FOCAL POINT



ISSUE No 398 Ed's Comments

At this time of the year everyone looks both

backwards and forwards. The month is named after the Roman God Janus who had a double faced head with the two heads looking in opposite directions. He was considered to be the god of gates and doors and of beginnings and endings.

As I look back on 2013 I see that our lives have got very much busier and more involved. YES, you have guessed why! Focal Point!! (Cliff never actually admitted how



much work was involved. He said he fitted it into a couple of days at the end of each month. HOW?) However Nick and I have really enjoyed events we have attended as a result of working on Focal Point. In December these included the warm welcome we received at the PCC Christmas Social evening and the delicious Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch. We have met so many more people and feel more a part of the community.

Looking forward, the days are already getting longer. We have items within about sunflowers and holidays and events to come. My New Year's resolution is to try not to miss things which have been sent to Focal Point....!

A Very Happy New Year to you all! Annie Purday

Closing date for the February issue is Friday 24th January Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email nickwynne@virginmedia.com

Gifts for all!

What a lovely time we had at our first Luncheon Club lunch! We went along to report on Cliff's presentation but cannot better his "Thank you" contribution below! It was great to see how much his efforts were appreciated.

Thanks were also rightly given to the army of people who make the Luncheon Club possible and so enjoyable by preparing food, serving, washing up, running the raffle and generally organising the venue and each luncheon. What a treat not to have to cook and wash up....

Nick and Annie



On Monday the 9th of December at the village Luncheon Club, I was presented with a framed picture of views of Winthorpe village from long ago.

It is a super picture and will occupy a prominent position in

my Hall.

As the years go by it will help me remember where I live!!

So a very big thank you to Steve Jackson who made the presentation on your behalf and I am sure did much of the 'running about' that is always involved in these gestures.



I also received a huge card with a copy

of the 25th Anniversary cover of the Focal Point affixed to the front. So many people had signed the card it made quite humbling reading.

So as my time as editor has ended in splendid fashion I give my sincere thanks to you all and especially those who shared my c13year 'journey' and made it a most enjoyable experience.

I hope that you all enjoy a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year

Thanks once again Cliff Newbold

NEW YEAR

New Year is always such a good time. There is relief that the Christmas celebrations have been survived and hopefully enjoyed. There is the weight gained through over-indulgence to be lost. There is the question of where to



put the unexpected present. So many things. Life is wonderful.

And then there's the whole thing of New Year's Resolutions. Often preparing the resolutions for this New Year gives the reminder of having failed to keep last year's. Living through January with a sense of failure can be a bit of a bleak way of living through what can be a bleak month. But help is at hand. I can offer the following thoughts, but I can't offer to keep your resolutions for you; I have enough trouble keeping my own!

Resolutions are most about turning round. We resolve to improve our behaviour or performance; to take something new up as a pastime; to review something we've always done. Our worship in church reflects just this. As part of virtually every service there is opportunity for reflection and resolution, for letting go the past and looking to the future. It is called penitence or confession, but what we're not very good at is letting go the past and living in the present. Somehow, people let what has been hang on with them. It drags them down and stops them from getting on with the excitement of being alive.

So perhaps a good (and keepable) resolution might be to remember to keep living in joy and wonder rather than thinking back to the good old days, which were, in any case, nowhere near as good as we might think

we remember them to have been.

So, Happy New Year!

David Yabbacome

Rector: East Trent Churches



Winthorpe Youth Club needs your help.

Due to massive council budget cuts Youth Services are having to withdraw support from many Youth Clubs.



Sadly, Winthorpe Youth Club is one of the clubs affected.

As from October 2014 the Youth Club will lose its Youth leader and two workers and therefore faces closure.

This news came as a total surprise to the YC committee and YC members.

As a result of the proposed closure a meeting was held on the 27th November 2013 with Cllr Dobson and Lyndsey Woolmore (Youth Services) to discuss the situation and propose a way forward.

The three options discussed included the following:-

- 1. Funds be raised by the Youth club so that the YC committee may employ staff from Youth services-estimated cost £4000 pa.
- 2. One member of staff from Youth services be employed by the YC committee with support from volunteers -estimated cost £2000 pa.
- 3. The Youth Club be solely run by volunteers (after receiving training from the Youth services officers)

The meeting was very positive and a group of former Youth club members offered to run the Youth club on a voluntary basis.

However, the YC committee only consists of four officers and we <u>urgently</u> need your support to assist us and the volunteers.

We do not want the Youth Club to close.

We need your help to support our youngsters who have volunteered to run the club.

A meeting will be held at the Lord Nelson on Wednesday 22nd January 2014 at 7.30pm at the Lord Nelson for all interested parties. Please help us so that we can help them.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Denise Day (708727)

Mobile Library Itinerary

(See Calendar for dates)

Stop No.	Location	Stop Name	Arrive	Depart
1	Winthorpe	Spinney estate	9:40	10:00
2	Winthorpe	49 Pocklington Cresc.	10:05	10:25
3	Winthorpe	Post Office	10:30	10:50
4	Langford	Langford Hall Farm	10:55	11:10
5	Holme	Snaefell, Langford Lane	11:20	11:30
6	Holme	Southview Farm	11:35	11:55

For further information please contact **Southwell Library** 01636 812148

Email: southwell.library@notscc.gov.uk

Newark Library

Newark Library will be closed for essential maintenance from 24 December 2013 to 1 May 2014.

During the closure, the opening times at Balderton and Southwell libraries will be extended.

Balderton's new opening times from January to May will be:

- Monday to Friday 9am-6pm
- Saturday 9am-12.30pm

Southwell's new opening times from January to May will be:

- Monday to Friday 9.30am-6pm
- Saturday 9am-3pm
- Sunday 12pm-4pm

STEP INTO THE NEW YEAR WITH COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS



WOULD YOU LIKE to see Snowdrops and Bluebells growing in the wild, just as nature intended? Or walk through a wildflower meadow, which you thought didn't exist anywhere. Or view nature's autumnal colour spectacular?

HOW WOULD YOU like to swap recipes for the bags full of wild blackberries and sloes that you have freshly picked from the hedgerows? **HAVE YOU EVER** had a picnic in a Stone Age fort which your ancestors occupied thousands of years ago, or stumbled across a Roman road or a stone circle in the middle of nowhere?

DO YOU LIKE to visit a church, flower festival, garden centre, museum or even a pub? Or how do you fancy partaking of afternoon tea at some remote village where they serve cakes you could die for?

DO YOU KNOW what it feels like to sit on the top of a hill and view the scenery below, or sit beside a real "swan lake"?

HOW would you like to be **IN A STRESS FREE ENVIRONMENT** – just imagine, no chaotic roundabouts, no traffic jams, no mobile phones and no noise – just the wind in your hair, the rustle of leaves, the birds singing and the sound of the odd tractor.



COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS are a very small group and a warm welcome is assured for newcomers, whether they are single, couples, young or old. And you can even bring your dog. We promise to look after you and talk to you. We may even make you laugh, and we will show you all, or some of the above and more.

Our walks are taken at a gentle pace and suitable clothing and a packed lunch are the only "specialist equipment" needed.

For more information contact:

NINA WARD on 01636 678419

Collingham Ramblers Walks 2014

ramblers

at the heart of walking

January 5th, a 6.5 mile walk from Martin near Sleaford. Start time 10 00am

Chris is the leader, contact number 07817975993 January 19th, a 8 mile walk, "The green lanes of Temple Bruer" starting in Brauncewell village Start time 10 30am

Ian is the leader, contact number 07917033900

January 22nd, 4 mile walk with pub lunch **Nina** to be contacted for details 07746003573

February 2nd, a 4 mile walk starting in the car park in Collingham.

This is a "taster" walk to try group walking—everyone is welcome! Start time 10.00am, back in time for lunch **Chris** is the leader contact number 0781797993



AFTERNOON TEA

And Piano Recital At WINTHORPE **COMMUNITY CENTRE** Tickets £4 per person THURSDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2013

2.00PM - 4.00PM

Raffle and Cake Stall



Please come and support Sophie Tickets from the post office or Frank and Maggie 01636 612086



26th LINCOLN (WITHAM ST HUGHS) SCOUT GROUP

We are pleased to report that Witham St Hugh's Scout Group has now been up and running since September 2013. All three sections are running:-

Beavers	(aged 6 - 8)	Tuesday	6.15 pm - 7.15 pm
Cubs	(aged 8 - 10)	Tuesday	6.30 pm - 7.30 pm
Scouts	(aged 10 - 14)	Tuesday	7.30 pm - 8.45 pm

We meet in Witham St Hugh's School Hall. If anyone is interested in joining in the first instance please contact Sharon on 07903802897 or email: sharon.spencer.desc@gmail.com. Scouting is open to both boys and girls.

We also need **YOUR HELP** with our fundraising. We have been chosen as the Cooperative Society's "Community Champions". If you're a Lincolnshire Co-op Member and have a dividend card you can now help us with our fundraising. Simply visit: www.lincolnshire.coop/communitychampions and select the "Choose my own Community Champion" option. If you follow the steps online and select us to receive your portion of the Community Champions fund then every time you shop we'll receive a donation. If you don't have access to the internet please call the Member Accounts Team on 01522 781135. In addition if you wish to donate some or all of your wwm.usanton.com dividend to us simply ask at the till when shopping to donate some (or all) of your dividend points to us. Please note you will only be able to donate once you have registered.

Yours in Scouting

Sharon Spencer Akela / Scouter in Charge



Call MATTHEW for all your gardening work Tel: 07977095688 Highly qualified

Level NVQ1 in Amenity Horticulture NPTC Level 2 Diploma in Work Based Horticulture

www.winthorpe.org.uk

From time to time the Parish Council are asked if the village website is used and if it is worth the expenditure.

We thought therefore that the local residents might be interested in the latest usage figures. This data has come from the website automatic statistical collection site.

Over the last three years the website has been viewed consistently at around 24,000 hits a year.

2011 - 24,630

2012 - 24,122

2013 - 24,753

This averages out at just over 2,000 hits a month.

Of slightly more interest is where these hits originate:-

U.K. - 15,500

USA/Canada - 4,000

Rest of the world - 4,500

The six most viewed pages, over the last year, have been:-

Winthorpe Community Centre

Village Diary

Focal Point back issues

Village History

Gardening Club

Lord Nelson Pub (opening hours/menu)

We hope that everyone will agree that the website is well worth the relatively small outlay and effort.

Winthorpe-with Langford Parish Council



GARDEN CLUB



A Happy New Year everyone.

As gardeners, I hope you will agree that after an unpromising beginning, 2013 turned out to be a wonderful year for our gardens, particularly for those of us growing fruit and vegetables.

Now we look forward with hope to 2014 and wonder what the weather holds in store for us this year. Before then we have our social

evening on January 15th with entertainment by a certain Mr Finn. We will also decide on the venue for our annual outing in June.

Finally a reminder, don't forget to bring along your food contribution together with drinks of your choice. I look forward to seeing you there.

Ian Wilson.

ALLOTMENTS GROUP QUIZ SATURDAY 1ST MARCH 2014

You may already be aware that there will not be an annual Village Quiz in 2014. However, for all quiz aficionados



and anybody else who enjoys a light hearted evening that tests your knowledge of all things trivia, the Allotments Group will be running a quiz along much the same lines on **Saturday 1st March**; this will hopefully help us with our costs of maintenance and further development. Assuming we make some profit, we shall also make a donation to support another local group.

So please make a note in your diaries. It will be for teams of (up to) six and supper will be included. Full details will be given in next month's Focal Point.

David Barthorpe

Winthorpe & District W.I.

The President, Virginia Seager welcomed members and one visitor. Before the Christmas party began there were a few notices to be read

- Book Club the next meeting to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 29th January, 2014.
- Craft Club the next meeting to be held in the Village Hall on Monday, 13th January, 2014. Time: 2.40 to 4.00 p.m.
- Members were reminded bring their 2014 Resolution Selection Slip (W.I. Life November, 2013) to the January 2014 meeting.
- Further details of the evening meal to be held at the Kings Head, Collingham on Wednesday, 22nd. January, 2014 will be circulated at the January 2014 meeting.

This month was our Christmas Party held in the Community Centre. The members brought along an array of savoury dishes and delicious desserts, and along with a glass of wine or two, the Christmas celebrations got under way. We had excellent entertainment, with songs sung beautifully by the Lace City Choir.

The vote of thanks was given by Virginia Seager. January's meeting is a talk by a local journalist/broadcaster on 'Life of a Journalist' Thursday 9th January at 7.30pm Hostesses: - Joan Lord, Elaine Thornton and Fiona Wright

Diane Kitson

NB Pat Nelson and Barbara Finn's organisation of the Secret Santa Raffle at the WI Christmas party was so successful that they have decided they won't be doing it next year! Ha Ha! Pat and Barbara

A COOKING DEMONSTRATION WITH TASTERS!

LADIES

IN

PIGS

Join us at Winthorpe Community Centre on Wednesday 12th February at 7.30 to meet

THE LADIES IN PIGS

They are passionate about pork and will be demonstrating delicious recipes

Also gift stalls and much more

Tickets £3.00 in advance (including a glass of wine) or £3.50 on the door Tickets from Viv Jackson 659631 or Sheila Palmer 679906

The Story of the Giant Sunflower Competition



The story begins in 1995 when I visited the late Peter Milroy, then editor of the Focal Point. I told him that I would like to run a children's sunflower competition and would he print my monthly articles. Following our conversation, Peter was all for it, I then approached Mike Ball, head teacher of Winthorpe Primary School. I explained to Mike about the rules of the competition.

The name of the competition would be called 'Winthorpe, Langford and Holme Giant Sunflower Competition'. It would be open to all children up to the ages of 11 years old living in Winthorpe, Langford and Holme and all children who attend Winthorpe Primary School, even those who live

outside the three villages. The competition would always start on Easter Sunday when the children would sow their seeds. It would finish, when the children return to school after their summer holidays. This would be followed by the presentation in front of the school assembly. I then explained the four aims:

- 1. Who can grow the tallest sunflower?
- 2. Create a competitive spirit.
- 3. Create an interest in gardening.
- 4. Have fun.

Mike was in full agreement of everything.

So that year, 1995, the Giant Sunflower Competition got under way. There were 11 entries to the competition with the winner 6 years old Laura-Anne Boby, a pupil of Winthorpe Primary School, whose sunflower was 3mtrs 34cms (11ft) high. Laura-Anne, a small bubbly girl, told the amusing story of how her mother climbed out of her bedroom window, onto the roof of the garage, to measure the sunflower's height. The children at the assembly were in an uproar when Mike Ball embellished the story.

In 1999 along came 10 years old Jon Higgins with his record breaking sunflower at an amazing height of 4mtrs 42cms. (14ft 6ins) When asked how he had grown such a monster he said that his young sister Amy, whilst on her swing, sang to the sunflowers all summer.

We can learn something every day from our youngsters.

Jon's record has not being broken.

The highlight of the competition is always the presentation; there the children wait in anticipation as to who has won. The event starts with a song, a slide show of sunflowers including the children's own sunflowers. This is followed by the presentations where every entrant receives a prize. The official photographer is clicking away during the whole event.

This year there were 36 entries from children and six from teachers. Yes, teachers have always joined in the fun.

In 2008, after voting had taken place by the children, the sunflower was chosen as the school's logo. This loco is now proudly worn on the school's uniform. In the school's entrance hall there is a large coloured sunflower set into the floor. The school's web site even has a sunflower on its front page.

In 2009, teacher Miss N. Litowezyk, using photographs from the 1995 to 2009 presentations produced a large collage called 'Sunflowers through time'. This now hangs in the school's entrance hall

The sunflower competition has proved to be a great success. I know I have been successful in three of my aims. The gardening interest, I hope, may come later.

As I pointed out in last month's Focal Point, I have now retired from running the competition. My successors will be Winthorpe residents, Charlie and Liz Ferreira.



GIANT SUNFLOWER COMPETITION WINNERS

1995 Laura-Anne Boby, 6yrs old, 3mtrs 34cms (11ft); 1996 Andrew Smith, 5vrs old, 3mtrs 52cms (11ft 7ins); 1997 Olivia Wells, 5vrs old, 3mtrs 38cms (11ft 1in); 1998 Jay Boby, 6yrs old, 3mtrs 81cms (12ft 6ins); 1999 Jon Higgins, 10vrs old, 4mtrs 42cms (14ft 6ins); 2000 Jon Higgins, 11yrs old, 3mtrs 51cms (11ft 5ins); 2001 Anna Higgins, 8yrs old, 3mtrs 34cms (11ft); 2002 Amy Higgins, 6yrs old, 3mtrs 66cms (12ft); 2003 Kimberley Hudspeth, 7vrs old, 4mtrs 20cms (13ft 9ins); 2004 Amy Higgins, 8yrs old, 3mtrs 83cms (12ft 7ins); 2005 Jade Paul, 9vrs old, 3mtrs 65cms, (12ft); 2006 Maggie Shuckburgh, 8vrs old, 3mtrs 74cms (12ft 3ins); 2007 Maggie Shuckburgh, 9yrs old, 3mtrs 51cms, (11ft 6ins); 2008 Jack & Olivia Sinclair, 5&8yrs old, 3mtrs 11cms, (10ft 2ins); 2009 Joshua Osborn, 8yrs old, 3mtrs 41cms, (11ft 2ins); 2010 Joshua Osborn, 9 yrs old, 3mtrs 61cms, (11ft10ins); 2011 Phoebe Johnson, 5vrs old, 2mtrs 63cms, (8ft 7ins); 2012 Amelia Everatt-Rowell, 8vrs old, 3mtrs 8cms, (10ft 2ins); 2013 Kenya Holmes-Morgan, 6vrs old, 3mtrs 58cms, (11ft 9ins).

Pat Finn. Nov 2013

WINTHORPE AIR MUSEUM

2013 has been a good year for visitors and income, which has enabled us to be able to hold our admission prices at the same level for 2014. As ever for those of you who can consider the Gift Aided admission it makes a huge impact on our income from the tax that we are able to claim back from HMRC.



Next year we have some important and

exciting development plans in the pipeline so every visit that is made to the museum helps contribute towards those costs.

The museum is closed on Jan 1st but open again on 2nd. Opening times are 10am til 4pm with last admissions 3pm. If by any chance the weather turns wintery and there are no visitors in the museum after 3pm, the museum may close early to allow the staff to get home during daylight. So as not to be disappointed by the museum being closed, please don't leave your trip until late afternoon!

Finally we would like to send out a big Happy New Year on behalf of all the volunteers, staff and trustees to all those people who have supported us throughout 2013; whether you are visitors, shoppers or event participants. Many thanks for your custom, good will and kind comments. It really is appreciated! **Howard Heeley**

INDOOR FUN TENNIS

SESSIONS WILL CONTINUE IN THE NEW YEAR

A new 6 week course will start on Tuesday January 7th

4-5pm: ages 4-6 years 5-6pm: ages 6-8 years



New participants always welcome. COME ALONG AND HAVE A GO!

Licensed LTA Level 3 Coach All equipment provided Please wear suitable clothing. Phone Nina on 01636 678419 for more information or to book a place on these sessions.

Nina Ward

TUESDAY CLUB

Tuesday, 14th January, 2014, 10.30am. Morning Coffee & AGM in the Village Hall.

Tuesday, 28th January, 12.30pm. Lunch outing to The Kings Head in Collingham – meet at 12.30pm. Transport by car.

A very happy and healthy New Year to all.

Jean Foden.





High Street Collingham

Newark NG23 7LB

General Enquiries/Emergencies: 01636 892156

Fax: 01636 893391

COLLINGHAM MEDICAL CENTRE

Drs Terrill, Clarke, Saha & Li

Monday 8.15am-7.00pm Tuesday - Friday 8.15am-6.00pm

For Appointments telephone: 01636 893956 8.15am - 5.30pm For Prescriptions telephone: 01636 892210 8.30am - 12.30pm

In addition to our normal medical services, we can offer: Child and Adult Immunisations, Well Person Health Checks, Travel Advice, Minor Injuries, Joint Injections and Minor Ops (including cryotherapy)

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 CNCS Ltd when the surgery is closed. This service can be accessed by dialling our General Enquiries/Emergencies Number.

Website: www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk E-Mail: collingham.med@qp-c84045.nhs.uk



From

WINTHORPE SCRABBLE CLUB

Please come and join us.

We meet in Winthorpe on Friday afternoons. 20p for tea and biscuits.

Ability is very unimportant, just a nice friendly afternoon.

Please contact Annie or Nick on 01636 658347



PERSONAL & SAFETY ALARMS

I have recently supplied a resident with a personal safety alarm following an unexplained knock on the door in the early hours of the morning. I have five more of these alarms and also three multi-purpose alarms that can act as any of the following: personal alarm, doorbell or motion detected alarm for property.

If you would like one of the above (free) please contact me. If the demand exceeds supply I will try to obtain more.

Peter Foden, Central Co-ordinator, 704241



Come and meet us at Southwell Travel Show on Saturday 25th January at the Saracens Head Hotel 10am – 3pm



ALL SAINTS WINTHORPE CHURCH NOTICES

Hi there,

I know it's early but I have to send this missive to the Focal Point by the 13 December!

We are at the moment beginning Advent which is a lovely time of the year, preparation and waiting for the Coming of Jesus – Light of the World. I hope I got the opportunity to meet you all at our Christmas Services and that you enjoyed a pre Christmas Drink and chat with us.

We had a lovely get together for the Church Helpers, very pleasant it was, a very convivial atmosphere.

On the 13 December 2013 we said goodbye to Marjorie Smith - 92 years young, who goes to reside with Our Lord. Our condolences go to her friends and family.

On the 20 December our Church hosted a Carol Service for the Village School and children.

A belated "Happy Christmas" to you all - I hope you had a lovely time with friends and family and that the New Year was well celebrated.

I look forward to seeing you early in the New Year.

Keith

On behalf of the PCC (more mobile, enjoying getting about, but feeling the cold!)

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2014





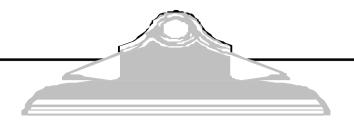


Sunday (Epiphany)	5 th	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Holme			
Sunday	12 th	9.00 am 10.15 am	Morning Worship Holy Communion	Langford Winthorpe			
(1st Sunday of Epiphany)							
Sunday (2 nd of Epipho	19 th iny)	10.15 am	Morning Worship	Winthorpe			
Thursday (BCP)	23 rd	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Winthorpe			

The Church Bells will be rung on:-

Sunday 12^{th} and 19^{th} . Please note the bells will also be rung on Thursday evenings for practice between 7 pm and 9 pm.

Church Cleaner Miss Applewhite 19th December Brass Cleaners Mrs Taylor and Mrs Everson



JANUARY CALENDAR

Monday 6th Green Bin

Thursday 9th WI 7.30pm Village Hall

Monday 13th Silver Bin

Wednesday 15th Garden Club Social 7.30pm Comm. Centre Thursday 16th Parish Council Meeting 7.30 Village Hall

Monday 20th Green Bin

Mobile Library

Wednesday 22nd Youth Club Committee meeting 7.30pm

Lord Nelson

Monday 27th Silver Bin No Luncheon Club in January.

Next lunch will be on Monday 3rd February

'Village organisations and local bodies – if at any time you would like to get in touch with a village contact, why not try the village website.'

www.winthorpe.org.uk