



2016

**Ed's Comments**

**Have you written your letter to Father Christmas yet?** My seven year old

granddaughter was deeply involved in writing hers when she paid us a flying visit last weekend. Interestingly, she was initially more concerned with drawing pictures for Santa to show him what life is like in this country in the seasons when he isn't around than making requests, but the ideas for gifts came later! She was using one of her talents or 'gifts' very creatively.

At this time of the year when we are surrounded by ideas of gifts to buy it is refreshing to see so many people around us using the other sort of gifts and this month's magazine is full of them; those with the gift of music singing carols and running services where others can join in; those with the gift of poetry making us laugh or moving us to tears: those with the gift of cooking and organising events giving us enjoyment and a feeling of belonging; those with the gift of caring making sure that no-one is left out or alone at this otherwise dark and lonely time of the year. Thank you all for those gifts which surround us making the other kind seem less important and this time of the year more real and meaningful.

Finally thank you to all of those who make Focal Point work smoothly so you know about what is going on in our villages. Thank you to my proof reader who ensures I don't make too many mistakes; to the deliverers who save me miles of trudging around; to those who send in contributions to make the magazine interesting and informative; to those who support us by advertising with us and to the printers who do such a great job of producing the finished copy each month.

May you all have a truly happy Christmas surrounded by the gifts of others!

**Annie Purday**

**Closing date for the January issue is Friday 9th December**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane or email

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

# LUNCH CLUB

## Dates for the Lunch Club in 2017

February 6th March 6th April 3rd May 8th June 5th

July 3rd August 7th September 4th October 2nd

November 6th December 11th



**NB The December Lunch Club is on Monday 12th December as advertised in last month's Focal Point**



## Christmas Dinner

I would like to thank all the people who bought my jams last month. I have been able to send a cheque for £22.30 for a homeless person to have lunch and

other services at the Christmas table provided by Crisis.

Any further money that is given to me will be forwarded to the Salvation Army for their work with homeless people.

At this time of the year when we snuggle into our warm homes and indulge ourselves with Christmas goodies it is right for us to think of others who are less fortunate. Lynne Shapley





High Street  
Collingham  
Newark NG23 7LB  
General Enquiries/Emergencies: 01636 892156  
Email: [collingham.medicalcentre@nhs.net](mailto: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 26 December – **CLOSED**  
Tuesday 27 December – **CLOSED**  
Wednesday 28 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Thursday 29 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Friday 30 December – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm

Monday 2 January – **CLOSED**  
Tuesday 3 January – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Wednesday 4 January – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Thursday 5 January – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Friday 6 January – 8.30 am – 5.30 pm

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](http://www.collinghammedicalcentre.co.uk)



## **COLLINGHAM PHARMACY**



**YOUR** local pharmacy dispensing NHS, Private and Veterinary prescriptions.  
Offering a wide range of medicines, vitamins, toiletries, pet medicines and seasonal gifts.

### **NHS Services Include:**



**Medicine Use Review**



**Morning After Pill**



**Blood Pressure Measurement**



**Minor Ailments Scheme**

High Street, Collingham, Newark, NG23 7LB

Tel: 01636 893038

email: [collingham.pharmacy@nhs.net](mailto:collingham.pharmacy@nhs.net)

# **CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**



**Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee  
and a Mince Pie \*  
whilst listening to Christmas Carols  
performed by children  
from Winthorpe Primary School.  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016  
10.00am to 12.00pm  
(to coincide with the Post Office)  
Winthorpe Community Centre**

**Ladies and gentlemen – all welcome.**

**\*£1.50**



[www.thewi.org.uk](http://www.thewi.org.uk)

[www.winthorpe.org.uk](http://www.winthorpe.org.uk)

## WINTHORPE POST OFFICE

As Christmas rapidly approaches why struggle into Newark to post your parcels and buy your stamps when you can do it Winthorpe with no queues?

Remember our own pop up Post Office every Thursday morning 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Community Centre. All normal post office services are provided except passport services. You can post your parcels, get your stamps, collect your pension, get cash, pay bills or tax your car - all without leaving the village!

You can also get a cup of coffee with biscuits and sometimes cake at the coffee morning run by the W.I. at the same time as the Post Office if you want a rest from festive preparations or just a bit of company.

Frances Kelly (Chairman Winthorpe Community Centre)



## 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**





Head Teacher: Mr Rob Cook

Thoroughfare Lane, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 2NN

Telephone/Fax: 01636 680060 [www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk](http://www.winthorpe.notts.sch.uk)

[head@winthorpe.notts.sch.uk](mailto:head@winthorpe.notts.sch.uk)

17th November 2016

Dear All,

The half term running up to Christmas must be the busiest of the school year. There is a lot of hard work done in the classroom of course - which this term includes an Assessment Week at the end of November so we can check progress - but also lots of fun and extra-curricular activities. So, here is my whistle stop tour of what we've been doing, and going to be doing over the next 4 weeks .....

We had the thoroughly enjoyable Bonfire Night early in November. It was great to see so many of the children from school with their families enjoying the entertainment and soaking up the atmosphere. It is clearly a very popular community event and one that we are pleased to help host. This was quickly followed in school by a Children's Games Night run by the PTA. The children played bingo, beetle drives and 'heads and tails' and there were prizes for all - needless to say it went down very well, and raised a healthy £251.47.

The children have also been practising 'perfecting' some of the regular songs they sing throughout the school year as we are in the process of recording a special CD to sell as another fundraising project. Our thanks goes to Guy Ellerton, local Solo Artist and village resident for helping us with the recording and production of the CD, and Vicki Smith of Re-align, one of our parents, who has used the pictures the children have drawn to design the cover. The CD will be for sale at our Christmas Fayre please let us know if you would like a copy.

We have been visited by author Chris White, who ran a whole-day workshop to inspire and encourage our oldest children with their writing. Our children were joined by pupils from 5 other schools from the local area and the day was a great success. There will be a similar literacy-focused event early next year and an equivalent type of workshop for our budding mathematicians in January!

Children in Need! A worthy cause and fully embraced by school on Friday 18th November. All staff and children dressed up in their pyjamas and the

children were even given the opportunity to throw cream pies at me! I'm not sure I'll be offering that opportunity again, but it was worth it as altogether we raised a wonderful £190.40!

Our Infants are visiting White Post Farm on Monday 5th December and will be doing craft activities, spending time with the animals, re-enacting the Nativity, and meeting a very special person in a large red suit and with a white beard! – and our eldest children have a fun-packed day organised at Conkers in Derbyshire.

The Infant Nativity performances are taking place in the Community Centre on Thursday 8th December, which past experience tells me will be a delight to watch, so I am looking forward to that, and our last week of term includes Christmas Dinner, a disco and of course our Carol Service in the Church on Friday 16th December! Quite a list!

We will also be making a special visit to the Community Centre on the morning of Thursday 15th December, where we will be joining the WI for their Coffee Morning and the children will be singing some carols. We expect to be there at about 11am - it would be good to see you there.



You are also very welcome to come up to school for our Christmas Fayre on Friday 9th December. This starts at 3.30pm and finishes at 5.30pm and we'll be selling hot drinks, cakes & mince pies. There will be some stalls to browse, a raffle and lots of activities for children to do. I must also take this opportunity to thank the Lord Nelson – who have very kindly donated a £30 voucher for the raffle, which we very much appreciate.

Finally, we are making a 'big push' to buy some much needed play equipment for the school grounds. One set of equipment was condemned and removed last July, and the final piece of play equipment is in need of repair. The PTA is working hard to fund much of this, but as you can imagine it is very expensive and any support we can get from the wider community would be extremely welcome. One way you could help us is if you shop on-line. Our school is registered as a 'cause' on The Giving Machine [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) which generates a free donation every time you shop through them. It is quite straightforward to use; before you start your shopping on line, go to The Giving Machine website first, then to the retailer of your choice (there are over 2000 including Sainsburys, John Lewis, amazon, ebay), shop as normal, and the retailer will make a small cash donation to us! Please give it some thought – and a try!

I think it just remains for me to tell you that the last day of term is Friday 16th December and that the children will be back in school on Wednesday 4th January. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

All the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Cook".

Mr Rob Cook





# **Langford Church Christmas Service**

**Saturday 3rd December 4pm**

**Start your festive season by coming along to help  
support Langford Church.**

**We are having a raffle, an auction, mince pies, mulled  
wine and a Christmas Carol sing along.**

**Last year we raised over £400 for Langford Church and  
we had a lot of fun catching up with everyone. Hope to  
see you all there!**

**Can't make it but still wish to donate a raffle prize, get  
involved or buy raffle tickets?**

**Speak to Amy Everatt on 07709168205**

**Have a very Merry Christmas xxx**



# CHAOS AT CHRISTMAS by Fiona Wright

There's chaos in the kitchen. Ding, dong, the guests are starting to arrive.  
We look like a showroom forecourt, there are seven cars in the drive!  
I must remember it's the season of peace and goodwill to **all** men.  
If I run out of patience later, I will just have to count up to ten!

The chaos started last night, quite late on Christmas Eve,  
The calamity in the kitchen, you just would not believe!  
I'd cleaned and stuffed the turkey, tied it up with string,  
But when I tried it in the oven, the damn thing wouldn't fit in!



The tears rolled down my cheeks and then I started to laugh.  
My other half came through the door and said, "You'll just have to cut it in half!"  
We tried every knife in the drawer, but could we cut it, could we heck as!  
Then Hubby said, "Wait! I have an idea, I'll get the Black and Decker!"  
"But then it won't look good on the table. I will have to serve it in two."  
"Well," said he, with his usual wisdom, "We could always use superglue!"



Now my father's walked into the kitchen. His nickname is Mr Grumpy.  
He always has to interfere and now the gravy's gone lumpy!  
The dinner's nearly ready. It's time to sit at the table,  
But Uncle Bertie's gone for a walk and he's taken Auntie Mabel!  
I go into the dining room and there I am faced with despair.  
The cat's pulled over the Christmas tree and there are baubles everywhere!

Now the dinner has all been eaten and everyone is stuffed.  
Uncle Bertie's fallen asleep; he appears to have had enough.  
The sherry and wine were flowing, which kept Auntie Mabel happy.  
The children are playing Monopoly and everyone else is quite chatty.

The first person who wants to leave was the first one to arrive,  
But as I have said before, there are now seven cars in the drive!  
There is still chaos in the kitchen, but now it's moved outside  
Because everyone is far too drunk to manoeuvre their cars aside.

The dishes still need washing and now everyone's asleep.  
I am starting to get annoyed because this dinner wasn't cheap!  
I must remember the Christmas spirit of peace and goodwill.  
There's chaos in the kitchen and tomorrow it will be there still!





## GARDEN CLUB



Our November meeting saw the return of Steffie Shields to give a talk on the Artist in the Garden. She had a wonderful selection of slides to illustrate the effectiveness of gardeners who select plants for their colour. Successful gardeners use a mix of colours from opposing sides of the colour wheel; therefore yellow and purple, red and green and blue with orange are successful combinations. Her talk took us to impressive gardens through the country, including Gumby Hall in Lincolnshire, Great Dixter in Sussex and Melbourne Hall in Derbyshire. She talked enthusiastically about fellow photographers such as Andrew Lawson and Christopher Lawson but also the artists Monet, Van Gogh and John Piper. All through her talk Steffie returned to the importance of the gardener's choices and 'Mother Nature' who creates the circumstances that we can enjoy: what a beautiful Autumn this year!

**Our next meeting will be our Christmas Social on 18th January.** Please remember to bring your own drinks and a plate of food to share.

Lynne Shapley

## EVITA DANCE

Wednesdays 7-7:45pm BURLEX - Winthorpe Village Hall, Gainsborough Rd, NG24 2NN Free parking.

Wednesdays 7:50-8:35pm ZUMBA - Winthorpe Village Hall.

Mondays 10-10:45am ZUMBA GOLD - Winthorpe Village Hall.

£6/ session, and first session is FREE any Mondays for those who are new to Zumba. It is a lower-medium intensity Zumba with minimum jumping for ladies in their golden age.

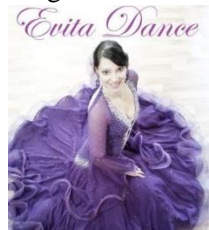
NEW! Fridays 10-10:45am ZUMBA - Sutton-on-Trent Sports Club, Grassthorne Road, NG23 6QX (one end of the town) Free parking.

If new to Zumba first session is £3; full price is £6/ session.

Booking is essential please. Monday Zumba is often full and Wed Zumba is cancelled sometimes due to Hall availability or low number.

To book just send a text message to 07715360175.

Alternatively send a message to Evita Dance on Facebook.



## News from Langford Lowfields

Skeins of pink-footed geese and flocks of golden plover have flown overhead, whilst small herds of whooper swans have stopped off on the reserve to rest. Redwings and fieldfares are feeding on berries in the hedgerows and winter wildfowl numbers are starting to build up. If you can brave the cold and rain, Langford Lowfields is looking great at the moment. With all our reedbed habitat management work now completed for the year, we are allowing the water levels to come up, providing more open water areas for the ducks, swans and geese and submerging the islands to create large areas of wet reed, that will be perfect for any bitterns that decide to over-winter here. Higher water levels will also benefit the flock of starlings that traditionally roost in the reeds at Langford Lowfields during the winter months. The maximum count so far has been



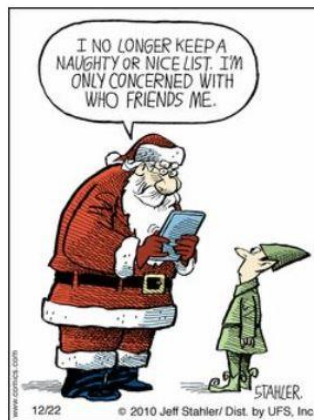
about 10000 birds in early November. Whether they'll stick around is another matter, but the higher water levels give them more protection against hungry ground predators like foxes.

We got a lot of great work done in the reedbed this year including planting out 12000 home-grown reed seedlings, which was a massive achievement. We put more fish shelters out into the reedbed to provide safe havens for our fish population, giving them additional sanctuary from predators and hopefully in time helping to boost fish numbers. We have a dominance of pike and perch on site (both predatory species) and so we're working to boost numbers of our other species including rudd and eel. Two of the bare muddy islands in front of the Beach Hut have been covered with black plastic followed by a layer of gravel. Come next spring, these islands will hopefully provide ideal nesting sites for common terns; birds which don't have much suitable nesting habitat elsewhere along this stretch of the Trent. Large numbers of willow trees have been pulled out of the reedbed, to prevent them dominating this still-

establishing habitat and hay cut elsewhere on site has been spread out onto bare muddy areas on the islands. The thinking behind the hay spreading is that it will soon be under water and underwater insects can then start eating it as it rots. Next year when the water levels start dropping again the rotting vegetation will not only be putting nutrients into these nutrient-poor bare areas (aiding reed colonization) but the insects in the hay will also provide an amazing food source for long-legged wading birds that feed on the water's-edge.

Bearded tits (which bred at Langford this year for the first time – also the first breeding record for Nottinghamshire) are still being seen regularly on site, with numbers now having built up to about 12 individuals, although whether any of these are 'our' beardies, or whether if they've flown in from elsewhere we're not sure. It's worth keeping your ears open for their distinctive pinging call, in fact it's worth just spending time listening to the sounds coming from the reedbed; the explosive call of a Cetti's warbler, the whistling of the wigeon, the squeal of a water rail, the prehistoric noises made by herons and the squelchy noise made by snipe as they burst into the air.

We are in the process of getting some new signage made to make the walk from the car park to the main part of the reserve more 'obvious', including an indication of the distance to help guide first-time visitors. We have also installed a new bench half way along this path, with a new view that has been opened up looking through onto one of the quarry's silt-settling lagoons. Pretty much the first people who used the bench saw a bittern coming into land, crashing into the reeds directly opposite, so it's worth having a sit and a watch. Depending on the availability of our volunteer team we do try to have the Beach Hut welcome area open every day, so if you see or hear anything interesting on your wanderings around the reserve, please write it down in the book that lives in the Beach Hut or email us [langford.beckingham@rspb.org.uk](mailto:langford.beckingham@rspb.org.uk)



## 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 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.

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

We're not having a pub quiz in December as we have so many Christmas dinner booking requests. Quiz Night is moving to a Tuesday night in 2017 so will be Tuesday 10th January, Tuesday 7th February and Tuesday 7th March. £50 first prize. £1 entry/£5 with food.

Our first Open Mic & Live music night rocked (thank you again, Neil & Guy!) and we'll now host every third Tuesday of the month - 17th January, 21st

February & 21st March 2017.

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.

### **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 Christmas Greetings!

Oli, Em, Dave & Martyn & The Lord Nelson crew (Phone 01636 707705)



**The Lord Nelson Team would like to invite residents of Winthorpe Village and Winthorpe Care Home to a very special Silver Surfer Christmas Lunch.**



Tuesday 13th December 2016

Served between 12pm & 2pm

Traditional Christmas dinner: Breast of turkey with a chestnut and cranberry sausage meat stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables

or

Vegetarian nut roast with all the trimmings

Plus

Mince Pie & Coffee

£10.00

Please pre-book with us.

Tel 01636 707705



**Father Christmas is coming to The Lord Nelson!**

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th December 2016

10am - 12pm

Santa, along with his elves and ~~reindeer~~ miniature horses, has decided to stop by the Lord Nelson at Winthorpe.

Santa Meet-and-Greet, selfies and presents for all.

Cuddle one of Santa's tiny present-carrying ponies.

Free mince pies and squash.

£5.00\* No need to pre-book.



\*We'll be making a donation to local Winthorpe community groups.



# A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

*Dear friends*

Christmas 2016 comes at the end of a very eventful year, with the European Referendum, the United States of America Presidential Election, the death of some popular and much loved celebrities and the reduction in the amount of chocolate on a

Toblerone. Added to that, many of us will have suffered our own personal losses and faced new

uncertainties. In the midst of all this, I hope that the words “Happy Christmas” will be the greeting heard loud and clear and shared amongst us all this December.

“Happy Christmas” is an important reminder that God has not left us to face the changes and chances of this world alone. “Happy Christmas” reminds us that God has never abandoned us, but came and lived in a dangerous place, born to parents who were suffering under the tyrannical rule of a world super power. At Christmas we celebrate Jesus’ birth and one of the names given to Jesus is “Emmanuel”, which means ‘God with us’ and that’s what we are celebrating. God with us makes a huge difference to the world and to our lives.

One of my favourite Christmas Carols is:

*Love came down at Christmas,*

*love all lovely, love divine.*

*Love was born at Christmas,*

*stars and angels gave the sign.*

That carol reminds me that in the Bible, right from the birth of Jesus we see in everything that he did, that love is stronger than hatred, oppression, disease and death. That carol makes me question populist scary messages and news stories which try to tell me that I’m in constant danger and should only be looking after myself. That carol challenges me to live a life which is more caring, less selfish and more likely to bring life and hope to the world around me.

That’s a Christmas challenge for us all.

I look forward to singing lots of carols with you this Christmas, and I’d love you to tell me about your favourites and what they mean to you.

I pray that as we sing carols and hear the Christmas story this year, we will remember that God is with us, filling the world with the light of love, so we can be filled with hope as we look forward to a new year.

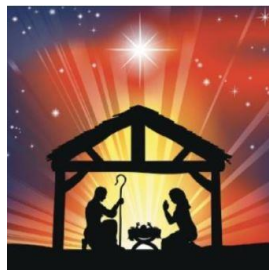
A favourite Bible reading at Christmas is John’s Gospel chapter 1 verses 1-14 and this is part of that reading from “The Message” version of the Bible:

“The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn’t put it out”.

Let’s live as though that is true.

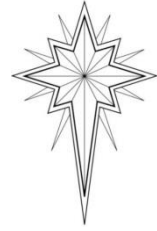
*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.*

*Happy Christmas, Revd Mandy.*



## HIDDEN LIGHT

A child's eyes glistening in the light of the fire,  
A church lit up with the sounds of the choir.  
The altar lit by candles which invite us to pray  
And give thanks for the child, born on Christmas Day.



A tree brought to life by small fairy lights,  
Makes Christmas feel special and full of delights.  
The moonlight reflecting on snow covered ground,  
Where play of young and old can be seen all around.

The bright heavenly star, which led the three wise men  
To the birth of the holy child in Bethlehem.  
By the light of the lanterns, which guided their way,  
They bestowed their gifts on this special day.

The need for light is everywhere to be found,  
For all creatures great and small to abound.  
But the best light of all is one we can't see,  
It's the light in our hearts; there for you and for me.

By Fiona Wright



# Southwell Travel Show 2017- Bigger and Better

Now entering its 6th year, the annual Southwell Travel show is set to be bigger and better than ever before. On the 21st January from 10am to 3pm, 26 of the UK's top independent operators will be exhibiting at The Saracens Head in Southwell to share their knowledge and offer inspiration for exciting holiday destinations for 2017 and beyond.



From Jersey to Japan, all destinations will be covered and you'll find the right person to talk to. Be inspired to see the world with adventure holiday specialist Exodus; enjoy the luxury of VIP door to door travel with Titan; experience train travel with a difference with Great Rail Journeys or enjoy a tailor-made tour through Asia with Transindus, through China with Wendy Wu or New Zealand

with Silver Fern.

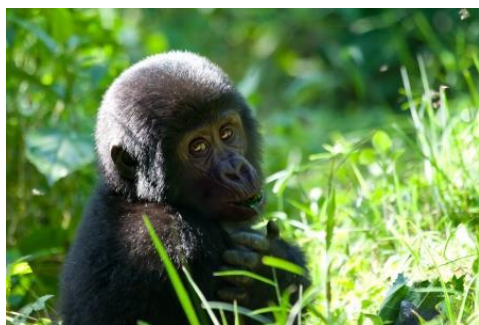
Travel experts attending this year include Saga, Kirker, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Holidays, Classic Collection, Veloso, Serenity, Typically Italian, Sunvil and Premier and also river and, for the first time, ocean cruise

operators such as Ama, Seabourn and Holland America.



There will be scheduled presentations during the day at the Hyde Barker Travel Agency, from Riviera Travel, Silver Fern Holidays, Hurtigruten and African Pride.

**Take advantage of on the day show offers and don't forget to use £50 voucher against the cost of all holidays featured at the show (see advert.)**



Booking your holiday through Hyde Barker ensures you won't waste precious time searching through hundreds of internet sites to find your perfect holiday; instead let the agency's long standing team do what they do best –

imparting their insider knowledge, worldwide destination expertise, and well-kept travel secrets, ensuring an unforgettable holiday experience, wherever the destination!



**SOUTHWELL  
TRAVEL SHOW  
2017**

Hosted by Hyde Barker Travel

**Tel: 01636 816 262**

**Saturday January 21st**

**Saracens Head Hotel 10am - 3pm**

Exclusive show offers - Expert advice - Presentations - Holiday raffle

**Exchange this advert for a £50 holiday voucher at the show or at [www.hbtravel.co.uk](http://www.hbtravel.co.uk)**

## COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS WALKS FOR DECEMBER 2016

Sunday December 4th

Marton 5.5 miles

Sunday December 18th

Girton/Spalford Warren 7 miles

Wednesday December 14th

Whisby Nature Reserve 4.5 miles

(mulled wine and mince pies en route)

### 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](mailto: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



## WINTHORPE SUMMER FESTIVAL 2017

The Festival Committee are planning to hold next year's Summer Festival on **Saturday July 1st**. Please put this in your diaries and come along to support this very successful and enjoyable event. If anyone is interested in having a stall or helping in any way, please get in touch with me. We are continuing with the Scarecrow Competition, so get your thinking caps on!

As usual all our profits go to a designated charity, so please come and help to raise as much as possible by having a fun afternoon out. Further information will appear in future editions of Focal Point.

**Sue Masheder** (Festival Committee)

Home 01636 659582. Mob. 07714548561



I would like to thank all of my customers in Winthorpe, Langford and Holme for using my services over the past 3-4 years. I have gained a lot of experience during this time which I hope to use and improve upon during my time in Australia. I will be back for a short while in April 2017 so may see some of you then. If you have any requirements please get in touch with Mrs Sue Sharpe for a mid- April visit. In the meantime have a happy and healthy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Ian Sharp of Sharp Cuts Tree Services

# WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

On Thursday 17th November 2016 the Parish Council held its monthly Parish Council meeting in the village hall.

I am delighted to say that two recent fund raising events held in the village were a great success.



The annual 5th November bonfire, held at the village school, raised £1,172. This is slightly more than last year and considering it was in direct competition with other bigger events held locally, it is a fantastic achievement.

The second defibrillator disco was held in the community centre on the 12th November and £973 was raised towards purchasing another defibrillator which will be located at the community centre. Again, another fantastic achievement.

Many thanks go to the organisers of both events, the people who turned up and supported the events and the generous donations made by people who could not attend. As you are aware, all monies raised go to support activities and organisations directly connected to the village.

The Parish Council have been made aware of “hate” graffiti being sprayed on signs within the village. This is clearly unacceptable and if anyone witnesses such an occurrence, please notify the Police.

As mentioned previously, the Council is looking at purchasing a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) for the village.

It has been suggested that it would get more use if it was located near the community centre rather than by the Skateboard Park.

This would benefit the community centre and potentially give the centre more use. The existing swings and slide would be upgraded as part of the work.

The Council welcomes any views on these proposals.

Mrs Sally Sillery – Parish Clerk



**Just a reminder of the defibrillator code. It is CY543.**

**Instructions for its use are built into the machine when it is switched on as it fully explains any actions that need to be undertaken.**





## **ALL SAINTS**

## **WINTHORPE**

### **CHURCH NOTICES**

Last month's remembrance service was once again very well attended, thank you all for your continued support for this special service.

What? December already? Where did the year go? It has been a busy year at All Saints with lots of concerts, school services, and of course our usual Sunday services. Over the year we have seen a gradual increase in regular worshippers as new people have moved in to the village. There are of course plenty of spare seats at most services so do feel free to come along and join in - you would be made most welcome.

Christmas is a very special time of year and it is all too easy to get carried away with the festivities and presents. If you need a little oasis of calm over this period then please do come along to our services for a taste of "the real Christmas." As you can see we have several Christmas and Carol services here in Winthorpe, Holme, and Langford. There are also lots more throughout the group; see the village notice board for more details.



I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year from myself and all the members of the Winthorpe PCC.

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



# Church Services for December



Saturday 3rd	16:00 Christmas Service	Langford
Sunday 4th	09:00 Holy Communion	Holme
Sunday 11th	10:30 Holy Communion	Winthorpe
Friday 16th	13:30 School Carol Service	Winthorpe
Sunday 18th	09:00 Holy Communion	Langford
	16:30 Carol Service	Winthorpe
	18:00 Carol Service	Holme
Christmas Eve	19:00 Holy Communion	Winthorpe
Christmas Day	10:15 Holy Communion	Holme

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](mailto:i.hasman@ntlworld.com).

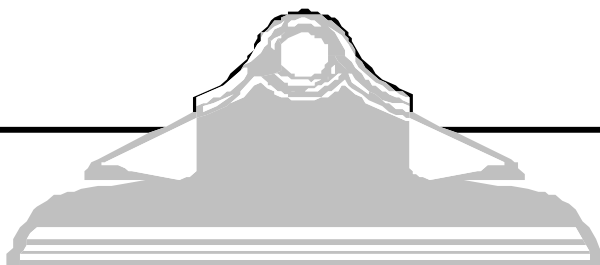
**Church Cleaners** – Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Nelson

**Brass Cleaners** – Mrs Taylor and Mrs Everson

**Church Flower Ladies** – The church will be open from 2.00pm on Thursday 15th December to receive your flower arrangements. We are extremely grateful for your wonderful support. Please call Sylvia on 703271 if you are unable to decorate your usual place.

Removal of Flowers – 2.00pm on Tuesday 3rd January. Sylvia Lloyd





## DECEMBER CALENDAR

Monday 5th	Green Bin
Friday 9th	School Christmas Fayre 3.30- 5.30pm
Sat 10th/Sun 11th	Father Christmas to The Lord Nelson 10am-12 pm
Monday 12th	Silver Bin and Brown Bin Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre
Tuesday 13th	Special Silver Surfer Lunch Lord Nelson 12-2pm
Wednesday 14th	Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm VH
Thursday 15th	WI Christmas Coffee Morning 10-12 CC with Carol Singing from children from school
Friday 16th	School finishes
Monday 19th	Green Bin Mobile Library
<b>Saturday 24th</b>	<b>Silver Bin</b> (yes – honestly!)
Sunday 25th	HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!



### 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](http://www.winthorpe.org.uk)

### SANTA JOKES



- Q. What kind of motorbike does Santa ride? A. A Holly Davidson!  
Q. What says ‘Oh Oh Oh’? A. Santa walking backwards!  
Q. What do you call Santa’s little helpers? Subordinate clauses!

