NORHAM NEWSROUND
MAY 2025
Digital version also available at www.norhamlife.co.uk

NORHAM FLOWER FESTIVAL 22 - 29 June 2025

NORHAM WI
Norham WI - This is just a reminder that our next meeting is on Thursday 8th of May at 2pm. We don't have a speaker this month. Instead we are having a 'Share a favourite recipe and taster session'. The idea is that you will bring along a copy of your favourite recipe which will also be your competition entry for this month. If you are able to, then you can also bring along a sample of your favourite recipe for members to enjoy at afternoon tea. If it is not possible to bring along a sample of your favourite recipe then bring anything you like for afternoon tea. Only your actual written recipe will be judged and awarded points. For further information please contact the Secretary, Susan Thorburn on 07792 22155

CRAFT & CHAT
As always we continue crafting and chatting away every Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 4 pm with plenty of refreshments included. Come and join the crafters or just drop in for a cuppa. For further information please contact Jan L'Argent on 07777 611714.

TABLE TENNIS
Why not come along to the village hall on a Tuesday morning from 10-11 a.m. for a session of Table Tennis? You would be made welcome. We are a jolly bunch! Janet Heywood

PÉTANQUE
The new season of Pétanque is now well under way. We are delighted to have recruited some new members! We meet every Saturday, weather permitting, at the Pétanque pitch in South Lane, from 10.30 a.m. until about midday. It is a sheltered spot, surrounded by hedge. You' would be welcome to join us to have a go. We can provide all the equipment. Janet Heywood

FRIENDS OF NORHAM CASTLE - Happy Anniversary!
Over the past 5 years we have presented the history, environment and wildlife of our wonderful castle to the wider world through a variety of events – a party for the 900th anniversary of the castle itself, picnics, lectures and a blessing from the Bishop! Come and join us for our 5th birthday celebrations at our 'Quiz with Fizz' evening at 7pm on Wednesday 30th April in the Village Hall and see how much you know about Norham Castle (and others) in Northumberland! You can join the FNC at the same time, if you are not already a member. Bring a friend or two and have some fun!

NORHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Your village needs you!

Without a parish council Norham will have no control over how or even whether the village is looked after.
The public toilets need to be kept open and cleaned; the playground inspected and kept safe; the roads, paths and pavements well maintained; the War Memorial maintained and the grass there cut; the Jubilee Field maintained; all the benches in the village maintained; community policing understood; parking problems discussed; planning applications reviewed - these are just a few examples of what the councillors manage on our behalf throughout the year.
All the current councillors have reached the end of their elected terms and so now is the moment to step forward and offer your time and enthusiasm for the benefit of the community and the village. In the absence of local representation, the county council will take control and the services offered to us will be severely limited.
Details of the arrangements for the next election, nomination period etc have not yet been released - so keep an eye out on the parish council noticeboard, outside the Village Hall for further information.

MUMMERS PLAY IN HORNCLIFFE
On Tuesday the 13th of May there will be a performance of a Mummers Play, dancing with Rag Bag Border Morris and tunes session from 7.30pm onwards at the Fishers Arms Community Pub, Horncliffe.
Mummers traditionally performed around Christmas time, with a humorous play, songs and dancing. As there is already a Salmon Procession in early January, it has been decided to make this a celebration for Spring as well as a tribute to Penny Whistle George. George was a much loved friend and musician with Rag Bag Morris. His father, also called George Brown, collected the Mummers Play many years ago.
Everyone, grown ups and children, will be welcome to come along and join the celebrations.

The St Cuthbert's Project
Bulletin No. 3, May 2025

At its meeting on 31st March, the Norham Parochial Church Council (PCC) agreed in principle to the three elements of a shorter-term 'mini project', comprising the following:

1. Improved seating for the choir. The Standing Committee have identified Treske, 'makers of beautifully crafted, hardwood furniture' as a suitable supplier (an example of their work can be found – and tried out! – at the front of church). Janet Young is liaising with the choir about this.
2. Cushions for the pews in the nave. Samples have been obtained from a recommended supplier.
3. A motorised roller blind behind the chancel arch, to be lowered during a church service as a means of (a) reducing the draught that blows down from the east end of the church, and (b) perhaps projecting images or videos for use during First Sunday Worship. The Vicar is liaising with someone from The Maltings about this (who has expertise in this area). He has also sent an enquiry to a stage equipment supplier about the likely cost.

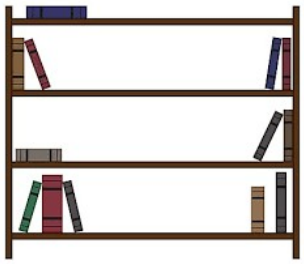
The advantages of such a mini-project could be as follows:

- The changes might be achieved by the end of this year.
- They would be a relatively 'quick win', giving a boost to our confidence and encouraging a 'can do' attitude.
- They would represent a kind of down payment on our ambitions for the larger project.
- The Standing Committee would seek to cover the cost of this mini project from grant making bodies, identified by Katherine Williams, our development and fundraising adviser. But, if some or all of the cost had to be met from Bill Mills's legacy, it would be money well spent, and would provide a tangible and lasting memorial to his faith and generosity.

To find out more, please contact:

- The Vicar, the Revd Rob Kelsey, (01289) 382325
- The churchwarden, Mr William Jackson, (01289) 38202

NORHAM BOOK STATIONS



ABIBLIOPHOBIA?

If this is something you suffer from, -apparently a fear of running out of reading material - then help is at hand! Two village book stations are available with free books. When open, one is located in the rear of the village hall and the other inside the church. Book donations are welcome. The stations are periodically rotated/recycled to enable fresh material. There are posters on each book station with contact details if required.

There is also the book exchange scheme – Books by the Sea and Rivers - situated on Castle Street by Jubilee Field.

VILLAGE HALL

Plans and discussions for the refurbishment continue to progress and it is hoped that final decisions about what we will try to achieve will be made soon. Your last chance to have your questions addressed and answered will be at the AGM at the end of May or beginning of June – watch out for the posters!

We are delighted to welcome the folk harmony duo MAIK to the hall for a concert on Saturday 31st May at 7.30pm. Two established folk singers in their own right - Jamie Cook and Kirsty Law - have joined forces, from either side of the border, to bring some of their most beloved songs together, with lush arrangements and ancient harmonies, bringing their unique sound and energy to the stage. Horncliffe's own Nick Allmark will be there to kick things off. Join us for an unforgettable night of live music. *'Innovation whilst respecting tradition' Archie Fisher*

Don't miss out on this amazing event - grab your tickets now!

Tickets £10 - available from www.eventbrite.co.uk or on the door (if there are any left!)

CONCERTS@STCUTHBERTS

Berwick Concert Band

Sunday 11th May 3pm Norham Church

A Spring Concert, featuring a varied programme including the Finale of the Saint-Saens Organ Symphony

Conductor: Gordon Campbell Organist : Julian Bonia Tickets £10 on the door or from http://www.ticketebo.co.uk includes teas and home-baking!

ST CUTHBERT'S CHOIR

13th July 2025 - **Save the date!**

Our 25th Anniversary concert will take place on Sunday 13th July in St Cuthbert's Church. We are delighted to welcome the Junior Singers into our midst to celebrate this occasion with a variety of beautiful and entertaining music from Mendelssohn to mice, Stanford to Swann. Everyone will be welcomed and refreshments will be available

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

First Sunday Worship at Norham Church
10.00am, Sunday 4th May 2025

An informal, child-friendly service on the theme of
'Caring for Creation'.
The service will be led by the St Cuthbert's Junior Singers.
People of all ages are welcome.
To find out more, please contact the Vicar, Rob Kelsey, on (01289) 382325.

A Service for Ascension Day
6.00pm Thursday 29th May

You are invited to climb to the top of the hill at Bow-Well Farm to attend a service to mark Ascension Day.

By kind invitation of Sheelagh Hume.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025
10.00am on Sunday 25th May

The Holy Communion service will be shortened to include this important meeting.

'Pints and Praise'
(Other types and volumes of drink are also available.)

The Fisher's Arms, Horncliffe
The Fourth Sunday of the month
i.e. 25th May, 22nd June, 27th July,
none in Aug, 28th Sept, 26th Oct, 23rd Nov 2025

Starts soon after 6.00pm
(Once everyone has a drink to hand.)

"For the grape and the grain,
for the rhyming refrain,
we raise our glasses together."

To request your favourite hymn(s) in advance,
or for more info, contact the Revd Rob Kelsey,
(01289) 382325, robert.josephkelsey@live.com.

NORHAM AND LADYKIRK HISTORY SOCIETY

The History Society will **not** be meeting on 12th May due to unforeseen circumstances. The outing to Lindisfarne is being rearranged. Sorry for any inconvenience.

CELEBRATING J.M.W. TURNER'S 250TH BIRTHDAY
APRIL 23RD 2025

One of Britain's greatest landscape painters, famous for his dramatic skies and luminous seascapes, Turner found deep inspiration in Norham Castle, returning to it time and again throughout his career.

Why not take this opportunity to celebrate Turner's enduring legacy by walking our very own Turner Trail?! This is an easy walk of less than 1 mile.

Maps available from the village shop, and Norham Community website www.norhamlife.co.uk

Panels mark connection between Norham and painter

Unveiling carried out by Sue Churchill, Chris Hardie, Berwick Preservation Trust, and Dr Mark Douglas, English Heritage senior property curator.

Turner Trail in village finished

By Andrew Coulson
andrew.coulson@jpimedia.co.uk
Twitter: @BAdvertiser

It was time to celebrate in Norham when the last panel in the village's Turner Trail was unveiled.

Established by Norham Arts Group, the trail marks the connection between the village and world-renowned painter J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851), who attributed his fame to his early paintings of Norham Castle.

The first panel, on the banks of the Tweed, was unveiled in May this year and the group thought that it would take much longer to raise the funds to complete the other two boards – one on the village green looking up at the castle and one in the grounds of the castle itself.

But as Sue Churchill, Norham Arts Group chairman, explained: "Berwick Preservation Trust, very generously and quickly, funded the last two boards in Norham, and it has plans to continue the trail in Berwick.

"In addition, English Heritage was hugely supportive and pulled out all the stops so the necessary permissions could be put in place promptly.

"We are also very grateful to Ben Smith of MGH Consultants, who helped us with design of the boards.

"His skill, and endless patience, was invaluable."

The Norham panel description of J.M.W. Turner, often referred to as 'the painter of light', includes the following: 'He is considered by many to be the greatest English Romantic landscape painter.

'Turner was obsessed with Norham Castle, sketching and painting it repeatedly.

'He loved to paint at dawn and at dusk.'

NOW HAVE YOUR SAY
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30th April	FNC - Quiz & Fizz
1st May	County Council Elections
4th May	First Sunday Worship
8th May	WI meeting
11th May	Concerts@StCuthberts – Berwick Concert Band
12th May	History Society meeting **CANCELLED**
13th May	Mummers Play - Horncliffe
25th May	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
29th May	Ascension Day service
31st May	MAIK concert
22nd June	Norham Open Gardens
22nd - 29th June	Flower Festival
13th July	25th Anniversary concert – St Cuthbert's Choir
19th July	Summer Fair

ITEMS FOR JUNE NEWSROUND

Any contributions to be forwarded, in a word format rather than pdf, to Janet Young – Janetyoung.lazda@gmail.com

by THURSDAY 29th MAY