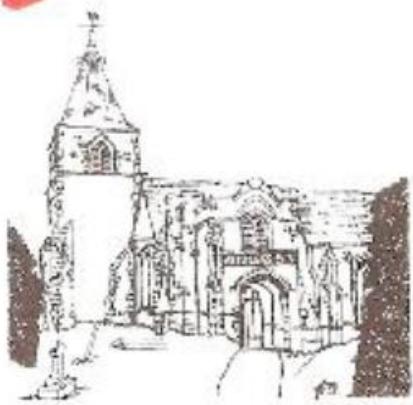


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**Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year**



JANUARY 2023

ISSUE NO. 504

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

By the time this edition of Focal Point drops through your door, Christmas Day will be behind us, and we will be looking ahead to New Year's Day, thinking about our hopes for 2023. News headlines through November and December 2022 have been dominated by doom and gloom, with only the World Cup to distract us (if you enjoy football, that is). Times are hard and it's understandable that some people will be dreading January and February, worrying about how they will manage to pay their bills and heat their homes in the coldest months of the year.

Although I'm not one to ignore a difficult situation, I always try to look on the bright side – and it's not always easy to make lemonade when life gives you lemons. And it seems to me, reading through the articles for this month, many people in our village communities are pulling out all the stops to bring light and warmth into all our lives. As I write this editorial, I'm looking out of my window at blue skies, foregrounded by stark, bare tree branches. Days like this are so special in winter.

One of my favourite poets, Robert Burns, is remembered in January. Celebrating Burns' Night gives me such pleasure and is perfectly timed , when the weather may be grim, daylight scarce and people may be feeling a bit 'flat' after the celebrations of Christmas and New Year are over. So, on 25<sup>th</sup> January I shall be serving up haggis, neeps and tatties with a whisky sauce and maybe even a dram on the side. I won't be cutting open the haggis with a sword this year, a carving knife will do just as well...

“And then, O what a glorious sight,  
Warm-reekin, rich!”

Happy New Year to all our readers!

**Julie Hill (01636 676079)**

**NEXT MONTH'S DEADLINE IS 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**  
[winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com](mailto:winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com)

---

## *December Calendar*

---

When	What	Where
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Day	
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bank Holiday	
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Brown bin	All
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library	All
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	WI meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	'Come a-wassailing at Holme Church'	Holme
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Martin Luther King Day	
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Club meeting	Winthorpe
Thur 19 <sup>th</sup>	Winthorpe & Langford Parish Council meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Chinese New Year (Year of the Rabbit)	
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	BROWN BIN COLLECTION CANCELLED	All
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Burns' Night	
Thur 26 <sup>th</sup>	Australia Day	
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe



**This month, the mobile library will call at our villages  
on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

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](http://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](mailto:winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com)      Tel: 01636 676079

Or use the contact form on the parish website: [www.winthorpe.org.uk](http://www.winthorpe.org.uk)



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Newark NG23 7LB  
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Drs Fearn, Li, Coulton, Suresh, Schuerch, Rees, Kathirgamachelvam

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We provide an excellent programme of walks throughout the year in Nottinghamshire and adjacent counties. Our fortnightly Sunday walks are between 6 and 8 miles. The monthly Wednesday walks are usually about 4 miles, concluding with an optional pub lunch . Some of our longer walks also have a shorter option.

Walkers should bring snacks, drinks and packed lunches if appropriate.

Suitable footwear and waterproofs are necessary .

### **NEW WALKERS ALWAYS WELCOME**

If you would like to join us on any of our walks (dates listed below) please contact Nina Ward by email: [collinghamramblersnottswalks@gmail.com](mailto:collinghamramblersnottswalks@gmail.com) for more information and specific walk details. We would not expect you to join the Ramblers Association immediately. We allow 3 walks before membership is required.

**So, come along and join this friendly group; enjoy our great countryside during the winter and early spring months. We'd love to see you.**

### **WALK DATES JANUARY TO APRIL 2023:**

#### **SUNDAYS**

January 1<sup>st</sup>  
January 15<sup>th</sup>  
January 29<sup>th</sup>  
February 12<sup>th</sup>  
February 26<sup>th</sup>  
March 12<sup>th</sup>  
March 26<sup>th</sup>  
April 9<sup>th</sup>.  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

January 18<sup>th</sup>  
February 15<sup>th</sup>  
March 15<sup>th</sup>  
April 12<sup>th</sup>

**Nina Ward**  
Collingham Ramblers Walks Co-ordinator

## WINTHORPE WI

### MEMBERS COFFEE MORNING

It was lovely to see the Lord Nelson quite busy when we went for our monthly coffee, cake and natter morning on 24<sup>th</sup> November. The festive decor of the pub added to the ambience and we had our photo taken by the Management, so look out for us on their social media page. We're not exactly calendar girls, but one of our number did manage to put her lippy on seconds before the photo was taken. The rest of us were au naturel.



### CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

While most of our members went off on a jolly to see the Christmas decorations at Doddington Hall, the two remaining members were tasked with decorating Winthorpe's WI Christmas tree in Newark Parish Church. The first task was to participate in the game of 'hunt the tree' and, after circumnavigating the church twice, we eventually found ours tucked away in a corner. We tackled the tangled up lights, had to turn everything off due to a power trip out (not our fault), corrected a design fault with the hangings, worked in a confined

space and had a laugh. The result of our effort is shown in the photograph. We met some lovely people and were given a free cup of coffee and a mince pie and cake. Thank you to the people at the Parish Church who organised that treat, it was much appreciated.

### DODDINGTON HALL OUTING

The members who went to Doddington enjoyed their day out. They found the guides to be very attentive and the displays designed with ecology in mind, being made from what was grown in their gardens. The theme was Christmas on the Riverbank, with characters from 'The Wind in the Willows' featuring prominently.

## **COFFEE MORNING 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

We went all out to create a festive atmosphere for our Christmas coffee morning, with Committee members donning their Christmas sweaters and ensuring that the tables were decked out with festive cloths. The event was well attended and there were delicious cakes galore – what else would you expect from the WI? Two lucky people won a prize of a well stocked Christmas hamper. The entertainment was provided by the children of Winthorpe Primary School, who sang a selection of carols, both ancient and modern. There is nothing quite like the voices of children singing "Away In a Manager" at Christmas, so thank you to Winthorpe School, you were brilliant.

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

By the time you read this, we will have held our members only Christmas party, on Wednesday, 14th December. This will take the form of a faith supper. Unfortunately after the deadline for this issue of Focal Point.

## **BOOK CLUB**

Meeting to be held at the Lord Nelson on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, when we will be reviewing *The Switch* by Beth O'Leary. Also after the deadline for this issue of Focal Point, unfortunately.

## **NEXT WI MEETING**

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 when there will be a talk on the New Life Centre in Gambia. If anyone would like to join us in the New Year, you are most welcome.

Meetings start at 7.30 pm and are held at the Community Centre in Winthorpe village. The first visit is free of charge with future meetings incurring a £5.00 charge.

**On behalf of the members of Winthorpe WI, may I wish you all a very *HAPPY NEW YEAR*.**

*Pauline Lockwood*



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# Winthorpe Community Centre

100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

Winners for December		
1st	£44.40	Julie Hill
2nd	£22.20	D McClymont
3rd	£7.40	Colin Smith

100  
Club



## NEWARK FOODBANK

A huge thank you to everyone from the three villages who donated so generously in the run up to Christmas. The last delivery I made to the Foodbank warehouse weighed in at 105.5kg. !!!!! How amazing is that?

The new year brings with it new challenges and, for far too many people, problems and debt simply grow and grow. So please do carry on helping, if you can. The smallest donation can make a big difference to someone's life.

Especially needed: long life milk, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned or microwaveable sponge puddings, cooking oil, instant mashed potato, noodles, biscuits.

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

**Happy New Year to all**

**Jane White**



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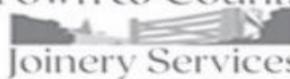
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## **Winthorpe Garden Club proposed outings for 2023**

Next year, we intend to recommence a two day outing. The proposal is to visit both Hyde Hall and Kew Gardens with an overnight hotel stay and an evening meal on the return journey. The dates are 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> June. At this stage we're just looking for an indication of numbers of people who would be interested. As always, the outings are open to everyone and we could not go ahead without the support of non-members.

A second outing to Trentham Gardens is also proposed. This would be a day trip on 19<sup>th</sup> July. Once again, if you are interested please let me know by telephoning 01636 686249.

I'd like to wish all our members and all readers of Focal Point a Peaceful & Happy Christmas.

**Ian Wilson**

### **Improving the appearance of our villages – send us your ideas**

Residents of Winthorpe and Langford may be interested to know that the Parish Council now has a scheme in place with the County Council, whereby we can authorise minor work items to be carried out to improve the look of our public spaces. This is known as the Lengthsman Scheme and provides access to additional funding over the next 3 years, with immediate effect.

From sign cleaning to keeping footpaths clear and general de-cluttering, let us know what improvements you would like to see and we'll do our best to make it happen, or report it to the appropriate authority for action.

The Parish Council is also considering removing the hard surface where the skate park used to be (adjacent to the cricket field) and restoring this to a grassed area with a few trees planted.

We would value your views on this particular step as well. The basketball net and metal shelter would also be removed.

Please email Mark Kneen ([mark\\_kneen@hotmail.com](mailto:mark_kneen@hotmail.com)) with your ideas or call on 07711 059184.

# **Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council**

**A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
from your Parish Councillors**



I'm sure we all know that 2022 has been an eventful year for the Parish, with a lot of change and impacts for the Parish Council to understand and deal with.

We have the ongoing impacts of the new A46 bypass, which we will be dealing with for many years to come, both in design and construction. Your Parish Council are working with other groups within and outside the Parish to minimise the impact on our villages, whilst obtaining the best outcome once the road is finished. We have responded to the recent consultation and are in regular discussion with National Highways and other Parish Councils in the area.

As you will see from an article elsewhere in this edition of Focal Point, we are getting close to a finished version of the Parish Neighbourhood Plan, which we have been working on all year. This has taken a lot of effort and has involved working through lots of ideas and feedback from various focus groups and information from village meetings, surveys and direct feedback from residents.

In joining the Nottinghamshire CC/VIA Lengthman Scheme (please see the article on this elsewhere in this edition) we have taken control of maintaining elements of our environment. Over the next three years, we will be working together to further improve the appearance of our built heritage.

This year has seen many planning applications being put forward, most of which have been sensible ideas for improvements to property. Where this has been the case, the Parish Council has been supportive but has also commented on those few applications which we felt were not appropriate or needed to make some changes.

In our bid to improve the overall environment, we are now working with Sherwood Forest Trust to look at potential tree planting options. As a result, we are considering a tree line of small height trees along the Jubilee Walk and 'parkland style' planting on some or all of the Jubilee Field. We are also looking at what work we need to carry out on the bank next to the Community Centre and this may include some tree planting and hedging. The Sherwood Forest Trust is looking for other options, so if you have any ideas where we could make this work, then please let me know at: [paul@bridgfordss.co.uk](mailto:paul@bridgfordss.co.uk).

We launched the Parish Twitter site earlier this year, which has so far been very successful; the number of our followers is continuing to increase, if a little slowly. As anybody who uses Twitter regularly will know, it is a very easy and quick way to get up to date information such as road works/traffic problems and what's generally happening around the parish. I know to some it might seem a little daunting, but it is very simple to set up an account and when you do you can find your parish account here: <https://twitter.com/WithParish>

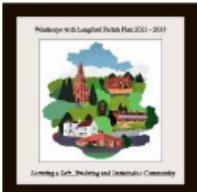
We are still looking to fully update the Village Website and had hoped to have this complete before Christmas, but because of lots of other work recently we will be working on this in the early part of the 2023. So, if you have any ideas of how we could improve the site, there is still time to let us have your ideas.

Finally, we would just like to thank our new Focal Point Editor, Julie Hill: firstly, for taking on the role earlier this year and secondly for taking the magazine to a new level. I hope that you will have noticed some of the changes Julie has made and, in particular, the increased amount of advertising, which of course makes Focal Point more viable for the future.

**Here's to an interesting and exciting 2023!**

Paul Smith





## Winthorpe with Langford Neighbourhood Plan 2023 – 2033 Progress Update

Well, after a lot of hard work over the last two years or so, the draft version of the Winthorpe with Langford Neighbourhood Plan is coming together and is beginning to look really good. By the time you read this edition of Focal Point, the Working Group members should have copies of the first version so that they can then work through the detail over the festive season and make any changes or additions necessary to the content.

At the last meeting of the full Working Group on 6<sup>th</sup> December, we worked through the plan and agreed timescales for completion. If everything goes according to plan, we should be able to share the final draft version with all residents early in 2023. We will then explain the content in more detail and get feedback by holding village meetings at the Community Centre in February, so look out for dates on Twitter, The Village Website and in the next edition of Focal Point. This consultation process will last for 6 weeks, which will allow time for all residents to let us have comments before a final version is then submitted to Newark and Sherwood DC.

As discussed in the last Focal Point, we have had a range of professional photographs taken of the parish; these are now available for us to make use of in the Neighbourhood Plan, Village Website and other social media outlets we use.

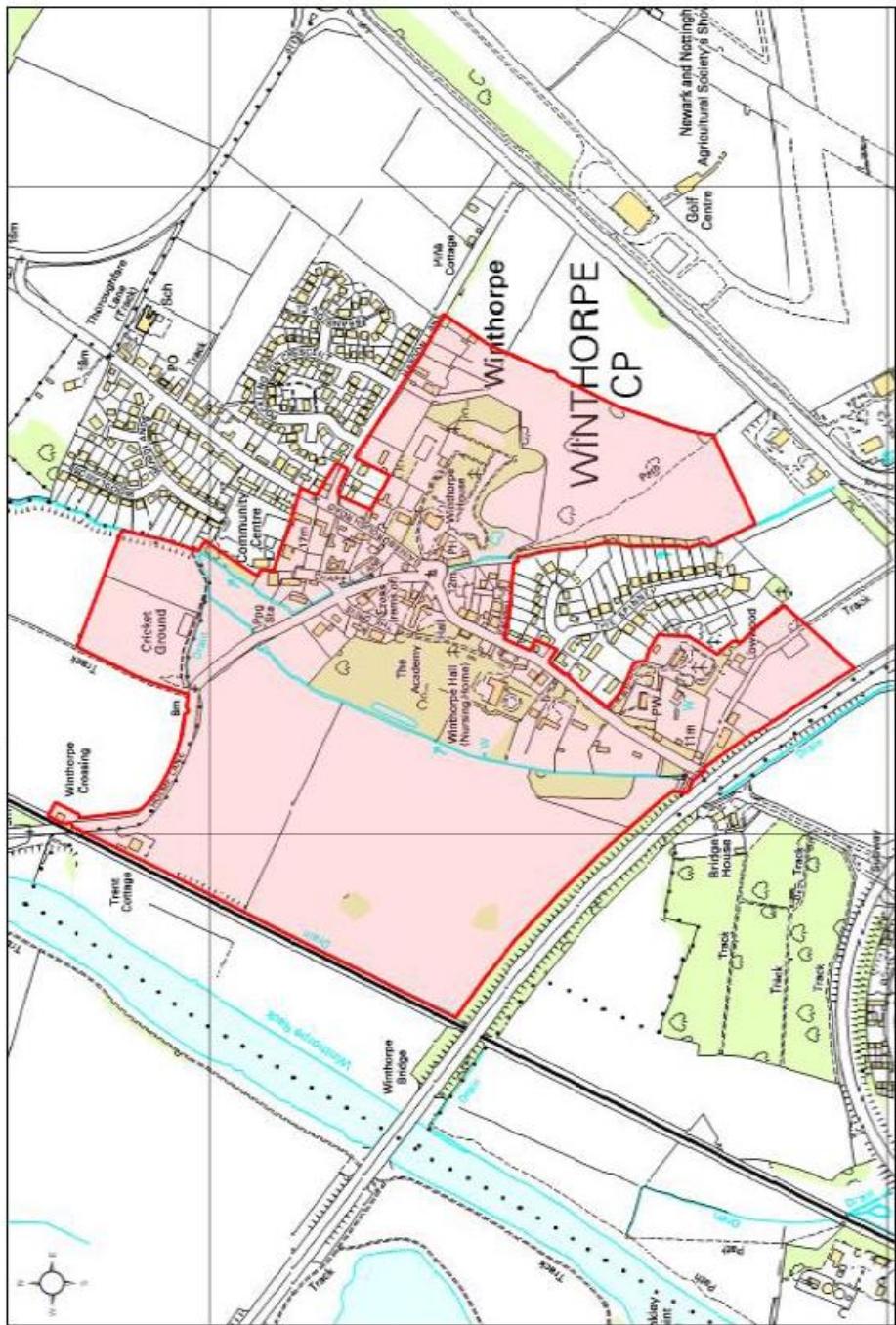
A further draft of the Design Codes document is currently being compiled by our consultant (AECOM). Once complete, this will identify building designs and styles of property across the Parish. This work will feed into the Plan, helping to ensure that the style and identity of the Parish is maintained in the future. Once this work is complete and agreed, it will form part of a suite of documents to support the plan.

I also just want to thank all those people in the parish who have worked together to get us to where we are now: an almost finished Plan. Without the hard work and determination of over 40 residents, we would not be in the position we are today. This Plan is very important for the future of Winthorpe and Langford villages, as will become clear in future years.

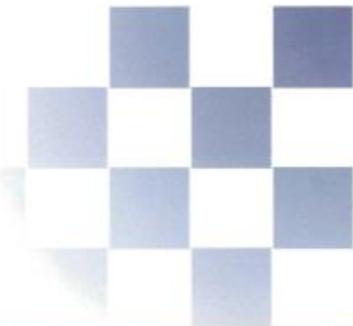
Finally, I thought some of you might find it useful to have a copy of the Winthorpe Conservation Area to hand. As you know from previous editions of Focal Point, we are working on putting forward some possible changes to the extent of the area and we would still value your thoughts.

Please contact me: [paul@bridgfordss.co.uk](mailto:paul@bridgfordss.co.uk)

Winthorpe Conservation Area



# safer neighbourhoods



Meet the local Beat team for: Rural North



PC Gareth NICHOLLS  
07525 226394  
[Gareth.nicholls@notts.police.uk](mailto:Gareth.nicholls@notts.police.uk)

PCSO Andrew MIGHALL  
07917 270505  
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**THINK AGAIN**

*The Winthorpe Residents'  
A46 Consultation Group*



Thank you to the residents of Winthorpe for your attendance, views and suggestions at the sessions held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November in the Community Centre. It was great to see people out in force and to hear your comments.

Think Again have been able to submit a full response to the National Highways statutory consultation process, informed by your contributions. Details of this submission are available on the website.

We will await the outcome of the consultation process next year and we will work with National Highways on your behalf, to continue to ensure that we achieve the best possible solutions for Winthorpe.

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](mailto:A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com)

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

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

## **Johnny Johnson, Local Hero**

### **born 25<sup>th</sup> November 1921, died 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022**



George Leonard Johnson was born in Hameringham in East Lindsey, the youngest of six children; when he was very young the family moved to Langford, which was not uncommon, his father being an agricultural labourer. The Johnson family lived in a tied cottage in Langford. Sadly, George's mother died when he was only three years old.

By all accounts, his father was violent and abusive, so it's not surprising that George (Johnny) did not have a good relationship with him. After the death of their mother, Johnny's eldest sister Lena, who had been in

service and living away from home, moved back to Langford and Johnny's home life improved to some extent. Johnny attended Winthorpe Primary School until the age of eleven; the school's headmistress and the wife of the local squire got their heads together to rescue Johnny from his difficult home life and helped to secure a place for him at Lord Wandsworth College in Hampshire, which was at that time being run by a charity catering for the children of agricultural families who had lost one or both parents.

After leaving full-time education in 1939, Johnny worked for six months as a park keeper in Basingstoke, before volunteering to join the RAF in June 1940, applying to become a navigator. He was, however, selected for pilot training and eventually joined up in November 1940. After a few adjustments of role, and a training spell in the USA, Johnny returned to the UK in 1942 and was posted to Bomber Command 97 Squadron at Woodhall Spa, as a spare gunner.

Selected for the legendary 1943 Dambusters raid, Johnny began his training for the mission immediately after his honeymoon. He was one of the crews assigned to attack the Sorpe Dam and his crew was the only one of five which made it as far as the dam itself. Following the raid, he was honoured with the Distinguished Flying Medal. After 18 more operations with 617 Squadron, in

1944 he reluctantly accepted the post of bombing instructor at RAF Scampton, as his wife was about to give birth to their first child.

Johnny spent the rest of the war training other young airmen of Bomber Command, going on to be a fully qualified navigator and serving the RAF as an instructor until his retirement in 1962, having reached the rank of Squadron Leader.

Still in his forties, Johnny retrained once more as a teacher, working in various primary schools and adult education, including Rampton Hospital.

Once he had taken full retirement, Johnny and his wife decamped to Devon where he became involved in local politics and became a Conservative councillor and chair of the constituency party. But he never lost touch with Lincolnshire and was active in 617 Squadron reunions and many of the wider activities of Bomber Command.

In later years, Johnny received recognition for his campaigning to improve resources for mental health, and for his work for charitable causes. He received an MBE from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, an honorary doctorate from Lincoln University and enjoyed a memorial flight over Derwent Dam (where the Dambusters had trained in low flying) in the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Lancaster Bomber.

From humble beginnings, Johnny always remained humble and would not have classed himself as a hero. We in our small area of the three villages of Winthorpe, Langord and Holme may not have had him for long, but for us he will surely always be regarded as a local hero.

**RIP JOHNNY JOHNSON**



## **Christmas Quiz Answers**

How well did you do in our Christmas Quiz? Hope you had fun and not too many disputes! (The editor accepts no responsibility for answers you disagree with.)

1. Invented in Germany in 1610, what was tinsel originally made from? **Strands of silver**
2. Which famous Victorian author wrote the story, 'A Christmas Carol'? **Charles Dickens**
3. '*O tidings of comfort and joy*' is the last line of a well-known carol, but what is the first line? **God rest ye merry, gentlemen**
4. In which year were the last Football League matches in England played on Christmas Day? **1965**
5. Ilex is the Latin name for which genus of evergreen plant associated with Christmas? **Holly**
6. In the song, 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', there were how many maids a-milking? **Eight**
7. Which toy company, launched in the UK in 1958, is currently selling the Eiffel Tower for £554.99 and the Titanic for £589.99? **Lego**
8. Who invented Christmas crackers in 1847? **Tom Smith**
9. In which ocean is Christmas Island situated? **Indian**

10. In which country are stollen and glühwein traditional Christmas treats? **Germany**
11. In which year did Tiny Tears and Action Man dolls first arrive on the UK market and become best selling Christmas toys? **1966**
12. The first (and the original) Icehotel was built in 1989, in the small town of Jukkasjärvi, in which country? **Sweden**
13. Which London theatre has had a tradition since 1795 of providing Twelfth Night cake for every member of its theatre company? **Theatre Royal, Drury Lane**
14. Who wrote the fairy tale, 'The Snow Queen'? **Hans Christian Andersen**
15. What colour are mistletoe berries? **White**
16. Harry Belafonte in 1957 and Boney M in 1978 had a Christmas number one hit with which song? **Mary's Boy Child**
17. In which European city would you find Wenceslas Square?  
**Prague**
18. How many Morecambe and Wise Christmas Specials were there and in which year was the top one, with 28 million viewers? **8, 1977**
19. The first known Christmas card was sent in 1611 to which monarch? **King James I of England (VI of Scotland)**
20. In which year did Good Friday fall on Boxing Day, but only in Wolverhampton? **1899 – Good Friday was a racehorse**



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07789175957

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## FOCAL POINT ONLINE EDITION

The online edition of the magazine is easy to find on Winthorpe village website: [www.winthorpe.org](http://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!



## DECEMBER'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

Back in November, on Sunday 27th, I confused congregations by wishing them a Happy New Year. There was method in my madness, because it was Advent Sunday and Advent Sunday is the start of the Church's year. Of course, our lives today are run by calendars and diaries, so it's important that we're all following the same dates and that the new year starts for everyone on January 1st. Still, for me, there are a number of times through each year when it feels like something new is starting. For instance, each September feels like a starting point to me, with the beginning of a new school year. March and April feel like starting points when the sun strengthens and fresh new shoots and blossom are everywhere. And yes, Advent really feels like a new year – that's when my diary begins anyway.

**When do you think a new year really begins? What time of year feels like a new start to you?**

The New Year which we all share is on January 1st, in the middle of winter and in the middle of Christmas. It is a time of celebration, when hopefully we can all eat some extra treats and enjoy some good company. It's a time to look back and give thanks for the good things of 2022 and perhaps to say sorry for anything not so good. It's a time to look forward. We may decide to try something new or change some of our ways.

In Holme church, we're trying something very new because on Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup> we're holding a Wassail. There will be great music, some readings and a chance to sing Christmas carols (yes it is

still Christmas until February 2nd!) It starts at 4pm and we'd love to see you there.

Have a very Happy New Year.  
God bless you all.

**Revd. Mandy**  
01636 361657  
[revdmand@hotmail.com](mailto:revdmand@hotmail.com)



## **Epiphany**

The Twelve Days of Christmas come to an end

- 6<sup>th</sup> January, traditionally associated with the arrival of the Three Wise Men in Bethlehem, where the Star of Wonder had led them to the baby Jesus. They paid him homage and gave their gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.
- Also known as Three Kings' Day, Little Christmas, Green Christmas and Old Christmas.
- The first Monday after Epiphany is known as Plough Monday, as it marks the beginning of the Agricultural Year.



## All Saints' Church, Winthorpe

A very happy New Year to all! I hope everyone was able to be with family and friends at Christmas and that the start of 2023 brings us mild weather to help us with heating costs!!

We started our Christmas services off with a wonderful Christingle led by Mandy and held in School, with Classes One and Two attending with Parents.

As I write these very early notes for January, I cannot comment on all the other planned events but I do hope they were enjoyed by everyone who attended them.

Back to 'normal' services this month which always makes January seem so quiet but stress free!!

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

Tisha Applewhite

Churchwarden

643763

Flower/Decoration Removal - Wednesday January 4th from 2p.m.  
Thankyou.

Church Cleaners - Miss T.Applewhite



## St. Giles Church, Holme

Hello from St Giles Church Holme

We wish all our readers a very Happy New Year. There's a lot to look forward to in 2023, not least the spring and warmer weather. Then there's the coronation of King Charles, and from January onwards we'll be planning how this will be celebrated at St Giles. During the summer months, with the light nights and warm days, we want to put on events which have the support of the village, so please send in your ideas, either by post in the mail box, by email or by phone.

The first event in 2023 will be 'Come A-wassailing at Holme Church', which is being organised jointly by Holme Church and Collingham & District Local History Society. This will be on Saturday 14th January at 4pm. There will be additional off-road parking, with steward guides in high vis. Originally, the Wassail was an Anglo Saxon pagan custom of visiting orchards to sing to the trees and spirits in the hope of ensuring a good harvest. An alcohol-free Wassail jug will be passed around and light refreshments will be served. You will be invited to sing with vigour to scare off the evil and bring in the good, as we make an enjoyable noise, with Christmas themed carols and other songs. Musicians of 1685 ([www.sixteen85.co.uk](http://www.sixteen85.co.uk)) and soloist Wendy Leonard will provide the music. Entry is free but donations are invited, as we need funds to pay for new heating.

We are also looking forward to a performance by the Newark Rock Choir; the date for this event will be advised in the new year. There's no service at St Giles on Sunday 1st January, so the next one will be the 9am on Sunday 5th February.

Kind regards, Nigel Priestley and Doreen Hallam.

Phone, 01636 892020, email: [nigel.priestley10@gmail.com](mailto:nigel.priestley10@gmail.com)

## St Bartholomew's Church, Langford

St Bartholomew's has had a busy year, including: seven community gardening events, a Lammastide picnic, a floral tribute to Her Majesty the Queen during our time of national mourning, and a Christmas carols evening. Not bad for a church with no running water, toilet or heating!



On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December thirty members of Langford, our wider community, and a church bat, enjoyed sharing in carols around the organ, mulled wine and mince pies. The Christmas Memory Tree was again adorned with memories and decorations, including a special tribute to RAF Squadron Leader George Leonard Johnson (Johnny Johnson). Johnny lived in Langford as a child; the last living member of the Dambusters, he died in December.

Our church is open most days between 10 and 3pm – all are welcome to look around, enjoy the fresh flowers, take time for reflection, and sign the visitors' book.

We look forward to more community events in 2023, when we will have the opportunity to share in the joy of St Bartholomew's, our very special 14<sup>th</sup> century church.

Wishing Langford and the wider community a very healthy and happy New Year.

**John and Becky Whittaker (key holders)**

Langford Crossing (0775 311 7530)

## Church Services for January 2023



<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b> (Naming + Circumcision of Jesus)	9 a.m.	Holy Communion	Holme
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b> (Epiphany)	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Winthorpe
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> of Epiphany)	9.00a.m. 10.15a.m.	Holy Communion Morning Worship	Langford Winthorpe
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> of Epiphany)	5.00p.m.	Evening Prayer	Winthorpe
<b>Every Thursday</b>	1.30 – 3.30p.m.	Open Church	Winthorpe
<b>Every Day</b>	10.00 – 4.00p.m.	Open Church	Holme + Langford

For more information please visit the East Trent Churches website:  
[www.easttrentchurches.org.uk](http://www.easttrentchurches.org.uk)

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