



**Press releases:**

**Three releases in total**

**[1] Surprising finds at All Saints, Winterton - Immediate release**

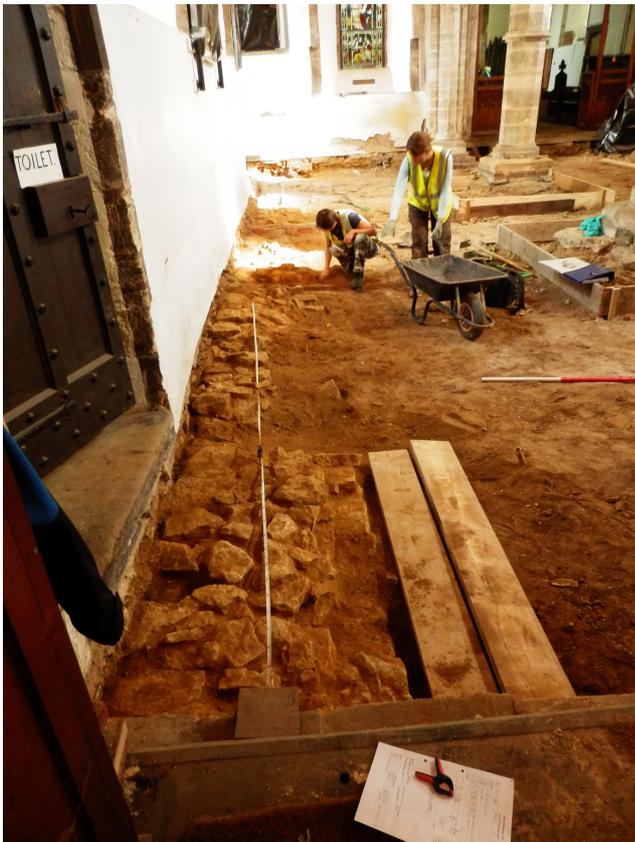
**[2] Sponsor a seat at All Saints, Winterton- Immediate release**

**[3] Completion of Phase 1 works celebrated at All Saints, Winterton - Embargoed until 16 October**

**[1] Surprising finds at All Saints, Winterton**

In recent weeks the interior of All Saints at Winterton has been 'dug' by the archaeologists. But even before they started the contractor made some intriguing discoveries.

When the pew platforms in the Nave were lifted, messages left by the joiners who did the work were found written on wood off-cuts. "William Parish - Prentice, Geo Yurdale - Improver at Mr Halls, Winterton March 15th 1872" was discovered under the northern platform. The census for Winterton in 1871 shows William J Parish, age 16, a joiner apprentice, living with the family of Richard Hall, joiner, in West Street. Under the southern platform were four wood off-cuts including



one which stated "W Langley, G Joyce, R Helstrip, P Glitherow, J Hill; Joiners; Did most of the work April 28th 1904" and "This church was restored 1903 & 1904 by Mr Halliday, Stamford Builder" All these names have been identified in the 1901 census in Stamford or nearby village.

But the archaeologists found an even bigger surprise. The floor of the nave, aisles and transepts had been partly excavated by contractors when a heating system was installed in 1872. So it seemed that not much new archaeology would be discovered. But when they excavated the areas adjacent to the aisles walls, they uncovered the foundations of two very large stone walls. The current aisles walls are considered to be early thirteenth century. The newly discovered foundations must be for a much older set of walls. They were for a very large building, almost as large as the current church. A piece of Saxon pottery was found mixed in the lime mortar but dating the foundations is difficult. It is possible that it could be a very large, and thus important, Saxon church which was previously unknown. More excavation has yet to take place near the tower

arch and elsewhere. Once there is a clearer picture based on all the evidence, the Winterton All Saints story before the thirteenth century may have to be rewritten! [The photo shows the foundations parallel to the north aisle wall]

A hastily arranged viewing for interested residents took place and a large group of Winterton Junior School pupils came also as they had been studying archaeology this term.

## **[2] Sponsor a seat at All Saints, Winterton!**

Anyone who wishes can now sponsor a new chair or bench at All Saints, Winterton. The chairs and benches are currently being made in the UK from solid oak with seagrass seat panels [see photo]. For a donation of £100 you can have a brass plaque fixed to a chair [or £300 for a 3 seater bench].



The wording will need to be simple as the plaque is small. Some examples are: "Donated by Arthur Other" and "In loving memory of Maureen Other 1939 - 2011"

Anyone who is interested can sponsor such a plaque whether or not they attend the church and whether or not they live in Winterton. The plaque does not have to be in memory of a deceased relative or friend. It can simply mark the donation made by an individual. This is a chance for everyone who wants to help secure the future of All Saints for our community. Robin Shawyer, the Project Coordinator at All Saints, said 'Please spread the word about this scheme. If we could get a plaque on every new seat we could raise over £20,000! It would make a huge difference to the funding we still need!'

If you would like to know more, please register your interest with Robin Shawyer on 01724 734285.

## **[3] Completion of Phase 1 works celebrated at All Saints, Winterton**

The capital works at All Saints, Winterton, are part of a major project funded in large part by the Heritage Lottery Fund [£748,100 grant]. Phase 1 of these works [extensive roof and high level fabric repairs with new rainwater goods] was completed on Thursday 16th October. Members of the Friends of All Saints gathered at the church to mark this important occasion, following the five years of planning and fund-raising with three months of repair work. It was the first chance to see the changes without the scaffolding and steel sheet cladding obscuring the view.

'This is a major achievement' said Jean Key, churchwarden, 'We have waited for this moment for such a long time. We will no longer have to worry about rain dripping on people sat inside. We are so grateful to those who have helped with the funds needed for this work'.

The funding for this phase has come from WREN [£75,000], Wolfson Foundation [£10,000] and Marshall's Charity, Lincolnshire Churches Trust, Diocese of Lincoln and, of course, the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Phase 2 will start at once with the full reordering of the interior of the church. This involves a new level paved floor, underfloor heating, new sound and lighting systems, extensive re-plastering and redecoration This should be completed by April 2015. The church will be re-opened for regular use in May/June. However, due to the funding gap which has appeared in the budget, the Phase 3 works for the project [new extension for kitchen and toilets] will not be completed at that time. The church is still raising money for this and other works. Already over £1million has been obtained but a further £200,000 is needed.

## 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 began in July. This will provide new toilets and a kitchen and a reordered interior with new heating, lighting, seating and heritage interpretation together with extensive repairs and conservation. Website at <http://lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/winterton/>

### About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) aims to make a lasting difference for heritage, people and communities across the UK and help build a resilient heritage economy. HLF has supported 36,000 projects with £6bn across the UK, including £411m to 3,017 projects in Yorkshire and Humber. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk).

### About WREN

WREN is a not for profit business that awards grants to community, environmental and heritage projects across the UK from funds donated by FCC Environment as part of a voluntary environmental tax credit scheme called the Landfill Communities Fund. Since 1998 WREN has granted over £150m to more than 6,000 projects which benefit people living within 10 miles of a FCC Environment landfill site. For more information please visit [www.wren.org.uk](http://www.wren.org.uk).

### For further information please contact:

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