

THE WINTERTON GROUP OF PARISHES

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	Mr Frank Jervis, 55 De Lacy Way, Winterton	732056
Reader	Ms Elaine Southern, 52 Princess House, Scunthorpe	07903817904
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Sacristan:	Mr Frank Jervis, 55 De Lacy Way, Winterton	732056
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	Mr Terry Hodges, 57a North Street, Roxby	732430
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Churchwarden:		
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH Winteringham		
Churchwardens:	Mr Chris Knowles, 16 West End Winteringham	734213
	Mrs Alison Bell, 10 Meggitt Lane, Winteringham	733741
Group Magazine Editor:	Miss Freda Berisford, 5 West Street, Winterton	732137
Distribution:	Miss Freda Berisford, 5 West Street, Winterton	732137

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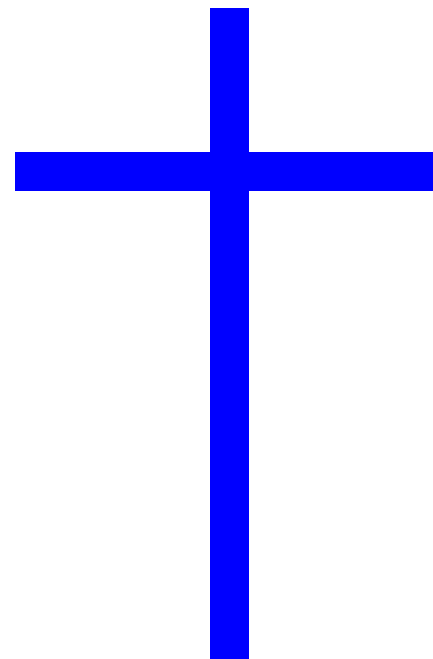
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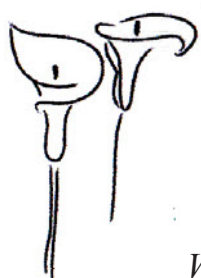


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A Letter from our Vicar

Dear All

We seem to be living in strange times, and things feel pretty uncertain around the coronavirus developments. Indeed, it is fair to say many are anxious, understandably, especially if they have underlying health concerns or someone close to them has. Many will be feeling vulnerable.

I have been sort of caught up in this weirdness, because I visited Spain for a few days in early March. It was, I'm pleased to say, a great experience. BUT during my time I (and a couple of others) developed a bit of a cough and cold - but we carried on as we felt well. However, returning to the hourly news feeds and fear here in the UK I soon realised I would not be welcome in church, or meeting anyone, so rather than embarrass people I decided to remain at home and only communicate by phone or email – yes, your technophobic vicar is mighty glad we have such things!

So that is the situation today, as I write (14 March), but I'm pleased to say my cold is now abating and I hope and trust that I will soon be fully and happily amongst you as I am looking forward to sharing Easter with you all.

Nothing is totally certain in these distracted times, but I want you to know that I am preparing to celebrate this great feast in the normal way, so I commend to you the programme for Holy Week and Easter which you will find here in the mag, or in leaflets placed in the churches.

There are certain restrictions on Communion and contact during the Peace. These are sensible precautions and are required by the Archbishops.

Finally, while I really wish to share Easter with you all, if you feel it is still too risky to come despite our best efforts, remember that EVERY Sunday is a celebration of the Lord's resurrection and that you will always be made most welcome.

In Christ's Love

Albie

□□□□

From the Registers February - March 2020

Funerals

Freda DENT	91	16.03.20	Winterton
Valerie ELLERINGTON	82	16.03.20	Appleby



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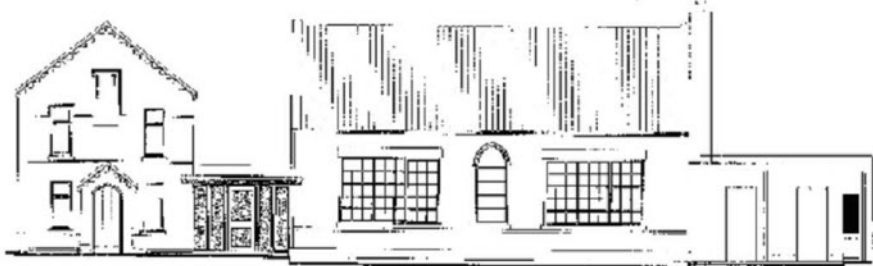
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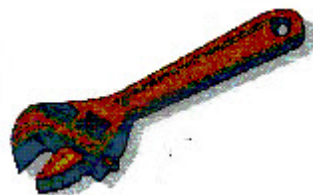
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A Later Message from Alice

Doubtless you will all be aware that the Archbishops have suspended ALL public worship in the C of E, with the exception of Funerals & Weddings, though to be honest I can't predict whether even those will be the case soon.

This means no Sunday services, not even during Holy Week and Easter, in any of our group churches and a serious rethink about how we "do" church at this difficult time. I have to admit that my thoughts are ongoing on this one.

So far I have decided that I will be present in Winterton All Saints' Church every Sunday at around 10.45 a.m., where I will be praying for the Community, those affected by the Virus, the worried, the frightened and the sick. Please note that this does NOT mean I will only be praying then! I will also be in church on Tuesday mornings at 9.15 for the same purpose.

Anyone is welcome to join me, but do consider first whether it is OK for you to do so. If you have specific prayers please send them to me, via a note through my door, a telephone call or by emailing our Office.

The reason I have decided on Winterton as a focus is that it is the only church with hand-washing facilities and tends to be a bit warmer than the others.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this unprecedented and difficult time and I hope that things will start to improve as the year progresses.

There will be postings of prayers, reflections and so forth on our website.
May God bless you and yours.

With love from Alice, your Vicar

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**NO PRINTED MAGAZINES WILL BE PRODUCED IN MAY OR JUNE
BUT DIGITAL COPIES WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE CHURCH
WEBSITE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.**

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Two Advance Apologies:

One. This month I have had to proof-read the magazine myself—and proof-reading one's own work isn't really a good idea. It's too easy to assume something is spelt correctly, or noun and verb agree, without fully concentrating. So please forgive the odd mistakes I've missed.

Two. With having to remove so much material pertaining to cancelled services and events at the last minute, I have replaced it mostly with items used in magazines several years ago. All are pieces I consider worth repeating, but I apologise to those of you who remember them. Page 21 is blank. I worked on mag until 2.30 a.m. Friday, and had neither time nor energy to fill it before sending to Terry on Friday morning.

Coronavirus [COVID 19]

Following Government guidance about non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have advised that public worship be suspended until further notice.

No public services will take place at All Saints', or other churches in the Winterton Group, for the foreseeable future [except possibly weddings and funerals].

However, Revd Alice Nunn will open this church on Tuesdays at 9.15 a.m. and on Sundays at 10.45 a.m. She will say prayers for our community, but there will be no public service. Anyone who wishes to join her is most welcome.

It is hoped that a camera can live-stream a view of the interior of the church online for those not able to get to the church.

Revd. Alice will also place prayers and thoughts on the church website at [Http://Lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/winterton/](http://Lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/winterton/)

DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK ALL OUR PLANNED COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR APRIL/MAY/JUNE ARE CANCELLED OR POSTPONED. PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE EVENTS PAGE AND CALENDAR TO CHECK THE LATEST SITUATION.

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) - advice from the Archbishops

In the light of the continued increase of Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in the United Kingdom, our guidance is to **suspend the administration of the chalice** as well as physical contact during the sharing of the Peace, blessing or "laying on of hands". We advise that all priests should:

Offer Communion in one kind only to all communicants i.e. the bread/wafer /host, with the priest alone taking the wine.

Suspend hand shaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace.

Suspend direct physical contact as part of a blessing or laying on of hands".

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Winterton 2022 News

Children and Young People Network

In early March, we held our first Children & Young People Network ‘pizza night’ in Winterton. A massive thank you to all those who attended.

We had some brilliant ideas put forward, and we will be looking into lots of the suggestions put forward including bingo, drumming, forest school activities, trips to the zoo, drawing competitions, indoor and outdoor games. BUT – we need still need some more of you to get involved. We are hoping that eventually this group will be able to make the decisions for us. We particularly need young people aged 10+ to come and help out – both by giving us their ideas and opinions, and also helping us run and organise the group

Get in touch with us on 01724 845155 or on info@winterton2022.org for more info

Wallace Sargent

Have you heard of the scientist Wallace Sargent, who grew up in Winterton? Well, we are delighted to confirm that our life-size steel sculpture to commemorate Wallace and all his fantastic work is nearly complete. Later on this year, we will be able to unveil him to the town. In the meantime, why not check out some details of his life and fascinating career? Here are some links to information about Wallace:

<https://www.caltech.edu/about/news/caltech-mourns-passing-wallace-l-w-sargent-37274>

<https://www.aip.org/history-programs/mels-bohr-library/oral-historie4s/33966>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wallace_J_W_Sargent

See also these Parish Magazines: August 2018, p.13 and January 2019, pp.11-13

Winterton 10 mile road race

Winterton 2022 are delighted to be sponsors again of this year’s 10 mile road race on Sunday 5th July. If you’d like to enter, see the link below for details: <https://runbritain.com/RaceDetail.aspx?eventid-74bc06c9595a>HYPERLINK

**From the Lincoln Diocese
'We believe in the resurrection'**

When Christians gather together each week and proclaim their belief in the resurrection of the body, what exactly do we mean? In the Bible, St Paul devotes a whole chapter to questions like this, and he includes this incredible statement:

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ — whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

(1 Corinthians 15.13–19; NRSV)

He goes on to make it extremely clear that what he is talking about is indeed a physical, bodily resurrection – we will be given new bodies, similar to but different from our earthly bodies. It is not, as the mistaken vestry prayer says, the 'souls of the faithful departed' which will 'rise in glory'. It is their bodies!

But the resurrection *is* a spiritual reality as well as a physical one. The idea of resurrection tells us that whatever the circumstances, however low things might get, there is nothing that God is unable to change. Even death itself could not hold Jesus, and there are no circumstances in our lives which are beyond his reach and beyond his redemption.

So, for what resurrection are you hoping and praying this Easter-time? Where in your life and circumstances are you looking for God's new life? Paul ends his chapter with this triumphant cry:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."

"Where, O death, is your victory?"

"Where, O death, is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 15.54–57; NRSV)

John Leach, Growing Disciples Officer

Roxby WI

The Annual Meeting of Roxby WI on Monday, 9th March was very entertaining, with members and our one visitor, all the way from Wales, having a good time. Thankyou for turning out on such a horrible wet evening.

Our Committee stays the same, with Sue Bolton accepting the role of President for another year. Jennie Jackson and Carol Hodge will also carry on in their very important and excellent work as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. We couldn't do without them. Ann Smith gave a vote of thanks for all the hard work carried out by the committee throughout the last year.

The annual competition results were announced by Elly Ransom. First was Linda Webster, second Ann Smith and third Sue Dwyer.

Our delicious fish and chip supper was delivered by Market Hill Fisheries of Winterton. Mushy peas courtesy of Pam Farmery. The Committee acted as Hostesses and flowers were brought by Ann Smith, who also won the raffle.

Our 'Craft Club' on the fourth Monday of the month, 2.00-4.00 p.m. continues to be very popular. There were fourteen of us gathered round the table this last time and we can always make room for more. Come along to the next one and bring your current project - or just come for a natter. We pay £2 each to cover the cost of the hall and tea, coffee and biscuits.

Next month our Speaker is from the Lincoln Tea and Coffee Company. Hostesses will be Linda Webster and Sue Dwyer. Flowers, Carol Hodge and Vote of Thanks, Patricia Wear.

Visitors are always made welcome, but as walking into a room full of strangers can be a bit daunting, call me on 735384.

Meetings are now cancelled until further notice.

Pam Farmery

□□□□□

Winterton WI

Meetings cancelled until further notice

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Winteringham WI

Meetings cancelled until further notice

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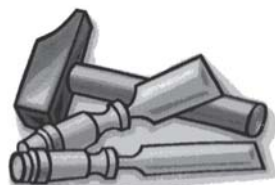
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Winterton Disabled Club

The Club welcomes anyone with a physical disability living in Winterton or the surrounding area. Club meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the Methodist Church Hall, King Street, 2.00-4.00 p.m. At the time of writing, due to the coronavirus outbreak, it is not known if we will be able to operate as usual. Ring 733441 for updates.

At our recent committee meeting it was voted to discontinue Kurling sessions at the Community Pavilion. In the last six months we had a drop in the number of players through various genuine reasons. Regrettably this is no longer cost effective or fun to play with such a small number. Our equipment will be brought back to the Chapel and could be used at Club meetings on games afternoons, or some other Tuesdays when the Club is not meeting, but only when there are sufficient people to play. We already operate this way with Craft sessions. The sessions will still be open to non Club members and we will be very pleased to welcome new-comers. Cost £1 per session includes refreshments.

Our Charity Fair should be held on Saturday, 25th April, but yet again we can only follow the latest guidelines. If the Fair has to be cancelled I would be happy holding it later on, as soon as life returns to normal.

In the meantime we will ensure that our members are safe, that they have enough provisions and, most importantly, keep in touch regularly via phone calls to prevent loneliness during enforced isolation.

Nicki Mumby Chair



The Poirier Foundation

At the moment, due to the Coronavirus outbreak, it is virtually impossible to make plans for our Lunch & Linger sessions. We **MUST** follow the latest guidelines to ensure our members' safety. For latest update please contact 733441.

If we can possibly operate, our April sessions would be on Wednesday, 1st April with a visit from Emma Prideaux from Library Services and on Wednesday, 15th April.

Hugo's Foot Care services: next clinic should be on 15th April. To make an appointment please contact Hugo direct on 01724 645286.

Back in February we welcomed Nick Hart, who gave a brilliant presentation on the fascinating work of the Overseas Plastic Surgery Appeal. Our members were obviously very touched by his talk and contributed very generously. We have received a letter from Nick saying: "I got £228.09 in

donations, and in addition to that, another £50 from sales and donations at the cards stall. I am very grateful for these. This will enable us to continue to provide surgery for underprivileged children with cleft lip and palate when we next visit Pakistan in March". The Poirier Foundation is obviously delighted to have been involved in raising such an amount for this life changing charity.

We are most grateful to Winterton Running Club for selecting The Poirier Foundation as their race charity for this year. More details on https://facebook.com/events/s/winterton-show-10-mile-road-836844030120753/?ti=icl&__mref=mb

The Poirier Foundation has been approved as a local good cause in the Co-op Community Fund. The amount raised so far has reached £223. With your support we could do even better. Calling all Co-op members: Can you please back the Poirier Foundation as your good cause? Your support can help raise more for causes in your community without costing you a penny. Money raised will be used to continue providing our fortnightly lunches. You will need to register your choice online or call 0800 023 4708 and choose us as your local good cause. Details can be found on <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/31850>.

Anyone able to support our work in any way is very welcome to get in touch. Please call 733441 for further information. We would dearly love to hear from people able to sponsor our taxi scheme and from people willing to volunteer with catering duties.

Carol Thornton, Chair

□□□□

Oops!

During the absence of our vicar we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon ...

The cost of attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals.

Applications now being accepted for 2-year-old nursery workers.

Please will the congregation remain seated until the end of the recession.

The Vicar will preach his farewell sermon, after which the choir will sing *Break Forth with Joy*.

The Over 60s choir will disband for the summer with the thanks of the entire church.

Mother to noisy son: "Be quiet! Don't you know why you should be quiet in church." Son, looking around: "Yes, because everyone's asleep."

Appleby WI

On Tuesday, 10th March. Appleby ladies met at the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. The meeting opened with a brief business discussion and this included Annual Federation Day on 4th April, the Resolution Evening on 23rd April and our own AGM next month.

Our President encouraged ladies to attend these events where possible, as they are indeed very important to the functioning of all WIs. Sheila, our President, welcomed a visitor to the group who is new to the village.

Our speaker was then introduced. We were lucky enough to have David Hand to entertain us. David is a magician and belongs to the magic circle. He opened with a song from Gilbert and Sullivan called the Sorcerer. The song was about John Wellington Wells, who cast magic spells. David then informed us how, through his wife's encouragement, he became a magician. She bought him a book about Magic; he read it and from thereon he was hooked. As he read and practised more he became very accomplished and now gives demos. and talks to various groups. The meeting thanked David for an entertaining evening and for being involved in some of his tricks.

Refreshments served thanks to Sheila and the raffle was won by Pam Palmer. Jolly good night and fortunately all tricks went well and no one left as a frog!

Next month, on the second Tuesday in April, it is our very important AGM. We need you there to vote, Ladies.

Federation Events:

Crafts, 30th March, at WI House Brigg, 10.00 a.m.-1230 lunch and in the afternoon, 1.30-4.00 p.m.

AFD on 4th April Guest speakers, refreshments, WI stalls. 10.00 a.m. Please join us.

Resolutions Evening, Thursday, 23rd April at 7.00 p.m. at Brigg Methodist Hall Important discussion on our voting. Our opinions count. Refreshments served.

Please note that all WI Events, including Federation Day and Resolution Meeting, are subject to possible postponement. Obviously this is because of the coronavirus. Apologies for any inconvenience caused, but the WI has the best interests and wellbeing of our members to consider. Further details will be announced once decisions are made. Thank you Jacky WI. All take care.

□□□□

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Saint Anselm.

Anselm – feast day April 21st – was born at Aosta, in the Piedmont area of northwest Italy, in the 1030s. His mother was Ermenberga, from a noble Burgundian family, and his father Gondolfo, a wealthy Lombard nobleman. Gondolfo saw that his son was well educated (Anselm was considered one of the best classical scholars of his time) as he fully intended that Anselm should have a political career. But Anselm had other ideas. When he was 15 he tried to enter a monastery, but the abbot knew Gondolfo would be furious and refused to let him join. For the next few years Anselm put up with incessant bullying from his father. By his early twenties he couldn't take any more; so he left home and after short stays in Lyons, Cluny and Avranches in 1059 he reached the monastery at Bec, where he wanted to study under its prior, the notable scholar Lanfranc. After a while Anselm helped Lanfranc with the teaching and when Lanfranc left to become abbot of Caen Anselm succeeded him as prior of Bec. In 1078, in spite of begging everyone not to thrust the responsibility of running the monastery onto him, but to leave him to get on with his teaching and writing, he was elected abbot there. While at Bec Anselm produced several highly thought of theological treatises and Bec became one of the leading centres of monastic scholarship.

Meanwhile, William I, the Conqueror, had appointed Lanfranc as Archbishop of Canterbury and Anselm, who had often visited him there, had got to know England, and King William well. William I died in 1087, to be succeeded by William II. At first the new king left Canterbury alone, but once Lanfranc had died he grabbed the see's lands and revenue and for four years refused to appoint a new archbishop. Anselm was the obvious choice, but he still preferred a peaceable life teaching and writing, so he kept well out of the way. However, in those days most people, when they feared they might die, felt it important to be well in with the Church before they expired; so when William was taken seriously ill early in 1093 his barons and bishops managed to persuade him to appoint Anselm as archbishop. That wasn't easy. They had to haul a reluctant Anselm to William's bedside and force him to take hold of the archbishop's staff of office.

As Anselm had expected, once William recovered the two of them were constantly at loggerheads. Anselm demanded the return of the church lands and, when William needed money and expected a gift from the church, gave him very little, pointing out that William's earlier plunderings had left Canterbury very badly off. Then there was the dispute over the archbishop's pallium (the robe of office bestowed by the Pope on archbishops and bishops). Just then there was an Anti-pope, Clement, ensconced in Rome and

pope Urban II, whom Anselm recognised as the legitimate Pope, in exile in the south of Italy. Which one should confer the pallium on Anselm? Urban, said Anselm; Clement said William. It wasn't that William cared particularly which one was the rightful Pope. He just wanted to make it clear that as King of England he had the right to choose between them. In the end William recognised Urban, who then sent the pallium to England. Even then Anselm wouldn't take it directly from the King; the Pope's legate had to lay it on the altar for Anselm to pick up. Their constant bickering reached a climax in 1097. Anselm decided to visit Rome: at first William wouldn't let him, then suddenly told him to go within 10 days, effectively exiling him.

Anselm remained abroad until 1100 when William was killed – shot in the back by an arrow while out hunting – and Henry I (William's younger brother) became king. At first Anselm and Henry got on together. But then Henry tried to usurp the Church's authority, insisting that he should be the one to invest bishops and abbots with their ring and crosier. That dispute raged until the 1107 Council of Westminster, when the King agreed to drop his claim, and for the last two years of his life Anselm was able to have some peace.

□□□□□

Saint Zita

Zita (feast day 27th April) spent her whole life around Lucca in Tuscany. She was born about 1218, became a servant in the house of a wealthy weaver when she was twelve and stayed there until she died in 1278. She was pious and a conscientious worker— qualities that didn't endear her to the other servants: and her habit of distributing generous amounts of food from the house among the poor of Lucca led to some lively battles with her employers. But over the years she won respect for her patience and goodness, became a family friend as well as a servant and was allowed to do pretty much as she liked, advising the wealthy on domestic issues and visiting the sick and prisoners. She became a well-known and respected figure around the town and when she died popular opinion declared her a saint. Not surprisingly, Zita became the patron saint of domestic workers.

Freda

Winterton & District Gardeners' Club

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month from September to June in the Old School Hall. There are plant sales at most meetings, raffles and various competitions such as flower of the month. We try to organise at least one coach trip a year and one evening visit to a local garden. Membership is £3 per year plus £1.50 at each meeting. Visitors pay £2.50. Further details are on posters and our website: www.wintertongardenersclub.org.uk or phone 07875732535.

Meetings have been suspended until further notice.

□□□□□

Answers to Around the World

1 Washington; 2 Lapland; 3 Rhodes; 4 Algeria; 5 Baltimore;
6 Provence; 7 Cape of Good Hope; 8 Amsterdam; 9 Nice; 10 Malta;
11 Pretoria; 12 Hamburg; 13 The Vatican; 14 Yemen; 15 Hobart. 16
Warsaw 17 Khatmandu; 18 Port Stanley; 19 Wellington;
20 Dresden; 21 Vancouver; 22 Everest; 23 The Angel Falls;
24 Newfoundland.

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Winterton and District Lions

All our April and May events have been cancelled.

In March, some of the Lions joined in with the pub quiz at the Butchers Arms - see photo of them all looking intelligent- they didn't win but it's the taking part that counts.

If you know of anyone, individual or group, that we may be able to help, please contact us by emailing bobanthonybridge@aol.com or by talking to any Lions members.

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All Saints' Church, Winterton, is always looking for new Bellringers.

If you can ride a bicycle you can ring.
The only maths you need is being able to count.

And you can become a good ringer without
knowing anything about music.

Ringling is well within the capabilities of most people.
The initial training takes several weeks, after which a
learner can begin to ring with the rest of the band.

Most ringers practice once or twice a week and ring
before or after church on Sunday.

We practice on Thursday evenings, 7.30 - 9.00 p.m.



Around the World

- 1 Weighty laundry.
- 2 A friend returns to the country.
- 3 Sounds as if they lead somewhere.
- 4 Shattered regalia, perhaps.
- 5 More curry? Sounds like it.
- 6 John Thaw spent a year here.
- 7 An optimistic cloak.
- 8 Headless rodent keeping the water out.
- 9 Pleasant?
- 10 The answer's in a normal tale.
- 11 Tore pair apart here?
- 12 Queen leaves the hot dog.
- 13 Article, and a couple of containers embracing one.
- 14 Enemy in a confused state.
- 15 Cooker painting?
- 16 Cutter for conflict.
- 17 Thank Maud for this.
- 18 Drink for Baldwin.
- 19 Protective footwear needed.
- 20 Doctor needs attention.
- 21 You are in the middle of vehicle protection.
- 22 High class double glazing.
- 23 A slip up in Heaven.
- 24 A discovery in the Atlantic.

Freda
Answers on p.27

News from Winteringham Methodist Chapel

Whenever we switch on our television, radio or computer, or open any magazine, we are reminded about caring for our world and all of God's creation. Our actions, if regarded as good or bad, can be one of those things that has an adverse effect on the planet. We are reminded constantly about recycling, and using things that probably just need a little repair rather than disposing of them. EVERY LITTLE HELPS, a slogan used by one of our supermarkets, could be applied. Taking this a step further, the Methodist church is very keen to encourage looking after God's world. We have various booklets, and seminars currently available to teach us what each of us can do in this very important subject. Each year the Methodist church produces a 'PRAYER HANDBOOK'. A daily devotional linked to Bible readings and the Internet, it carries a different theme each year. For 2021 the theme is from Psalm 24 v1 and is "the earth is the Lord's". They see this as linked to the TV series *Blue Planet 2*.

Readers were invited up to the end of January 2020 to come up with prayers and visuals to be considered for printing next year. A few friends of Winteringham Chapel have put together a poster for consideration. This is displayed on our notice board and shown in the photograph below. We have sent this off and have had a really good response, so we are hopeful of it being included next year.

All services and events are cancelled, including the Easter egg hunt - the Easter eggs and flowers have already been distributed.

Will Maw, Senior Steward.



Animal Antics

Place: an office in a carpet factory in a rural setting near Bradford.

Time: June 1978, 1.00 p.m.

Knowing that the factory will be deserted during the lunch hour, the owner settles down to catch up with his paperwork. But the factory is in a cutting, with neighbouring fields level with its roof, and at 1.10 p.m. a cow falls through the office roof. Owner and cow stare at each other, then the cow charges. There follow a lively few minutes, cow knocking over wool bales, man edging towards door. Then the cow stops to eat green carpet and man escapes into corridor. The cow had to be hoisted out through the roof.

November 1986. Birdwatchers gather in the Scilly Isles to see the expected arrival of the rare grade-cheeked thrush from North Africa. After a long wait they spot it coming in to land at St Mary's Garrison. Unfortunately Muffin, a local cat, was also birdwatching, and the thrush had no sooner landed than Muffin charged out, grabbed the bird and disappeared into a bush with it in his mouth.

Bruno, a St Bernard dog, was a member of a mountain rescue team in the Italian Alps. Unfortunately he was a genius at getting lost. He would dash on ahead of the main search party and lose contact with them; and eight times in two years another search party had to be sent out to look for him. On the eighth occasion it took longer to find Bruno than it had taken to rescue the climbers they'd set out to find in the first place, and it was unanimously decided that it was high time Bruno retired.

Mental's Last Hope was a greyhound. He ran for the first time in the 8.15 p.m. race at Wimbledon on 29th March 1961. He came in last, but kept on running. 15 minutes later the stewards decided to release the hare again, hoping this would distract him, but it didn't work: he just kept on running. He only stopped 30 minutes later when he became exhausted. And by that time 50 officials were pursuing him. Needless to say, that was the end of his racing career.

One summer, householders living on the fringes of an area of North Yorkshire moorland were dismayed when sheep started feasting on plants in their gardens. The sheep should have been penned safely on to the moor behind barbed wire fencing and a cattle grid, so how had they got out? A few of the residents kept watch and were amazed to see the sheep approach the cattle grid, lie down, and roll across it.

Dates for your Diary

Open Church will not operate until the end of June .

Bell-ringers practice is suspended until the end of April at the earliest.
Contact Frank on 732056 for up-to-date details.

Winterton Film Club: Grahame regrets that his work commitments make it impossible for him to operate the film club at present. So it is postponed for now. The club will resume as soon as possible.

Open Gardens

Saturday, 18th And Sunday, 19th July 2020

We are looking for new gardens for this year.

Anyone interested in opening their garden, large or small,

Please contact Ida on 732268.

Hopefully the coronavirus will have declined by then.

□□□□□

Oops

Q. What causes the tides in the oceans?

A. The tides are a fight between the earth and the moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon, because there is no water on the moon and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins the fight.

□□□□□

The Bathtub Test

Colin Martin, one of our former Methodist ministers, sent this piece to Mike Joyce, who sent it to me.

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director: "How do you determine whether or not a patient should be institutionalised?"

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No", said the Director. "A normal person would pull out the plug. Would you like a bed near the window?"

Good Friday Tears

Arrested, seized and led away,
Jesus, our Lord, whom Judas did betray.
Denied by Peter, "No, I know him not",
even before the first crow of the cock.

Insulted, mocked, beaten, in blindfold,
led off to Pilate and Herod of old.
A death penalty, though there were no grounds,
but the chief priests insisted, so guilty he was found.

Barabbas released, a murderer still,
Pilate surrendered Jesus to their will.
Beaten and bleeding Jesus was led,
followed by some, "He's not guilty!" they said.

Golgotha, three crosses and criminals two
Jesus pleaded, "Father! forgive them, they know not what they do!"
The sun stopped shining, darkness fell,
this is as it happened, the gospel writers tell.

Death so cruel, injustice throughout,
"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit," Jesus called out.
And there on that cross He hung His head,
nailed by His hands and His feet, He was dead.

Are we weeping and wailing and beating our breasts?
as we recall how our Lord was put to the test.
"Father, why have you forsaken me", He cried,
our human-ness He understood. Yes! it was for us He died!

But He rose from the dead, with His Father to live
And He pleads for us still, our sins to forgive.

Kneel at the cross this Easter and forever remember,
Jesus can live in our heart, a place so tender.

Linda Hoeft

Saint George

Feast day 23rd April. A soldier and Christian martyr who lived sometime during the 3rd century and according to tradition was martyred at Lydda, Palestine (now Lod, Israel). Incredibly, considering how popular he became, that's all that we definitely know about him. But even before the sixth century there are miraculous stories about him. Of him three times being chopped into small pieces, burnt and buried, but each time coming back to life. Of him reviving dead men and baptizing them. Of wholesale conversions, armies and idols being destroyed, timber beams sprouting leaves and, when he's finally killed, of milk flowing from his wounds instead of blood.

In Mediaeval legend he's portrayed as the embodiment of the chivalrous knight -- protecting women, fighting evil, giving to the poor. The most famous legend, that of George and the dragon, only appears in the twelfth century. In this, a dragon lives in a lake near Silena, Libya. It eats two sheep each day then, when the supply of mutton runs out, eats maidens (chosen by drawing lots) instead. Whole armies try to kill it, but can't get the better of it. Enter Saint George, on the day the king of Libya's daughter is due to be eaten. George crosses himself, grasps his lance, and rides out to do battle with it. In some versions of the story he kills the dragon with a single blow, in others he subdues it, leads it into the town and beheads it there. Most accounts agree that the king gives him a large reward which he distributes among the poor before riding away: but while some sources say he slays the dragon in return for a promise from the king's subjects that they'll be baptized, others say the people are converted by a sermon he preaches after he's killed it.

St. George is already well known in Europe by the eight century. In England, accounts of his deeds were translated into Anglo-Saxon, and churches were dedicated to him even before the Norman Conquest – e.g. one at Doncaster in 1061. But his increasing popularity (he was adopted as protector of several medieval states including Malta, Portugal, Genoa, and Venice) probably stems from tales told by crusaders when they returned home. It was possibly Richard I, himself an enthusiastic Crusader, who introduced the red-on-white George Cross. Certainly by the fourteenth century it had become a sort of uniform for English soldiers and sailors. Opinions vary as to when he was officially recognised as England's patron saint. Possibly it wasn't until Edward III founded the Order of the Garter in 1348 and made St. George its patron.

Freda