



2018

Ed's Comments

### **The Christmas Tree Festival in Newark Parish Church was amazing!**

As I walked around the sparkling, creative and often thought provoking trees I was amazed by the number and variety of firms who take part in the event and I recognised the names of several of our advertisers – how do people in such busy lines of work find the time to produce such lovely contributions? I expect it is a welcome diversion from daily duties and routines!

The trees created by schools and local adult groups were all so well thought out and beautifully crafted, including our own school here in Winthorpe. Who could miss the familiar 'sunflower logo' of Winthorpe School?

What struck me most of all though, were the number of charities and support groups who were using the event to say to us all – look whatever your problem or need we are here to help! Beaumont House, Newark Foodbank, Age Concern (Newark) and Mind to name but a few. In the gloom of the dark days of winter and the uncertainty of the future, those dazzling trees gave hope and promised support for 2018 – locally!

So with the memory of that warm, comforting feeling of hope for the coming year fresh in my mind I pass it on to you all – a very happy and healthy New Year to everyone who reads Focal Point!

**Annie Purday**



Closing date for the February issue is **Friday 19th January**

Deliver to Annie and Nick 18, Hargon Lane, Winthorpe  
or email [nickwynne@virginmedia.com](mailto:nickwynne@virginmedia.com)

## LUNCH CLUB

The **February** Lunch Club will be at 12.30 p.m. on  
**Monday 5th February** at the Community Centre.  
The menu will be:



Baked Ham and Pineapple with a Red Wine Sauce

OR

Jacket Potato with Prawns and Tuna  
and Seasonal Vegetables



-x-



Apple Charlotte and Custard

-x- Tea or Coffee

£8 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 There is no Lunch Club in January but a Lunch organised by  
The Lord Nelson Pub on Tuesday January 9th.  
The menu is on p 16. Please ring the Pub (707705) to book.**



High Street  
Collingham

Newark NG23 7LB

General Enquiries/Emergencies: 01636 892156

Email: [collingham.medicalcentre@nhs.net](mailto:collingham.medicalcentre@nhs.net)

### **Drs Fearn, Li & Walker**

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Tuesday - Friday 8.00am-6.30pm

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For Prescriptions telephone: 01636 892210 8.30am – 12.00pm

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



## **COLLINGHAM PHARMACY**



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Tel: 01636 893038

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

# January Reflection 2018.

## Dear Friends

Way back in November, which seems a long time ago now, I was booking into our holiday apartment when I saw what looked like a prayer tree, such as you might see in a church or cathedral.

On closer examination, I discovered it wasn't a prayer tree but a wish tree with wishes hanging from the branches. World peace was one wish and I want to lose weight was another. I decided not to add my own but I thought about prayers and wishes.

Stop wishing your life away I've been told.

This song describes wishes well:

*'If wishes were horses, beggars would ride,  
All dreams and desires would ride alongside,  
Worries and troubles would fall off behind.  
If wishes were horses, beggars would ride.'*

In an ancient legend, King Midas wished that everything he touched turned to gold. All went well until he realised that golden food and drink left him hungry and thirsty. The wish led to tragedy when the king's beloved daughter rushed to embrace him and turned instantly to gold.

So, be careful what you wish for.

What about prayers though? Are they different? Well, when we pray, we are not idly wishing that our daydreams will come true or racking our brains to think of the perfect, fool proof wish.

When we pray, we are getting in touch with God who knows us, loves us and wants the best for us. We can talk to God about our hopes, fears and yes, our wishes and we can listen to God's response. Sometimes our prayers will be answered in very positive ways which leave us in no doubt. Sometimes we find ourselves being part of the answer to our prayer and sometimes we find that our thinking, our attitudes and our desires are changed.



So, I hope that alongside our resolutions and wishes for 2018, we will take some time to pray.

Here is a prayer for the New Year by William Temple (1881-1944)

*O Lord, as the years change, may we find rest in your eternal changelessness. Help us to meet this New Year bravely, in the faith that, while life changes all around us, you are always the same, guiding us with your wisdom and protecting us with your love; through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Have a very happy and blessed new year.

Revd Mandy



## VILLAGE VENTURES

Date for your diary - Sunday 25th February 2018

The Village Ventures presents - OLD HAT JAZZ BAND



Lizy Exell formed the Old Hat in 2012, while she was still a student at Trinity Laban Conservatoire. The band features some of the finest young jazz musicians London has to offer and combines the quintessential sound of classic jazz with originality and characterful musicianship. Old Hat continues the tradition of crafting swinging tunes from favourite songs of

the 20s, 30s and their own compositions. Old Hat Jazz Band enjoys playing for listening music lovers wherever they are invited.

Tickets will be £10.00 and available from Helen Bradley on 07739424600



## FOOD BANK SHOPPING LIST

December/January 2018

PLEASE DO NOT DONATE ITEMS  
CONTAINING ALCOHOL – THANK YOU!

### Urgently Needed

#### Food

- Instant mashed potato, Jam, Sugar, Long life UHT Juice, Tinned/microwavable sponge puddings, Chocolate biscuit bars.

#### Non-Food Items

- Shampoo, Loo rolls, Toothpaste, Laundry liquitabs.

Please do not donate FRESH food items. Also, **please** check that your donation is well inside its use-by-date. We cannot distribute out of date food.

### Always needed

#### Food

- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Tinned Vegetables – NOT sweetcorn
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Chocolate – bars/sweets
- Cereal Bars
- Cereal
- Biscuits
- Long Life Juice – NOT fresh please
- Sugar
- Tinned/Packet Soup – meat
- Jam
- Chocolate Biscuit Bars: e.g. Kit Kat; Penguin; Rocky etc.
- Tinned/Packet Vegetable Soup

- Tinned Meat – hot: e.g. mince; stewing steak
- Tinned Meat – cold: e.g. Spam: ham – NOT corned beef please

#### Additional Items

- Deodorant
- Feminine Hygiene
- Men's Toiletries
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Shower Gel
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Laundry liquitabs/tablets
- Dog/Cat food
- Strong Carrier bags

Items definitely **NOT** needed at present, as we have a plentiful supply:

- Baked Beans
- Coffee

**The organisers of the Foodbank thank you all for your help and support during 2017.** The Foodbank Collection Point is just inside the porch of Winthorpe Village Hall which is open whenever Max Neale's Art Classes are being held. You can also donate items in Winthorpe Church on Sundays when there are services and on Thursdays during 'Open Church.'

**Please continue to support the Foodbank and help make a difference!**

# Congratulations to Winthorpe WI!

Your Christmas Tree in Newark Church is brilliant.

Well done! Audrey Craven



Christmas Tree photos by Paul Fairclough



## THE WITHAM VALLEY PARK PRESERVATION GROUP

The Witham Valley Park Preservation Group (WVPPG) is a recently launched group of local residents and business owners. We have come together to express concern around the proposed Animal Rendering Plant at Villa Farm, Norton Disney.



Lincoln Proteins Ltd recent attendance at a number of Parish Council events has not reassured locals who have ever-growing concerns around traffic and diversions from the A46, noise/air/visual pollution, and most pertinently, the loss of local jobs and income

You can join our mailing list and/or find further information, including details of how to send feedback to the County Council's Planning Department, at:

Website: [www.withamvalleyppg.net](http://www.withamvalleyppg.net)

Email: [withamvalleyparkpreservationgr@gmail.com](mailto:withamvalleyparkpreservationgr@gmail.com)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/WithamValleyPPG/](https://www.instagram.com/WithamValleyPPG/)

Twitter: [@WithamValleyPPG](https://twitter.com/WithamValleyPPG)

This group will also be posting a monthly update in Focal Point, intended to communicate factual information and updates on events that may be of interest to its readership.



Olivia  
(on behalf of the WVPPG)



## **2018: A New Year With New Opportunities for You**

Are you looking for an interesting and rewarding new challenge for 2018?  
This exciting volunteering opportunity could be just the ticket!

Could you be . . .

- a trusted friend
- someone who will listen – and care
- a helpful pair of hands when life is at its most chaotic
- a bringer of fun, laughter and hope



Family life has many ups and downs.

Sometimes families can find themselves coping with challenging situations, such as bereavement, serious illness, relationship breakup, poverty, mental health problems, loneliness and isolation, to name a few.

Every week, hundreds of Home-Start volunteers in the UK visit families who are experiencing tough times like this. Our volunteers offer befriending and support through the darkest of days and help families find their way through to happier times. Our volunteers love being able to see families growing in confidence. They enjoy being able to be a friendly listening ear, and to offer practical help where it's most needed.

*'For me volunteering for Home Start is rewarding - when there's so much bad news, it's good to feel you're doing something that's really helping someone directly.'* A Home-Start volunteer

We are recruiting now for our Volunteer Preparation Course, which starts on the 28th of February 2018. The only qualifications you need are: parenting experience, listening skills and a non-judgemental attitude– we'll teach you all the rest!

Enhanced DBS checks will be undertaken with all applicants.

**We are holding a Coffee Morning for Potential Volunteers on Wednesday 7th February 10.30-11.30. Please contact us to book your place or to find out more about this rewarding opportunity.**

Tel: 01636 705011 Email: [info@homestartnewark.co.uk](mailto:info@homestartnewark.co.uk)

Website: [www.homestartnewark.co.uk](http://www.homestartnewark.co.uk)

Pop in: 30 Barnbygate, Newark, NG24 1PZ

## *A New Year Poem*

*How* beautiful the turning of the year!

*A* moment artificial yet profound:

*P*oint upon an arbitrary chart

*P*assing like a breath upon the heart,

*Y*earning with anticipation wound,

*N*ew hope new harbored in old-fashioned cheer.

*E*ven when the boundary line is clear

*We* recognize the oneness of the ground.

*Y*ears, like circles, do not end or start

*E*xcept we lay across their truth our art

*A*ddjusting dates as they go round and round

*R*evolving to a tune long sung and dear. *Nicholas Gordon*



## THE VALUE OF A COMMITTEE MEMBER

Ten little members standing in a line,  
One disliked the Chairman,  
And then there were nine.  
Nine ambitious members offered to work late,  
One forgot her promise,  
And then there were eight.  
Eight creative members had ideas as good as heaven,  
One lost enthusiasm,  
And then there were seven.  
Seven committee members got into a fix,  
They quarrelled over programmes,  
And then there were six.  
Six members remained with spirit and drive,  
One moved away,  
And there were five.  
Five steadfast members,  
Wished there were more,  
One became indifferent,  
Then there were four.  
Four cheerful members who never disagreed,  
'Til one complained of meetings,  
And then there were three.  
Three eager members! What do we do?  
One got discouraged,  
And then there were two.  
Two lonely members,  
Our rhyme is nearly done,  
One joined a bridge club,  
And then there was one.  
One faithful member was feeling rather blue,  
Met with a neighbour,  
And then there were two.  
Two earnest members, each enrolled one more,  
Doubling their number,  
And then there were four.  
Four determined members just could not wait,  
'Til each won another,  
And then there were eight.  
Eight excited members signed up sixteen more,  
In another six verses,  
There will be a thousand and twenty-four.



There will be a thousand and twenty-four. Anon - submitted by Pat Finn

# Southwell Travel Show: Part of 70 year old History!



Hyde Barker Travel has been part of the East Midlands community for 70 years, with a long history of helping locals plan memorable holidays.

There have been many changes in the travel business since 1948 but Hyde Barker Travel is still at the cutting edge of providing holidays that their customers want, with independent unbiased advice across a large quality range of holidays; total re-assurance from the oldest established company in the area; 100% financial protection with abta bonding; a complete travel service right from the door with airport essential packages and great value. This is all done with a very high level of personal service and attention to detail.



Photo: YALLANDE BARFIELD



“We are looking forward to meeting customers old and new at the 2018 Southwell Travel Show and to inspiring travellers into the next decade. In a couple of hours you can virtually travel

the world, and talk to experts about your own holiday dreams, whether that is a cruise, a tailor-made trip of a lifetime or an escorted tour,” says Barbara Cray, one of the two present-day owners of the company.

This year’s range of 27 travel companies includes well-known operators such as Titan and Riviera, and smaller specialists like Serenity Holidays, Typically Italian, Inside Burma, African Pride, Hurtigruten and a dedicated independent Cruise Expert.

Hyde Barker staff will be on hand throughout, and appointments are available between 3pm-4pm for those who want to discuss their specific holiday arrangements.

Entry to the Southwell Travel Show on 20 January is free, and all visitors are invited to take advantage of a £50 discount on any featured holiday booked by 27 February 2018. For further details ring 01636 816262 or visit [www.hbtravel.co.uk](http://www.hbtravel.co.uk)



# **SOUTHWELL TRAVEL SHOW 2018**

THE TRAVELLERS



TRAVEL AGENCY

**Saturday January 20th** Saracens Head Hotel 10am - 3pm

Exclusive show offers - Expert advice - Presentations - Holiday raffle

**Tel: 01636 816 262** Hosted by Hyde Barker Travel

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

**Dear folks,**

Happy New Year!

A cold but happy start to 2018; we welcomed the New Year in style with our black-tie, James Bond-themed NYE party. When the clock struck twelve we were on the dance-floor, shaking (but not stirring) our martinis.



Santa popped in on 17th

December, accompanied by his trusty miniature steed, HRH Princess Bumble. All proceeds raised were donated to Winthorpe Primary school.

**Our January events:-**

**We're closed Monday 1st January.**

Saturday 6th January: Live Music with Swing Nouveau.

We are giving our Chefs a very well-deserved post-Christmas rest during the weekend of Sat 6th & Sun 7th January so we won't be running our normal food service but food options will be available.

Tuesday 9th January - A lunch for Winthorpe villagers at 12:30pm. £10 a head for a set menu (Roasted tomato soup, Cottage pie with seasonal veg or chunky vegetable lasagne, and apple crumble with custard or bread and butter pudding.)

Tuesday 9th January - Pub Quiz.

Tuesday 23rd January - Open Mic Night.

Friday 26th January - Live Music with James Manners.

**A courtesy for your information: we will be closed for dinner on Tuesday 13th February 2018.**

Wishing you every happiness and success in 2018 and we hope to see you soon.

Em, Oli, Martyn & Chef David (The Lord Nelson Directors)

The Lord Nelson, Winthorpe, Newark, Notts, NG24 2NN  
Tel 01636 707705 or [thelordnelsonwinthorpe@gmail.com](mailto:thelordnelsonwinthorpe@gmail.com)

# WINTHORPE COMMUNITY CENTRE 100 CLUB

Result for November 100 Club Draw:

1st   No.45   Duncan Richardson   £30.00

2nd   No 16   Lord Nelson   £15.00

3rd   No 43   Margaret Thornhill   £ 5.00



The draw was made at the Winthorpe Community Centre meeting on 20th November. We still have 50 members and our aim is to keep driving to reach 100 members. If you haven't yet got your tickets all you need to do is sign a membership form and Standing Order mandate for £2 a month. These are available from Duncan Richardson. Please contact Duncan on 01636 651605 or email [duncrichardson@sky.com](mailto:duncrichardson@sky.com).

For further details see the Community Centre web site.

**JOIN OUR 100 CLUB TODAY AND YOU COULD BE A WINNER!**



## News from Langford Lowfields

### December 2017

Our recent event at Langford Lowfields was a Winter Wonderland Walk.

By a stroke of luck the walk happened on the only day this decade when the wind wasn't cutting across the reserve. It was completely still and this combined with the sunshine meant it was the perfect afternoon for a winter walk. We always hope that the much talked about bittern or bearded tits will put in an appearance on our walks. Sadly nature is unpredictable and this didn't happen, but we saw a great selection of the other wildlife that the reserve has to offer.



Redwings and fieldfares were feeding in the hedgerows, rapidly munching their way through this year's crop of hawthorn berries. A green sandpiper and a shelduck were feeding on one of the silt lagoons and teal and

whistling wigeon were spread out across the site. A wintering chiffchaff put in an appearance, along with a flock of linnets, a few reed buntings, a snipe and a noisy redshank. We heard the piglet-like squeal of a water rail and a Cetti's warbler was heard calling on our way back to the car park. The still waters reflected the wintery sky like a mirror and the sunlight shining and sparkling through the reed seed looked magical.

The walk took us behind the scenes and definitely off-piste as we headed through the heart of the reedbed, past the point where a bittern was heard booming during the springtime and out to our brand new sand martin nesting bank. We then headed down to the Phase 3 restoration area, a 35ha area which is being quickly transformed from a dis-used part of the Tarmac quarry into an amazing wetland area. We came back along the western edge of the reserve, taking in the views out across the entire site,

before dropping back onto the public part of the reserve where we watched a small group of roe deer watching us.

Keep an eye out for more events happening at Langford. During 2018 we hope to include more guided walks such as the Dawn Chorus, Wildflower and Butterfly walks and more....

### **An update on the sand martin bank**

With the help of local contractor, Richard Collett, we have now built our brand new sand martin bank. In just four days the bank, which is essentially a large compacted block of sand, was complete and should be home to potentially over 200 sand martin nest holes

next spring. The bank is currently being left to settle behind wooden shuttering until just before the birds return in March, when all will be revealed to provide an ideal sandy face for the birds to excavate holes.



Sand martins are a real feature of Langford in the spring and summer, returning from West Africa in mid-late March every year. Our colony has fluctuated for the past few years, but we hope that a new bank will encourage good numbers in 2018 and beyond.

Recent sightings include peregrine, marsh harrier, pied wagtails, kingfisher, goldeneye, stonechat, water rail, whooper swans, sandpipers, snipe, greater and lesser black-backed gulls and reed bunting.

We do still have opportunities available at Langford Lowfields for you to volunteer with us. Please contact us on

[Langford.Beckingham@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Langford.Beckingham@rspb.org.uk) if you have some time to spare and would like to join our growing volunteer teams.

It has been a great year at Langford Lowfields and the Team here would like to wish you all a very Happy New Yew Year! **Angela Roberts**



# ALL SAINTS

## WINTHORPE

### CHURCH NOTICES

*“May Light always surround you; Hope kindle and rebound you. May your Hurts turn to Healing; Your Heart embrace Feeling. May Wounds become Wisdom; Every Kindness a Prism. May Laughter infect you; Your Passion resurrect you. May Goodness inspire your Deepest Desires. Through all that you Reach For, May your arms Never Tire.” D. Simone*

**A Happy New Year to everyone.** I decided to start with thoughts from someone who can write them so much better than me!

I did not mention in the December issue that Revd Mandy has been with us for over a year now and how pleased and happy we are to have her taking many of our Services and helping the PCC. I should also mention at this time how lovely it is to have the newly retired Revd Canon David White back amongst us in the East Trent Group helping out with Services when he can.

The church, over Christmas, looked beautiful as always, with the wonderful flower stands and decorated windows. We are so lucky to have so many able people in our village.

Looking ahead to this month on Sunday January 28th we are hosting, the East Trent Group Service for Candlemas in the form of Evening Prayer at 5p.m. An altar candle from each of the churches will be blessed for the coming year ahead. Everyone is very welcome to attend and if they would like, to bring a candle from home to be blessed as well.

We are thinking of those who are unwell at this time, especially Margaret Bark who is hospitalised as I write.

Tish Applewhite, Churchwarden (643763)

# Church Services for January 2018



## **Sunday 7th**

(Epiphany)

9.00 a.m.

Holy Communion

Holme

## **Sunday 14th**

(2<sup>nd</sup> of Epiphany)

10.30 a.m.

Holy Communion

Winthorpe

## **Sunday 21st**

(3<sup>rd</sup> of Epiphany)

9.00 a.m.

Holy Communion

Langford

10.15 a.m.

Morning Worship

Winthorpe

## **Sunday 28th**

(Candlemas)

5 p.m.

**Evening Prayer**

**Winthorpe**

**Group Candlemas Service**

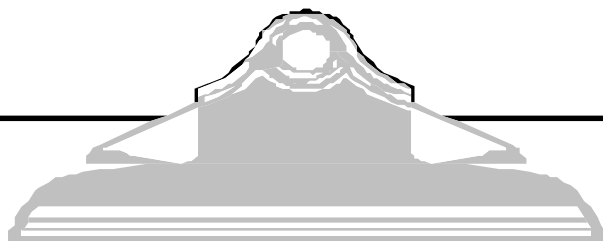
The Church Bells may be rung for any of the Winthorpe services. The bells may be rung on Friday evenings between 7.00 and 9.00pm for practice. If you are able to ring or would like to learn how to ring please get in touch with the Tower Captain, Ian Hasman, on 01636 679105 or e-mail him at [I.hasman@ntlworld.com](mailto:I.hasman@ntlworld.com)

**Church Cleaners** – Mr B and Mrs D McClymont

**Church Flowers** – Thank you once again for making the church look so festive for Christmas.

**Flower removal** – 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2nd. Please call Tish if you need an alternative time/date





## JANUARY CALENDAR

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!



<b>Tuesday 2nd</b>	<b>Green Bin</b>
Monday 8th	Silver Bin
Tuesday 9th	Villagers Lunch at The Lord Nelson 12.30 pm
Thursday 11th	WI meeting 7.30 pm Village Hall
Monday 15th	Green and Brown bins Mobile Library
Wednesday 17th	Garden Club Social Evening CC
Thursday 18th	Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm Village Hall
Saturday 20th	Southwell Travel Show
Monday 22nd	Silver Bin
Monday 29th	Green Bin

So I promised a list of  
New Year's resolutions  
Here's the first :  
Stop procrastinating so much.  
I'll post the rest tomorrow  
or maybe the day after .



**NB BIN COLLECTIONS IN HOLME  
VILLAGE ON FRIDAYS  
(EXCEPT FRI 5TH JAN. SAT 6TH INSTEAD)**

*'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)*

