

# FOCAL POINT

ISSUE No.400

March



2014

Ed's Comments

As usual my journey back from Granny duties set me thinking. I always enjoy being in London and while I was there saw my first bank of primroses of the year and a carpet of violets – both in suburban gardens. However, whilst I sat peacefully on the train I thought about the amazing sense of community one gets here in Winthorpe in contrast to the endless and faceless anonymity of the city.

I thought about Martin and Jo's kindness in ensuring that I had my Saturday paper for my journey down to London, despite my early departure. I thanked goodness for the amazing friends who walked the dog when I was away and Nick couldn't. I remembered how the Lunch Club celebrated George's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and how his neighbours feted him on the actual day. I mused on how much goes on to enjoy, like the musical events at the church and the community centre and the various clubs and societies which cater for all our interests and needs. This edition of the magazine is bursting with reports, information, celebration and a sense of anticipation of events to come.

I love reading through what comes in to Focal Point and I am filled with admiration for the people who make all these things happen – those who run things both officially like the School, Church and Village Store and voluntarily like the Bell Ringers and the Youth Club to give but two examples. They do it for us- the community, but they need us to support them and be involved too. **All of us!**

**Annie Purday**

Closing date for the April issue is **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email

[nickwynne@virginmedia.com](mailto:nickwynne@virginmedia.com)



"When you can't change the wind adjust your sails." Anon

## LUNCH CLUB

The next lunch will be at 12.30pm on **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. The menu will be:



Chicken Chasseur  
or  
Tuna & Pasta Bake  
with  
New Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables  
-x-

Lemon Mascarpone Cheesecake with Cream

£8 including a glass of wine. Contact Jean & Peter Foden (704241) to reserve your place and give your choice of menu. Please remember the places are limited and make contact as soon as possible.

Peter Foden

### TUESDAY CLUB

Both meetings in March will be in the Village Hall.

**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March.** 10.30am.

Morning coffee.

**Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March.** 2.30pm. Slide show of Yorkshire.

Jean Foden.



**Winthorpe & District W.I.**  
**Ladies in Pigs**



Our February meeting was a different affair, a cookery demonstration with tasters, provided by 'The Ladies in Pigs'. Ladies in Pigs supports the pig industry by working to increase awareness and therefore, consumption of Red Tractor pork, bacon, ham and sausages. For over 20 years, they have been passionately spreading the word about how tasty, versatile and wholesome pork can be. Accompanied by an entertaining commentary, the ladies cooked three dishes during the evening, which included minced pork with pasta, a pork and watercress soup and finally fillet pork with sherry and cream. All three were delicious and left your taste buds wanting more. Leaflets and cook books were available to encourage us all to try various recipes at home.

The evening began with a welcome by our president Virginia Seager and everyone was offered a glass of wine or soft drink. Before and after the demonstration commenced, there was plenty of opportunity to peruse the stalls, which included second-hand book sales, a bottle stall, gifts and greetings stall and the sale of home-made cakes. There was also 'Guess the Name of the Cake', this being a cake decorated with pink pigs, kindly donated by Elaine Bradbury. The raffle had many excellent prizes to win. We would particularly like to thank the Lord Nelson pub, Winthorpe; the Kings Head, Collingham; Joanne Driver of Winthorpe, and the Bentley Hotel Leisure Spa for their kind donations to the raffle. We trust that everyone who came along found the evening both interesting and entertaining.

The next W.I. meeting will be held on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014, back as usual in the Village Hall. This will be our Annual General Meeting, followed by a talk on personal safety by a policeman within the Nottinghamshire Force.

Hostesses: Mary Harrop, Stella Hopewell and Moira Williams.  
Diana Kitson



Winds of March, we welcome you,  
There is work for you to do.  
Work and play and blow all day,  
Blow the winter cold away. Anon

## VILLAGE STORE CAMPAIGN

Dear Villagers,

Thanks for the positive response that some of you have shown to my appeal to help us save your local store. Sales increased immediately after the article was written, mainly from people who really don't want to lose it. We received 12 **fixed** weekly orders of around £15 and all of them said how easy it was to do this without losing out on price. ("**Still a long way to go.**") The two items that would have maximum effect on sales is meat from Porters and alcoholic beverage. With both of these being high value commodities this mission will not take long to achieve.



The one thing that was missed last time which, to me is of utmost importance is that **we do not leave it to each other to act on this**. It is something that is so easily done and I hold my hands up because I also have a tendency to do the same. To make this work it needs to be applied by **everyone** who feels that the shop is an important aspect of our village. As I said last time it needs to become a feature of habit which is why I strongly recommend sorting a **fixed** weekly order. This minimizes the level of change to your daily/weekly routine whilst maximizing the chances of this campaign working.

Remember; anything you would like to purchase regularly that we don't currently stock is not a problem, simply ask and we will do our best to supply.

**Finally:** If this campaign is successful I would ultimately like to enter this shop for the Village Store of the Year competition which will require maximum input and support from the whole of this community. I will make enquiries as to what the required criteria is and keep you posted. Once again, thanks for your response and please keep it up. Remember "Every Little Helps"

<b>CURRENT STAR BUYS;</b>	CRIMSON FINCH, PINO GRIGIO WHITE	£5.49
	CRIMSON FINCH, SHIRAZ RED	£5.49
PORTERS MEATS;	RIBEYE STEAKS	£3.89 each

*If you're having a party at anytime. Get your wine from here on sale or return. All items returned for a cash refund* **Martin**

## OUR VILLAGE STORE

On Saturday afternoon 16<sup>th</sup> my wife Pat and I had the good fortune to go to the village shop for their open afternoon. We were greeted, along with a few other members of our village by the smiling faces of both Jo and Martin. We were also offered a beautiful selection of their produce, some lovely homemade cakes and a glass of wine.



As you spend time in the shop you can see what a

wonderful assortment of goods they can offer our village alongside the Post Office and banking facility and yes at very competitive prices!



When I read Martin's comments in the Focal Point about using all the village facilities I entirely agree with him. We have a beautiful Church, Village Hall, Community Centre, a warm and friendly Pub, plus an excellent School and our

Village Store.

Good luck Martin and Jo and thank you for putting in all the long hours and hard work keeping our village shop and post office so well!

Pat and John Nelson (Woodlands)



Head Teacher: Miss Caron Ementon BA (Hons) PGCE  
Thoroughfare Lane, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire,  
NG24 2NN

Telephone/Fax: 01636 680060  
[school.office@winthorpe.notts.sch.uk](mailto:school.office@winthorpe.notts.sch.uk)

[www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk](http://www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk)

Have I really been at Winthorpe Primary School for half a school year already? The time has flown by and I have been very busy trying to find ways to improve our school on a limited budget and ensuring that our pupils' progress and attainment is maintained and surpassed. Indeed the children have certainly earned their half term holiday having just completed their termly tests and showing us that they are dedicated, motivated and committed – The teachers are pleased with how they are progressing and are starting to write their reports that this year will go out just before the Easter holidays. This of course is a change from the usual end of year timing that most schools follow but as a staff (and backed by our Governors) we thought we and parents would be able to help the children improve more by offering reports and areas for development earlier in the year. Parents have been pleased about this new initiative and we value their thoughts and opinions.

Some parents and members of the local community even helped us to write our new vision statement for the school in January this year. Please have a read:-

## **Winthorpe Primary School - School Vision**

At Winthorpe Primary School we strive to promote respect, tolerance and understanding of the world around us, forging successful relationships between home, school and the local area.

By creating a positive, stimulating learning environment, in which all pupils are valued and stretched, they are able to reach their full potential through teamwork and individual challenges.

We aim to develop interested children with a high level of self-esteem, confidence, care and respect for themselves and the community and who take advantage of the opportunities that come their way.

With our high expectations and quality teaching; which incorporate evolving technologies, problem solving strategies and varied learning styles, our curriculum is relevant, personalised and inclusive, as well as creative and fun. This ensures an excellent grounding in skills for life and a life-long love of learning.

We advocate a healthy and inclusive school free from discrimination. Everyone within the school community should feel happy and safe. Our children will leave Winthorpe as independent resilient, aspirational students who will become the responsible citizens of the future.

Other members of the community who have helped us include Cllr Maureen Dobson and PCSO Harriet Samson Bailey. Both have been implicit in helping us reduce our traffic problems and we are very grateful to them. We are involving the pupils in this as well and the two aforementioned ladies are coming in to share pupils' work with us at our Golden Assembly at 2.50pm on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Although it is always packed with our parent audience I am sure we could squeeze a bit of room for anyone from the village who would like to come along. We value your support and help and indeed hope some of you might look to our website (newsletters' page) and complete the Notts County Council consultation document asking for your opinion as to whether we should offer 10 morning nursery places for 3 year olds. As a staff we believe that the younger the children come to us the more greatly we can impact on their education and I know many locals would prefer places for their children at Winthorpe rather than seeking nursery care in Newark.

Finally we would like to invite any villagers who are free to come to see the school and to enjoy a roast lunch on Thursday 27th March 2014. It would be lovely to meet you, show you round school and let you meet our lovely, well behaved pupils and dedicated staff. If you would like to come along at 12 noon please give the office a call on the above number.

Thank you, **Caron Ementon**



## **Ben Young's Window Cleaning Service**

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## GARDEN CLUB



At first sight, to call this gardening on a large scale seemed to be incongruous. However, Paul Bennett of the RSPB gave us evidence that this was perhaps the case. The 'garden' in question was Beckingham Moor near Gainsborough. Here on the Trent flood plain of some 600 Ha managed as a flood storage reservoir by the Environment Agency, the Society maintains about 100 Ha as a wet grassland habitat.

As with a garden there is much planning towards achieving the desired outcome. Digging is done by mechanical means, creating ditches and shallow pools or scrapes favoured by certain birds and invertebrates. Target species for the site are breeding waders – greenshank, redshank and curlew are present. A particular aim is to attract 40 – 60 breeding pairs of lapwing. There is evidence of water vole presence and another increasing rarity, tree sparrows, with currently 19 pairs.

Continuing the analogy with gardening, mowing is done by grazing bullocks. The beef from these animals was judged to have superior flavour by Waitrose.

Watering is a continuing problem. Supposed to be a wetland, in fact it drains too readily. The site varies from 1.8 to 3.0 metres above sea level. Beneath the topsoil is a layer of clay and then some 5.0 metres of peat. Unfortunately this clay is porous and water seeps through to the peat and runs away. To overcome this wind pumps have been installed to take water from a drain dyke. This means there is a constant flow of water, but the balance is now about right. One consequence is that the site now has a population of 11 species of damselfly and dragonfly.

As with any garden the site will continue to develop and mature.

A reminder once again that our main outing this year is on June 11<sup>th</sup> to Newby Abbey. It is also open to non – members. Anyone wanting further information or to book a place, please call me on 686249.

Our next meeting is on **March 19th** when **Mary Porter** will give a talk entitled **Wildlife in Gardens.** Ian Wilson



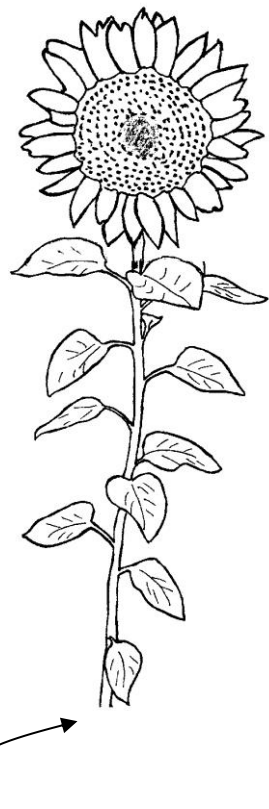
## GIANT SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

It may still be cold, wet and windy (at least as I'm typing this!) but not long now until local children and their families can grow their own sunshine – or at least some very 'sunny' sunflowers!

Full details of the annual Giant Sunflower Competition will appear in next month's Focal Point: the competition traditionally starts on Easter Sunday, which falls on 20th April this year.

In the meantime, we need to make some introductions and say a special thank you. ....

The 'thank you' goes (of course) to Pat Finn, who has generously organised the Giant Sunflower Competition for the last 19 years. He has shared his love of gardening with hundreds of pupils at Winthorpe Primary School, and has maintained one of the small but vital links between the school and local villages. He has decided that the time has come to hand over the running of the competition to another volunteer, but we very much hope he will be keeping a watchful eye on the proceedings, and continue to share both his horticultural and organisational experience!



*Did you know that Mr Finn drew many of the illustrations used in his Focal Point articles?*

Stepping into Mr Finn's shoes are myself and my husband Charlie – hopefully making up with enthusiasm what we might lack in gardening prowess! We are relative newcomers to the village but with two small boys we know we will have a daily link to Winthorpe Primary School for at least the next 9 years. We are very excited about taking on the running of the Giant Sunflower Competition, and keeping this 'village tradition' alive.

Liz Ferreira

## Stratford on Avon aboard n.b. 'Mulberry'

What a challenge! The flight of locks down from the Grand Union Canal at Kingswood Junction is only thirteen miles long but needs thirty five single-boat locks to drop a narrow boat into the Stratford Basin. It can be done in just a day but you need to be fit and strong to work all the lock gates so we prefer to take a few days. There are some charming architectural features to look out for: firstly, the lock-keepers' cottages along the canal have barrel shaped roofs. This is because the builders were used to erecting bridges and tunnels and so this was a shape they were familiar with. Secondly, some locks have a footbridge to make access easier. These bridges are formed by two cantilevered metal plates which do not quite meet. This feature allowed the rope from the horse to slip through the bridge unhindered as the horse towed the working boat either in or out of the lock. Passage through the locks is fairly quick. They are usually no deeper than my boat, allowing me to admire the countryside as Martin lets out the water. The locks are usually only a few metres longer than the boat so this means only one craft at a time. Looking back up the hill the locks are elegantly symmetrical with sweeping brickwork rising up from water level into the hillside and decorated by overhanging trees on each side. The M40 motorway flies over the canal north of Lowsonford but as you creep southwards the countryside appears more and more like a jungle with thick trees, wild undergrowth and noisy with birdsong.



For our first night's rest we stopped opposite the 'Fleur-de-Lys' hostelry. It is a 15th century pub with great character. Local cottages include 13th century buildings where the famous 'Fleur-de-Lys' pies were once cooked before mass production was moved to a factory site during the 1950's. Today the 'Fleur-de-Lys' pie is not on the menu



although any diner will not be disappointed by their meals.

Next day saw us inching out way through typical romantic English countryside: rolling hills, green fields, fat cows and freshly cut hay.

Boats from the local hire firms at Wooten Wawen and others meet us and leave locks full and ready. Suddenly, the sun is hot and Andy Murray has survived another afternoon at Wimbledon and even the

strawberries from the farm shop are exceptionally good. The Tudor farmhouses stand testament to the wealth of the countryside; their roofs are bowed and sagged under the weight of five centuries of English weather. Here a cast iron aqueduct conveys us over the rooftops of houses below. More locks to tackle and laughing friendly faces of people out enjoying the sunshine and walks in the country. For those who are interested, towpaths are generally good routes, but the Stratford-on-Avon Canal is particularly beautiful and rambler friendly. Another aqueduct, the Edstone or Bearly Aqueduct, takes us high over the rail and road links and claims to be the longest aqueduct in England at almost two hundred metres long. It is partnered by two further aqueducts, one at each end, that convey the canal across the valley.

We make our way through Wilmcote where the railway station almost touches our route. A convenient hourly service is available to whisk us into town of Stratford on Avon for sightseeing and the theatre. Mary Arden, Shakespeare's mother, had a house in Wilmcote and visitors are welcome to visit the museum here that portrays local rural history and is furnished as the home of a yeoman farmer from Shakespearean times but do not be disappointed because it transpires Mary lived at Glebe Farm thirty metres away.



We are now only three miles from Stratford's Bancroft Basin and still 16 locks to go: another day's travel. Later, we pass under a very low bridge and emerge into the middle of parkland besides the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre and statue where there are free moorings provided and we become part of the attraction for tourists to photograph.

**Lynne Shapley**



# Give Us A Ring

**Winthorpe bell ringers are  
looking for 3 more members!**

**Experienced or complete novice -  
all are welcome**

Bell ringing is an eco-friendly team activity that is **open to everyone**. It stimulates the brain and helps to keep you fit, while making a glorious sound. In learning to ring you will be part of a global group of friends, start a lifelong learning experience, maintain a traditional skill, serve your community and possibly get the opportunity to visit some amazing places!

For more information please contact  
Ian Hasman on 01636 679105  
or e-mail to [i.hasman@ntlworld.com](mailto:i.hasman@ntlworld.com)

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30 Barnbygate, Newark, Notts NG24 1PZ

## Winthorpe Youth Club meeting

Winthorpe Youth Club committee are having a meeting at the Community Centre on Thursday 20th March at 7.30pm with Lyndsey Woolmore (Youth Services) to further discuss the proposed closure of the Youth Club and what actions we can take to prevent this from happening. We

cordially invite all prospective volunteers and interested parties.

If you require any further details please do not hesitate to contact Denise Day. Tel 708727



## **An easy way to raise funds – and it won't cost you a penny!**

We are trying to raise more funds for **Winthorpe Church** to help with running costs, repairs to the church, and to improve the facilities for our congregation and visitors.

You can turn your online shopping into donations for **Winthorpe Church!**

**Do you shop online?** Did you know that every time you buy something you could be raising money for the Church?

That's right! Over 2,700 well known retailers, including Amazon, John Lewis, eBay, Asda, Morrisons and Sainsburys will donate a small percentage of what you spend to **Winthorpe Church** to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's a really simple process, all you have to do is:

Register at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

When you are asked to choose your cause, please select  
**Winthorpe Church.**

Get shopping - it could not be easier!

**Easyfundraising** has already raised over £5 million for over 50,000 good causes across the UK. Head to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to fundraise for **Winthorpe Church**. If you are already registered please spread the word to family and friends to let them know just how easy it is! Thank you. **Winthorpe PCC**



**A SPRING TEA PARTY  
WINTHORPE VILLAGE HALL  
on Tues. April 1st at 3.00 o'clock**



Celebrate Spring in good company with tea & cakes

**Tickets £4.00**

proceeds shared between the Village Hall & a local charity

Barbara Woodcock



## Langford Lowfields news for February 2014

Blustery, wet days have dominated winter here at RSPB Langford Lowfields, with the odd sunny day interspersed. Unlike for so many areas across

the UK, the excessive rainfall during January has had a positive effect on the reserve, helping to keep water levels high in the reedbed development areas. The wetter the reedbed stays throughout the spring and summer and into the autumn the more reed growth there will be, this in turn will increase habitat for our target species, including bitterns.

The volunteer party was very fortunate, yet again, to have a dry, sunny day for their monthly work day. Not only did the sun shine brightly it also offered a hint of spring warmth, enabling the warden Jenny and her hard-working team to make good headway into the seemingly never-ending, mammoth task of installing 200m of chicken wire along the length of the boardwalk in order to provide extra grip underfoot.

The hard work was, as always, rewarded by sightings of some of the beautiful wildlife currently present on the reserve. Although numbers of winter wildfowl are presently reduced there have been good numbers of shoveler ducks this year as well as a pair of great crested grebes coming into breeding plumage, displaying to each other.

The greatest joy of winter, according to Jenny, is the goldeneye ducks with up to ten birds wintering here at any one time. They are not common breeders in the UK, with only a few pairs nesting in Scotland, but in winter their numbers increase with visitors from more northerly breeding grounds. The males, as with most ducks, are the most attractive with stunning black and white plumage and iridescent green heads, the duller females do however also share the bright 'golden' eyes.



Another exciting winter visitor currently on site is the smew, with a pair present for only one day recently; the female (redhead) has been around for over a week now. Smews are sawbills, so called because they have serrated edges to their bills enabling them to grip onto fish, their preferred food. They winter in the UK annually in small numbers, with many overwintering around the coastline of the Black and Baltic Seas. These are the first smew recorded on site for two years and are only about the 8<sup>th</sup> record for Langford Lowfields. With the opening of the reserve imminent, there is still chance to get a sneak preview by joining one of our monthly guided walks.

**Discover Langford Lowfields Sunday 9 March 10-12.30pm.**

Please book by calling the office on 01636 893611 and certainly bring weatherproof clothing and good footwear! For further information and regular updates on our work here at Langford Lowfields, please have a look at our website at [www.rspb.org.uk/langfordlowfields](http://www.rspb.org.uk/langfordlowfields)

## DOORSTEP CALLERS



We are trying to make all residents aware of 'Doorstep Callers' and how to prevent you from becoming a victim. Doorstep Sellers: can you tell if they are genuine?

### **You Can't.**

Trading standards has dealt with many cases of people who have lost a lot of money because they did business at the door.

Never employ traders who cold-call or buy anything on the doorstep. You don't know anything about them. You don't know if their address or phone number is real.

You may think it's easy to employ someone who calls on you-but it could cause a lot of problems and it is difficult to trace most doorstep callers again.

You may be overcharged or have problems with the quality.

The best advice is not to buy from a business you don't know.

Conmen don't look or act like rogues.

Make sure you can trust any trader you do business with.

Ask friends or relatives to recommend businesses they trust.

Use Buy With Confidence, the local approved trader scheme run by trading standards. Find a trader by calling Consumer Direct on 08454 040506 or on the website [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk)

You can call Consumer Direct for advice on doorstep sellers or to report problem traders

### **Answering your door to strangers.**

If you can, look through the window to see who is calling. If you do not know them you can ask them to make an appointment or return later when you can have someone with you.

### **You are in Control**

If you cannot use the window shout out "who is it?" If you are not expecting the caller, ask them to come back later when you can have someone with you.

If you have to open the door use the door chain, and ask for and check identity cards carefully. If you are unsure about the caller, you can ask them to return later when you can have someone with you.

Check the caller is genuine by phoning the company or organisation.

Use phone numbers from the phone book or bills or accounts NOT phone numbers on identity cards. If the caller is genuine they will not mind waiting.



A password scheme is available with all gas, electric and water companies. Criminals use all sorts of stories to gain access to your home. For crime reduction advice or to report a suspicious incidents, call the local police on 101. In an emergency call 999.

Contact your, Coddington, Collingham and Meering's Safer Neighbourhood Team for any issues that concern you:

PCSO 8130 Samson-Bailey, Mobile number 07595074288

[harriet.samson-bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:harriet.samson-bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

PC 2860 Stannard, Mobile number 07910336903

[martin.stannard@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:martin.stannard@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

Newark Police station 101

ext. 8097616



### COLLINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

Venue Dale Field - Bowls Club House

Contacts Club Secretary	Graham Eaton	01636 893895
Chairman	Bob Williams	01636 893307

#### ***SIGN UP FOR THE 2014 SEASON!***

Collingham Bowls Club is a friendly club who are always pleased to welcome new members both male and female, whether experienced, intermediate or beginners.

We have teams in three Lincoln leagues, the Lincoln City Evening, the Lincoln City Afternoon and the Lincoln & District. We also play in the Newark District League.

Registration for current and NEW MEMBERS will take place at a coffee morning in the Mayfield Room, Collingham on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March**, 2014 between 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

Please come and see us for coffee, raffle and a chat about the Club.

## Visitor numbers high at Newark Air Museum

Following quickly on the heels of what were Newark Air Museum's best annual visitor figures for more than fifteen years, the museum which is based next to the Winthorpe Showground near Newark has just recorded its best January visitor numbers for twenty years.



Throughout 2013 the museum attracted more than 22,300 paying visitors to its 16 acres site, where it displays more than 75 aircraft and cockpit sections from across the history of aviation. It was back in 1998 that similar paid admission numbers were recorded and the museum trustees were very pleased with these figures. The excellent 2013 visitor figures were supported by the museum's participation in an education partnership with Aviation Heritage Lincolnshire [http://www.ahleducation.org.uk/venues\\_newark.html](http://www.ahleducation.org.uk/venues_newark.html) which has seen the museum being visited by an increasing number of schools from across the region.

Additional activities such as the open cockpit days, which are provided on a regular basis by the museum members and regular special event days at the museum are also thought to have been contributory factors to these improved visitors figures.

Possibly assisted by slightly warmer temperatures than normal the January 2014 paid admissions to the museum have just been recorded at more than 800. The last time that a similar number was recorded was in 1994, when visitor numbers were boosted by a special Phantom cockpit open day, which alone attracted more than 500 visitors in one day.

The museum aims to build on these successes during the coming months and it already has special events planned for March, May and June this year.

**1st March 2014** – Indoor Aeroboot / Aerojumble 2014

**17th & 18th May 2014** – Tribute to the V-Force 2014, more details at [www.newarkairmuseum.org](http://www.newarkairmuseum.org)

In August it will also unveil some new displays to commemorate the start of World War I, which will feature the region's contribution to the aviation industry and the Royal Flying Corps.

**Howard Heeley Feb 2014**

## **A Musical Evening**

There were approximately 80 people on the evening of Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January in All Saints' Church to listen to the Band of the Royal Air Force Regiment from Cranwell.



The first half of the performance was by the Woodwind Quintet. The Ensemble, consisting of a Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, French horn and a Bassoon, played a selection of light chamber music. The 'Carmen Suite' was a nice soft piece.

Following the interval it was the turn of the Brass Quintet. This consisted of two Trumpets, French horn, Trombone and a Tuba. This was in deep contrast to the Woodwind section as it was loud, modern, hand clapping music, such as 'The Londonderry Air.'

We offer our thanks to the Royal Air Force Regiment Band for a splendid evening, also to the members of the PCC who organised the event.

It was a very enjoyable evening and we look forward to seeing them in this biennial event. **Pat & Barbara Finn.**

## RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS MARCH 2014

What a wonderfully exciting world we live in. A winter without plunging temperatures bringing ice and snow is coming towards its close with extreme winds, rain and flooding in some parts of the country. Already daffodils are in bud and crocuses in bloom. All of which demonstrates that, although we might pretend otherwise, nothing can be precisely predicted or forecast. Easter is very late this year, nearly a month later than last year, so, like winter and spring, it has a different feel to it.



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 5<sup>th</sup> March, so most of March and April will be in Lent. Lent is kept as a season of penitence and discipline. Sadly it has grown a reputation as the season to give things up for the sake of giving things up, but this is a distortion. A spring diet might be a good idea, but only if it contributes to a sense of well-being and self-understanding rather than something being taken on because it ought to be done. Lent is a time of reflection and learning leading to transformation and renewed understanding of being alive and of God. Penitence is about transformation, just as we've seen the world transformed with winter weather and early spring flowers.

So this Lent let's be open to God's transforming power at work in us and in the world. We never know where it might lead.

**David Yabbacome**  
Rector



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**Who once lived in your house?** Steve Jackson was intrigued by this photo as the house in the background still looks exactly like this. Did he also know that the photo contained two former Jacksons!

This picture of the Dench family and friends was taken at the rear of the 'The Gardens,' Gainsborough Road, Winthorpe about 1899/1900. Left to right

**Back Row:** a friend of the family. Richard Davis, a butler of Half Moon Street, London W1. Joseph Robert Dench, Head Gardener at Winthorpe Hall.

**Middle Row:** Hattie Davis, née Jackson, wife of Richard Davis and sister of Catherine Dench. Joseph Richard Dench, later to be Capt. Joseph Richard Dench, MC and two bars in the 1914-18 War. Catherine Dench née Jackson, wife of Joseph Robert Dench.

**Front Row:** Unknown lady. Edward John Dench, youngest son of Joseph Robert Dench. Hattie Winifred Dench, daughter of Joseph Robert Dench. Alfred Charles Dench, son of Joseph Robert Dench.

The photo and the information were supplied by Pat Finn. To see more look in the Village History section of the Village Website. Ed.

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## Laxton History Group's Project Wins

### Heritage Lottery Fund Support



Laxton History Group has been successful in obtaining a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £31,400 for their project “A Snapshot in Time – Laxton in Peace and War (1900-1920)” to research the changes that took place in Laxton in the early part of the last century, including the impact of the First World War on the village.

Laxton remains remarkable as England's last open field farming village managed by a Court and Jury, a survival of a farming system which has long passed away across most of Northern Europe and it gets visitors from all over the world.

The History Group, all volunteers from the local community, aim to produce booklets about the village, put new information on the web site, and to work with local teachers to produce educational materials for use in schools and by the general public. The volunteers will have the opportunity to take part in all aspects of the research and the presentation of the materials and they will be encouraged to make the most of training opportunities provided by the project, such as computer use, preparing displays and organising events for people of all ages.

Many people still living in Nottinghamshire and nearby have connections with Laxton and the History Group is looking forward to making contact with as many as possible to discover the photographs, diaries, letters and other items they may have which will shed light on the village of 100 years ago. Anyone who has anything which may help the project is invited to share what they know. The Group would be very grateful to see any family documents and photos from the period. Please call 01777 871137 / 871506 so that we can arrange to meet you.

**Laxton Walk** With the new year there comes a new series of public walks around Laxton. These offer a great opportunity to learn more about the unique farming system and its historic Court and Jury which survive on your doorstep from medieval times, having adapted to the demands of the modern world.

Stuart Rose will be leading his first walk of the season from the Visitor Centre beside The Dovecote Inn at 10am



on Sunday March 9th. There will be a chance to see the fields after winter and see how the winter wheat and second year cereal crops are progressing. The ground in the third ‘fallow’ field will still be as it was left after the crop was taken off last year. It will soon be broken up to provide habitat for ground nesting creatures such as skylarks and brown hares. The walk is over tracks and farm land, so robust footwear is essential as is suitable outerwear for the weather. Expect to cover around 4 miles in 3 hours. Please call 07939 228353 for further information. **Joy Allison**

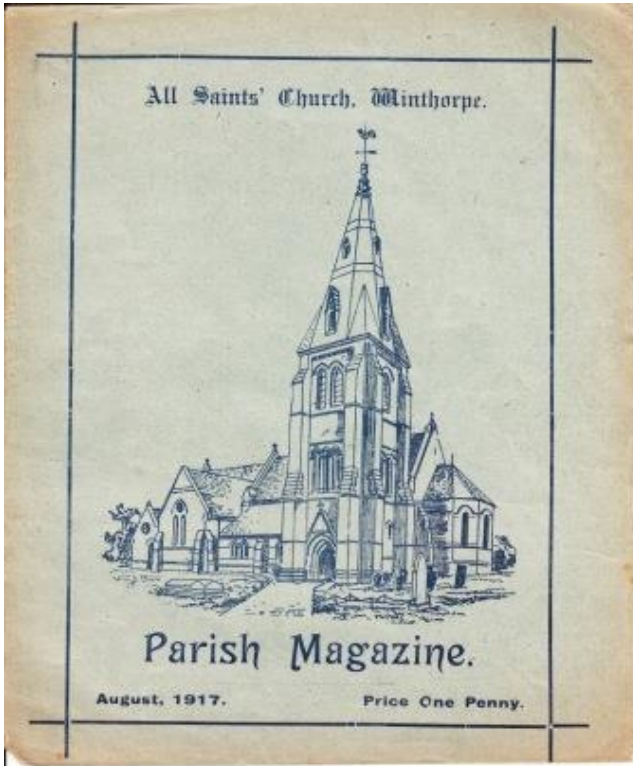


## A memento from the estate of Cynthia Morgan.....

An excerpt from a Parish Magazine dated **1917**.

### *Chronicle.*

*"On Monday July 9<sup>th</sup> 1917, the scholars of the Sunday School with the Rector, Mrs Griffith and Miss Joyce Watson in charge set out in a large pair-horsed brake for the summer treat. Exceedingly to the regret of all, the other teachers, Miss E. Tye and Miss A. Barrow, were prevented by other duties from coming.*



*A most lovely day, a beautiful drive young joyous hearts, what would you more for a few happy hours? The way led through Brough and Stapleford Woods much to see, some to cheer at, living creatures to scare.*

*So, on to Barnby Manor. There by the kind permission and helpful presence of Mrs Platt, in a grass field, a tea, with varied provisions, limited because of war time, but quite sufficient, was enjoyed picnic fashion. Then followed rounders under unsettled rules, games, races, and prizes, till the hour of return.*

*With a storm of cheers for Mrs Platt, the journey home began. Through Coddington and its wondering children we passed, and with snatches of song and disjointed chorus, reached Winthorpe. There a final burst of cheering told of joy and gratitude.*

*And so ended the last of the well-remembered Winthorpe Sunday School outings under the old Rector and his wife".*

This was the Rector's (Mr Clement W.H. Griffith), last month and during his 22 years at the church he undertook 118 baptisms, 35 marriages, 85 funerals, prepared 215 candidates for confirmation and preached 2412 sermons.

**Cliff Newbold**

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 20th February at the Village Hall in Winthorpe. Please find below a summary of the discussion.

**Present:** Mr D Aldridge, Mr B Allen, Mr S Jackson (Chairman), Mr G Thompson

Clerk: Miss S Tomlinson

NCC: Mrs M Dobson



**Declarations of Interest:** None.

The minutes of January's Parish Council meeting were taken as read. Mr Aldridge had a few amendments that he would like the Clerk to make. Following these minor amendments it was agreed that these minutes could now be uploaded to the Parish Website.

**Matters Arising:** Mrs Dobson was looking into some further signage for the school. She had been in contact with the Highways Agency to discuss where such a sign could be placed. Mrs Dobson would continue with this and report back to March's Parish Council meeting.

Winthorpe with Langford would enter the 2014 **Best kept Village Competition**. There was a small cost of £6.00 for this. Further details of the competition would be posted on the village notice boards in due course.

**Finance:** The accounts for January 2014 were circulated. February's expenses totalled £6.00 for the Best Kept Village Competition as previously mentioned.

**Planning:** There was one planning application received for a property in Winthorpe – the Parish Council had no objections to this.

**Youth Club:** There was a meeting to discuss the future of the youth club, this was very well attended. The meeting raised further questions about future possibilities. Winthorpe Youth Club is very well attended therefore an asset to the village. With this in mind it was hoped that a solution could be found to keep the Youth Club running. There is to be a further meeting on the 20th March 2014. Anyone seeking further information is advised to call the Clerk on 07920103180 who will direct your call accordingly.

**Correspondence:** The Winthorpe Primary school has entered a consultation period to discuss the possibility of allowing children to be taken on at the age of 3 rather than the current starting age of 5 years old. Please see the village notice boards for further information. If anyone



would like further information or would like to give their views on this matter please call or email the clerk (details can be found below).

**Any other business:** A letter was received from a concerned resident regarding the amount of dog waste that is appearing on the village's pavements and verges. This is an ongoing issue that the Parish Council is keen to resolve. The Parish Council are in the process of re-siting some the dog waste bins around the village, as it was felt that Gainsborough Road needed further bins. This would be dealt with as soon as possible.

**Please remember to clear up after your dogs!**

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH MARCH AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Clerk: [sarah.tomlinson@mail.com](mailto:sarah.tomlinson@mail.com) / 07920103180



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# **ALL SAINTS WINTHORPE CHURCH NOTICES**

Hi there,

On 10 February 2014 we said farewell to our good friend Doreen Elliott as she rests in peace in the Lords Celestial Kingdom. Our condolences go out to all her family and friends.

A warm welcome is extended to the Reverend Phil Smith and we look forward to seeing him at Winthorpe Church.

The RAF concert at the end of January was notable in the quality of music and quantity of attendance. We raised just short of £380 for Church Organ Fund and the same for the RAF Benevolent Fund. Thank you. The RAF musicians from the Brass and Woodwind Quintets appreciated and enjoyed the warm welcome they received from the people of All Saints. For those interested we hope to repeat the concert again next year.....watch this space!!

I now draw your attention to Mothering Sunday which will be held at 6 pm Evensong on the 30 March 2014. We look forward to seeing you all at the service and hope to catch up during the refreshments afterwards.

On 26 March 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall we are holding our Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome. We hope you can find the time to come and look forward to seeing you there as your opinions are of great importance to the PCC.

Remember, we are still looking for a Church Warden. If you think you can help please contact me.

Keith

On behalf of the PCC

(Sat at the fireside with wellies to hand!)

# CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH



## **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Holme
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## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**

(1<sup>st</sup> of Lent)

9.00 am	Morning Worship	Langford
10.15 am	Holy Communion	Winthorpe

## **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**

(2<sup>nd</sup> of Lent)

10.15 am	Morning Worship	Winthorpe
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## **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>**

(BCP)

10.00 am	Holy Communion	Winthorpe
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## **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

(Mothering Sunday)

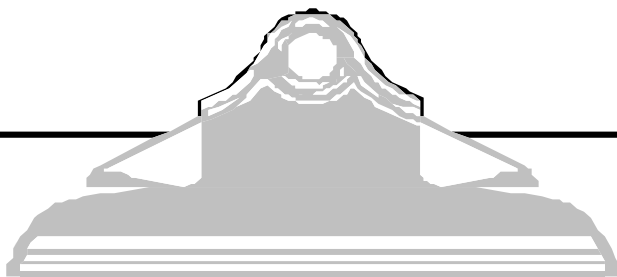
6.00 pm	Evensong	Winthorpe
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### **The Church Bells will be rung on:-**

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Please note the bells will also be rung on Thursday evenings for practice between 7 pm and 9 pm.

### **CHURCH CLEANERS – MARCH**

**Mrs Foden and Mrs Lloyd**



## MARCH CALENDAR

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Allotments Assoc. Quiz Night 7.00pm CC
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Green Bin Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	RSPB Walk Langford Lowfields 10am-12.30
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Silver Bin
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Club Coffee Morning 10.30am VH
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	WI AGM 7.30pm Village Hall
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Green Bin Mobile Library
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Club 7.30pm Community Centre
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Future of Youth Club Meeting 7.30pm CC Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Silver Bin
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Club Slide Show 2.30pm VH
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Annual PCC Meeting 7.30pm VH
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch at School 12 noon
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Mothering Sunday Evensong 6pm Winthorpe Church
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Green Bin
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Village Tea

If anyone lost a Phonac Hearing Aid by the stile near the railway crossing in Winthorpe recently please contact the Editor.

‘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](http://www.winthorpe.org.uk)