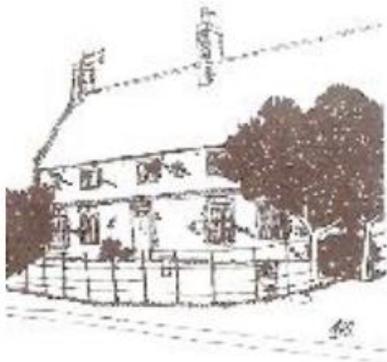


FOCAL POINT



February
2023

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Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Like the month of February itself, February's edition of Focal Point is slightly smaller than those that went before. However, I can assure you that fewer pages does not mean it's any less interesting! We have new projects starting up, ongoing projects progressing, and community activities continuing. So, I hope that you will find something in these pages to encourage you to join a community group, go along to an event or respond to a request for your ideas and suggestions. Even when wintry weather discourages us from stepping out of our front doors, we can still keep in touch with each other and support our village communities – thanks to modern technology.

As we move out of the long, dark months of December and January, into our shortest month, we begin to notice Nature's first signs of life returning in the form of snowdrops and newborn lambs, even though we still need to be prepared for winter snow and freezing temperatures. Gradually, the days are drawing out and we can start to think about making plans for spring. This year, Shrove Tuesday (pancake day) and Ash Wednesday fall in February – the beginning of Lent – and little more than six weeks later, we'll be wishing each other a Happy Easter.

If you are involved in any activities in Winthorpe, Langford or Holme, or if you have any events planned for the spring, please let me know so that we can include something about it in Focal Point. It doesn't need to be a big event or a club looking for new members. Or why not drop me a line, telling me what you love most about our three villages? One sentence will be fine – I'd like to put a page together of your thoughts – Focal Point really likes to celebrate everything that makes living here so special.

Julie Hill (01636 676079)

NEXT MONTH'S DEADLINE IS 18TH FEBRUARY

winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com

February Calendar

When	What	Where
Fri 3 rd	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 6 th	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 6 th	Brown bin	All
Mon 6 th	Mobile Library	All
Tue 7 th	Tuesday Club	Winthorpe
Wed 8 th	WI meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 10 th	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 13 th	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Tue 14 th	St Valentine's Day	
Tue 14 th	Coffee Morning, Village Hall	Winthorpe
Tue 14 th	Garden Club meeting	Winthorpe
Thur 16 th	Winthorpe & Langford Parish Council meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 17 th	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 20 th	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 20 th	BROWN BIN COLLECTION CANCELLED	All
Tue 21 st	Shrove Tuesday	
Wed 22 nd	Ash Wednesday	
Fri 24 th	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 27 th	Silver bin	Winthorpe



**This month, the mobile library will call at our villages
on Monday 6th February**

Mobile Library Routes and Timetable 2023 for Winthorpe, Langford and Holme*				
Stop No.	Village	Location	Arrive	Depart
1	Winthorpe	The Spinney	9.40am	10.00am
2	Winthorpe	junction of Pocklington Crescent and Branston Close	10.05am	10.25am
3	Winthorpe	junction of Gainsborough Road and Woodlands	10.30am	10.50am
4	Langford	Langford Hall Farm	10.55am	11.10am
5	Holme	Snaefell, Langford Lane	11.20am	11.30am
6	Holme	Southview Farm	11.35am	11.55am

*Information taken from inspireculture.org.uk

Don't forget to contact the editor about any events or activities happening in Winthorpe, Langford or Holme, so that they can be included in Focal Point.

Email: winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com

Tel: 01636 676079



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Viv Jackson and family would like to thank everyone for the lovely cards, words of condolence, flowers and kindness shown to us on the loss of Roger. It helped to know you were thinking of us and that you had so many nice memories of Roger. It was lovely to see so many at the Service of Thanksgiving celebrating his life.

We would also like to thank Revd Mandy, Tish, Christine and Emma, Ollie, Kelly and the staff at the Nelson, whose help we really appreciated.

FUNDRAISING FOR A DEFIBRILLATOR FOR POCKLINGTON CRESCENT, HARGON LANE, BRANSTON CLOSE

To make this a reality we need to raise approximately another £1000. We have a couple of ideas for fundraising in the pipeline, but for the time being I am organising a **COFFEE MORNING** on **TUESDAY, 14th FEBRUARY** at **THE VILLAGE HALL 10.00am-12.00 noon**. The cost will be £5 per person, which includes tea or coffee, cake and a raffle ticket.

If anyone in the village has any unwanted Christmas gifts that they would like to donate as a raffle prize, or would like to make a donation, these will be gratefully received at 21 Pocklington Crescent.

Your support would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Pauline Lockwood

Defibrillator codes for Winthorpe

Community Centre: C159X

Village Hall: CY543.

Please contact the editor with the defibrillator codes for Langford and Holme, if you would like them to be included in future editions of Focal Point.



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Winthorpe Community Centre

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Winners for January		
1st	£44.40	Mr S Regent
2nd	£22.20	Michael Warren
3rd	£7.40	Julie Hill

**100
Club**

NEWARK FOODBANK



I haven't heard yet from the Foodbank as to the weight of our most recent donation, just before Christmas, but it was a biggy, and included a very generous collection of food made by Winthorpe W.I. Thank you.

Especially needed: tinned meat, tinned fruit, tinned or microwaveable sponge puddings, instant mashed potato, cooking sauces, women's and men's toiletries.

If you haven't donated before, it is very easy. Winthorpe Collection Points are:

- The shop at the Lord Nelson, during shop hours
- The swing bin at 11 Gainsborough Road, available 24/7.
- The church porch, Sun 10am-12noon, Thurs 1.30-3.30pm

Alternatively, if you would like to donate through your bank, the details for the Foodbank are: NatWest, sort code 54 10 23, a/c no. 19405812

Jane White

WINTHORPE WI

CHRISTMAS PARTY

It feels like a long distant memory now, but we held our Christmas Party on 14th December with lots of nice things to eat, lovely table decorations and beautiful Christmas crackers, hand made by one of our members. This was followed by a quiz. Instead of having our usual secret Santa, money that we would have spent on a gift was donated to the Women's Refuge.

The occasion was somewhat marred by the news that our President's husband, Roger, had sadly passed away. Our thoughts and deepest sympathy go out to Viv and her family at this sad time.

MEETING 11th JANUARY



As the speaker from the New Life Centre in Gambia was unable to attend, due to illness, Ken Heathcote, ably assisted by his black labrador, Piper, gave a talk about the work of Dogs for Good (previously called Dogs for the Disabled).

Ken explained how he came to be disabled. As a young policeman, and very much into his sport, he represented the Police Force at sporting events, before contracting Mau flu, which left him with Kleine Levin Syndrome. Because of the amount of time he had to take off work through sickness, he was

forced to change his career, although still very much into sport and running his son's football team.

Whilst he was cleaning the windows at his home, the ladder unfortunately snapped, and he fell, severing his spinal cord and leaving him virtually paralysed. During the time he spent in hospital, he set himself two goals: firstly to go home; secondly to be able to drive. When he saw an article about Dogs for Good, he applied for an assistance dog, although he was unsure whether or not he met the criteria.

Ken gave a brief history of Dogs for Good before he and Piper demonstrated to us how equipment and Piper help him in his daily life. It was at that point that I believe we all fell in love with Piper.

Dogs for Good rely wholly on public donations and demonstrations, which have been in short supply since the pandemic. So if you belong to an organisation looking for a speaker, would like to meet Ken and also fall in love with Piper, Ken has given me permission to publish his details here: Telephone 01623 406701, email: k.heathcote61@gmail.com

BOOK CLUB

The meeting that was to have taken place to review *The Switch*, by Beth O'Leary, was postponed to 10th February at the Lord Nelson at 10.30am. All members are welcome to join us. The latest book to read is *Both of You* by Adele Parks, and so this may also be discussed.

MEMBERS' MEAL.

A meal is being arranged at The Lord Nelson for either 21st or 23rd February.

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting will be held on 8th February, when we will be Kurling the WI Way. There will also be a sale table. Anyone wishing to come to our meetings will be most welcome. The first meeting is free of charge, subsequent meetings incur a £5.00 charge. The subscription for this year will be £36.00.

I would also mention that we do have a collection at our meetings for the Food Bank and that we are also collecting postage stamps.

Pauline Lockwood



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Winthorpe Garden Club

Our annual social evening, held in the Community Centre, was a most pleasant event, shared with many friends. There was a delicious selection of food to consume, all provided by members. Wonderful.

A light entertainment comprised of a gardening theme song, sung by five of the club's ladies; 'just for fun' gardening themed quizzes and the usual raffle added to the occasion. What a raffle, with so many prizes!

At the end of the evening, each person received a small handmade box containing a foil wrapped chocolate. Everyone went home happy and smiling, having enjoyed a truly relaxed evening.

Proposed outings for 2023

Following the success of last year's day trips to Mill Farm Garden and Woodlands Garden in Lincolnshire, and RHS Garden Bridgewater in Lancashire, the following outings have been proposed for 2023:

- A two-day trip with an overnight stay to Kew Gardens, Richmond, and RHS Hyde Hall, Chelmsford, on the 21st / 22nd June.
- A day trip to Trentham Gardens, Staffordshire, on 12th of July (a week earlier than the date originally chosen).

Non-members are most welcome. For more information please contact:
Julie Parker - 01636 893371 or Ian Wilson - 01636 686249

Our next meeting will be held in the Community Centre on **14th February at 7.30pm**. The guest speaker is Janette Merilion, whose talk is entitled: 'Unexpected Tales of Plants and Gardens'.

It would be lovely to see new faces in our club. Do come along and join us.

Pat Finn

Afterword:

I joined Garden Club members for their social evening and had a wonderful time. The food was excellent and the company even better! Thanks to everyone who put in so much work to ensure that the evening was a success, especially Pat Finn, whose quizzes were as ingenious as ever.

Julie Hill (editor)

Note from the editor:

I want to share with you, our readers, the lyrics of the song which entertained us at Winthorpe Garden Club's social evening. Sing along in the comfort of your own home – no one's listening and you all know the tune!

THE GARDENER'S HYMN

All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
The Lord God made them all.

But what He never mentions, though gardeners know it's true.
Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too.

Chorus:

All things spray and swatable,
Disasters great and small;
All things Paraquatable,
The Lord God made them all.

The green fly on the roses, the maggots in the peas.
Manure that fills our noses, He also gave us these. **Chorus**

The fungus on the goose-gogs, the club root on the greens;
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines. **Chorus**

The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds;
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds. **Chorus**

The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds;
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows on the seeds. **Chorus**

The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums;
How black the gardener's outlook, though green may be his thumbs. **Chorus**

And still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours' will somehow bypass ours. **Chorus**

Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

The latest meeting of the Parish Council took place on the Thursday 19th January in the Village Hall; there was a full attendance of councillors, as well as District Councillors Linda Dales and Emma Davies, and two residents.

In addition to the normal business of the council, we discussed works which would need to be undertaken over the next couple of months under the 'Lengthman Scheme'. A shortlist has been agreed and relevant contractors will be undertaking the work over the next few weeks.

We are currently seeking funding for works to be carried out on the 'Village Green', to include: a low-level fence around the perimeter; the removal of the concrete block; a new planter for spring bulbs and bedding plants; and a general tidy up of the area. Hopefully, our grant application will be approved and, as soon as we receive confirmation that this work will be going ahead, we will let you know more.

We have made further progress working with The Sherwood Forest Trust, as mentioned in the last edition of Focal Point. Having visited the Parish twice now, they are currently working on a tree planting scheme, which we hope to share with you in Focal Point's next edition. If all goes to plan, planting will take place this autumn and, over the next few years, will help to enhance our green spaces.

Councillors are having regular (bi-monthly) meetings with the CEO of Newark Showground to discuss various areas of shared concern around the showground site/parish. These include: the impact of the new A46; blocking of the Winthorpe Roundabout during certain showground events; working with Newark & Sherwood District Council to locate a new Bus Stop at the showground entrance; ensuring improvement of vehicular and active travel routes into the site to alleviate access difficulties. If you have any comments or issues you would like us to raise, please contact me at paul@bridgfordss.co.uk and I will ensure they are taken into account.

The Parish Council, together with the WI and the Village Hall, have agreed to trial a 'Warm Spaces' Tuesday Club – please see the 'News Flash' at the end of this article.

There have been limited Planning Applications since the last edition of Focal Point. These include an application for the construction of a large speculative 'shed style' factory unit next to the Curry's/Know How site on the A17, which the Parish Council has objected to.

Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Working Group has not yet met this year, mainly in order to provide sufficient time for as much feedback as possible on the draft plan. It is anticipated that the first meeting of 2023 will now take place in mid-February.

We are currently working with Steve Kemp from Open Plan (our consultants), reviewing the latest version of the Draft Plan. Steve has received feedback from members of the working group, but comments are still being analysed.

Working Group members have reviewed the content of the draft, as it stands, and it's fair to say that we are nearly there in terms of a workable draft plan. Apart from the obvious formatting and spelling errors, there are still some elements of the plan which need the addition of more supporting information and detail.

The two main areas which Open Plan are now working on are: adding in some maps and diagrams where necessary; placing relevant photos throughout the document. This will then transform the plan into something which is attractive to read, as well as having substance.

We are still working to the timescales for delivery of the plan, as mentioned in the December edition of Focal Point, but we will review this at the February meeting of the Working Group and update everybody in the next edition of Focal Point.

News Flash!

The New Tuesday Club will meet in the Village Hall each Tuesday from **2pm until 4pm**. The first meeting will be held on **Tuesday 7th February**, and is supported as a 'Warm Space' initiative

All residents are welcome, so please join us for coffee/tea/biscuits and a chat. It's an opportunity for people to get together to talk about shared interests and find out about what's happening around the village.

This initiative is supported by the WI, Village Hall, Parish Council and Newark and Sherwood DC. It's hoped that, with your support, this get together will become a firm date in the diary!

THINK AGAIN

The Winthorpe Residents' A46 Consultation Group



After considerable activity in early December, the group is now awaiting the outcome of the consultation process when we will work with National Highways on your behalf to continue to ensure that we achieve the best possible

solutions for Winthorpe. Surveys continue to be undertaken by National Highways in the area.

For up-to-date news on Think Again's campaign, upcoming events and key dates, please join our mailing list (details below).

The dedicated Think Again website is available as a single point of information and communication for the village. It can be found by following the link: <https://a46thinkagain.org.uk>
A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ThinkAgainA46Newark>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ThinkAgainA46>

Improving the appearance of our villages

In last month's Focal Point, you will have read that the Parish Council would like to hear from you with your suggestions for improving the appearance of our villages.

I have since been contacted by a Winthorpe resident who wishes to remain anonymous, expressing this: "on behalf of the village... thank you to the lady and gentlemen who collect litter in Winthorpe on a Sunday morning. You make a difference to our environment and it is appreciated."

I have seen for myself the people mentioned above, 'going above and beyond' to improve our village environment. They set an example to all of us.
A huge thank you is well deserved.



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Find Us on Facebook or Instagram : The Lord Nelson at Winthorpe

Village Lunch: Monday 6th February: Two courses for £13.00
Pop in or call the pub for menu options

Quiz Night: Monday 13th February: £1.00 per person entry fee
Booking essential. Why not add dinner for £8.00?

Steak Night: Every Wednesday
Any 2 rump steaks and a bottle of house wine for £39.00
Chicken, Vegetarian and Fish options available

Open Mic Night: Monday 20th February
Fancy yourself as the next Harry Styles or Becky Hill?
Why not come down and join in?

Valentine's Day: Tuesday 14th February
Bookings now being taken



Don't forget that we still have the onsite shop, newspapers
and Fish and Chip Takeaway
Post Office every Thursday from 9am until 12 noon

Thanks from Emma and the Team

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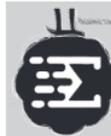
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Hi, My name is Paul and I am a recently retired maths teacher. Do you need to catch up after poor teaching in lockdown, especially if you have just started A-Level?

For Further details contact Paul (DBS checked), references available:
07789175957 Pauldewison771@gmail.com

FOCAL POINT ONLINE EDITION

The online edition of the magazine is easy to find on Winthorpe village website: www.winthorpe.org

Just follow the menus: Media and then Village Magazine.

As well as the current issue, you can read previous issues, going back as far as 2007!



FEBRUARY'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

The story of a farmyard conversation goes something like this: a pig and a hen are outside in the sunshine, enjoying a stroll and a chat, seemingly without a care in the world. The hen mentions that she's heard about a community meal in the local village. An appeal had gone out for contributions of food or drink so that everyone could enjoy a big celebration feast together.

"You and I should do our bit," said the hen. "I can donate some eggs and you can donate some bacon."

"Hmm..." said the pig, twitching her snout in a nervous sort of way. "That sounds like a friendly gesture from you and an act of total commitment from me!"

Well, there's a time and place for friendly gestures and life would be a bit grim without them, but we all need to commit to something or someone; it might be another person, our career or a hobby. What is your biggest commitment?

Jesus was often surrounded by people and many of them made friendly gestures; some hung around to see what he would do and say, and some enjoyed the benefits of being around him in health, food and good company. Some made the big commitment of following him, putting him at the centre of their lives. That hasn't changed. Jesus lives on and blesses our lives and communities; he still calls us to follow him and make that big commitment. That's the biggest and most important decision I've ever made and I've never regretted it.

If you'd like to think more about what this means, then have a word with me. On May 7th, there is a Confirmation Service in Farndon church at 6pm. In the confirmation service, the individual makes a public commitment to following

Jesus. It is available for anyone who is baptised, although you can be baptised as part of that commitment. We will be running some group sessions to prepare for this and we would love you to be part of that.

Please get in touch for more information.

God bless you all,

Rev. Mandy

01636 361657

revdmand@hotmail.com

NEWARK FOODBANK



I haven't heard yet from the Foodbank as to the weight of our most recent donation, just before Christmas, but it was a biggy, and included a very generous collection of food made by Winthorpe W.I. Thank you.

Especially needed: tinned meat, tinned fruit, tinned or microwaveable sponge puddings, instant mashed potato, cooking sauces, women's and men's toiletries.

If you haven't donated before, it is very easy. Winthorpe Collection Points are:

- The shop at the Lord Nelson, during shop hours
- The swing bin at 11 Gainsborough Road, available 24/7.
- The church porch, Sun 10am-12noon, Thurs 1.30-3.30pm

Alternatively, if you would like to donate through your bank, the details for the Foodbank are: NatWest, sort code 54 10 23, a/c no. 19405812

Jane White



All Saints' Church, Winthorpe

I think this world of ours is spinning too quickly! How can I be writing Notes for February already? I've only just recycled the Christmas Tree!

I know I always mention the weather in February and, just as last year when I wrote, we are having a week of blue skies and freezing temperatures – so much better than the rain from previous weeks, which has left water now lying frozen in the fields.

At church we have had a very quiet January, with our normal services, but have been sadly lacking numbers in the congregation. We now have a lovely warm church, whether it is January or June, and would love to share our Services with a few more villagers. It is widely known that since Covid congregation numbers have fallen the world over but church is a very 'safe' place to come to, with lots of space.

Why not give us a visit as we approach the start of Lent at the end of the month? You will receive a very warm welcome and there is always time for a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits afterwards.

We are thinking in our prayers of anyone in the village who is ill, hospitalised or suffering a bereavement at this time.

Tish Applewhite (Churchwarden)

Telephone 01636 643763

Church Cleaner: Mrs J White

Brasses: Miss E Holt



St. Giles Church, Holme

Hello from St Giles Church Holme,

Our A-wassailing event at St Giles held on Saturday 14th January was very much enjoyed and appreciated by the 60 people who came and took part. The 1685 music group did us proud, and the locals who took part from Holme, Winthorpe and Collingham gave excellent performances, aided by the public address system, which was loaned to us by one of the organisers. This has made us realise that we need to get our own public address system, so that other users of the church will benefit, especially the local residents and visitors; if anyone has any ideas for how we could fund this, please let us know.

The electrical contractor has been busy putting in the new electrics. For the first time, we now have power sockets in good positions all over the building; next, he will be installing the new lighting. Whilst permission for the wall heaters has come through, sadly our applications to get the necessary funding have not been successful; this is a shame, as better heating will make St Giles a much better place to use during the cold months of the year.

Our next big event will be a performance by Newark Rock Choir on **Sunday 5th March at 3pm**, so please put this date in your diary. Currently we're short on funds for the electrical work and heating, both of which will benefit everyone who wants to use the church for community events, so hopefully the series of events and activities we plan to put on this year will help to raise some funds.

Our next service in the church will be on Sunday 5th February.

Kind regards, Nigel Priestley and Doreen Hallam.

Phone, 01636 892020, email: nigel.priestley10@gmail.com

St Bartholomew's Church, Langford



St Bartholomew's community is looking forward to events and welcoming visitors into the church and churchyard in the coming months. The church is open most days from 10am to 3pm (4pm in summertime) to welcome visitors.

In the spring we aim to have a garden picnic and activity over Eastertime, building on the lively picnic we shared after last year's Lammastide service. Ideas for activities would be very welcome.

The church is cleaned on a Saturday, prior to the monthly Sunday morning service; this provides an opportunity for coffee and conversation. Our next 'coffee and clean' will be on Saturday 25th February 10-11am, ready for the service on Sunday 26th February at 10am. Our churchyard gardening activities will restart in the spring.

John and Becky Whittaker (key holders)
Langford Crossing (0775 311 7530)

Ash Wednesday, 22nd February 2023, the first day of Lent

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Ashes made from palm crosses are blessed and used to make crosses on people's foreheads; this custom dates back to the Middle Ages.

The season of Lent lasts for forty days (not including Sundays). It is a time when Christians reflect and prepare for the celebrations of Easter. Some people fast, eat frugally or give up treats following the example of Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the wilderness.

People also give to charity, set aside time to study the Bible, and meet with other Christians to reflect on Jesus' life and prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter.

<https://www.churchofengland.org>

Church Services for February 2023

Holme



Winthorpe



Langford



Sunday 5th (3 rd before Lent)	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Holme
Sunday 12th (2 nd before Lent)	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Winthorpe
Sunday 19th (Next before Lent)	10.15 a.m.	Morning Worship	Winthorpe
Wednesday 22nd (Ash Wednesday)	7.30p.m.	Holy Communion & Ashing Ceremony	Collingham St.John's
Sunday 26th (1 st of Lent)	10.00a.m	Morning Worship	Langford
Every Thursday	1.30 – 3.30p.m.	Open Church	Winthorpe
Every Day	10.00 – 4.00p.m.	Open Church	Holme + Langford

For more information please visit the East Trent Churches website:
www.easttrentchurches.org.uk



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