

NORHAM NEWSROUND

SEPTEMBER 2025

Digital version also available at www.norhamlife.co.uk

NORHAM ARTS

Flowing Light:

A Workshop on the banks of the River Tweed

JMW Turner, one of the world's most famous artists and a frequent visitor to Norham, was born in 1775. To celebrate his 250th birthday, Norham Arts, in partnership with Connecting Threads, is offering a creative workshop on Thursday 4th September. We are delighted to announce that this will be run by local artist, Rachel Sutherland SSA SSBA, who will demonstrate some of the fascinating techniques used by Turner to evoke the dynamism of water.

Come and join us on the riverbank, mixing paint with river water and using sponges and scalpel scrapes, as well as wet and dry brush techniques.

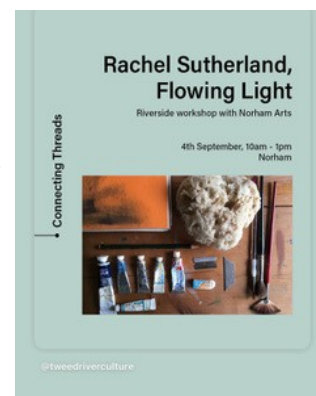
With the emphasis on processes rather than finished results, this should be a fun morning and is open to beginners and experienced artists alike.

Numbers are restricted so hurry!

The event costs £5 to attend.

If you would like to book a place please contact Sue Churchill

norhamartsgroup@gmail.com



NORHAM AND LADYKIRK HISTORY SOCIETY

The next meeting of the history society will be on Monday 8th September at 7.30pm in Norham Village Hall.

WHOLE VILLAGE GARAGE SALE

Sunday 28th September 11am – 3pm.

Do you want to have a clear out or even a mini chuck without the inconvenience of taking your treasures to a car boot etc? Let me know by Wednesday 24th September if you are having a table at your front or back door/gate and I will add your property to the garage sale map. It would be sensible to let me know if it is your front or back gate,

You don't need a garage, just a table or a few boxes or a bench.

Before the day I will deliver a balloon for you to secure to your table, bench etc. Please secure it and DO NOT let it go as it could kill wildlife. On the subject of which....please do not try to sell children, pets or any other wildlife!

If you decide at the last minute to host a sale that is fine but you won't be on the map so you'll need to find a balloon or another way of letting visitors know.

There isn't a charge to take part. All monies you take are yours, unless of course you decide to run a stand for a charity.

I will advertise it on social media and hopefully with signs at the village roads in. Those same signs will be marked 'cancelled' if the weather dictates it is sensible to do so and we will announce it on social media. I will sell maps for 10p from my front garden, but not until 11am on the day.

So if you want to sell: -

Let me know asap but by Wed 24th Sept at the latest. I need to know your name and address and the location of your pitch. Put out your balloon on the morning at your pitch - whether at your front or back door/ gate.

Please try to keep selling until 3pm for the benefit of late comers.

If you need to know anything else, please contact me at
28 West St Norham Sheila.johnson@hotmail.co.uk

NORHAM WI

Our September Meeting is on Thursday 4 September at 2pm Norham Village Hall. This month's talk is presented by Helen Cooper and is about the Howick Hall Kneelers. The competition is an embroidered or tapestry item and the theme is Corn Dollies or an Autumn display.

CRAFT & CHAT

Did you enjoy your Summer holidays? Looking for something new? Do you enjoy a craft, then think about joining us every Wednesday afternoon between 1 and 4pm in Norham Village Hall. Bring your latest project and get crafting with us. There is a small fee of £2. Refreshments are included as well as plenty of good company! Find out more from Jan on 07777 611714.

NORHAM IN BLOOM

The flowers have been blooming beautifully this year partly due to the weather and partly due to our team of waterers who have kept everything alive. The new planters outside the village hall have looked particularly good and include perennials which we'll be able to replant next year thereby saving some money. As you may be aware Norham in Bloom is self-supporting. We rely on fundraising and donations to buy plants and compost etc. This summer we paid over £500 for plants and we also had the cost of the new planters. Individual donations and money from the Frizzel family's 'Just Giving' fund has helped enormously. We should also mention the previous Parish Council who passed onto us money donated by **Paton & Co. Estate Agents**. This was greatly appreciated and really made a difference.

NORHAM CLEAN UP GROUP

Norham Clean up group will reconvene in September. The plan is to tidy up along the Church yard wall. Further information will be posted on FaceBook or Norhamlife.

ST CUTHBERTS CHURCH

**First Sunday Worship at Norham Church
10.00am, Sunday 7th September 2025**

An informal, child-friendly service to celebrate our Patronal Festival. The body of St Cuthbert was brought first to Norham, when the monks left Holy Island in 875. His relics were 'translated' to their final resting place at Durham Cathedral, on 4th September 999. Thus, at Norham Church, we celebrate our patron saint on the Sunday after 4th September.

People of all ages are welcome.

Contact Revd Rob Kelsey 01289 382325 for mor information

**The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Norham
and
The King's Own Scottish Borderers Association**

**A Service of Commemoration for
Piper Daniel Laidlaw VC
'The Piper of Loos'
(1875-1950)**

10.00am Thur 25th September 2025
(The anniversary of the award of Piper Laidlaw's VC.)

The service begins at the Norham war memorial,
then moves to Piper Laidlaw's graveside.

A piper will play the Regimental Charge, 'The Standard on the Braes o' Mar' and the Regimental Quick March, 'Blue Bonnets O'er the Border' (played by Piper Laidlaw at the Battle of Loos).

For more information, contact:
The Revd Rob Kelsey, (01289) 382325
Bill Heaney, KOSB Assoc. Branch Sec., 07747 483544

FAMILY FUN DAY

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the third annual Norham Family Fun Day! We were absolutely delighted to see so many people come along — not only familiar faces who have supported us in previous years, but also many new visitors who had heard just how special the day has become. This year truly felt like our best one yet. While a huge amount of planning goes on behind the scenes, these events simply wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our village community.

There are far too many people to thank individually (and you all know who you are!), but we do want to give a few special mentions:

Foreman's the Butchers – for stepping in and meeting all our last-minute requests with no trouble at all.

Everyone who answered our Tombola appeal on Facebook last minute – your generosity filled the table beautifully and made it such a highlight.

All the bakers, helpers, prize donors, and behind-the-scenes supporters – your efforts made the day truly shine.

All the amazing shops and pubs who kindly sold our raffle tickets before the event and all that donated cash ahead of time.

Extra Special shout out to Moira Graham and Michael Keeley for going above and beyond to help year after year!

We are already looking ahead to next year, determined to make it an even bigger success. If you have ideas for new activities or ways we could make the day run even more smoothly, we'd love to hear from you.

With heartfelt thanks - Melanie, Tanya & Terri

NORHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Come and join us at 11am on Tuesdays in the village hall – we would love to see you and share the fun. Eagerly and ferociously competitive (not!) games of singles and doubles Table Tennis are played. It is very informal and we are a very friendly bunch. Tables, bats and balls are all provided – skill is optional!

NORHAM VILLAGE BAND

Norham Village Band enjoyed playing their afternoon concert on 16th August in St. Cuthbert's Church. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the variety of music performed by these excellent musicians, and we all had a very jolly afternoon!

If you are interested in joining us please contact our Band leader Nick Elwood on 07598 121853 or John Scarboro: 01289 382662

ST CUTHBERT'S CHOIR

Many thanks to those who supported our 25th Anniversary Concert back in July. We had great fun on the day and there was a very relaxed and positive feeling in the church. It was lovely to share the concert with the St Cuthbert Junior Singers who entertained us with some excellent singing. We are very grateful for all the support and encouragement we receive and especially on this occasion for the generosity of the audience - raising over £300 for the church.

We are busy preparing for our Choral Evensong which will be on Sunday 28th September at 4 pm. Choral Evensong is a lovely Service, steeped in history. Cathedrals and large churches up and down the country with good choirs sing Choral Evensong on a regular basis. We do one a year - which I suppose is "regular"! It is always a special occasion for us and will include some beautiful music from our super little choir.

ST CUTHBERT'S JUNIOR SINGERS



The St. Cuthbert's Junior Singers will restart for the Autumn term on Thursday September 11th, 2025. We will meet in the Church after school at 3.15pm and our first service will be Harvest Festival Sunday 5th October. Newcomers (aged 6 upwards) welcome.

For more information please contact Sarah at stcuthbertsjs@gmail.com

CONCERTS@STCUTHBERTS

Coming to Norham Church in October

Thursday 2nd October - 7pm

Bob Marley:
How Reggae Changed the World

Adult £15: Concession £10

NB Early bird booking discount £12 till 9th Sept;

Tickets available from <https://highlightsnorth.co.uk/>

or on the door (subject to availability)

Internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter and Toronto-based artist Duane Forrest brings his tour of *Bob Marley: How Reggae Changed the World* to Norham! Expect a vibrant, heartfelt production celebrating the legacy of Bob Marley through music and storytelling. Drawing on his own Jamaican heritage and years of international touring experience, Duane takes audiences on an engaging journey through Marley's life, the rise of reggae, and its global cultural impact. Songs like *One Love*, *Three Little Birds*, and *No Woman No Cry* come alive on stage alongside Duane's original music inspired by Marley's influence. As part of his Autumn 2025 tour, Duane will also be sharing music from his new work *Adrift, a reggae jazz and folk music fusion album*.

After a sell-out run in 2024 at the Edinburgh Fringe, in early 2025, *Bob Marley: How Reggae Changed the World* received weekly awards for Best Music Show at both the Perth and Adelaide Fringe Festivals in Australia, alongside a sold-out run at Perth Fringe.

Duane recently completed successful new engagements at the San Francisco International Arts Festival (USA), the Montréal Fringe Festival, and the Ottawa Fringe Festival (Canada). Here the production received the Jury's Choice Award, along with strong audience and critical reviews, before a highly anticipated return to the Edinburgh Fringe 2025.

"Duane shares the roots of reggae, Bob Marley's life, and the personal significance of his music, creating a historical lesson and a love letter to cultural heritage... Doctors should prescribe it as an antidepressant" - BroadwayBaby ★★★★★



Saturday 4th October 3pm

Mediaeval Mixture: This Worlde's Joie: Songs for the Seasons
Entry by donation

A journey from hunting in autumn through winter festivals and spring to summer pilgrimages, with appropriate readings ranging from the 13th - 17th centuries!

An afternoon concert of mediaeval delights, with tea and cake!

Saturday 18th October - 7pm

A Poet's Journey - A Song Cycle
based on 15 poems by the war-time poet Edward Thomas

Tickets £15 from <https://www.ticketebo.co.uk/>
or on the door (subject to availability)

Edward Thomas (1878-1917) was known chiefly as a prose writer and only wrote poetry during the last few years of his life, encouraged by his close friend, the American poet Robert Frost. Thomas is now widely regarded as one of the pre-eminent British poets of the twentieth century and poems such as 'Adlestrop' are among the best-loved in the language. His influence has been acknowledged by poets as diverse as W.H. Auden, Ted Hughes, Philip Larkin and Derek Walcott. He was killed at the Battle of Arras

A Poet's Journey:

A Song Cycle based on
Fifteen Poems by Edward Thomas
(Killed in action at the Battle of Arras, 1917.)



7.00pm, Saturday 18th October 2025
St Cuthbert's Church, Norham
(About 8 miles south west of Berwick upon Tweed)
Postcode: TD15 2LF / W3W: practical.florists.indeed

Tickets £15

- From [ticketebo.co.uk](https://www.ticketebo.co.uk/) (search for 'A Poet's Journey').
- Or use the QR code opposite.
- Or click [here](#).
- Or buy on the door.

Music by John Middleton:
"In setting Thomas's poems to music, I felt I was composing a kind of English Winterreise."
Tenor: Lyndon Gardiner. Piano: Anthony Wilson.
More info: The Revd Rob Kelsey, (01289) 382325.

Easter Day 1917. Andrew Motion, the Poet Laureate from 1999 to 2009, nominated 'Old Man' by Edward Thomas as one of his favourite poems 'because it so brilliantly proves, as do all his poems, that you can speak softly and yet let your voice carry a long way'.

If you are not familiar with his poetry try this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0J1Ze5QXG8> - close your eyes and listen to Richard Burton reading what is probably Thomas' best known poem 'Adlestrop'.

Music by John Middleton: Tenor: Lyndon Gardner: Piano: Anthony Wilson

Sunday 19th October - 3pm

Andante Chamber Choir

Entry by donation, with tea and cake!

The ever popular 'a cappella' choir return for a late summer concert. Their programme includes Five Spirituals by Michael Tippett, some Magnificat and a touch of Lennon/McCartney and James Taylor.

Something for everyone.....



FRIENDS OF NORHAM CASTLE

Discussions continue with English Heritage relating to repairs to the castle. We do not yet have an indication when the castle will be completely open to the public again.



This month, Graeme Wilson will lead another Batwalk down to the river from the church.

Everyone is welcome including children, but under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Free to FNC members, £2 otherwise. Meet at the War Memorial at 7pm on Friday 12th September.

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

There will be a meeting on the Thursday 25th September at 7pm in the Village Hall. NDT will present the final aspects of the Community Energy Project before, as previously stated, bringing their involvement to a close. Matt Baker, a professional with wide experience in community energy projects, will speak about future sustainable energy opportunities for communities like Norham.

If you are interested in participating in a Sustainable Energy Group to develop these opportunities please contact Janet Young janetyoung.lazda@gmail.com

PETANQUE

Petanque continues to meet in South Lane while weather allows!

VILLAGE HALL

The hall is available for hire for many activities and occasions. The rates are very reasonable and have been held at the same price for another year. It is hoped that the cost of the heating may be able to be reduced in the winter if electricity prices remain stable. At present should you wish to book the hall you should email "Norhamvillagehall@gmail.com" with your request. This applies even for last minute bookings – say perhaps for a rainy afternoon's diversion. The regular bookings are always posted on the noticeboard outside

the hall so you can see when it might be free. We will be changing to an online booking system very shortly and will advertise how to access that when it happens. It does help us considerably if payment for the hire of the hall is made electronically and details of how to do this will be shared with you when you book. Snooker sessions have proved popular and other snooker bookings would be welcome. The table tennis group always offer a warm welcome and we might be able to offer some ad hoc sessions as well.

Plans for the transformation of the Village Hall continue to take shape and we will keep you up to date with progress. A new heating solution has been proposed and solar panels are planned for early next year. Double glazing will require planning permission which may prove difficult to achieve but we are working on it. The fitting of the new blinds has been deferred whilst we await the outcome of the double glazing question!

MOBILE SIGNAL

VodafoneThree is the only mobile supplier to have shown an interest in improving mobile signal in the village. Together with Northumberland County Council, they have presented us with a proposal for a trial of equipment which should benefit, directly, VodafoneThree users. They are also going to offer a scheme to benefit those who use other providers. This proposal, if agreed, will allow the equipment to be installed over the next few months. Watch this space for more information.



The St Cuthbert's Project Bulletin No. 6, September 2025

The St Cuthbert's Project aims to **improve the heating, lighting, seating and heritage interpretation at Norham Church**, in order to **make the church building more user-friendly and more useful to the wider community**.

The Standing Committee met representatives of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) on 31st July. They are the church equivalent of the county council planning committee, and we wanted to convince them of the merits of our project, and seek their advice and guidance.

They were very appreciative of our plans, and made some very helpful suggestions.

Since then, with the help of our Funding Adviser, Katherine Williams, we have been working hard on our application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a grant in the region of £250,000. We hope to submit the application this month (September), which might enable the heating and lighting systems to be installed by March next year. The timetable is tight, but we're hoping to benefit from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, which gives grants towards the cost of VAT on repairs to listed buildings used as places of worship. The scheme has been extended to March next year, but there is no guarantee that VAT might be recoverable after that date (which could effectively add an extra 20% to the amount we need to raise).

As noted in Bulletin No. 5, we have been given a pair of red stage curtains by The Maltings, for which we are very grateful. The DAC suggested that we might apply to the Archdeacon for permission to install the curtains as a 'temporary and experimental measure,' and we hope that they might be in place by the end of October, in time for a ceremonial 'closing of the curtains' by the St Cuthbert's Junior Singers, during First Sunday Worship on 2nd November. Members of the Wednesday Craft Club have very kindly offered to help with adjusting the curtains as necessary.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact:

Churchwardens, Lucy Carroll, 07974 416692 and Nick Ellis, 01289 382754 OR The Vicar, the Revd Rob Kelsey, 01289 382325

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 4 th September	Norham Arts Workshop
Thursday 4 th September	WI
Sunday 7 th September	1 st Sunday Worship
Monday 8 th September	History Society
Friday 12 th September	Batwalk
Thursday 25 th September	Service for Piper Laidlaw VC
Thursday 25 th September	Sustainable Energy meeting
Sunday 28 th September	Village Garage Sale
Sunday 28 th September	Choral Evensong
Thursday 2 nd October	Concerts@St Cuthbert's Bob Marley 'tribute'
Saturday 4 th October	Concerts@St Cuthbert's Mediaeval Mixture
Saturday 18 th October	Concerts@St Cuthbert's Poet's Journey
Sunday 19 th October	Concerts@St Cuthbert's Andante
Friday 28 th November	Little Norham Christmas

ITEMS FOR OCTOBER NEWSROUND

All contributions to be sent, in a word format rather than pdf please,
to Janet Young – Janetyoung.lazda@gmail.com
by 'close of play' on Thursday 25th September