



2015

Ed's Comments

**A home is more than just**

**the building we live in!** It shelters us and keeps us safe and dry. It welcomes us when we return. We make it comfortable. It reflects our personalities and we invite others to share it. It demands of us too. There always seems to be a bill to pay or something which needs to be mended or improved. We do it happily because we feel it is worth it even if some years it means a sacrifice like mending a roof instead of having a holiday.

It is the same with a community. It is not just a group of buildings. I get a feeling of being welcomed when I turn off the A1133 into Winthorpe. It is familiar and safe and the longer I am here the more people I get to know and can wave to or speak with as I travel around the village. Just like a home the community is constantly changing. People pass away or move. We welcome new neighbours who move in. Clubs flourish or wane according to the people interested in them.

In this issue of 'Focal Point' there are lots of examples of how our villages work as communities like the Winthorpe Bonfire and Fireworks Display, the Allotments Association Quiz, the monthly Lunch Club and other regular events. We all value these things and are grateful for them. What is it that means the most to us in our communities and how can we ensure that they continue and thrive? What are our familiar landmarks? What do they offer us and ask of us in return?

Well done, Amy Everatt, for highlighting the need to support Langford Church and campaigning to keep it alive. I still feel sad when I pass what was the Village Store and feel I could have done more to keep it going. Could we re-instate the Post Office somehow? (See the Parish Council Article) Can we keep our churches going? (See From The Area Dean) It is up to us. **We are the community. Annie Purday**

Closing date for the December issue is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email

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



## LUNCH CLUB



The **December** Lunch Club will be at 12.30 p.m. on Monday, December 14th at the Community Centre.

The menu will be:



Leek and Potato Soup with Croutons

or

Fruit Juice

-x-

Roast Loin of Pork and Apple Sauce

or

Roast Turkey Breast and Cranberry Sauce

or

Poached Salmon Fillet with Tomato  
and Basil Sauce



With Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

-x-

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce

or

Raspberry Pavlova



-x-

Tea or Coffee



£9 including a glass of wine

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

Thank you. Tish Applewhite

NB The **November** Lunch Club is on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** as advertised in last month's Focal Point

# Winthorpe

## Bonfire & Fireworks Display

**Saturday, 2015**  
**November 7**

**FOLLOW THE SIGNS IN THE VILLAGE**

**Gates open**

**6.00pm**

**Bonfire lit**

**7.00pm**

**Main Display**

**7.15pm**

**Family tickets £12 on the night (2 adults, 2 children)**

**or can be purchased from Winthorpe School or**

**57 Gainsborough Road 01636 686591 prior to the event £10**

**Adults £5 • Children £2**

### **WINTHORPE BONFIRE**

Combustible materials (wood, tree branches, cardboard, paper etc) needed for the village bonfire on 7/11/15

(No metals, bricks, masonry or aerosols)

Access via Thoroughfare Lane (side of school) on the weekend **31<sup>st</sup> Oct & 1<sup>st</sup> Nov** between the hours of **9.30 am until dusk** and **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov from 9.30 until midday**.

(For further information please contact Gary Thompson on 07950456255)

## Garden Club

Whereas many English villages have lost their local farms due to Enclosure Acts and modern technology, Laxton Village continues to maintain 14 working farmsteads. This is due to the historic strip farming system which they have continued to maintain for 8 centuries despite the many inconveniences of this medieval system in the 21st century of mechanisation.

Stuart Rose, farmer and clerk to the manorial law court of Laxton, showed the club members slides of the village and described how the manor of Laxton was transferred from the private ownership of the Manvers family to the government in lieu of death duties after



WWII. Later the estate was transferred to the Crown Estates who continue to be landlords of the community. Stuart explained the legal requirements of the tenants of the manor. The Laxton Court Leet is held annually in the Dove Inn where tenants are fined 2 pence for absence and up to £50 for any misdemeanours in their farming practice.

The heavy clay of the fields, divided into strips, dictates the crops which can thrive. There is a 3 year rotation of fallow, winter wheat and winter barley. Sheep are used to keep the sykes (paths) and gaits (access) clear, grazing down the grass and weeds to produce a short sward. The woodland, unploughed areas and the fallow land are perfect for wildlife conservation. 80 pairs of ground nesting skylarks, English partridge and hare thrive here alongside numerous wild flowers destroyed elsewhere by artificial fertilisers and modern farming methods.

Stuart took us on a pictorial tour of his village comparing the 2200 acres of the medieval village with the present day 500 acres. This process is no longer commercially viable for most households who are finding it difficult to find members of the next generation to continue a life in agriculture. The average age of the farmer is 63 and many are still working into their 80s. The village is well worth a visit to admire this ancient farming method which is now unique in the British Isles. The grand Norman church, burial place of the lords of the manor, is also worth a visit although it has suffered a restoration in 1860 when the coloured glass was removed. Lynne Shapley

## **WINTHORPE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY**

Join us for a Christmas Tea Party

in Winthorpe Village Hall on

**TUESDAY 8TH December 2.30pm – 4.00pm**



Mince pies, cakes, entertainment,  
raffle and of course, a cup of tea!  
£4.00 (Proceeds to Beaumond House &  
The Village Hall Funds)

**All Welcome!**

Put the date in your diary now!

(If you need a lift phone Barbara on 681299 or Annie on 658347)

## **SCRABBLE CLUB**

This year's Summer outing was a trip down  
river to Cromwell Lock. Members brought  
home produce and fresh bread for a salad lunch  
eaten as they travelled. At Cromwell Lock two



games of Scrabble challenged a few brains before the homeward journey.

If you fancy meeting new friends then come and have a go! You do not have to  
be good or even know how to play. We are a friendly group and enjoy a good  
laugh. Friday at 2.00: make a date!

Lynne Shapley (Tel Nick or Annie on 658347 for more details)



## Winthorpe & District W.I. October Meeting

The President welcomed 20 members and 1 visitor. There were 7 apologies for absence.

This month's speaker was Pam Wisher who gave a very humorous talk on 'Growing Old Disgracefully'.

She started by reading the poem 'When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple' by Jenny Joseph which is a declaration of defiance against the norm as we grow older. She highlighted the categories for 'Growing Old Disgracefully'- Physical, Social, Emotional, Intellectual, Spiritual and Sexual/Sensual. Pam explained we should make the most of the rest of our lives, sharing laughter and a sense of fun as well as extending our horizons. Pam then regaled us with funny stories of how people have achieved their desires. Pam, herself, has had a tattoo!

The talk concluded with another poem humorously describing the events of a 'Tea Dance'.

Linda Ehrsam gave the vote of thanks.

### **Future Events**

Christmas Trip to Rockingham Castle in November to experience a Victorian Christmas.

Robin Hood Theatre, Averham in January to see the comedy 'Ladies Day' by Amanda Whittington

Tea and Mince Pie Afternoon for villagers to be held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 in the Village Hall. There will be no charge.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th November 2015 in the Village Hall when there will be a demonstration of how to decorate a Christmas cake.

Hostesses: Lily Goodwin and Barbara Nelson

Diana Kitson

### **Join us for a visit to Rockingham Castle to experience a Victorian Christmas**

Trip includes the bus from Winthorpe, Entrance Fee, Guided Costumed Tour and Christmas Lunch (veggie option is available)

Date: Monday 23rd November, 2015

Cost: £36.00 per person.

Contact Sheila Palmer Tel 01636 679960 by Monday 9th November 2015 to book your place





# WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015, the Finance Committee and the Main Parish Council met in the village hall.

The meeting reported that the Embankment works to the rear of the Community Centre were progressing well with thanks to Steven Jackson for his continued efforts.

The Council agreed to contribute towards the purchase of bulbs to be planted over the area in the coming months.



The Council has received numerous complaints from villagers regarding the state of trees and bushes that overhang roads and pathways within the village. The Council has written to the various owners of the land in question and it is hoped action will be taken by them to trim the trees and bushes in the near future.

The Council has also received a complaint from a resident regarding excessive speeding in the village. Whilst the vast majority of villagers observe the speed limit, it has been noted that some cars use excessive speed, particularly along Gainsborough Road. The Council were informed that they could borrow a speed gun from a neighbouring village which would be manned by trained volunteers. If any villagers are interested in being trained to operate the speed gun, please contact the Parish Council.

The Council have received notification from Post Office Limited regarding the closure of the Post Office on Gainsborough Road. Post Office Limited has stated that the closure is temporary and they will consider another Post Office if anyone in the village would like to run one. The Council have asked for more details on this matter. The matter of traffic congestion was raised when there is an event on the Showground. The Council are to write to the CEO of the showground to see what can be done to reduce this ongoing problem.

**Sally Sillery** (Parish Clerk)

# Langford Christmas Trees and Langford Logs

**Nordman Fir** (the beauties that don't drop their needles)

**Norway Spruce** (the lovely traditional trees with the  
unmistakeable Christmas tree smell)

We stock 3ft, 4ft, 5ft and 6ft trees.

A lot of our trees are orders and we deliver locally free of charge on a day that suits you. If you require a different size, call Amy on 07709168205 for a quote. Special orders must be in by the 28<sup>th</sup> November to avoid disappointment. Our gorgeous trees will be available from December 1<sup>st</sup> and our last delivery date will be Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Come and visit us between 5pm and 7pm weekdays and 10am till 4pm on weekends.



Passing trade can call Amy on 07709168205 and orders are being taken.

**Seasoned logs, delivery available - just ask!**



## NEWARK PARISH CHURCH 8<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

**5 Dec. - 13 Dec. 2015**

Over 100 trees decorated by local schools, organisations & businesses

Opening times: Saturdays 9.30am - 5.00pm

Sundays 11.00am - 4.30pm

Weekdays 10.00am - 4.30pm

Entrance: Adults £2 Children 20p

Refreshments, Christmas cards, Raffle, Stalls, Music

FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE - 13 Dec at 6pm

## Langford Christmas Carol Service

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 4pm**

**Raising money to help save our church!**

Come and join us for drinks, mince pies, an auction, a raffle and some Christmas carols to kick start your Christmas Festivities. Any donations of raffle or auction prizes will be gratefully received.



Contact Amy Everatt 07709168205





## **WINTHORPE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION QUIZ NIGHT**

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER at WINTHORPE COMMUNITY CENTRE:  
7pm FOR 7.30pm START**

**TEAMS OF (UP TO) 6 PEOPLE - TICKETS £7.50 PER PERSON  
(NICHOLSON'S) PIE & PEA SUPPER INCLUDED WITH VEGETARIAN  
OPTION AVAILABLE**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM:**

**GLENHOLME, (no. 14) GAINSBOROUGH ROAD from 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER  
and 24 POCKLINGTON CRESCENT from 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**(Email: [david.barthorpe@ntlworld.com](mailto:david.barthorpe@ntlworld.com) )**

**TO HELP US ARRANGE CATERING, PLEASE PURCHASE TICKETS  
BY THURS. 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & GLASSES.**

**WE WILL ALSO RUN AN EXTRA FUNDS RAISER BECAUSE....**

**IF WE EXCEED OUR OWN FUND RAISING TARGET, WE WILL MAKE  
DONATIONS TO OTHER LOCAL CAUSE(S) SO PLEASE .....  
COME ON DOWN!!!**



Head Teacher: Miss Caron Ementon BA (Hons) PGCE  
Thoroughfare Lane, Winthorpe, Newark,  
Nottinghamshire, NG24 2NN  
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)

23 October 2015

Dear Everyone,

I can't believe the first half term of this year has finished! It's been a busy one. Thank you to everyone who came to our Coffee and Cake Afternoon on 25th September in aid of Macmillan. It was a lovely afternoon, with plenty of tea and cake for all, and we managed to raise just over £300.

Our club nights for children, which take place after school, are well under way and children are able to benefit from a very varied range of choice this time round. Clubs on offer are ICT/iPads, nature, cookery, magical maths and pottery with Arty Pots. Several sports clubs are also underway during school lunchtime.

Following our Netball Team's success last year, we have been practising hard this term and have made an excellent start to this year's competitions. At a local tournament on 15th October, we played 5 different schools and won every single game. This is a fantastic start and we have high hopes for the rest of the year's competitions.

We've had several visitors into school this term. An adult musical group (The Nottinghamshire Society of Recorder Players Schools Group) came to perform



for the children on recorders, and the Red Cross has also paid us a visit and has told the children all about the work they do and how the children can help to support the charity. The children have chosen to fundraise for the Red Cross this year and started their campaign at the Harvest Festival Service with a collection and raffle. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

We hope that those of you who came to our Community Lunch on 14th October enjoyed yourselves. We always enjoy welcoming people to the school, and this time round we invited members of our PTA along as a way of thanking them for the hard work they put in to making the school a success. Talking of the PTA, they 'kicked off' their fundraising for the year with a Frog Racing Night on 16th October. New to their programme of events, the night seems to have gone down very well with everyone, and we've received plenty of positive feedback. The PTA is aware that many of you within the community came along to support the event and they have asked me to pass on their thanks to you. The money raised by the PTA is vital in supporting the wider educational experiences of our children.

We have a number of school trips coming up and I'll tell you about those as and when they happen, but I must mention Class 4's (ages 10-11) recent trip to the Chocolate Factory. Class 4 has been studying the Aztecs as part of their topic this term, and the Aztecs were well known for making chocolate. The Class visited 'Choc Drop' just outside Market Rasen and had a fantastic time. They sampled a huge variety of chocolate flavours, including lime, chilli and ginger, cranberry and orange as well as some of the more traditional flavours! They learnt about how chocolate is made, had a go themselves at making their own chocolate bar, and looked at some of chocolate's medicinal purposes. No wonder they had a great time!

Class 2 (ages 5 & 6) have also been around and about. You may have seen them walking around the village recently. Their topic this term has been houses and they walked the length of the village studying the different types of homes in the village - some of them also took the opportunity to knock on their own doors! They were exhausted when they arrived back at school but had thoroughly enjoyed their little adventure into Winthorpe.

Our first half term was rounded off by a lovely Harvest Festival Service in the Church. Each class made its own contribution to the Service and we were joined by Janet Esam from the Red Cross. This Service is always well attended and is a lovely way to end a busy half term.



Finally, you may like to know that school is closed for a half term break until Tuesday 3rd November. Best Wishes **Caron Ementon (Headteacher)**

# **MICHAEL WARREN**

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS, SKETCHES &  
BOOKS

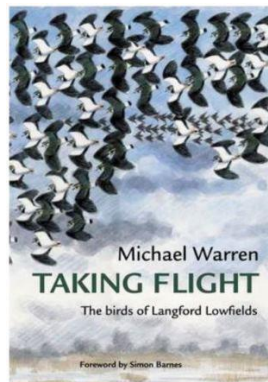
FEATURING THE BIRDS OF RSPB RESERVE  
LANGFORD LOWFIELDS

**COLLINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Low Street, Collingham, Nottinghamshire

Sat 14th & Sun 15th November 2015

10.00am to 4.00pm ([www.mikewarren.co.uk](http://www.mikewarren.co.uk))





We produce the premier traditional

## **Farm Fresh Bronze Turkey**

Produced locally on our  
Lincolnshire farm,  
the turkeys roam grass paddocks  
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Email: [info@valleyfarmturkeys.co.uk](mailto:info@valleyfarmturkeys.co.uk)

Tel. 01522 868632

MINI TENNIS AT WINTHORPE COMMUNITY CENTRE  
CONTINUES AFTER 1/2 TERM FOR A 6 WEEK COURSE.  
STARTING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>

These are **fun indoor sessions** aimed at  
primary and Year 7 secondary youngsters.

**New participants always welcome**

4-5pm

LTA LEVEL 3 COACH JON PENNEY

(all equipment provided) £4 / SESSION

(Free 1st session for new participants)

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM

NINA WARD 01636 678419

or [ninajward@live.co.uk](mailto:ninajward@live.co.uk)



Following a wonderful holiday in Wales with the village, it was unfortunate that John had a nasty fall on the coach due to an emergency stop on the way home. We would both like to thank the driver, David and those on board for their help and patience. Also thank you for the kind wishes from our many friends and well-wishers.  
Pat and John Nelson



**COLLINGHAM MEDICAL CENTRE**

**High Street  
Collingham  
Newark NG23 7LB**

**SURGERY OPENING HOURS**  
**Monday 8.00am-7.15pm**  
**Tuesday - Friday 8.00am-6.30pm**

**For Appointments telephone: 01636 893956 8.15am – 5.30pm**  
**For Prescriptions telephone: 01636 892210 8.30am – 12.00pm**

**CHRISTMAS CLINIC TIMES**

Monday 21 December – 8.30 am – 6.40 pm  
Tuesday 22 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Wed 23 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Thursday 24 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Friday 25 December – **CLOSED**

Monday 28 December – **CLOSED**  
Tuesday 29 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Wed 30 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Thursday 31 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Friday 1 January – **CLOSED**

**Our communication with patients relies on current information. If your personal details change, including telephone numbers, please let the practice know. Thank you.**



## FROM THE AREA DEAN

Dear all,

The summer and summer holidays will already be a distant memory. Autumn is here, trees and shrubs are changing colour and lighting up road sides, fields, hedgerows and gardens with their startling array of colours ranging from deep crimson, bright orange and luminescent green. It is such a fast changing time in our calendar because sudden winds and rain will change this colourful landscape in an instant. Before we know it the landscape will seem bare as we wait for spring and obvious signs of new life.

We know that whilst the land seems to be at rest, underneath the surface much is going on. This is true for the church as it moves forward. Our Church of All Saints is holding a funding campaign, a point at which we ask folks to make or renew financial commitments to our Church of All Saints. As I comment through these pages, All Saints continues to hold the history of our village. It remains the place where significant events are held - Christenings, Weddings and Funerals, along with regular worship held on most Sundays. All Saints is also a regular venue for concerts. It is not just the village church it is "our church."

It is my privilege as Area Dean and acting priest during the vacancy to support the ministry at All Saints, ministry which has people at its heart. For the work of All



Saints to continue to play its part in the life of Winthorpe we need your support. This can mean money, clearly we need money to pay our bills, but of equal importance is the work of the church in the community in which we can all share. All Saints only continues because of those prepared to make a financial commitment and the small group of volunteers who so faithfully serve the church. I am so very grateful to those of you who do make a

financial contribution to All Saints. If you would like to know more about All Saints and its work we would be delighted to talk with you.

Yours in Christ

**David Milner**

As the days get a little shorter and the temperatures start to dip, the first of the winter visitors are starting to arrive here at Langford Lowfields. One of our Beach Hut volunteers, Dave Roberts, has already spotted the first stonechat of the autumn and Jenny (our warden) recorded the first grey wagtails in flight over the quarry with their distinctive call. The first redwings have also arrived. The redwing (*Turdus iliacus*), not to be confused with the larger more colourful fieldfare, is the smallest of the thrushes and is identifiable by the creamy stripe above the eye and the orange-red flank patches.



The fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*), also a winter visitor, and the redwings tend to congregate in mixed flocks, feeding on berries and worms just like their native cousins. They can be spotted in hedgerows and across farmland, only usually visiting gardens in the harshest winter conditions.



Although autumn is now truly upon us, the summer insects are clinging on with migrant hawkers and common darter dragonflies still on the wing on the many warm, sunny days that we have been lucky enough to enjoy of late. Jenny has also spotted green tiger and devil's coach horse beetles out and about.

Winter wildfowl are also beginning to arrive, the first of which have been shoveler, gadwall and wigeon. Our bitterns are continuing to enjoy the reedbed with regular sightings by staff, volunteers and visitors alike. The starlings are beginning to gather in growing numbers and we are

hoping to host our Starling Spectacular walks very soon so please look out for the posters or check Jenny's blog for confirmation.

For further information about how you can join our volunteer team or for 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. If you would like more information about our programme of fun and inspirational **educational sessions** to help get your class/group closer to wildlife please email [gail.talton@rspb.org.uk](mailto:gail.talton@rspb.org.uk) or call the office on 01636 893611.

## 1970'S DEFIBRILLATOR FUND RAISING DISCO

We are delighted to say that the Disco, held in the Community Centre on Saturday 10th October, raised a staggering £1,085 towards buying a Defibrillator for the village.

Many thanks are due to the people who worked behind the bar, prepared the buffet, sold raffle tickets, gave raffle prizes and to Sam Thompson for being a superb D.J.

This would not have been such a success without the fantastic support from the village, not only those who turned up in their 1970's outfits, but also the donations received from people who couldn't be there. **Well Done Winthorpe! Lee Cammack and Jane Bateson**



## Home-Visiting Volunteering Opportunity Available



### Can you spare some time to help support and befriend a local family?

Home-Start Newark is a local charity which recruits and trains volunteers to help families with young children at home. Our home-visiting volunteers help families to cope with the challenges of parenting and

to rediscover some of the joy that family life can bring. Home-visiting is flexible and, after completing our preparation course, you need only commit about 2-3 hours a week and this can be arranged to fit around existing working, caring or training responsibilities.

We're looking for parents and grandparents with good listening skills and a non-

judgemental approach. You'd be working directly with families to help them achieve their goals

Whatever your situation, we'd love to hear from you if you have parenting experience and would like to find out more about this very rewarding opportunity. Full, free training and support will be provided. Training is provided during school hours, term time only.

We are also recruiting volunteers to help out at our Family Group in central Newark once or twice a week.

Please contact our friendly team to find out more, or to apply. You can find out more about the vital work of Home-Start Newark on our website or our Facebook page.

NB: Due to the nature of the posts a DBS check will be undertaken.

Home-Start Newark, 30 Barnbygate, Newark, NG24 1PZ

Tel: 01636 705011 Website: [homestartnewark.co.uk](http://homestartnewark.co.uk)

Email: [info@homestartnewark.co.uk](mailto:info@homestartnewark.co.uk)

### Home-Start's impact

92% of families who no longer need the support of a Home-Start volunteer felt less isolated.



## WINTHORPE VILLAGE HOLIDAY IN SOUTH WEST WALES

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September** – With Dave Scott, coach driver of Travel Wright, Newark, it was an 8.40 am start for 40 residents of Winthorpe and friends as we set off on a dull but dry morning, for a five-day holiday to south west Wales. Squally showers of heavy rain were to follow us for most of the day. Following a lunch stop at Monmouth, we set off for our destination, the three-star 70 bedrooms Cliff Hotel and Spa at Gwbert. Overlooking Cardigan Bay, Gwbert is on the northern tip of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September** – It was a 9 o'clock start on a dry sunny morning for



our visits to Fishguard and St. Davids. St. Davids, Britain's smallest city, is a small attractive town and home to many artists. This is noticeable by the many art galleries. St. Davids is the peaceful home of Wales's Patron Saint. Set in a valley and overlooked by the Celtic Cross and War Memorial Garden is St. Davids Cathedral. After leaving St. Davids we

travelled through moorland hills to Foel Eryr, a well known view point on the Preseli Hills. It is also a favourite place for walkers to begin their journeys. In English it is called '*Hill of the Eagle.*' Standing 1,536 feet high, (468 mtrs.) it gave commanding views all around. These hills are the centre of a fascinating prehistoric landscape, scattered with hill forts, standing stones and burial chambers. The hills are also famous as the source of the mysterious bluestones of Stonehenge.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September** – Another 9 o'clock start for our visit to the Gwili Steam Railway at the Bronwydd Arms near Carmarthen. The Gwili Railway is a Welsh heritage railway that operates a standard gauge preserved railway line. We travelled through open fields and wooded hills, all the time hugging the River Gwili and arrived at Danycoed Halt. Waiting for the engine to change places for our return journey gave everyone time to take photographs. Following the journey back to the Bronwydd Arms, we had a talk on the railway's history, enjoyable refreshments and a tour around the carriage's workshops. I was intrigued by the large number of glass jars, sitting on shelves above the work benches, each containing small nuts and bolts, screws, cotter pins, circlips etc. The exciting morning wasn't yet over as we all had a short ride on the company's miniature railway. What an exciting morning this was!

Our lunch stop, and a short ride away, was at The National Botanical Garden of Wales, near Llanarthney in Carmarthenshire. The garden covers a massive 568 acres of the beautiful Carmarthenshire countryside. Besides being a big attraction for visitors, it is a centre for botanical research and conservation.



**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September** – Another sunny morning for our coffee stop at Saundersfoot, a popular yachting and fishing holiday village, in the Carmarthen Bay. The harbour was full of small boats and yachts. After a stroll on the beach we went four miles along the coast to our lunch stop at Tenby. Sometimes known as *'Little England beyond Wales,'* it is a delightful sea side town.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September** – Today was departure day. Another 9 o'clock start for our long journey home. Following the coastal road and travelling north a coffee stop was made at Aberystwyth.



Aberystwyth, a historic market town, is a popular holiday resort and the administrative centre for West Wales. It is also home to the University of Wales, which caters for several thousand students. The nearby surrounding hills looked down upon two beautiful beaches and harbour. It was a shame we had to leave such a beautiful town. Continuing our journey, following the River Severn and passing through Welshpool, a lunch stop was made at Shrewsbury, birthplace of Charles Darwin. The town centre had many black and white timber-framed houses with steep narrow streets and alleyways.

After a short comfort stop we arrived back in Winthorpe at 7.45pm.

**Special thanks** must go to the holiday organizer, Peter Foden and our coach driver, Dave Scott, who together with their detailed planning and organization made this holiday both enjoyable and safe. I must not forget our chief head counter, Peter's wife Jean, who gave him her full support. Thank you, Jean.

The mileage for the coach holiday was 800 miles.

### **Footnote**

This south west Wales holiday is the end of an era. The Village Holidays started in 1988, when the late Maurice Harvey had a vision. He was returning home after visiting Monet's Garden in France when he said to his wife Kath, "I wondered whether the Winthorpe Art groups and Gardening Club would be interested in visiting the gardens in an organised coach holiday." The following year, with the help of David Wright of Travel Wright, Newark, a full coach set off for a tour of Monet's Garden and France. Maurice organised successful Village Holidays for the next seven years. On his death in 2005 Peter Foden was asked by Kath, Maurice's widow, to bring to a conclusion the last two coach holidays that Maurice had started planning. Since then he has continued where Maurice left off running coach holidays which have left me and many others with wonderful, wonderful memories. Finally I leave the best memory of all: **Old friendships renewed, new friendships made and lasting memories.**

Pat Finn October 2015 (A full version of Pat's article can be found on the village website- go to 'recent updates'. Ed)



**ALL SAINTS  
WINTHORPE  
CHURCH NOTICES**

Last month our church held two Harvest Festivals. The first was for the usual congregation which was very well supported both by the congregation and the flower ladies. We also had one for Winthorpe School. The School services are extremely well attended with about 100 pupils and 100 parents in attendance. One of the few times we don't have enough seats.

Our Harvest Supper in the Community Centre was a fabulous evening with just over 40 people sitting down to cottage pie and veg followed by apple pie and custard with coffee and mints to follow. I would like to thank all the cooks and the helpers for making the evening possible. One of the helpers was Harry Lord, who took the opportunity to raise funds for his expedition to India, where they are hoping to help build a school. The evening was aimed at raising money for our facilities fund; including the raffle we raised nearly £300 so thank you to all who attended.

Just before the Harvest Supper we learned of the passing of Ron Bradshaw, a stalwart of our congregation. His funeral will take place on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. Our thoughts and prayers are with Olga and her family at this sad time.

At the time of going to press our Parish Supper is just over the horizon. This marks the launch of our latest Promise Programme where we ask for your support in funding the upkeep and running of our church. So far we have over 50 people who have expressed an interest in attending.

On Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November we will have our Remembrance Service at Winthorpe. This has become one of our best attended services throughout the year and we look forward to seeing you there. This service replaces our November Holy Communion Service.

Ian Hasman on behalf of Winthorpe Church PCC

## Church Services for November



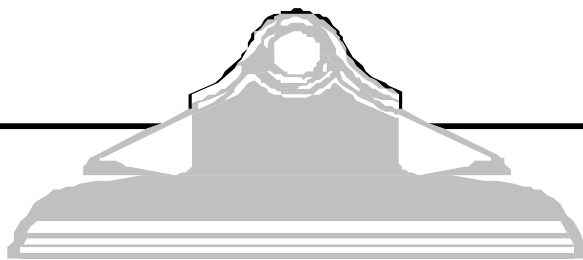
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00	Holy Communion	Holme
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.15	Remembrance Service	Winthorpe
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.15	Morning Worship	Winthorpe

**The Church Bells** may be rung for any of the Winthorpe services. Please note that since we now have more visitors available then it is more likely that the bells will be rung on Thursday evenings between 7.00 and 9.00 for practice.

A quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor was successfully rung on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, mostly by our local ringers, as part of the Newark District Quarter Peal Fortnight.

**Church Cleaners** - Mrs Foden and Mrs Lloyd

**Flower Ladies** – The church looked beautiful for the Harvest Festival. All the lovely autumn colours and foliage used in your arrangements were really appreciated. Thank you, everyone. Sylvia Lloyd



## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Monday 2nd	Silver Bin
	Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	School opens
	Mini-tennis begins 4-5pm CC
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Village Bonfire Winthorpe School
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Sunday 🇬🇧
Monday 9th	Green Bin
Thursday 12th	WI 7.30pm Village Hall
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday of HRH Prince of Wales 🇬🇧
Monday 16th	Silver Bin
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Her Majesty The Queen's Wedding Day 🇬🇧
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Green Bin
	Library Van
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Allotments Association Quiz 7pm CC
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Silver Bin

*Pat's Puzzle from last month* Nick would like a new garden wall. He receives two quotations, one from John and one from Mick. John says it will take him 5 hours to build the wall and Mick says it will take him 8 hours. Nick thinks if John and Mick work together they can build the wall much quicker. How long will take them to build the wall? **Answer 3 hours 5 minutes** (Another puzzle soon! 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](http://www.winthorpe.org.uk)

