. They have all settled in so well; it is lovely seeing them in school playing with their new friends and joining in with their lessons.

We have lots of wonderful opportunities planned for the children too, from exciting trips that bring the curriculum to life to different sports events at Tuxford Academy.

The children in Year 5 and Year 6 are also looking forward and practising hard for Young Voices, the largest school choir in the world, which is going to be held at the Sheffield Arena in a few weeks. All three schools (Norwell, St Matthew's and Dunham) will take a choir of children to what promises to be a wonderful event again this year. The opportunity to sing with thousands of other children is too good to miss!

The children in Key Stage 2 will also be completing their Bikeability training with Via East Midlands this month to teach them how to ride bicycles safely which is so important. You might even see them out on the road training! Safety seems to be the word of the month this February as the children have now completed their Water Safety workshops with Nottinghamshire County Council. They will also be learning about staying safe online during Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 11 February.

Please may I remind you that Norwell School is closed on Monday 24 February for an INSET day.

Best wishes
Mrs King



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The Folk Christmas Party

It was indeed a 'jolly' time, made specially so by the music of the hurdy-gurdy. There was some to listen to and some to sing along with. We were challenged by a few games requiring thought, others requiring a good eye. Ha'pennies (2p pieces were the nearest we could get) were shoved some amazing distances. The food was entirely appropriate for a folk evening. A good time was had by all!

Thursday 20 February at 7.30pm in Norwell Village Hall

There will be a short AGM followed by a talk.

Richard Jones from Leicester University will be talking about Sewage Farming in Victorian and Edwardian England. The Victorians and Edwardians faced the same problem as we still do today – what to do about all the pollution caused by a growing population producing a vast quantity of sewage which was entering their rivers. They had some imaginative solutions including sewage farming. Richard will share his findings with us. They left some very detailed accounts of what they did: the sewage book illustrated here is an example. Maybe we can learn some lessons from them.



On Thursday 20 March Andy Gaunt from Mercian Archaeology will be talk about archaeological work he has been doing as part of the 'Spirit of Wartime Sherwood' project. He will focus on the World War

II archaeology of Sherwood Forest. Some of you will remember Andy leading us in archaeological surveys in Norwell, notably when we were studying Willoughby deserted village.

Remembering WW2

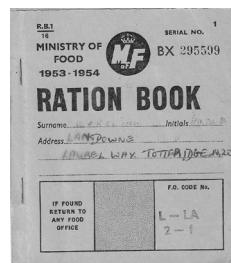
In 2025 the nation will be remembering the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War on 8 May 1945. This seemed an opportune time for Norwell to do some remembering as well. Andy Gaunt's talk will help to get us thinking but we hope very much that some of you will have some memories to share.

Remember rationing?

Do you remember rationing during and after the Second World War? We are obviously interested in memories relating to Norwell but we would also like to hear from anyone wherever they lived: the experience of those living in small rural villages would have been very different from that of people living in large towns and cities.

Even if you are not old enough to remember them personally you may have memorabilia like ration books from older people. It would be particularly interesting to hear about any recipes which were used when supplies were short and many things were not available. A recipe book would be fantastic!

Other things such as fabric were rationed as well. Does anyone else remember the horrors of a knitted bathing costume? If you would be interested in having a chat about your memories or possess any memorabilia which we could see and photograph please contact Elizabeth Jones emjones.norwell@btinternet.com, 01636 636 365 or text 07418 008 989.



Ossington community news



From the Church

Though progress is slow because of the need for extreme care in cleaning and reparation, it is hoped that the first stages – the cleaning of marble statues and the removal and cleaning of the organ – will begin soon. Meanwhile services will be held as usual on the third Sunday of the month in The Hut. A warm welcome is extended to everyone on Sunday 16 February at 10.30am.

Luncheon Club

After a break in January, Ossington Luncheon Club will resume monthly dining on Monday 17 February at 12.45pm in The Hut. Please book with Mary Brown (01636 821029 / marybrown3@hotmail.co.uk if you would like a delicious home cooked meal in the company of local residents.

Coffee Morning

How many villagers do you know? Why not come along to Ossington's regular coffee morning and make some new friends! Coffee/tea, home-made cake and the opportunity to take time out for a chat at The Hut on Saturday 22 February from 11.00am.

Janet Carr jecarr@live.co.uk

Book Club

Our choice for February is "North Woods" by Daniel Mason. This unusual novel consists of a series of loosely connected stories centred around a house in the woods of Massachusetts. It spans several centuries and the wildlife of the forest is as important as the lives of the characters. It's said to be beautifully and memorably written. We shall discuss it on Wednesday 26 February.

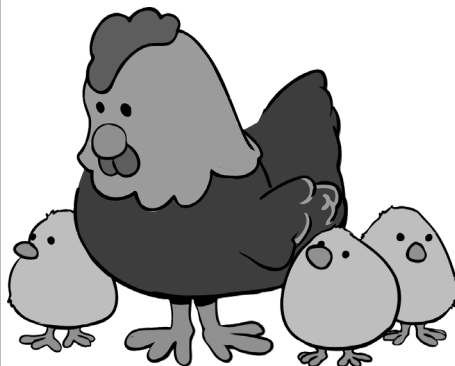
More information about the Book Club from Helen on 636337.



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Safer Neighbourhoods Group

There was a meeting of the SNG on Thursday 16 January at Sutton on Trent. The change of venue was made necessary by the withdrawal of finance by N&SDC which made the free accommodation offered by the Council at the Snell Close community centre most welcome.

PCSO Dunn warned all parishioners about a group of three young men knocking on doors to ask for work to do. Guttering work is their usual request and they seem to prefer bungalows with elderly householders. The opportunity is then taken to prepare for a future burglary or massive overcharging for work executed very poorly. The gang move around in a van and have been particularly active in Southwell and Farnsfield.

There has also been a spate of vandalism and car crime in Farnsfield which is made worse by reluctance to charge miscreants.

From Ossington there was a report of a car ploughing through a hedge but being removed so quickly that no details could be taken. Another car went through a hedge onto the airfield only just missing a tree.

Speeding on the Moorhouse Road and in

Egmanton brought complaints and there were complaints from South Muskham, Little Carlton, and Carlton on Trent about HGV traffic causing gridlock and some damage in the villages when the A1 was closed. Fears were expressed concerning the consequences of the overnight A1 roadworks in January.

The welcome use of a speed trap in Sutton on Trent was reported. "Speed Watch" signs are no longer issued FOC and permission from the Highways department is necessary before a privately purchased sign can be deployed.

People have been reported wandering around North Muskham very late at night but no description was available. One van was broken into but the owner had removed all tools overnight so there was nothing to steal, but a wing mirror was deliberately smashed.

North Muskham also reported HGVs passing through the village when the A1 was blocked. PCSO Dunn stated that the northbound slip road could not be blocked off without full permission which was most unlikely to be given by the various agencies involved.

David Swift

Carlton on Trent Village Hall

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For information about requested titles or items of stock, please call 0115 804 3196 or email southwell.library@inspireculture.org.uk

Cromwell (on Route 11)

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

Tuesdays: 4 February, 4 March, 1 and 29 April, 27 May, 24 June, 22 July, 19 August, 16 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December and 6 January 2026

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

Norwell, Ossington and Moorhouse (on Route 10)

Norwell Old Chapel, Main Street 1.30-1.50pm

Ossington Speaker's Cottages 2.00-2.10 pm

Moorhouse Thoroton, Weston Road 2.20-2.30pm

Mondays: 3 February, 3 and 31 March, 28 April, 23 June, 21 July, 18 August, 15 September, 13 October, 10 November, 8 December and 5 January 2026.

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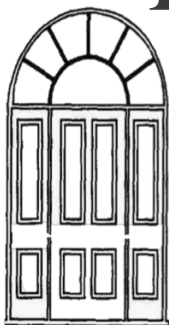


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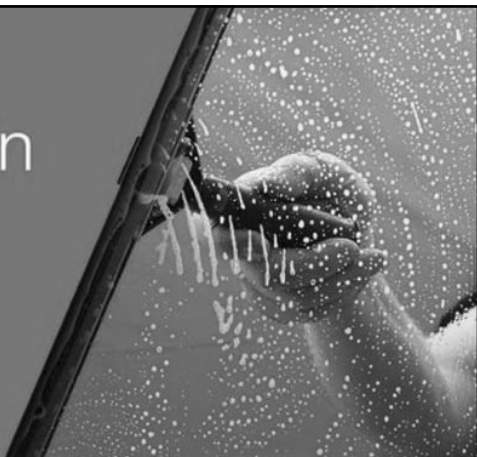
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About me:

I graduated from the University of Leicester in 2022 with a BSC Hons in Physiotherapy. Whilst continuing to work from Chapman Physiotherapy in Doncaster, I am now able to offer appointments at Holme Farm, Norwell Woodhouse.

Outside of work I compete in show jumping, enjoy playing tennis and going to the gym as well as watching rugby.

Lizzy Alcock

Contact us:

e : clinic@holmefarmphysio.co.uk
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As always the editorial team welcomes your feedback.

Please send any messages to ccnoparishmagazine@gmail.com

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