

# FOCAL POINT

ISSUE No.414



2015

Ed's Comments

**Life never seems to stand still!**

Winter gives way to Spring and Summer is just around the corner. Family dynamics change as a new baby is born or a relationship ends for some reason. Just as we think that things are as we would like them to be, something comes up which changes everything. Sometimes we make these changes happen ourselves and however carefully we plan them they still turn out to be what we least expect! Other changes are made for us and we seem to have little control over them.

At the moment we are being bombarded by rainbow promises of change. Life will be better if we vote .....on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Several people have said to me "I'm not voting. It is all too confusing and anyway my vote won't make any difference!" One hundred years ago no women and only just over half the men in this country were allowed to vote. This makes me determined to use my vote even if it is only a tiny drop in a huge pool. Every tiny drop sends out ripples. How will I sift my way through all those amazing sounding promises and make sure I use my vote wisely? I can only use my own judgement as to which party will care enough in my view to make the world a better place for my children and grandchildren to live in. Not an easy choice to make perhaps, but vote on 7<sup>th</sup> May I will!



**Annie Purday**

Closing date for the June issue is **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email

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

I have two arms, no fingers or hands.

I have two feet, but cannot run.

I carry best with my feet off the ground.

What am I? **Pat Finn** (answer under calendar)

## LUNCH CLUB

The June Lunch Club will be at 12.30p.m. on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> June at the Community Centre.

The menu will be:



Sausage and Mash with Yorkshire Pudding  
and Onion Gravy

or

Baked Cod Fillet in a  
Seafood Sauce



With Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

-x-

Meringue Nests with Fruit and Cream

-x-



Tea or coffee

£8 including a glass of wine

Contact Tish Applewhite (643763) to reserve your place and give your choice of menu. Thank you. **Tish Applewhite**

**NB The May Lunch Club is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May as advertised in last month's Focal Point**

## GARDEN CLUB

Our AGM was an uncontroversial affair. As usual it was combined with a sale of member's plants, raising a handy amount for our funds. With no new nominations forthcoming the present officers and committee were re-elected en bloc.

As it was the twentieth anniversary of the club's formation, the chairman gave an insight into its inception. Many current members were unaware of this. The founder was the late Peter Milroy who thought such a club might prove of interest to local residents. So it proved to be, with 35 members registered at the end of our inaugural year.

Back to the AGM and officers gave their reports and both they and the committee were thanked by the chairman.

An especially enjoyable part of the proceedings was the presentation of a framed certificate conferring well deserved life membership on Pat Finn.

The evening was completed with celebration cake and wine, the cake adorned with a garden image supplied by, guess who, Pat Finn.

At the next meeting on May 20th the speaker will be Mike Ireland on the subject of Alpines.

Please also note that final payment for the Wisley trip and evening visit to Norwell is due at that time. As a reminder this is £83 per person sharing a twin room, £101 for a single, plus £5.50 per person for the evening visit to Norwell. Ian Wilson



*Congratulations To  
Eric and Rose Dickinson  
for their  
Diamond Wedding Anniversary  
On  
30<sup>th</sup> May 2015*



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

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

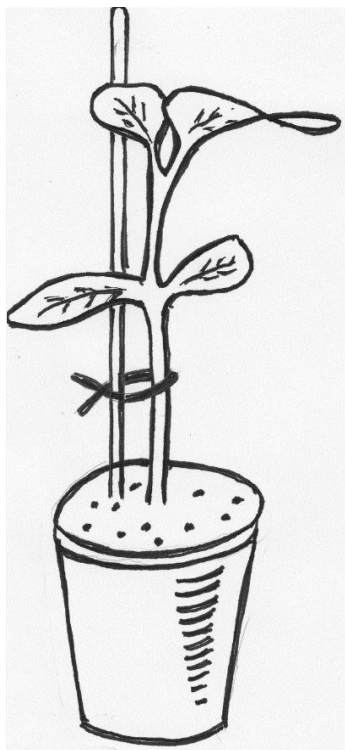
**Hello everyone and I hope you had a lovely Easter break,**

We had a nice long holiday – 2 weeks and one day and are now back and working hard. The Year 6 children have their SATs tests in May and want to do really well so that they can impress their future secondary schools (and their parents!). Class 2 also have to prepare for SATs testing and the Year 1 children have their phonics check. Reports went out just before the holidays with details of how well the pupils are doing and some targets to help them improve even further. I would like to thank all the parents who sent in lovely comments following this. I actually was very moved at how supportive people were of the school and how they appreciated all the hard work by the teachers in writing these (it does take hours!). We are so lucky at Winthorpe to have a lovely village school, delightful children and such a supportive community. It was great to have some villagers visit for a special Easter Roast dinner just before we broke up. Trudy and her ladies, as always, did us proud and the year 6's were the perfect hosts. Look out for the next dinner date in next month's Focal Point and come along if you can. It gave us a chance to show off our two huge netball interschool trophies – now beautifully displayed in the reception area – 'Thank you' Mr Albans and Mr Esam. You perhaps saw news of our victories in the Newark Advertiser – quite amazing for such a small school to beat such strong competition from the Newark area but then again Mr Albans is a fantastic coach ably abetted by Mrs Palmer's sporty daughter and ex pupil Chloe! So we are working hard, playing hard and off to France for our Class 4 residential this term – I for one am so excited – I have never been abroad with pupils before and just think it is the most amazing experience for them. I had better go and brush up on my French! **Salut! Madame Ementon**

# **GIANT SUNFLOWER COMPETITION**

Thank you once again to Winthorpe Primary School for letting us visit to give our “sunflower assembly” just before the Easter holidays. The children laughed in all the right places, and had plenty to contribute. Our themes this year were “what makes a fair competition?” and “why do some plants grow taller than others?”

I am sure that all of our budding gardeners remembered to plant their sunflower seeds on Easter Sunday. The seeds usually take 7-10 days to germinate, so by the time you read this you should have some nice little plants starting to grow.



As the tiny plants start to get taller, they can be quite floppy and will need some support. Using a plastic tie, loosely fasten your plants to a small split cane. If the plants are on a windowsill they will bend towards the sunlight. To keep them straight, half turn the pots every day. Remember, the straighter the plant, the taller it will be!

Once the plants are about 10cm high, you can think about moving them outside (assuming our wonderful British weather isn't doing anything too crazy!).

Put them against the wall of your house for a couple of days to ‘harden off’ before transplanting them to larger pots or into a border. Can you think of any creative containers or places to plant your sunflowers? Just remember that they need plenty of sunshine and

good drainage (if in a pot or container).

We would love to see some photos of you looking after your plants, and share them on the school website and here in the Focal Point – you can e-mail them to:

[winthorpesunflower@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:winthorpesunflower@hotmail.co.uk) Liz & Charlie Ferreira

## FROM YOUR LOCAL SHOP

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### **SHOP OPENING TIMES**

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

Saturday 8.00am - 12.00pm

Sunday 8.00am - 11.00am

## REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR OF THE EAST TRENT GROUP OF CHURCHES MAY 2015

Writing for village magazines and newsletters in the East Trent Group of Churches is a monthly joyful challenge. I always go for brevity and try to say something attractive and intelligible of the Christian faith which may help my readers to think through aspects of life. Now I find myself writing my final piece. Early in March it was announced that I am to retire at the end of May on the grounds of ill health. My wife and I will continue to be resident in Collingham until we find somewhere to live in retirement.

It has been my privilege and joy since ordination to have been called by God to serve in a variety of different contexts, urban and rural. I have enjoyed good health generally, but had to undergo neuro surgery for compression of the spinal cord. Subsequently, having been encouraged to return to cycling, I sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury as a result of a cycling accident. Despite expectations, I was able to return to ministry. It was in good faith, and after medical advice, that I came to the post of Rector of East Trent Group. Since then I have sought to serve the churches and communities in the Group faithfully, enjoying sharing in fellowship in Sunday worship and in life events with a variety of people in and through the richness of serving our eleven churches and their communities. However, recently the continuing effects of the Brain Injury have become more evident resulting in reduced capacity for living out ministry. Hence retirement, which has arrived in my life earlier than I had anticipated. As a result I am now faced with the challenge of discovering how to live out Easter joy in unfamiliar ways after more than thirty years of active ordained ministry. The exciting journey of life continues, a great gift from God. And there is that same gift in the resurrection of Jesus. May God be praised!

David Yabbacome Rector East Trent Group of Churches



Thank you, David, for all your contributions whilst I have been editor - I have really enjoyed reading them and reflecting on their content. All good wishes for your retirement! Ed



Spring has finally arrived at Langford Lowfields, or has it.....

The first singing chiffchaff was recorded on 22 March but other resident species were, to that point, still fairly quiet. As April began the winter was lingering on with the remaining goldeneye, wigeon, teal and pochard still on site and a last large flock of fieldfare feeding up on neighbouring fields before their long distance flight back to their northern breeding grounds. Insect species were also relatively scarce at the beginning of the month, although Jenny, the warden, was pleased to have spotted the first tree bumblebee (*Bombus hypnorum*) of the year – these were first recorded in the UK in 2001 but have spread north quite rapidly since.

The cool temperatures and strong winds of late have not made it feel very spring-like, although a few warm sunny days more recently have inspired me not to give up hope. Luckily one of those days helped to make the family pond dipping event a great success. Seven families arrived with a total of 15 children enjoying the watery exploration throughout the afternoon. Creatures

discovered lurking in the depths included a toad, water boatmen, pond skaters, both dragonfly and damselfly nymphs and, no less than, three different species of caddis fly larvae protecting themselves using a variety of materials from tiny gravel to a partial reed stem.

This month the volunteers have been busily sowing



reed seeds in the polytunnel; these should be ready to plant out by mid-summer and will supplement the existing reed establishment and any surplus will be sold on to other reedbed creation/restoration projects countrywide.

As the month has progressed the temperatures have begun to creep up (albeit a little slower than we might like) there is now a golden carpet of cowslips next



to the beach hut, the trees are coming into leaf, the blackthorn blossom is out and lesser celandine, coltsfoot, red dead-nettle and ground ivy are all in flower. The butterflies are finally emerging in good numbers with small tortoiseshell, peacock, brimstone, comma and red admiral on the wing.

Avian highlights include the first swallow of the year, red kite, marsh harrier and merlin with the sedge warbler, blackcap and willow warblers providing a variety of melodic birdsong. On the wader front, recent sightings include both ringed and little ringed plover, ruff, avocet, black-tailed godwit, lapwing, green sandpiper and redshank.

We are still on the lookout for the first dragonflies of the year and are expecting a few more avian migrants to arrive, so keep your eyes peeled on your next visit and don't forget to record your sightings in the book.

For further information and regular updates on our work here at Langford Lowfields, have a look at our website at [www.rspb.org.uk/langfordlowfields](http://www.rspb.org.uk/langfordlowfields) or call 01636 893611.

We are currently in the process of developing a programme of fun and inspirational educational sessions to help get your class or youth group closer to wildlife. To plan your FREE visit or for more information email [gail.talton@rspb.org.uk](mailto:gail.talton@rspb.org.uk) or call the office on 01636 893611.

## VICTORY DAYS PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY

Museum staff and volunteers are currently making plans for Victory Days 2015; a two day event in July (Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th 2015) that will commemorate the 70th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day at the Newark Air Museum.

Our organisers are keen to hear from any veterans of any of the military or civilian forces during World War II, as the museum is keen to invite these veterans along to the event as its special guest. Details of a former service number or membership of an appropriate armed forces veteran's organisation can secure them free entry to the event at the museum's site in eastern Nottinghamshire, close to the border with Lincolnshire.

For the younger visitors the museum is planning to operate a World War II style sweet shop in the Dambusters Hut, where visiting children will be able to collect their free World War II sweet ration. To collect their ration they will need to bring along some pre-decimal coinage – so



parents and grandparents will need to look out for those sixpences, three-penny bits, pennies, half-pennies or even farthings – and make sure that they bring them along. Visitors should not worry too much if they cannot find suitable coinage as the museum will have some available to make sure that everyone gets their ration!

Throughout the two days there will be a host of World War II related activities and entertainment taking place around the site, including alongside its famous Anderson

Shelter and Dig for Victory Garden. Visitors will also be able to sample some examples of wartime food delights, such as bread & dripping, spam, corned beef and jam sandwiches.

Everyone at the museum is looking forward to two days of nostalgia and commemorations. **Howard Healey**

### The Children's Society Collecting Boxes

#### A message for all box holders -

I will be collecting the boxes during the two weeks beginning 18th May. If you are going to be away perhaps you would phone me and I will pick them up at a convenient time.

I have some spare boxes if anyone would like to start collecting for the Children's Society. Small change adds up and is making an enormous difference to disadvantaged young people in this country.

**Barbara Woodcock** 01636 681299



**The  
Children's  
Society**

# BIG Antiques Weekend

& NEW! *Shabby & Vintage Floor*

## SUN 3RD & MON 4TH MAY



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"there was really no reason to be  
anywhere else" Homes and Antiques Ambassador

## WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday 16th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Persons present were Mr Aldridge, Mr Cammack, Mr Jackson (Chairman), Mr Leary, Ms Masheder, Mr Thompson, Mr Wright and District Councillor, Mrs Dobson.



Apologies were received from Mr Allen and Mr McClymont.

The accounts for the financial year end of 31st March 2015 had been produced and were circulated. These accounts would now be audited both internally and externally.

No planning applications were received.

Concerns were raised regarding the use of motor bikes and quad bikes on the fields behind the Lord Nelson pub. The Clerk was asked to follow this up with the relevant authority.

If anyone has anything they would like to bring to the attention of the Parish Council please contact Sarah Tomlinson at [Sarah.tomlinson@mail.com](mailto:Sarah.tomlinson@mail.com) or 07920103180 Many thanks Sarah Tomlinson

### School Lunch



On behalf of ten members of the community who accepted the kind invitation to lunch at Winthorpe Primary School, may I thank Miss Ementon and her staff. We were greeted by the children with a posy of daffodils for the ladies and Easter eggs for everyone after our lovely lunch with friends.

Many thanks Barbara Finn

## Collingham May Fair

**Collingham's great family day out!**

Bank Holiday Monday 4 May, 12 noon to 4pm,  
Collingham and District Cricket Club. Free entry



## LOCAL POLICE UPDATE

It's been great to see so many people attending the newly refurbished park at



Collingham. With the nights getting longer and warmer people will be enjoying the new equipment later into the evenings. With this may come anti-social behaviour. The Police would like to encourage any instances of this to be reported via the 101 number. The local Beat Team will be patrolling the park in the evenings and pro-actively deal with any anti-social behaviour. Please help us to protect this wonderful new play area to allow everyone to enjoy the benefits of this investment in

the community.

PCSO Pettit 4926 and PC Stannard 2860 will be attending Collingham May Fair on the 4th of May 2015 with a Rural Crime information stand so please come along to say hello.

Local Police Beat Team: PCSO Pettit mobile 07887 469147 or email: [thomas.pettit4926@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:thomas.pettit4926@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk) and PCSO Harriet Samson-Bailey mobile 075950 74288 email: [harriet.samson-bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:harriet.samson-bailey@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

And remember, in the rural community the Police really do benefit greatly from any intelligence received. Please call 101 to report anything suspicious or you may call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. Your call is free and confidential and you may receive a reward. In an emergency always call 999. **Thomas Pettit**

### CONTACT DETAILS IN HOLME

Chairman of the Holme Bank Land Trust and  
Chairman of the Holme Parish Meeting: Patricia  
Richards Tel 01636 701587.

Neighbourhood Watch Contact for Holme is Chris Matthews not Peter Foden.

Bin collection day in Holme is Friday (alternate dates for silver and green) Thank you for these details, Patricia. Ed





## **Happy Birthday to Winthorpe & District W.I.**

On Thursday, 9th April, 2015 Winthorpe W.I. celebrated its 61st. Birthday.

The evening started with the singing of Jerusalem, accompanied on the piano by Sylvia Lloyd. The President, Virginia Seager welcomed 25 members to the party and asked Dys Gold, a founder member of Winthorpe W.I., to light the Candle of Friendship.

Vera Carter and her 'ladies' prepared and served the food which consisted of salmon, ham, homemade quiches, new potatoes and an assortment of salads, followed by a selection of delicious desserts. Of course, the meal was accompanied by a glass of wine (or two).

The Farendune Review from Farndon provided the entertainment performing amusing songs and comedy sketches.

Each member was given a small triangular box which contained two bulbs with instructions on how to plant and care for them. These were made by the Winthorpe W.I. Craft Group.

Virginia Seager thanked everyone for a delightful evening.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 14th May, 2015 in the Village Hall. This will be the Resolutions Meeting, along with a sale of members' unwanted books. The hostesses will be Elaine Bradbury, Isobel Chipperfield and June Taylor. Diana Kitson

## OUT AND ABOUT

As the holiday season begins it is a pleasure to shrug off the Winter blues and get out in the countryside. Readers of my previous stories will know that I sometimes venture into Devon at this time of year to see my sister on her Exmoor farm and so late March saw us travelling the Devonshire lanes admiring the wild primroses, daffodils and flowering gorse.

The male pheasant, free from the danger of official gunshot, was strutting out and showing off to his golden coloured hens who were hiding in the long grass and hedges. Let us hope the poachers would also leave them alone. The rabbits ran away from us showing just a flash of white from their tiny tails as they disappeared. Our dogs strained on their leads hoping to have a chase over the fields to catch a rabbit or herd up sheep but we held them tight.

By the time we arrived at the farm lambing was almost over. The fine cold weather had given ideal conditions and twins and triplets were delivered without too much intervention. A pair of lambs was tucked under a lamp to keep warm and they needed bottled milk every four hours. They were soon tame enough to greet us as we arrived



with their milk. Fortunately, the chickens decided to start laying again after their Winter rest so a fresh egg with a creamy orange centre for breakfast. So now back at home it is time for us 'up north' to watch our gardens and hedgerows blossom and enjoy travelling in our country lanes. Lynne Shapley





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## SOPHIE'S WORLD CHALLENGE



So far Sophie has raised £2900.00. There is just £400.00 more to go! She is going to Ethiopia in July this year. Some of the money she has raised will pay for materials in the villages she is going to help to renovate.

For her final fund raising event she is organising a fashion show for Friday 5th June, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. This will take place at Winthorpe Community Centre. There will be a chance to buy branded clothing at a fraction of the normal price; Next, Marks and Spencer's, Wallis, River Island etc. There will also be jewellery accessories to buy and a make-up consultant will be available.



Tickets are £5.00 each. This includes a glass of wine. There will also be a raffle. Please ring Frank or Maggie on 01636 612086 for tickets or you can just turn up on the night. **Maggie Hudspeth**

## ALL SAINTS WINTHORPE

### CHURCH NOTICES



This month we are looking forward to the only wedding at Winthorpe for this year. As of the end of this month our group will be going into interregnum – we are looking for a new rector. May also sees the last of our Thursday morning services. These are being cancelled in following months due to

lack of support and the uncertainty of availability of a priest during the interregnum – we were asked to rationalise our services and the least well attended one had to give.

We have another concert coming up at our church. This one will be by the baroque group '1685'. The name of the group was inspired by the year in which Bach, Handel, and Scarlatti were born. Much of their music features work from these composers along with others from the same era. If you have been watching the historical drama "Wolf Hall" on the television then you may well recognise some of the music. The group mainly play keyboard, recorders and percussion. They will be performing at Winthorpe Church on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of June at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from PCC members for £6. All money raised from this concert will be going into the "facilities fund".... so a little chamber music would be appropriate.

We have had several donations towards the "facilities fund", which continues to grow steadily. The project is now entering the formal paperwork phase known as a faculty. It is a sort of holy planning permission. I am currently trying to justify our need for the facility.... If anyone could suggest some appropriate euphemisms then please let me know! Ian Hasman on behalf of Winthorpe Church PCC



I would like on behalf of myself, Clive and Lesley to thank everybody for all their cards and letters of condolence at the death of our dear mother, Eileen Applewhite. We have taken great comfort from your very kind words.

Thank you also to all who were able to attend her funeral to support us on a most beautiful Spring day. Tish Applewhite

## Church Services for May



Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9.00	Holy Communion	Holme
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9.00	Morning Worship	Langford
	10.15	Holy Communion	Winthorpe
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	10.15	Morning Worship	Winthorpe
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	11.30	Coffee	Winthorpe
	12.00	Holy Communion BCP	Winthorpe
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>	14.00	Wedding	Winthorpe

The Church Bells may be rung for any of the Winthorpe services.

Please note that they may also be rung on Thursday evenings between 7.00 and 9.00 for practice if there are enough ringers available. For services throughout the East Trent Group, please see [http://www.easttrentgroup.org.uk/Notice-board/Worship\\_This\\_Month/worship\\_this\\_month.php](http://www.easttrentgroup.org.uk/Notice-board/Worship_This_Month/worship_this_month.php)

### Church Flower Ladies

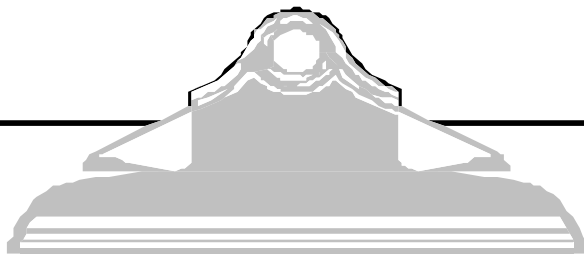
Thank you all for the really beautiful displays with which you adorned our church for Easter.

Sylvia Lloyd

### Church Cleaners

The Cobb family





## MAY CALENDAR

Saturday 2nd	Coronation Day  <b>Silver Bin</b>
Monday 4th	Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday of HRH Duke of Edinburgh 
Monday 11th	Green Bin Mobile Library
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Official celebration of HM The Queen's birthday 
Thursday 14th	WI 7.30pm Village Hall
Monday 18th	Silver Bin
Wednesday 20th	Garden Club 7.30pm Community Centre
Thursday 21st	Birthday of the Duke of Cambridge  Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
Monday 25th	<b>Green Bin as normal</b>

Answer to Pat's puzzle - a wheelbarrow!

**Here's another one!**

Nick is meeting Annie at 11 o'clock in Newark. He wants to be there 5 minutes early. He thinks his watch is 25 minutes slow but in fact it is 10 minutes fast. At what time does he meet Annie? (Answer next month!)

'Village organisations and local bodies – if at any time you would like to get in touch with a village contact, why not try the village website.' [www.winthorpe.org.uk](http://www.winthorpe.org.uk)

