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## PRESS RELEASE

# Bishop of Lincoln rededicates All Saints' Church at Winterton

### All Saints' Church rededicated after major project with extensive repairs, reordering and setting up new heritage centre

<http://lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/winterton/>

- All Saints closed for services at the start of 2014 to allow a £1m project to take place, with a grant of £748,100 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The major project has so far provided extensive repairs, a new level floor, new heating, lighting and sound systems as well as new seating and a heritage centre. A new extension for toilets and a kitchen is yet to be started.
- The church has just re-opened and was rededicated at a very well attended service by the Bishop of Lincoln on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September. The Bishop, the Rt Revd Christopher Lowson, made clear how special the day was for the parish as well as for himself in celebrating in such a beautiful building. Members of both the congregations at All Saints, Anglican and Roman Catholic, were joined by friends from Winterton's Trinity Methodist and the neighbouring parishes of Winteringham, Roxby and Appleby. During the service the Bishop blessed a specially commissioned new nave altar gifted to the church. The Vicar of Winterton, Revd Alice Nunn, said 'We have worked towards this celebration event during so many years of planning, fundraising and action. It is gratifying to hear the positive comments from so many about our project and to have our bishop join us for this special service'. The congregation was joined by the Lydian Choir who led the singing with Geoff Brown as organist.
- Thanks to National Lottery players, the church building is now equipped to play a more effective role to benefit the community. As well as providing a beautiful place of worship, there is a new heritage centre created to tell the story of Winterton. The displays include new static information about the church and town and much digital material with videos and touchscreen items. The new centre has been created inside a dedicated space at the rear of the church. There is a unique collection of six west gallery wind instruments with sound files to play. Maps show the fascinating development of Winterton over hundreds of years which is also documented on a timeline. The Winterton parish bier has been brought back into

the church after many years of absence. And a new WiFi system allows a tour of the church by smartphone.

- All Saints is in the centre of Winterton. The oldest part of the church dates from before 1100 and the tower relates to new burial practices introduced by the Normans. The recent archaeological work under the church floor produced some fascinating details about several periods of the church history.

**ENDS**

**For media enquiries and images contact :** Robin Shawyer, 01724 734285 and [rdshawyer@gmail.com](mailto:rdshawyer@gmail.com)

### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **About All Saints' Church, Winterton**

All Saints is the medieval parish church for Winterton. There are regular Church of England services but also a weekly Roman Catholic mass. There is an extensive programme of concerts and coffee mornings each year and the church has always opened for visitors on Wednesday afternoons. The church closed in January 2014 in preparation for the capital works programme which has only just been completed. This has provided a reordered interior with new heating, lighting, seating and heritage interpretation together with extensive repairs and conservation. In due course an extension will be added for new toilets and a kitchen. Website at <http://lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/winterton/>

#### **About the Heritage Lottery Fund**

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk) @heritagelottery @HLFYandH

- Heritage Open Days is England's contribution to European Heritage Days, taking place across 50 countries. Other events in the UK are Doors Open Days in Scotland ([www.doorsopendays.org.uk](http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk)); Open Doors Days in Wales (<http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/opendoors/?lang=en>); European Heritage Days in Northern Ireland ([www.ehsni.gov.uk](http://www.ehsni.gov.uk)); Open House London ([www.open-city.org.uk](http://www.open-city.org.uk)).

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