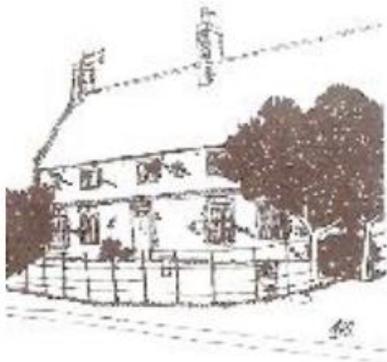


FOCAL POINT



January 2024

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Focal Point Online Edition

The online edition of Focal Point 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!

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Looking back and looking ahead – the month of January is named after the Roman God Janus, who has two faces, one looking backwards and the other looking forwards. The Roman Empire influenced the calendar of countries like Britain, even long after the Romans left Britain and their great empire fell into decline. And so we mark our new year in the midst of winter, after the joyous celebrations of Christmas and long before the green shoots of spring emerge. Although the weather is cold and the days are short, we have passed the shortest day and can count the extra minutes of daylight as we move towards spring, slowly but surely.

How often do people ask you about your New Year Resolutions? As a child I would write them in my diary, the one some aunt or other always bought me for Christmas – one year I remember receiving one with a little padlock on it, which I thought was amazing. Not quite WhatsApp end-to-end encryption but it felt very precious at the time. The first thing I wrote as my resolution every year was “I will write in my diary every day.” Of course, that resolution did not last throughout the year and often failed by February; so, if you managed to keep a diary the whole year round, you have my admiration.

I try to avoid resolutions these days, as I don’t want to doom myself to fail. And none of us knows what the year has in store; some things are beyond our control. Nevertheless, I think my multi-faceted resolution for 2024 will be to take care of myself and to care for others: find time to have fun with family and friends, make memories. I’m looking forward to being able to look back on 2024 and saying, “memories are made of this”.

Julie Johnson-Hill (01636 676079)

NEXT MONTH’S DEADLINE IS 18TH JANUARY

winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com

January Calendar

When	What	Where
Mon 1 st	New Year's Day	
Tues 2 nd	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Sat 6 th	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 8 th	Plough Monday	
Mon 8 th	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 8 th	Mobile Library	All
Mon 8 th	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 9 th	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Wed 10 th	WI meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 12 th	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 15 th	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Mon 15 th	Brown bin	All
Mon 15 th	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 16 th	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Wed 17 th	Garden Club Social Evening	Winthorpe
Thur 18 th	Parish Council meeting	
Fri 19 th	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 22 nd	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 22 nd	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 23 rd	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Wed 24 th	Village Supper, Farewell to Mandy & Phil	Winthorpe
Thur 25 th	Burns Night	
Fri 26 th	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Fri-Sun 26 th -28 th	Big Garden Bird Watch	
Sat 27 th	East Trent Group Cheese and Wine/ Tea and Coffee	Collingham
Mon 29 th	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Mon 29 th	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 30 th	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe



**This month, the mobile library will call at our villages
on Monday 8th January**

Mobile Library Routes and Timetable 2023 for Winthorpe, Langford and Holme*				
Stop No.	Village	Location	Arrive	Depart
1	Winthorpe	The Spinney	9.50am	10.10am
2	Winthorpe	junction of Pocklington Crescent and Branston Close	10.15am	10.35am
3	Winthorpe	junction of Gainsborough Road and Woodlands	10.40am	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



COLLINGHAM MEDICAL CENTRE

High Street
Collingham
Newark NG23 7LB
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Email: collingham.medicalcentre@nhs.net

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For Appointments telephone: 8.00am – 6.15pm

For Prescriptions telephone: 10.00am – 12.00pm

CHRISTMAS 2023

Monday 25 December 2023 – **CLOSED**

Tuesday 26 December 2023 – **CLOSED**

Monday 1 January 2024 – **CLOSED**

(Normal opening hours all other days)

The Collingham Medical Centre team would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Our communication with patients relies on current information. If your personal details change, including telephone numbers, please let the practice know. Thank you.

Out of Hours Service is provided from 111 when the surgery is closed.

Website: www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk



COLLINGHAM PHARMACY

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Email: collingham.pharmacy@nhs.net

CHRISTMAS 2023

Saturday 23 December – **Open 9 am – 12.30 pm**

Monday 25 December – **CLOSED**

Tuesday 26 December – **CLOSED**

Saturday 30 December – **Open 9 am – 12.30 pm**

Monday 1 January 2023 - **CLOSED**

(Normal opening hours all other days. Closed between 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm every day)

The Collingham Pharmacy team would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

When this Pharmacy is closed, if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation contact NHS 111.

Information can also be accessed at www.nhs.uk

Website: www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk

FAREWELL VILLAGE SUPPER FOR MANDY and PHIL

Wednesday 24th January 2024

7pm at the Lord Nelson, Winthorpe
Two Course Meal for £16

Help us to celebrate the time that Mandy has been here with us
as our Vicar

Please book your place with Tish Applewhite,
making sure to state if a vegetarian meal is required.

email: tishapplewhite@msn.com
or telephone:

01636 643763 07896821414

Retired Gentlemen, Please Step Forward!

You are needed by the Probus Club of Newark & District

New members would be very welcome to join us
for our friendly monthly meeting, with lunch and a guest speaker.
Unfortunately, our numbers are dwindling, so new members are needed to
ensure that the Club remains both active and viable.

Further information is available from:

Keith Elliott (Treasurer) 01636 677716

Attention all Dog Walkers and Residents

We have been made aware in recent weeks that unfortunately three dogs
have been affected by some form of poison and sadly one dog lost its life as a
result. We are not entirely sure what the source of the problem was, but we
suspect the affected dogs had eaten some form of rat poison. On behalf of
the Parish Council could I ask all dog owners to be cautious when exercising
their dogs and more importantly if any resident is intending to or has put any
form of poison down, please ensure it is used in controlled circumstances and
is safe to use.

Paul Smith, Chair, Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council



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WINTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall had a Tombola Stall and a Whisky Treasure Hunt at the Lord Nelson Christmas Market on 2nd December. The Tombola Stall raised £110 and the Whisky Treasure Hunt raised £54. An excellent result.

Pauline Lockwood ran the Tombola Stall for the whole day by herself and we are extremely grateful for her hard work. Julie Johnson-Hill showed the same dedication in manning the Whisky Treasure Hunt all day. We are very lucky to have such willing and amazing volunteers and thank them for their support.

The Trustees wish to thank all the villagers and visitors who gave generously to both these stalls, and for coming and spending their money on the day. Many thanks to Emma for the use of the pub – incidentally, Emma was the lucky winner of the litre bottle of whisky!

On behalf of the Village Hall Trustees, we hope that you have had a Happy Christmas and wish you a Great New Year.

Bob McClymont

Defibrillator codes for Winthorpe

Community Centre: C159X

Village Hall: CY543

Defibrillator code for Holme

Phone Box at junction of Langford Lane and High Steet. No code needed, as the lock was removed some time ago, for good reasons.

Please contact the editor with the defibrillator code for Langford, if you would like it to be included in future editions of Focal Point.

Winthorpe WI is organising a trip to Robin Hood Theatre Averham on Thursday 1st February to see the comedy, “Unleashed”. We will be leaving the village at 6.30pm. The cost is £22.00 approx, including coach (subject to numbers). If anyone is interested please **contact Viv on 07708834863**.



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Winthorpe Community Centre Charity

AGM – October 2023

The Annual General Meeting of Winthorpe Community Centre Charity took place in October, when the following Trustees were confirmed for the following year:

Peter Bateson - Chairman
Michele Cammack - Secretary
Nina Adams - Treasurer
Jane Bateson - Booking Secretary
Andy Warner
Jan Warner
Colin Smith
Sue Sharp
Di Rowland
Viv Jackson
Leane Cutts (PC representative)

Although a plea for new Trustees was made in Focal Point, nobody came forward. It was agreed to renew this plea ahead of the New Year, so here it is:

- We are a small friendly Charity, which has only a couple of meetings a year.
- Trustees usually prefer to join either the fundraising or maintenance committee and the role is not onerous.
- It is always nice to welcome new faces, so should anyone from the Parish be interested in joining the Charity, please email the Secretary, Michele Cammack: cammacks31@gmail.com

1970s Night, 9th December 2023

Thank you to everyone who attended this great evening. 82 tickets were sold and, after food costs and bar licence, ticket sales made £540 and the raffle made £125, so a welcome total of £665 for the Charity. Thank you to the Lord Nelson for providing the Bar and to all the Trustees and others who sold tickets and made the event such a success. Plans for 2024 are in progress..!

Peter Bateson, Chairman, WCCC

NEWARK FOODBANK



As we reach the end of 2023, I want to take a moment to say a very big 'thank you' to everyone who has given so

generously throughout 2023. Without your kindness we would not be able to help those in severe need in our area. I see no end to the dire situation some people are in, and I hope that you will continue to help throughout 2024. If you have not donated before, and are prepared to do so, please see the details of how you can give, below.

Thank you

Especially needed now are: tea bags, Long life fruit juice, UHT milk, tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned fruit, instant mash, sponge puddings (both tinned and microwaveable), rice.

Always needed are: breakfast cereal, sugar, biscuits, cereal bars, soup, noodles, cooking oil, pasta sauce, tinned spaghetti/tomatoes/peas/rice puddings, tinned or carton custard, toilet rolls, jam, toiletries.

If you haven't donated before, it is very easy.

Winthorpe Collection Points are:

- The Lord Nelson, during opening hours. Please note that the collection point is now through the front door, turn left into the main area. The collection box is on the left.
- The black swing bin by my front door 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 you all.

Jane White

WINTHORPE WI

Book Club

We were a little thin on the ground when we met at the Lord Nelson to review the novel *Hamnet* by Maggie O' Farrel. Set in 1596, the story alludes to William Shakespeare, whose son, Hamnet, died at the age of eleven. The author entertains the theory that Shakespeare wrote *Hamlet* in an attempt to come to terms with the loss of his son. The story was interesting and very well written, and the group enjoyed it in varying degrees. At our next meeting on 4th January, we will be reviewing *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles. The Book Club is open to all members of the WI.

OUTING

On 23rd November we went to Belvoir Castle to view their *Twelve Days of Christmas* themed decorations, designed by Charlotte Lloyd Webber. We received a warm welcome, the decorations were beautiful and we had a lovely time. Our visit to the castle was followed by retail therapy in the Engine Yard and was rounded off with an excellent lunch at The Chequers, Woolsthorpe. Sincere thanks to our President for organising a lovely day out.

NEWARK PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

At the Christmas Tree Festival, the theme of our tree, which was completely decked out with gold ribbons and baubles, was "All that glitters is not...". We had heard a rumour that the sale of tinsel was being banned to encourage people to decorate their trees in a greener way. We were interviewed by the Newark Advertiser, so it will be interesting to see if we got a mention.

THE LORD NELSON PUB'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to our table and all who purchased from the variety of lovely things we had on offer.

At our first meeting of 2024, on 10th January, our topic will be "Rejuvenate - The Importance of Well-being." There will also be a sale table. The first meeting is free, subsequent meetings incur a £5.00 charge for non members.

On behalf of the committee and all the members of the WI, I would like to wish you all a VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

Pauline Lockwood



Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

The last meeting of the Parish Council for 2023 was held in the Village Hall on Thursday 21st December and was well attended by Parish Councillors.

First, an update on the Defibrillator for Pocklington estate. I am pleased to let you know that we have been successful in securing a grant for £500, sponsored by our District Councillor, Linda Dales. This will enable us to complete the funding of the special installation work for the new defibrillator on the green space off Pocklington Crescent. I must also say a special "thank-you" for the great support provided by Jenny Palmer, Community Development Officer at NSDC, for her help in getting this grant application processed and approved in record time. Thanks Linda and Jenny!

The Coronation Bank and Jubilee Meadow Projects are moving forward strongly; on 22nd November we held a Project Task Force meeting of relevant village groups and interested residents, to discuss the way forward and how the projects would be delivered. We have recently secured additional funding for the projects from The Thomas Brewer Charity – a big thank-you to them for supporting this work.

Following a wide discussion of how the projects would be delivered, we agreed that the tree-planting will take place on Jubilee Meadow on Thursday 15th and Saturday 24th February, and that the building of the pathway on Coronation Bank will take place on Saturday 23rd March 2024. On each day, work will start at 10am and finish once we are happy with the progress we have made. Additional dates for work on The Coronation Bank which will be agreed following the completion of the pathway.

So, this is your chance to get involved! We all know that 'many hands make light work' so it would be good to get as many people as possible involved during the work days. Both projects will deliver significant enhancements to our village life, including a new Community Orchard, and the tree planting will deliver benefits for future generations. Whilst we will, of course, need help delivering the physical aspects of the work, everybody can get involved, as we will need to move materials and equipment, digging and weeding has to be done, guidance on planting and design would be welcome, as would of course Tea, Coffee and some food! So please come

along to at least one of the work days and help to improve your village and our environment. If you think you can help, please let me know at the email address below if possible – or just put the dates in your diary and come along to one of the work days. It would be great to have a really good turnout, similar to the daffodil bulb planting that took place on the entrance to the village.

In other news, given the amount of rainfall and flooding in the area, we are maintaining a careful watch on possible risk points and, in particular, the debris etc in the Fleet next to The Lord Nelson. Since it was last cleared out by the Internal Drainage Board, the flow seems to be clear; however, if anybody notices any risk in this area of the village, please either report it to the IDB directly or contact me. We have asked for a small number of sand bags to be delivered, as part of a flood prevention plan. Some of you will remember when this area of the village was flooded in the past; our intention is to ensure that this never happens again.

When we had the recent snow and cold weather, our grit bins and bags came into use; just a reminder that, apart from the yellow grit bins, there are also bags of grit available at both the Village Hall and the Community Centre.

Some of you will know that, towards the end of November, it was National Speed Awareness Week. As mentioned in the last edition of Focal Point, Leane Cutts worked with Winthorpe Primary School, the police and our County Councillor (Debbie Darby) to help the children and their parents understand, amongst other areas of risk, the impacts of speeding in the village and the necessity to park safely on Gainsborough Road. On the few occasions when I have passed the school during pick up/drop off times, I've noticed a small improvement but would welcome your opinion on this, and suggestions of what more we can do to help.

The next meeting of The Parish Council will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 18th January 2024 at 7.30pm. In the meantime if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact me: paul@bridgfordss.co.uk

Paul Smith

Chair, Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

A colorful graphic with the words "Happy New Year" written in a playful, bubbly font. Each letter is a different color, including shades of red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The text is arranged in three lines: "Happy" on the top line, "New" in the middle, and "Year" on the bottom line.

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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



COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS

Walks programme for January, February, March and April 2024

“A new activity for a New Year”

New walkers are always welcome.
Come along and join this friendly group.

We provide an excellent variety of walks within Nottinghamshire, as well as adjacent counties. Most Sunday walks are between 6 and 8 miles, with a possible shorter option. Wednesday walks are usually about 4 miles, concluding with an optional pub/cafe lunch.

Walkers should provide snacks, drinks and packed lunches if appropriate. Please also ensure that you have suitable footwear and waterproofs.

WALK DATES

Sundays:

January 14th , 28th .

February 11th , 25th .

March 10th , 24th .

April 7th , 21st .

Wednesdays:

January 24th .

February 21st .

March 27th .

April 24th .

If you would like to join us on any of these walks please contact Nina Ward on collinghamramblersnottswalks@gmail.com for more information and for specific walk details .

Collingham Ramblers Committee

Nina Ward
Walks Coordinator
Collingham Ramblers (Notts.)

A point of view from the Vicarage Landing

Well, this is the last time I'll write to you from the Vicarage landing, because Mandy's retiring and so we're moving away. To be honest, I don't know where I'll be living because we're going to a house with such a small landing there's no room for a small bear to sleep. It'll be worse for donkey who lives on the windowsill because there's not even a landing window!

Still, I'm sure Mandy will find a place for us and my tummy flutters with excitement when I think about a new house to explore.

Before then, we've got a busy time and I'm a bit worried because I think my long winter sleep will be interrupted. We bears get some things right you know, and starting the year by snoozing away the cold days is a great idea. Still, in our house, 2024 will begin with a flurry of clearing, packing and sadly saying goodbye. Yes, I will be sad to say goodbye, I've loved living on this landing and writing to you all, but I know there are new adventures ahead for all of us. I'm going to keep my fur brushed in case Mandy takes me to the Lord Nelson for the meal in January, so I hope I'll see lots of you there.

Happy New Year,

Love from Isaiah



FAREWELL to MANDY and PHIL

East Trent Group of Churches: Besthorpe, Clifton, Collingham, Girton, Harby, Holme, Langford, South Scarle, Thorney and Winthorpe.

Saturday 27th January 2024

From 1pm to 4pm at the Memorial Hall, Collingham
Cheese & Wine, Tea & Coffee

Everyone is invited to come and say their personal goodbyes

Sunday 28th January 2024 at 11am

United Holy Communion at St. John the Baptist Church, Collingham

**This will be Revd. Mandy's last Sunday service
in the East Trent Group of Churches**

There will be a retiring collection for Many & Phil's choice of charity

JANUARY'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

I'd like to wish you all a very happy new year and take this opportunity to thank all of you for letting me share in the life of Winthorpe, Holme and Langford these last few years. I have enjoyed my life here and learnt so much about village life. It began early didn't it, because I arrived for the start of December and learnt that Christmas begins early with an amazing carol service and auction in Langford; and that was the start of a season of innovation and tradition which has never ended!

So, thank you for all the church services, including all the ones we recorded through lockdown and the inventive ways we worshiped with restrictions: I will always remember Easter Gardens along Winthorpe church path, open churches and singing carols outside Holme church on Christmas morning. Thank you for all the village lunches, summer festivals, Lammas and harvest suppers and teas, Pimms and strawberries in the churchyard, wassailing and churchyard working parties.

Thank you for letting me share in joys and sorrows; for all your hospitality, friendship, and encouragement.

I will never forget my time with you, and I hope you will never forget to build up your churches and communities; getting to know one another, forgiving past hurts and looking to the future with hope. Remember that God loves you and cares about community; remember that Jesus was always working to make community life better, to forgive past hurts and to include everyone.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.

Happy New Year,

With love,

Revd Mandy





All Saints' Church, Winthorpe

A very happy New Year to all! I hope that everyone was able to enjoy time with family and friends over Christmas. I also hope that 2024 brings a more peaceful world and a healthier one for many of our villagers.

Looking back briefly, we started our Christmas events off with a wonderful Christingle led by Mandy and held in School with Classes One and Two. As these January notes are written so early, I do hope that all the other planned events were enjoyed by everyone who attended them.

Now I usually say "back to 'normal' services" this month but sadly that is not the case! Whilst we do have our normal Holy Communion and Morning Worship Services, on Sunday 28th January Mandy takes her final United Holy Communion, in the form of Candlemas, at St John's Collingham at 11am.

Preceding that event, Winthorpe are hosting a Village Supper at the Lord Nelson on Wednesday 24th January at 7pm 'to say our thank-yous' to Mandy and Phil at a Farewell Meal. Please see the advert on page 5 of this edition of Focal Point for details. Following this, on Saturday 27th January there will be the East Trent Group Cheese and Wine/Tea and Coffee from 1-4pm at the Collingham Memorial Hall – all are very welcome.

In my February Notes I will explain how our Church Services will continue during the Interregnum.

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

Tisha Applewhite

Churchwarden

643763

Flower Ladies : Decoration Removal – Tuesday 2nd January from 2pm.
Thank you

Church Cleaners: Miss T.Applewhite



St. Giles Church, Holme

Dear Friends and Supporters of St Giles,

First of all, we hope that you very much enjoyed your Christmas and all the celebrations. It's been a busy time for us, not least those who have decorated the church, prepared for the services and provided the readings and music.

Perhaps the busiest person of all must be our much-loved vicar, Rev Mandy Cartwright. This January will, very sadly, be her final month with us and indeed the whole of the East Trent group of churches. Her last service at Holme will be on Sunday 7th January; and then she will commence her well earned retirement with her very supportive husband, Phil. As was announced in the November edition of Focal Point, many Farewell Events for Mandy and Phil will be taking place during this month, so we hope that many of you will be able to get to at least one of these.

You may well ask, what happens in February and afterwards? Presently, all we can say is that it is very likely that there won't be a new appointment for at least a year, due to the process that has to be followed and of course the challenge in finding someone who is prepared and able to take on fourteen Parishes and eleven Churches in a very rural environment, with many of the buildings being Grade I listed. Together with the other wardens in the Benefice, we have been working on a plan to cover how services could be provided; however, this will need to be agreed with the people who have oversight of such matters at Southwell. We will keep you informed as soon as things are agreed, finalised and approved. From February onwards if you need to make contact with us for anything you can either contact our Group Administrator, Christine Hasman or the Churchwardens and we will do our best to help with your request.

We wish you all and your loved ones a Happy New Year and a blessed 2024.

With best wishes, Nigel Priestley and Doreen Hallam
Phone, 01636 892020,
email: nigel.priestley10@gmail.com

Church Services for January 2024



Sunday 7TH
(Epiphany)

9 a.m.

Holy Communion

Holme

Sunday 14th
(2nd of Epiphany)

10.30 a.m.

Holy Communion

Winthorpe

Sunday 21st
(3rd of Epiphany)

9.00a.m.

Holy Communion

Langford

10.15a.m.

Morning Worship

Winthorpe

Sunday 28th (Candlemas)
Holy Communion at 11am
At St John's Church, Collingham

This will be Revd. Mandy's final Service

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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