#### **FOCAL POINT**

ISSUE No.421



2015

Ed's Comments

When I was a little girl the worst part of Christmas was writing 'thank you letters'! My Mum was very strict about it and I knew that

firstly, they would be proof read and secondly, I couldn't put off writing them because my birthday was near the beginning of January and there would be no birthday presents if I hadn't done my Christmas letters and anyway there would (hopefully?) be more letters to write after my birthday!

Old habits die hard and I would like to say lots of 'thank you's' in this Christmas issue. Thank you first of all to the many people who contribute to 'Focal Point' both regularly and occasionally – without you there would be no magazine at all. Thank you to all those who support us financially – our advertisers and the Parish Council and other organisations who contribute to our upkeep. Thank you to Willsons who do such a lovely job of printing our copy each month, to Nick for his technical support and to Pat who proof reads for me. Thank you too to those distributers who faithfully deliver the finished copies safely to their own patch. Finally thank you to YOU – the people who read the

magazine and provide the reason for its existence!
There – I have done my 'thank you's' – and before
Christmas too!
(Why didn't that idea occur to me as a child?!)



A very happy and peaceful Christmas to you all! **Annie Purday NB Because the printers need a holiday too the closing date for the January issue is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email nickwynne@virginmedia.com



The **December** Lunch Club will be at 12.30 p.m. on Monday December 14th at the Community Centre. There will be no Lunch Club in January. The menu for February will be in the next issue of Focal Point. Tish Applewhite

#### Ron Bradshaw (1921-2015)



I am writing on Olga's behalf to thank everyone who attended my father's funeral at All Saints on 31st October. It was indeed touching to see the church full and we were delighted that so many of you were able to join us at the Community Centre afterwards to reminisce and remember Ron. I would also like to thank the many kind neighbours and friends who have visited Olga and sent cards and letters. She is blessed to live in such a thoughtful and caring community.

Ron loved living in Winthorpe. The local

community was very dear to him; therefore I would like to share with you the relevant part of my tribute 'Reflections on Ron' which was read at his funeral.

'Ron qualified as a teacher in 1950, and thus began a life - long passion for education. He touched the lives of hundreds of people through his work as a teacher, a dedicated and enthusiastic scoutmaster, the principal of a centre for training young miners at Lound Hall, near Retford, and, once he moved to Newark Technical College, his management of general, liberal and adult education across the local area. His input into the development of groups such as the Chauntry group for the elderly and musical instrument crafts such as piano tuning and violin making which are still in existence today, bear testament to his imagination and

his determination to provide people of all ages and walks of life with educational opportunities to help them fulfil their potential.

Ron was a cultured and well - read man with many interests. He loved music and from the age of nine, Noella remembers being taken every other Thursday night to Halle orchestra concerts in Sheffield, an experience which fostered her own love of music. An accomplished linguist, Ron loved to travel. He spent night after night during the winter planning the following summer's holiday in meticulous detail, and these caravan holidays gave both Ron and Olga enormous pleasure. His other passion was gardening. He kept a garden from the age of six until just a few months before he died at the age of 94 and he was a mine of useful information to those less experienced than himself. Many of us here will have literally shared the fruits of his labours by partaking of the apples from Ron and Olga's magnificent Bramley apple tree, which was his pride and joy. Ron was blessed with a long and happy retirement, and this gave him the time to develop all these hobbies, as well as to continue to take beautiful photographs, write short stories about his life experiences and enjoy good food and wine.

Ron was a great believer in fostering happy and cohesive communities and he loved living in Winthorpe. In his younger days, he helped to found and support some of the village organisations which are still in existence today, and he greatly valued his many friends in the village. He thoroughly enjoyed a chat, and we vividly remember him dressing smartly to go out and enjoy long and animated conversations with local friends at village functions. He would have loved to see many of you joining us at the community centre this afternoon and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to reminisce and remember this gentle gentleman.' *Once again, many thanks for all your kindness and support.* 

Noella Coulombeau (Ron's daughter)

Jim Goodwin and family wish to thank everyone in the community

Thank You

for the many cards, calls of sympathy and help following the death of their dear wife and mother, Lily.

Many thanks Jim Goodwin



#### **Garden Club: The Four Seasons**



Our November meeting saw the return of garden designer Steve Lovall. He used photographs and

anecdotes to tell the story of the four seasons, starting with a stunning picture of a Lincolnshire lane in deep snow and sparkling with frost. Gardeners should welcome frost because it kills off nasty bugs although there is a need to protect delicate plants. Don't be too quick to dig out plants you think may have died off when the thaw comes because often,

if tended to, they will regenerate from the roots. Attractive plants to enhance your garden include the copper-coloured Tibetan cherry, dogwoods and evergreen shrubs. As Spring arrives so

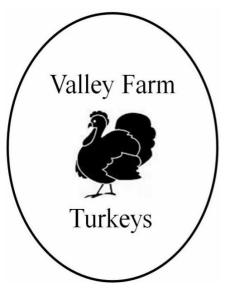


do the hardy annuals which will fill the spaces with colour; Californian poppy, cosmos and popular bulbs. Now there is evidence of hoverflies, March hares and many song birds singing to mark their territories. Also the gardener's work begins with digging, planting and controlling weeds. Weeds are merely plants growing in the wrong place; weeds are indigenous and are the plants that local wildlife want to feed on. Blue bells, cowslips and primroses make beautiful countryside shows. Summer sees young birds fledging from their Spring-made nests and the return of swallows from Africa. The garden should now be at its peak as vegetables and flowers mature. Even the weeds are giving a fantastic show; forget-me-nots, aquilegia and buttercups out in hedgerows and neglected corners of the garden. Garden ponds attract wild life visitors to drink, feed or breed. The gardener must be alert to changing conditions; watering, protecting and picking produce to preserve the garden environment.

The year moves on to Autumn and the colder weather forces changes in the colour of our woodland. Harvesting and pruning are the main jobs. Waxwings and field fares return from Scandinavia to over Winter here. It is now time to install nesting boxes for birds and bats and start feeding birds to help them survive the bad weather to come. It is time for the gardener's holiday and winter evenings spent scanning seed catalogues and planning for the new year and placing orders for seeds and plants. There is no meeting in December and the January meeting, Wednesday 17th at 7.30, is our 'Social Do' so don't forget to bring your drinks and a platter of food for the shared supper. Have a happy Christmas break and see you soon.

Lynne Shapley





We produce the premier traditional

#### **Farm Fresh Bronze Turkey**

Produced locally on our
Lincolnshire farm,
the turkeys roam grass paddocks
and are fed a GM and drug free diet.

#### **Nick Marris**

Valley Farm, Collingham Road, Swinderby, Lincoln LN6 9JB

www.valleyfarmturkeys.co.uk
Email: info@valleyfarmturkeys.co.uk
Tel. 01522 868632

## THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me
A Partridge in a Pear Tree (he couldn't send pears because the squirrels had eaten them all!)
On the second day of Christmas my true love sent to me
Two Turtle Doves (difficult because they are now so rare.)

On the third day of Christmas my

true love sent to me



Three French Hens (but then decided the fox would probably get them!) On the fourth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Four Calling Birds (why? The crows here are nearly as bad as the squirrels.)

On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Five Gold Rings (one would do fine.....)

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Six Geese a Laying (Now they might scare off the fox!)

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Seven Swans a Swimming (he's been promising me a pond for ages!)

On the eighth day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Eight Maids a Milking (I can buy plenty of milk in the new Co-op in

Collingham, thank you. We DON'T need the maids!)

On the ninth day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Nine Ladies Dancing (I said no maids, thanks!)

On the tenth day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Ten Lords a Leaping (not a pretty sight!)

On the eleventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Eleven Pipers Piping (now that IS worse than recorders playing!)

On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me

Twelve Drummers Drumming (Hasn't he got the message yet – all I really want is a day's peace and quiet with no Focal Point to work on!)

Season's Greetings! Ed



## 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

#### All Welcome!

Proceeds to Beaumond House & The Village Hall Funds

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



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

www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk

20 November 2015

Dear Everyone,

We're two weeks into the new half term and I am pleased to say that everyone seems to have benefitted from the break and has settled back in

quickly.

Our Juniors went on a school trip to Nottingham on 6<sup>th</sup> November. They visited the Castle in the morning and enjoyed the Robin Hood Exhibition, the art gallery and the museum which focused on local history items and historical costumes. In the afternoon



they went to see the Horrible Histories Production of Incredible Invaders (from Romans to the Normans in 1066) at the Theatre Royal which was excellent – although we did get very wet walking across the city! We thoroughly enjoyed Bonfire Night and our small stall selling sweets and chocolate apples was very well received and helped us to raise some money to support school funds. The children were also busy fundraising on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November – there was a non-uniform day which raised £145 and this money has been divided between Children In Need and a local bereavement charity for children. We also raised a wonderful £139 for the Red Cross at our Harvest Festival Service at the end of last term, and donated an additional £31 to the Church.

Back in school we had parent evenings on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November all of which went very well. It is another way for us to feedback progress to parents and also gives parents the opportunity to sit down

with teachers and ask questions – although our door is open to them all year round of course.

You may well have noticed that 20mph speed signs have been placed in the village along a stretch of Gainsborough Road either side of Thoroughfare Lane. It is important that we do everything possible to keep our children safe and pick up and drop off times are always busy. I have also taken the opportunity to point parents in the direction of our school parking policy again which asks them to turn round by the Lord Nelson.

We are starting to look towards Christmas although we haven't told the children yet! Our nativity performance will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> December



at the Community Centre, and the children are having a disco on 17<sup>th</sup> December. They will also be enjoying a lovely Christmas Dinner, cooked on site as usual, during the last week of term.

The PTA are organising a 'Cakes and Carols' afternoon on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. School will be open to all from 2pm onwards, so please come and

hear the children sing carols (3pm), have a cake or mince pie with a warm drink and soak up the festive atmosphere. We'll also be selling school tea towels, shopping 'bags for life', and there will be the opportunity to win a delicious home-made Christmas Cake and some wonderful Christmas hampers which we'll be raffling. We really hope that you will come along and join us, see the school



and hear the children – they will also be building gingerbread houses which should be fun. See you on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Best Wishes Caron Ementon (Headteacher)



How do you describe a rich elf?

Winthorpe Primary School invites you to

# CAKES, CAROLS CHRISTMAS

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2015 2PM-4.30PM

\* REFRESHMENTS \*
TEA/COFFEE/HOT CHOCOLATE, JUICE, MINCE PIES,
CAKES & MULLED WINE

- \* CHILDREN SINGING CAROLS \*
- **\* GUESS THE WEIGHT OF CAKE \*** 
  - GINGERBREAD ACTIVITIES
- \* RAFFLE FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPERS \*
  - \* REINDEER DUST \*

... AND MORE!

#### **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



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.

We have had some amazing prizes so far! Any donations of raffle or auction prizes will be gratefully received.

For any more info or if you would like to get involved then give me a ring.

Thank you to all those who have already contributed.

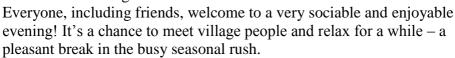
Hope to see you there! Amy Everatt 07709168205



## CAROL SERVICE AT ST GILES CHURCH HOLME

Our Carol Service at St Giles Church will be

held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm followed by 'Christmas Cheer' at Holme Hall by kind invitation of Simon and Alison Hosking.



Hope to see you there! Doreen Hallam (Church Warden)



This lovely photograph of St Giles Church, Holme was taken by Paul Fairclough, a local photographer from Newark and sent as a contribution to Focal Point. If anyone has photos they would like to include in future issues please email them to us. Ed



#### Winthorpe & District W.I. November Meeting

The President welcomed 25 members and 2 visitors. There were 3 apologies for absence.

Christmas Tree Festival at Newark Parish Church- The theme '100 Years of the W.I.' At least 4 members were needed to decorate the tree on Thursday 3rd December 2015 between 1.00 and 4.00 pm.

Members were reminded of the Tea and Mince Pie Afternoon for

villagers which will be held on Tuesday 1st December 2015 in the Village Hall.

This month's speaker was Susan Reynolds, who gave an excellent demonstration on how to marzipan, ice and decorate a Christmas cake. Sue first started cake making as a hobby which eventually turned into a business. In addition to Christmas cakes, she makes cakes for a variety of celebrations including, weddings, birthdays, and christenings.



She brought with her a selection of beautifully decorated cakes which she had already made for this Christmas, along with a variety of trimmings which members were able to purchase to decorate their own cakes with. Sue very kindly donated one of her cakes for a raffle prize which was won by Barbara Nelson. At the end of the demonstration, we were delighted to be able to sample a piece of Sue's very moist fruit cake, as well as a piece of sponge cake and chocolate cake. Delicious!! The vote of thanks was given by Barbara Nelson.

#### **Other Matters**

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

Our Christmas Party; this will be held in the Community Centre on Wednesday 9th December 2015. Hostesses: The Committee

The Resolutions Forms for 2016 will be published in the November's issue of W.I. Life. The forms need to be completed and returned by January 2016. Jim Goodwin very kindly donated his and Lily's tickets to listen to the RAF Swing Band at Cranwell on Friday 11th December 2015. These tickets are to be used by a W.I. member and Elaine Bradbury was the lucky recipient.

Diana Kitson

#### WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the Parish Council met in the village hall for its monthly meeting.

The Council have received notification from N.S.D.C. regarding the expansion of the Garden Waste Collection Service.



This means that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, the villagers will have the option of purchasing a "brown bin" to put their garden rubbish in at an annual cost of £30. Collection will be every 2 weeks between March and November and monthly from December to February. N.S.D.C. is to provide full details to each resident in the village in January 2016.

The Council also received further details from Post Office Limited on the future of a Post Office in the village. An option they will consider is to use what is called an "'Outreach solution". This is where a local Post Office operator utilises a portable computer and brings cash, stamps etc., to a Village Hall or Community Centre once a week for a 2 hour period. This is subject to authorisation and is looked at only if there is no other option in getting a permanent solution.

The Parish Council are to discuss with the various village committees to see if this is a viable option.

The Council has received some interest in in operating a mobile speed gun but ideally requires approximately 6 people to operate this effectively. Training will be given so please contact the Parish Council if interested.

The matter of traffic congestion was again raised when there is an event on the Showground blocking the A1133 and A46. The Council wrote to N.S.D.C. who responded to say the matter was out of their remit, as it was a Highways Agency matter, but would fully support any attempt made by the Parish Council in resolving this ongoing problem. The Parish Council are to write to the Highways Agency on this matter Mrs Sally Sillery – Parish Clerk

#### On The Beat with PCSO 8128 Mike Munro

We're working hard over Christmas to keep you and your family safe, but there are steps you can take to help us. **Take care when you're out Christmas shopping**. Keep valuables in inside pockets of clothing or bags. Only carry the cash you need, be careful at cash machines and keep your

money and cards safe (not in your back pocket.) If you have to keep presents in the car, make sure they are out of view in the boot, the car is

locked, and keep the receipts with you.

Take care when you're out for the evening. Make sure you lock doors and windows and don't leave Christmas presents visible. Make your house look occupied.



**Don't open the door to anybody you don't recognise.** Not sure? Don't open the door!

If a Crime is in progress dial 999

If you wish to contact your local Police Station then dial 101 (Non-Emergency)

Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!!



High Street Collingham

Newark NG23 7LB

General Enquiries/Emergencies: 01636 892156

Email: collingham.medicalcentre@nhs.net

#### 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  $-8.30~\mathrm{am}-6.40~\mathrm{pm}$ Tuesday 22 December  $-8.30~\mathrm{am}-5.30~\mathrm{pm}$ Wednesday 23 December  $-8.30~\mathrm{am}-5.30~\mathrm{pm}$ Thursday 24 December  $-8.30~\mathrm{am}-5.30~\mathrm{pm}$ Friday 25 December - **CLOSED**  Monday 28 December – **CLOSED**Tuesday 29 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm
Wednesday 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.

Out of Hours Service is provided from 111 when the surgery is closed.

Website: www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk

#### **DOG OWNERS OF WINTHORPE -**

The Editor has had a heartfelt plea from a neighbour in Hargon Lane to remind you that even at Christmas there is no such thing as the Poo Fairy! Please ask your pooch to respect other people's lawns and drives. Thank you!





#### **COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS WALKS FOR DECEMBER 2015**

Sunday December 6th - Hartsholme Park (Lincoln) 6 miles Sunday December 20th - North Clifton 7 miles (mulled wine and mince pies on route) Wednesday December 16th - Belton Park 4.5 miles (mulled wine and mince pies on route)

#### NEW WALKERS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you would like to join us on any of these walks please contact: NINA WARD on <a href="mailto:ninajward@live.co.uk">ninajward@live.co.uk</a> or 01636 678419 for more information.

A new programme of walks will start in January. The first being on Sunday January 3rd based in and around Collingham. This will be a 4 mile morning walk. Please join us and walk off some of those Festive Season excesses!!! Nina Ward



## News from Langford Lowfields November 2015

Following a good buffeting from the first of the winter storms, the trees are almost bare here at Langford Lowfields but the temperatures remain strangely mild. The latest WeBS (Wetland Bird Survey) carried out by volunteers Stuart Carlton and Matt Marsh showed that the winter visitors are continuing to trickle in but we are hoping for more as the temperatures begin to drop further north. Perhaps some smew and goosander and a few whooper swans would be nice. The most impressive records for the October WeBS included a flock of no less than 200 lesser black-backed gulls and at least 40 pochard looking stunning in their fresh plumage.

We have had lots of siskin, redpoll and brambling on site and, as most of the warblers have travelled south to warmer climes, the Cetti's warbler has returned to Langford for the first time in over 18 months. According to Jenny,

our warden, their explosive, loud song has been very noticeable in its absence. Jenny heard the first Cetti's behind the Beach Hut near the northernmost silt lagoon a few weeks ago and another has been heard from the footpath just out of the woodland, along from the car park.



These elusive little warblers are named after the Italian naturalist Franceso Cetti (*Cettia cetti*) and tend to prefer damp, scrubby habitat so the area around the silt lagoons is ideal. They are very secretive and interestingly are the only UK passerine to have 10 tail feathers instead of the usual 12.

Cetti's are a relatively new species to the UK with the first breeding records in 1973. Their usual breeding range covers Southern and Central Europe as well as North Africa but it is currently estimated that the UK population has now risen to 2000 males. Most of the birds tend to move south for the winter but the UK birds tend to be more sedentary, so listen out for them on your next visit and please record any in the sightings book.

We look forward to seeing some of you out on the reserve over the coming weeks and would like to take this opportunity wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

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 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 or call the office on 01636 893611.



## Winthorpe Community Centre



We hope those who were lucky enough to get tickets to see 'Instructions for American Servicemen in Britain' in October enjoyed the evening although I am sure most of us had no idea we would end up Morris Dancing! 'Fol Espoire' who put on the show tell me they will be touring with it again in the autumn of 2016 so if you know of a venue who may want to put it on go to the website www.folespoire.co.uk/current-show and let them know.

Thanks you to everyone who supported the event and don't forget we have another show next year.

Saturday 14th May 2016 at 7.30pm: A Taste of Latin - Sonrisa

A Taste of Latin soaks up Latin musical styles from around the world, meshing Rumba, Bossa Nova and Cuban rhythms, to name a few, to produce an infectious and vibrant dance infused collection of original and traditional songs, whilst taking audiences on a musical journey from Andalucía to Rio. Sonrisa provide skilled musicianship during a highly entertaining and relaxing evening which includes an opportunity to try out some Latin percussion and dance moves.

More news on the event and, most importantly, details of how you can buy tickets nearer the time, but make a note in your diary now!

Sue Jackson Secretary to the Trustees Tel: 07884 292469

#### FROM THE AREA DEAN

Dear All,

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, please put a penny in the old man's hat" goes the old rhyme,



and Christmas is almost here! At least that is what it feels like as I go from shop to shop all brightly lit and decorated. Seldom, these days, can be found any Christian symbols or any tableaux which represent Mary and Joseph either on the way to Bethlehem or at the barn. Certainly shepherds, angels and stars are never exposed to the light of street or department store. Often it is only the word Christmas emblazoned above a lintel or hanging from a ceiling in supermarkets and shops that reminds us of our Christian heritage. These days the tableau is more likely to consist of Santa, his sleigh and reindeer with accompanying elves: music will be Bing Crosby singing "I'm dreaming of a White Christmas, or perhaps "I saw Mummy kissing Santa Claus". It seems to me that the Jesus Christ part of Christmas seems to centre around singing carols and Christingle and Christmas Eve services, and then by Twelfth Night the story of Jesus' birth, his gift of love, hope and sacrifice are, along with decorations and bare unwanted spruce trees, all tidied away for another



year. On New Year's Eve, "Auld Lang Syne" enables revellers to bid farewell to the old year and welcome in the new with celebrations large and small. Sales that started in early December continue desperately on into the New Year. Before we know

it January and the season of Epiphany, observed by many Christians, will be upon us. It is the moment when the Wise Men are said to have presented gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to Jesus, acknowledging him as God's Son. I believe that in all the busyness and distraction of the Christmas season the single most important figure is Jesus. Too often I want to shout "Where are you hiding Jesus"?

Christmas is an opportunity, where possible, for families and friends to get together. Above all it is a time to reach out to those outside our direct Christian family circle and show Christian generosity and love. Jesus' birth story is one of amazing encouragement and hope. Mary and Joseph struggled in being obedient to the laws and processes of the day. Their journey was hard as Joseph walked and Mary rode on a donkey. The birth at journey's end in Bethlehem was enormously risky. The barn was a last resort location. It was a humble and holy beginning of a life that changed the world for the better, and is still doing so today. How the reality of Jesus' ministry is developed and lived is up to the present generation. Up to us!

Jesus is not just for Christmas but for 365 days of the year. It is for us to present His values, love, hope and sacrifice to ensure that His light will live on in us, into the future and never die.

Yours in Christ

David

## Make your Travel Dreams come true at the Southwell Travel Show!

The Southwell Travel Show is now entering its 5th year and this year's

event on 23rd January will be their biggest show to date, and the largest of its kind outside a major city. Organisers, Hyde Barker Travel are delighted that the show continues to increase in popularity each year



and are looking forward to showcasing new holiday ideas and destinations offered by some of the country's top independent tour operators.

Held at the Saracens Head Hotel, the Travel Show is a great opportunity to escape the dreary January weather and turn dreams of holidays and adventures into a reality.

Be inspired to travel by train with Great Rail Journeys, or take an unforgettable coastal sea voyage in Norway with Hurtigruten. Book a luxury beach holiday in Mauritius with Beachcomber, or start planning an adventure into Asia with Insider Journeys. The ideas and



opportunities are endless.

With over 20 stands the event offers a chance to chat to experts from tour operators including Classic Collection, Hurtigruten, Insider Journeys, Inspired by Asia, Silver Fern Holidays, Titan, Kirker, Beachcomber, Veloso and Exodus to name but a few.

Experts will be available for advice throughout the day to help you to plan your holiday. You will even be able to book on the day to take advantage of some special 'on the day' show offers.

An increasingly popular way to travel is part of a small group tour (usually no more than 16 people).

For New Zealand see Silver Fern Holidays and for Cambodia, Vietnam,



Burma and Laos see Insider Journeys. For those who wish to be fully escorted why not look at Saga, Riviera and Titan who collect from the door. Nearer to home, Kirker have an excellent range of mostly European city breaks for the discerning traveller, and Premier holidays feature

Jersey with daily flights from East Midlands Airport.

Although we live in an increasingly digital age, the high street Travel Agent is enjoying somewhat of resurgence and with good reason.

Hyde Barker are not only able to offer independent, expert advice, in a friendly face to face environment but they have a wide range of additional advantages too. Able to access special offers and benefits that mean unbeatable value for money, you'll also enjoy



reassurance from their physical high street presence where they've been operating for 65 years and 100% financial protection from their ABTA and ATOL bonding.

Exchange the advert on this page for a £50 travel voucher for use against any of the holidays featured at the show or as a download at www.hbtravel.co.uk



# ALL SAINTS WINTHORPE CHURCH NOTICES



Our latest Promise Programme was launched on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> of October with the Parish Supper. About fifty guests sat down to a pie and pea supper in the community centre and were entertained with an after dinner speech by the Reverend Canon Alan Haydock. Alan soon reduced the audience to guffaws of laughter with his stories, which although they were based on his life within the church could hardly be described as clerical (or in some cases decent!). The aim of the Promise Programme is to encourage locals to donate money to help with the cost of running our church. We are not asking for huge sums, just what people can afford. The hope is that lots of little donations add up to a significant total. We have already had some of the Promise Forms back and we would like to thank those people for helping to ensure the continued presence of our church within this community. On Sunday the 8th of November we had our Remembrance Service at Winthorpe. Before the service, as is traditional, we had half muffled ringing. The service itself was very well attended and we would like to thank the Reverend Michael Briggs for volunteering to take our service. We are not having our usual service at Winthorpe on the 13th of December as all morning services throughout the East Trent Group of Churches have been cancelled in favour of a service of Holy Communion at St. John the Baptist Church in South Collingham. Communion will be given by Bishop Paul Williams and all are welcome.



As you can see there are plenty of Carol Services to attend in Winthorpe, Holme, and Langford to get yourself into that festive mood. We have a Holy Communion at Winthorpe on Christmas Eve at 7pm which again serves as our "Midnight Mass".

Have an enjoyable Christmas and remember that it is a time of peace and goodwill to all mankind – and that includes any relatives that might be visiting.

Ian Hasman on behalf of Winthorpe Church PCC

#### **Church Services for December**







| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> | 16.00<br>9.00 | Carol Service Holy Communion                         | Langford<br>Holme                     |
|--|---------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>                            | 10.15         | Holy Communion – Bishop<br>Paul Williams officiating | St John the<br>Baptist,<br>Collingham |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>                            | 13.30         | School Carol Service                                 | Winthorpe                             |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>                            | 9.00          | Holy Communion                                       | Langford                              |
|  | 15.00         | Carol Service  | Winthorpe                             |
|  | 18.00         | Carol Service  | Holme                                 |
| Thursday<br>24th                                   | 19.00         | Holy Communion                                       | Winthorpe                             |
| Friday 25th  | 10.00         | Morning Worship                                      | Holme                                 |

**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.

**Church Cleaners** – Mrs Finn and Mrs Nelson **Brass Cleaners** – Mrs Taylor and Mrs Everson



Flower Ladies – Christmas arrangements may be put in

the church on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of December at 2pm. I would be pleased if we could remove the flowers on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of January at 2pm. If by any chance you are unable to take part please ring Sylvia on 01636 703271.

Sylvia Lloyd





Tuesday 1st WI Tea and mince pie afternoon VH
Thursday 3rd Langford Quarry Extension Exhibition

Holme Church 4.00-8.00pm

Saturday 5th Carol Service and Auction Langford Church 4pm

Monday 7th Green Bin

Tuesday 8th Village Christmas Tea Party 2.30 pm VH Wednesday 9th WI Christmas Party Community Centre

Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall

Friday 11th Cakes and Carols Winthorpe School 2pm

Monday14th Silver Bin

Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre

Saturday 19th Green Bin Collection

Sunday 20th Carol Service All Saints Winthorpe 3pm

Carol Service St Giles Church Holme 6pm

Monday 21st Library Van

Friday 25th HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Monday 28th Silver Bin



Holme Bin Collections are normally Fridays but will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December – not Christmas Day!

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