



NORTON • CUCKNEY • HOLBECK and WELBECK

PARISH COUNCIL

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cldr.nancy.wright@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk



CHRISTMAS TREE
FESTIVAL AND
CHRISTMAS MARKET

COMMUNITY NEWS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

REMEMBRANCE 2024

That time of year is approaching us again when we remember those fallen in battle who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. Nancy and I will be placing the Poppies in Cuckney – some on lamp posts and some as a display in the community garden. Jackie Cuckson and Sheila Brailsford will be doing similar in Holbeck and Norton respectively.

November the eleventh falls on a Monday this year. Nancy and I will be in the community garden together with recorded last post and reveille to mark the 11 o' clock silence. There will be a bottle of port to toast the fallen. All are warmly invited to join us – please bring your own glass.....

The First World war officially ended at 11 am on the eleventh day of the eleventh month hence we have our Armistice day date and time.

The situation regarding the last soldier killed in the first world war is much more confusing – as always in war.

Officially – Henry Nicholas John Gunther was an American soldier killed on the eleventh November 1918 at 10:59 am. Henry was a bank clerk from Baltimore. George Edwin Ellison was the last British soldier killed. He died at 09:30 – sadly, shot by a sniper while out on a patrol near Mons. One can only wonder at the chain of command that decided to send out a patrol at that time in the conflict. George is buried in close proximity to John Parr; a British soldier killed 17 days after Britain declared war in 1914.

Canadian George Lawrence Price died at 10:58. The eleventh November 1918 was a Monday, it was raining by several accounts. Price was a conscript, a single man drafted in at age 24.

Of course, there are other casualties who succumbed to wounds and disease contracted pre- Armistice who died after the eleventh hour.

Moving forward to another war, another century. I had been in Afghanistan for 3 days when the call came in – gunshot wound to the chest. As part of the Medical Emergency Response Team, we ran to the waiting Chinook. As we donned body armour, the engines started and we taxied to get airborne. Two Apache gunships – call sign *Ugly* were sent to escort us to the area.

In flight – an update; ‘.....patient not breathing...’. We knew that this progression was extremely bad. Sadly, that young man succumbed to his injuries despite our efforts and those of the medical team in the hospital at Bastion. That mission was close to Remembrance day and it is that young soldier who I always think of specifically.

The Royal British Legion carries out remarkable work to support service men and women and / or the families of the bereaved or injured. They rely on donations and the annual poppy appeal is a key element of their fund raising. Please give whatever you can.

Cllr Kelvin Wright (Col Retd late RAMC))



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

NORTON AND CUCKNEY VILLAGE HALL

Norton and Cuckney Village Hall recently had another couple of fantastic fundraising events, but even though the Winter months are setting in, the trustees will be hard at work to continue to restore this much-loved community asset.

I'd like to thank everyone who helped organise and attended our two events in September. Whether you were winning on the craft fair tombola or dancing the night away at our music event, it was great to see the hall in use again. Thank you also for your feedback and encouragement; we, as a charity, are taking everything on board.

I'd like to thank Cathy, along with everyone who prepared and purchased a tea box in October for supporting the Village Hall's fundraising efforts. We'll also have a small stall at the Christmas Tree Festival and the hall will be open on the day if you need to use the facilities.

Unfortunately, the Winter months limit our use of the hall, but Zumba will be continuing on a Tuesday evening regardless.

We also plan to use the next few months to reflect on our fundraising activities over the year, so that future events are of the highest quality and enjoyable for all. We aim to kick-off our 2025 schedule by coinciding with Village Halls week, which runs from the 17th to the 23rd of March. If you like pie, peas and a quiz, Friday the 21st March 2025 is the day for you!

As well as fundraising events, the charity has been preparing applications for grants to help fund major works required to the building. To have a building that can serve everyone in the community all year round, nearly every aspect of the hall will need some sort of attention.

We have already approached local businesses to provide quotes for the work that will be required to the Village Hall. We'd like to thank everyone who has provided information or advice to us so far and for confirming that our aims are achievable.

As with most grant applications, we require at least three quotes. So, if you run a local business, we would be grateful for your time to provide a quote or advise. If you can help or have any recommendations of a business that can, please contact myself or one of the trustees.

We would also like to hear what the community would like the hall to be used for, as this will help us decide our priorities. If you have a fundraising idea, would like to see the hall used for a certain activity, or would just like to lend a helping hand, we would be more than happy to hear from you.

Thank you for your support, I look forward to hearing from and seeing many of you over the next few months.

Conor Marples
Chair
Norton and Cuckney Village Hall



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MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

A huge thank you to all who supported the coffee morning at The Kennels.

A special thank you to Cathy Brown and Sheryl Kirk for baking their delicious cakes, when both were going away on holiday. Dedication indeed!

Thank you to all who donated raffle prizes. Your support and help raised £325.

Well done everyone!

Margaret Rowson.

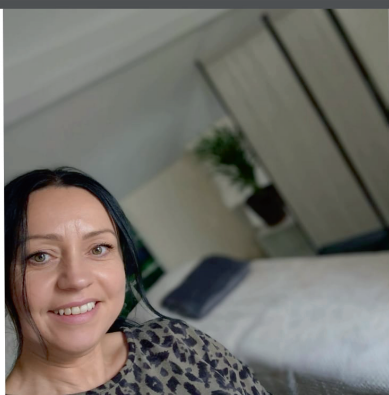
CROSSWORD SOLUTION (see PG.7)

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HISTORY CLUB

In September Bob Massey gave a talk entitled 'Robberies in Sherwood Forest' in which he spoke about the outlaws that operated there in past times.

October's talk was given by Mo Cooper who described the harsh working conditions in Nottingham Lace Factories during the 18th and 19th centuries. Both of these talks with local connections were well received by members and guests.

On 11th November Maggie Watkins will give a talk entitled "The Scandalous Duchess" and on 9th December we will have our traditional Christmas Party which will include a Pea and Pie meal and desserts, also an open bar.

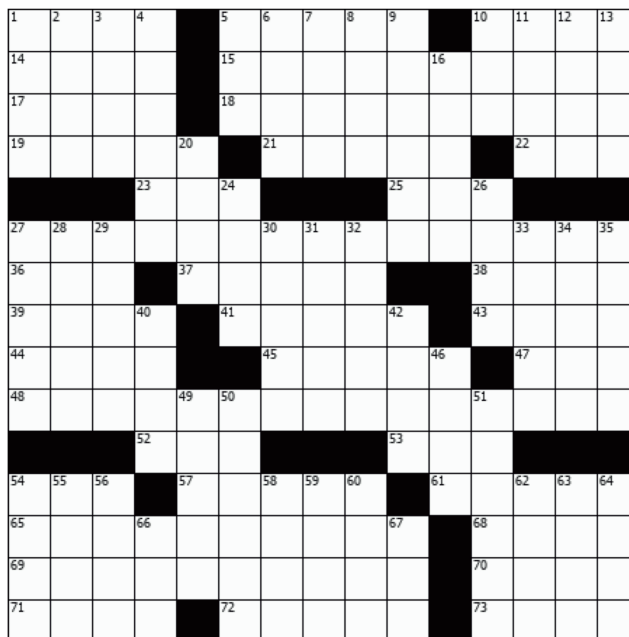
Both events will be held at Cuckney Cricket Club with a start time of 7.30 PM.

Richard Bower

BUMPER CROSSWORD

Across

1. Agnetha, Bjorn, Benny and Anni-Frid
5. Putting to work
10. Regarding
14. Spoils
15. Amos or Andy, e.g.
17. Expression of concern
18. Part 1 of a quip
19. 1983 Keaton film
21. Barcelata's "Maria ___"
22. Employ busily
23. Miss Piggy's favorite word
25. "___ the season ..."
27. Part 2 of the quip
36. Yoko
37. Kitchen utensil
38. "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ___" (Joel 3:13)
39. Quaker leader
41. "___ too bad"
43. Before now, in olden days
44. Kett of the comics
45. Tapestry
47. ___, Daman and Diu
48. Part 3 of the quip
52. Female lobster
53. Marina ___ Rey, California
54. Word with falling or flat
57. Pass into law
61. Exercise, as power
65. End of the quip
68. March Madness org.
69. People of the Old Testament
70. Do pull-ups
71. Piquancy
72. Stalks
73. Make use of a pawnshop



Down

1. Styptic pencil ingredient
2. Physics Nobelists Niels
3. Bust alternative
4. Expecting visitors, maybe
5. Conjuror Geller
6. Umpire's call
7. Teen Beat cover subject
8. Opera setting for "Aida"
9. Choose, as a career
10. Serena's serve, sometimes
11. Octagonal traffic sign
12. Work hard
13. Gateway to Paris
16. Serve the purpose
20. Terrarium growth
24. "___ ain't broke ..."
26. Term for a king
27. Dealt with successfully
28. And ___ grow on
29. Casino game
30. Postsurgical program
31. Egg-producer
32. Paris subway
33. Sign of summer's end
34. English racetrack site
35. Plant parts
40. Humorist Ogden
42. Uttered
46. Did away with
49. American naturalist and explorer William
50. Historical chronicles
51. Assure, as a pennant
54. "Think nothing ___"
55. Heavenly bear
56. In tatters
58. "This won't hurt ___!"
59. Provide with a summons
60. Abound
62. Repeat
63. Secular
64. Like some basements
66. GQ for one
67. Hissing sound

SOLUTION ON PAGE 5

Pensioners are being urged to check if they're entitled to Pension Credit, which could help with their day to day living costs. The Pension Credit tops up pension income, and if eligible, residents may also be able to access The Winter Fuel Payment, get help with rent and Council Tax, a free TV licence for 75-year-olds or over, or help with the cost of NHS services.

Residents are being advised to find out if they can claim by going online at www.gov.uk/pension-credit or by phone on 0800 99 1234.



UK Government

Are you over State Pension age, or know someone who is?

Pension Credit tops up pension income and can help with day-to-day living costs.

If you are over State Pension age, you may be eligible to claim **Pension Credit**, even if you own your home or have savings. People who claim **Pension Credit** may also be able to get:

- The **Winter Fuel Payment*** and other help with heating costs
- Help with rent and Council Tax
- A free TV Licence for those aged 75 or over
- Help with the cost of NHS services, such as NHS dental treatment, glasses and transport costs for hospital appointments

You could be eligible for **Pension Credit** if your weekly income is below £218.15 or, if you have a partner who lives with you, £332.95. Qualifying income level may be higher in some circumstances.

Don't miss out.

Check your eligibility at gov.uk/pension-credit or by calling **0800 99 1234**

Eligibility criteria apply
*or the equivalent in Scotland.



SCAN TO FIND
OUT MORE



It is estimated 880,000 households across the UK eligible for the support, worth on average £3,900 a year, are missing out.

People over State Pension age need to apply by 21 December, the last date for making a backdated claim, in order to receive this year's Winter Fuel Payment.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Greetings Everyone,

I expect most of you will be thinking about Christmas now that the autumn leaves have fallen, the days are getting shorter and there's a definite nip in the air that may even produce snow this winter.

Thinking and preparing for Christmas encourages us to think more about generosity, not only in what we give, but also in what we receive. I have been so impressed recently in witnessing how this community works so hard to retain its social and community spirit which moves and touches everyone. For example, the events that have been organised so far to raise funds for the Cuckney Village Hall have been organised with such determination, creativeness and conviction, this to save what was originally a temporary place of worship many years ago.

This has inspired me to reflect upon how much our local churches have meant to people over the years, whether they have been places where people have been married, baptised or laid to rest in the beautiful graveyards that have always been kept in good order. In rural communities, the church always used to be the centre or the hub of where community life revolved and people gathered for worship and religious seasonal events, but unfortunately these wonderful historic buildings are being used less and less as our social culture evolves.

I am therefore passionate about how we can grow God's church in our wonderful rural areas where people have lived and worked for many years. In Holbeck and Norton–Cuckney, our churches, St Winifred's and St Mary's have generously provided so much in the community; St Mary's has served as a place of worship for hundreds of years.

Unfortunately, however, I have to be blunt and honest in this my Christmas message of hope. To keep a church building fully operational, it costs thousands of pounds per year, and at St Mary's we are struggling, like many others, to pay the bills each month putting at risk the future of this church building that is almost organic in a way that it lives and breathes its history. What I mean by this is that just by being present in the church building and grounds you can sense how God has been at work there for centuries, serving close knit communities in all aspects of their lives.

Our church's ministry and mission has never been more needed: meeting in church for prayer, services and fellowship, loving our neighbours by offering practical support to the vulnerable, and caring for our communities.

The work of our church is reliant on people's generosity, and we are so grateful for all the gifts we receive. This generosity is a hallmark of a lived-out faith and a testament to it. If you can give to the church in any shape or form this Christmas it will be a blessing to us all as a community in the hope that our past can continue to shape our present.

For our services and further information this Christmas, please check out the community diary on page 15 or refer to our Facebook page by searching: '[St Mary's Norton Cuckney & St Winifred's Holbeck.](#)'

May God bless you this festive season in all that you do with your families and friends.

Revd Nigel Stones

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL and CHRISTMAS MARKET

We have now as many stalls booked as we can accomodate in church, however we would like more decorated trees.

If you would like to decorate a tree to promote your business, a favourite charity or just for yourself, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Trees can be real or artificial and ideally up to 5 feet tall. Please supply your own tree.

They need to be set up on Friday, 6th December, please see contact details below for more information. book a tree slot and times for decorating.



Margaret Rowson
01623 844661
heatherjazz@gmail.com

Sheila Brailsford
01623 843195
sheila.water@btinternet.com

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, NORTON CUCKNEY

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL and CHRISTMAS MARKET



SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER 2024
10:30AM TO 3:00PM

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THE NORTHERN LIGHTS



*The aurora swirls over Cuckney.
Photo courtesy of Pauline Marples*

It's not something you expect to see in our part of the world. One minute I'm watching the TV and the next, people are frantically calling to say that the whole sky is lighting up in these incredible green and purple waves.

The auroras, or Northern Lights, are something you usually only hear about in places like Norway or Iceland. People pay good money to go to the ends of the earth to see them. But here? The whole sky seemed to have come alive:

I wasn't the only one who noticed. On October 10th, my phone was busy with notifications from villagers who'd taken photos of the wonderful sight. Swirls of green, with hints of pink and purple, stretched across the horizon like rippling curtains. It was so quiet, so peaceful – as if the whole world had stopped to watch.

This spectacle was caused by a geomagnetic storm – a burst of solar wind that interacts with Earth's magnetic field.

Normally, you'd only see this in places much closer to the poles. The Northern Lights have visited us a couple of times during the year but the colours were nothing like as vivid as on this occasion.

Now that I've seen it once, I can't wait for the chance to see it again. It's worth doing some research on how you can better spot these rare auroras next time they come around. If you missed it, don't worry – here's how you can get prepared for the next show:

1. Keep an Eye on Solar Activity

Websites like AuroraWatch UK provide real-time alerts when conditions are right for auroras in the UK.

2. Find a Dark Spot

Light pollution can ruin the view, so it's lucky for us that we're already rural and places like Holbeck are perfect for stargazing.

3. Check the Weather

Clear skies are a must.

4. Be Patient

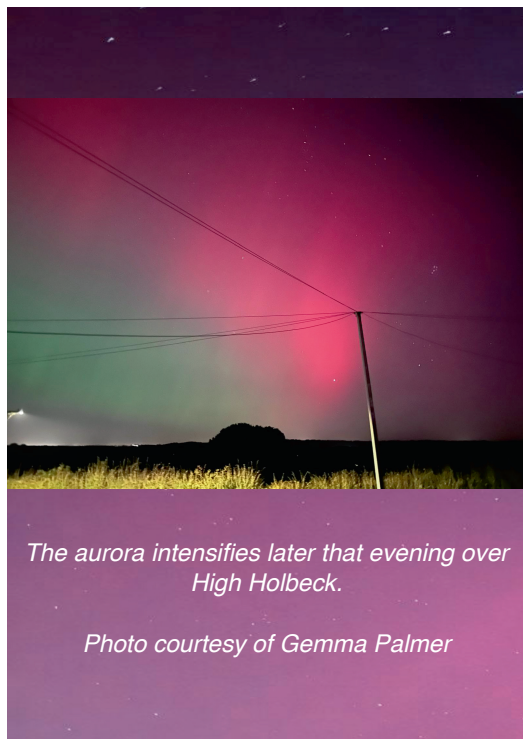
The lights can be unpredictable. Sometimes they last for hours, other times just a few minutes

5. Look North

The auroras usually appear low on the northern horizon.

I'll be ready with my camera next time and I hope more people in the village get to witness it too.

Nancy Wright



The aurora intensifies later that evening over High Holbeck.

Photo courtesy of Gemma Palmer

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CHURCHYARD 100 CLUB WINNERS

The winners in August were

Joe Brailsford (no. 40) and Cathy Brown (no. 62)

The winners in September were

Linda Rainey (no. 18) and Morven Harrison (no. 33)

Congratulations!

Sunday 3 November 10.30 am	Holy Communion – All Saint's Day	St Winifred's, Holbeck
Sunday 10 November	Remembrance Sunday – 3 before Advent	St Mary's, Cuckney
Monday 11 November 7.00 pm	The History Club	Cuckney Cricket Club
Thursday 14 November 7.00pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	The Education Room, Harley Gallery
Sunday 17th November 10.30 am	Morning Prayer – 2 before Advent	St Mary's, Cuckney
Sunday 17th November 10.30	Morning Prayer / Book of Common Prayer – 2 before Advent	St Winifred's, Holbeck
Wednesday 20th November 2.00 pm	The Villagers Group	Cuckney Cricket Club
Sunday, 24 November 10.30 am	Holy Communion – Advent Sunday – Christ the King	St Winifred's, Holbeck
Friday, 6th December	Setup for Christmas Tree Festival.	See page 10 for details
Saturday, 7th December 10.30 am to 3.00 pm	CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL and CHRISTMAS MARKET	St Mary's, Cuckney
Sunday 8th December 4.00 pm	Christingle Service – Advent 2	St Mary's, Cuckney
Monday 9th December 7.00 pm	The History Club	Cuckney Cricket Club Pie and Pea / Open Bar
Thursday 12 December 7.00 pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	The Education Room, Harley Gallery
Sunday 15 December 4.00 pm	Carol Service – Advent 3	St Mary's, Cuckney
Sunday 15 December 10.30 am	NO SERVICE	St Winifred's, Holbeck
Wednesday 18th December 2.00 pm	The Villagers Group	Cuckney Cricket Club
Sunday 22nd December 10.30 am	Holy Communion – Advent 4	St Mary's, Cuckney
Tuesday 24th December 4.00 pm – Christmas Eve	Crib Service	St Mary's, Cuckney
Tuesday 24th December 11.15 pm – Christmas Eve	Midnight Holy Communion	St Mary's, Cuckney
Wednesday 25th December 11.00 am – Christmas Day	Christmas Day Service	St Winifred's, Holbeck
Sunday 29th December at 10.30 am	NO SERVICE	
Sunday 5th January at 10.30 am	Holy Communion – Christmas 2	St Winifred's, Holbeck

Parish Council Contacts

Mrs Kelly M Kelly

EMAIL clerk@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk

CALL 01623700483

Cllr. Nancy Wright (Chair)

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CALL 07967632617

Cllr. David Wall (Vice-Chair)

EMAIL cllr.david.wall@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr. Sheila Brailsford

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CALL 01623 843195

Cllr. Jackie Cuckson

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Cllr. Stacie Cuckson

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CALL 07525 437932

Cllr. Matthew Evans

EMAIL cllr.matthew.evans@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk

CALL 07511 904014

Cllr. Conor Marples

EMAIL cllr.conor.marples@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr. Gemma Palmer

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Cllr. James Palmer

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CALL 07305 832497

Cllr. Kelvin Wright

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CALL 07568 445717

Member of Parliament

Jo White MP

EMAIL jo.white.mp@parliament.uk

District / County

Cllr Charles Adams [District]

CALL 07795 565611

EMAIL charles.adams@cllr.bassetlaw.gov.uk

Cllr Nigel Turner [County]

WRITE Notts County Council, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

CALL 07811 512763

EMAIL cllr.nigel.turner@nottsccl.gov.uk

Bassetlaw District Council

www.bassetlaw.gov.uk

Notts County Council

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Dog Fouling / Fly-Tipping

Enforcement Officers from Bassetlaw Council will prosecute dog-owners who persistently do not clear up after their dogs.

The Officers will patrol areas that receive the most reports via the Bassetlaw website. The more incidents that are reported, the more likely it is that something will be done. The system is simple to use; **bassetlaw.gov.uk/report-a-problem** or call the dog-fouling and fly-tipping reporting line on 01909 533533

Pot Holes and Road Issues

Reporting potholes or other road issues couldn't be easier, thanks to the MyNotts app.

The app allows you to report most highway issues directly to the County Council. All you need to do is go online and download the MyNotts app from the Apple Store or Google Play to either your phone or tablet.

Additionally, you can call the pothole reporting line on 03001 235000.

Other Useful Contacts

Lighting
03005 008080

Refuse/Missed Bins
01909 534501

Non Emergency Police
101

Crime Stoppers
0800 555111

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024