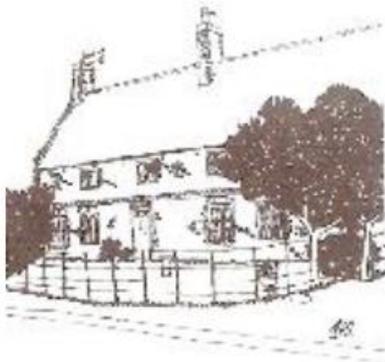


# FOCAL POINT



February 2024

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The online edition of Focal Point is easy to find on Winthorpe Village Website:  
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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!

A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, semi-transparent blue shapes that form a triangular shape pointing to the right, located in the top left corner of the page.

FEBRUARY 2024

ISSUE NO. 517

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I have been editor of Focal Point since April 2022. When I volunteered to take on the role, I was motivated to do so because there was a need within the community which I could not ignore, knowing that I had the skills and the time to do the job. Look around our villages and think about the people who step up and put time and effort into all sorts of roles which enhance our lives: parish councillors, churchwardens, committee members of our many community groups, trustees of Winthorpe village hall and community centre, Thomas Brewer and Holme Bank Land Trust. Others help with distributing Focal Point, organising events, looking after the defibrillators, maintaining the repurposed phone boxes, keeping public areas litter free and planting flowers around our open spaces. Every time I enter or leave the village, I feel warm inside to see a flag flying at the junction of Winthorpe with the A1133 – and I always check to see which flag it is on that particular day! Many others do their bit for the benefit of our villages and the residents, without expecting praise or reward and all deserve our thanks and support, so if you can do your bit by joining in with the tree planting event this month, please come forward and help out, even if it's just for an hour or so. If you can't help with the planting, then help us to provide tea and coffee for the workers!

One of the first people who contacted me as editor of Focal Point was Revd. Mandy. In less than two years, I have come to know her as a kind and caring, genuinely spiritual person, who gives so much of herself and her time – how many of us could do as much, with responsibility for eleven churches? I have met Mandy at church services, funerals, fundraisers and social events; she will be a hard act to follow and we will miss her very much. There are a number of articles in this edition of Focal Point, reflecting on Mandy's seven years with us and I hope that you will take the time to read and enjoy them.

**Julie Johnson-Hill (01636 676079)**

**NEXT MONTH'S DEADLINE IS 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

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

## February Calendar

When	What	Where
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile Library	All
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	WAWA meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	History Group meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	Brown bin	All
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	Shrove Tuesday / Mardi Gras	
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	WI meeting	Winthorpe
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday	
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	St Valentine's Day	
Thur 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council meeting	Winthorpe
Thur 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tree Planting Event at Jubilee Meadow, 10am start	Winthorpe
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup>	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	Garden Club meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup>	Tree Planting Event at Jubilee Meadow, 10am start	Winthorpe
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	Line Dancing	Winthorpe
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup>	Community Cuppa	Winthorpe
Thur 29 <sup>th</sup>	It's a Leap Year!	



**This month, the mobile library will call at our villages  
on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

Mobile Library Routes and Timetable 2023 for Winthorpe, Langford and Holme*				
Stop No.	Village	Location	Arrive	Depart
1	Winthorpe	The Spinney	9.50am	10.10am
2	Winthorpe	junction of Pocklington Crescent and Branston Close	10.15am	10.35am
3	Winthorpe	junction of Gainsborough Road and Woodlands	10.40am	10.50am
4	Langford	Langford Hall Farm	10.55am	11.10am
5	Holme	Snaefell, Langford Lane	11.20am	11.30am
6	Holme	Southview Farm	11.35am	11.55am

\*Information taken from [inspireculture.org.uk](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.

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## **Revd. Mandy Cartwright**

It was due to Mandy becoming our vicar that I became more involved with the church at Winthorpe. At one of our PCC meetings Mandy suggested that Winthorpe really should have a Churchwarden now – and so it came to pass.

Having worked with Mandy for seven years, I have found her to be a most supportive vicar to Winthorpe church. Although she came only once a month for Holy Communion and every other month for Evening Prayer, she was here so much more than that. Far more people in the village know Mandy than those who regularly attend church, mainly because sadly, she took so many funerals in the village and I know how her caring and compassionate manner was a real comfort to many of the families of the deceased.

Every church event that took place, whether as a fundraiser or as a social activity, was supported by Mandy and Phil; and not only church associated events, but also many village activities, such as the Village Lunch, which was regularly attended.

Of course, these seven years here were not straightforward: Covid changed many lives and of course the life of the church. Mandy quickly found her role changing to one of a presenter/performer in videoed church services sent via YouTube throughout the East Trent Group, with Phil acting as Cameraman and producer! Zoom PCC Meetings became the norm; Mandy also developed the zoom Evening Prayer service, which is still being held today.

Whilst having eleven churches in the Group must have been quite daunting for Mandy at the start of her tenure, she soon familiarised herself with all the villages and PCCs within them. Mandy started to bring the Group together more for regular discussions on subjects such as Leading Worship and I feel the Group became stronger with all this regular contact. Mandy certainly leaves the East Trent Group in a much stronger state than when she arrived and we are in a much better position now to face the Interregnum and be able to work through it together.

We thank Mandy for all she has done for our church and village and hope both Mandy and Phil enjoy their new home and more time to spend together, doing all the things they just haven't had time to do. We shall miss them both very much but thank them for enriching all of our lives in the ETG.

*Tisha Applewhite (on behalf of Winthorpe PCC)*



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## Defibrillator News

I hope that everyone has noticed that Hargon Lane, Branston Close and Pocklington Crescent now have a defibrillator. Thanks go to Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council, and especially to Mark Kneen, who has been of great assistance in helping us to achieve this and the extra funding required.

I have some money put by for training and am proposing to set up a training session at a Tuesday afternoon Community Cuppa, in either March or April. If needed, I would be willing to arrange another session for an evening or a weekend for people who are unable to attend on a Tuesday afternoon.

In order that I can get some idea of numbers, please let me know if you are interested and which session you would prefer. You can contact me by email or by phone: [pauline.lockwood@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pauline.lockwood@tiscali.co.uk) 01636 672244.

Pauline Lockwood

### **Defibrillator codes for Winthorpe**

Village Hall: CY543

Community Centre: C159X

Pocklington Crescent: C159X

### **Defibrillator code for Holme**

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

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

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



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## WINTHORPE HISTORY GROUP

In our 2023 meetings we were kept busy discussing a wide range of topics, including the school, house histories and deeds, the Gilstrap and Seymour families of Winthorpe, and the Christmas Meat Market in Newark. We had a guided tour of the church in the autumn, and for Remembrance Day we looked at the histories of the people who fought and died in the world wars. Further research on this subject resulted in the discovery of a number of letters sent between about 1910 and 1955, giving a glimpse of life in Winthorpe over more than four decades.

In 2024, some ideas we'd like to explore include another guided tour of the church, a village walk using the Heritage Trail leaflet, churchyard tales, researching one of the older village houses (would you like to volunteer yours?) and investigating the enclosure map. And we have a new venture! Have you hit a brick wall in researching your family tree? Bring it along to a meeting and we'll see if we can help you.

We meet at Winthorpe Village Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month. Everyone is welcome, there is no membership – just come along. The charge per meeting is £2. Our first meeting this year will be an open session on anything to do with Winthorpe history or family history research:

**Friday 9th February – 1.30pm to 3pm – Winthorpe Village Hall**

If you would like more information, please email Christine Hasman:  
[c.hasman@ntlworld.com](mailto:c.hasman@ntlworld.com) Looking forward to seeing you there!

## **Retired Gentlemen, Please Step Forward!**

### **You are needed by the Probus Club of Newark & District**

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

Further information is available from: **Keith Elliott (Treasurer) 01636 677716**

## Winthorpe Community Centre

100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

<b>Winners for January</b>		
Drawn by Jane Bateson		
1st	£51.00	P Brooks
2nd	£25.50	Jane & Andy Warner
3rd	£8.50	Peter Sharp

**100**  
**Club**

Congratulations to our winners. Please contact Nina Adams if you would like to join the 100 Club: [ninjab71@gmail.com](mailto:ninjab71@gmail.com)

### Winthorpe Garden Club

Our annual social evening, held in the Community Centre, was a most pleasant event, shared with many friends. There was a delicious selection of food to consume, all provided by members. Wonderful.

Entertainment comprised of bingo and a 'just for fun' series of gardening themed quizzes. There was the usual raffle with many prizes. At the end of the evening, each person received a small handmade box containing a foil wrapped chocolate. Everyone went home happy and smiling, having enjoyed a truly relaxed evening.

Our next meeting will be held in the Community Centre on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7.30pm. The guest speaker will be Steve Lovell, presenting a talk and slide show entitled: '**Cuba – It's time to Salsa.**' Steve is a long time favourite for the club, making his first appearance as guest speaker in November 2007. His knowledge of plants and wildlife is enhanced by his passion for travel and – a lesser known fact – his love of Salsa.

It would be lovely to see new faces in our club. Do come along and join us.

**Pat Finn**

## WINTHORPE WI

By the time you read this, Christmas will be a long distant memory. We had a very enjoyable coffee morning on 6<sup>th</sup> December and were entertained by the beautiful voices of the children from Winthorpe School, singing a selection of carols which were both ancient and modern.

It was overheard at the recent 70's disco at the the Community Centre that "People who live in Winthorpe certainly know how to party". With such a reputation to uphold, the WI give it their best shot at their Christmas party, enjoying a lovely catered meal, followed by an excellent concert, given by the Collingham Singers. We were encouraged to join in the carol singing, although after our rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas, a drink was very much needed. This year, once again we we decided against having a Secret Santa and a donation was sent the Women's Refuge instead.

On Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> January the book club met at the Lord Nelson to discuss *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles. An enjoyable book, inspired by the true story of the librarians at the American Library in Paris – until reading the book, none of us knew this library existed. At our next book club meeting on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, we will discuss *The People on Platform 5* by Clare Pooley. The book club is open to all members of the WI.

Despite being a bitterly cold evening, our meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January was well attended. One member and a visitor's birthday were celebrated and there was a sale table. A brief resume was given of this year's Resolutions to be put forward for consideration for adoption this year, the choice being Dental Health Matters, Impact of Poor Housing, Say No Gambling Advertising and Improving Outcomes for Women in the Criminal Justice System. The topic for the evening was ReJUvenate with Julie Parker, a retired social worker with a degree in psychology, who set up ReJUvenate with the mantra "Refresh, renew to a healthier you".

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February when the topic will be Historic Crime Trial. Meetings are held in Winthorpe Community Centre on the second Wednesday of each month. The first visit is free of charge, subsequent visits incur a £5.00 charge.

*Pauline Lockwood*



## Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January, the first meeting of the Parish Council for 2024 was held in the Village Hall and was well attended by Parish Councillors.

Firstly, we would like to wish our whole community a Happy New Year. We are looking forward to moving forward with a lot of projects during the year ahead and will keep you up to date via Focal Point and all our Social Media outlets.

As some of you will already know, we have now fully completed the installation of the new defibrillator on the green space in the middle of Pocklington Crescent. The purchase and installation of this third unit in Winthorpe has been a real community success, supported financially from within and outside the Parish. We would like to express huge thanks especially to Pauline Lockwood – this was her original concept and she helped significantly in making it a reality.

In planning this month, some of you may have noticed that a planning application has been submitted by Lindum Construction, for the building of a commercial development to the south end of the Showground site, on Godfrey Drive. From our community's perspective, the important aspect of this is that, if this development goes ahead, this may include a new site access for the Showground from the A17. Should that occur, the problems we have at Winthorpe Roundabout on certain show days could be significantly reduced, although this could take some time to work through. We have a meeting with the CEO of The Showground planned for the 31<sup>st</sup> of January and will update you with more information in the next edition of Focal Point.

Over these last couple of years, the Parish Council and Cllr Linda Dales, together with residents from the south end of Gainsborough Road, have been working with National Highways to try and find a solution to the increasing noise pollution problem in this part of the Parish. The issue was made worse a few years ago, when National Highways removed vegetation alongside the A1 around the underpass without consultation; this action reduced the tree cover and subsequently increased the noise impact. National Highways have now agreed to re-plant this area with around 60 new trees. To ensure that we get the best out of the planting for local residents

and the Parish as a whole, we have requested that we are fully involved in the process of the work, which will be undertaken in November of this year.

As you will see from information elsewhere in this month's Focal Point, two tree planting events will take place on Jubilee Meadow on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February. We have over 200 trees to plant, together with weed reduction matting, stakes etc, so the more people who volunteer to help, the better. There will be lots of things for everybody to get involved in and the Community Centre will be open for toilets and refreshments. We are hoping to get children from Winthorpe Primary School involved and the overall project will be overseen by specialist staff from the Sherwood Forest Trust. So, if you can spare the time, please join us at Jubilee Meadow from 10am on either day or both days.

Once the planting is complete, we will be maintaining the trees over the next few years, until they become established. We will also be looking towards developing a woodland trail around the meadow and through the established tree canopy between Jubilee Meadow and The Cricket Field. Additionally, we would welcome your ideas on what features to include on the walk, such as nesting boxes/bug hotels etc. So, if you have any ideas for this or would like to get involved, please let me know.

In general maintenance, you will have noticed that a number of pot holes have been filled recently, following conversations with our County Councillor, Debbie Darby, and Nottinghamshire County Council's contractor, VIA. The damaged grit bin on Gainsborough Road near the Village Hall has now been replaced. We have reported the missing road markers near the entry to the village on the A1133, travelling from the Winthorpe Roundabout. We have also installed new litter and dog bins at the bus stop in Langford, and these are now on the emptying register.

The next meeting of The Parish Council will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.30pm. In the meantime, should you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact me: [paul@bridgfordss.co.uk](mailto:paul@bridgfordss.co.uk)

Paul Smith

Chair, Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

# Tree planting event - volunteers wanted!

To further enhance the natural environment within the village and the surrounding area, at this event over 200 native trees and shrubs will be planted in Jubilee Meadow, close to Winthorpe Community Centre. We need your help on either of two dates: 15<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> February.

**Thurs 15th & Sat 24th February 2024 – 10am start**

## **Where and When:**

Meet at the Winthorpe Community Centre, Woodlands, Winthorpe. We will be onsite planting on both days between 10am and 2pm. Volunteers are welcome to stay for as long (or as little) as they'd like.

## **Facilities:**

Refreshments and toilets available at the community centre on the day

## **What to Bring:**

We'll provide the trees and digging tools.

All we need from you is enthusiasm!

Please remember to wear gloves, sturdy footwear and warm clothing.

**Organised by:** Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council and kindly sponsored and supported by:



For further information please contact:  
[parishclerkatwinthorpe@outlook.com](mailto:parishclerkatwinthorpe@outlook.com)

## Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council: Parish Councillor Vacancy

Following a recent resignation from the Parish Council, we have vacancy for a Parish Councillor to represent Winthorpe Parish. The successful applicant will hold the post for four years and will have a great opportunity to become more involved in the community and contribute to the future of Winthorpe and Langford.

To apply or for more information, please contact the Chair of the Parish Council (Paul Smith) on mobile number **07568 543202**. Applicants will be asked to provide a short resume of their background, which should also cover their strengths and the benefits they can bring to the Parish Council and our community in general.



The group is still awaiting a further discussion with National Highways and assume that this is due to the planning process delay. We have, however, received confirmation that further surveys will be undertaken on the fields adjacent to the A46/A1133 roundabout. Also, we have had a response from National Highways on the statement of common ground, which will reviewed by the core working group.

The group would like to thank Sarah-Jane and Chris, who have been a driving force behind Think Again from the beginning, for all their help and support. They have relocated from the village following work changes.

The core working group meets in the middle of each month and we welcome any views or input from the village, using the links below. If you have any specific questions or concerns about the scheme, please contact Think Again by emailing us: [A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com](mailto:A46WinthorpeVillage@outlook.com)

The dedicated Think Again web site is available as a single point of information and communication for the village. Just follow this link: <https://a46thinkagain.org.uk/>

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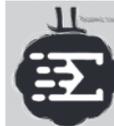
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For Further details contact Paul (DBS checked), references available:

07789175957

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





## NEWARK FOODBANK

Thank you to everybody who contributed so generously in the run up to Christmas and throughout January. The Foodbank is finding it hard to keep up with demand, so please keep your contributions coming.

Especially needed now are: tea bags, long life fruit juice, UHT milk, tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned fruit, instant mash, sponge puddings, rice. Always needed are: breakfast cereal, sugar, biscuits, cereal bars, soup, noodles, pasta sauce, cooking oil, savoury rice packets, tinned vegetables, spaghetti and rice puddings, tinned or cartons of custard, toilet rolls, jam, toiletries.

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

Winthorpe Collection Points are:

- The Lord Nelson, during opening hours. Please note that the collection point is now through the front door, turn left into the main area. The collection box is on the left.
- The black swing bin by my front door at 11 Gainsborough Road, available 24/7.
- The church porch, Sun 10am-12noon, Thurs 1.30-3.30pm

Alternatively, if you would like to donate through your bank, the details for the Foodbank are: NatWest, sort code 54 10 23, a/c no. 19405812

*Jane White*

### **Did you Know?**

Anyone born on 29<sup>th</sup> February may be called a 'leapling' and in non-leap years may celebrate their birthday on 28<sup>th</sup> February or 1<sup>st</sup> March; legally, in Britain, their birthday is 28<sup>th</sup> February. Statistically, about one in 1,461 births is a leapling and there are an estimated 4.1 million leaplings worldwide.

Traditionally, 29<sup>th</sup> February is the only day when a woman can propose to a man. As the day had no legal status, it was deemed reasonable to assume that tradition had no status, so women took advantage of this and proposed to the man they wanted to marry. A law once existed in Scotland forbidding a man to refuse a marriage proposal on this day, punishable by a hefty fine.

# FEBRUARY'S REFLECTIONS

**From the Editor** – This month's *Reflections* are a reminder of Revd. Mandy and all she has become to us in Winthorpe, Langford and Holme. I have just read her first contribution to Focal Point in November 2016 and thought it a good place to begin:

## FROM THE NEW RECTOR



Dear Friends,

My name is Mandy and as I write this I'm surrounded by piles of books which I really must get rid of, black bin liners full of clothes ready to stock a jumble sale and boxes of new curtains ready to adorn the windows of Collingham Rectory. I only hope I don't get the jumble bags and the curtain boxes mixed up! Yes, I'm getting ready to move.

With my husband Phil, I'll move into the Rectory in early November and on November 30th I'll officially start my new ministry as Rector of the East Trent Group of Churches. I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone and finding my way around, to say nothing of working out how the rota for Sunday church services works! I enjoyed my visits to all the villages in the spring and summer and everyone I've met has been very friendly and encouraging. I will be arriving at a very busy time of year so I expect to meet lots more people soon.

Moving house and starting a new life brings mixed feelings, a bit like deciding which books, clothes and ornaments to keep or get rid of. Phil and I have lived almost all our lives in Nottingham and we've been in Bilborough and Strelley, on the edge of the city for over nine years. So, I feel excitement and uncertainty, optimism and happiness at the thought of a fresh start and new opportunities and also concern and sadness at the thought of leaving so many people and situations behind. This is what life is often like isn't it? Big and little changes happen all the time and they make us think about what we really want to do and what we should be doing; perhaps we sometimes wish that everything would stay the same, but the story of life is a story of change. I'm always glad that God knows and understands me and always loves me, whatever happens, even when I'm not sure of myself. A favourite bit of the Bible for me is Psalm 139:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me, you know when I sit down and when I rise up;

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence.

Well the answer to that question is nowhere! I know that wherever I am and whatever happens, God will be there. Please pray for Phil and me as we move and settle in and please say hello when you meet us.

God bless you,  
Revd Mandy



May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rains fall soft upon your fields,  
And, until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.



## All Saints' Church, Winthorpe

Well, the time has arrived – our first month in Interregnum! As you will see on the Church Services' page, instead of a Holy Communion service each month, we will now host one every 3<sup>rd</sup> month, in a rota with Langford and Holme. This gives us all an opportunity to visit the other churches in the East Trent Group, which actually is a very positive thing. Transport will be laid on for anyone who would like to go to Langford's Holy Communion on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb; let's make up a little group to visit these other lovely churches that are so close by and support them too. We will be adding a Service, which I hope will be supported – there will be an **Evening Prayer every month**, starting this month; it will be Lay led and I hope will make up a little bit for not having Holy Communion.

Sadly, I need to report the death of one of our past congregation: Norma Breed died last December, after spending some time in a Care Home. There was a function at the Lord Nelson in January in her memory; unfortunately I knew too late to be able to advertise it. Our condolences go out to her family.

As usual I am writing this before all the 'Goodbye Events' for Mandy have taken place. I hope you feel that we all gave her a great send off because that is what she certainly deserved. **Please do read my article about Mandy on page 5 of this edition of Focal Point.**

Since Christmas, so much flooding has occurred down the Trent Valley – what devastation it has caused. How lucky are we in Winthorpe that only Holme Lane was closed rather than homes flooded, whereas poor Holme village was cut off for days! At least Holme church was able to be used as a dry space for the community. We are thinking in our prayers of all those affected by the floods, and all those who are ill, hospitalised or facing a bereavement at this time.

Tish Applewhite, Churchwarden (643763, 07896821414)

Church Cleaners: Mrs Jane White



## St. Giles Church, Holme

Dear Friends and Supporters of St Giles,

Rev. Mandy's final service with us as our Rector took place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January. This had been postponed, due to the floods at the beginning of the month. She was given a very warm send off and we sang some of her favourite hymns; in all quite an emotional occasion for everyone. We are most grateful to all the people who contributed towards Mandy and Phil's Holme Church retirement fund; we presented this to them during the last week of January.

There will be a break from services at Holme during February; our next service will be Holy Communion on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 10am. From then onwards, there will be a service of Holy Communion every three months at Holme. In the meantime, the churchyard is open every day and you will find the church unlocked if one of the metal gates is open. Should anyone need to contact us for anything, including weddings and funerals, please get in touch with Christine Hasman (our Group Administrator) or the Churchwardens and we will do our best to help with your request.

Beginning in April, we will be starting a series of lay-led services on the first Sunday of the month, through the warmer months. These will be much less formal than usual and therefore more relaxed than the Holy Communion services. For example, we plan to put on songs of praise and opportunities for wider participation. To support this, if you wish to get involved or have some suggestions or ideas that we could include on these occasions, please let us know, or just drop a note in the post box in the church porch. Above all, we hope to make full use of this wonderful building and to enjoy the experience of being there.

With best wishes, Nigel Priestley and Doreen Hallam

Nigel Priestley, Churchwarden: 01636 892020

email: [nigel.priestley10@gmail.com](mailto:nigel.priestley10@gmail.com)

Doreen Hallam, Churchwarden: 01636 676153

Christine Hasman, Administrator: 01636 679105



## St Bartholomew's Church, Langford

Our service of carols around the piano on 10<sup>th</sup> December was a welcoming and festive occasion. Thanks to those who spent time cleaning and decorating the church to ensure it continues to be a welcoming environment for all. Also thank you to Peter Gill for playing the piano. This was Mandy's last Christmas service with us before she retired in January 2024.

Our community said goodbye to Rev Mandy and her family on various occasions in January. Our church warden writes "On 7th January we at St Bartholomew's said goodbye to Mandy, our brilliant rector, who retired at the end of January. We will miss her enormously, especially her splendid ministry and the wonderful pastoral care she has generously provided over the past seven years. She will be particularly remembered by her Churchwardens for her wise counsel and guidance that Mandy could always be depended on to deliver, whenever necessary. We are all very sad to see her go and wish Mandy and Phil a very happy retirement in their new home in Calverton."



During the winter months the church will be opened for shorter hours between 10am and 3pm, on days when we are available to unlock. Please let keyholders or the churchwarden know if you would like church opening on a specific day.

Jerry Steele (Churchwarden) Tel. 01636893143

John and Becky (Keyholders) Langford Crossing  
Tel. 07753117530

# Church Services for February 2024

## Holme



## Winthorpe



## Langford



### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>

(Next before Lent)

10.15 a.m.

Morning Worship

Winthorpe

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday)

7.30p.m.

**Holy Communion  
& Ashing Ceremony**

**Sth. Scarle**

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> of Lent)

10.00a.m

Holy Communion

Langford

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>

5p.m.

Evening Prayer

Winthorpe

### During Interregnum please note:

**Holy Communion** is now on a rota between the **three** churches of  
Langford/Holme/Winthorpe on the **third Sunday** in the month

### Every Thursday

1.30 – 3.30p.m. Open Church

Winthorpe

### Every Day

10.00 – 4.00p.m. Open Church

Holme +  
Langford

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



**This beautiful photograph of the Beacon in winter was taken by Bob Warriner, who also compiled the pop quiz below.**

### **The 'Rain' Pop Quiz: songs with the words 'Rain' or 'Raining' in the title**

Mostly suited to the 'oldies' but anyone can have a go. Try not to use Google!

1 point for the song & 1 point for the artiste (20 available in total)

1. Dark violet shower (1984) – 6,4 by 6,3,3,10
2. Unlucky regularly, weatherwise (1999) – 3,4,2,6,4,2,2, by 6
3. Male precipitation (1983) – 3,7,3, by 3,7,5
4. Aqua spots persisting on your bonce (1969/71) – 9,4,7,2,2,4, by 1,1,7 or 5,7
5. A nice even beat to this shower (1962) – 6,2,3,4, by 3,8
6. Lookout! it's about to return (1984) - 4,5,3,4,5, by 10
7. Wet spells with the first workday of the week (1971) - 5,4,3,7, by 3,10
8. Ladies group for a wet part of the week (1966) - 5,3,5, by 3,5
9. A good giggle in the drizzle (1974) – 8,2,3,4, by 4,6
10. Wet, wet, wet, and now more! (1982) – 3,7,5, by 10

**Answers in next month's edition of Focal Point**

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