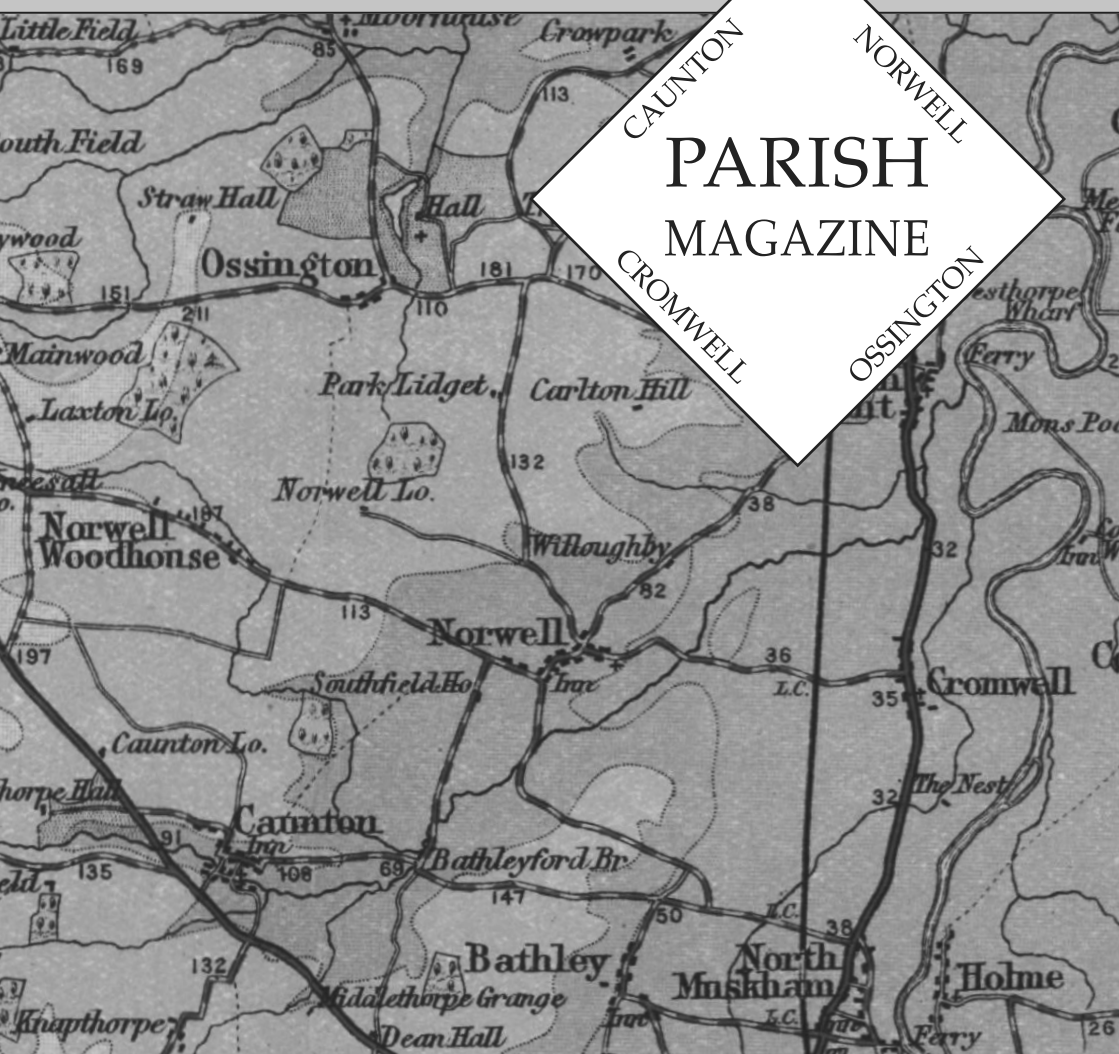


April 2026



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

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



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Beck & Trent Parishes

Services April 2026

		St Andrew's Cauntun	St Giles' Cromwell	St Laurence's Norwell	Holy Rood Ossington	All Saints' Sutton	St Mary's Carlton
first Sunday	5 April <i>Easter 1</i>	6.00am Dawn Service		9.00am Holy Communion	7.30pm Holy Communion*	11.00am Holy Communion at All Saints	11.00am Holy Communion
second Sunday	12 April <i>Easter 2</i>			9.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Holy Communion	10.30am Joint Morning Worship at Methodist Chapel	11.00am Holy Communion
third Sunday	19 April <i>Easter 3</i>		9.00am Holy Communion			11.00am Holy Communion at All Saints	
fourth Sunday	26 April <i>Easter 4</i>			11.00am Fourth Sunday Worship		10.30am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	9.00am Holy Communion
first Sunday	3 May <i>Easter 5</i>	9.00am Holy Communion				11.00am Family Service at All Saints	

For details of special events taking place in each church and village during Holy Week please also see the schedule on page 5.

* Please note that Easter Day Holy Communion at Ossington takes place at 7.30PM and not 7.30am as advertised previously.

This parish magazine serves the villages of Cauntun, Cromwell, Norwell and Ossington and is published monthly. It is delivered free to households in the four parishes.

The magazine is produced by the church for the primary purpose of delivering information about church services, events and related issues. We are fortunate that we are also able to include community news, and news of events in neighbouring villages. Advertisements are paid for, enabling free delivery to all homes. Thank you to our advertisers.

Beck and Trent update from our Vicar

This April marks my first Easter here as vicar. Arguably the most important festival of the church year and an opportunity, I hope, to share the story of Jesus' death and resurrection with this Benefice that I'm so enjoying having in my care.

Everything at the moment is a first for me. First Christmas, first Mothering Sunday and now first Easter. Each milestone brings with it a greater understanding of what is the 'norm' here in Beck and Trent and where the possibilities lie for growth and development. I am very grateful to each of the churches for being willing to try and implement new things already.

(continued overleaf...)



Help, support and contacts

The church is here to help, support and advise you.

Please get in touch with our Vicar, the Reverend David Lewis, who would like to hear from you.

Email david.lewis@beckandtrent.church or call 07742 932444.

Do not hesitate to make contact, however please remember that Wednesday is David's day off.

Churchwardens: **Cauntun** Irene Crossley 01636 639 123
Cromwell Sarah Clark 01636 821 943
Ossington Robin & Jane Drury 07951 439 840
Other contacts: **Norwell** Elizabeth Jones 01636 636 365
Barbara Bateson 01636 636 840



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.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

It has also been a time of loss with quite a few funerals happening in our Benefice. I see it as a privilege to help families and friends say goodbye to loved ones and pray that they know God's peace and hope at this difficult time for them.

The last Sunday of March was Palm Sunday and I'd like to thank everyone who came to Milestone Brewery for breakfast and the church service in Cromwell afterwards. It brings me a lot of joy to see people from across the Benefice coming together to worship and see what God is doing in our midst. This is not just isolated to Palm Sunday either. It has been a great encouragement that many people are travelling between villages/parishes for both Sunday worship and mid-week gatherings. This includes our Lent Journey where we went through all six chapters of Ephesians. It was a real pleasure to unpack this Epistle with others, and I look forward to doing more in the future.

Every parish has new things happening. In March, Norwell enjoyed hosting a Diocesan Day of Prayer event. Bishop Andy was with us and led us in praying for our Benefice and wider global issues. Particular thanks to Tom Walters for leading the Contemporary Worship Music and Adam Parkes for playing in the small band as well. There will be opportunities for more parishes to experience the new and exciting way of worshipping.

In schools, too, there are new things happening. It is a privilege to be involved in the life of Sutton and Norwell Schools. A particularly exciting new initiative in Norwell is 'Connect' After-School-Church.

This has been running on Friday afternoons with parents and children from the school gathering in the school hall. We've started each week with games and crafts before then engaging in songs, team activity, Bible story and prayer. A heartfelt thanks to Brenda and John for providing delicious food each week for the families to enjoy. The sessions so far have been based on the theme of 'Mission: Easter', culminating in an end of term Easter celebration at the church. Both of our Bishops have visited Connect on two separate Fridays and have been very encouraged by what they've seen.

We are hoping to continue running Connect at Norwell School for the foreseeable future. If this is something you feel you could give some time to helping with (even just once a month) then please let me know. Connect is only possible due to both local parishioners, from Norwell and the other parishes, and members of the Cluster Team coming together and a big thanks to everyone involved so far.

David, Your Vicar

Rev. David Lewis
Priest-In-Charge
Beck & Trent Benefice
Phone: 07742 932444

Due to the nature of my role, my administration slots vary each week. I will endeavour to get back to you at a pace that enables me to best consider and respond to your need or request. I hope you will feel free to do the same.

From the registers			15 January 2026 – 14 February 2026
Funerals			
17 February 2026	Richard Weaver	St Laurence, Norwell & Holy Rood, Ossington	
12 March 2026	Jane Gibbons	St Laurence, Norwell	
13 March 2026	Kevin Sylvester	All Saints, Sutton-on-Trent	

BECK & TRENT - LENT & EASTER 2026

HOLY WEEK

Monday 30 March to Friday 3 April
Nightly gatherings at 7.30pm
in anticipation of Easter

Monday: *St. Laurence's church, Norwell*
Tuesday: *St Andrew's church, Cauntun*
Wednesday: *St Mary's church, Carlton*
Mauindy Thursday: *The Hut, Ossington*
Good Friday: *St Giles' church, Cromwell*

GOOD FRIDAY

An Hour at the Cross
 Norwell, St Laurence's church:
9.30-10.30am
 Ossington, The Hut: **11am-12noon**
 Cauntun, St Andrew's church: **1.00-2.00pm**
 Carlton, St Mary's church: **2.30-3.30pm**
 Sutton, All Saint's church: **4.00-5.00pm**
 Cromwell, St Giles' church: **7.30pm**
(part of the nightly gathering)

EASTER SUNDAY

Cauntun: **6.00am** • Norwell: **9.00am** • Carlton: **11.00am** • Sutton: **11.00am** • Ossington: **7.30pm**



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NATURE *Watch*

The UK has 25 different species of bumblebee and of those, the cuckoo bumblebees are some of the most fascinating. There are six species of cuckoo bumblebees found throughout the UK, all of which are thought to be found throughout the East Midlands, however they are scarce.

So-called for its obligate brood parasitic lifestyle, the cuckoo bumblebee, rather like its avian namesake, is known for utilising its host bumblebee species to rear its young. Each cuckoo bee species has a specific host bee species that it parasitises and has specialised adaptations that allow this to occur.

Cuckoo bumblebees do not build their own nests nor do they produce their own worker bees to feed their brood. In April, slightly later than other bee species, young, fertilised female cuckoo bees emerge from hibernation in the ground, after spending the winter in the soil or leaf litter. They then undertake the search for a suitable host bee species nest.

After finding a suitable nest, and after the existing colony has produced its first caste of worker bees, the cuckoo female enters the nest and attempts to take control of the colony. This is no easy feat, as worker bees are primed to attack intruders, and so she uses the first weapon in her armoury, chemical mimicry. Bumblebees recognise colony mates through cuticular hydrocarbons produced by specialised glands called Dufour's glands, which act as chemical 'fingerprints'. The cuckoo bumblebee can mimic these chemicals and or alter them, so she smells similar to colony mates.

The second stage is overthrowing the current queen, which she does by either subduing her, or, more commonly, killing her, using her stronger mandibles, hardened exoskeleton, as well as her bigger and more potent stinger.

Once the queen is disposed of, the female cuckoo bee undertakes her third move –

releasing pheromones that allow her to dominate the worker bees. She will then kill some of the existing eggs and lay between 20-40 of her own eggs in the waxy brood cells used by the previous queen. Once hatched, her larvae are fed by the worker bees, as they are surrounded by the colony's scent and are treated the same as the existing brood. Once they grow, the larvae pupate before emerging as adults. Unlike normal bumblebees, cuckoo bumblebees produce fertile males and females, which leave the nest ready to mate and for the female to invade a new nest. The male survives for the duration of summer, and after mating, his job is done and he ultimately dies.



Gypsy cuckoo bumblebee, Bombus bohemicus.

Bumblebee identification is fairly tricky and cuckoo bumblebees are difficult to differentiate from their honey-producing cousins, as they look similar to their host species, however there are a few telltale signs. Cuckoo bumblebees do not have pollen baskets on their hind legs and have rather hairy legs; their wings are often a darker colour than other bee species, and they fly with a louder and deeper hum.

Adam Breslin
adamnaturewatch@gmail.com

BIRD *Watch*

The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch results are expected in mid-April, so watch out for those across your emails and social media – or even in the RSPB magazine, if you're a subscriber. It will be interesting to see them!

April brings us Spring – and that means a lot in the birding world because birds become more active and more vocal as the days lengthen and temperatures rise.

Most birds sing to establish territories and attract mates, and one of the first signs that Spring has arrived is the rise of birdsong to new levels during April – especially in the morning as the sun comes up earlier. This can make early morning walks especially rewarding and I'm always jealous when I open the shutters to see people already out and about, enjoying the best part of the day.

The familiar call of Robins usually initiates the Dawn Chorus, often joined by the rich fluting notes of Blackbirds. Don't forget to keep using the Merlin Bird ID app to capture bird songs and help you identify them. Throughout Spring, you'll start hearing some new and perhaps more unusual calls, as our migrants begin to fly in for Spring and Summer and join some of our resident birds. Listen out for the loud and repetitive song of the Chiffchaff – a tiny migrant with a simple eponymous "chiff-chaff chiff-chaff" call which is often one of the earliest signs that spring migrants have arrived from southern Europe and Africa.

Rivers and wetland areas around our villages are particularly lively at this time of year. I've seen plenty of Grey Wagtails darting along

the edge of The Beck – and, whilst I've not seen one yet in Norwell this year, if you're lucky, you'll spot the flash of electric blue from a Kingfisher. Cromwell Lock is a great place to see Kingfishers as well as other water birds and waders, such as Cormorants, Great Crested Grebes, Little Egrets, Tufted Ducks and many more.

We're already getting many skylarks singing across our farmland and open countryside – walking up Ossington Road towards Park Lidgett, you can often hear their high-pitched ascending calls as they rise higher and higher in the sky – much easier to hear than see!

Spring is also nesting season, so birds are busy gathering food and building nests. Watching birds carrying twigs, moss or insects can often lead you to discover where they are breeding. We've got a pair of Robins nesting in our Leylandii (a great excuse to avoid a hedge-trimming job at the weekend!)

It is best to observe from a distance so as not to disturb them but watching what they collect and where they go is a fascinating window into their behaviour.

Wherever you are, happy birding and do continue to get in touch with your own sightings.

Greg Hill
gregoryjameshill24@gmail.com



Verse of the month:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3 v16

God treasures each and every one of us. He gives us new life.

RAIN *Watch*

After a very wet January, February was also exceedingly wet: we had more than double the amount of rain expected (205%) in a normal February – 8.8cm (3.5in) rather than the expected 4.3cm (1.7in).

In two months we had nearly the amount of rain expected by the end of April.

Andrew Ward wardha@aol.com

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01636 636337

wardha@aol.com



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Caunton church news



At last, we've seen the sun and when it does make an appearance, it is so welcoming and daylight hours are lengthening. Farmers are able to get on the land as the wind starts to dry the earth. Spring lambs are making an appearance, and daffodils are abundant. These are the things we look forward to during the dark days of winter. At those times we wonder if spring will ever come – but come it does and we give thanks as new life fills the pastures and crops are planted in the fields.

Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week, leading up to our commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday is the most solemn week in the church's year, and Easter, marking His Resurrection, is the most joyful.

The Reverend David Lewis has organised a wonderful programme of events for Holy Week and Easter for church communities across the area, including:

- a special Palm Sunday Procession in Cromwell on 29 March from Milestone Brewery to St Giles' Church for a service at 11.00am. The procession will leave Milestone Brewery at 10.45, where the bar will be open from 9.30, serving hot drinks and FREE breakfast cobs
- gatherings each evening during Holy Week, with one at St Andrew's on Tuesday 31 March at 7.30pm
- an Hour of contemplation at the Cross taking place on Good Friday, 3 April, with one in St Andrew's from 1.00 to 2.00pm



- Easter Communion services on Sunday 5 April beginning with our dawn service at St. Andrew's at 6.00am. There will be free refreshments in the form of sausage and bacon cobs afterwards.

For the times of all events across our church communities during Holy Week and Easter please see the schedules on pages 2 and 5.

If you are unable to attend in Caunton, please consider visiting another church locally. You will be most welcome.

A reminder that you are invited to purchase lilies in remembrance of loved ones to be put in church at Easter. Please contact me if you would like to do so.

Also, if you wish to help decorate the church, this will take place on Saturday 4 April.

Annual Parish Meeting

This year, St Andrew's ACPM will take place in church on Monday 27 April at 6.30pm.

There will be two meetings – the first is the Vestry meeting at which the Churchwardens are elected. Anyone over 16 years of age and resident in the village can vote for the Churchwardens. This is an important election since the churchwardens are Bishop's Officers who represent everyone in the village.

The second meeting is more of a business meeting and only people on the Electoral Roll can vote on any issues arising. Matters discussed are the Electoral Roll, Finance,

Churchwarden's reports, appointment of Auditor and a report on Church Activities.

If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll please contact me on 07814 709969 for a form or more information.

Caunton church news (continued)

Dean Hole School

It was a sad day when we learned of the closure of Dean Hole School. Ever since the Victorian times when the old school was built, and again when the new one was built in 1972, there has been a strong bond between the school and church. The regular school services in church were on the school curriculum as were the festival services of Christmas, Easter and the end-of-year service for school leavers. For some, the school coming to church was the first time that they had been into church, and during

their time at school, they became familiar with the building and others who worshipped there. It is very sad not to have young ones given the chance to get to know St. Andrew's.

Just a reminder that anyone is welcome to go into St. Andrew's to have a look round or to sit quietly, or to pray. The church belongs to you all.

*Irene Crossley
irenecrossley50@gmail.com
07814 709969*

Caunton Community Centre

Bingo – Friday 17 April, 7.00 for 7.30pm

LIVE AND LOCAL!

What an enjoyable evening we had in the presence of the amazing Professor Victor and Dr. Albert – we laughed non-stop from beginning to end.

If you'd like to come to our next act, you'd be most welcome.

Morganisation: How the Beatles got me a job with ELO

Saturday 23 May, 7.00 for 7.30pm

This is more than just a concert – it's a journey through time, rich with nostalgia, musicianship and engaging storytelling.

Led by Dave Scott-Morgan, a former member of the legendary Electric Light Orchestra (ELO), the performance weaves together classic rock anthems, original compositions and well-loved

ELO hits in a way that captivates audiences of all ages. His show will resonate strongly with fans of classic rock, offering a mix of the familiar and the fresh.

Dave's songwriting career spans decades, with credits that include The Move, The Uglys, and Magnum, alongside his contributions to ELO's 'Secret Messages' and Jeff Lynne's 'Armchair Theatre.'

Tickets £13.00 – cash, payable on the night or by BACS (details on request) which includes supper but please remember to bring your own drinks and glasses. (Please let us know of any dietary requirements.) There will also be a raffle.

*Contact Pat 07929 136788
or Irene 07814 709969*

This might be the last Live and Local as we don't know at this stage if we'll still have community facilities after August.



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Tuesday to Saturday – 12pm to 11pm
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Caunton Church Rota

Cleaning

As mentioned in last month's magazine, Harry and Grace were doing the cleaning in church for three months as part of their bronze award for D of E. They have now finished and I have to say that they did a very good job and should feel proud that they have contributed to the upkeep of St. Andrew's, and we say a hearty thanks to them both.

Sat 28 March & 4 April – Bo & Charlotte

Sat 11 & 18 April – Joy & Dave

Sat 25 April & 2 May – Irene & Pat

Flowers

Sat 4 April – Easter flowers

Sat 11 & 18 April – Pat

Sat 25 April & 2 May – Irene

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Caunton community news



Facebook: Search for
"Caunton Community Page"

Caunton Improvement Group

Our next summer planting and tidying up event will be Saturday 30 May, [time tbc], meeting at The Old Post Office.

We do need extra people to water tubs in the summer especially if it is a dry one, as it fell to a handful of people last year. A rosta will be put up in the bus shelter from June.

Funds donated to us from last year's Wine Walk and Caunton Fest will facilitate repairs and reconstruction of broken tubs as well as installation of a two-



tiered planter. Summer plants are also included in the cost.

There will be a litter picking day later in the year and an Autumnal Extensive Bulb Planting Day which will further enhance certain areas in the village.

A very big 'thank you' to all who contributed last year – thirty people in all. More hands make light work!

Margie Asker
07536 000819

Caunton Parish Council

It is with sadness that Nottinghamshire County Council have decided to close the educational side of Dean Hole School. We have no indication yet of how the building will be used after 31 August which is the proposed closing date.

We have been promised consultations regarding community use of the shared spaces, of which the community are stakeholders. Once we have a way forward we will endeavour to get the best outcome for all.

We have asked for clarity on a proposed cable route through the village that has appeared on an ongoing solar application at Foxholes Farm. We have not had any consultation on this.

A proposed H2 (hydrogen) pipe is being proposed. It is shown to be to the east of Caunton, not affecting the main village. See General News (page 32) for a summary and advice on how to comment.

Also, in the next year, the cables on the high voltage pylons will be replaced, which means scaffolding over roads and possible short-term road closures.

We unanimously opposed a revised plan for four bungalows to the rear of Mill Lane.

Caunton Improvement Group are hoping to purchase a two-tier self-watering planter and bolster the spring flowering bulb planting in the autumn.

The allotments are all fully occupied and looking forward to a good growing season.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8 April 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

Caunton Local History Society

Our spring programme continues with an exploration of Sherwood Forest and its relationship with various medieval kings. We hope very much to see you there. Attending your first talk with the society is FREE. The cost for returning non-members is £5.

Should you choose to join the society, annual membership is £20, which, in addition to local membership benefits, includes a quarterly, digital copy of The Local Historian, Journal of the British Association of Local History. The journal presents a variety of papers on a fascinating range of topics, relevant to family as well as local historians.



Winkburn Hall

We're currently finalising our programme of summer outings, which this year will include a guided tour of local Winkburn Hall with owner Richard Craven-Smith-Mills (cost: £10) and a tour of Brackenhurst Hall and gardens (free). We also hope to visit the state rooms at Welbeck Abbey (cost: £35). Please do get in touch if you'd like to come along to any of these visits. Contact details on the right.

Tuesday 14 April, 7.30pm

The Kings and Sherwood Forest

Speaker: David Speed

David is a local historian based in Nottinghamshire. His talk focuses on the historical connections between various English medieval monarchs and the famous "royal forest" – a protected area where medieval kings, such as Henry II, King John, and Edward I, would hunt.

We always meet at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month at Dean Hole School. We look forward to welcoming you. Future topics will explore Bess of Hardwick, Richard III and, not to be missed, in the company of Milly Freeman, we'll experience a Victorian Christmas.

If you would like to add your name to our mailing list to hear about talks, and how to get involved in summer trips and local visits, please email lynn1485@gmail.com.

Lynn Thompson



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Church News

Our Vicar, the Reverend David Lewis, has organised a wonderful programme of events for Holy Week and Easter for church communities across the area, including:

- the special Palm Sunday Procession on 29 March here in Cromwell from Milestone Brewery to St Giles' Church for a service at 11.00am with Bishop Andy Emerton. The procession will leave Milestone Brewery at 10.45, where the bar will be open from 9.30, serving hot drinks and FREE breakfast cobs.
- gatherings each evening during Holy Week, in different churches at 7.30pm
- an Hour of contemplation at the Cross taking place on Good Friday, 3 April, with ours in Cromwell taking place as part of the nightly gathering at 7.30pm on Good Friday
- Easter Communion services on Sunday 5 April across the churches and across the day, beginning with a dawn service at 6.00am at St. Andrew's, Cauntton. There will be free refreshments in the form of sausage and bacon cobs afterwards.

For the times of all events across our church communities during Holy Week and Easter please see the schedules on pages 2 and 5.

If you are unable to attend in Cromwell, please consider visiting another church locally. You will be most welcome.

Cromwell Parish Meeting

A meeting was held at Cromwell Village Hall on Tuesday 24 February. 13 villagers were present.

Parish Precept. At the meeting in November 2025 it was agreed that the precept should be increased to £1,250 per annum. The Chair reported that this proposal had been accepted by Newark and Sherwood District Council.

Parking at the north end of village. The Chair will have further discussions with Councillor Laughton later in the year.

Local Government Reorganisation. The meeting was updated about the consultation on Local Government Reorganisation and where comments could be sent. Any re-organisation would not impact the Parish Meeting.

The Chair shared an update from Sarah Clark, Churchwarden, who was unable to attend the meeting. This related to work being undertaken on the Church building as well as necessary future work.

(See the March magazine for details – available online at www.becktreant.org.uk/ccno-parish-magazine)

The meeting expressed concern regarding the groundworks and building work being undertaken north of the village in relation to the planning decision by NSDC for the erection of an agricultural storage shed. The Chair will contact the Council to gain greater understanding as to what the decision allows.

Nigel Spraggins
Chair, Cromwell Parish Meeting



Every Thursday 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Legs, Bums and Tums with Lauren
£7 per session

Every Friday 10.30am - 1.00pm

Coffee, Craft and Chat

Friday 17 April, 5.00–8.00pm

Family Film Night

The Greatest Showman

£5 donation to the Village Hall includes a hot dog (vegetarian/vegan options available). Popcorn, sweets and drinks from a licensed bar are available to purchase.

Please message Claire on 07796 133656 if you would like to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!

Brenda's Bingo is growing in popularity! Eyes down next on Friday 24 April at 7.30pm

Bring your own drinks and snacks
Great cash prizes and proceeds to the Village Hall.



If you wish to be kept informed on Village Hall activities & meetings join Cromwell WhatsApp Group - Text your mobile number to Claire on **07796 133 656**



The church is here for the parish. The PCC will provide help, support and information. The contacts are: **Elizabeth Jones:** emjones.norwell@btinternet.com and 01636 636 365
Barbara Bateson: barbarabateson@btopenworld.com and 01636 636 840

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.

What happened in late February and March

A Journey through the Bible continued with the 4th Sunday Service on 22 February reviewing the subject of 'Freedom' based on the story of Moses. This felt particularly apt given the current struggles on this topic in the Middle East and the thoughts and prayers were with everyone caught up in this latest conflict.

March began with a change of venue for the second Sunday Holy Communion when we joined Ossington for their service at 11.00am. This was a lovely opportunity to join with those worshipping in a different parish in the benefice.

The following Thursday, 12 March, was very busy with both a funeral service in the morning followed in the afternoon by the first Diocesan Day of Prayer to be held in the parish with Bishop Andy Emerton, Bishop of Sherwood, joining the Rev David leading a small but enthusiastic congregation in both spoken and sung prayers. This was followed by a buffet catering for optimistic numbers, which meant that the Mothering Sunday cake supply was rather more extensive than usual!

We could tell that Spring had officially arrived as the churchyard was carpeted with primroses as we walked down the path to the special Mothering Sunday service. This service had a mix of traditional hymns accompanied by the irrepressible Brian on the organ, and the introduction of a modern take on one hymn with the youthful Rev David playing guitar.

The sermon was an interesting view of what we mean by 'fairness' when applied to our relationships with others and how this links to God's reward of eternal life. Small bunches of daffodils were distributed at the end of the service once everyone had done their best to make inroads into the 'cake mountain'.

We will report on the events later in March in the May magazine – the 4th Sunday Worship on the theme of 'Heroes and Villains', the School Easter service, the special Palm Sunday procession in Cromwell and the evening service on the Monday of Holy Week (30 March at 7.30pm).

April Events

Good Friday, 3 April, is the climax of the season of Lent. This most sombre day in the church's year is marked in Norwell by an hour of Meditation on the Cross led by Revd David from 9.30 to 10.30am.



In total contrast, the mood of Easter Day, 5 April, is one of utter joy as we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection with Holy Communion at 9.00am.

We will be decorating the church for Easter on Easter Saturday. We try to include lilies in the arrangements and would be delighted if parishioners would like to contribute towards lilies in memory of a loved one.

For times of all events across our church communities during Holy Week and Easter please see the schedules on pages 2 and 5.

If you are unable to attend in Norwell please consider visiting another church locally. You will be most welcome.

Easter Egg Hunt

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Monday from 10.30am to 12 noon. Follow the clues to eggs in the church and churchyard. Refreshments will be available. Come along and join in the fun.



The following week, Sunday 12 April sees our usual Holy Communion at 9.00am, followed by Fourth Sunday Worship on Sunday 26 April at 11.00am. What will we make of 'The Good, the Bad and the Holy'?

Our annual Church Meeting takes place on Tuesday 14 April at St Laurence's at 7.30pm.

This is where churchwardens and PCC members are elected. Please join us to hear what the Parochial Church Council has been doing in the last 12 months and what the plans are for 2026/27.

The PCC will be joining those who help to run other parishes in the Benefice for an 'Away Day' on Saturday 25 April which will be a great chance to hear all about what the other churches have planned.

Coming up in May

May will see the usual Holy Communion on Sunday 10th at 9.00am. The Fourth Sunday Worship for Pentecost takes place on the 24th, and there is a wedding blessing on Saturday 30th.

Weddings past and present

Read Norwell News to find out all about this event in St Laurence's. You may be able to contribute in some way!

Neil Marshall

We are very sad to report the death of Neil Marshall. Neil was a quiet and thoughtful man and he will be sorely missed by Liz and their daughter Eve, and by the many others who knew him. We offer them our deepest sympathy and our prayers.

Norwell community news

Celebrating weddings past and present

Were you married in Norwell? Do you live in Norwell? Do you have any connections with Norwell?

St Laurence's church will be open on Sunday 28 June and on the following Wednesday evening when Norwell Gardens are open.

We are planning to display of

- Wedding dresses
- Wedding photographs
- Other wedding memorabilia

These could be yours if you were married in Norwell or live in Norwell now, but we are also interested in others. We already have a number of photographs of marriages in Norwell in the early 20th century up to the 21st century and hope to have more. We are planning to recreate some of the wedding bouquets.

We have ideas for displaying the dresses, but it would be wonderful to have a few mannequins or dressmaking dummies. If you have one, would you be willing to lend it?



Or do you know where we could source them?

All help appreciated! Please contact

- *Barbara Bateson* 07718 183897 or barbarabateson@bopenworld.com
- *Elizabeth Jones* 01636 636365, 07418 008 989 or emjones.norwell@btinternet.com.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Let's make this a really good display.

Norwell Sports Association

For nearly 20 years the Norwell Sports Association has managed the sports field in the village to promote and provide sporting activities in Norwell and the surrounding area. Over that time this has included cricket, junior cricket training, ladies rounders and individual use for athletics and golf.

In recent years use of the field has declined as clubs have had to close and use of the field is now very limited. This means that we are appealing again to see whether anyone might be interested in becoming

a member and using the facility, either individually or as part of a group or club.

If the field is to remain as an asset for the village we need to see it being used more, and to generate additional income to meet ongoing costs.

If anyone is interested or has ideas on ways the field might be used for sport, please contact:

Phil Christie philchristie.55@outlook.com
or *Jo Dewberry* showjo@btinternet.com

POST OFFICE

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



Facebook: Search for
"Norwell and Norwell
Woodhouse Villagers"

Norwell Diary – February, March and April

Mon 30 Mar	10.30-12.30	Community Coffee Morning at Norwell Nurseries Pavilion. Please note this is a week early because of Easter
Mon 30 Mar	1.30-1.50pm	Mobile Library ~ Old Chapel, Main St
Mon 30 Mar	7.30pm	Holy Week Nightly Gatherings commencing on Monday at St Laurence
Tues 31 Mar	7.00-9.00pm	Village Voices
Fri 3 Apr	9.30-10.30am	Good Friday 'An Hour at the Cross' commencing at 9.30am at St Laurence
Sat 4 Apr	8.00pm	Quiz Night at the Plough. Hosted by Katie (The Easter Bunny), please contact The Plough to book your place. In aid of the Diabetes Charity
Sun 5 Apr	9.00am	Easter Sunday Service including Holy Communion
Mon 6 Apr	10.30-12.00pm	Easter Egg Hunt St Laurence's church
Sat 11 Apr	2.30pm	Heritage Group Norwell Heritage Walk Part 2. Contact Elizabeth or Michael Jones on 01636 636365 if you are interested in joining the walk
Mon 13 Apr		Norwell C of E School opens after the Easter Break
Mon 13 Apr	10.15-11.15am	Jigsaw Swap in the Village Hall
Tues 14 Apr	7.00-9.00pm	Village Voices
Wed 22 Apr	8.00pm	Book Club ~ for details 01636 636337 (NB change of date)
Sun 26 Apr	11.00am	4th Sunday Service at St Laurence, continuing our Journey through the Bible. Refreshments will be served from 10.30am
Mon 27 Apr	1.30-1.50pm	Mobile Library ~ Old Chapel, Main St
Mon 27 Apr	10.30-12.30	Community Coffee Morning at Norwell Nurseries Pavilion. Please note this is a week early because of the May Bank Holiday
Tues 28 Apr	7.00-9.00pm	Village Voices
Mon 4 May		May Bank Holiday - Norwell School closed
Sun 10 May	9.00am	Holy Communion at St Laurence

Norwell community news (continued)

Update on the proposed solar farm on Bathley Hill

There is a proposal to build a solar farm on Bathley Hill, overlooking Norwell. This has been long in the planning and is still live.

It is anticipated that it will go to Newark and Sherwood District Council Planning Committee later this year. This is a public meeting which will be held at Castle House, Newark most likely at 4.00pm one Thursday. When the date is announced, it will be circulated.

The Conservation Team at Newark and Sherwood District Council oppose the application. The Steering Group's assessment is that it will have a significant effect on a sensitive area. For advice on the implications of the plan please contact Norwell Solar Farm Steering Group which was set up as a result of a village meeting which resolved to oppose this development. If you want to get in touch, please email savebathleyhill@gmail.com.

If you wish to submit an objection, send an email to planning@nsdc.info with the following as the subject line: 22/01983/FULM.

Norwell and Norwell Woodhouse Parish Council

Dear Parishioners,

Planning and Local Issues

Residents raised questions about the Flaggs Farm application and were encouraged to submit comments via the planning portal. The Council is also monitoring proposals for a solar farm at Foxholes Farm, with further information awaited.

Updates were received on major infrastructure projects, including the West Burton to Ratcliffe-on-Soar works and the

proposed H2East pipeline. Consultation events, including one at Norwell Village Hall, took place in March.

Allotments and Parish Gardens

Allotment invoices for 2026/27 will be issued shortly, with three tenants not renewing. The new maintenance contractor has been praised for significantly improving the condition of the site.

The Council acknowledged concerns from the Allotment Sub-Committee about a recent rent increase being agreed without prior consultation and will review communication and representation going forward. Thanks were given to Helen Ward for her contribution as she steps down from the Sub-Committee.

Highways and Environment

Concerns about local road conditions will be raised with the County Council, and a meeting with highways officers is planned. Enquiries are also ongoing regarding planting a permanent tree in the Pinfold, or investigating alternative permanent options in this space.

Community Projects and Updates

Funding has been successfully secured for replacement playpark fencing, with further quotes being obtained. An annual inspection has identified some minor works required, including the need for a new gate.

Work continues on the GNR Examination Hearings, with support from the local MP. Efforts are also ongoing to progress matters relating to local charities and flood preparedness, including relocating the Norwell Woodhouse flood kit.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 23 April at 7.00pm at Norwell School. All residents are welcome to attend.

*Cllr Ashleigh Robertshaw
Chair*

Norwell Village Hall

AGM

We had our Annual General Meeting on 10 March at which we presented our audited financial statement. The Village Hall made a surplus for the year ended 31 December 2025 of £7,205. This was a phenomenal achievement by the Village Hall Committee and thanks go to everyone who hired the hall and/or attended or helped support any of the five events we held during the year. We have lost two hirers who have moved to other premises which will drop our income by £2,800 (to a level below our underlying costs for running the hall). Without additional regular hirers this means our fundraising events will be vital to safeguard the Village Hall's future.

Trustee vacancy

One of our Trustees (Stuart Batty) has moved out of the village and wants to retire as a Trustee, so we are looking for someone to replace him.

Solar Project

We received a £2,000 donation from Elements Green Discretionary Fund towards our Solar Project. The solar array will be installed in the week commencing 6 April.

Events

Our Quiz Night (in support of the village hall and the Allotments group) has yet to take place at the time of going to press.

The next fundraising event is a 'Summer Nights' evening on Saturday 13 June with the multi-talented Willow (singer, guitarist, saxophonist). Details in the May magazine. The Village Hall will also be hosting refreshments for the annual NGS Open Gardens event on Sunday 28 June.

The next Jigsaw Exchange will be held on Monday 13 April.

*Pauline Hobson,
Treasurer*

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Norwell CofE Primary School

This term has been so busy with various sporting activities at Tuxford, children singing at the Wolfit Festival in Newark and a wide range of trips to bring our curriculum to life!

We dressed as our favourite book characters on World Book Day and celebrated British Science Week by investigating 'bubbles' with our peers from St Matthew's School. The children will be looking forward to a rest over Easter!

We also finished our Spring term with our Easter Service at church where we remembered how important Jesus is in our lives especially at this time of year.

Next term we have our Year 3 and Year 4 residential at Rand Farm to look forward to, alongside many more curriculum trips!

It will also be time to start going down to the allotment as the weather gets warmer, and we can start growing flowers and produce. The children love spending time at the allotment, getting first-hand experience of nature.

School reopens after the Easter Holidays on Monday 13 April when we are looking forward to seeing you all again.

Best wishes

Kathryn King, Head Teacher



Norwell
C of E Primary
School



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Dry Doddington 9.30-11.30
Houghham 12pm-2pm

Thursdays: Starting 2nd April
Norwell 10am-12pm
Coddington 12.30pm-2.30pm

Fridays: Starting 3rd April
Stubton 9.30am -10.30am
Brant Broughton 11am-1pm
Bamby in the willows 1.30pm-3pm



BOOK CLUB

Our book choice for April is "The Family Upstairs" by Lisa Jewell.

This is a dark psychological thriller which begins when Libby Jones inherits a Chelsea mansion on her twenty-fifth birthday. What follows is a twisted family drama full of manipulation and cult-like obsession which has enthralled readers all over the world.

The Book Club will meet to discuss it on Wednesday 22 April – please note the change from the original date.

More information about the Club from Helen on 636337



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Norwell Parish Heritage Group

At the well-attended Annual Meeting in February it was decided with enthusiasm that Norwell Parish Heritage Group should continue with its present combination of monthly meetings and heritage walks, plus the Christmas Party.

The current officers have remained in post with Roy Pilgrim as chair, Sue Capewell as treasurer and a 'triumfeminate' of secretaries – Sue Capewell, Pamala Dixon and Elizabeth Jones with Liz Welsh joining them – a 'quadrifeminate'?

The Annual Meeting was followed by a most interesting illustrated talk by Jason Mordan. The houses, parks and gardens of Nottinghamshire are a fascinating source of often neglected information. There is much to find out and we'll certainly visit some of those open to the public with a fresh enthusiasm.

We are still waiting the March meeting when Emily Gillott will be talking about Gibbets and Gallows in Nottinghamshire. We are about to discover quite why it has a content warning. It promises to be most interesting but it does come with a warning.

Norwell Heritage Walk Part 2

Our April meeting takes the form of a Heritage Walk on Saturday 11 April. We only got halfway through Norwell on our Heritage Walk in September and will be walking from School Lane westwards to the Plough and Palishall end. There will be much to discover about buildings we pass by regularly – some are much

older than you realise and have fascinating histories. If you are interested in joining the walk please contact Michael and Elizabeth Jones 01636 636365 or emjones.norwell@btinternet.com or 07418 008 989. We are aiming for a maximum of 20 people, but if we are over-subscribed we'll arrange a repeat.

Nottinghamshire Pit Ponies



If we can think as far ahead as May we can anticipate the talk on Thursday 21 May when Janine Buckley, who has written a book on the subject, will be talking about Nottinghamshire Pit Ponies. This will be a

meeting for those interested in horses as well as those interested in history.

Weddings Past and Present

See Norwell community news. You may have something to contribute to a display in the church at the end of June.



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Ossington community news



From the Church

The church inches closer to completion with the organ builder returning the organ to its rightful place at the end of March. Richard's will return this month to complete their final clean, marking the beginning of the final stretch.

We are desperately seeking a grant for a new heating system. Ideas and suggestions most welcome – please do get in touch.

Here's to the day in the not-too-distant future when we will fill the church with song again. What a beautiful moment it will be to hear those pipes playing once more! Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week, leading up to our commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday, is the most solemn week in the church's year, and Easter, marking His Resurrection, is the most joyful.

The Reverend David Lewis has organised a wonderful programme of events for Holy Week and Easter for church communities across the area, including:

- a special Palm Sunday Procession in Cromwell on 29 March from Milestone Brewery to St Giles' Church for a service at 11.00am. The procession will leave Milestone Brewery at 10.45, where the bar will be open from 9.30, serving hot drinks and FREE breakfast cobs.
- gatherings each evening during Holy Week, with one at The Hut on Maundy Thursday, 2 April at 7.30pm
- an Hour of contemplation at the Cross taking place on Good Friday 3 April, with one in The Hut from 11.00am to 12 noon.
- Easter Communion services on Sunday 5 April, with one in The Hut at 7.30pm. NB not 7.30am as advertised in the March magazine.

For times of all Holy Week and Easter events across our church communities please see the schedules on pages 2 and 5. If you are unable to attend in Ossington please consider visiting another church locally. You will be most welcome.

Robin Drury

Coffee for a Cause

This month's coffee morning in Ossington will host a charity plant and cake sale, where the money raised will go towards charities helping children caught in conflict around the world. As violence rages across the globe, it will always be children, the truly innocent, who will face the horrific consequences of the decisions of man. A cake and plant sale may seem like a drop in the ocean, but an ocean is just a collection of drops, don't forget!



So, join us, bring a cake or two to sell, a tray of plants, or even just some spare change and a willingness to buy! It's easy for all of us to stare at our screens and feel helpless. Come and join us. Be an important drop in an ocean of kindness. Saturday 25 April from 11.00am to 1.00pm in The Hut. As always, all are welcome!

"What we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But if the drop was not in the ocean, I think the ocean would be less because of the missing drop." Mother Teresa



Facebook: Search for "Ossington Village Group"

The Potting Shed Church:



The Potting Shed meets at St Nicholas' church, Tuxford, NG22 0LJ, every Sunday afternoon at 4pm.

In addition on...

Tuesdays – We gather to pray on Zoom from 8 – 8:30am

Wednesdays – **Rooted Youth** meet at 6.30 – 8pm every week during term time

Little Seedlings runs 9.30–11.00am on the first Wednesday of each month.

Saturdays – breakfast at Starbucks in Newark (7:30am) and Costa in Ollerton (8am).

More details can be found on our website: www.thepottingshedchurch.org [whats-on](#)



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Ossington community news (continued)

Luncheon club

The next Luncheon Club will be held on Monday 20 April at 12.45pm in The Hut. This will be the last one until recommencing in October. As always, for catering purposes, please let Mary Brown know if you intend to come along (phone 01636 821029 or email marybrown3@hotmail.co.uk). Looking forward to seeing our regular faces as well as new ones, who are always most welcome!

At a Glance – Dates for your Diary

- Palm Sunday Procession and service in Cromwell – **Sunday 29 March. Procession from 10.45 for 11.00am service**
- Holy Week evening service – **Maundy Thursday, 2 April, 7.30pm**
- Meditation at the Cross – **Good Friday, 3 April, 11.00am to 12 noon**
- Easter Day Holy Communion service – **Sunday 5 April, 7.30pm**
- Luncheon Club – **Monday 20 April, 12.45pm**
- Coffee Morning and Charity Plant and Cake Sale – **Saturday 25 April, 11.00am-1.00pm**
- Ossington Garden Party – **Saturday 25 July, 3.00-5.00pm**

Ossington's Nature Photo of the Month

'Close the gate!'
Taken by Thomas Harris

We have been inundated with entries for this month's Ossington Nature Photo of the Month! Thank you so much to everyone who entered – please do keep them coming! Later in the year, we will hold an exhibition of all entries in The Hut so everyone can marvel at the wonderful corner of the world we are lucky enough to call 'home', and the incredible photographers who live here!

To submit an entry for Ossington Nature Photo of the Month, please email liz@carneymarsh.com with a photo taken in Ossington. No people and no properties without permission. Do remember that photos will be printed in black and white.

Liz Carney-Marsh
liz@carneymarsh.com



General news / Round and About:

Carlton on Trent Village Hall General Knowledge Quiz

Saturday 11 April, 7.00 for 7.30pm

£10 per person – teams of 4 to 6

Jacket potato and chilli included. Bring your own drinks

Call Murray for tickets 07939 856499

For details of regular group meetings including craft, sewing, Rummikub, Tai Chi, yoga, book club and film club please see the calendar on the village hall website – go to <https://cotvillagehall.yolasite.com> or search for Carlton on Trent Village Hall.

General news / Round and About:

Mobile Library

Details of the service and complete timetables:

www.inspireculture.org.uk/reading-information/libraries/mobile-libraries

General enquires: Phone: 01623 677 200 Email: ask@inspireculture.org.uk

Caunton (on Route 1)

BT Exchange 10.40-10.50am
Dean Close 11.00-11.15am

Mondays: 13 April, 11 May, 8 June, 6 July, 3 August, 28 September, 26 October, 23 November, 21 December.

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: 28 April, 26 May, 23 June, 21 July, 18 August, 15 September, 13 October, 10 November, 8 December, 5 January 2027.

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: 27 April, 22 June, 20 July, 17 August, 14 September, 12 October, 9 November, 7 December, 4 January 2027.

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

General news

Cadent Hydrogen Pipeline

Cadent is the UK's largest gas distribution network, caring for 82k miles of underground pipes. They wish to construct a pipeline network from Immingham on the Humber estuary to South Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire. The pipeline would convey "net zero" hydrogen gas to large-scale energy users.

There would be a network of side routes to serve these customers. Principally, the construction would be by the open trench method, but roads, rivers, railways etc. would necessitate trenchless methods. The pipeline would be a maximum of 42 inches diameter conveying hydrogen at 100 psi. Branch-lines would be smaller, typically 4 to 16 inches.

"Option 3" would serve Newark and would target businesses such as British Sugar and Staythorpe Power Station.

Section D of Option 3 would run from High Marnham to Newark. The route is not fully defined yet, but it would need to run between Norwell and Caunton, and then proceed west of Bathley and Little Carlton, on its way to Staythorpe. Although the line would be buried, there would be a need for four "Hydrogen Above Ground Installations" (HAGIs) and "Block Valve Installations" (BVIs) in this section.

A series of local presentations was held in March (advertised in last month's parish magazine), but there is a wealth of information available online at www.h2east.co.uk and the consultation remains open until Tuesday 14 April.

Your views can be submitted by

- visiting the website
- emailing humbertonotts@h2east.co.uk
- calling 08001 884479
- mailing FREEPOST H2 EAST HN .

Landowners may wish to contact Fisher German LLP who have been retained to

deal with land agency services. E-mail humbertonotts@fishergerman.co.uk or phone 0800 6522101.

This is a large project which will be considered as a "Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project" (NSIP), thus bypassing local government. Cadent hopes to accommodate most of the views expressed and be ready to present a "Development Consent Order" (DCO) to the appointed planning inspector in early 2028. The eventual decision by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero may be expected before 2030.

David Swift

HOPE

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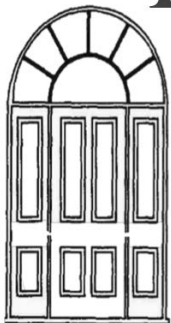
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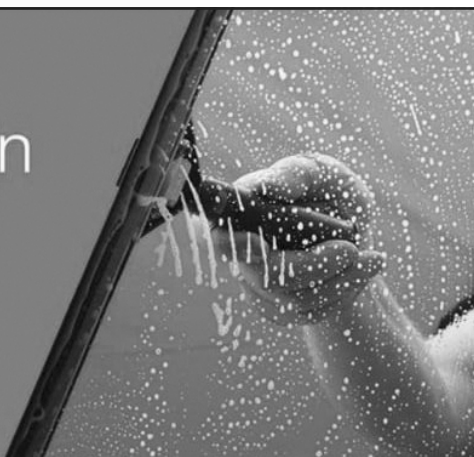
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General Editor

Christopher Senior 07811 742362

email: ccnoparishmagazine@gmail.com

Caunton

Christopher Senior 07811 742362

email: ccnoparishmagazine@gmail.com

Cromwell

Christopher Senior 07811 742362

email: ccnoparishmagazine@gmail.com

Advertisements & Accounts

Fiona Mountford 636515 or 07581 513872

email: fiona.m1@icloud.com

Executive Editor

Elizabeth Jones 636365

email: emjones.norwell@btinternet.com

Norwell

Fiona Mountford 636515 or 07581 513872

email: fiona.m1@icloud.com

Dates for the Norwell Diary

Contact Barbara Bateson 636 840 or 07718 183 897

email: barbarabateson@btopenworld.com

Ossington

Liz Carney-Marsh 07703 334437

email: liz@carneymarsh.com

As always the editorial team welcomes your feedback.
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