



2019 Ed's Comments: Rather sadly this is my last issue as Editor. Sadly because it is something that I have really enjoyed

doing and will miss each month.

On a much happier note this is **not** the last issue of Focal Point. I was very worried when no-one from the three villages agreed to take over the task of being Editor because I was afraid the magazine would fold after thirty eight years and the work of lots of wonderful Editors.

You can imagine my delight when someone came up with an amazingly generous solution. Marcia Parkin, the Editor of Collingham's 'Fleet' Magazine has volunteered to become the Editor of Focal Point as well, on a temporary basis until the end of the year in the hopes that someone from Holme, Langford or Winthorpe will still come forward.

It's hard enough having to leave Winthorpe where Nick and I have been very happy for the last eight years, without leaving feeling that we have let Focal Point down. Now we can go knowing that there is a future for the magazine and it will be left in good hands. Thank you, Marcia. She will tell you of her plans and ideas in the next issue – her first!

All that remains for us to do is say a very big thank you to all of you who have contributed to Focal Point, helped in its distribution and read it each month – your support and feedback has been invaluable!

Best wishes to you all!

Annie Purday and Nick Wynne

Focal Point will continue to arrive through your letter box each month as before but your contributions need to be sent to:

Marcia Parkin at winthorpefocalpoint@gmail.com

or posted to The Station House, Station Road, Collingham, Newark,
Notts NG23 7RA Telephone 01636 892331

The closing date for the May issue is 15th April.

**DON'T FORGET THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR
CONTRIBUTIONS TO FOCAL POINT IS
winthorpefocalpoint@gmail.com**

LUNCH CLUB

The 'May' Lunch Club will be at 12.30 p.m. on **Monday 29th April** at the Community Centre.

The menu will be:



Beef Bourignon

OR

Fish Cakes with Parsley Sauce



Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

-x-



Trifle

-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 The April Lunch Club is on Monday 1st April as advertised in last month's Focal Point.

VILLAGE VENTURES

BOND TO BOWIE



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Winthorpe Community Centre

Sunday 7th April 7.30 pm

Tickets Adults £10

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St Mary Magdalene Church, Newark
Saturday 13th April 2019, 7.30pm

Newark Choral Society
Ryton Chorale

ELIJAH

Mendelssohn

Alexandra Wynn *soprano*
Phillipa Thomas *contralto*
Jason Darnell *tenor*
David Wynn *bass*
Stephen Maxson *organ*
Roger Bryan *conductor*

Tickets: £12 in advance or £14 on the door.
Available from RST Music Services,
Carter Gate, Newark and choir members
(01636 673298). Disabled Access



**making
music**

GARDEN CLUB FEBRUARY 2019

The speaker for the evening was Steve Lovell who has been with us on several previous occasions.

The subject this time was 'East Anglia – Nature's Haven'. Steve spent a large amount of time in the area, working initially with the RSPB before becoming a Garden Designer and Landscaper which he has been for the last twenty five years although wildlife gardening is his main interest. The many slides shown started in the southern area showing the development of Wallasey Island by the RSPB in the Thames Estuary, using soil from the London Crossrail.

We saw lapwings at Titchwell Reserve, water voles at Rainham Marshes, moving on to Minsmere with sand martins and stone curlew. The effects of plastic on the surrounding beaches was also shown. Some Highland Cattle are used for grass control in the area and a mention was made of the booming bitterns.

The Norfolk Broads are getting cleaner with restrictions on boats being enforced, enabling the wildlife to improve. There are now marsh harriers at Hickling Broad. Chinese water deer (only found in East Anglia) were seen at Strumpshaw as was the wonderful swallowtail butterfly.



The talk concluded with the mention of the effects of wind on sand dunes at Holme next the Sea and references to Boston, The Wash and South Lincolnshire. An excellent evening full of information was enjoyed by around 40 members, including two new welcome visitors.

The evening concluded with the usual refreshments and a quiz by Pat Finn. **David Green**

Please Note The dates for the Garden Club trip to Ascott House/ Sissinghurst Castle are now 19th & 20th June – not as shown in February's Focal Point.

Forthcoming Events: April 17th will be our AGM and Plant Sale. On May 15th the speaker is Tracey Akehurst with her presentation of Chocolate Unwrapped.

GIANT SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

Time to launch the 2019 Giant Sunflower Competition!

For anyone not familiar with this Winthorpe institution, this is the annual children's competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower. The competition was started over 20 years ago by local resident Pat Finn and has been going (or growing?) strong ever since.

All children at Winthorpe Primary School can enter, as well as non-pupils (of primary school age) living in Winthorpe, Langford and Holme. Charlie and I will be visiting the school on Friday 29th March to deliver a "sunflower assembly" and give out a packet of seeds to each child. This normally involves a lot of comedy, and hopefully the children leave feeling excited about planting their seeds and "having a go"!

If your children don't attend Winthorpe Primary you can buy "Giant Sunflower" seeds from a garden centre or shop. The children plant their seeds on Easter Sunday (21st April) and need to nurture them through the spring and summer until the competition ends on Sunday 8th September. We hold a 'prize presentation' assembly shortly after that, where we give out trophies to our winners and certificates to all who take part. With skilful use of ladders, broom handles and blu-tac, we stick paper sunflowers on the wall of the school hall to show the height of our winners – they are always impressively tall!

We would really encourage everyone to have a go – even if you don't consider yourself to be "green fingered". The experience of growing a plant from seed and caring for it over many weeks is really special, and the children get very excited about who will have the winning sunflower.

Good Luck to everyone!

Liz & Charlie Ferreira



Reflection April 2019

Dear Friends,

Is your glass half full or half empty? How do you feel about Brexit?

By the time you're reading this, Friday March 29th 2019 will be a historical date and we'll know what happened on that day and maybe we'll know where we stand in relation to the European Union.

Whatever we hope for, there's no doubt that we've all been living with a lot of uncertainty and perhaps some anxiety, not knowing what will happen or what Brexit will mean. Some feelings have run high and different opinions have brought division.

From my point of view, it's very poignant that this is happening as Good Friday and Easter get closer.

Uncertainty, anxiety and division were the stuff of life for Jesus and his disciples in the weeks before his arrest, trial and crucifixion.

Feelings certainly ran high. Here are a few examples: Jesus' best friend Peter tried to dissuade Jesus from going to Jerusalem and Jesus told him to '*Get behind me Satan!*'

Another friend Thomas swore that he would go to Jerusalem with him, even if he had to die with him. His friend Judas took a bribe, betrayed Jesus and led his captors straight to him. When Jesus was arrested, most of his friends ran away and deserted him, afraid of repercussions against themselves.



Surely, all of this looked towards the bleakest of outcomes; how could anything good come out of all that? However, God is always full of surprises and the biggest surprise of all must be Jesus' resurrection. This meant that all that terrifying anxiety was turned to joy and eventually those frightened, argumentative disciples came together and they began a new way of life.

This is why we are bound to be positive people with our glasses half full.

The Easter story of resurrection, new life and hope tells us that no situation is so bad that God cannot bring something good out of it.

So, this Easter, as well as enjoying chocolate and a bank holiday, let's choose to join in the new life that God gives.



Come along to church, this great story is being remembered and celebrated in lots of different ways this month. Joining together with other people for prayer and worship can transform our lives and communities.

Choose to live and work for the good of others and our world.

Pray for our political leaders and everyone who wields great influence.

And have a very happy and blessed Easter.

Rev'd Mandy



The Photographic Challenge

The World Around Us (the small things)

It's that time of year again where we need to start thinking about the Winthorpe photographic challenge to be held at the Winthorpe Village Festival on the 29th June.

Les and I had our usual brainstorming session to think of ideas for a theme, we ended up discussing Brexit and the state of the world in general. This got me thinking that in these uncertain times we could perhaps focus on the small things that make us feel good. For me that's the birds in my garden; what is it for you?

Entering the challenge couldn't be easier, take out your phone or camera and snap to your hearts content, this can be anything that makes you feel good, for example a landscape, your pet or a family member.



Have the photograph printed, this can be any size and shape.

Put your name and address onto the back of the print and bring it to the festival nice and early or alternatively deliver to myself or Les.

The competition will be judged blind by the general public.

We will have a small prize for the winner but more importantly you will get the bragging rights of the village. **Amanda Ramsay and Les Murray**

WINTHORPE TENNIS CLUB

invites you to their

AGM



7.30pm Friday 12 April 2019

Winthorpe Community Centre

Everyone Welcome

Maureen Smith 01636 701205

Winthorpe Tennis Club Secretary

WINTHORPE COMMUNITY CENTRE 100 CLUB

WINNERS OF THE MARCH DRAW

1st Eddy Allen £41.40

2nd J Green £20.70

3rd P Foden £6.90



We now have 71 members and are still aiming to reach 100. 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.



Winthorpe & District W.I.

March was our Annual Meeting at which we had wine and nibbles. On Wednesday April 10th is our birthday party. Members please note that it is in the Community

Centre with an earlier start of 6.30 p.m. for 6.45 p.m. There will be a supper and a fun evening of entertainment. The month of May is Resolutions again with wine and nibbles. Looking further ahead to 2nd July; we are having an evening trip to Nottingham to see Calendar Girls with seating in the stalls at a possible cost of £55. This of course includes the coach. We have a few places still available and welcome ladies and gentlemen who would like to come and join us. *Virginia Seager*, President

COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS WALKS FOR APRIL

Sunday April 7th Ruskington 7.5 miles

Sunday April 28th Cuckney 7.5 miles

Wednesday April 17th Fiskerton 4.5 miles

NEW WALKERS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you would like to join us on any of these walks please

contact NINA WARD on collinghamramblersnottswalks@gmail.com

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 (some may have a shorter option). 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**



THE LORD NELSON

Dear folks,

It's almost Spring and we're excited about getting our beautiful Victorian walled beer garden back to her best, and welcoming in folks for a drink in the balmy sunshine (I know, it's England, but we live in hope). Brexit may be casting a shadow of uncertainty over our land but there will always be the certainty of wonderful food, great beer and a very warm welcome at the Lord Nelson.



Our very talented new Chef, Neil, has settled in beautifully and the refurbishment of our restaurant has been completed. You'll see stunning new grey dining seats tucked under our new dining tables, and fresh decor.

Events coming up this month:

Tuesday 2nd April - Pub Quiz & Pasta

Tuesday 16th April - Live Music and Open Mic Night

Monday 22nd April - Open for bank holiday Monday

And a courtesy heads-up on other forthcoming events:

Our annual Duck Race with BBQ and music will be taking place on Monday 27th May.

We're hosting a second fundraising Auction on Saturday 1st June with proceeds going to the Bomber County Gateway Trust.

Remember to book in early for Father's Day menu on Sunday 16th June, as we are always fully booked for this and Mother's Day.

We cannot wait for our bespoke ale and music festival, "Winfest", on Saturday 22nd June (and a pre-party on Friday 21st June).

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

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



FOOD BANK SHOPPING LIST

March/April 2019

**PLEASE DO NOT DONATE ITEMS
CONTAINING ALCOHOL – THANK YOU!**

Shortfall Items

Food

- Tinned Rice Pudding, Sugar, Tinned Fish, Tinned Peas, Instant Mashed Potato, Long Life Milk

Non-Food Items

- Washing up liquid, Men's deodorant, Men's shower gel

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

- Long Life Fruit Juice (not squash)
- Breakfast Cereal
- Cereal Bars
- Tea Bags – 40's or 80's
NOT 240/260/280's please
- Tinned Potatoes
- Packets of Rice (dried)
- All Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Biscuits
- Tinned/Packet Soup
- Jam
- Vegetarian Alternatives – Tinned Vegetable Curry etc.

- Tinned Meat – hot: e.g. mince; stewing steak
- Tinned Meat – cold: e.g. Spam: ham – NOT corned beef please
- Tinned Custard Chocolate / Sweets
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Fruit
- Chocolate Biscuit Bars

Additional Items

- Laundry liquid/tablets
- Toothpaste
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Deodorant - female
- Washing up liquid

Items of which we have a plentiful supply:

- Baked Beans
- Coffee
- Pasta – we are now very well stocked

THANK YOU

The Foodbank Collection Point is in the porch of Winthorpe Village Hall which is open when 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.'

The new Foodbank Co-ordinator in Winthorpe is Jane White of 11 Gainsborough Road. Please continue to support the Foodbank and help make a difference!

Bearded tits are being seen regularly from the boardwalk with up to 8 being seen at any one time. We are now keeping our fingers crossed that at least one pair will stay around to breed again at Langford. Bearded tits are heavily dependent on reedbeds for feeding and nesting and to date, Langford Lowfields is the only recorded place in Nottinghamshire where they have bred.



The earliest ever record of an avocet in Nottinghamshire was recorded at Langford on 20th January and butterflies put in an early appearance during the warm February with peacock (15th), brimstone (16th), comma and red admiral (19th) all being seen.

Channels and glades have been cut in dense areas of reed to provide increased bittern feeding and viewing opportunities. Patches of reed have been cut just above the water level to provide nesting areas for black-headed gulls. 100 pairs nested last year and provided a very noisy show for visitors.

Also seen recently are water rails, chiffchaff, avocets, green sandpiper, stonechat, little grebe, cetti's warbler and tree creepers.

There are a number of bird species that breed at Langford which love nesting on gravel covered islands, these include common terns, oystercatchers and little-ringed plovers. We have 2 gravel covered islands in the area of water in front of the Beach Hut and braving the wind and choppy waters, our volunteer team recently rowed and waded out to give them a bit of a spring clean. Black plastic was laid on the islands and this was then covered in gravel. Vegetation was also removed to ensure the islands are nice and clear. Clay pipes have been arranged on the islands to give small chicks places to hide.

The face of the sand martin bank needs to be prepared each year. The bank is made up of layers of compacted sand and the martins create a fresh nest hole each year, so the front 1m or so of the bank is removed after the nesting season to ensure that come the following year, a nice clean sandy face awaits them. The face of the bank had been covered in black plastic all winter to prevent plants growing on it and to keep the rain off it. It also acted as an additional barrier in case any very determined rabbits managed to get through the rabbit-proof fence. The black plastic was removed at the beginning of March and to our huge relief the face of the bank was still looking perfect. With sand martins already being seen in the county it shouldn't be long before they start burrowing into our bank again.

Two new benches have been put up on the reserve, one at the southern and one at the northern end of the Phase 1 part of the site. These provide excellent views out across the reedbed. With the gravel-covered islands sitting just below the southern bench, in recent days a bittern could be heard booming from the northern bench. Excitingly a new stile has also gone in, this crosses the western boundary fence of the site and allows visitors to gain access to the Trent Valley Way at a point close to Cromwell Weir. It also gives the opportunity to follow the TVW and get views out across the newly restored Phase 3 part of the site. A good variety of birds are being seen out there at the moment including great white egrets, avocets, ringed plover and water pipits.



Guided Walk – May 2019

Our next guided walk is the 'Dawn Chorus' and will be held on Sunday 12 May 2019 at 7-10am. Please call us on 01636 893611 to book a place. Prices are: Adult Non Member £10.00; Adult Member £8.00 / Child Non Member £5.00; Child Member £4.00. **Angela Roberts**

WINTHORPE OUTREACH POST OFFICE

One of the WI members spoke recently to the lady from the Post Office and the message is “USE IT OR LOSE IT”. If more people do not use the facilities of the Post Office on Thursday mornings, we are in grave danger of losing it. This would be sad because a number of people fought hard for this facility to be brought into Winthorpe.



The Post Office is available every Thursday morning 9 a.m. to 12 noon 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! There is plenty of parking – an added bonus!

You can also get a cup of coffee with biscuits and sometimes cake at the coffee morning run by the W.I. while you are there.



MOLLY SAYS ‘THANK YOU’!

Our granddaughter Molly loves the new play equipment!

Mike & Chris Toulson



Q: What do you call a rabbit that tells good jokes?

A: A funny bunny!

Q: How does the Easter Bunny paint all the Easter eggs?

A: He hires Santa's elves during the off season.

Q: What kind of music do bunnies like? A: Hip Hop.



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Phone : 07900 687137

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[twitter.com](https://twitter.com/codwincc) @ codwincc





ALL SAINTS

WINTHORPE

CHURCH NOTICES

We hope Winthorpe School enjoyed their time in church last month learning all about Easter! Having set up four ‘corners of information’, small groups from one class moved round to each ‘station’ taking on board parts of the ‘Easter Story’.

We enter the month of April with so much to look forward to during its 30 days. The many Lent services are in full swing and happily, in Winthorpe, our Holy Communion service falls on Palm Sunday followed at the end of Holy Week with the Good Friday ‘Final Hour at the Cross’ service and the following day, on Easter Eve, the lovely East Trent Group Service of Light with Holy Communion.

Please note that the Palm Sunday service is in the Village Hall **but** the two Holy Week services will be back in **church**.

The weather at that time will be closely monitored and steps taken to warm the church if required. We do look forward to seeing a good congregation back in All Saints, especially as, on Easter Eve, the church will be festooned with beautiful Easter decorations produced by our wonderful village ‘Flower Ladies’.



Finally as I write these notes during ‘Storm Gareth’ I wish everyone a ‘calm’ and very happy Easter, still remembering in our prayers any villager hospitalised, ill or facing a bereavement at this time.

Tish Applewhite Churchwarden (643763)

Church Services for April 2019



Wednesday 3rd	7.30 p.m.	Service of the Cross and Compline	Collingham St J the B
Sunday 7th (5th of Lent)	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Holme
Wednesday 10th	7.30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross and Compline	Collingham St. J the B.
Sunday 14th (Palm Sunday)	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Winthorpe (Village Hall)
Tuesday 16th	7.30 p.m.	Holy Week Service	Langford
Friday 19th Good Friday	2.00 p.m.	The Final Hour at the Cross (HC)	Winthorpe (Church)
Saturday 20th Easter Eve	7.00 p.m.	Group Service of Light and Holy Communion	Winthorpe (Church)
Sunday 21st (Easter Day)	9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Holme
Sunday 28th (2nd of Easter)	9.00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Langford

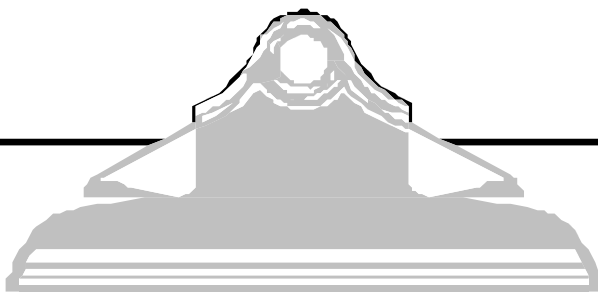
The Church Bells may be rung for any of the Winthorpe services.

Church Flower Ladies The church will be open at **3.20 p.m.** on **Good Friday (19th)** to receive your Easter flower displays and will be open again on **Monday April 29th** at **4 p.m** to sadly clear away. Thank you.



Church Cleaners – Mrs J. White

Brasses – Mrs J. Aldridge and Mrs D. McClymont



APRIL CALENDAR

- Monday 1st Silver Bin
Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre
- Sunday 7th Village Ventures 7.30 pm Community Centre
- Monday 8th Green and Brown Bins
Mobile Library
- Wednesday 10th WI Party 6.30 pm Community Centre
- Friday 12th Tennis Club AGM 7.30 pm Community Centre
- Saturday 13th Indoor Aeroboot/Aerajumble: Air Museum
- Sunday 14th Harrier Day: Air Museum
- Monday 15th Silver Bin
- Wednesday 17th Garden Club AGM and Plant Sale 7.30 pm
Community Centre
- Thursday 18th Parish Council Meeting and Finance Committee
7.00 pm Village Hall
- Sunday 21st **HAPPY EASTER!**
- Monday 22nd Green and Brown Bins
- Monday 29th Silver Bin
- ‘MAY’ Lunch Club 12.30 Community Centre**



NB BIN COLLECTIONS 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