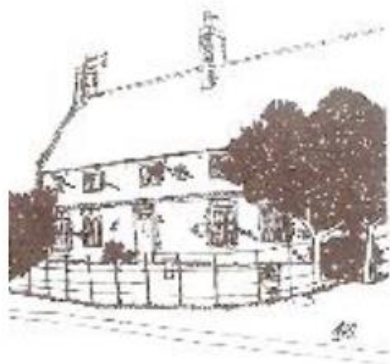




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help each other.

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

It seems only a few days ago that I was writing about Hallowe'en and Guy Fawkes Night, and here we are, in Advent already, and counting down the days to Christmas, wondering if we can get everything done without a last minute panic. At least, that's how it is for me and is every year, almost without exception. No matter how much I plan and try to get ahead, I still find myself with lots to do in the last few days and hours before Christmas. And this year, to top it off, I set myself the goal of having the sitting room perfect before Christmas – and my friend who has decorated for me for years only has one week free in his diary: you guessed it, the week before Christmas! So, this year the tree will be artificial and not going up until 23<sup>rd</sup> December – unlike the increasing trend to trim up for Christmas in November. I will probably put up a few decorations and a small tree by the front door beforehand, though.

When in Norfolk last month, I visited the shrine in Walsingham and bought a beautiful Advent candle, which I am looking forward to lighting on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Of course, I buy chocolate Advent calendars for my grandchildren but love my Advent candle.

Thanks to everyone who managed to get their articles to me in good time for this edition, I really appreciate it at a time when we are all so busy. A few of our community groups take a break at Christmas but Focal Point continues so send us your news, ideas and interests, if you would like us to include them.

**Change of Deadline for December:** to enable the printers to publish Focal Point before they close for the Christmas holidays, please ensure that all articles etc **for the January edition** are submitted to the editor no later than **12<sup>th</sup> December**.

**Julie Hill (01636 676079)**

**NEXT MONTH'S DEADLINE IS 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

[winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com](mailto:winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com)

---

## *December Calendar*

---

When		What	Where
Fri	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/Holme
Sat	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas Market Lord Nelson	Winthorpe
Mon	5 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Tue	6 <sup>th</sup>	St Nicholas' Day	
Tue	6 <sup>th</sup>	WI coffee morning	Winthorpe
Fri	9 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service	Langford
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for response to National Highways re A46 development	
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	Brown bin	All
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library	All
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	WI Christmas Party	Winthorpe
Fri	16 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon	19 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup>	Village Carol Singing	Winthorpe
Fri	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sat	24 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	Winthorpe
Sat	24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve	
Sun	25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day	
Mon	26 <sup>th</sup>	Boxing Day	
Mon	26 <sup>th</sup>	BROWN BIN COLLECTION CANCELLED	All
Tue	27 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday (Christmas Day sub.)	
Fri	30 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/Holme
Sat	31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Eve	



**This month, the mobile library will call at our villages  
on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Mobile Library Routes and Timetable 2022 for Winthorpe, Langford and Holme*				
Stop No.	Village	Location	Arrive	Depart
1	Winthorpe	The Spinney	9.40am	10.00am
2	Winthorpe	junction of Pocklington Crescent and Branston Close	10.05am	10.25am
3	Winthorpe	junction of Gainsborough Road and Woodlands	10.30am	10.50am
4	Langford	Langford Hall Farm	10.55am	11.10am
5	Holme	Snaefell, Langford Lane	11.20am	11.30am
6	Holme	Southview Farm	11.35am	11.55am

\*Information taken from [inspireculture.org.uk](http://inspireculture.org.uk)

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

Email: [winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com](mailto:winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com)

Tel: 01636 676079

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



**COLLINGHAM MEDICAL CENTRE**

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Newark NG23 7LB  
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**CHRISTMAS 2022**

Monday 26 December – **CLOSED**

Tuesday 27 December – **CLOSED**

Monday 2 January 2023 – **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](http://www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk)



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**CHRISTMAS 2022**

Saturday 24 December – **Open 9 am – 12.30 pm**

Monday 26 December – **CLOSED**

Tuesday 27 December – **CLOSED**

Saturday 31 December – **Open 9 am – 12.30 pm**

Monday 2 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](http://www.nhs.uk)

Website: [www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk](http://www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk)

## **Winthorpe Summer Festival 2023**

Next year's village festival will be held on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June**. If you've already got your diary for next year, please put the date in it now!

More information about the festival will follow in future editions of Focal Point. If you would like to participate, by having a stall or helping in any way, please give me a call on the number below. Your support is very much appreciated.

Check Focal Point from January / February 2023 for more updates and, in the meantime, have a very Happy Christmas!

**Sue Mashedor** (07714548561)  
Festival Committee

### **HOLME HELP NEEDED**

As you all know, Focal Point survives and thrives, thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers – and not only those of us who work on putting the magazine together and distributing it to your door; everyone who submits a report on a meeting, notifies us of an event, tells us of a personal or community fundraiser, contributes a poem, a recipe, an article of local interest... without you Focal Point would not exist.

So, we find ourselves in a tricky situation and we're hoping that someone out there will read this plea for help and volunteer to give a little time each month – less than an hour – to fix the problem. Our distributor in Holme village is no longer able to continue and so we need someone to step into her shoes – literally! Les Murray, who leads our distribution team, has covered deliveries in Holme for a couple of months but cannot continue to do so, alongside his other significant commitments to Focal Point.

Please contact the editor if you would be willing to take over distributing Focal Point to residents of Holme. If no one comes forward, multiple copies of January's edition and subsequent editions will be left in Holme Church.





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# Winthorpe Community Centre

100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

Winners for November		
1st	£44.40	Michael Warren
2nd	£22.20	Glen Cobb
3rd	£7.40	Elaine Parkin

100  
Club



## NEWARK FOODBANK

I am pleased to say that the pace of donations has picked up, and I was able to make a delivery sooner than usual to the Foodbank warehouse, weighing in at 44.7kg, and will soon be making another delivery. A big thank you to everyone who donates food, and also to those of you who use the details below to give via your bank account.

Especially needed now are: long life milk, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned or microwaveable sponge puddings, cooking oil, baby products. Can I also ask that this month you consider donating some small chocolate Christmas treats for children?

Thanks for your support and best wishes for Christmas.

### Winthorpe Collection Points:

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

### The bank details for the Foodbank are:

NatWest; sort code 54-10-23; a/c no. 19405812

Jane White



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# **Winthorpe and District WI** **Christmas Coffee Morning**



**Come and enjoy the singing  
by the Children of  
Winthorpe School**



**Christmas  
Hamper Raffle**



**WI Sale Table**

**Gifts for all occasions,  
Cards, Diaries , Keyrings and many other gift ideas**

**Entry: £3.50 including  
Coffee/Tea and Cake**



**Soft drinks and  
drawing for  
Children**



**Winthorpe Community Centre  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Time: 10.30 - 12.00**

**A warm Welcome to Everyone  
for some Festive Christmas Cheer**



## WINTHORPE WI

On 20<sup>th</sup> October we deviated from our normal coffee morning, opting for an informal lunch at the Lord Nelson on a very wet day. As we finished eating, very loud cheers echoed throughout the pub. We thought that someone had won the lottery, but no, apparently someone of national importance had just resigned. Our next coffee morning is on 24<sup>th</sup> November at the Lord Nelson, at the later time of 10.45am (after delivery of this issue of Focal Point).

### BOOK CLUB

On a typical cold and damp November morning, we met at the Lord Nelson to review *The Survivors* by Jane Harper. A new member, a lady who has recently moved to the area, was welcomed to our number. The general consensus was that the book was one which you could pick up and put down again, without losing the plot, with a surprise twist at the end.

The next book club meeting is planned for Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am, at the Lord Nelson; this date may be subject to change, due to its closeness to Christmas. The book we will be reviewing is *The Switch* by Beth O'Leary. All WI members are welcome.

### MEETING 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

If, like me, you are partial to the odd glass of sherry, you might be interested to know that 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November was designated International Sherry Week. With this in mind, the Committee organised a gin tasting evening. Obviously something must have got lost in the translation.

Prior to the tasting, a talk was given by Wayne Asher of Redsmith Distillery, a boutique distillery based in Nottingham. He explained how, after several career changes, he was able to turn his hobby into a viable business, before explaining how the gin was made. We were treated to a taste of three of his products: a London Dry Gin using junipers from Macedonia; Apple Gin using apples from the Starkey Estate in Southwell; and an orange gin with oranges from Sainsbury's; all helped down with some delicious hot nibbles provided by our hostesses for the evening. If you like gin and would like to know more about the Redsmith Distillery, they do have a website.

We welcomed a new member to our ranks and two birthdays were celebrated. We have also received a card from King Charles, thanking us for the condolence card we sent on the death of Her Majesty The Queen.

Our next meeting will be our members only Christmas Party on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. If any non-members would like to join us in the New Year, you will be most welcome. Our first meeting is on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023, when there will be a talk on the New Life Children's Centre in Gambia. The first visit is free of charge; subsequent visits incur a £5.00 charge.

### **COFFEE MORNING**

We are holding a coffee morning at the Community Centre on 6<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am until 12 noon; the children from Winthorpe School will be coming along to sing at the event. Please come and join us for coffee (or tea) with cake or a mince pie for the reasonable cost of £3.50. I would add that the Community Centre has always been kept extremely warm, so turn off your heating and come and join us.

### **NEWARK PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

Winthorpe WI will be taking part in this festival at Newark Parish Church, which runs from Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December until Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December. The theme of our tree is "*Celebrating Female Authors Through the Century*", so please do support this event and look out for our tree.

On behalf of all members at Winthorpe WI, I would like to wish you all:

***A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND  
A SAFE, HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.***

**Pauline Lockwood**



## Winthorpe Garden Club

At our meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November, we were happy to welcome back Steve Lovell, a landscape gardener with many years experience of designing and planting gardens which encourage and sustain wildlife, especially birds. Steve has some years of experience in working with the RSPB, and is an avid bird watcher and photographer. He has been a regular speaker at our meetings since 2007; on this occasion the topic of his talk was somewhat different from the past fifteen years – instead of focusing on plants and gardens, he introduced us to the delights of Extremadura, a large unspoilt area of Iberia (western Spain), bordering Portugal. The name ‘Extremadura’ translates as ‘extremely harsh’ and this is evident in the harshness of the landscape, which makes cultivation extremely difficult: poor soil, rocky areas, uneven slopes and valleys, as well as hot dry summers make life in Extremadura quite challenging. However, the people who live there between the forests, rocky outcrops, streams and rivers, have risen to the challenge by creating many reservoirs and irrigation channels, as well as groves of low density, mature oak trees, known as ‘dehesas’. Beneath the trees, pigs forage acorns and eventually produce delicious Iberico ham.

Steve spoke with great enthusiasm and clarity, whilst showing us fabulous photographs taken on his visits: many species of birds and other wildlife that live in Extremadura, some permanently and others migrating there for the winter months. Some birds there are exotic looking variations of species that we see in this (buntings, starlings, herons, buzzards) as well as rare kinds of dragonflies and ground beetles. Two particular photographs I liked: a stork and three chicks on their nest on top of a chimney; and a row of vultures on the roofs of a ruined farmhouse and its outbuildings. Wonderful shots.

Steve’s abundance of wild life knowledge, retained during his three visits to this area of beautiful scenery, showed throughout this pleasant evening.

The quiz produced a range of results and everyone seemed to enjoy taking part. Our next Garden Club meeting is on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January, which is our Social Evening. Please bring a pen, food, drink, and a nice raffle prize. Thank you.

**Pat Finn.**



**YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO:**

**1. THE CHRISTMAS CAROL  
SERVICE**

***At ALL SAINTS CHURCH WINTHORPE***

**SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**AT 4.30 PM**



*with The Hungate Singers*



**PLEASE DO STAY FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS**

**AND**

**2. VILLAGE CAROL SINGING**

**AT THE LORD NELSON GARDEN**

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>**

**AT 6P.M.**

**MULLED WINE/MINCE PIES/BURGERS available**





## Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

This month's Parish Council meeting took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November and, as well as those normally attending the meeting, we were also joined by two residents who asked questions of members and stayed to hear the business of the meeting.

There was a general discussion about the repair and maintenance work needed in the Parish over the next three years; we agreed to meet on 29<sup>th</sup> November to develop a prioritised list of what needs doing. Even though we have already had some good ideas put forward, we welcome all residents to feed into this discussion, so please let me have any ideas by contacting me here: [paul@bridgfordss.co.uk](mailto:paul@bridgfordss.co.uk)

Hopefully, some of you will have noticed that we have worked with N&SDC to clear the alleyway between Gainsborough Road and the Community Centre area. This work is now complete, and the area is now safe and tidy once again.

Following several reports from residents of The Spinney about the difficulty of delivery drivers and emergency vehicles finding their properties, we are working with N&SDC to resolve this issue. We are proposing a sign, where the two legs of The Spinney branch off, identifying the numbering of properties. Once this is complete, we will be asking residents to display house numbers.

I'm sure we all agree that the work which has been undertaken on the footpaths along Gainsborough Road has resulted in a much improved and safer means of getting around the village. We have, however been contacted about a number of minor issues, which need to be resolved. The Parish Council will be taking these up with NCC and their contractors, VIA.

Following on from this success with footpaths on Gainsborough Road, we are now looking at other areas of road/footpath which need repair. Holme Lane and Chapel Lane have been flagged up as possible areas of concern and these will be investigated in the next few weeks.

Members of the Parish Council met with National Highways on the 21<sup>st</sup> November to discuss feedback on the A46 Consultation process. We raised questions on a variety of issues, relevant to the consultation, as well as how minimum impact on the area could be achieved during the construction process. Clearly we need to work strongly together with all those involved to make sure that normal life around Winthorpe, Langford and all surrounding villages can continue in as normal a way as is possible. We have particular concerns over the potential impact on Winthorpe School, The Lord Nelson, bus timetables and routing, as well as access into and out

of the village at the A1133. With this in mind, we are in the process of developing links with all parties involved, to form a group to oversee the discussion.

Hopefully, most of you will have taken the opportunity to visit one of the presentation/discussion sessions, held by National Highways in the Community Centre on 12<sup>th</sup> November. These provided the opportunity for residents and Parish Council members to raise questions on a range of topics outlined in the consultation. Following discussions, we believe that a lot of outstanding questions have been thought through or resolved, but it is important that these points are firmed up in writing. There are still a range of outstanding issues, such as noise attenuation, bunding, tree planting etc which will need to be agreed and resolved. The Parish Council will be working closely with National Highways and their Contractors to ensure the best outcome for the whole of our Parish.

On 24<sup>th</sup> October, Newark and Sherwood District Council published its proposals on how it will plan for future development, including how it intends to provide additional homes for its Gypsy and Traveller community. The proposals are outlined in its Allocations and Development Management Development Plan Document (DPD), which has been extensively informed by data gathering and public consultation over the last five years. We believe that this is an important document for the future of the Newark and Sherwood area and, if you would like to look through the consultation or comment on the content, you can access further information on the website here: <https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/latest-news/2022/november/district-council-plans-for-future-development/>

It's been a busy time for planning applications; some of this month's include:

- Ground and first floor extensions to 90 Gainsborough Road
- Extension of the swimming pool complex at The Grove, Gainsborough Road
- Formation of a three-bedroom domestic property from existing stable and barns at The Grove, Gainsborough Road
- Demolition of existing garage and replacement with a garden wall at The Lodge, 49 Gainsborough Road
- New signage to be erected and internal layout changes to create letting rooms at The Lord Nelson.

The Parish Council have responded to all applications but if you wish to view any in more detail please access the N&SDC Planning site here:

<https://publicaccess.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/online-applications/>

## **Winthorpe with Langford Neighbourhood Plan Update – November 2022**

No meeting took place of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group this month, as work is progressing behind the scenes to compile the first full Draft version of the Plan. Open Plan, the consultants helping us to develop and complete the Plan, are currently pulling together a lot of information from our discussions with them, together with a range of policies developed from resident feedback.

The next meeting of the working group will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> December, and will focus fully on the draft plan. It will provide the opportunity to review the current content and format, together with discussions about how to progress to the next steps.

We have asked a local photographer to capture images of a variety of locations around the Parish, which we can use in the Plan. These will be forwarded to Open Plan, to be used to illustrate the final version. Most of the photographs are now available; they will also be used to support the new Parish Website and Social Media outlets, which are currently used by The Parish Council.

We have also instructed a consultant (AECOM) to develop a 'Design Code' document, which will support the finished Plan, and will help us to complete the content. The Design Code, when complete, will be a set of simple, concise, illustrated design requirements, which will cover different aspects of design across the Parish. Once it is complete and agreed by the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, it will become a formalised planning document, which will provide guidance and parameters for any future building construction undertaken in the Parish. Its intention is to ensure that the current style and nature of the Parish is maintained and unaffected by any possible future development, supported by the contents of the Neighbourhood Plan.

As soon as a finalised Draft Plan is completed (expected in the next couple of months), this will be shared with all Parish Residents, for comment and feedback, and we will continue to keep everybody up to date on progress through Focal Point, Twitter etc.

## Non-Designated Heritage Assets in Langford

As promised in the last edition of Focal Point, listed below are some of the Non-Designated Heritage Assets found in Langford Village. As a reminder, NDHAs are:

*Buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions because of their heritage interest*

THE SMITHY	POST OFFICE HOUSE
OUTBUILDINGS AT LANGFORD HALL	HOUSE ON CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND LANGFORD LANE
TWO MILE HOUSE	LANGFORD MOOR FARM BARN
ROUND BARROW	LINGSPOT FARM BARN
THE MANOR	ELM TREE FARM BARN
LANGFORD HOUSE FARMHOUSE	LANGFORD HOUSE
LANGFORD CROSSING GATE HOUSE	THE DAIRY FARM BARN
THE DAIRY FARMHOUSE	MANOR FARM BARN
ELM TREE FARMHOUSE	THE OLD FORGE
BRADSHAW COTTAGES	GOTHIC COTTAGE
LITTLE FARM COTTAGE AND FLEET COTTAGE	GROUNDS OF LANGFORD HALL
ELIZA COTTAGE	GROUNDS OF LANGFORD MANOR
WINDROME COTTAGE	OLD VICARAGE

Obviously NDHAs do not hold the architectural significance of 'Listed Properties', however they are still significant elements of our built heritage and are therefore important parts of the history of our Parish.

There is a lot of information available on the internet about the background to NDHAs but if anybody would like any further information, please contact me at:

paul@bridgfordss.co.uk

## **THINK AGAIN**

### ***The Winthorpe Residents' A46 Consultation Group***



Think Again continues to represent all residents of the village, listening to everyone's views and opinions, and incorporating them into our response to National Highways. It was good to see an excellent turnout from the residents' meeting with National Highways at the

Community Centre in November. This has enabled Think Again to continue to have productive conversations with National Highways and their design representatives.

The statutory consultation has revealed key measurement details for Think Again engineers. The heights of the road structures near Winthorpe raise concerns: a 10.9 metre A1 overbridge and a 7.8 metre embankment between Winthorpe Road Estate and Winthorpe. Our engineers are working on proposals to National Highways for these to be lowered. Similar efforts are being made, regarding the new proposed roundabout (Brownhills Junction), currently designed to be 2 metres high. A lower roundabout would minimise the noise levels. We also want National Highways to formally confirm that the speed limit will be 50mph, reducing levels of pollution and noise.

We continue to lobby for a footpath to link Thoroughfare Lane and the new non-motorised users' route, to enhance walking facilities; and a bus stop at the Showground which will complement the Winthorpe Neighbourhood Plan.

There are several outstanding issues: key data – such as traffic counts and air quality measurements - have not yet been revealed and reports for consultation remain incomplete; concerns remain about impact to local wildlife, noise, light pollution and air quality, and how these will be mitigated; figures suggest that the carbon emissions during construction are higher compared to similar-sized schemes. Several people have raised concerns



about the removal of habitat for the rooks who live in the trees on the Winthorpe/Showground roundabout.

There is still much to be done and much to comment on, which we would encourage you to do through consultation responses. As these studies are incomplete, it is difficult for Think Again to comment until the scheme is at planning approval level; however, it is appropriate for residents to voice their concerns through the consultation response.

In the middle of the consultation, National Highways released new images of how the scheme will look, from select locations around Newark. If you have not seen these, please look on the website:

[https://nationalhighways.co.uk/media/54zpej0p/cre22\\_0097-a46-a3-covers-artists-impression-a-d.pdf](https://nationalhighways.co.uk/media/54zpej0p/cre22_0097-a46-a3-covers-artists-impression-a-d.pdf)

Please engage with the consultation by submitting your response to National Highways by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, either online through their website:



<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east-midlands/a46-newark-bypass/> or using the paper response form that you should have received in the post and as part of the statutory consultation documents. If you experience any difficulties in completing the form, or have specific questions that Think Again might be able to help with, please either email us at [A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com](mailto:A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com) or phone us on 07968 855448.

For up-to-date news on Think Again's campaign, upcoming events and key dates, please join our mailing list (details below). The dedicated Think Again web site is available as a single point of information and communication for the village. It can be found by following the link: <https://a46thinkagain.org.uk>

[A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com](mailto:A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com)

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

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AND THOSE CARING FOR THEM



## “King Pocky” - our Link to the Lake District

We all know about Roger Pocklington and how much he influenced the shaping of this area but the family also had a major effect in other parts of the country too. Roger's brother, **Joseph** was the man behind many building projects with the Muskham Grange being his local and self-created residence. He is reputed to have come from Barrow in Cumbria (says the Winthorpe Village Website), being the son of William a wealthy estate owner, but it was not Barrow in Furness as first thought of, but Barrow House on the shores of Derwentwater, Keswick in the Lake District. Its not quite clear how he came to be at Derwentwater because his ancestry seems to have been here in the Nottinghamshire/Lincs borders. *(His father William is recorded to be living in the Collingham, South Scarle vicinity. He became Newark's Town Mayor in 1696 and the family name goes back to William de Pocklington, member of the Knights Templar which was dissolved in 1311)*

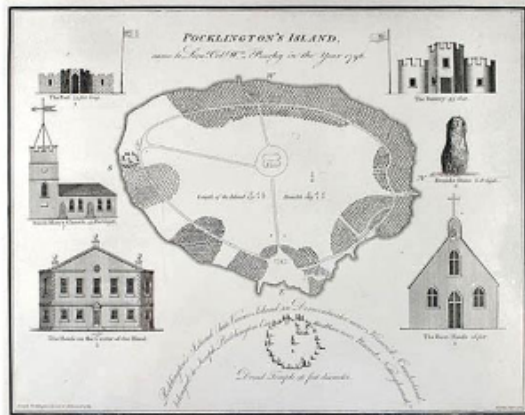


Joseph Pocklington himself served as High Sheriff of Nottingham in 1774.

So, it appears (because of the dates) that Joseph **did not** come from Barrow but moved to there from this area of in the late 1770's and it was there that he created the **Barrow House** for himself on the shores of Derwentwater.

Before that though, his first indulgence there was to create his own **Fantasy Island** after purchasing Derwent Island from Miles Ponsonby in 1778 for £300 when it was then known as Vicar's Island. Up until the dissolution the island had been owned by

Fountains Abbey, and in 1569 it was sold by the Crown to a German mining company subsidiary 'Mines Royal' for their workers own private residence. It is said that they kept animals, grew veg and brewed beer there (the good life eh!). Joseph's notebook suggests he was inspired by Belle Isle on Windermere where he had admired a fine house standing on its land.



Details of Antique engraving by H.Ashby in 1873. Shows the island, the fort, the church, the house, the battery

and the boat house, as well as the Druid's Stone and the Druid Temple. The curved wording near the bottom of the engraving reads 'Pocklington's Island (late Vicar's Island) in Derwentwater, near Keswick, Cumberland. belonged to Joseph Pocklington Esq. of Muskham near Newark, Nottinghamshire. Sold by P. Crosthwaite the Proprietor at his Museum Keswick.'



Seemingly wanting to go one better he soon set about designing the house, pathways, a fort, a folly, a boathouse chapel, druids circle, a grotto and other mysterious features.

Pocklington's Island sketch shows how he arranged his main attractions in theme park



style to entertain his guests. His wealth allowed him to be an amateur architect/builder rolled into one but most of his work was heavily criticised as clumsy, ill designed and distasteful. Two of his most fierce critics were the poets William Wordsworth who called him "a native of Nottinghamshire who plays pranks with his buildings on Vicars Island" and Samuel Coleridge said of his water feature at Barrow House "the common waterfall at King Pocky's" as he was now known locally around Keswick. Undeterred Joseph pressed on with his hedonistic ways and befriended a local seaman Peter Crosthwaite. Together, they devised a series of regatta activities on and around the water, with a fair in Crow Park. The festivities would reach their climax in a mock attack of the island, with King Pocky firing a cannon

towards the local invaders.

The first regatta on Derwent Water was held in 1781 by Joseph Pocklington, the wealthy and eccentric man who'd already caused a stir by building a mansion on Derwent Island.

His advertisement in **The Cumberland Pacquet** (local newspaper) promised a rowing race round all four islands, with a prize of seven guineas (over £1,000 today) a sweepstake for swimming horses, and running races with a prize of new clothes for the winner.

#### **An armed invasion of Derwent Island**

The highlight was an armed fleet, commanded by 'Admiral' Peter Crosthwaite, the boats complete with swivel guns and gunpowder but no shot, attacking 'King Pocky' Pocklington's Island, where 'a stout resistance is expected to be made'.

Once the smoke had cleared, the invasion was followed by a 'genteel cold collation' for a lucky few guests invited to the island, fireworks and a grand ball at the assembly room at the Lodore hotel.

Pocklington's regattas lasted until 1790 when disagreements between him and 'Admiral' Peter Crosthwaite put an end to the event.

The Island remained a private residence and was sold to Lieut. Col. William Peachy in the Year 1796 and Joseph had made the now completed Barrow House his home.

Henry Cowper Marshall purchased the island in 1844 and it remained in his family although it was leased out for some time until Denis Marshall the grandson gave it to the National Trust in 1951.

The National Trust revived the Regatta in 2014 and it seems to have been an annual event until 2019 when Covid19 came along. It was promoted as a family fun day with all sorts of games and competitions much as was intended by Joseph who's nickname they still use by calling it "King Pocky's Regatta"

Construction on the **Barrow House** had begun by Joseph in 1787.

The cost of building the house was £ 1,655. It was originally referred to as the *Barrow Cascade House*, as Pocklington had a 33-foot waterfall created behind the house to

rival the nearby Lodore Falls . He had additional workers employed to divert and channel a stream for this purpose. The waterfall was universally endorsed, although Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who had little good things to say about Pocklington, called it "the common waterfall at King Pocky's." Shortly after completion, a folly in the form of a small hermitage was built between the back of the house and the waterfall . Pocklington hoped it could attract tourists and offered a local for a fee to play the role of a hermit (ornate hermit). The offer was never accepted, so the Folly remained uninhabited. At the beginning of the 19th century, renovations to the house led to lateral extensions and the redesign of the windows.

Pocklington died in 1817 and the house remained privately owned until it was converted into a hotel in the early 1900s. In 1931 it developed into a youth hostel and from 1950 it was used again as a hotel. The Youth Hostels Association acquired the building in 1961. In 2011 it was announced that the house, which had previously served as a YHA hostel, would be sold for financial rehabilitation by the YHA. The house went on sale in late 2011 for £1,250,000.



Muskham Grange 1963 shortly before demolition

By the early 1790's Joseph must have been dividing his time between the Lakes and Nottinghamshire, because he sold the 1765 built Carlton on Trent Manor (Hall) in 1792 and in 1793 he laid the first stones for Muskham Grange which was to be his final and most ambitious project. He died in 1817 and some years later a note was added to his planning drawing reading *"This house was pulled down by me in the years 1833 & 1834 & 1835 & 1836 R.*

*Pocklington,*" that is Joseph's great-nephew and heir. (*Rogers grandson?*) The two brothers who began their building life by making alterations to their home in Bar Gate Newark had not had more than two or three years of their lives when not working on something or other. Along with other minor works some of which were mysterious, for instance in 1792 Joseph built "Muskham Ornamental Hovel" for £300, a large sum; what could it have been? Also, a Schoolhouse (1798) and a Town Hall at Muskham (1803) brought Joseph's building career in Nottinghamshire to a close. Could the latter, also known as the Club House be the brick house with Gothic windows like those of the Barrow hermitage, at the south end of the Muskham village?

There are many more details particularly of Joseph's story that cannot be included here because of print space but they are well documented on websites and in books.

**Note from the editor: Many thanks to Bob Warriner for this fine article of local history, which will be continued in the next edition of Focal Point.**



# THE LORD NELSON

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**Village Lunch:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December: Two courses for £13.00  
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**Quiz Night:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December: £1.00 per person entry fee  
Booking essential. Why not add dinner for £8.00?

**Steak Night:** Every Wednesday  
Any 2 rump steaks and a bottle of house wine for £39.00  
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**Open Mic Night:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
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**\*\*\*Christmas Market: Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December\*\*\***  
10am-6pm

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Thanks from Emma and the Team

## Christmas Quiz

1. Invented in Germany in 1610, what was tinsel originally made from?
2. Which famous Victorian author wrote the story, 'A Christmas Carol'?
3. '*O tidings of comfort and joy*' is the last line of a well-known carol, but what is the first line?
4. In which year were the last Football League matches in England played on Christmas Day?
5. Ilex is the Latin name for which genus of evergreen plant associated with Christmas?
6. In the song, 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', there were how many maids a-milking?
7. Which toy company, launched in the UK in 1958, is currently selling the Eiffel Tower for £554.99 and the Titanic for £589.99?
8. Who invented Christmas crackers in 1847?
9. In which ocean is Christmas Island situated?
10. In which country are stollen and glühwein traditional Christmas treats?
11. In which year did Tiny Tears and Action Man dolls first arrive on the UK market and become best selling Christmas toys?
12. The first (and the original) Icehotel was built in 1989, in the small town of Jukkasjärvi, in which country?
13. Which London theatre has had a tradition since 1795 of providing Twelfth Night cake for every member of its theatre company?
14. Who wrote the fairy tale, 'The Snow Queen'?
15. What colour are mistletoe berries?
16. Harry Belafonte in 1957 and Boney M in 1978 had a Christmas number one hit with which song?
17. In which European city would you find Wenceslas Square?
18. How many Morecambe and Wise Christmas Specials were there and in which year was the top one, with 28 million viewers?
19. The first known Christmas card was sent in 1611 to which monarch?
20. In which year did Good Friday fall on Boxing Day, but only in Wolverhampton?



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07789175957 [Pauldewison771@gmail.com](mailto:Pauldewison771@gmail.com)

## FOCAL POINT ONLINE EDITION

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

Just follow the menus: Media and then Village Magazine.

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



## DECEMBER'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

Our villages take on new lives at this time of year don't they? In one of my favourite encounters of November, I was shown which bow tie a favourite dog will be wearing on Christmas Day! This year, we face more dilemmas than which Christmas clothes to choose, for ourselves or our pets. Indeed, we may see fewer Christmas lights; maybe have fewer gifts and less Christmas food. It may be a good idea to watch out for each other, to make sure that everyone is warm and well and has good company, because by doing that, we'll reflect the true spirit of Christmas.

When we remember the Christmas story this year, let's try to imagine the people who aren't mentioned. The family and friends who must have helped Mary and Joseph to get ready for their journey to Bethlehem; giving them food and blankets for the journey. The people they met on the way – fellow travellers who, like them, were forced to leave home; who helped each other find shelter and shared their food. The owners of the inn, who provided a safe space for Jesus to be born, who probably didn't ask too many questions, but just responded to the need in front of their eyes. The people who turned a blind eye, as Mary and Joseph sneaked out of Bethlehem by night; and the people who supported them on their way to Egypt, and helped them to make a home as refugees in a strange land.

This Christmas story is a story of political intrigue, hardship and danger. This is the world that God was born into. It's also a story of unsung heroes, working together bravely to help each other, in the face of powerful and cruel regimes. That's what happens when God's presence in our lives affects the way we respond to the world. Maybe we could be unsung heroes this winter and part of the Christmas story.

Back in our villages, I look forward to celebrating the Christmas story with you and especially singing carols, so please save these dates:

Carol Service at Langford on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm  
Carol Service at Winthorpe on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm  
Carol Service at Holme on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm  
Christmas Holy Communion at Winthorpe on Christmas Eve at 7pm  
Christmas Holy Communion at Holme on Christmas Day at 10:15am

I'll see you there! Have a joyful and blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year.

**Revd. Mandy**

01636 361657

[revdmand@hotmail.com](mailto:revdmand@hotmail.com)



### **All Saints' Church, Winthorpe**

#### **Flower Ladies**

Please could you bring your Christmas decorations into church on Friday, **December 14<sup>th</sup>** from 2p.m. and sadly, remove them on Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup> 2023! Thank you very much.

### **When did people start 'carolling'?**

The notion of groups of carollers assembling in public spaces was a 19<sup>th</sup> century one, according to *Oxford Dictionaries*. Called 'waits', these collections of singers used to gather to perform for passers-by, who traditionally thanked them with tasty offerings of drinks or mince pies.

It became known as wassailing and continues today, of course. Groups continue to sing – in squares or door-to-door – and it's with unrestrained joy that we continue to sing carols in Christmas church services, in the chilly air or in restrained-yet-merry tones inside our houses as we put up the tree.

(From an article by Rosie Pentreath at [classicfm.com](http://classicfm.com))





## All Saints' Church, Winthorpe

A very moving Remembrance Service was held last month; it was so nice to see so many villagers taking a part in the proceedings, in front of a very good sized congregation.

This month sees even more Special Services, with certain events changing venue. Just for this year, the Christingle Service will be held in Winthorpe Primary School Hall on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm, all villagers are invited to attend. This is quickly followed by our Carol Service, which will be held in church on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm, with contributions from the Hungate Singers – refreshments afterwards, of course!

This year, on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, our Village Carol Singing will take place at one venue, rather than a walk around the village. It will start at 6pm in the garden at the Lord Nelson, followed by mince pies and mulled wine! We hope to be able to stay dry and at the same time sing to the diners! The final Service of the year will be Christmas Eve Communion at 7pm in church.

Another year draws to a close, one which in many ways has been as difficult as the last one, but at least our village life is nearly back to normal.

I, on behalf of the PCC, wish everyone a healthy and happy Christmas with families and friends, and with the hope that we can avoid any power cuts!

In our prayers we are thinking especially at this time of year for all those hospitalised or facing difficult health issues

**Tish Applewhite** Churchwarden (643763)  
tishapplewhite@msn.com

Church Cleaners Mrs J White







## St. Giles Church, Holme

Hello from St Giles Church Holme

December is going to be a busy month at St Giles. It won't be long before the illuminated tree goes up, together with the flood lights on the south side of the building. Then inside we'll be putting up a real Christmas tree, donated and grown in the village, in the north door archway and – just as last year – inviting everyone to write something on a card and then hang it on the tree. As usual, there will be a number of nativity figures, including the rather special almost life-like ones, kindly loaned to us by E Gill and Sons.

In addition to the usual first Sunday in the month Communion Service on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, we will be holding our special Service of Carols and Readings on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. If you or someone you know would like to read, please let us know; the reading will be either from The Bible or something else with a Christmas theme.

On Christmas Day our family service starts at 10:15am and will last for just 45 minutes. As this is a popular service, please arrive in good time to ensure you have a seat. There will be carols and a special address given by Mandy; you will receive a warm welcome and be home in good time for Christmas lunch.

Looking ahead to Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January, we welcome everyone to 'Come-a-Wassailing at Holme Church'. This will be an evening of old traditional carols, with readings; the audience will be invited to participate in the singing and round the church with the wassail cup. There will be refreshments to follow. Music will be provided by the early music group, 1685, who play a wide range of period instruments. No admission charge, but donations are invited, which we will use to help fund the new heating.

Kind regards, Nigel Priestley and Doreen Hallam.

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



# St Bartholomew's Church, Langford



Our next church cleaning event will be on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2-4pm, when we will also decorate the church for Christmas. This community event provides an opportunity to get involved in a range of small jobs, plus have conversation, coffee and mince pies.

Our Christmas Carol Service will be on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December; mulled wine and mince pies served from 3pm, the carol service will start at 3.30pm. You are invited to bring a decoration to hang on the Christmas Memory Tree.

On Christmas Eve 3-5pm there will be opportunity to look at the Christmas decorations; listen to Christmas music; take time for conversation or quiet reflection. Refreshments will be available.

St Bartholomew's Church is open most days between 10 and 3pm – all are welcome to look around, take time for reflection and sign the visitors' book. From 11<sup>th</sup> December the church will be decorated for Christmas.

Recent visitors will have noticed that the church now has flowers, which are renewed for each monthly service. Poppies adorned the altar for Remembrance Sunday. Thanks to Sandy from Gainsborough Road for organising the floral displays.

Our church requires some remedial work to keep it in good repair; over the next five years we will need to raise funds to cover some of these costs. Please contact our church warden, Jeremy Steel (01636 893143), with any fundraising ideas, all of which are most welcome.

**John and Becky Whittaker**  
Langford Crossing (0775 311 7530)



## Church Services for December 2022



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>**  
(2<sup>nd</sup> of Advent)

9.00 a.m.

Holy Communion

Holme

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**  
(3<sup>rd</sup> of Advent)

10.30a.m.  
3.30p.m.

Holy Communion  
**Carol Service**

Winthorpe  
**Langford**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
(4<sup>th</sup> of Advent)

4.30p.m.  
6.00p.m.

**Carol Service**  
**Carol Service**

**Winthorpe**  
**Holme**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>**  
(Christmas Eve)

7.00p.m.

Holy Communion

Winthorpe

**Every Thursday**

1.30.-3.30p.m.

Open Church

Winthorpe

**Every day**

10.00 – 4p.m.

Open Church

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