



2016

Ed's Comments

As Editor I am entering the

busiest time of the year! Between now and Christmas I not only have to produce two more issues of Focal Point but I also need to persuade our advertisers that they would like to commit themselves to another year of advertising with us.

Our advertisers are really important to us. Without them we could not deliver the magazine free of charge. Without them how would we get hold of wonderful local trades people when we needed a job doing? The first place Nick and I look when we need help with something is at the ads in Focal Point and I know many of you do the same.

It works both ways too. You may notice that there is not a 'Sharp Cuts' advert in this issue. That is because Ian Sharp is 'branching out' (sorry!) and going to work in Australia for a while. Judging by the amount of work he has obtained in the villages we will all miss him and wish him luck with his venture. Maybe he will return. His roots are here!!

So if you, the reader, are an advertiser you will be getting an email or letter very soon. Please renew with us – we need you. If you have used our advertisers during the year, please tell them that you saw their ad in Focal Point and that will encourage them to renew for another year. If you know of a business which could benefit from local promotion then point them in our direction please. Spread the good news! We all benefit.

Finally, may I thank someone who has helped to distribute Focal Point over the years. Thank you very much Ian Wilson for your help in covering Pocklington Crescent for us every month and thank you to Pauline Lockwood who will be taking over from him. In fact thank you to all our distributors. You do a great job!

Annie Purday

Closing date for the December issue is **Friday 18th November**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email

nickwynne@virginmedia.com



LUNCH CLUB



The **December** Lunch Club will be at 12.30 p.m. on
Monday December 12th 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 Tartare
Sauce



with Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

-X-

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce

Or

Raspberry Pavlova



-X-

Tea or Coffee

£10 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 7th November** as
advertised in last month's Focal Point.



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It's back...The 70's Disco Nite
WINTHORPE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Saturday 12th November 2016

7:30pm

In aid of a SECOND village defibrillator!

Supported by Winthorpe with Langford Parish Council

Tickets £10 from
31, Gainsborough Road
Or
17, Pocklington Crescent

Dancing to 1970's Smash hits!
BAR OPEN UNTIL 11.30 PM

Wear your 70's disco gear



A poster for the Winthorpe Bonfire & Fireworks Display. The background is dark with a pattern of red, glowing, fibrous lines resembling sparks or fire. The text is in white and yellow. The main title 'Winthorpe' is in a large, bold, white font. Below it, 'Bonfire & Fireworks Display' is in a smaller, bold, white font. The date 'Saturday, 2016 November 5' is in a large, bold, white font. Below that, 'FOLLOW THE SIGNS IN THE VILLAGE' is in a bold, white font. A table of times follows: 'Gates open 6.00pm', 'Bonfire lit 7.00pm', and 'Main Display 7.15pm'. At the bottom, there is text about tickets: 'Family tickets £12 in advance £15 on the night (based on 2 adults, 2 children) or can be purchased from Winthorpe School or 57 Gainsborough Road 01636 686591 prior to the event' and 'Adults £6 on the night • Children £2.50 on the night'.

Winthorpe
Bonfire & Fireworks Display
Saturday, 2016
November 5

FOLLOW THE SIGNS IN THE VILLAGE

Gates open	6.00pm
Bonfire lit	7.00pm
Main Display	7.15pm

Family tickets £12 in advance £15 on the night (based on 2 adults, 2 children) or can be purchased from Winthorpe School or 57 Gainsborough Road 01636 686591 prior to the event

Adults £6 on the night • Children £2.50 on the night

WINTHORPE BONFIRE

Combustible materials (wood, tree branches, cardboard, paper etc)
needed for the village bonfire on 5/11/16

(No metals, bricks, masonry or aerosols)

Access via Thoroughfare Lane

(side of school) on the weekend 29th & 30th October

between the hours of 9.30 am until dusk

and Saturday 5th Nov from 9.30 until midday

(For further information please contact Gary Thompson on
07493980011)

FROM THE NEW RECTOR

Dear Friends,

My name is Mandy and as I write this I'm surrounded by piles of books which I really must get rid of, black bin liners full of clothes ready to stock a jumble sale and boxes of new curtains ready to adorn the windows of Collingham Rectory. I only hope I don't get the jumble bags and the curtain boxes mixed up! Yes, I'm getting ready to move. With my husband Phil, I'll move into the Rectory in early November and on November 30th I'll officially start my new ministry as Rector of the East Trent Group of Churches. I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone and finding my way around, to say nothing of working out how the rota for Sunday church services works! I enjoyed my visits to all the villages in the spring and summer and everyone I've met has been very friendly and encouraging. I will be arriving at a very busy time of year so I expect to meet lots more people soon.

Moving house and starting a new life brings mixed feelings, a bit like deciding which books, clothes and ornaments to keep or get rid of. Phil and I have lived almost all our lives in Nottingham and we've been in Bilborough and Strelley, on the edge of the city for over nine years. So, I feel



excitement and uncertainty, optimism and happiness at the thought of a fresh start and new opportunities and also concern and sadness at the thought of leaving so many people and situations behind.

This is what life is often like isn't it? Big and little changes happen all the time and they make us think about what we really want to do and what we should be doing; perhaps we sometimes wish that everything would stay the same, but the story of life is a story of change.

I'm always glad that God knows and understands me and always loves me, whatever happens, even when I'm not sure of myself.

A favourite bit of the Bible for me is Psalm 139:

O Lord, you have searched me and known me, you know when I sit down and when I rise up;

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence.

Well the answer to that question is nowhere! I know that wherever I am and whatever happens, God will be there.

Please pray for Phil and me as we move and settle in and please say hello when you meet us.

God bless you.

Revd Mandy.

GARDEN CLUB

SEPTEMBER

Mike Davey came to talk to September's Garden Club about "The South Downs Way." Mike's extensive knowledge of Sussex is linked to his personal connections to the area. The South Downs Way itself is situated between Beachy Head and Winchester, and was opened in 1972. Mike detailed the historical significance of the area, it being used for flint mining to create tools in the Neolithic period. Mike's slides retraced his steps on a September walking tour around the half way point on the trail. He highlighted the flood plain of the River Arun with its many twists and turns, providing the perfect example of the creation of Ox Bow lakes, and thus reminding me of my old school geography classes! The flooding brings down the silt in the water, enriching the soil in the process. The key garden for discussion was Parham House, a privately owned

estate that was established in Tudor times. The four acres of grounds are divided into four main gardens, maintained by one head gardener and 20 volunteers. It was evident that there were many links between



the house and the grounds. The Edwardian borders were created to have an interlocking tapestry-like effect, reminiscent of the tapestries featured in the house. The grass maze was based on the design of the embroidered bed furnishings. There were many points of interest in the gardens, especially given the time of year as summer segues into autumn. The vegetable garden, for example, contained a wealth of not only vegetables such as leeks, but also late summer/early autumn flowering from asters to Michaelmas daisies, to cannas and dahlias and sedums. Again, there was a strong connection to the house, as the flowers were cut for display to match the various tapestries on show in the house. The White Border contained a wonderful display of Japanese anemones. Another point of interest was the old lavender borders, planted long ago for distilling their oil in the Victorian era. The lavenders remain strong to this day. Finally, Mike's advice was to contemplate a garden not only with others, but also on your own, so that you notice the details. They are easy to miss!

Everyone had an enjoyable time; all of Mike's proceeds from the various talks he gives are donated to the Action for Children charity, for which he has raised a commendable sum in recent years. **Sarah-Jane Page**

OCTOBER

October saw the return of Ian Justice, a much admired guest speaker, with his talk and demonstration on Chrysanthemums. Ian first showed an interest in gardening at the age of 6 years. At the age of 14 years he started work in a nursery before moving into farming. Ian has won many awards both nationally and locally at Shows for his vegetables and chrysanthemums. November is the main Show period for chrysanthemums, but already this year he has retained, at local Shows, cups for growing exhibition vegetables and chrysanthemums.

Ian explained how he grows chrysanthemums using both seed and cuttings. The cuttings, about 5 or 6, taken from last year's stools, are rooted then transferred into 5 inch clay pots. During their growing period the young plants are potted on in increasingly size pots and then into their final 15 inch clay pots.

Cleanliness of the pots is very important. He doesn't want his plants to suffer from any lurking pest, so they are washed in Jeyes fluid.

Ian makes his own compost. Using the John Innes formula and a bushel (8 galls) as his measurement, he hand mixes sterilized soil, peat, sharp sand, a small quantity of lime and either Chempack or Vitax fertiliser. His 100 chrysanthemums (it used to be 300) are grown in his three 25 foot greenhouses.

Careful attention is required at all times with the staking, tying, disbudding and stopping. Disease can be a problem, notable White Rust, Red spider Mite and the Western Flower Mite, so constant air movement and spraying are essential.

This most informative evening finished with many questions, which were sometimes answered by his wife Maureen. The Chrysanthemum shown is 'Bryony Wade' a slightly purple incurve which Ian brought.



The next meeting will be on Wednesday 16th November when Steffie Shields will talk about 'The Artist in the Garden' **Pat Finn**



Head Teacher: Mr Rob Cook
Thoroughfare Lane, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 2NN
Telephone/Fax: 01636 680060 www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk
head@winthorpe.notts.sch.uk

21st October 2016

Dear All,

My first half term here has flown by and I've loved every day. The children have been fantastic and have worked very hard, culminating in a super Harvest Festival in the Church earlier today.

We have been playing a lot of sport over the last six weeks and I'm keen to encourage this. All our Year 5 and 6 children have participated in local school tournaments and friendly matches against other schools. We've played in boys and girls football tournaments, cross country running competitions and tag rugby. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part and staff are very proud of what they have achieved so far. We even finished 2nd in the tag rugby tournament and have qualified for the area finals!



Thanks to those of you who have wandered over to school to drop off your empty 2 litre plastic bottles – believe me, every one really does count in this appeal! We need to collect 350 bottles before the roof of our eco-greenhouse can go on, and over 1,000 in total before it's complete, and we are some way off either target at the moment. So please continue to hand them in.

I was delighted to welcome 17 members of the community into school on Wednesday (19th Oct) for our traditional School Community Dinner. The children love to act as hosts at these events and take great pride in serving their guests and ensuring they have everything they need. I need to thank our kitchen staff too. They work very hard to produce freshly cooked meals for all our pupils and staff on a daily basis and their efforts are appreciated.



The PTA have kicked their year off with their AGM early in October. I'd like to thank Emma Watt (Chair), Beth Sumsion (Treasurer) and Nicola McNaught (Secretary) for agreeing to volunteer these important positions. The PTA is crucial to this school in terms of the resources it provides and the community spirit it generates. Their first event is early in November with a games night for the children

and they are busy working on plans for – dare I say it! - the Christmas Event, which I'll let you have details of in the next edition as we hope you will pop along and join us.

Sadly I need to inform you that we will be losing one of our most valued teachers after Christmas. Miss Litowczyk is leaving Winthorpe after the Christmas holidays having taught here for 8 years, and is moving on to pastures new. Although I haven't been at Winthorpe for very long I can tell that she is an integral part of the staff team and very popular with the children. It is clear that she will be sorely missed and I would like to thank her for all her hard work over the years and the support she provides the whole school community. We wish her the very best of luck for the future.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Dawn Docherty, our long serving Teaching Assistant with over 20 years' service. Again she will be missed, although I'm pretty sure she will still be popping into school when she is not having fun and excitement on her travels!

Finally, it is half term time and school will be closed over the half term holiday for a week, returning on Tuesday 1st November.

All the best.

Mr Rob Cook

North Kent

With Dave Scott, coach driver for Travel Wright it was a 9 o'clock start for 43 residents and friends of Winthorpe as we set off on a sunny



Sunday morning (Sept 18th) for a 5 day coach holiday to North Kent. Stopping at Greenwich, visits were made to the Royal Observatory, the National Naval Museum and the Cutty Sark, before continuing the journey to our destination, the 5-star Bridgewood Manor Hotel, near Rochester.

The following day's visit was to Leeds Castle near Maidstone, considered 'The Loveliest Castle in the World.' It has been a Royal Palace for 300 years and has appeared several times on television. This was followed by a visit to the fishing port of Whitstable famous for its oysters and restaurants.

Tuesday, on another bright day we visited Wildwood Nature Park at Herne Bay. Run by a conservation charity and set in 40 acres of woodland, the animals many extinct in the UK are allowed to roam in



fenced off areas. The afternoon's visit was to the walled city of Canterbury. Founded in 597, the cathedral, which dominates the city, is the Mother Church of the worldwide Anglican Communion and seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury. It is also where St. Thomas à Becket was murdered. The ancient King's Mile was alive with musicians and shoppers. On Wednesday, the highlight of my holiday was a visit to The Historic Dockyards at Chatham. Among the many exhibits were three historic warships, an RNIL lifeboat

collection and various workshops. The tour inside the submarine HMS Ocelot was exciting and a visit to the Ropery very enjoyable.

Thursday brought our final visit of the holiday to Chartwell. Chartwell, a NT property, and set in the beautiful rolling hills of Kent was the home of the late Sir Winston Churchill and his wife Clementine. The house and contents are exactly as Winston Churchill had left them. The rooms were filled with all kinds of memorabilia, including his uniforms and velvet siren suits, awards and gifts presented to him from many distinguished dignitaries from around the world. The gardens were a delight, many showing their autumnal colours. After travelling 500 miles we arrived home at 6.40pm.

Special thanks must go to Les and Christine Murray. This was their first venture in organising a village holiday and it proved a great success. Well done Les and chief headcounters Christine.



Thanks to Dave, our coach driver, for helping to make this a pleasant and safe holiday, and the many helpers assisting with the wheelchairs.

Pat Finn (A full account of the holiday can be found on the Village Website.)

Laxton History Group

Christmas Fayre

Laxton Village Hall

Saturday 19th November

11.30am - 3.30pm

£1 admission inc. cup of tea

- ☆ Lots of crafts for those tricky Christmas presents
- ☆ Start your Christmas shopping at the stalls
- ☆ Home made soup & cobs
- ☆ Traditional cakes with your tea
- ☆ Cake stall for cakes of all sorts to take home

Dear Lord Nelson Friends & Family,

The colder nights are drawing in but the lights are bright here at The Nelson and we're stock-piling logs for roaring winter fires.

Our private dining room is now ready! A massive thank you Ian Kay for creating this beautiful space with us. Check it out the next time you drop in. We can host private dinners and parties for up to 12 people.

Our "Pub Quiz & Pasta" evenings continue to be hugely popular and we'll host more on the first Wednesday of every month: 2nd November & 7th December 2016, 4th January, 1st February & 1st March 2017. £50 first prize. £1 entry/£5 with food.

Our Steak & Grill nights continue every Tuesday evening; free bottle of house wine with any two items from the grill menu.

Our first Open Mic & Live music night rocked (thank you again, Neil & Guy!) and we'll now host every third Tuesday of the month: 18th October & 15th November 2016, 17th January, 21st February & 21st March 2017.



On Saturday 5th November the team are hosting a Bonfire Party complete with hog roast BBQ, toffee apples and bonfire cocktails. Our own rock star-in-training Guy will be providing a soundtrack into the night.

On Thursday 17th November, we're hosting a Ladies Night. Kicking off with a fashion show by Tickety Boo, there'll be cocktails and canapés, plus a beautician and manicurist on-site. Our Head Chef David has created a beautiful Christmas Menu which will be available from 1st December - 24th December. We're closed for Christmas Day but hosting a fabulous Boxing Day Brunch from 11am to 4pm. Santa Claus is coming to town! Your child will be able to meet Santa Claus, take a selfie and receive a lovely present on Sat 10th or Sun 11th December (10am - 12pm both days).

On New Year's Eve we're throwing a rip-roaring Nelson party to welcome in 2017 in style.

We've asked Ann & Keith (of Ann et Vin fame) to return to host a "Sparkles" wine-tasting - cava, prosecco & champagne - on Thursday 26th January at 7pm. Tickets £30 to include supper & cheese.

We continue to listen very carefully to your feedback. After weeks of battling not-great (inherited) kitchen equipment and both our oven and main fridge blowing up which slowed down service, we now have an amazing shiny new walk-in fridge and can offer beautiful cheeseboards. And olives for the bar. We've also noted requests for rotating cask ale beers and will make sure we change these regularly.

The Lord Nelson Vouchers

If you're struggling for a gift idea, we offer bespoke hand-written Lord Nelson vouchers, beautifully designed by local artist Peter Foden.

With thanks and best wishes,

Oli, Em, Dave & Martyn & The Lord Nelson crew (*including new team members Charlene, Julie, Rachel and Chef Joey)
(Phone 01636 707705)



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LANGFORD

There have been some changes in Langford recently with people moving in and out of the village. Community spirit is really important and can be a lot of fun, especially at this time of year.

Thank you so much to all who contributed to the car boot sale that myself and Becky Whittaker did on behalf of Langford Church. We



managed to raise £306 in four hours!!! Thank you to Jilly and Jerry Steele and to John Whittaker for helping to pack what seemed like 3 million items into a small car very successfully!

We hope to see you at this year's Church Service at Langford which is on Saturday 3rd December at 4pm where we will be having a raffle and an auction. We aim to beat last year's total of over £400 that was raised for Langford Church. The auction proved to be really successful last year and we have already started receiving donations for the auction and raffle. Thank you very much for this! It's a great start! For any more info or to donate items, ring me on 07709168205. Hope to see you all there for mince pies and a catch up!

Amy Everatt



MICHAEL WARREN

Exhibition of paintings, sketches & books

Featuring the birds of RSPB Langford Lowfields

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th November 2016 - 10.00am to 4.00pm
Collingham Community Centre, Low Street, Collingham, Nottinghamshire.

www.mikewarren.co.uk



NEWARK PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

**This will be the 9th Tree Festival held in the marvellous setting of
Newark Parish Church**

Saturday 3rd Dec - Sunday 11 Dec 2016

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, Seasonal Music, Christmas cards, Raffle, Stalls

FESTIVAL CAROLS OF PRAISE - 11 Dec at 6pm



Christmas Trees and Logs

**It's that time of year again where we get
excited about our**

Nordman Fir Christmas Trees!

Not long now until we start delivering our

beautiful trees right to your door on a date and time that suits you.

To order your Christmas Tree and book a delivery slot, call or text

Amy on 07709168205.

Deliveries begin on the 1st December

so please get your orders in by

28th November.

3ft - £18 4ft - £24 5ft - £30 6ft - £36

Need a potted, bigger or smaller size? Just call or text for a quote!

**Why not order your logs at the same time? We do free local
delivery, £75 per cubic metre of seasoned,
hardwood logs.**

**Thank you for your continued support this
year.**

We look forward to seeing you in December!





Winthorpe & District W.I.

Held on Thursday 13th October 2016 in the Village Hall. The President welcomed 23 members and 3 guests. There were 7 apologies for absence. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 8th September 2016 were read and signed by the President, Mrs. Virginia Seager.

Matters Arising:

Members were reminded of the Fashion Show in the Community Centre on Wednesday 19th October 2016 starting at 7.30 pm.

Christmas Trip to Burton Angus Hall, Beverley on Wednesday 30th November 2016. The coach will be leaving the village at approximately 9.30 am. and a board was circulated for members to select their choice of menu.

A letter was received from Bloodwise, our nominated charity until September this year, thanking Winthorpe W.I. for their additional donation of £80.00 making a total of £500.00 for the year.

An invitation from North & South Clifton to attend their Film Night on Tuesday 25th October 2016. The film will be 'The Hundred Foot Journey'.

This month's speaker was Jayne Porter a trustee from 'Hedgehog Welfare' which was set up by Janet Peto 30 years ago. The Welfare deals with injured and orphan hedgehogs, also ones that have not reached a safe weight to go into hibernation, which is between November/December until March. When they have recovered, they are released where they will be safe, or were originally found. Although Hedgehogs are protected by the Wild Life Act they are not an endangered species even though they have declined by 50% during the last 10 years. Jayne explained how we can help to stop this decline by not feeding them milk and bread, only water and dried food, although they can be partial to strawberry yoghurt. Untidy gardens also help!! The vote of thanks was given by Barbara Nelson.

Forthcoming Events:

Coffee Morning for all villagers to be held on Thursday 15th December 2016 in the Community Centre.

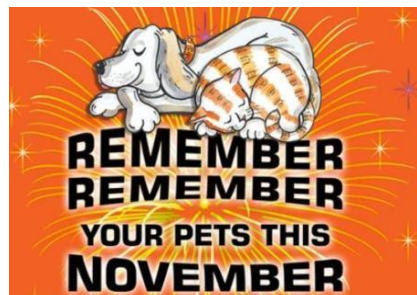
Other Matters

A board was circulated for members to put forward their suggestions for our nominated charity for 2016/2017.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th November 2016 in the Village Hall when the topic will be 'How to Make an Obelisk' for Christmas.

Hostesses: Pat Nelson, Margaret Stewart and Gillian Thomson.

Sheila Palmer



COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS WALKS FOR NOV 2016

Sunday Nov 6th

Destination to be advised

Sunday Nov 20th

Blankney/Metheringham/Dunstan 7 miles

Wednesday Nov 16th Edwinstow/Major Oak 4.5 miles

NEW WALKERS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you would like to join us on any of these walks please contact NINA WARD on ninajward@live.co.uk or 01636 678419 for more information and specific walk details.

Come along and join this friendly group!

We provide an excellent variety of walks in Nottinghamshire and adjacent counties. Most Sunday walks are between 6 and 8 miles. Wednesday walks are usually about four miles with an optional pub lunch.

Walkers should provide snacks, drinks and packed lunches if appropriate. Suitable footwear and waterproofs are necessary.

Nina Ward



Goodwood Revival Meeting 2017

If anyone is interested in attending next year's Goodwood Revival Meeting I am looking to arrange a trip from Winthorpe. The format of the trip has yet to be decided but it should include coach travel to and from the event plus hotel accommodation and meals as can be arranged. At the moment I am only looking for numbers to see if it is feasible so if you are interested can you please Email me (les_murray@hotmail.co.uk) and I can start a mailing list.

I have a few names at present but not enough to make a trip so hopefully a few more will come forward. **Les Murray**



An elderly gentleman...

Had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.' The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!'

News from Langford Lowfields

Wetlands are wonderful places at any time of year; winter brings large flocks of ducks, geese and swans, whilst the spring brings an orchestra of bird song. Autumn is often the season of the unexpected, when birds are making their way down south for the winter, passing overhead or stopping off to feed as they break their exhausting journey towards warm wintering grounds. At this time of year you never quite know what you might see as you explore a place such as Langford Lowfields. With September having drawn to a close, we are well into the Autumn and it has not disappointed so far. Ospreys have been seen flying overhead, whinchats have been perched up on fence posts, long-legged, mud-loving wading birds such as ruff, grey plover and greenshank have been seen, two cranes recently dropped in to pay us a visit, hobbies have been catching dragonflies over the reeds and the first wigeon of the season have been floating around in front of the beach hut.

This year's spring breeding season seems a long time ago, but it was a good one, with our crack-of-dawn surveys showing that wetland-loving species such as reed warbler, sedge warbler and water rail are all on the increase. Wetlands are a threatened habitat on a national and international scale and so the creation and management of reserves like Langford Lowfields is crucial, the recent State of Nature 2016 report highlights the loss of such habitats and their associated species. We're lucky to have such an amazing and ecologically successful place so close to us.

There is always a lot of work to do at Langford and below the calm tranquil exterior many hands are beavering away. A lot of work recently has gone into



planting reed seedlings out into the Phase 2 area of the reserve, with bare islands sticking up out of the water having thousands of our home-grown reeds planted on them. *Volunteers and staff planting out thousands of reed seedlings.*

Photo ©Roger Bennett.

Volunteers and staff from the RSPB have been wading out into the water, planting the seedlings and then surrounding them with protective mesh fencing to keep hungry coots and geese at bay. It's a strangely relaxing way to spend the day, tending to your seedlings, surrounded by warm water and listening to the sounds of the reedbed as ducks, herons and lapwings call out and the wind rustles through the mature stands of reed.

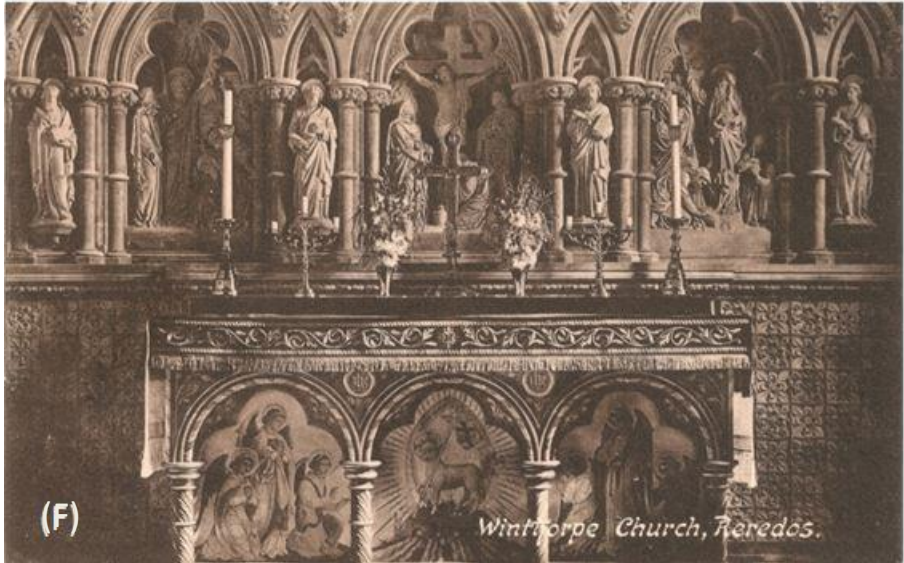
Our team of Visitor Welcome Volunteers, who play an invaluable role, manning the beach hut, welcoming people to the reserve, recording wildlife they see, encouraging children to pond dip and generally being our eyes and ears on the ground, is expanding, but we are on the lookout for more people to join the team. If you're interested please contact our administrator Anna anna.heathcote@rspb.org.uk

Berries are now abundant on the hawthorn and blackthorn bushes and it won't be long before the hedgerows at Langford are filled with noisy and very hungry flocks of redwings and fieldfares. Why not pay us a visit, enjoy the wildlife spectacles the reserve provides, relax on a bench in the autumn sunshine, maybe watch a marsh harrier quartering the reedbed, a great crested grebe catching fish or be amazed by one of the incredible sunsets we have been treated to recently.

Old Text Messages (Part 5)

A continued Analogy by Bob Warriner

(F) Although this card is not postally used, it's of an **All Saints** interior feature, titled "Winthorpe Church Reredos" a definition of this curious word is below:



Definition

"A reredos or raredos is an altarpiece, or a screen or decoration behind the altar in a church, usually depicting religious iconography or images. It can be made of stone, wood, metal, ivory, or a combination of materials. The images may be painted, carved, gilded, composed of mosaics, and/or embedded with niches for statues. Sometimes a tapestry is used or other fabric such as silk or velvet. **Reredos** is derived through Middle English from the 14th century Anglo-Norman **areredos**, which in turn is from **arere** meaning "behind" + **dos** meaning "back", from Latin *dorsum*. The term referred generally to an open hearth of a fireplace or a screen placed behind a table. Used in the 14th and 15th centuries, the reredos had become nearly obsolete until revived in the 19th century." Here endeth the lesson!



A familiar view on this photographic card (G) unfortunately not in very sharp focus but visitors to the Lord Nelson may be familiar with that sort of view, particularly when leaving?

Viewed from the footpath between the pub and maybe the Old Post Office (now the carpark) it shows the Dial House and the old road signpost on the opposite side to where it stands now, and the since departed tree to the left. The card does not have a publishers name or any writing but I would say its early 1950's and privately produced.

N.B. the Gainsborough Road would have been a "through" road from Newark at that time before the A46 link road became

the village bypass route.

A quote from 'Arthur Mee's Nottinghamshire' seems to fit this scene:

"Winthorpe. *It seems like another world as the prosaic road from Newark brings us into its leafy glade and to its delightful houses and gardens, spacious roads and gracious trees. By the Inn at the side of the green the little River Fleet dives underground (as London's Fleet does) to come out smiling by the old village cross, and join a tiny willow bordered brook as it rushes on.*" Bob Warriner

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

On Thursday 20th October 2016, the Parish Council held its quarterly finance meeting followed by the monthly Parish Council meeting in the village hall.



The Parish Clerk has received notification from the external auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP that the accounts for 2015/2016 are in order and approved. These are available for viewing and details of how to do this are placed on the village noticeboards.

The Council has been notified that the dog bins are not being used correctly and other waste is being placed in them. The bins are clearly signed so please ensure they are only used for dog waste.

The local emergency services have raised the issue of house numbers being displayed on properties within the village. This was highlighted when the emergency services were trying to locate a property on The Spinney. To make things easier for the emergency services, can you please ensure that your property has its number clearly displayed.

The Council received an update from Peter Foden and David Barthorpe on the changes to the Charity of Thomas Brewer and how this will impact on the village. Further details of how to apply for any funding and the conditions that will need to be fulfilled will appear on the village website in the near future.

As mentioned previously, the Council is keen that Skateboard Park is put to better use that will benefit the whole of the village. The Council are satisfied that the best option is a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area).

Although this is quite expensive, grant funding is available for the majority of the cost.

The Council is to write to the various village organisations and clubs for their views, comments and support to see if it is a viable option.

Mrs Sally Sillery – Parish Clerk

WINTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

Sometime ago the committee decided that the surround to the hall needed improvement as the emergency access from the rear of the hall was being impeded and the perimeter fencing was rotting away. The owner



of Pears Wood was responsible for the fencing and since I contacted him the fencing has been substantially replaced.

The main problem was that the hall had been built significantly below the level of the surrounding wood (up to 4 feet lower at the rear) and soil was gradually eroding and building up around the hall.

The committee decided to construct a dwarf wall to prevent this happening and this work has recently been completed.

I would like to express my great appreciation to the following parishioners, all volunteers, who contributed to its completion.

Andy Fereday (no longer a parishioner but still a Village Hall Trustee) who spent three of his Saturdays “on site” proving that, although he's moved on a bit, he is still a great brickie. He also got us trade discounts on the materials used.

Lee Cammack and Steve Lord who sweated blood (?) as his mixer men and hod carriers.

Neil Moran collared on his way home to lunch to carry out an emergency plumbing repair.

Paul Stevenson for his amicable cooperation in having a large tree on his property, whose large roots were encroaching on the hall, felled.

Ian Sharp who felled and removed the tree quickly and tidily.

The site was cleared, foundations dug and concreted, by the Probation Service whose men were doing Community Service and who worked energetically and cheerfully. They came back to tidy up after the walls were built. My thanks go also to their supervisors Steve Rawlings and Tania. **Thanks to them all – job well done.**

Dave Woodcock, Treasurer Winthorpe Village Hall Trustees.



ALL SAINTS

WINTHORPE

CHURCH NOTICES

The concert by the Collingham Singers last month was well received. Thank you to all who turned out on such a wet and dismal evening to lend your support.

The Harvest Supper was very well attended last month with over forty people sitting down to eat. As usual we would like to thank Sylvia's daughter, Sharon Spencer, for her catering and all the helpers. Without these people we would not be able to run this event. I would also like to thank Pat Finn, who despite double booking himself and so being unable to attend, nevertheless still provided us with one of his quizzes along with prizes – thanks Pat.

The Harvest Festival was again well attended with lots of gifts for the Women's Refuge in Newark. Thank you all for your gifts.

The School's Harvest Festival again filled the church to capacity... if not slightly above capacity. It was a lively service with lots of singing and storytelling. It was a pleasure to see the church so full.

This month we have our Remembrance Service; if you would like to add to the list of veterans whose names will be read out then please get in touch with Sylvia Lloyd on 01636 703271. We look forward to seeing you all in church.

Our ringing learners have dropped from three to two, but I am pleased to report that they are progressing well. If you are interested in learning to ring then please do get in touch.

As you will have noticed elsewhere in this edition of Focal Point we have at last got a new rector. The Revd. Mandy Cartwright will have her licensing service at Collingham All Saints at 7:30p.m. on Wednesday 30th November. We hope to see some of you there.

Ian Hasman on behalf of Winthorpe Church PCC (01636 679105).

Church Services for November



Sunday 6th	09:00 Holy Communion	Holme
Sunday 13th	10:30 Remembrance Service	Winthorpe
Sunday 20th	09:00 Morning Worship	Langford
	10:15 Morning Worship	Winthorpe
Sunday 27th	17:00 Evening Prayer	Winthorpe
Wednesday 30th	19:30 Licensing Service – Rev. Mandy Cartwright	Collingham All Saints

The Church Bells may be rung for any of the Winthorpe services. The bells may be rung on Friday evenings between 7.00 and 9.00pm for practice. If you are able to ring or would like to learn how to ring then please get in touch with the Tower Captain, Ian Hasman, on 01636 679105 or e-mail him at I.hasman@ntlworld.com.

Church Cleaners – Mr and Mrs McClymont.

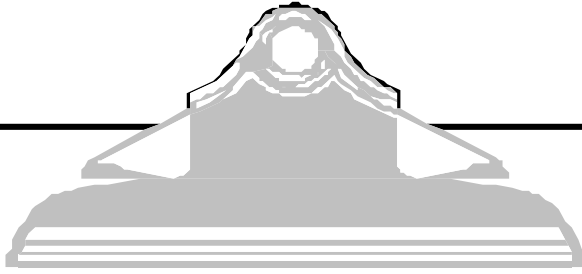
Sylvia Lloyd

Laxton History Group has a brand new presentation based on the research done by the Group over the last three years into the village between 1900 and 1920. We have looked at all aspects of life – the relationship with the Lords of the Manor at Thoresby Estate, the reorganisation of the open field system, the men recorded on the War memorial, the life of the school and the lives of the people.



We will be happy to take bookings to give this presentation at meetings of local organisations.

Please telephone 01777 871506 for more information or to make a booking. Joy Allison



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Tuesday 1st	School Re-opens
Saturday 5th	Bonfire at Winthorpe 7.15pm
Monday 7th	Green Bin
	Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre
Thursday 10th	WI 7.30pm Village Hall
Saturday 12th	Disco Nite Community Centre 7.30pm
Sunday 13th	Remembrance Sunday 
Monday 14th	Birthday of HRH Prince of Wales 
	Silver Bin and Brown Bin
Wednesday 16th	Garden Club 7.30pm Community Centre
Thursday 17th	Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm VH
Friday 18th	AGM Trustees of the VH 7.30 pm VH
Monday 21st	Green Bin
	Mobile Library
Monday 28th	Silver Bin and Brown Bin
Wednesday 30th	Rev Mandy's Licensing All Saints Collingham

NB BIN COLLECTION IN HOLME VILLAGE ON FRIDAYS!

‘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

Q. How many civil servants does it take to set fire to Guy Fawkes on November 5th?

A. Twenty. One to strike the match and nineteen to fill in the paper work!



