



NORTON • CUCKNEY • HOLBECK and WELBECK

PARISH COUNCIL

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cllr.nancy.wright@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk

BUMPER NEW YEAR EDITION

COMMUNITY NEWS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

FROM THE CHAIR

I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas. Now is the time to start planning for the coming year.

We would like to welcome our locum Clerk, Kimberley Walker to the team. Kimberley is currently Deputy Clerk and RFO with Somercotes Parish Council and she will be helping us out until we have secured a permanent incumbent.

The Parish Council will be replacing the noticeboards in Cuckney. There is one outside the church, shared with St. Mary's and one hanging on the wall of Jac's cafe. We hope to get these installed in the spring.

The 8th May 2025 will see the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe. The Parish Council will be hosting an event at Norton and Cuckney Village Hall. This event is still in the planning stages and is likely to consist of two halves;



an afternoon event, with a buffet lunch followed by a film and an evening event, with hot food and a themed quiz. Both parts of the day will be ticketed in order to plan the catering. Put the date in your diary and keep your eyes out for updates in the next newsletter and on the facebook page.

Additionally, the Parish Council is also hoping to organise a new display for Remembrance in Norton, Cuckney and Holbeck in November 2025. For that we will need poppies! Please see pages 10-11 for knitting and crochet patterns. The Council in liaison with the Village Hall is hoping to organise knit and knatter coffee mornings in order for our crafty villagers to bring in their poppies, start fixing the poppies to the display and to have a chat over a nice cuppa.

I hope that you will take the time to read through our community magazine and I wish you a Happy New Year.

Cllr. Nancy Wright
Chair

THE VILLAGES OF WELBECK ASSOCIATION

The Villages of Welbeck Association (VWA) was officially dissolved on the 19th November 2024 by Special General meeting of the Trustees in accordance with its Constitution. The vote was unanimous.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all those who have donated to the VWA in recent years and those who have supported our fund-raising efforts by volunteering their time.

CLOTHING BANK



**SAVANNA RAGS CLOTHING
AND SHOE BANK**

**If full: Please phone
01623421555**

YES PLEASE

Paired Shoes
Clean Clothing
Handbags
Bed Sheets
Pillow Cases
Towels

NO THANKS

Duvets and Pillows
Soiled Bags
Carpets or Rugs
Glass or Metal
Paper
Domestic Waste

There is a new textile bank in Norton and Cuckney Village Hall's car park.

You will be able to drop off unwanted clothing, sheets, shoes, towels etc. Depending on quality, some of these items will be turned over to charity but most will be recycled into cleaning cloths.

Savanna rags will collect on a bi-weekly basis but if you notice that the bin is becoming full, please phone 01623 421555. Please check that a bag isn't stuck in the chute before phoning.

Funds received from the bank will be evenly distributed between the St. Mary's Church and Norton and Cuckney Village Hall.

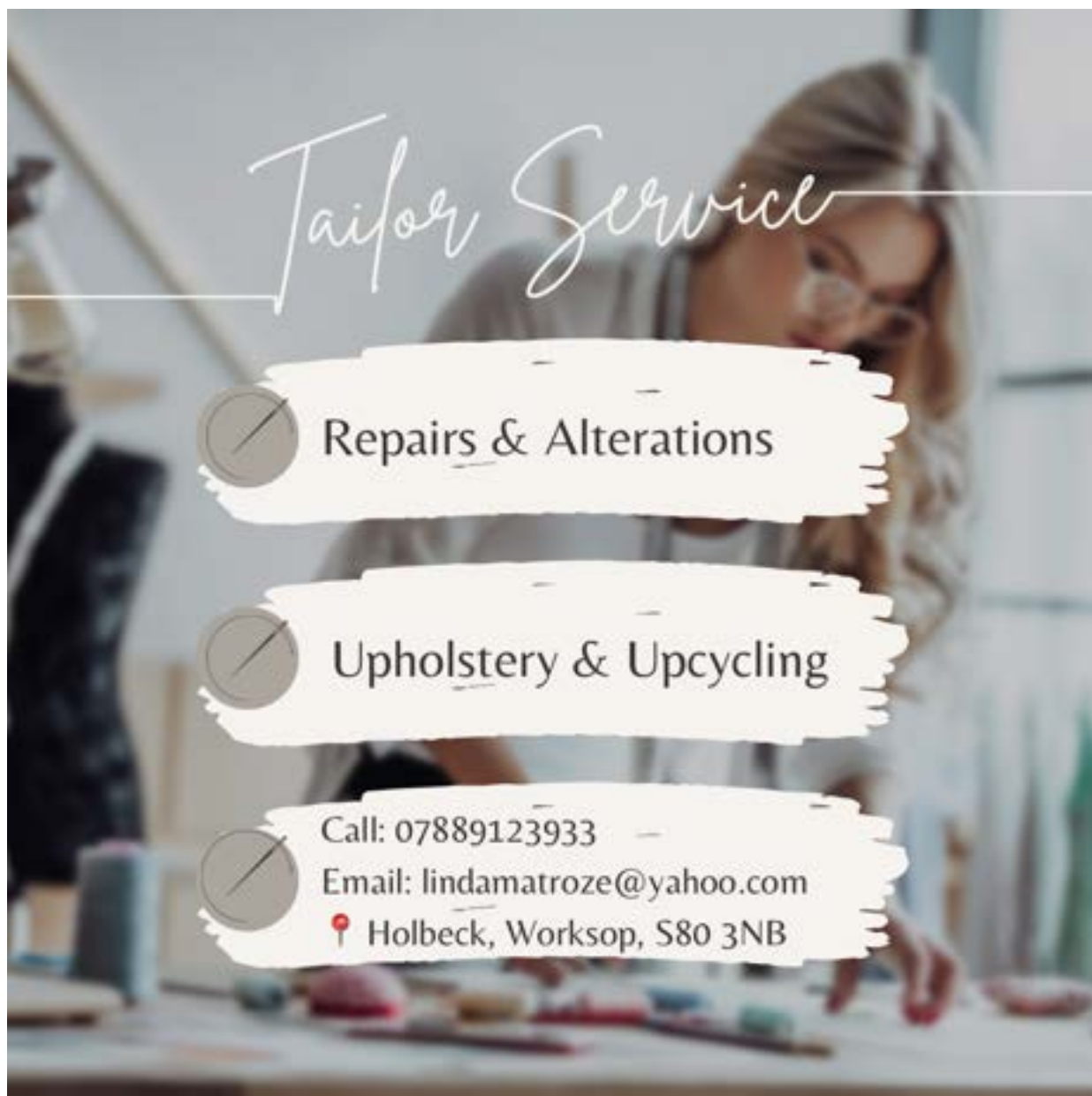
The VWA was extremely successful at fundraising for its primary focus, to get quotes for a car park on the old allotment site next to the playing fields in Cuckney. Georgina Smith is owed a huge debt of gratitude for the work she did in raising these funds.

Unfortunately, it became clear that the new car park would be a very expensive endeavour and raising funds for this would be a very difficult challenge. The only way that seemed feasible was if the car park serviced a new village hall on the site. It has also become clear that if the present, much-loved village hall in Cuckney were to fall into disuse, the case for a new village hall would be an almost impossible one to make to funders. Focus has therefore shifted to renovation and rejuvenation of the current hall.

Most of the Trustees of the VWA also sit as Trustees on Norton and Cuckney Village Hall charity or sit on the Parish Council. It was felt that the VWA as it was constituted, was trying to do the same job as the village hall charity and so the focus should be on the charity with its greater attractiveness for grant funding.

The remaining assets of the VWA were transferred to the Norton and Cuckney Village Hall charity (1041895).

Katie Shaw, Former Secretary



A WORD OF THANKS FROM THE TEA BOX TEAM

As we hang up our aprons after our final tea boxes, with some sadness, for it has been such fun, the Tea Box Ladies want to thank you for so loyally supporting our efforts through the dark days of the pandemic right through to the end of 2024.

£460 was raised to help with the renovations of the Village Hall in Cuckney this time taking the total since starting tea boxes in September 2020 to £10,526.72 distributed between so many deserving causes.

We thank you one and all.
Cathy, Judy, Margaret, Sheryl & Georgina

Friday
21

March

From 7.00 pm to
9.00 pm



**Prizes for 1st,
2nd and 3rd
Place and a
special prize
for the lowest
scoring team!**

**Norton and
Cuckney Village
Hall Presents...**

QUIZ NIGHT Pie and Peas

COMPERED BY
'CUCKNEY'S OWN'
CONOR MARPLES

8 Rounds

50 Questions

**Maximum of 6
per team**

**Raffle and
Best Named
Team prize
in the
interval**

Family friendly

**Smaller teams
welcomed**

Tickets

£12.50 pp

(ticket price includes pie
& peas)

**Bring your own
drinks and
snacks**

Tickets available to buy
from Jac's Café or contact
Conor Marples on
01623 843228

**Ticket numbers are limited,
so buy soon to avoid
disappointment**

All proceeds go to Norton and Cuckney Village Hall

NORTON AND CUCKNEY VILLAGE HALL

Progress at Norton and Cuckney Village Hall continues, with 2025 set to be a full year of events and renovations.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for your kind words and support over the last few months, particularly at the Christmas Tree Festival. I hope it was the start of a wonderful Festive period for everyone.

Our lucky squares were completely sold out and congratulations to our winner, who was very happy with their prize! It was great to speak to so many people who shared the same enthusiasm for the Village Hall that we as Trustees have.

I hope to see many of you in around the Community and at the Village Hall throughout the year.

As some of you may have noticed, we now have a clothing bin in the car park. If you're having an early spring clean, please make use of this facility. This is another way in which you can support the Village Hall and the Church.

I'm pleased to report that work is continuing on the building, with work completed to the roof to prevent any further leaks and the old heating system being removed.

We hope to hear soon if our grant application has been accepted to completely rewire the building, install energy efficient lighting and, that all important, heating system. We will continue our work, no matter how long it takes, on this and all our projects, which can be viewed on our website.

March is set to be a busy month, with our DIY event on Saturday 15th March (see pg. 12 for details). Even if you can only spare an hour, your help will be greatly appreciated, to get the Village Hall ready for the year ahead.

Make sure to get your tickets for the Quiz, with Pie and Pea Supper, on Friday 21st of March. Don't worry if you don't have a full team, as we will help before the event, and on, the evening.

Although the Villages of Welbeck Association has been dissolved, the Craft and Plant Fair at the Lady Margaret Hall will be running on Saturday 29th March. We know how much the community enjoy this event and it would be a great shame if it was lost.

Our focus is to keep running a much-loved asset at the heart of the community, so we will do what we can to support all events, groups and parts of our community.

With the VE day celebrations and many other events on the horizon, including a fashion show in July (keep an eye out for how you can be a model), as well as all the renovations we have planned, 2025 will be a busy year!

As always, if you can help the Village Hall in any way, we all greatly appreciate your support. I wish you a Happy New Year!

Conor Marples

Chair

Norton and Cuckney Village Hall

VILLAGE HALL RENOVATIONS

Leak in the Lean-To Roof



Urgent work has been carried out on the lean-to roof by the kitchen. The sealant originally used on this roof perished and water has been getting in for a number of years.

A new EPDM sealant, pictured, has been installed. This is guaranteed for 25 years and will prevent further damage occurring along this part of the structure.

Out thanks to TAW Joinery for carrying out this necessary work.

New Guttering

Thanks to a grant from the Villages of Welbeck Association made in the summer, the guttering has been replaced and several more downpipes have been installed in order to cope with the run off from such a large roof.

Inserts have been put under the cladding to guide rainwater directly into the gutters to protect the building. This work will ensure that water does not track between the gutter and the external wall and ingress the building

Our thanks to Upright Aerials for doing this job with good humour and for all their great advice.





Aneta Stachurska-Betts

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PSYCHIC MEDIUM
ARTIST



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- Clear Blockages & Suppressed Emotions
- Helps reduce depression

BASED IN NORTON, NG20 9LP

Please call or message to book an appointment

TEL. 07365522899

Email: aneta.betts@gmail.com

SATURDAY, 15TH MARCH 2025



DIY SOS

VILLAGE HALL RE-PAINT

on Saturday, 15th March 2025

from

9:00AM to 6:00 PM

Norton and Cuckney Village Hall will be re-opening at the end of March 2025, during Village Halls Week.

A lot of work has been done over the winter but the hall is sadly in need of a lick of paint.

The Trustees will have purchased some paint from the community paint scheme but we need help from the community to get this up on the walls!

Please come along to the community repaint. Bring any spare brushes, rollers, paint trays and dust sheets.

Don't forget to bring some old clothes to change into.



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CONTRIBUTE TO THE POPPY DRIVE!

The Parish Council will be organising a new display of poppies in the villages for 2025. We are hoping that you will do your part.

Together with the village hall Trustees, we'll be organising Knit and Natter coffee mornings, where you can learn how to create a knitted poppy and experienced knitters and crocheters can pass on their skills. Keep an eye out in the community magazines for details on these events.

If you can already knit or crochet, here are some easy knit and crochet patterns to work from and you'll be able to drop your contributions into one of the coffee mornings. If you've got your own poppy pattern that you prefer, please use that.

KNIT This pattern uses standard knitting abbreviations.

Tension is not important

Cast on 60 sts using 4mm needles and red DK yarn.

Rows 1–8 (K2, P2) to end.

Row 9 (K2tog) to end. [30 sts]

Row 10 (S2kpsso) to end. [10 sts]

Break off yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread tail through remaining 10 sts and pull tight, then fasten off yarn.

Join the edges of the poppy together and sew the black button in the centre of the poppy.

You can swap to black yarn on rows 9 and 10 to make the poppy look even more effective



KNIT

Colour A Red Colour B Scrap of Black or a black button

Using Col A cast on 120 stitches.

Rows 1–4 Knit

Row 5 Knit3tog across the row (40 stitches)

Rows 6–9 Knit

Row 10 Knit 2 tog across the row (20 stitches)

Rows 11–14 Knit

Row 15 Knit 2 stitches together across the row (10 stitches)

Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 20cm

Thread tail through yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stitches onto the yarn tail and pull tight. Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch (or use whatever stitching you normally use) to seam for an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

Centre of Poppy

Using B, cast on 16 sts. Cast off. Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre.

Or use a black or green button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy.

CROCHET - Any DK Yarn and 3.5mm or 4mm hook as appropriate

Black Yarn:

Ch6 and join with a ss into first ch to make a loop.

ROUND 1:

ch2 (counts as first dc) work 11dc into loop = 12 stitches

*remember if you want a larger black centre then work treble crochet instead of double crochet into the central loop.

Cast off and change to Red Yarn.

ROUND 2:

Into any stitch cast on red and ch2 (counts as 1st dc) into same stitch work 1dc. *Work 2 dc into next stitch. *Repeat to end working 2 dc into every stitch= 24 stitches.

Join with a ss into 2nd ch you initially started with.

ROUND 3:

1st Petal. ch2 (counts as 1st dc), 2tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 1dc into next st.

2nd Petal. 1 dc into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 2 tr into next stitch, 1dc into next st.

Repeat two more times = 4 petals = 40 stitches

ROUND 4:

Into each tr stitch from previous round work 2 dc followed by a ss inbetween the two dc from previous round – Cast off



Poppy patterns courtesy of the Royal British Legion

ANIMAL ABANDONMENTS

It is not a new revelation that animals have forever been abandoned for various reasons, however in the aftermath of a global pandemic and in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis, more pets are being deserted than ever before. Number of abandoned cats soars by more than 34% and dogs 51% in the UK as of October 2024.

The abandonment of Animals Act 1960, states it is a criminal offense to wilfully abandon any animal if it is likely to "cause the animal any unnecessary suffering".

Parish Councillors received a concerning email from a local resident in October, reporting that 3 extremely young kittens were spotted abandoned at the curb side in Cuckney up from St Mary's Church. I initially started the search from 7.30pm, later joined by Cllr's James, Nancy and Kelvin, along with two other local residents, to no avail but sounds of faint meows in the bushes. Worryingly the night grew darker and colder, we were searching and hacking at the undergrowth on our hands and knees crawling through the thicket. I spotted and managed to make a grab for kitten number 1 and after hearing a further faint meow 30 minutes later, I made a grab for kitten number 2. Past 10.30pm with no further sounds or movement, we had to retreat with a great amount of regret. Despite further searches subsequent day's after, we were not so lucky - sadly the 3rd kitten and their abandoned mother was found dead close to where we found the 2 kittens.

www.pdsa.org.uk
PDSA Sheffield Pet Clinic
141 Northern Avenue,
Sheffield,
S2 2EJ
Phone: 0114 3997997

www.cats.org.uk
Cats Protection,
Mansfield Rd,
Warsop,
Mansfield,
NG20 0EF
Phone: 01623 845846

www.rspca.org.uk
RSPCA South Yorkshire,
Great N Rd,
Bawtry,
Doncaster,
DN10 6DE
Phone: 01302 719790

RSPCA Chesterfield and
North Derbyshire
137, Spital Lane,
Chesterfield,
Derbyshire,
S41 0HL
Phone: 01246 273358

This unfortunately was not the end of the abandonments, as that same week there were four kittens and a domestic rabbit dumped at Carburton, and then a single kitten 1 mile away from both of these cases, all of which were rescued and taken to the local vet. Was this an isolated case, or an organised drop? Shockingly, my local vet said that this seems to be happening more and more often; that groups of animals are abandoned



These kittens are safer in the rescue centre than on the streets

in the same areas/times. Please can everyone stay extra vigilant when boxes and bags are 'strategically' left at the roadside!

Local animal rescue centres have hit "crisis point" amid an alarming rise in abandoned pets in "desperate need of care". There are 1.1 million cats and dogs that live on the streets, these animals are often abandoned by previous owners but they also stray. Stray animals are those that are not microchipped and that get out of the house and are unable to find their way home again. Legally, all dogs and cats should be microchipped in the UK.

More than 3 million new dog owners impulse bought puppies during COVID lockdown. Owning a dog can cost close to £19,000 on average over their lifetime. Only 20% of owners adopt their dogs from shelters and rescues as such 21 dogs are unfortunately euthanised every day because they couldn't be rehomed.



5.3 million pet owners (21%) are concerned about affording the upkeep of their pets, with half of dog owners and one-third of cat owners cutting how much they spend on their pets.

The RSPCA is urging the public to consider adopting a pet instead of buying one, as the cost of living crisis has left its rescue centres "drowning in animals".

No matter of the persons domesticated animal preference, kindness goes a long way to all creatures great and small. If you are struggling to afford or continue to provide the care of your animal, there is no shame in reaching out and asking for help of family members, vets and /or local animal charities who can offer vouchers for food and support with vet bills, and /or organise rehoming from home. So please don't throw them to the wayside, they didn't choose you, you chose them!

Thank you to all those who helped in rescuing the two kittens.

Cllr Gemma Palmer





PLANT & CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 29TH

11-3PM

MARCH 2025

LADY MARGARET HALL,

SBD 3NB



If you would like to book a stall
contact Katie on 07764497302

St. MARY'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

We had another wonderful day on 7th December at our Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Market, which was very well attended despite the weather forecast. The church glowed with a warm and friendly buzz of chatter from all the visitors

Thanks to all the stall-holders for their skills at making such a variety of goods to choose from. The Christmas Trees were even better than last year.

The winner, voted as The Best by all of you, was 'Winter Wonderland', designed by the Villagers Group. thank you to all who provided and decorated a tree – all helping to make a lovely Christmas atmosphere. Special thanks go to all who gave their time, ideas and skills to the planning and setting up of the event.



We send grateful thanks to all those who donated so many superb raffle prizes. Many thanks fo to those who baked the wonderful array of cakes etc. for the refreshments. The day raised £2528 to help maintain our historic church, including generous donations from stall-holders, making the event a very worthwhile endeavour. Happy New Year from all at St. Mary's.

Margaret Rowson and Sheila Brailsford



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A PRAYER FOR 2025



May I take this opportunity to thank everyone in our community who has supported, visited and worshipped at the churches here in Cuckney and Holbeck. As we approach 2025, my prayers will be for all who live and work here, that they will receive God's blessing in all that they do.

You may want to take a moment of reflection at this time of year, to pray and give thanks using these words:

*Lord, thank you for the many blessings we have recognised today.
Forgive us for the times that we are too busy to notice all that you pour upon us.*

We pray for blessing on our churches, the community as a whole and every precious individual member – bless us with your wisdom and understanding.

We pray for blessing on our local community – help us to be a source of blessing; help us to recognise ways that we can show and share your love. We know there are often barriers. When we are the barrier – perhaps through our fears, our worries, even our own desires – give us the strength to overcome, that your blessing may overflow to all around us.

Amen.

Thank you and take care, Revd Nigel



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HISTORY SOCIETY

The November talk entitled 'The Scandalous Duchess' given by Maggie Watkins featured the relationship between Lady Katherine Swynford and John, Duke of Lancaster. On 9th December members and guests enjoyed the Christmas Party with a Pie and Pea meal followed by lovely desserts provided by the ladies and entertained with a quiz provided by Tony Cockayne.

The A. G. M. will be held at Cuckney Cricket Club on Monday 13th January at 7.30pm with no admission charges and on February 10th Mark Dawson is coming to give a talk entitled Henderson's Relish, venue- Cuckney Cricket Club, starting time 7.30pm Admission £5 to include light refreshments.

Richard Bower



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CHURCHYARD 100 CLUB WINNERS

The winners in October were

Conor Marples (no. 29) and Ian Poucher (no. 56)

The winners in November were

Stella Smith (no. 25) and Richard Bower (no. 48)

Congratulations!

Sunday 5th January at 10.30 am	Holy Communion – Christmas 2	St Winifred’s, Holbeck
Thursday 9 January 7.00pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	The Education Room, Harley Gallery
Sunday 12th January 10.30 am	Morning Prayer – Epiphany	St Mary’s, Cuckney
Monday 13 January 7.30 pm	The History Club AGM	Cuckney Cricket Club
Wednesday 15th January 2.00 pm	The Villagers Group	Cuckney Cricket Club
Sunday 19th January 10.30 am	Morning Prayer - Baptism of Christ	St Mary’s, Cuckney
Sunday 19th January 10.30 am	Morning Prayer – Baptism of Christ Book of Common Prayer	St Winifred’s, Holbeck
Sunday, 26 January 10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Mary’s, Cuckney
Sunday, 2nd February 10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Winifred’s, Holbeck
Sunday 9th February 10.30 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary’s, Cuckney
Monday 10th February 7.30 pm	The History Club	Cuckney Cricket Club
Thursday 13th February 7.00 pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	The Education Room, Harley Gallery
Sunday 16th February 10.30 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary’s, Cuckney
Sunday 16th February 10.30 am	Morning Prayer Book of Common Prayer	St Winifred’s, Holbeck
Wednesday 19th February 2.00 pm	The Villagers Group	Cuckney Cricket Club
Sunday 23rd February 10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Mary’s, Cuckney
Sunday 2nd March 10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Winifred’s, Holbeck
Saturday, 15th March from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm	DIY SOS Village Hall	Norton and Cuckney Village Hall
Friday, 21st Match from 7.00 pm	Quiz Night – Pie and Pea	Norton and Cuckney Village Hall
Saturday, 29th March from 11:00 am to 3.00pm	Plant and Craft Fair	Lady Margaret Hall, Welbeck
Thursday, 8th May from 12.00 pm to 10.00 pm	Events relating to VE Day 80 – further details to follow	Norton and Cuckney Village Hall
Friday, 4th July Details - TBC	SOS Fashion Show	TBC

Parish Council Contacts

Kimberley Walker

EMAIL clerk@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk
CALL 01623700483

Cllr. Nancy Wright (Chair)

EMAIL cllr.nancy.wright@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk
CALL 07967632617

Cllr. David Wall (Vice-Chair)

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

Cllr. Sheila Brailsford

EMAIL cllr.sheila.brailsford@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk
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

EMAIL cllr.gemma.palmer@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk
CALL 07305 832402

Cllr. James Palmer

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CALL 07305 832497

Cllr. Kelvin Wright

EMAIL cllr.kelvin.wright@nortoncuckneyholbeckwelbeckparishcouncil.gov.uk
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@nottsc.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

Savanna Rags Clothing
Full Bin - 01623 421555

Crime Stoppers
0800 555111