



HERE'S OUR FRONT  
COVER IN COLOUR!



HOLME | WINTHORPE | LANGFORD

## WELCOME

**Welcome** to May's ONLINE edition of the Focal Point magazine. I hope you enjoy reading this issue. Make sure to check in every month for the next edition. **Thank you** for reading online. Please tell your friends, family, neighbours, pet geckos or anyone who may be interested in staying up to date with Holme, Winthorpe and Langford.

### QUICK UPDATES BEFORE YOU GET READING...

Thank you to all our advertisers, distributors, article writers and those sending in suggestions who continue to support our local magazine in these challenging times.

- Lizzie Wakefield - Editor

## FOCAL POINT

ISSUE No. 484



## NOTICES

Make sure to check out Winthorpe village's website to keep up with all the latest news, as well as Holme village's website (not secure).

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May 2021 Edition



Hiya!

Phew April has passed — so many birthdays! Every week of April seems to be a cake fest and buying presents. Not that I'm complaining. I love birthdays!!!

I feel like every edition since March's I'm getting more and more excited by the minute. All the hedges have or are turning green, my plants are showing off their beauty and of course the summer holidays are less than a month away (for me). Only a few more exams and that's GCSEs done and dusted, then roll on summer. What's your favourite season?

Although I'm always harping on about summer, I have to say spring is my favourite season. Every time I open my curtains, my seedlings seem to be a completely different plant. They're getting huge. Now all the window sills in my house have been flooded with seedlings. It also turns out I went a little bit crazy with the tomato seeds... I've double then triple checked and it seems to me that I have 100 tomato plants!!! Mental.

Hopefully, this is the year where I can advance my gardening as well as start a completely new hobby... beekeeping (which my mum and I were so eager to try in 2020, but that didn't quite go to plan :( )

Ok, enough about me. So, about this edition... Well to start with, this edition (as you can probably tell) is yet again another jam-packed edition. Thanks again to all of those who contributed and thank you to those who have taken the time out of their day to send such lovely comments. Let me know what you think could be improved and of course, I'll listen and consider.

Luckily, May has a couple of bank holidays, one of which I love the concept of... MAY DAY! I honestly can't wrap my head around that next month's edition will mark being half-way through 2021. Talk to you next month. Have a beautiful May.

- Lizzie W (Ed)

## DEADLINE

**FOR JUNE'S EDITION  
MAY 22ND 2021**



How would sir like his breakfast  
May I make a small suggestion  
That could possibly help you  
As an aide to your digestion

Do you like your bacon crispy  
Or lying flabby on the plate  
I can do you smoked or streaky  
Please tell me which you rate

Our eggs are kind and loving  
As fresh as fresh can be  
Scrambled, soft and to your taste  
You'll love them wait and see

My sausages are works of art  
So plump and full of pork  
Just listen to the sizzle  
As they jump upon your fork

The coffee's something special sir  
A numb sensation in your toes  
So black and hot and steaming  
Those aromas up your nose

If tea is what you favour  
Let me put your mind at rest  
My supplier based in Assam  
Only sends me what is best

What was that you said sir  
What can your pleasure be  
A very small bowl of cornflakes!  
And a mug of builders tea!

Oh very well sir!

## BREAKFAST POEM



I hope you are all enjoying the easing of restrictions including the reopening of some pubs, cafes, restaurants, shops and more. To particularly mark the opening of the hospitality sector, here is the poem BREAKFAST. Thank you once again **Ron** for your light-hearted and jovial poem. - Lizzie W (Ed)



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Prescriptions line open 10.00am – 12.00pm

*During the Pandemic and lockdowns, the Medical Centre remains open for our core NHS services, sadly non-NHS services and non-essential, i.e. Health Checks, Minor Ops and Travel Advice are suspended. We are currently operating a telephone appointment service where we ask a clinician to call you. Please do not attend the surgery unless you are invited by a clinician to do so, as we are staggering appointments throughout the day and different zones of the building to work in a COVID safe way. Please post Repeat slips and mail in our external letter box. Thank you.*

*COVID vaccines are being administered centrally. Please respond to your invite when you receive it. Once you've had your vaccination continue to follow COVID guidelines, until the government advises that enough of us have been vaccinated to relax the guidelines.*

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)



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Tel: 01636 893038

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

## WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021, the Parish Council held its quarterly finance meeting followed by the monthly Parish Council meeting using the power of "Zoom" to comply with the Covid 19 social distancing regulations.

The Finance Chairman confirmed that the year-end accounts had been completed. The Parish Council approved the accounts and they will now be sent for audit.

The main Parish Council meeting had a number of guests present who raised issues about the Cricket Club and in particular abusive language that appears to have been used towards dog walkers using the field.

The Chairman pointed out, for the avoidance of doubt, that both the Cricket field and Jubilee field are owned by the Parish Council and there is a lease in place between the Parish Council and the Cricket Club to allow their use of that field.

The Parish Council has previously agreed that the playing area of the Cricket field was available to dog walkers but, within that area, dogs should be kept on a lead to try and reduce the dog fouling that is reported to take place. The Council agreed that the Cricket Club could put up signs to that effect.

The remaining areas, including the Jubilee field, have no restrictions to dog walkers or other recreational users.

The Parish Council will not accept any threatening or abusive language being used towards anyone using those fields and if such incidents occur, the matter should be reported to the Police for them to take action.



Mrs Sally Sillery – Parish Clerk

 <b>Town &amp; Country</b> <b>Joinery Services</b> Est 1992      Est 1992 SERVICING THE WINTHORPE AREA	
We will be happy to take on any of the following work:	
● Small jobs around the garden such as: ○ Repairs to fencing ○ Garden gates ○ Re-felting shed roofs	● General joinery & repairs in the home ● Kitchens & internal doors
Quality work always      For a free estimate call Keith on: 01636612000 or 07971325270      Fully qualified & insured	



## NEWARK FOODBANK



The most recent figure given to me by the Foodbank representing the weight of a delivery I made to them in March is **30.7kg**. Thank you for your continued generosity. I have not yet been given the weight of a more recent delivery by me to the Foodbank warehouse, but I would like to mention that it included a generous donation from Holme. Wow! Thank you so much Holme!

If anyone would like to make a direct donation, the necessary bank details for Newark Foodbank are:

CAF Bank Ltd.  
Sort code 40-52-40  
Account no: 0002700



**The items most needed by the Foodbank this month are: Instant mashed potato, tinned or microwavable sponge puddings., long life milk, jam, marmalade, peanut butter, chocolate biscuits (e.g. Kit Kats) and shampoo.**

Also, always needed, are:

**Tinned items: all vegetables, fish, meat, curries, custard, rice pudding, fruit, spaghetti, meat pies.**

Please note that the Foodbank cannot accept out of date items, fresh food, or anything containing alcohol.



The collection points in Winthorpe remain:



**The shop** at the **Lord Nelson**, during shop hours.

**The black swing bin** at the side of my front door, 11 Gainsborough Road, Winthorpe, at any time at all. The bin is checked every day.

**The church porch.** At the moment, the church is open 10-12noon on Sundays, and 1.30-3.30pm on a Thursday. Items can be left at these times.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Jane White



Since writing the monthly Foodbank article in this magazine, I have now heard from the Foodbank with the weight of our delivery to them recently. It comes in at an amazing **85.8kg**. Absolutely sensational!!! To everyone who contributed, **thank you so much.** JW





LORD NELSON



The Lord Nelson At Winthorpe



01636 707705

**Welcome back to the pub!**

We are continuing to offer food for you to take home and enjoy, this includes our Friday Chip shop menu and our Senior Citizen lunch special offer of £7.00 for fish and chips.

What's on at the Lord Nelson in May? Spring Bank Holiday weekend including some fun COVID safe duck activities including a quacking good menu! (hopefully the duck race can return next year) The Village lunch is on May 10th, please do call us directly to book your table - this month's menu is a Salmon & Prawn salad; Mince Beef & Onion Pie served with chips and peas and to follow Lemon Roulade or Mixed Berry Cheesecake ..... £12.50pp

With Boris's blessing we will be reopening and welcoming you inside to use the bar and restaurant from May 17th - fingers crossed!

Our quiz night returns on Monday May 24th so come along and join us and get that grey matter working!

We are hoping for sunny weather for the last Bank Holiday in May, do come along and enjoy our special Bank Holiday menu.

Our schedule will look like this:

To keep our Customers and staff COVID free and safe we are asking all of our Customers to continue to **book a table 24 hours** in advance, please call us, email us or message us through social media. It would be great if you could please download the NHS app in advance, this will help expedite the check in process at the gate.

We will continue operating the Shop from 9am, 7 days per week along with the Post Office between 9am - Noon each Thursday.

Thank you for your continued support!

Susie & Emma x



## MAY'S RECIPE -CELEBRATING SPRING & MAY DAY-



Thank you Jane for sending in this month's recipe!

*"A tasty seasonal frittata to make the most of the asparagus and Jersey Royal potato season. This dish makes a lovely supper served warm or enjoyed cold for lunch the next day with salad. Another time, try with goats' cheese or feta instead of the brie."* - Jane C



### JERSEY ROYALS, BRIE & ASPARAGUS FRITTATA



300g Jersey Royal New Potatoes  
5 tsp olive oil  
230g asparagus, trimmed and halved widthways  
6 eggs  
1 onion, sliced  
115g Somerset brie, sliced

1. In a large pan, cover the potatoes with cold water, bring to the boil and simmer for 12 minutes. Meanwhile, heat 1 tsp oil in a frying pan over a high heat. Fry the asparagus for 5 minutes, tossing regularly until charred; set aside. In a large bowl, season the eggs and beat together with a fork.
2. Heat another 2 tsp oil in the frying pan and fry the onion for 2-3 minutes. Drain the potatoes and rinse under cold water; cut into 0.3cm slices. Add to the pan with the onions; season and fry for 2-3 minutes until golden. Set aside.
3. Heat the remaining 2 tsp oil in a 20cm non-stick frying pan over a medium heat. Stir the veg into the eggs; tip ½ of the mixture into the pan, swirling so it sets on the base. Lay the brie on top, pour over the remaining egg mix, cover with a baking sheet and cook over a medium heat for 5-6 minutes.
4. Remove the sheet and place a plate over the pan. Carefully invert the pan so the frittata turns out onto the plate, then slide it back into the pan so the uncooked side is on the base. Cook for 5-6 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes, then serve.

**Tip:** Soft herbs, such as chives and tarragon, would be great in this frittata. Just add to the egg mixture.



### QUICK REMINDER



May's Lunch Club will be held on May 10th at the Lord Nelson. Bookings can be made to the Lord Nelson directly via phone (01636 707705). The menu for May's Lunch Club is: **Salmon & Prawn Salad OR Mince Beef & Onion Pie & Lemon Roulade OR Mixed Berry Cheesecake**

## UPDATE ON THE PPG & VACCINATION ROLLOUT

### Notes from the PPG

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) working with Collingham Medical Centre (CMC) has not held a meeting but here are some updates from CMC.



### COVID Vaccination Programme.

The Nottinghamshire vaccination rollout continues with many of you now due for the second vaccination. Please take your NHS number with you when attending for your second dose. There is a NHS number checker on the CMC website:

COVID-19 Vaccination in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG ([nottscg.nhs.uk](http://nottscg.nhs.uk)). The local booking telephone number is 0115 883 4640 8am-6pm Mon-Fri. The over 48 year old's are currently being invited for vaccination alongside those for second doses.

The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) held a virtual briefing on April 14th. A recording of this is available on the CCG's YouTube page.



### News from CMC

CMC responds to 95% of calls within 5 minutes and often much quicker if you can avoid the busy times, especially first thing in the morning.

The waiting lists are being worked through - continuing with cervical screening and starting minor operations and ear irrigations as services are brought back on line.

The Roving Team continue to administer second vaccinations in Care Homes and for housebound patients.

It has been confirmed that 50-64 year old's will be offered the 2021/22 Flu Vaccination. CMC have secured enough vaccine for this.

### Collingham Pharmacy

Lateral Flow Test kits are available at the Pharmacy. The dispensing teams have integrated back into two teams providing more team members to reduce dispensing times and support the counter.

### NHS App

This is owned and run by the NHS, this app is a simple and secure way to access your NHS information and services on your smartphone or tablet. Download the app from your AppStore. Currently over 9% of patients at CMC have activated their NHS app.



### Please remember...

that as you start to come out for the Summer to maintain hand hygiene and social distancing.  
*It takes all of us to protect us all!*

Would you, or someone you know benefit from a grant from the MES Trust?

## Calling for grant applications

We are calling for grant applications from anyone who meets our application criteria:

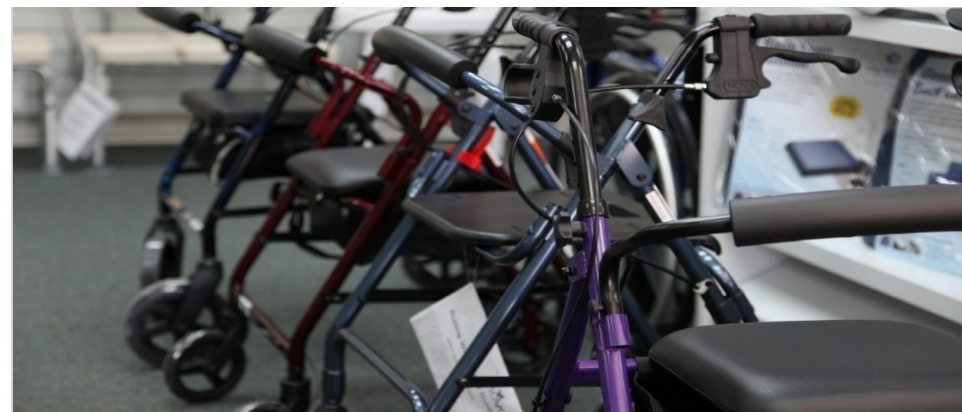
- is over 60 years of age, with a disability, illness or mobility issues;
- lives within a 12 mile radius of Newark Town Hall;
- be in need of assistance to remain in your own home.



The Trustees will be meeting soon to consider grant requests for funding and support.

THE MARY ELIZABETH SIEBEL  
TRUST

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## DEATH AT THE MILL 1871

A chance reading of an entry in the Newark Advertiser of January 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 raised my curiosity to a level where I just had to check it out.

In the 'Times gone by' column of the newspaper under the heading of **150 Years Ago** there appeared a few lines about a fatal accident at Winthorpe Mill then managed by a Mr Levers. I had read previously about a fatal mill incident when two men died but the description of this one seemed different?



After re-visiting the village website scrap books I'd only found the 1860 article, where the engineer had asked a worker to hold down the safety valve on the boiler that drove the steam engine for operating the millstones. His idea was to prevent the safety valve from releasing too early and give more power. Unfortunately for him the whole of the boiler blew up and the force of the explosion took out the roof of the boiler house. Both men had managed to crawl out but died from horrific injuries and scalding later that day.

This newer incident, the one mentioned in the newspaper was some ten years later, so puzzled by the lack of records, I decided to contact Christine Hasman of the Spinney whom I knew was in the habit of accessing historical information for the East Trent Churches Group and is the owner of [www.easttrentgenealogy.co.uk](http://www.easttrentgenealogy.co.uk)

Christine quickly responded with a scan of a coroner's report from the Nottinghamshire Guardian 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 1871 plus a photo of the victim's headstone, Mr Isaiah Gant, aged 39 who was the foreman at the mill.

**\*NEWSPAPER ARTICLE HAS BEEN REMOVED DUE TO GRAPHIC CONTENT**

On the slate head stone in Winthorpe All Saints Church yard. The inscription reads:



*In Affectionate Remembrance of*

*Isaiah Gant*

*Aged 39 Years*

*Who departed this life January 9<sup>th</sup> 1871*

*In the midst of life we are in death.*

*Be ye therefore ready also, for the*

The Winthorpe mill was situated between Thoroughfare Lane (School Lane) and Branston Close towards the A46 Fosse Way. It was managed at the time by George Levers who had married Caroline, at Winthorpe Church in 1842, she was the daughter the mill owner George Gamble. Unfortunately she passed away in 1851, but he went on to marry her sister Jane in 1853 and they had six children.

## DEATH AT THE MILL 1871 CONTINUED...

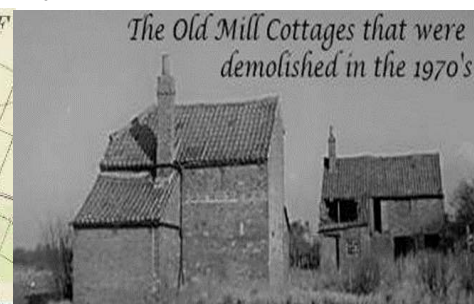
George Levers died at Coddington in 1880 and Jane some 10 years later.

The Newark Advertiser snippet (right) that aroused interest in the story.

The mill was sold again in 1883 to John Alfred Woolley of Radford (Baker) and still had it's sails for wind power and the steam engine. It was again on the market in 1890 but further ownership is unknown.



*The Mill is shown near the centre of this map*



**Bob Warriner**, along with the valuable assistance of **Christine Hasman**. Other Photo's and information by courtesy of Winthorpe Village Website.

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**W.I. CLUB**

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

"Hooray, Covid-19 restrictions are gradually being lifted. However we still need to be careful. The Lord Nelson is open for outside meals, tea/coffee and cake. I think it is time W.I. members gave it a try in the newly erected marquee. By way of celebrating our Birthday in April we hope to have groups of six, say once a fortnight, meet up at the Pub for coffee / tea and cake.

The Hornblower has continued to be published. There have been Zoom meetings with speakers and craft events. I do hope some of you have taken up the challenges. This year our subs are at a reduced rate so hopefully all are now in.

Usually we have wine and nibbles at our Annual, Birthday and Resolutions meetings. So there will be something to look forward to when we can meet as a group. Hopefully in the not too distant future. Technology is wonderful when it works. Committee meetings have been held via "WhatsApp". During a meeting, one of us spent the whole time upside down. Interesting!"

Virginia Seager  
President





## GARDEN CLUB

Yes, we are still here and looking forward to September when we can hopefully restart our Speaker programme. I ask those of you reading this to inform friends and others who do not so that the message is spread as widely as possible.

For anyone considering joining us for the first time our meetings are relaxed, friendly affairs with the opportunity to chat to others as well as being informed / entertained by the Speaker.

The Speaker on September 15th will be Andrew Ward from Norwell, his subject "Amazing Asteraceae".

As usual the venue is the Community Centre with a start time of 7.30pm. I give this information early so that you can diary it as something to look forward to and will remind you nearer the time.



Ian Wilson



## WINTHORPE TENNIS CLUB

Winthorpe Tennis club – has two hard courts by the Community centre. The club is re-launching itself now that we should be allowed to play tennis again from April.

The members are a group of people who enjoy playing tennis varying standard from beginners upwards.

The club currently has about 30 members.

Currently the club has no booking system if somebody is waiting members agree a time between themselves (up to an hour).

Membership is £ 20 for an individual or £ 40 for a Family (plus Key Deposit)

Plans for the Months ahead:

Tennis Coaching – if there is sufficient interest will re-launch Coaching (with local coaches from Caunton Tennis club)

Socials – Drinks and Barbeque are planned

If there is interest the committee will be arranging a "friendly" league

To request more information please email Jonny on

[powell.jonny@gmail.com](mailto:powell.jonny@gmail.com) and we'll give you a call / reply to the email.



# 100 100

## 100 CLUB

- April's Winners -

1st	£46.80	O J Bray
2nd	£23.40	S Preston
3rd	£7.80	H Bradley

Congratulations to our winners in April! You could also be a winner whilst supporting your local community centre by contributing £2 per month.

Information available from Nina Adams at [ninjab71@gmail.com](mailto:ninjab71@gmail.com)

## COLLINGHAM RAMBLERS WALKS FOR MAY

Great news !! Organised Ramblers Walks are now restarting . As we have to follow Ramblers Association guidelines all walks will be fairly local and no more than 5 miles in length . All participants should bring their own hand sanitiser and face mask . No car sharing unless in your own social bubble .



Wednesday	May 5th	North Scarle
Sunday	May 9th	Fiskerton
Sunday	May 23rd	Collingham
Sunday	June 6th	Southwell



### NEW WALKERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Come along and join this friendly group.

If you would like to join us on any of these walks , please contact NINA WARD on [collinghamramblersnottswalks@gmail.com](mailto:collinghamramblersnottswalks@gmail.com) for more information and specific walk details. We provide an excellent variety of walks in Nottinghamshire and adjacent counties. Walkers should provide snacks , drinks and packed lunches if appropriate. Suitable footwear and waterproofs are necessary .



## COACHING AND PLAY RESTARTED IN APRIL 2021 AT NEWARK TENNIS CLUB

Great news !! Tennis coaching and play at Newark Tennis Club on London Road restarted in April 2021 .

<b>Mondays</b>	<b>5:30pm - 6:30pm</b>	<b>Juniors</b>
	<b>6:30pm - 7:30pm</b>	<b>Cardio Tennis</b>
<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>9am - 10am</b>	<b>Juniors (Secondary)</b>
	<b>10am - 11am</b>	<b>Juniors (Primary)</b>
	<b>11am - 12:30pm</b>	<b>Adults</b>

All coaching is charged by the hour at very competitive rates. Contact coach **Jon Penney** for further information on

**07941 449351** or via [jontennis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jontennis@hotmail.co.uk)

Club Social Nights are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

Get your racquet out and come along. New members are always very welcome.

The club also has daytime social tennis and runs Ladies , Mens and Mixed teams in both the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire leagues.

General club information and membership details can be found on

[www.newarktennisclub.co.uk](http://www.newarktennisclub.co.uk)





## Daffodil community project

### Please can you help for 2 hours?

We are recruiting volunteers to assist with the planting of 10,000 Daffodil bulbs around the Winthorpe village entrance.

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> September 2021 10:00Hrs-13:00Hrs**

To sign up please email your contact details to [daffodils@langfordhall.com](mailto:daffodils@langfordhall.com)



## BRANCH&BLOOM

It's that time of year when on the first sign of sunshine you can hear the distant hum of a lawnmower. We are all so eager to get outdoors, tidy up, and take back control of our gardens after endless months of being cooped up indoors.

But can we be too tidy? It's important to remember that your piece of earth also belongs to the wildlife that inhabits it. All the creatures that live alongside us make our garden what it is, from the tiniest organisms in the soil to the birds that we love to watch visiting our feeders.

This month I sought advice from my neighbour Mike Warren, I like to call him a wildlife expert but I think he would argue with that! Mike is a local artist, the president of Nottingham bird watchers and has a long standing relationship with the RSPB so he defiantly knows a thing or two.

We spoke about the grass and our lawns in general, I was pleased that Mike is also an advocate of our own ethos, 'if a lawn is green, it's okay just leave it'. Having a little moss in your lawn will provide much needed nesting material and leaving some areas a little longer helps to naturalise wildflower species, the seeds from these will produce food for small birds such as finches and encourage beneficial insects so it's a win win! It's important to protect our nesting birds at this time of year, so:

- Try not to trim hedges now until after mid-August and if you have to, use hand held trimmers.
- Establish climbing plants for future nesting opportunities
- Plant a mixed hedge instead of fencing
- Plant a tree

Amanda and Nicola

### Garden Jobs for May:

Prune spring flowering shrubs after they have flowered	Sow beans, sweetcorn, pumpkins & squash
Sow vegetable crops outdoors after the late frosts	Make up hanging baskets + planters
Earth up potatoes	Lift + divided overcrowded daffodils, grape hyacinths & winter aconites
	Dead head daffodils + tulips & leave the foliage



connect with us on instagram and Facebook @branchandbloomgardening

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

## CEDRIC'S COLUMN: THE HEDGEHOG APPEAL

Cedric calling! Remember me ? The black and white cat who prowls the streets of downtown Winthorpe, sometimes by day, but mostly in the dead of night when you good humans are tucked up in your beds.

Last month, I told you of little Arthur (hedgehog) being sick and near death when he was found by a human and whisked off in a cardboard box to goodness knows where.



Well, surprise, surprise. Arthur is back in Winthorpe and fully recovered. Known by the humans as "Lucky" for obvious reasons, he is bursting with health and out every night pounding the local pavements and gardens. Obviously, I am very pleased to see how well he is now, as are all his little hedgehog friends in Winthorpe. To begin with, when he came home, all his friends gathered round to hear Arthur tell of being "chauffeur driven" on that fateful night to what he referred to as his "upmarket health spa". As well as his anecdotes, the other hedgehogs were invited by Arthur to look at the coin sized spot of paint put on him by the humans, so that they can identify him. The trouble is that it has all rather gone to his head and he has become a crashing bore, constantly harping on about how the humans thought he was so special that they awarded him the spot of paint to mark him out as such. Not only that but he repeated his stories endlessly, each time a little more embellished than before. He told of the "hedgehog spa" where he spent a couple of weeks, the prime cuts of meat he ate, the expensive medicines just for him, the "top of the range" cream and teatree oil rubbed into his dry skin and ears "because he's worth it". The other hedgehogs started to avoid him if they saw him coming. So wrapped up in himself, Arthur didn't notice.

He cornered me the other night and had the cheek to say that I looked a "little out of condition" and could do with "getting in trim". He gave me a demonstration of press ups and planks, suggesting that a fitness regime would do me good. When he started to criticise the length of my moustache whiskers, (of which I might say, I am very proud), I could stand no more, and told him straight "Now look here, Lucky, Arthur, whatever you call yourself now, you're basically a good little chap and all that, but don't ever forget why you were taken off to your so-called "spa". It was because you were a silly little hedgehog who came out of hibernation too soon, wouldn't listen to your elders who told you it was too early, and made yourself ill with cold and hunger. If it hadn't been for the kindness of humans, you wouldn't be pushing up planks now, you would be pushing up daisies!! So, let's see some humility from you, and learn from your mistakes. I felt very mean speaking to him that way, but he does seem to have taken it on board, and instead of the other hedgehogs avoiding him at night, he is one of the gang again. Out every night, foraging for slugs and snails, earning the title of "the gardener's friend". And, the word "plank" has not been mentioned again.

Passing a mirror at home today, I caught a glimpse of my reflection. Um....perhaps I could do with cutting down on the cat biscuits. Perhaps tomorrow...or next week. The moustache whiskers however....the most handsome in Winthorpe! They most definitely stay. Cedric.



## HEDGEHOG AWARENESS WEEK

Just like many other villages and towns, Winthorpe is seeing a decline in its hedgehog population. Little Arthur (the subject of Cedric's column in this magazine) was extremely fortunate to be rescued, looked after and then released back into the wild here. Yes, there really is a hedgehog living in the gardens of Winthorpe who has a spot of paint deliberately placed on him in the hope of tracking his whereabouts once back in the wild. He represents many other hedgehogs whose very existence is becoming increasingly fragile.

Nationally, hedgehogs have been added to the UK "red list", and classed as vulnerable to extinction, so it is up to all of us individually and as a village to help them thrive, or else they face oblivion. There are several things we can do to help them:



Leave out food and water. A small amount of dog food or meaty cat food left away from the house, will be sniffed out by hungry night prowling hedgehogs, and especially in dry weather, could be a lifeline.

Develop a "wild" corner of your garden. A big enough area to support a thriving insect, snail and worm population, as a natural food source for any passing hedgehog.

Make ponds safe, with a ramp to enable a hedgehog to get out easily if necessary.

Make a home for hedgehogs to hibernate in over winter, tucked away in a quiet part of your garden. There are plenty of instructions online on how to do this, e.g. [britishhedgehogs.org.uk/hedgehog-homes](http://britishhedgehogs.org.uk/hedgehog-homes).

Alternatively, a ready made one could be bought easily.

Check for sleeping hedgehogs before strimming or mowing.

Check bonfires for sleeping hedgehogs by moving garden rubbish to new site on day of burning.

Do not use insecticides harmful to wildlife, especially slug pellets. Hedgehogs are one of several species who will keep the slug population down for you.

Fenced in gardens do not allow hedgehogs to roam at will. Just dig a small hole under a fence, big enough to allow a hedgehog to pass through at night. They can travel up to 2 miles at night, visiting several gardens on their way.

Gently check compost heaps before digging over.

Ensure netting is at a safe height for hedgehogs to pass under.



Now hedgehogs have been officially classed as vulnerable to extinction, we need to be pro-active in looking after our remaining spiny friends. We have all taken them for granted for so long, but now we must act or lose them altogether. Please do all you realistically can to help Arthur the hedgehog and his diminishing group of friends not only survive but increase in numbers. Do not let it happen that "the gardener's friend" is no more.

If you come across a sick, injured or orphaned hedgehog, please contact the British Hedgehog Preservation Society for advice and the contact details of a local carer. The BHPS can be telephoned on 01584 890 801.

**Let this year's Hedgehog Awareness Week be the start of your effort to do your bit. Thank you.**





## TIPS FOR EATING TO SAVE THE PLANET

(PART TWO - FROM JULIA)



### Eat more variety!

75% of the world's food supply comes from just 12 plants and five animal species. Greater diversity in our diets is essential as the lack of variety in agriculture is both bad for nature and a threat to food security. Knorr has identified the Future 50 Foods that can help reduce the environmental impact of our food system including algae like seaweed and cacti! Access the report here: <https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/wwf-and-knorr-launch-future-50-foods>

### Use your voice

We don't need to burn or cut down one more tree, there's more than enough land to grow food to feed 2 billion more people by 2050. Help by pressing the Government on the issue by demanding **deforestation free food**.

### Find out about your fish

In the UK, we eat £4.5 billion worth of seafood each year, but high demand and poor management have led to overfishing, causing numbers of firm favourites, like North Sea cod and wild Atlantic salmon, to plummet. When shopping, look out for labels such as the blue **MSC label or ASC**, which signal that the fish comes from a well-managed source, and try lesser-known species like saithe, pollock and hake.

### Cut the waste

Food waste is a big problem. 30% of the food produced is wasted, with serious repercussions for the environment. In fact, if food waste was a country it would be the 3rd largest emitter of greenhouse gases after China and the USA. There are lots of suggestions online to help reduce waste from meal planners, shopping suggestions to "leftover" recipes. Find more at [wrap.org.uk](http://wrap.org.uk). or [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com)

### Grow your own

What's better than fresh, home-grown produce straight from the garden? As well as being healthy and delicious, it is free from the carbon footprint of shop-bought food.

### Look for products containing RSPO Certified Palm Oil

Palm oil is in nearly everything – it's in close to 50% of the packaged products we find in supermarkets, everything from pizza, doughnuts and chocolate, to deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste and lipstick. It's also used in animal feed and as a biofuel in many parts of the world (not in the UK though!).

Unsustainable palm oil is responsible for large-scale deforestation, putting wildlife like orangutans and tigers under threat, as well as contributing to greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the risk of climate change. But rejecting palm oil all together could have unintended consequences as alternatives can be even worse for the environment, with some needing up to nine times as much land to produce. When you're shopping look for products containing **RSPO certified sustainable palm oil**.



The UK is leading the way with many retailers committed to reducing and eliminating unsustainable palm oil from their projects and products resulting in deforestation – but there is some way to go! Find out more at <https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/palm-your-hands>

### Get Giki!

Giki is a free mobile app that provides ethical and sustainability information about more than 250,000 products. It can tell you anything from whether the packaging is recyclable to whether ingredients, including palm oil, were sourced responsibly.



### Pass on Plastic

Don't forget to bring a reusable-bag, cotton fruit & veg bags or a box when you shop, opt for packaging-free fruit and vegetables where possible, and ask brands and retailers that continue to use plastic to find alternatives.

### Eat What is in Season

When possible try to include seasonal produce from a local farm shop, greengrocer or the market. As well as supporting our local economy, it means getting to know local producers and some provide tips on how best to prepare seasonal foods.

If heading to the market isn't your thing why not try signing up for a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) veg box.



### Don't Stress About Organic

Unfortunately despite the nutritional benefits of organic produce, the jury is still out as to whether organic is better for the environment. This is complex but because it requires more land and is less efficient it produces more greenhouse gas per crop output.

### And finally... what does the future have in store and a point of Local Interest...

The UKRI / UK Research and Innovation has a £90m programme focussed on the challenge of transforming food production in the UK. Sustainability, zero carbon and climate change is key to this. They are re-imagining food production – considering everything from vertical farming, the use of underground areas where food can be grown and the creation of new sources of novel protein. Central to this is how the UK's food production systems can be much more productive, resilient and sustainable. Identifying innovative technology solutions such as robotics, sensors and data to allow farmers to make better decisions about input and management of their crops and livestock.

Why should this be of particular interest to us? Did you know that Lincolnshire is responsible for growing 12% of England's food and processing 70% of its fish and is therefore strategically important to national food security. This area is particularly important for vegetable production – 25% of national production, ornamental crops such as cut flowers 21%, sugar beet 19% and poultry meat 18%. As such Lincolnshire is promoting itself as a Centre of Excellence for the Agri-food industry attracting inward investment and businesses that in turn will create a wider range of exciting jobs in the future.



## RSPB Langford Lowfields

### – May News 2021



Spring is well and truly in the air here at Langford, although the temperatures are still quite cold! The annual breeding bird surveys have now started and we completed the second survey this morning, the 15<sup>th</sup> April. The highlights of the survey were several singing warblers, including willow warbler, chiffchaff, blackcap and Cetti's warbler, 2 avocets seen from the southern public footpath and a kingfisher seen from the Cromwell trail.

Other good sightings from recently include 2 great white egrets, marsh harrier, 143 pintail and 102 whooper swans (both reserve records), red kite, water pipit and brambling.

Spring migrants are pouring onto the reserve, with sand martins and swallows moving over every day, yellow wagtails in flocks of up to 20, along with the odd white wagtail mixed in with them and little ringed plovers. Waders have been favouring the Phase 3 area seen from the southern public footpath and have included curlew, black-tailed godwit, ringed plover, redshank, oystercatcher, lapwing and greenshank.

Our bitterns are now in full voice, booming away from inside the reedbeds – listen for them from the Cromwell trail and North trail at the northern end of the site.

Our volunteers have been busy in the last month. We have now finished all the winter work on site and have completed the clearance work on the public footpath beside Phase 1. This work has been done to try and return the area to wildflowers and grassland – it has gradually scrubbed up over the years and it used to be brilliant for butterflies and other insects in the summer months. Hopefully it will get back to that in the next few years.

With the winter work programme finished, we have started on a long list of spring jobs! The biggest of which is re-covering the boardwalk in anti-slip chicken wire. The existing wire is getting old and is ready for replacement, having survived two floods in the last two years! We will also be refreshing all our visitor infrastructure and propagating this year's crop of reed seedlings in the polytunnel.



**On Tap**

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## MAY'S REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends,

I wonder if future generations will ask us where we were and what we were doing, when Buckingham Palace announced that His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh had died. What will you say? I can say clearly that I was in the queue for Bread + Cheese at the Cat Asylum in Collingham. The news, which I read when I got home, was a bit of a shock but it was hardly unexpected, and judging from the abundance of tributes which were broadcast about this man whom I don't know at all, perhaps he'd have approved of my quest for good bread and cheese and, yes, beer.

It seems as though Prince Philip was in favour of positive action, enterprise and working to make life better so I presume he'd have been impressed by our local shops, businesses and community groups and the ways we've worked to make life better during the pandemic.

What's more, the provision and enjoyment of food does us more good than simply filling our bellies with nutrients. Sharing food is good for body, mind and spirit. One of the Bible stories set for April 8<sup>th</sup> when Prince Philip died, is an Easter resurrection story and tells us about the risen Jesus cooking fish on the beach for his tired and hungry friends.\* What a beautiful picture it paints of reunion, refreshment and new life. This is a picture of heaven, God with us, taking care of our hunger, loneliness and sadness.

What a beautiful picture for all of us who live with the weight and longing of grief. What a beautiful picture for our queen Elizabeth who has lost her friend, companion and husband of over seventy three years and what a beautiful picture for those who've died, because Jesus has opened up the way to new life with God.

How do we enter this new life? St John of the Cross wrote: *In the evening of life, we will be judged on love alone.* Love is the key, from both sides, love opens the door and love walks in; love offers the heavenly food and love reaches out to accept.

May we live in that love and may those who've died rest in peace and rise in glory.

God bless you, Revd Mandy.

\*Try reading it in John's Gospel chapter 21, verses 1-14.







# ALL SAINTS WINTHORPE CHURCH NOTICES



I am writing notes for the fifth month of the year! Where does the time go to? I hope everyone is able to enjoy our new found freedom. I have been outside at the Pub five times in three days (eating far more than drinking)! It has been chilly but I have been warmed by all the conversations and laughter emitting from the assembled – it is just so nice to socialise again isn't it?

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to another church supporter last month. Dilys Candeland passed away at the wonderful age of 93. Our thoughts and prayers are with Julie and the rest of Dilys's family at this sad time.

On Good Friday we managed to view the Easter Gardens, sing two hymns and then quickly retire inside to a warm church for the rest of the service. After this the Flower Ladies entered to create their beautiful window displays.

April saw a return to a full service diary in church - it was so nice to have this normality back. Let's hope that this remains the norm from now on (apart from the regulation not to sing hymns!)

Fingers crossed we are able to hold the Village Festival in June. With this in mind please could everybody see if they have something to donate to our Tombola Stall? Christine (Spinney), Joan (Gainsborough, bottom), Sharon (Woodlands), Sandra (Pocklington) and Tish (Gainsborough, top) would be very happy to receive any item from you.

Our thoughts and prayers are with anyone who is ill, hospitalised or facing a bereavement at this time.

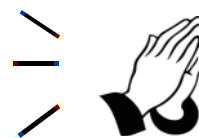
Tish Applewhite (Churchwarden) 643763

*thinking of you*

## DIGITAL / E-COPY OF THE MAGAZINE

Just in case your paper copy gets lost, chewed up by the dog, falls down the sideboard or you simply want friends/ family outside of the villages to see it, the Focal Point will always be there! And guess what... it's in COLOUR! Make sure to go to the Winthorpe Village website at <https://www.winthorpe.org.uk> > Media > Village Magazine > Current & Back Issues > Select An Edition > Voila, you are there!

## Church Services for MAY 2021



**Sunday 2nd**  
(5<sup>th</sup> of Easter)

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion Holme

**Sunday 9th**  
(6<sup>th</sup> of Easter)

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion Winthorpe

**Sunday 16th**  
(7<sup>th</sup> of Easter)

9.00a.m. Holy Communion Langford  
10.15 a.m. Morning Worship Winthorpe

**Sunday 23rd**  
(Pentecost)

6.00p.m. Evening Prayer Winthorpe

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

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*ALL MONTH*	National Walking Month	
Saturday 1st—8th	Time For A Cuppa	
Sunday 2nd-8th	Hedgehog Awareness Week	
Monday 3rd	Early May Bank Holiday (May Day!)	+
Monday 3rd	International Dawn Chorus Day	
Monday 3rd	Green & Brown Bin	
Tuesday 4th	Star Wars Day	
Tuesday 4th—9th	Red Cross Week + Red Cross Day	
Sunday 9th	World Fairtrade Day	
Sunday 9th	Europe Day	
Monday 10th	Silver Bin	
Tuesday 11th—16th	National Vegetarian Week	
Wednesday 12th	International Nurses Day	
Monday 17th	Green & Brown Bin	
Monday 24th	Silver Bin	
Tuesday 25th—30th	National BBQ Week	
Saturday 29th	National Biscuit Day	
Monday 31st	Green & Brown Bin	
Monday 31st	Spring Bank Holiday	+



### SUPPORT BUSINESSES



We need YOUR support! Many businesses (especially local businesses in the community) rely on your vital support to continue their services. Share the community spirit and help local businesses!

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

### BYE FOR NOW!

Thanks for stopping by! I hope that you check in online next month. Let me know (Lizzie, your FP Editor) if you have any suggestions for future editions .  
And don't forget to tell others about the online copies, especially if they want to see it in COLOUR!

### BUT BEFORE YOU GO...

Let your fellow village friends and family know that there is an online edition available on Winthorpe village's website.

- Lizzie Wakefield (Ed)