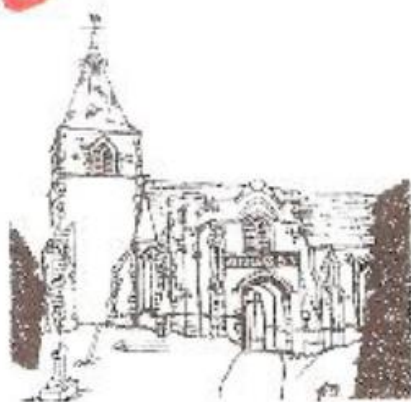
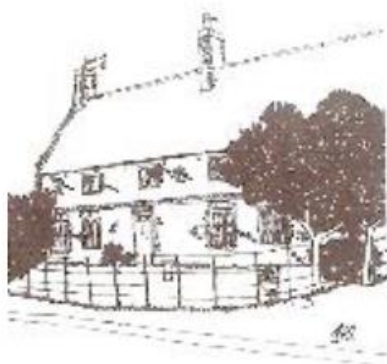




FOCAL POINT



March
2023

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If you are involved in a local business or enterprise, please consider placing an advert in Focal Point – even if you aren't looking to increase your business. Simply look upon it as a contribution to your community.

If you value your community, support local businesses who advertise in Focal Point. Let's help each other.

FOCAL POINT ONLINE EDITION

The online edition of the magazine is easy to find on Winthorpe village website: www.winthorpe.org

Just follow the menus: Media and then Village Magazine.

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

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

"MARCH!" said the Queen, in her low sweet voice. Even King Winter must obey the Fairy Queen's orders. And out went the flowers to bloom in the gardens and the fields, in spite of the fact that the rain was still pouring, and the wind roaring loudly, and hailstones still lay on the paths. The Queen had given marching orders to Winter.

Down the garden came a little girl.

"Hooray!" she said. "My bulbs are out already. Spring's here!" And she did a little dance on the wet path.

Above are a few sentences, which I have copied faithfully from my father's bedtime story book, passed on to me when I was a little girl. Published in 1937, it has one story per page per day. I imagined my grandmother reading these stories to the toddler who grew up to be my dad; I was intrigued by footnotes such as: "This is Primrose Day" and "This is Oak-apple Day." As I saw that my Dad had written and made little drawings on some pages, in his child-like hand, I did likewise. It is one of my most treasured possessions and I was thrilled when, last year, it was rebound professionally, with painstaking care. This 85 year-old children's story book is part of my family history; I have read some of the stories to my own children, though I'm not certain that they loved them as much as I did, and still do. Even though a few of January's and December's pages are long gone, along with the original cover, I would never part with it.

History is about people and families and communities. Attitudes and values may change over time but there is a continuity to social history, just as there is continuity in nature and the seasonal cycle. Winter will come to an end and spring will follow, bringing colour and new life with it. We will welcome the warmer days, shorter nights, birds building their nests, soft tree blossom and cheerful daffodils.

Julie Hill (01636 676079)

NEXT MONTH'S DEADLINE IS 18TH MARCH

March Calendar

When	What	Where
Wed 1 st	First day of spring (meterological)	
Wed 1 st	St. David's Day	
Thur 2 nd	World Book Day	
Fri 3 rd	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sun 5 th	Newark Rock Choir, St Giles Church	Holme
Mon 6 th	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 6 th	Brown bin	All
Mon 6 th	Mobile Library	All
Tue 7 th	Tuesday Club	Winthorpe
Wed 8 th	WI annual meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 10 th	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Mon 13 th	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Wed 15 th	Garden Club meeting	Winthorpe
Thur 16 th	Winthorpe & Langford Parish Council meeting	Winthorpe
Fri 17 th	St Patrick's Day	
Fri 17 th	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sun 19 th	Mothering Sunday / Mother's Day	
Mon 20 th	Green bin	Winthorpe
Mon 20 th	Brown bin	All
Mon 20 th	First day of spring (astronomical)	
Fri 24 th	WHAM! meeting	
Fri 24 th	Green bin	L'ford/ Holme
Sat/Sun 26 th /27 th	British summertime begins – clocks 'spring' forward at 1am	
Mon 27 th	Silver bin	Winthorpe
Fri 31 st	Silver bin	L'ford/ Holme



**This month, the mobile library will call at our villages
on Monday 6th March
Please note the new times of the first three stops**

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

*Information taken from inspireculture.org.uk

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

Email: winthorpefocalpoint@outlook.com

Tel: 01636 676079



COLLINGHAM MEDICAL CENTRE

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

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email: collingham.pharmacy@nhs.net

Mon 8.45am-6.30pm Tue-Fri 8.45-6pm Sat 9am-12.30pm Closed 1pm-2pm daily



Newark Rock Choir
at St Giles Church, Holme
on Sunday 5th March
at 3pm

**Please join us for a joyful
afternoon of music & song**

**Tickets are £5 each and are available,
in advance, by contacting
Jane Chapman (jane.confrey242@gmail.com)**

**Light refreshments will be available and
there'll also be a raffle - prizes have been
donated by local businesses**

**This is a fundraising event. All proceeds will help pay for
electrical work and heating in the church, which will
benefit everyone who wants to use it for community events**

*Find out more about Rock Choir at: <https://www.rockchoir.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheRockChoir>
<https://twitter.com/rockchoir>
https://www.instagram.com/rock_choir/
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Winthorpe Village Hall

A message for Winthorpe and surrounding villages

Can you help us to support our lovely old village hall by hiring it for clubs, meetings, social gatherings, classes, charity functions etc? It is an ideal venue for coffee mornings, celebrations, birthday parties and get-togethers.

We will be installing Wi-Fi in the near future.

For any Winthorpe village group or individual wishing to use the Village Hall to raise funds for a charitable cause, a zero hire charge rate will apply. For all other users the hourly rate to hire the hall is £8.50.

Enquiries: Bob McClymont 01636 705952 or Susie Conning 07968855448

Winthorpe Summer Festival Saturday 24th June 2023

Just a reminder to put the above date in your diary

You can look forward to enjoying the stalls, displays, entertainment, games, children's races, raffle, refreshments, bar and BBQ.

Attention all dog owners! The Dog Show is coming back to the festival. Details of the classes to be judged will follow.

We have contacted The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight to request a fly past. They have always done their best to accommodate us on their way to an engagement elsewhere, so fingers crossed!

Please contact me for information about having a stall, or if you are interested in helping in any way.

Sue Masheder
07714548561

Celebrations for the Coronation of King Charles III

The Coronation Service of King Charles III will take place on the morning of Saturday 6th May 2023 at Westminster Abbey. The King and Queen Consort will arrive at Westminster Abbey in procession from Buckingham Palace; this is known as 'The King's Procession'.



Following the ceremony, the King and Queen Consort will return to Buckingham Palace in a larger ceremonial procession, which is known as 'The Coronation Procession'.

They will be joined in this procession by other members of the Royal Family. The day will end with the Royal Family appearing on the balcony of Buckingham Palace.

INVITATION

If you find that you are at home, on your own and would like to watch the King's Coronation with others, then why not join us for complimentary morning coffee and a celebration lunch?

Spaces are limited!

Please contact either:

Susie Conning: tel. 07968855448, email conningsusie@gmail.com

or

Joan Lord: tel. 07792110540, email joanm.lord@hotmail.com



**Afternoon Tea in celebration of
the Coronation of King Charles
Sunday 7th May 2023, 3-5pm
at Winthorpe Community Centre**

Residents of Winthorpe, Holme and Langford are warmly welcomed to an Afternoon Tea event to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on Sunday 7th May 2023 .

The event will take place at Winthorpe Community Centre from 3-5pm. The number of places available is limited to 100. To book your place, please contact me (Denise Day) from **Friday 3rd March** onwards. I hope that you will be able to attend and I am sure that we will have a lovely afternoon together. May I ask you to please bring your own china cup and saucer – or if you prefer to enjoy a glass of wine / fizz, please remember to bring your own wine and wine glass. I would be very grateful to hear from anyone has any quirky teapots that I can borrow for the event.

It is my intention that there will be no charge for this event. The Charity of Thomas Brewer has already generously pledged to support the event with a donation of £200.

We will also be holding a raffle to raise funds for the Prince's Trust and Winthorpe Community Centre. The Prince's Trust was founded in 1976 by King Charles to help young people succeed. The trust helps those facing the greatest adversity and those from disadvantaged communities .

Denise Day

Tel. 07932056097



FUNDRAISING FOR A DEFIBRILLATOR FOR POCKLINGTON CRESCENT, HARGON LANE, BRANSTON CLOSE

I have to admit that when I started fundraising for a defibrillator to service Pocklington Crescent, Branston Close and Hargon Lane I found it quite daunting; and yet, even before my appeal for raffle prizes appeared in last month's Focal Point, items started being delivered to my door.

Thanks to a very generous donation given by Alexander and Aggi Smith, we can now proceed with the purchase of a defibrillator and cabinet for our side of the village. Their kind gesture is very much appreciated, as was every donation and help we have received. As the good book says "Ask and you shall receive", so I asked and you all delivered. Thank you.

The coffee morning

All I can say is **WOW** and thank you so very much. The Village Hall was decked out in all its splendour and was full to capacity, with standing room only. The cake table was heaving with all kinds of lovely cakes and delicious treats to tickle your palate. I couldn't have managed the event without my dream team of helpers, so a huge thank you to every one of them. The coffee morning itself raised £269.00, with an additional £61.30 in donations from people who were unable to attend, making a grand total of £330.30.

Wine Tasting and Quiz

We need to continue raising money to pay for the provision of something to affix the defibrillator to, a training course for any villager wishing to attend, and ongoing expenses to cover the cost of replacement pads etc. Therefore, I am arranging two further fundraising events, which I hope very much that you will support. The first of these is a **Wine Tasting and Quiz with Ann et Vin**, to be held on **22nd April 7-10pm at the Community Centre**. There will be eight wines to sample, nibbles and a quiz hosted by Ann. Tickets will be on sale shortly from Pauline Lockwood, Sandra Cobb and Jane Bateson at a cost of £20.00 per person.

Duck Race

Our second fundraiser will be included in the Coronation weekend events in the village. Emma has kindly given us permission to have a tombola table at the Duck Race at the Lord Nelson on that weekend. I have held back some of the items donated already, but more would be very welcome and appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support. Together we have turned this from a "possible" defibrillator into an actual defibrillator.

Pauline Lockwood

Defibrillator codes for Winthorpe

Community Centre: C159X
Village Hall: CY543.

Please contact the editor with the defibrillator codes for Langford and Holme, if you would like them to be included in future editions of Focal Point.

Winthorpe Community Centre

100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

Winners for February		
1st	£43.20	Harold Mabbott
2nd	£21.60	L Murray
3rd	£7.20	Fiona Wright

**100
Club**

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



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WINTHORPE WI

COFFEE MORNING

The first WI gathering of the year kicked off with a members' coffee morning at the Lord Nelson on 28th January. It was well attended, with plenty of chatter and catching up, whilst enjoying nice coffee and cake.

MEETING 8th FEBRUARY

Kurling the WI way. An evening of indoor kurling evoked plenty of laughter, as each of the four teams took to the floor to have a go. Everyone joined in, some showing more skill than others, though I doubt whether any of us will be getting a call to join the England squad any time soon. The well-stocked sale table provided a small amount of income for both the WI and sellers.

In addition to saving postage stamps, we are now collecting old and broken mobile phones. We also donate to the food bank.

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on 8th March. Members are reminded that annual subscriptions (£36.00) are due by 3rd April. If you would like to join us, you will be given a warm welcome. The first visit is free of charge, subsequent visits incur a £5.00 charge for those not wishing to join.

BOOK CLUB 8th FEBRUARY

We met at the Lord Nelson to review two books: *The Switch* by Beth O'Leary and *Both of You* by Adele Parks. *The Switch* tells the story of workaholic girl, forced to take time off work, who exchanges her London life with that of her 80 year old grandmother, living in a small Yorkshire village. It was felt that the story line was unbelievable, but the book as a whole was readable and the sort of book to read on a beach. The group had mixed feelings about *Both of You*. The story centres around a bigamist, leading a double life, who goes missing. There are many twists and turns and everyone involved in the plot becomes a suspect. It is not until the final paragraph that the reader finds out "who dunnit".

The next book club meeting will be held on 15th March at 10.30am at The Lord Nelson, and is open to all WI members.

Pauline Lockwood

Winthorpe Garden Club

At our meeting on 15th February, members were happy to welcome back Janette Merilion, on her third visit to our club. Janette, a well known horticultural lecturer, historian and garden designer has appeared on both Radio and TV broadcasts.

In her talk, which was entitled 'Unexpected Tales of Plants and Gardens', Janette spoke with clarity and a deep knowledge about the strange tales of many plants and large gardens, during her wonderful slide show. The two which stood out for me were the tale about Mary, the mother of Jesus, drying his clothes over highly aromatic Rosemary bushes; also the story about the Chatsworth Cascade. Apparently, the steps are of different heights, thus giving a varied sound of the falling water. Janette's final slide was a snowdrop: *Galanthus* 'Merlin. Not quite her name sake, but almost. It was a most enjoyable evening.

Our next meeting will be held in the Community Centre on **Wednesday 15th March at 7.30pm**. The guest speaker will be Don Witton, whose talk is entitled 'A Calendar of Colour.' This, I am sure, will be an extremely interesting meeting. A prolific grower of Euphorbias, Don is the holder of a Plant Heritage National Collection of Euphorbias.

Do come along and join us. We welcome new faces in our club.

Pat Finn

Euphorbia facts to whet your appetite

- The genus *Euphorbia*, which makes up the greatest proportion of the family *Euphorbiaceae*, is the second largest plant genus in the world.
- Euphorbia species can be found growing on every continent except Antarctica.
- Of the hardy leafy perennials that we grow in our gardens, most come from Europe, the Middle East and temperate Asia including the Himalaya region.
- Many are evergreen and provide excellent foliage colour and interest throughout the winter.

Chatsworth House Cascade

The original cascade, designed by Monsieur Grillet, a French hydraulics engineer with experience in decorative waterworks for Louis XIV of France, took two years to build and was completed in 1696. It was a shorter and, in some ways, a more complicated affair than the Cascade which exists today.

The Cascade House was built at its summit, to designs by Thomas Archer. The remodelling was largely completed by 1708, and work on the supply pond, the Cascade Pond, which lies a little higher up the hill, continued until 1712. The new Cascade was nearly twice the length and substantially wider than the original.

The carvings in the Cascade House were carried out by Samuel Watson and Henri Nadauld. The building continued the established tradition of using water in amusing ways, to surprise and delight visitors, one of whom in 1725 reported how jets within the building 'throw up several stream and wett people' (the spouts in the floor are still there).

Garden Club Outings for 2023

Two-day trip to Kew Gardens & RHS Hyde Hall 21st to 22nd June

Day 1: depart The Lord Nelson, Winthorpe, for Kew Gardens. Dinner, bed and breakfast at a 4 Star Holiday Inn at Shepperton.

Day 2: day visit to RHS Hyde Hall. On our way home, we will stop for an evening meal.

Cost: approx £181pp sharing a twin room; £221pp for a single.

Day trip to Trentham Gardens, Staffordshire 12th July

Departing from The Lord Nelson, Winthorpe. As well as the gardens and ancient woodland, there is a shopping village and garden centre on site. We will leave at about 4.30pm, stopping for a meal on the journey home.

Cost: approx £57

Non-members are most welcome.

For more information please contact:

Julie Parker – 01636 893371 or Ian Wilson – 01636 686249

Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

The latest meeting of the Parish Council, on Thursday 16th February, was well attended by councillors, as well as District Councillors Linda Dales and Emma Davies and three residents.

We are continuing to compile thoughts from residents about improvements you would like to see in the Parish; we now have a register of ideas, which we will be working through over the next few years. We have already begun to prioritise some of your suggestions and over the next few months you will see a variety of small changes being undertaken. We have taken on board comments about maintaining the rural charm of the villages and rest assured that the improvements will not affect the feel or style of the Parish.

As mentioned in previous editions of Focal Point, we are currently seeking funding for a small number of projects in Winthorpe; these include improvements to the Village Green, Jubilee Field and the bank alongside the Community Centre down to the Fleet. Assuming that we obtain funding, these initiatives will be underway this year – we will keep you posted on developments via Focal Point, Twitter and the village website. For more information or to pass on your ideas, why not join us at the 'Warm Spaces' Tuesday get-together. Many thanks to those of you who have commented or suggested ideas: this has been really helpful to all of us at the Parish Council.

There is no specific update on Neighbourhood Plan progress this month, as we have been waiting for our consultant, 'Open Plan', to complete the final draft of the plan. We are expecting this to be available in early March; at that point we will share with you its contents and in the next edition of Focal Point we will share with you how we intend to implement it.

In Planning News, there have been three applications in the last month which the Parish Council as statutory consultees have considered as follows:

43a Gainsborough Road: proposal for a room above an existing garage for use as annexe accommodation to the existing house. The Parish Council felt that it would overshadow Wren Cottage (next door), blocking light and visibility at the property. Furthermore, it would be visible from Gainsborough Road and is of course within the Conservation Area. We have submitted our objection.

ATM ESSO Filling Station on the A46: proposal for the installation of a 7m high 'Totem Pole' sign adjacent to the A46 dual carriageway. Given the nature and location of the site the Parish Council had no objection.

The Lord Nelson, Winthorpe: change of use from existing staff accommodation (mainly on the first floor) to letting rooms with ensuite facilities, 4 bedrooms in total. Not only did the Parish Council have no objections, but also felt that the plans for the work to be undertaken complement the building and will bring substantial advantages for both the pub and residents of the village.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 16th March. In the meantime, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact me: paul@bridgfordss.co.uk

Paul Smith

Just a reminder!

The New 'Warm Spaces' Tuesday Club get-together will continue to meet in the Village Hall each Tuesday from **2pm until 4pm**. The first event on Tuesday February 7th was very well supported. A member of the Parish Council will be in attendance at each meeting to answer any questions you may have and to give you the chance to put forward your suggestions for how we can best improve and maintain the Parish.

All residents are welcome, so please join us for coffee/tea/biscuits and a chat. It's a perfect opportunity for people to get together to talk about shared interests and find out about what's happening around the Parish.

This initiative is supported by the WI, Winthorpe Village Hall, Winthorpe and Langford Parish Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council.



THINK AGAIN

The Winthorpe Residents' A46 Consultation Group

National Highways confirmed that they are considering all responses to the consultation which closed in December; they will update their planned proposals to include this feedback before proceeding to the next stage of the planning process. We will request a

meeting with them once this update is available and will work on your behalf to continue to ensure we get the best possible solutions for Winthorpe. The next stages of the planning process will take some time to complete; it is unlikely that the process will be fully completed before 2025. Environmental and construction feasibility surveys continue to be undertaken by National Highways in the area.

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 website 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

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

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ThinkAgainA46>

Going the extra Miles

Sending a huge thank you to Miles Harriman, who gives up hours of his valuable time to control the weeds and brambles in the bank area next to Winthorpe Community Centre. His dedication and hard work benefit all residents of the village, as well as everyone who uses Jubilee Walk and the area around it.

Recipe for March: Buttered leeks



March 1st is St David's Day, the national day of Wales. So wear your daffodil and eat your leeks to celebrate!

At its best from November through to April, and especially during the coldest months of the year, the British leek is a fantastically versatile vegetable that adds flavour and bite. It's packed

with nutrients and anti-oxidants that will help stave off winter colds. 😊 A great side dish – with a tasty pie? With a roast dinner?

Prep and cooking time: 35 mins approx

Ingredients

1.8kg leeks, trimmed
50g butter, plus extra for serving
Thyme leaves, for garnish

Method

1. The day before you want to serve this dish, cut the leeks from top to root and wash thoroughly under cold running water. Thinly slice them on the diagonal and put them into plastic bags and chill until ready to cook.
2. To serve, put a large pan over a medium heat, add the butter and let it melt over the base of the pan. Add the leeks and plenty of seasoning and stir to coat in the butter. Turn the heat down to low, cover the pan and cook the leeks gently for about 15 minutes, stirring halfway through, until they are tender. Serve with extra butter and a sprinkling of thyme leaves.

Why not?

Fry off small pieces of lean bacon, mix with the buttered leeks, then turn into an ovenproof dish. Top with grated cheese and place into a hot oven until the cheese is bubbling and golden. Delicious!



THE LORD NELSON

at Winthorpe

Call: 01636 707705

Find Us on Facebook or Instagram : The Lord Nelson at Winthorpe

Village Lunch: Monday 6th March: Two courses for £13.00
Pop in or call the pub for menu options

Quiz Night: Monday 13th March: £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
Chicken, Vegetarian and Fish options available

Open Mic Night: Monday 20th March
Fancy yourself as the next Harry Styles or Becky Hill?
Why not come down and join in?

Mothers Day 19th Marchh
Bookings now being taken

Don't forget that we still have the onsite shop, newspapers
and Fish and Chip Takeaway
Post Office every Thursday from 9am until 12 noon

Thanks from Emma and the Team

COLLINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

Collingham Bowls Club has been located at Dale Field since 1933 (accessed via Collingham Cricket Club). It is a friendly Club, which is always pleased to welcome new members: experienced, intermediate and beginners .

Our members are looking forward to the new outdoor season and in preparation for this the Club will be holding a pre-season coffee morning:

SATURDAY 11th MARCH 9.30am-11.30am
THE MAYFIELD ROOM, COLLINGHAM MEMORIAL HALL

If you are interested in playing bowls during the summer, do come along to our coffee morning and have a chat with our members about this local club and its various activities.

OPENING OF THE GREEN EVENT
SATURDAY 22nd APRIL 1.30pm for 2pm start

The outdoor season runs from April to September. During this time the club competes in four different local leagues (3 in Lincolnshire, 1 in Newark). Our members also participate in various competitions run by the club, starting and ending with fun social days. Friendly matches are also arranged prior to and mid-season .

Beginners are always welcome and help in learning the game is available. Informal roll-ups for practice and experience are held on Friday evenings, at which potential new members of any standard are welcome. These will run from Friday April 28th 5.30pm-6.30pm. Simply turn up at the Club you're your enthusiasm and a pair of flat soled shoes, as everything else you might need will be provided.

For further information contact our Chairperson, Norma Clarke on 01636 361493 or our Club Secretary, Paul Flarry on 01636 893296. Alternatively, you can email Nina Ward on ninajward@live.co.uk

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Friday Morning: Balderton @ 8am & 9.30am

Saturday Morning: Coddington @ 7am, 8.30am & 10am

For more information please contact Katie – 07539 849 670



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Hi, My name is Paul and I am a recently retired maths teacher. Do you need to catch up after poor teaching in lockdown, especially if you have just started A-Level?

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

07789175957

Pauldewison771@gmail.com



Girton Sailing Club

Looking for a new sport?

Why not Try Sailing?

RYA Adult Basic Skills & Youth Training Scheme

With the spring and summer seasons getting closer now is the time that you might be considering trying a new sport or pastime.

One great option could be Dinghy Sailing, and in this area Girton Sailing Club can offer you the opportunity to learn how to do it, and its less than 20 minutes away from Winthorpe by car. Just off the A1133 Collingham – Gainsborough Road.

The club is in a beautiful location near Girton village with a 100 acre lagoon and club house containing all the facilities you will need.

To get you started the club is conducting a full beginners training course in the evenings starting from Tuesday 25th April for Adults and youngsters aged 10 to 17 years. (fees apply) All boats and buoyancy aids will be provided)

The course lasts for 10 weeks ending on 4th July plus one Saturday on 3rd June lasting all day 9.0am – 4.0pm.

Course fees are:- £200 for adults and £100 for 10 – 17 year olds.

(a 10% discount is offered to club members) The fee covers all tuition, use of club boats and safety equipment (buoyancy aids) It includes a RYA Logbook and Certificate. All sessions will be attended by a Safety boat & crew.

Tuition is given by qualified club Sailing Instructors aided by other members who are volunteers and the fees go to support GSC's training facilities.

More information email: training@girtonsc.com

www.girtonsc.com

Winthorpe Hall - Part 3

The War Years, More Sales and a Care Home

After the Hall and its Estate went to Auction in 1906, the successful bidder for the main house was Mr J.G. Branston of the Grange, Winthorpe; yet again ownership was short lived and it was sold again to Mrs Dugdale of Sezincote, Moreton in the Marsh, Glos. for her daughter Evelyn, at the time of her marriage to Capt. Walter Need of Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts. Therefore in 1907, Winthorpe Hall became the property of Capt. J.W. and Mrs. Need.



The couple gave their permission for the Village Hall (still part of the estate at that time) to be used for the same public use as before their acquisition.

"In its early years, the village hall was used for all kinds of public meetings, and it served as a library and men's reading room, containing books loaned by Mr. Duncombe. In 1907, when all his property in the village was sold, Mr. Duncombe presented these books to the Rector for use in the parish together with a harmonium, chessmen, draughts, etc."

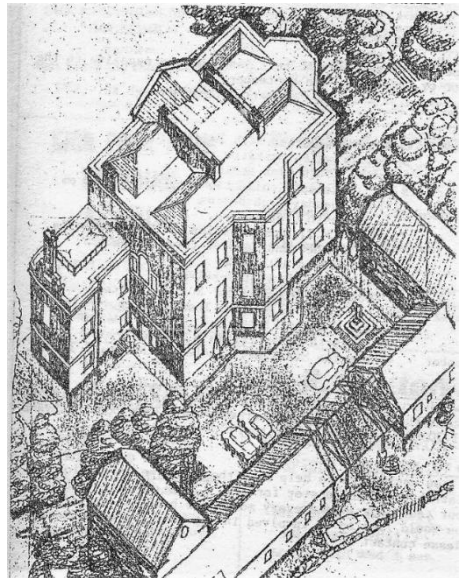
However, some differences arose between the rector and Captain Need, which resulted in the room being closed to all village activities for a time.

Between the wars the Village Hall continued to be used for community activities until 1938, when Captain Need presented it to the village.

Unfortunately, Evelyn Need passed away in 1936, having suffered from pneumonia. As there were no heirs and Capt. Need could not support the running of the Hall and its estate, it reverted to the Dugdale family, who put it on the market once again. Captain Need went to live in Collingham.

With the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the unsold Hall was commandeered by the government for the British Army. They were most respectful of the property's valuable fixtures and décor, covering the floors and other items at risk. They built latrines and service blocks in the grounds (some of which still stand) to preserve the Hall's facilities. Even the main staircase was closed off for fear of damaging it. The troops stationed there also took care of the grounds and gardens, and in the summer months Garden Concert Parties were held by the soldiers and attended by villagers.

When the army vacated the Hall in 1946, it was sold to Mr T.W. Pears for his daughters and was let out in rooms until 1972. Notably, one of its residents at that time was local celebrity doll maker Vina Cooke, who went on to open a Doll Museum in Cromwell. At one time, there were plans to turn it into seven quality apartments / flats at a cost of £73,000; the project started in October 1975 but was never completed. The Hall next came onto the market in 1980; this time the buyer was a Mr. L. Milner, who



undertook a three-year restoration of the building, including the removal of the top storey, thus returning it to Pocklington's original design. Following this property development project, the house was for sale again in 1980, with a price tag of £150,000. It attracted several interested parties, the final deal being done with Chart, Foulks Lynch Ltd of London, who ran residential

training courses in Law & Accountancy. They applied for planning permission to add extra buildings in July 1984, to give greater capacity and a conference centre, but made few alterations before they reconsidered and decided to put the Hall up for sale yet again.

In July 1987, Mr & Mrs Robert & Francesca Pountney of Newark purchased the Grade 2* property for approximately £175,000 and in May 1988 opened it as a Nursing Care Home for 35 residents. After overcoming many planning obstacles, they were able to make alterations, allowing them to create an extension with 13 en-suite rooms and 2 small lounges. This meant that the home could now offer both Residential Care and Nursing Care services and accommodation. The home was rated Grade 5, of which there are very few in the country.



Managed by Francesca Pountney, Winthorpe Hall Residential Care Home continued successfully until eventually, for personal reasons, Mr & Mrs Pountney took the difficult decision to close it in August 2018.

As of today (2023), they still own and maintain the property, devoting much of their time to ensuring that the Hall stays in the best possible state of preservation for many years and generations to come. They have had most of

the masonry cleaned and have completed a full restoration the north face of the hall, removing decades of grime and decay, bringing everything back to its original Mansfield stone colour. (See before & after photos).

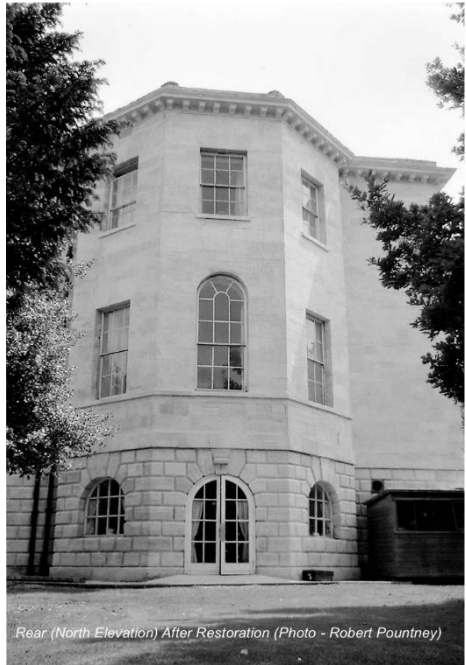
Once they were visited by a descendant of Roger Pocklington. He was shown around his ancestral home by the Pountneys, and was so impressed with the manner in which they had restored and maintained the place that he gave them a copy of his poetry book. He returned a few days and later with a poem that he'd written especially for them.

Postscript - The 1906 Sale of the estate

Since the publication of Part 2 of this article (August 2022), Mrs Kate Warren has given me some details about their house, 'The Laurels'

which featured in the 1906 Sale Sheet. Spurred on by her inquisitive granddaughter, asking "Who built this house?" and "Can you remember it Gran?" Kate delved into the beautifully ink-scripted deed documents and made up a little book for her to read. The rear of the house was originally known as Preston's Farm before the Hall Estate took them over, the bay fronts were added in 1873 and the now larger building was divided into two, with her neighbour retaining the original staircase. The 1906 seller was Digby Bayard Willoughby. They were purchased by Edmund Rowbottom & Eliza Ward who had collaborated in the bidding to ensure that no-one else would get them.

Thanks to Robert Pountney for helping me to compile this article and everyone else previously mentioned in Parts 1 & 2. Also, some information gathered from the village website scrap books.



Bob Warriner

NEWARK FOODBANK



The two most recent collections from our three villages totalled over 100kg. A very big thank you for your continued support. The Foodbank had its busiest Christmas and New Year ever, demand being up by 121% on December 2021; and hardship remains as great as ever, so please carry on, or start, remembering the Foodbank when doing your shopping.

Items especially needed: tinned meat, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables tinned or microwaveable sponge puddings, instant mashed potato, cooking sauces, tea bags, sugar, women's and men's toiletries.

If you haven't donated before, it is very easy. Winthorpe Collection Points are:

- 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

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

WHAM! – Winthorpe's History And Me meeting at Winthorpe Village Hall Friday 24th March 1.30-3.00pm

If you are interested in sitting down for a chat about the history of our village – even if you approach the conversation with no pre-existing knowledge of the area, come along to Winthorpe Village Hall and join us to share your interest, find out more about the village history, ask questions that Google cannot answer or even present a puzzle about the history of your own home.

Unlike other local history groups, this is an informal gathering of like-minded people, who are interested in Winthorpe's past and the heritage of the village.

For more information, please contact Christine Hasman on 01636 679105 or email christine@easttrentgenealogy.co.uk



MARCH'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but I get some surprising, unexpected and sometimes unwelcome emails. Lately, I've been contacted by online card, gift and flower companies, asking me if I'd like to opt out from advertisements for Mother's Day products. This is considerate, because Mother's Day can be challenging, even downright painful when it's seen as a day for showing our love and gratitude for our biological mothers. Maybe we are grieving our own mothers or indeed our own children. Maybe motherhood doesn't have happy connotations for all of us. Maybe we feel deprived of giving or receiving mothering. Some of us may feel like running and hiding from March 19th.

I have mixed feelings about Mother's Day; one thing I feel strongly about is that, if we're fortunate enough to have our mother with us, we shouldn't need one special day to say thank you! I am glad that in church we celebrate Mothering Sunday. This is a celebration of everyone involved in mothering – that is nurturing and caring – who might be men, women or children; and it's a celebration of church, which at its best should nourish and care for us, because God nourishes and cares for us. Have you ever thought about God as mother as well as father? We have Mothering Sunday services at Langford and Winthorpe and everyone is very welcome to join in. Remember that church is for everyone.

We also have a special event, a first in our churches. On Sunday 5th March, the Rock Choir is performing in St Giles' Church, Holme at 3pm. This should be a real treat which I'm looking forward to, and I hope to see you there.

God bless you all,

Rev. Mandy

01636 361657

revdmand@hotmail.com



All Saints' Church, Winthorpe

It is so wonderful to see the beginnings of Spring shooting up in the form of snowdrops, crocuses and early daffodils. My garden in the main looks so colourless but these little bulbs are a delight.

All our February Services went ahead as planned and we welcomed Roman into the Church Family, with two of his Godparents at his Baptism linked by Facetime from Capetown! This is when modern technology comes to the fore. Elsewhere in the East Trent Group we celebrated Candlemas and (at the end of the month) the beginning of Lent, with the Ashing Ceremony.

As we move through Lent and start thinking about Easter, hopefully we will again invite the village to create **Easter Gardens**, which will be displayed at church before the Good Friday Service. More on that and the Easter Services in next month's issue of Focal Point.

Having mentioned last month that our congregation numbers are down, if anyone would like to attend a Service we would be very happy to provide transport to church and back home afterwards; please just ask.

Finally, early notification of our APCM, which will be in church on **Wednesday, April 26th at 7.15p.m.**

Please remember especially, in your prayers, John Nelson, who is in hospital as I write and also any other villager who is ill, hospitalised or facing a bereavement at this time.

Tish Applewhite
Churchwarden (643763)

Church Cleaning: Mrs J Lord and Mrs C Hasman



St. Giles Church, Holme

Hello from St Giles Church Holme.

We are all set for our Newark Rock Choir concert on **Sunday 5th March at 3pm**. This is going to be a joyful afternoon of music and song and we are quite excited! There will also be light refreshments and a superb raffle, where the prizes have been kindly donated by local businesses. If you haven't bought a ticket yet, then please come along and pay at the door, it's only £5 and free for children. We'd love to have a packed church to listen to this renowned choir of some 30 choristers, who will be coming to St Giles for the first time.

Since our February request for things that people would like us to organise at St Giles, we've been given a few ideas. One is to have an occasional quiz night, which is an excellent idea, so watch this space. As you have probably noticed, we are trying to update the place, with new lighting and heating; the next item we need is a public address system – something like the one we borrowed for the Wassail event, so we are looking into this. Another modern addition, now operational, is the facility for people to pay for events etc by contactless card. Since Covid, when most of us adjusted to using this method of payment, cash is being used less than before, so this will be a great help.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in the church on **Monday 27th March at 7pm**. This meeting is open to everyone to attend and elect Churchwardens and officers for the next year, and to hear the reports from the Treasurer, Churchwardens and Rector. This is also an opportunity to join the PCC as a member of the council and have a say in the running of St Giles.

Our next service in the church will be on Sunday 5th March, in the morning, with the Rock Choir Concert in the afternoon.

Kind regards, Nigel Priestley and Doreen Hallam.

Phone, 01636 892020, email: nigel.priestley10@gmail.com

Church Services for March 2023

Holme



Winthorpe



Langford



Sunday 5th

(2nd of Lent)

9.00 a.m.

Holy Communion

Holme

Sunday 12th

(3rd of Lent)

10.30 a.m.

Holy Communion

Winthorpe

Sunday 19th

**(Mothering
Sunday)**

9.00a.m.

Holy Communion

Langford

10.15 a.m.

Morning Worship

Winthorpe

Sunday 26th

(5th of Lent)

6.00p.m.

Evening Prayer

Winthorpe

Every Thursday

1.30- 3.30p.m. Open Church

Winthorpe

Every Day

10.00-4.00p.m. Open Church

Holme +
Langford

For more information please visit the East Trent Churches website:

www.easttrentchurches.org.uk

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