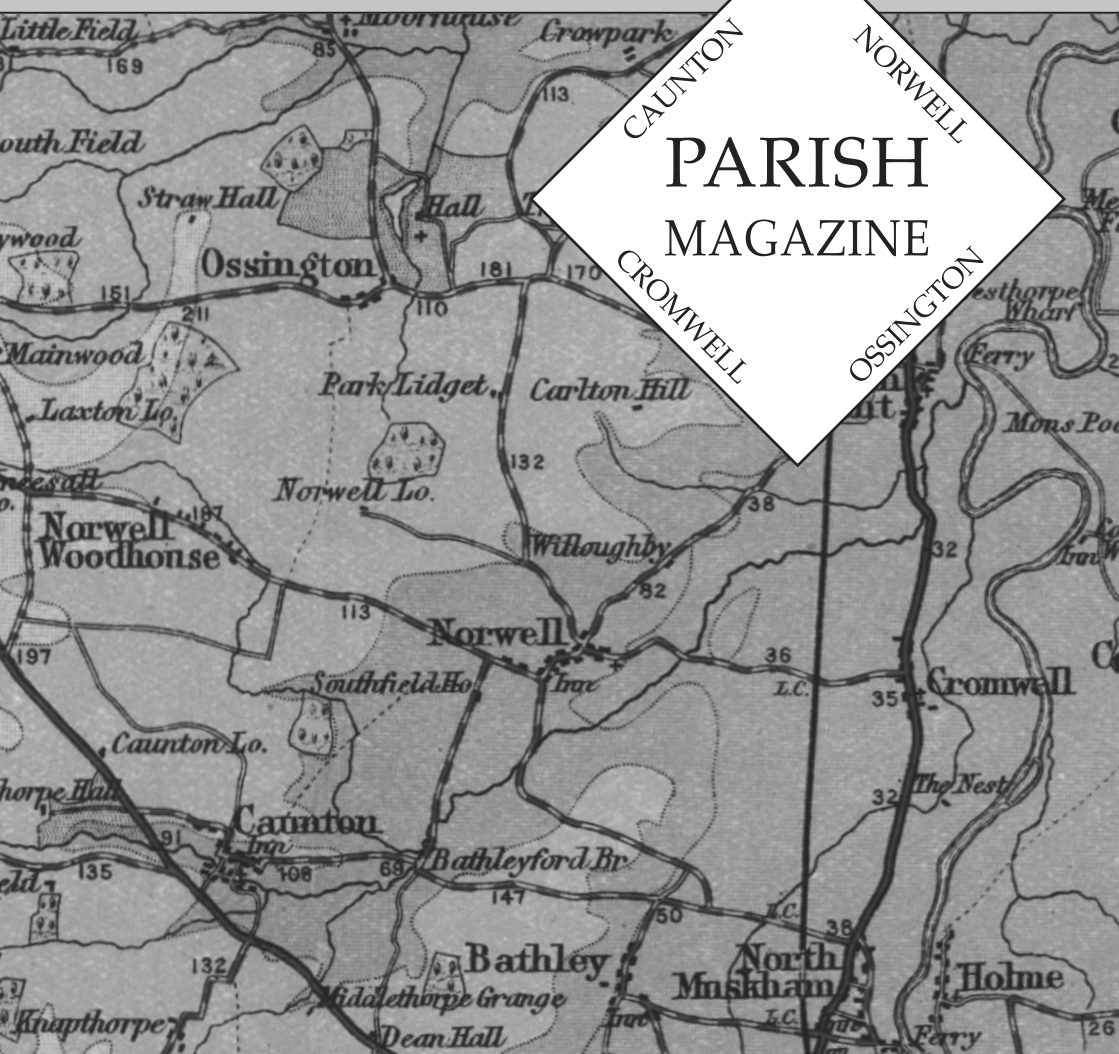


May 2026



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

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



CCNO Parish Magazine – May 2026

In this issue...

3-4	Beck & Trent update	14-15	Cromwell news
6	Nature Watch	16-21	Norwell news
7	Bird Watch	22-24	Ossington news
8	Rain Watch	25	General News
9-13	Caunton news		

Beck & Trent Parishes

Services April 2026

		St Andrew's Caunton	St Giles' Cromwell	St Laurence's Norwell	Holy Rood Ossington	All Saints' Sutton	St Mary's Carlton
<i>first Sunday</i>	3 May <i>Easter 5</i>	9.00am Holy Communion				11.00am Family Service at All Saints	
<i>second Sunday</i>	10 May <i>Easter 6</i>			11.00am Holy Communion St Laurence's Norwell		10.30am Joint Morning Worship at Methodist Chapel	11.00am Holy Communion
<i>third Sunday</i>	17 May <i>Easter 7</i>		9.00am Holy Communion			11.00am Holy Communion at All Saints	
<i>fourth Sunday</i>	24 May <i>Pentecost</i>			11.00am Fourth Sunday Worship PENTECOST CELEBRATION		10.30am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	9.00am Holy Communion
<i>fifth Sunday</i>	31 May <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Holy Rood, Ossington					
<i>first Sunday</i>	3 May <i>Easter 5</i>	9.00am Holy Communion				11.00am Family Service at All Saints	

This parish magazine serves the villages of Caunton, 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.

Easter in the Beck and Trent Benefice

My first Easter as vicar of Beck and Trent was a wonderful mixture of faces, places, prayer and celebration. I was so grateful to everyone who came to the Palm Sunday Celebration in Cromwell. Many bacon sandwiches were eaten, everyone arrived safely at the church from the Milestone Brewery, and the pony was reunited with its horse-friend in the field next to the church. Bishop Andy was very encouraged to see so many people there and from different corners of the Benefice.

Holy Week began with three Compline (Night Prayer) sessions in Norwell,

Carlton and Cauntun. I was unable to attend the Wednesday evening session as I was at Southwell Minster for my first Chrism Service (Holy Communion Service for all clergy in the Diocese). It was great to be among all my new colleagues and attend a service where nothing was required of me and I could simply worship and ponder the significance of Easter again.

Thursday evening was an intimate candle-lit Tenebrae Service where we focused on the build-up to Christ's death and his being placed in the tomb. This included multiple readings shared by different attendees, and

(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	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.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

a mixture of traditional and modern songs picked for the occasion. We then watched 'The Chosen: The Last Supper' on Friday night in Cromwell Village Hall while tucking into lamb and flatbreads to complete the sensory experience. Some attendees found the depiction of Christ's last meal with his disciples particularly moving and I cannot recommend it more highly to you.

On Sunday I had the privilege of leading four services, celebrating Jesus as our Risen Lord. Caunton's dawn service was accompanied by beautiful birdsong and the powerful symbol of the sun rising out of darkness. The Norwell Service at 9.00am provided an opportunity to rejoice with the local congregation and my lovely wife and children. Sutton's service at 11.00am marked my first Easter with both the Anglicans and Methodists of the village, all of whom have been a great blessing and encouragement to me. Finally, the evening service in Ossington

rounded off an Easter Sunday I will not forget any time soon. There were some new people at each service whom I had not met before and days such as this provide great opportunities to make new acquaintances.

The Alpha Course which has been running for our whole Rural Cluster since January has now come to an end. There were baptisms on Easter Sunday in Tuxford and there are others who wish to make a commitment now they have journeyed through Alpha together. Another Alpha Course will take place in the autumn but in the meantime The Prayer Course will take place on Thursday evenings up until the start of the School Summer Holidays. I've been on this particular programme before and, again, I can highly recommend it.

Truly a wonderful Easter!

All blessings
David

THE IMPORTANT MONTH OF MAY

Every month has its own 'feel'. Whatever your faith or your belief, May is a month of hope and expectation.

The church has every reason for seeing it as a very special month. There is rejoicing that the Resurrection has taken place and we have been thinking about Christ's meetings with his disciples – even 'doubting Thomas' truly believed that Jesus had returned. Then everything changed and it is the consequence of these changes we shall be thinking about in May:

- Thursday 14 May is Ascension Day when we remember that Jesus returned to his Father. Thankfully he did not leave us comfortless.
- He sent the Holy Spirit to comfort and to inspire, and this we celebrate at Pentecost on Sunday 24 May – one of the great days in the church calendar.

- A week later, on Trinity Sunday, we ponder the nature – and mystery – of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

By the time we get to the end of the month, so much of the Christian faith will have been covered.

These are the great days in the church's year but also in May there is Christian Aid Week, which runs from 10–16 May. Truly the world needs aid at the moment. There is so much suffering, however we can be reassured by the words of the revered English mystic and anchoress Julian of Norwich whose day is celebrated on 8 May. Speaking in the fourteenth century she said "All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well". She had faith, and a vision which is as relevant today – and as urgently needed – as it was then.

Elizabeth Jones

Recognising Jesus

At all four services on Easter Sunday I played a song that I wrote during my first ordination retreat about four years ago. In its entirety it explores different characters through the Bible who encounter God as a stranger and their lives are ultimately changed in some way or another.

I'd like to share the final three verses here as they are the most pertinent to Easter and also may be the most familiar to you as Biblical characters.

MOTHER MARY

*Hello stranger, I welcome you into my womb
I am favoured and open up my heart to you
I will labour in your birth and in your life
And I pray that you still need me until when the moment's right.*

PONTIUS PILATE

*Hello stranger, who now comes to me for trial
An exchange here would placate the mob
you've riled
My disclaimer is you're only just one man
Still I pray this doesn't haunt me however long
I'm in command.*

MARY MAGDALENE

*Hello stranger, who yet seems to know
my name
Dead on paper but here you stand on the
third day
Our behaviour lacked the faith you showed in us
So I pray this story spreads of how the stranger
saved the lost.*

Those who met the risen Christ, whether it was Mary, Doubting Thomas, or the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, all needed help recognising him. They had to recalibrate how they understood him. The mortal man they had known was now unleashed into a resurrected state. He could walk through walls and yet he also ate cooked fish offered to him. Whether we've known Jesus for our whole lives, or are starting to explore who He really is, the invitation is to investigate him further and know him more. He may sometimes feel like a stranger but he knows us even better than we know ourselves, and takes great joy in revealing himself to those who are willing to see.

David

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 March 2026 – 14 April 2026
Weddings			
11 April 2026	Daniel Roe and Zoe Wren	All Saints, Sutton-on-Trent	
Funerals			
31 March 2-26	Neil Marshall	St Laurence, Norwell	

NATURE *Watch*

May is the month by which you are most likely to see the largest scarab beetle in the UK, the cockchafer beetle (don't laugh), otherwise known, rather aptly, as May bugs. The name cockchafer is actually derived from the Old English translation of 'big beetle' ('cock' meaning large and 'chafer' meaning gnawer). Cockchafer adults emerge, as you probably guessed, in May and are common until July, spotted most frequently at dusk. There are several cockchafer species in the UK: the common, forest and the rarer, Welsh cockchafer.

Cockchafers are identifiable by their brown wing cases, pointed abdomen (pygidium), feathery lamellate antennae, especially in males and their somewhat erratic flight pattern, where they are known to frequently bump into windows and lights whilst making a distinctive loud buzzing sound. Males and females can be distinguished apart by their antennae, as males have seven 'leaves' compared to the female's six leaves. Females also have a longer and more pointed pygidium (her ovipositor), which she uses to lay up to 80 eggs in the soil.

Cockchafers have a particularly long life cycle, between three and five years, however their adult lifespan is relatively short, only lasting around six weeks in which time is spent searching for a mate. Males use their large antennae to detect pheromones secreted by the females during their dusk flight and the antennae can also detect kairomones (plant compounds) produced by their food source, mature oak trees.

After mating, the female lays her eggs in soil, which then hatch into small, white grubs. The grubs feed on small plant roots and organic matter in the soil, growing relatively slowly over several years and undergoing a number of moults, each moult producing a larger and stronger grub, that feeds more voraciously on roots. The third and final grub before

pupation is the largest with the biggest appetite, and grows the most before pupating in the soil and hatching into the adult that emerges in May, attracted to sunlight.

Due to the appetites of the larvae, cockchafers were recognised as crop pests in the mid twentieth century, leading to the use of pesticides in order to control their numbers. These pesticides had devastating impacts on cockchafer populations and almost completely eradicated them. However subsequent pesticide regulation has seen numbers increase.



Common cockchafer (Melolontha melolontha)

Ecologically, cockchafers are important food sources for a variety of different species. The larvae, which are fatty and protein-rich are consumed by moles, birds, mice, hedgehogs, badgers and foxes. The adults often fall prey to birds and, due to their dusk flights, bats.

The cockchafer is known by a variety of names, depending on your location. Some of my favourites include snartlegog (Suffolk), doodlebug (due to the buzzing during flight), billy witch (East Anglia), oak wib and midsummer dor. If you do encounter a snartlegog banging into your window at dusk, remember it is most likely on the hunt for a mate and not trying to break in!

Adam Breslin
adamnaturewatch@gmail.com

BIRD *Watch*

The RSPB has now published the results of the 2026 Big Garden Birdwatch – a UK-wide survey by over 650,000 birders across the late January weekend – what a fabulous number of participants, giving fantastic data on our UK species.

Over 80 different species were recorded, which is brilliant, and, once again, the House Sparrow topped the list, with Blue Tits again in second spot. There was a change at number three with Starlings moving up to take bronze on the podium. Wood pigeons and Blackbirds made up places four and five – and I am sure many of you who took part would have had similar results depending on the exact habitat makeup of your own garden. To see the full results visit the RSPB website - www.rspb.org.uk.

May is when spring birdwatching around our villages really hits its stride and the excitement builds. Migration is at its peak, hedgerows are filling out, and birdsong reaches a near-constant chorus – love it!

For any UK birders, this is one of the most brilliant months of the year — a time when new long-distance travellers join our resident birds. Species that have spent the winter in sub-Saharan Africa are now returning to breed. Chiffchaffs have been heard singing for several weeks already, and I was enjoying listening to one in the Norwell churchyard along with Willow Warbler over Easter, while watching the Jackdaws making a home in the belltower (what a mess they were making!) There was also a Wood Pigeon setting up nest on the left shoulder of St Laurence above the entrance (how audacious!).

I've seen reports on village Facebook groups of swallows arriving in mid-April, and while I haven't seen them yet over our house and

fields, my Merlin Bird ID app has certainly heard the arrival of the House Martins. It won't be long until the Swifts also arrive (usually early May). These scythe-winged birds scream overhead in small groups, spending almost their entire lives in flight. Their arrival is a true marker of early summer.



Hedgerows and scrubby areas become prime locations for spotting warblers or mostly hearing them. The scratchy, energetic song of the Common Whitethroat can be heard as you walk the lanes and it is always great to hear the more melodic song of the Blackcap coming from within thick vegetation, or occasionally from copses of trees.

Our plentiful open countryside and farmland continue to provide great viewing – as do the gravel pits at Cromwell which play host to Egrets, Lapwing, Wigeon and many other river birds and waders. At this time of year, it is worth keeping your eyes and ears peeled as our proximity to the River Trent can mean you may spot passage migrants stopping to refuel. Keep an eye out for waders such as Redshank or Greenshank, particularly around flooded fields or shallow edges of gravel pits. These birds may only stay briefly, so each sighting feels like a bonus.

Many birds are now actively nesting (even on the shoulders of saints), and you'll see adults carrying food — a clear sign that chicks have hatched nearby. Young birds may start to appear towards the end of the month, often looking slightly scruffy and unsure as they learn to fend for themselves – try not to be too concerned about them as the parents are never usually too far away.

Please do continue to get in touch with your own sightings.

Greg Hill
gregoryjameshill24@gmail.com

RAIN *Watch*

It seems that the pattern of the last couple of years is being repeated in 2026: very wet winters are giving way to dry springs and perhaps very dry summers.

March was dry after a very wet February: Norwell received 65% of its long-term average rainfall – i.e. just 2.6 cm (1 in). As I write in mid-April, cracks are already forming in the fields!

Andrew Ward wardha@aol.com

Verse of the month:

*May the God of hope fill you with
all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by
the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 15 verse 13

A message of hope, so much
needed at the moment.

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01636 636337
wardha@aol.com



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Caunton church news



Easter Day

23 parishioners attended our 6.00am Easter Sunday Dawn service. It was lovely to come together as we celebrated Christ's rising from the dead – Alleluya, Alleluya! Breakfast cobs after the service were very welcome.

Bell Ringing – have a go!

On Saturday 6 June Tranter and his team of bell ringers are having a 'Bell Ringing – what's it all about' open session from 10.00am to 12 noon.

Come along, give it a go, and hear about the pleasures of bell ringing from those who know! Everyone is welcome. For more information, read next month's magazine or contact David on 07910 038316.

Alongside the bell-ringing opportunity, we are holding a coffee morning (not a cake sale as such) from 10.00am to 1.00pm.



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Church spring clean

On Saturday 13 June, from 10.00am to 2.00pm, we are having a church spring clean! This time we will be concentrating on the inside of the church, but if we get enough people to help, the churchyard may get a bit of a spruce-up as well.

We will be tackling the areas that our small band of regular cleaners don't get the chance to do. More volunteers are always welcome. So please come along and help give St. Andrew's a spring clean.

For more information contact Irene on 07814 709969.

Put t'wood in t'hole!

We welcome all visitors to St. Andrew's Church and churchyard, but please be mindful to close the church gates, and also the birdcage door at the entrance to the porch. The latter has been left open on occasions recently: the last thing we want is for a bird to be flying round inside the church looking for a way out, and making a mess in the process.

Caunton Church Rota

Cleaning

Sat 25 April & 2 May – Irene & Pat

Sat 9 & 16 May – Cathy Wendy

Sat 23 & 30 May – Bo & Charlotte

Sat 6 & 13 June – Joy & Dave

Flowers

Sat 25 April & 2 May – Irene

Sat 9 & 16 May – Charlotte

Sat 23 & 30 May – Bo

Sat 6 & 13 June – Pat



Caunton Community Centre

Bingo – Friday 1 May & 5 June . 7.00pm
for 7.30pm start

LIVE AND LOCAL!

Saturday 23 May, 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Morganisation: How The Beatles Got Me A Job With ELO

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.

Dave's 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 by BACS (details on request) which includes supper, but please bring your own drinks and glasses. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions. 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.

Caunton Local History Society

The society's programme of summer outings this year includes a guided tour of local Winkburn Hall with owner Richard Craven-Smith-Mills and a tour of Brackenhurst Hall and gardens. We will also be joining Caunton Garden Society for a trip to Anglesey Abbey, Cambridgeshire. If the places available on these trips are not all taken by members of the society, they will be advertised on the community WhatsApp group for anyone to join us.

Our autumn programme starts back in September. In a series of talks we will explore Bess of Hardwick, Richard III and, not to be missed, in the company of Milly Freeman, we'll experience a Victorian Christmas. We hope very much to see you there.



We always meet at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month at Dean Hole School. We look forward to welcoming you.

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.

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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Caunton Improvement Group

Planting and clean-up day is Saturday 30 May from 10.00am, meeting outside the Old Post Office on School Lane.

Refreshments will be available and a rest room will be accessible.

Please wear a high-visibility tabard or similar attire and bring a trowel if possible.

We look forward to seeing you and making it a worthwhile activity for our village.

Margie Asker 07536 000819



Caunton Parish Council

We can now report that Caunton Dean Hole School is to be occupied from September by The Orchard School, Newark. This is for a period of two years and will specialise in Special Educational Needs (SEN).

We have yet to clarify the position regarding community use but, at the moment, everything carries on as normal. We have meetings imminent to look at the way forward.

We have asked for clarity on a proposed cable route through the village. It appears we have no say on this type of infrastructure in a highway, but it has to be carried out by licensed contractors. We understand alternative routes are being considered.

A proposed H2 (hydrogen) pipe is being proposed with meetings open to the public in the coming weeks. It is shown to be to the east of Caunton, not affecting the main village. The consultation period has been extended by a month to Thursday 14 May.

Caunton Improvement Group is having a planting and tidy up day on Saturday 30 May from 10.00am. See separate article for details.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 May at 7.00pm in the Village Room at Dean Hole School. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Oliver Scott MRTPI, Business Manager of Planning Development at Newark and Sherwood District Council will give a talk on the way forward for planning matters in the county and is open to questions on the night.

The annual meeting will be followed by the monthly business meeting at 7.30pm.

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

Steve Routledge, Chairman

Cauntton Garden Society

The Society held its annual Spring Show at Cauntton School on Saturday 28 March. We are never confident that the Show will be as good as last year and always worry that the weather over the previous few weeks will prevent a grand display of Spring flowers.

Another concern is that we can rarely time the Show to enable a good number of both daffodils and tulips to be in perfect condition for display and so provide a test for our judges.

We need not have worried about any of these potential problems this year. Our Show was a great success in all respects with a record number of entries, a super display of a variety of Spring flowers and there was a really good attendance of members and guests to view that display and to applaud the winners when the trophies were presented.

Last year 20 members made entries and the total number of 186 was most pleasing, and we thought hard to beat. However this year 24 members made contributions to a total of 207 entries. This total included 70 entries across the daffodil classes, 21 tulip entries and 77 entries of other Spring flowers.

The majority of the trophies were taken home by Sheila Poole who won not only those for gaining the most points in both the Flower and the Floral Arts sections but also the trophy for winning the most points in the whole Show.

Another member who had a successful Show was Lesley Rossington who won the trophy for the most points in the Vegetable Section and truly impressed the judges with her superb Aloe Vera pot plant and was awarded the Best Entry in the Show.

Our 2025/26 winter programme of talks was completed on 21 April and we have enjoyed informative and interesting talks covering a wide variety of topics over the season. Before next year's programme commences with our Autumn Show and our first evening meeting on 15 September we are looking forward to the events arranged over the Summer. They include visits to a

couple of gardens of interest and a coach trip along with Cauntton Local History Society to Anglesey Abbey in Cambridgeshire. This trip is planned for 22 July and there are a few seats on this coach currently available. If you might like to join us on this trip by all means contact us for more information.

Trevor Plumb

cauntongardensociety@gmail.com

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Cromwell community news

Church News

Palm Sunday

No fewer than 58 adults and ten children from local churches across the area crowded into St Giles, Cromwell for a special Palm Sunday service on 29 March.

The special service, attended by the Bishop of Sherwood, the Right Reverend Andy Emerton, followed a procession led by our 'donkey', commemorating the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem to the acclaim of the crowds who put palm branches on the ground in his honour. Our procession down the Great North Road began at the Milestone Brewery, where we were treated to breakfast cobs and hot drinks.



Church restoration work

A lot of work has been taking place over the past few months, not just to prepare for our Palm Sunday service but to ensure the church is safe and sound for years to come:

- We've had the bell tower and stairwell cleaned out
- Repairs have been made to the font and a new cover provided
- Our church gates have been beautifully restored by Tim Devos – thank you very much for such skilled craftsmanship
- The leak in the roof has been repaired, and moss removed
- The lime tree has been given a serious pruning
- We've also done some groundwork.

And there are lots more exciting projects scheduled for the next few months. Thank you to everyone who has played a part in making all this happen.

Please join us at St Giles for our regular monthly service of Holy Communion – taking place on Sunday 17 May (the third Sunday of the month) at 9.00am.

Sarah Clarke, Churchwarden






CROMWELL VILLAGE HALL

EVENTS

D I A R Y

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

Brenda's Bingo

Eyes down next on **Friday 22 May 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**

Cromwell Parish Meeting

There will be a Parish Meeting on Tuesday 5 May at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

This meeting will be followed by a separate meeting, led by the Village Hall committee, to discuss plans for events etc.



The church is here for the parish. The PCC will provide help, support and information. Contacts are: **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 March and April

On 22 March our journey through the Bible continued with the theme of Heroes and Villains at the Fourth Sunday Worship, and included a lively discussion around who were our own personal heroes and/or villains. This developed further as we talked about the Christian response to villains – very pertinent in our current times.

29 March was Palm Sunday and it was wonderful to see so many people from across the area coming together for a procession to a thought-provoking service at St Giles church, Cromwell. Our thanks for the bacon butties and hot drinks at Milestone Brewery before we set off, and to Cromwell church for providing hot cross buns and coffee in the Village Hall after the service. It was a lively and meaningful service. It was lovely to have Bishop Andy with us throughout the morning.

The following day, Norwell was the location for a service to mark the start of Holy Week as a small but dedicated group joined together in church for the wonderful ancient evening service of Compline.

On Good Friday there was an hour of readings and prayer following a tradition going back many centuries. We reflectively followed the Stations of the Cross for which appropriate graphics had been beautifully made by pupils at Norwell school.



Then, following the sombre quiet of Easter Eve, otherwise known as Holy Saturday, we celebrated the joy of Jesus' resurrection and new life in Christ on Easter Day. Many thanks to everyone who filled the church with flowers and for yet more wonderful Easter decorations from the school.



The celebrations continued on Easter Monday with a fun but educational Easter egg hunt with clues within the church and the churchyard. Many parents joined in the hunt and found out new features in

St Laurence's that they had not noticed before. A great time was had by all.

In next month's magazine we will report on our Annual Church Meeting which took place on Tuesday 14 April at St Laurence's with details of what the Parochial Church Council has been doing in the last 12 months and what the plans are for 2026/27.

There will also be a report on the 4th Sunday Worship which took place on 26th April, and on the 'Away Day' attended by representatives of churches across the benefice.

AND SO TO MAY...

The customary Holy Communion service on Sunday 10 May will be a joint service with Ossington in St Laurence's church at 11.00am.

The Fourth Sunday Worship on 24 May will be a special celebration of Pentecost. All are welcome as this is a very special day in the church calendar.

Last, but by no means least, there is a wedding blessing on Saturday 30 May at St Laurence. We wish every joy to the happy couple.

COMING UP IN JUNE

More details of Weddings Past and Present are outlined in Norwell community news. On the weekend when the gardens are open there will be a display of weddings in the church, all with some kind of link to Norwell.



BOOK CLUB

In May we are reading a Japanese novel called *Kitchen* by Banana Yoshimoto. First published in 1988 to universal acclaim, Banana (her chosen name) has gone on to win many international prizes.

Kitchen comprises two novellas on the themes of love, bereavement, mothers and daughters – and food. We shall meet to discuss this unusual and compelling book on Wednesday 27 May.

More information about the Book Club from Helen on 636337

Weddings past and present

St Laurence's church will be open on Sunday 28 June and on the following Wednesday evening. This is timed to coincide with Open Gardens. There will be a display of wedding dresses, wedding photographs and other wedding memorabilia.

These will all have some connection with Norwell. They could be weddings which took place in Norwell, weddings of people who are living in Norwell now, but were married elsewhere, and even relatives of people who are living in Norwell. We would love to have things relating to every decade from the 1890s to the present. We have already got quite good coverage, but it would be lovely to have more to fill in the gaps.

Thank you very much to everyone who has responded already. We have promises of dresses, headdresses, shoes, dried and lace bouquets and more. Thank you, too, for offers of dressmaking dummies and manikins.



We are open to more ideas and suggestions. Please do get in touch: we want to make this something special. There has been so much interest already that we are thinking about having a special social opening for parishioners. More about this next month.

Please contact
Barbara Bateson 07718 183897,
barbara.bateson@btoopenworld.com or

Elizabeth Jones
01636 636365, 07418 008989,
emjones.norwell@btinternet.com

Norwell community news

Norwell Parish Council

Dear Parishioners,

The March Council meeting reported good progress on allotment rent collection, with any outstanding payments to be followed up. Funds from the recent Quiz Night will support additional maintenance in the Parish Gardens.

Open Gardens will take place on 28 June and 1 July.

County Councillor Laughton confirmed that Cauntton Dean Hole School will remain open for at least two more years under the guidance of Newark's Orchard School, and that new equipment is being used to tackle pothole repairs.

A planning application on Main Street was supported, while concerns were raised about

traffic impacts from other developments and the ongoing development of Flaggs Farm. Work is ongoing to identify a location for a new dog bin on Bathley Lane.

The Council remains in a stable financial position and has agreed the grass-cutting contract for the coming year.

Other updates included early discussions on the proposed H2East pipeline, charity governance matters, and plans to review the play area following its annual inspection. After taking advice and seeking further consultation, it was agreed not to plant a tree within the historic Pinfold.

A reminder that the Council meets on the 4th Thursday of every month in Norwell School at 7.00pm. All members of the public are welcome.

Cllr Ashleigh Robertshaw

Norwell Village Hall

Solar Project

The solar array has been installed on the Village Hall roof and is now working. We would like to thank all those who helped fund this project, either directly through donations and a grant (from Nottinghamshire County Council) or by attending one of our fundraising events.

Events

Our Quiz Night (in support of the Village Hall and the Allotments group) in March was enjoyed by those attending. It also raised £146 for both groups.

The next fabulous event is a 'Midsummer Supper & Songs' evening on Saturday 13

June with the multi-talented 'Willo' (Singer, guitarist and saxophonist). Tickets are £20 which includes supper. Please email NorwellVH.Events@gmail.com for your tickets.

The Village Hall will also be hosting refreshments for the annual NGS Open Gardens event on Sunday 28 June. This is the 30th anniversary of Norwell residents opening their gardens to the general public and raising funds for national charities. Donations of cakes and quiches will be very gratefully received.

The next Jigsaw Exchange will be held on 11 May.

*Pauline Hobson,
Treasurer*

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Woodhouse Villagers”

Norwell Diary – February, March and April

Mon 27 Apr	1.30-1.50pm	Mobile Library ~ Old Chapel, Main St
Mon 27 Apr	10.30am-12.30pm	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's
Mon 11 May	10.15-11.15am	Jigsaw Swap in the Village Hall
Tues 12 May	7.00-9.00pm	Village Voices
Sun 17 May	2.00-5.00pm	NGS Open Gardens at Norwell nurseries
Thur 21 May	7.30pm	Norwell Parish Heritage Group: Nottinghamshire Pit Ponies ~ Presented by Janine Buckley
Fri 22 May	PM	Norwell C of E School closes for May Half Term
Sun 24 May	11.00am	4th Sunday Service at St Laurence's, continuing our Journey through the Bible. Refreshments will be served from 10.30am
Tues 26 May	7.00-9.00pm	Village Voices
Wed 27 May	8.00pm	Book Club. For details 01636 636337
Mon 1 June	AM	Norwell C of E School opens after May Half Term
Mon 1 June	10.30am- 12.30pm	Community Coffee Morning at Norwell Nurseries Pavilion.
Tues 9 June	7.00-9.00pm	Village Voices
Sat 13 June	7.00pm	Midsummer's Party organised by the Village Hall
Sun 14 June	9.00am	Holy Communion at St Laurence's

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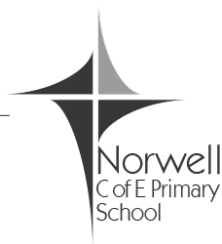
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Norwell CofE Primary School



The school year seems to be flying by with only three months left until school breaks up!

This term is always a busy time – filled with increased sporting activities, getting down to the school allotment and looking forward to taking part in the Lincolnshire Show in June.

Every two years the school enters the Show's education competition and this year the children across Key Stage 2 are researching a project linked to planning wildlife areas, and planting flowers and plants, to encourage and support our bee and insect populations. This project is then judged at the Show where the children present their work and ideas to a team of experienced people, which can be exciting

but daunting! They also have some time to explore the Show which they really enjoy!

If you have any spare plants which you don't need and are 'bee friendly' we would gladly plant and care for them in our beds at the allotment!



We look forward to sharing further exciting events in next month's magazine.

Best wishes
Kathryn King
Head Teacher

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Plenty has happened since we reported in April.

Gibbets and Gallows in Nottinghamshire

This was most entertaining and not as gory as we feared it was going to be. Emily Gillott is such a lively enthusiast. She showed us illustrations of the difference between gibbets and gallows. There were far more gibbets and gallows in our county than we had realised. Some of the evidence comes from accounts of their use, but much of the evidence comes from the names of roads and fields. As far as we know there were no gallows in Norwell, but if anyone knows of a lane or field name which would indicate their existence, please let us know. Norwell did have its own stocks.

Norwell Heritage Walk Part 2

We feared that the weather would be awful as the forecast was not at all encouraging. Fortunately, although it was windy, the sun shone and Norwell was at its beautiful best. We started at Willoughby House and progressed westwards. It was fascinating to learn about farms, trades, pubs (note the plural, there were three) and building styles. There are more timber-framed buildings than meet the eye as most have been encased in brick. Thank you to Colin Wright who allowed us to look round Ivy Cottage. Many are older than we thought. The oldest property, Southview Cottage, has parts which date from the early fourteenth century. We finished at the magnificent Palishall. It is a stunning building with a long history. Rhona and Graham Price kindly showed us round inside and provided a very welcome tea. It was a lovely way to spend a Saturday afternoon.



May meeting

There will be a talk about Nottinghamshire Pit Ponies on Thursday 21 May. Janine Buckley, who has written a book

on the subject, will tell us about the conditions in which the pit ponies worked and were cared for in the Nottinghamshire

pits, which many still remember. This will be a meeting for those interested in horses as well as those interested in history.



June and July

These are the months when we think about our annual Walk, Talk and Eat. This year the focus is on Tuxford. In preparation for the visit in July, our meeting on 18 June will be a talk about the history of the Great North Road between Newark and Tuxford. It will take us to the time when Tuxford was an important coaching town and then when it became a remarkable rail hub with three stations. Those were the days!

Weddings Past and Present

See Norwell Church News. You may have something to contribute to a display in the church at the end of June. We are trying to cover as many decades as possible with photos, dresses and other memorabilia.

Ossington community news



From the Church

After years of complex work, with equally complex negotiation to get the work done, and considerable expenditure, our wonderful Holy Rood is spick and span once more and ready to resume its role as a much valued and much loved place of worship. We plan to celebrate our return with a special Holy Communion service for all the parishes in the benefice at 11.00am on 31 May – Trinity Sunday.

A Successful 'Coffee for a Cause'

Last month's coffee morning in Ossington hosted a charity plant and cake sale, and it was a great success! Thank you to all of you who came bearing donations of plants and baked goods! And to those who left with equally full arms! The total raised will be declared in June's magazine along with details of where your donations went.

There will be no coffee morning in May due to the Bank Holiday and other commitments. But we will see you again in June!

Mary Brown

Garden Party Raffle Prizes

We have been blown away by the generosity of local businesses who have offered some fantastic prizes for this year's Garden Party on Saturday 25 July. We have the following prizes already secured, and we thank them for their generosity:

- Fish and Chips for Two – The Crown Inn, Bathley
- Coffee and Cake for Two – The Butcher's Brew Coffee Shop, Sutton-on-Trent
- Voucher for Cobbs Country Store
- A Fresh Flower arrangement by TC Floral Designs

- A Gift Voucher for a treatment from Lynwood Holistic Massage Therapies
- A Fire Basket from Hall Farm Wild Bird Supplies
- Facial and Blow-dry from The Muskham Hair and Beauty Clinic
- A Voucher from J's Mosaics

We welcome any other prizes that people would like to offer, whether they be vouchers and goods from local businesses or gifts from individuals – all will be gratefully received! We will have collection days nearer the time – more information to follow. Raffle tickets will only be available to buy at the garden party, with the draw taking place towards the end of the event. So, be there to be in with a chance of winning some seriously wonderful prizes!

Angie Carney-Marsh

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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)

At a Glance – Dates for your Diary

- First service back in the Church –
31 May, 11.00am
- Ossington Garden Party –
25th July, 3.00–5.00pm

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Ossington's Nature Photo of the Month

'Did somebody say "biscuit"??'

Taken by Lisa Hyde



This wonderful photo is of the lovely 'Nell' from Post Office Farm. Lisa has captured Nell's daily ritual of taking her tea break from farming duties and popping round (unaccompanied, of course) to Lisa's house for her daily biscuit! She wouldn't have it any other way (and neither would Nell)!

Thank you so much to everyone who entered again – 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 that 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

Southwell Music Festival

The four-day festival returns on Friday 28 to Monday 31 August with renowned Nottingham pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason, now enjoying an international reputation, as artist-in-residence.

The full festival line-up will be revealed at a free Launch Concert on Friday 15 May at Southwell Minster. The concert is open to everyone. Reserve your free tickets online at southwellmusicfestival.com

Carlton on Trent Village Hall

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.

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

Cromwell (on Route 11)

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

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

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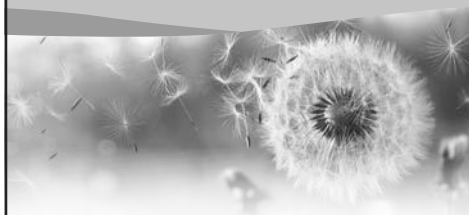
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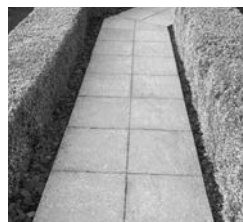
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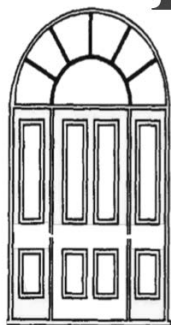
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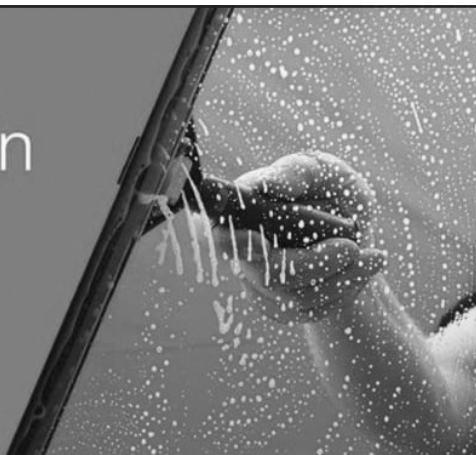
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Donations towards the cost of printing the magazine are always appreciated.

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

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As always the editorial team welcomes your feedback.
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