



2014

Ed's Comments

This issue is full of photos of

the Village Festival! It was a lovely day despite the wet start to the morning. I went along early and was impressed by the bustle and buzz of the preparations. Caron Emerton, the head of Winthorpe School, spoke about her wish to involve the school more in the community. On cue children from the school then sang and played beautifully and declared the Festival “OPEN” in resounding fashion! There was lots to do and see and plenty of chances to try skills and enter competitions. When needed there was refreshment and a chance to chat to friends and meet new people. I’m already looking forward to next year.



Help! I have a problem with the next issue of Focal Point.

Whilst sorting out the calendar for August I realised that most of our regular features will be missing next month as everyone is taking a summer break. Focal Point carries on regardless! I have included some



...the first day

summer holiday poems in this issue to inspire you and invite everyone, adults and children alike, to write something in prose or poetry about their summer. Please email your contributions or deliver them to me as below. I shall look forward to receiving and reading them and promise to publish as many as I can. Focal Point is your magazine!

Happy holidays!

Annie Purday

Closing date for the September issue is **Friday 22nd August**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email

nickwynne@virginmedia.com

UPDATE ON THE LUNCH CLUB

In the last issue I reported that the present Lunch Club organizing team would be retiring after the Christmas Lunch – and asked for volunteers to take over. So far there has been no response which is disappointing. There have been suggestions about possible cooks and obviously cooking is the most important activity associated with the lunches. However someone has to organize the various activities involved - publicity, menu, helpers and money. The new person or persons doing the co-ordination should make the arrangements for cooking. It does involve some commitment but we have enjoyed doing it. Now we feel it is time for a change.

There are lots of different ways the Lunch Club can be arranged - continuing as at present, using a caterer or simply all going to a pub together – but some co-ordination is needed however it is done. Are there no newly retired people ready to take over from the present generation? It would be a shame if the Lunch Club had to stop but it will unless volunteers come forward. We will help all we can with the transition.

Meanwhile – the next lunch will be on **Monday, 4th August**. The menu is:

Roast Chicken Breast

or

Fish Pie

with

Seasonal Vegetables and New Potatoes



-x-

Raspberry Roulade with Cream

-x-

Tea or Coffee



£8 including a glass of wine. Please contact Jean & Peter Foden (704241) to reserve your place and give your choice of menu. **Peter Foden**

TUESDAY CLUB

There will be no meetings in the Village Hall in August.

The Raffle organized by the Tuesday Club at the Summer Festival made £170. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes – we had a wonderful selection. Thank you to the Lord Nelson for donating a steak night for two, to Travel Wright for £25 worth of travel vouchers and to Keith Hall Hairdressers for £30 worth of vouchers. Lastly, thank you to everyone who bought tickets. **Jean Foden**

GARDEN CLUB



Our participation in the village festival consisted of the usual two games, manned by one or two members as helpers. My thanks to them and once again to David Tingle for the loan of these games and to Di Rowland for providing the straw bales (courtesy also of Bob and Edward). Our efforts raised £46.60.

More recently, an evening outing to two NGS gardens in Whatton in the Vale, in a lovely setting near the church,

was most enjoyable. Some appeared to enjoy the planting schemes almost as much as the wine!

There is no meeting in August and our speaker season restarts on

September 17th with a talk by **Janet**

Merilion entitled **Some of My Favourite Gardens**. Ian Wilson



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Seasonal Flu Campaign 2014

We will be holding 2 Saturday morning flu clinics on

Saturday 4 October 2014, from 8.30 am – 12.30 pm

Saturday 8 November 2014, from 8.30 am – 12.30 pm

These are appointment only clinics. Appointments will be available to book from August. Please contact the number below, ask at Reception or book using Systemonline if you are registered for this service.

For Appointments telephone: 01636 893956 8.15am – 5.30pm

Website: www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk

E-Mail: collingham.med@gp-c84045.nhs.uk

Summer Festival 2014

On behalf of the Festival Committee, I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the above event on the 5th July. In preparation - from raising the bunting and sign, to the running of stalls, games, sports, exhibition, display, raffle, refreshments, PA system and entertainment, to



clearing up afterwards. All those who made a contribution of time and effort, however big or small, ensured a successful day. Thank you to Caron Ementon and the children from Winthorpe Primary School, for opening the Festival and entertaining us with excellent singing and

playing. It's great to have their support and involvement. Please come back next year!



Finally, thank you to everyone who came to support the Festival and spend money! I hope you had a good time.

The monies raised will be published in due course on completion of the final account.

Sue Masheder

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Annie,

I am writing to say how lovely the Summer Festival was, so much effort had gone into it and the warm weather made it even more enjoyable!

I went along with my Grandson who is three and he enjoyed every minute.

It was so pleasant to be surrounded by so many young children with such good manners, of which I am sure a lot of the credit is due to the excellent Winthorpe School.



A special mention goes to Jacob and Joshua who were hosting the football goal, who I understand are ex-pupils of Winthorpe School. My grandson Marcus had several attempts to score but they were so lovely with him and helpful. They had such lovely

manners it was a pleasure to meet them.

I am sure everyone enjoyed the event as much as I did.

I thought perhaps this could be mentioned in the magazine.

Ann Marriott



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Telephone/Fax: 01636 680060
school.office@winthorpe.notts.sch.uk
www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk

Dear All

I just want to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to all those who have helped and supported me in my first year as Headteacher at Winthorpe Primary School.

My thanks also go to the Winthorpe staff (teachers/teacher assistants/ office and kitchen staff/ midday supervisors and external agencies) who are indeed team players, very professional and experienced and a joy to work with.

I am really looking forward to next year, especially as I now know the ropes.

Of course the sad bit is that we are now saying good bye to our lovely Year 6s and I would just like to say how proud we are of them. They have worked extremely hard this year and their progress and attainment have exceeded expectations. Of course credit here also goes to Mr Albans, our class 4 teacher, ably supported by Mrs Fell his teaching assistant. Mrs Litowczyk is also delighted with the Keystage 1 results which show that the Year 2 children are ready to move to the 'junior' levels of Class 3.

This has been a very busy term- thank you to all those of you who came and joined us for the Summer Sizzler or to watch Sports Day. It is lovely to be more involved with the community and we were honoured to be

asked to open the Winthorpe Festival this year. Thank you for listening to us sing and play.

The children have been visiting various places as well as part of their studies –

Class 3 enjoyed the Iron Age round houses at Calverton and Class 2 loved the living history village when they

visited Tattershall Castle. Class 1's annual visit to Sundown is always a pleasure as indeed was watching the hatching of their chicks in the classroom!

Class 4 have been busy working on their DARE project and all graduated with flying colours. They have learned more about drugs resistance awareness education as well as skills that are going to help them throughout their secondary school education and life.

The year has finished with our amazing Keystage 2 production of 'Go for Goal'. Just ask those that came to watch it – I think you will find they were wowed.

My final word must be about Mrs Green as she retires. I can honestly say she will be really, really missed by us all here at Winthorpe, staff, children and parents. We wish her well of course but hope she knows she is always part of our team and must not be a stranger. Thank you Mrs Green you are one in a million! **Caron Emerton**



School holidays!

Sit around in my pyjamas, laze about all day
Wallowing in simplicity while the days just fade away.
Wishing every single school day could be a lot like this
Doing absolutely nothing, what perfect heavenly bliss!
No teachers or some homework, just hanging out with my mates,
Or busy doing nothingness, staying up extremely late.
Raid the cupboards and the fridge; eat all the crisps that I call brunch;
Devour my breakfast in the afternoon, way, way, way past lunch!
Watch scary films in the afternoon with the curtains pulled,
Still awake at 4.00 a.m., scared of what I saw – whatever it was called!
Lay ins, stay ins, day ins, beats Maths and History -
Would rather be bone idle, laze about and watch a mystery.
Gone now for the next few weeks are English and P.E.,
Would rather just be indolent and watch rubbish on T.V.!
I've lost track of all the days and time, knee deep in apathy,
But got to admit while school is out, I enjoy some lethargy!
Fed up with neatly ironed uniform, the whole curriculum,
Enjoying the weekly shopping – even with my Mum!
But when September arrives, I'll have to be more enthusiastic -
My batteries will have recharged and school won't be so drastic!
By Linda Lawrence



First day of the holidays

I could
ride my bike,
plait my hair,
go and call on
Paul and Claire,
Clean the budgie,
walk the dog,
practise handstands,
go for a job,
Read a book,

watch TV,
help my Dad
cook the tea.
All these things
and many more
I'll do tomorrow,
that's for sure.
but today instead
I'm staying in bed!
By Theresa Heine



On holiday with Grandma

When we took Grandma to the beach
she dug a deep hole in the wet sand,
knocked down my row of castles,
caught red crabs in the rock pools,
went in the sea right up to her knees,
walked in some clay
so it squished through her toes,

tied long, green
seaweed in her hair,
played cricket, had an
ice-cream,
and threw a bucket of
water over Dad.
Grandma said she had
not had so
much fun for years.
By Robin Melloer



GIANT SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

How are your sunflowers doing? The ‘warm but wet’ weather over the last month or two seems to have done wonders for our plants, which have really shot up. We’re hoping that Mr Finn will do us the honour of returning to school as our “official judge” in September – very important as the Ferreira family are organising the competition and entering it!!

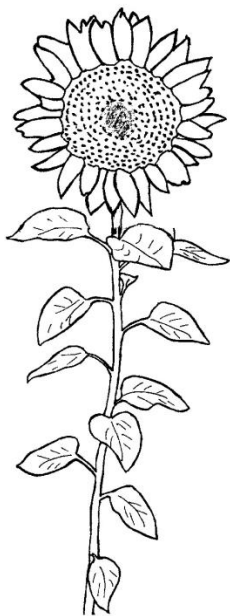
Quite a few of our plants now have their wonderful flowers fully open – a really cheerful sight when I pull onto the drive after a long day. Once the flower opens, the plant will stop growing taller and put all of its energy into the flower and the seeds that will come later. Now is the time to feed your plants with tomato food every time you water. We’ve had some great hot weather recently, so don’t forget to keep up the regular watering.

Once the flower is fully opened, make a note of its height – don’t leave it till September because the flower head could be bent over with the weight of the seeds, or (if you’re very unlucky!) suffered an even more major disaster! Measure from the soil level to the highest point of the flower, and make a note of the height ready to email us on Sunday 7th September, giving your name, age and the sunflower’s height.

The address is: winthorpesunflower@hotmail.co.uk

Please e-mail even if you’re pretty sure it’s not going to be a winner, as we’d like to know how many people took part and how they got on. Photos would be great too – if possible we’d like to make a slideshow of everyone’s efforts for our visit to school to announce the winner.

Liz & Charlie Ferreira



VILLAGE STORE NEWS

So far so good, but loads to do.

Going on what has happened so far a handful of you have done exactly as I asked which was to sort items that you can buy on a regular basis once per week. What this achieves is new found knowledge of the products needed to be stocked to meet your needs and thus remain here to provide all the other services that you expect from a local post office/village store.

The vast majority of you are still doing it the wrong way round. On several occasions I have had customers dropping in and asking for specific items that a tiny village store could not stock without prior knowledge. It's great that you call in here first when you need something. It's not so great when we have to let you down. Remember all items here are general like tea, coffee, bread and milk together with many other essentials. This is why it is crucial to set aside specific items of purchase so that we can stock what's right for you.

A couple of examples of fixed orders now in place are; 2 bottles of wine collected once per week £11, Sausage, eggs, bacon, milk and a bottle of wine £14. Biscuits, pork or beef steaks £9. A case of wine once a month £32.

The above orders are approximate but you can see from this just how small orders can be to make your shop survive. One or two of you do bigger shops by sticking with the items that are price marked. What I'm trying to say is that if your order is regular we can be sure of carrying the right stock. It is my view that this is now the only way a village store can survive.

Keep it up and remember- **don't rely on each other to do this!**

Shop hours:

Mon-Fri 8.00am-5.30pm closed for lunch 12.30-1.30

Saturday 8.00am-12.00pm

Sunday 8.00am-11.00am



During August + 1 week of September we will extend our lunch break by 1 hour 12.30pm - 2.30pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Notices will also be placed in the shop window Martin

Winthorpe & District W.I. July 2014

The weather bode well for our Strawberry Fayre held in Lily & Jim Goodwin's beautiful garden. The committee busied itself in the afternoon with preparing strawberries, and hanging bunting.

In the evening we were welcomed by Virginia Seager and began with a quiz on flags of the Football World Cup. We then looked at a mystery box borrowed from the Newark Museum. It was full of interesting objects like a rather gruesome tooth extractor! The box also contained old photographs of Newark. We try to identify where they were taken. Some places have hardly changed, while others were unrecognizable. Afterwards we tucked into strawberries, cream and homemade biscuits, accompanied by a glass or two of wine.

We all had a most enjoyable summer meeting.

On the 11th Sept Carol Hinds, the TV broadcaster, will be coming to talk to us about her life and experiences.

Hostesses: Margaret Bark, Rose Dickenson and Betty Moran

Diana Kitson



And here are the WI at the Village Festival! Ed

Langford Lowfields News July 2014

Mid-summer is upon us now and the good weather recently has proved excellent for a variety of wildlife here at Langford. The breeding season is all but over and early indications suggest that it has been a successful one, especially compared with the last two years. We have had increased numbers of reed and sedge warbler territories, up to 3 reeling grasshopper warblers (0 last year!), the first successful ringed plover breeding on site ever and the first common tern breeding since 2010.

In addition to our breeding species, we have had curlew, greenshank, dunlin and redshank on site recently and have even added a new species to our reserve list in the form of a nuthatch. The bird has taken up residence in the woodland, but isn't easy to find, so patience is needed here!



Butterfly and Odonata (dragonfly and damselfly) numbers are very good, with a large second generation of small tortoiseshells emerging at the moment. This is encouraging after their population decline in the last few years. Our star species, purple hairstreaks are now emerging also and can be seen best on the ash

Photo by John Bridges (rspbimages.com) shows a nuthatch tree above the information board near the car park. We also expect white-letter hairstreak, another scarce species, to emerge soon too, so look out for these on elm alongside the woodland edge.

Beetle species on the wing at the moment include *Rutpela maculata* – a stunning yellow and black longhorn beetle. Look for them feeding on hogweed flower heads. The Devil's coach-horse beetle – a large black rove beetle, reaching around 3cm in length and the green tiger beetle – a bright green insect with yellow spots. Marmalade flies – small bright orange hoverflies, are migrants from the Continent and have been seen in good numbers in the last week. Other insect migrants around include silver y moths and painted lady butterflies – all seen at Langford in the last two weeks.

After our official opening at the beginning of June, our visitor numbers are encouraging, with good numbers of people visiting, especially at weekends. People are coming from both locally and further afield and there is a nice group of regular visitors developing. Our Beach Hut 'visitor welcome' volunteers are

doing a brilliant job, welcoming people onto site, chatting with our visitors and providing us with plenty of wildlife records.

Reserve work in July concentrates on maintaining the visitor trails and facilities, propagating and caring for reed in our polytunnel and reed planting. Our reed planting programme for this year has started on the re-developed reedbed areas and already volunteers have planted 3500 reed seedlings. A further 5000-7000 are scheduled to be planted throughout the next few months. Although the site is now open to the public, you can get still get a look behind the scenes by joining one of our monthly guided walks. The next Discover Langford Lowfields walk is on Sunday 10 August 10-12.30pm.

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



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WINTHORPE REMEMBERS

Centenary of the Outbreak of World War I

The East Trent Churches will be observing this anniversary;
as always, all are welcome

3rd August, 6pm – a reflective service at
All Saints, Collingham

4th August, 11am until noon – all our churches, including
those at Winthorpe, Holme and Langford, will be open for
prayer and quiet reflection. Prayer cards will be available
for visitors to use if they wish.

WINTHORPE DURING WW1

The Rev. Mr. Griffith was still Rector of Winthorpe at the outbreak of war in August 1914, and almost immediately the villagers undertook various charitable schemes and generously supported national funds for Belgian Relief. As before, during the South African war, services of intercession were regularly held.

The parish magazines during the early months of 1915 quoted extracts from letters written by young men from the trenches, describing the dreadful conditions in which they were fighting. In August of that year much prominence was given to suggestions from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries that Village War Food Societies should be formed to cultivate wasteland and generally increase garden and fruit produce. Much more, it was urged, could be produced by the growing of vegetables, keeping goats, pigs, poultry, rabbits, pigeons and bees by gathering wild fruit, by gleaning and by collecting acorns, horse chestnuts and beech mast "which are useful food for stock."

This last idea, at least, was enthusiastically taken up by Miss Gilstrap and Mr. Branston, who called at the school and organised expeditions of children to gather horse chestnuts from the grounds of Winthorpe House, The Grove, The Grange and Winthorpe Hall. There are regular entries in the school logbook during the autumn months up to 1917, reporting that the afternoon session closed early so that the children could go



and collect chestnuts. During July 1915 Miss Gilstrap is reported to have visited the school to suggest that the boys might learn to make sandbags for use in the trenches and she would supply all the necessary materials. The head teacher adds, "The boys are very enthusiastic over the suggestion." No time was lost and by October 1st we read, "Today sandbag making ends. The boys have worked most wholeheartedly and are very sorry to stop. Seven boys have completed 24 bags."



The children appear to have been kept closely in touch with the progress of the war from the very early days when the head teacher reported that she was "suspending the ordinary History and Geography lessons... in order that she may give some simple lessons on the cause, progress and areas affected by the present War." Lessons followed later on the Countries of our Allies, the life of Earl Roberts, and there was much learning of patriotic songs. Miss Gilstrap presented each child in the Upper Division with a War Savings Card and brought patriotic pictures to hang on the wall, lessons were given on "The National Scale of Voluntary Rations and the need of Food Economy," and as a follow up the older children were set to digging the school garden and setting potatoes. All along, the older girls had made garments suitable for Belgian Refugees and the troops.



There is an account in one parish magazine of an entertainment, which was put on in the Village Hall in November 1917. This entertainment consisted of "songs, recitations and dialogues given by a band of our children in the Parish. They conceived the idea among themselves, selected the performers and managed the whole programme, but wisely invited Miss Eva Camamile to train them." They

raised the sum of £3 2/-for sending Christmas comforts to prisoners-of-war in Germany who came from this district. Twelve boxes were made up, each bearing the name of a soldier and the name and address of one performer. That the children of the village felt greatly involved with the war is made clear in the school logbooks, where we have the occasional reference to boys who played truant to go "to a Patriotic Fair in Newark" or to nine of the older children who arrived very late one morning. "An aeroplane that had dropped in a field at Langford was the only reason. They were retained in school and greatly reprimanded." On the other hand there were occasions when the older

children were taken to Newark to see the soldiers arriving, and there is a note of patriotic pride in the entry for May 15th 1917, when the assistant teacher Miss Harrison was granted leave of absence "to spend the day with her soldier brother who is receiving a Distinguished Conduct Medal for bravery on the battlefield."

Thank you to Pat Finn for the extract from Volume 2 of the Village Scrapbooks on the Village Website. Photos taken of the display at the Village Festival. Ed



On 28th September 2014 Andrew Parkin and his daughter Emily Wong will be running the Robin Hood Half Marathon to raise funds for the neonatal unit at Sheffield's Jessop Hospital where Emily's son Harry spent the first week of his life after suffering from low oxygen levels at birth. We felt so well supported by the people of Winthorpe during Harry's stay on the unit and

would like to ask residents to sponsor us on the run. Harry is now a thriving 9 month old thanks to the care he

received. If you would like to sponsor us please visit our giving website at <http://virginmoneygiving.com/team/4HHM>.

With thanks **Andrew Parkin**

LOCAL CRIME PREVENTION

Crime across the County is reviewed every day by the senior management and the local Neighbourhood Policing Teams. What has become apparent recently is the number of offences that have occurred which could have been prevented by taking simple crime prevention measures.

There has recently been a spate of thefts from vehicles in the north of the county. A large number of the targeted vehicles had been left unlocked and with property left on display. Had the vehicles been locked then the offences would not have occurred and more importantly the owners would not have become the victims of crime. Other potentially avoidable crimes of note have been a 4 x 4 stolen from a drive because the keys had been left in the ignition and the theft of a van after the keys had been hooked off a table in an office through an open window.

Another issue which was recently highlighted to me whilst on patrol is the delayed reporting of suspicious incidents and crime to the police from our rural communities. On one morning in particular I was in a village North of Newark and in 15 minutes spoke to three people who all reported crimes and suspicious activity from the week before. Had we been made aware of these crimes at the time we would have been able to direct resources appropriately.

We rely on intelligence from the community to help target crime and reduce anti social behaviour. It is therefore vital that if you see anything untoward, out of place or suspicious that you report it to the control room calling 101 or if you suspect a crime is being committed or about to be ring 999, we will investigate. One member of the public did just that in the early hours recently on seeing three suspicious men and a vehicle in a village. Officers attended and stopped the vehicle arresting all three of the males for going equipped to steal.

Crime is continuing to fall within Nottinghamshire and our rural villages and rural areas remain safe places to live, work and enjoy. With your help we can make them even safer.

You can find plenty of crime prevention advice by following the following link

<http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/crime-prevention-guides>

Thomas Pettit



Thought for the day.....

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel on our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. As time goes by, other people will board the train;



and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of your life. Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we don't realize that they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the train of life. Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey.

Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on my train.

Submitted by Cliff Newbold. Thank you, Cliff. Ed

PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

There was a meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 17th July in the village Hall.

Matters Arising:

1. The accounts had been prepared for June. The clerk had also set up internet banking for the Parish Property Trust Account to allow statements to be downloaded rather than relying on the bank posting them out annually.
2. It was reported that the election campaign signs had now been removed from the A1133.
3. An extension to the Sand and Gravel site had been unanimously accepted. The extension would be to the east and south of the current site.

Planning:

A Planning application had been received for the erection of a single wind turbine adjacent to the A1133 in Langford. Full details of this application can be found on the Newark and Sherwood District Council website. The Parish Council looked over the plans and it was decided unanimously to object to this proposal due to it being visible to many villagers and was not an attractive structure. The Clerk had submitted this objection to NSDC. It was reported that a petition had also been submitted by County Councillor Mrs Dobson which supported the objection.

Risk Assessments:

The Parish Council has a responsibility to carry out regular risk assessments in various areas of the village. After doing so it was noticed that repairs were required to the fence along the River Fleet bordering the Jubilee field. It was also noticed that the village sign had become obstructed by hedge growth. This would be rectified during the autumn cut.

Correspondence/Any other business:

Mr Cammack informed the Parish Council of a 24hr emergency helpline for the IDB (Internal Drainage Board) who would deal with any blockages to the River Fleet which runs through the village. If anyone recognises any problems with blockages or flooding relating to the river fleet they should contact the Clerk in the first instance on [07920103180](tel:07920103180) or Sarah.tomlinson@mail.com.

This Year the Bonfire will be held on November 8th. Please keep this date free in your diaries! The Parish Council hope to see you many of you there as possible. More details will become available over coming months.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Thursday September 18th. If you have any questions/comments you would like addressing please contact me on [07920103180](tel:07920103180) or email Sarah.tomlinson@mail.com. These items should be received by the Clerk 10 days before the next meeting. Sarah Tomlinson

FROM THE RECTOR OF THE EAST TRENT GROUP OF CHURCHES LATE SUMMER 2014



Ministry is an astonishingly absorbing “job”. Job it isn’t, though, because it is so much a way of life, a way of being, rather than my occupation. I’ve recently lived through one of those points in life where looking back and looking forward seem like rich things to do.

Thirty years ago, on 1st July 1984, I was ordained Priest. Such is the way of the Church of England that, about a year before, I had been ordained Deacon. The first year of ordained ministry is concerned very much with growth in ministry; growing in confidence and competence. With ordination to priesthood the doors are opened to being able to preside at the Holy Communion, to give blessings and absolution, and to officiate at weddings. So I found myself looking back and forward from my current vantage point as Rector of the East Trent Group of Churches.

I’ve served churches in Surrey, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Lincolnshire, and now Nottinghamshire. All the churches and parishes have been different, but similar. Different in that some have been in new communities, others in longer established communities; urban, suburban, new town, country. Similar, because wherever people are the excitements and challenges of life are similar, and the Parish Priest is privileged to share in so many of them. Jesus knew this and it is reflected in his teaching. The stories he told are as true for everyone today as when he first told them to his enthralled audiences two thousand years ago. I’ve had the joy and wonder of officiating at funerals, weddings and baptisms, not to say preaching all those sermons week by week, and all held in my daily prayers. However often I’m called upon to do any of these things they never become repetitive. Each new day is always different to the days past. One never knows what the next phone call will bring.

Always, right at the heart, is daily prayer, either alone with God or shared in church or groups gathered for prayer. A significant part of my ministry is to travel with people as they learn and grow in prayer. Just get in touch if you’d like me to share this with you. I continue to be delighted and surprised at just how exciting that

can be, and I know that to be an experience shared with all people of prayer, whether ordained or lay people. Now, more than thirty years on, all I want to say is, let’s get on with praying! And I’m saying that now in the East Trent Churches.

David Yabbacome

Rector East Trent Group of Churches



GOODBYE TO AN OLD FRIEND

A few weeks ago without warning a large branch of the Lime Tree on the island in front of the Lord Nelson Public House (next to the bus stop) dropped off!

Expert opinion was sought and it has been confirmed by two qualified independent tree surgeons that the tree is infected with a fungus called



Kretzschmaria duesta which is a very aggressive consumer of structural cellulose at and around the roots and stem base of its host. To confirm this diagnosis the tree has dieback within the crown indicative of root dysfunction and also has an area of decayed wood at the base of the stem together

with many areas of “bleeding” from the main stem – all confirming this fungal diagnosis. The dieback and visible decay have in all probability been caused by the fungi but what is of greater importance is the invisible decay at the root collar and in the structural supporting roots. Trees infected with these fungi have very little if any ability to grow supporting wood to make up for the damaged and dead wood and, more importantly, are prone to sudden unexpected collapse!

The tree has been inspected by an Officer from the Local Council who has confirmed these findings and given approval for its early removal. In view of the fact that this tree is in a very prominent place and could cause serious damage were it to collapse the Parish Council, with very great regret, has had no option but to take steps to have it cut down at the earliest opportunity.

This will be in the next week or two. Obviously this work will cause some temporary inconvenience to local residents during the day, particularly for those wishing to use the Lord Nelson. Every effort will be made to keep any disruption to a minimum. It is estimated that the work will take around two to three days unless unforeseen problems arise or are discovered!

Consideration will be given at a later date to planting a suitable replacement tree. Steve Jackson (Chairman of the Parish Council)

Thanks to Pat Finn for the photo



ALL SAINTS

WINTHORPE

CHURCH NOTICES

Hi there,

Well here we are again; the summer is moving on thick and fast! I hear tell the Village Festival was a resounding success and thank you to all who generously donated to the Church.

What a month July was for weddings in our lovely church – we welcome into our Christian community Mark & Charney, Jonathan & Susanne, Daniel & Ellis and Marc & Simona. We also welcome Amelia Jane Bevans (baptised on the 20 July) and all her supporters. May they enjoy the friendship and community of our church as we do.

Please note the Church will be open to all for “quiet reflection” on the 4th August 2014 from 11 am– 12 noon following the WWI Commemorative Service in Collingham.

Finally, we were pleased to welcome children from Bishop Alexander School in Newark to our Church. Pat Finn kindly gave a guided tour and we are now in receipt of some lovely thank you letters and drawings from the children.

Please remember to support your hard working PCC.

Keith

On behalf of the PCC

(from my hospital bed - awaiting a move to a quieter part of the ward!)

CHURCH SERVICES FOR AUGUST



Sunday 3rd

(7th after Trinity)

9.00 am

Holy Communion

Holme

Sunday 10th

(8th after Trinity)

10.15 am

Holy Communion

Winthorpe

6.00 pm

Holy Communion

Langford

Sunday 17th

(9th after Trinity)

10.15 am

Morning Worship

Winthorpe

Sunday 24th

(10th after Trinity)

10.15 am

Morning Worship

Holme

6.00 pm

Evening Prayer

Winthorpe

The Church Bells will be rung on:-

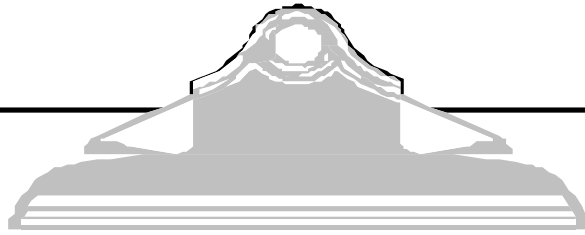
10th, 17th and 24th August for the usual services and on 2nd August for a wedding. Please note the bells may also be rung on Thursday evenings for practice between 7pm and 9pm.

Thank you, from your PCC

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Tombola Stall at the Village Festival. How kind you all are.

With grateful thanks
Joan & Sylvia





AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday 3 rd	Reflective Service at Collingham 6pm
Monday 4th	Green Bin 11am –noon Winthorpe, Langford and Holme Churches open for prayer and quiet reflection Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre Mobile Library
Sunday 10th	RSPB Walk Langford Lowfields 10am-12.30
Monday 11th	Silver Bin
Monday 18th	Green Bin
Saturday 23 rd	Silver Bin

It was great to talk to a village resident recently and hear that he had used FIVE firms advertising in Focal Point and told them so. Please tell our advertisers where you found their ads and hopefully they will advertise again next year! Ed

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

