

WIGTOFT

VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

December 2019 / January 2020

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Boston Borough Council..... 01205 314200
BBC - Out Of Hours Emergencies..... 01205 360300
BBC - Refuse Department 01205 311112
Anglian Water Emergencies 03457 145145
Western Power Distribution 0800 6783105 or just 105
(to report a power cut)

When you receive this newsletter we will be well into the throes of Christmas festivities. Much would have happened as we celebrate the season of Christmas. There is a great deal of information within this newsletter so please read or you may just miss out!

The Church is advertising their 4pm Christmas Eve Crib service (page 3) Our magazine is holding an “Open Meeting” on January 13th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and are extending an open invitation to all. (page 7)

The Village Hall started the Christmas season with their Christmas Fair (page 6) and Friends of the Church have continued with their Christmas Tree Festival the weekend of November 30th and December 1st. Wigtoft is taking on the look of a winter wonderland as people decorate their gardens with lights, well done to everyone!

It’s a true saying that “time waits for no one,” this year seems to have flown by. Already there are plans in the village to ring the changes this coming year with new events, we hope to see you all there.



It just leaves us to say a Very Happy Christmas to you all and a peaceful New Year. The Editorial Team.



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St. Peter & St. Paul

WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH NEWS

A new project!!

St Peter and St Paul's Church are planning a new project. We have, over past years, succeeded, with much help from the Friends of the Church, to bring our Church into the twenty first century. It is of course primarily a place of worship but has now extended itself to serve our community, for which we are grateful.

Now we are beginning another project, which is to replace the existing heating with something more up to date and user friendly. Like everything else, this will cost us a great deal of money. However, our hope is to have this installed in the summer of 2020. Of course, we need to say, finances permitting!

Friends of the Church will, throughout the coming year, be instrumental in holding various events to raise sufficient funds. The PCC are working hard to complete all the necessary paper work and to obtain authorisation and grants. To achieve this we need the help of local residents and friends near and far. Every penny counts! You can really help us by attending events, saving your pennies for us or help in any other way you can.

Our church was built in the eleventh century and we'd love it to last many more. It is an icon and much loved landmark in Wigtoft. So, watch this space for updates! We look forward to seeing you all in the future.

Christmas Eve Crib Service 4pm. At St Peter and St Paul's Church.

Christmas Eve at Wigtoft Parish Church is one of the nicest services of the year! We have traditional Carols and readings. This is a service that includes all ages, family and friends. Do come along and join us.

The Members of the Wigtoft Parochial Church Council are:

Rev. Charles Robertson
Jane Barkham----- Secretary
John Craggs ----- Treasurer
Virna Atkinson
Jackie Core
Colin Scrapps
Malcolm Franklin

Wigtoft Church Cleaning

**There will be no cleaning in
the Church in December
because of all the Christmas
Tree displays.**

The Haven Group Church Services For December

Date	Wigtoft	Swineshead	Sutterton	Donington	Bicker
1 st		10.30am Group Service			
3 rd			7pm Carol Service		
8 th	9.15am Communion	3pm Christingle	10am Communion 3.30pm Jelly Church	9.30am Communion	8am Communion
15 th	9.15am Communion	3pm Carol Service	9.15am Communion	3.30pm Christingle	10.45am Communion
22 nd		10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	4pm Evensong
24 th	4pm Crib Service	11.30pm Midnight Mass	9pm Christmas Communion	11.30pm Midnight Mass	
25 th					9am Christmas Communion

The Haven Group Church Services For January

5 th	10.30am Group Service				
12 th	9.15am Communion	10.45am Communion	10am Communion 3.30pm Jelly Church	9.30am Communion	8am Communion
19 th	9.15am Communion	10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	10.45am Communion
26 th		10.45am Communion	9.15am Communion	9.30am Communion	4pm Evensong

Wigtoft Village Hall Dates & Information

December 2019

January 2020

Sun	1	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	1		
Mon	2	7pm	Parish Council Meeting	Thu	2		
Tue	3			Fri	3		
Wed	4			Sat	4	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Thu	5			Sun	5	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	6			Mon	6		
Sat	7	10am	Bacon Butty Morning	Tue	7	10am	Scraps R Us
Sun	8	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	8	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	9			Thu	9	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	10			Fri	10	6.30pm	Bird Auction
Wed	11	6.30pm	Dog Training	Sat	11	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Thu	12		General Election	Sun	12	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	13			Mon	13	7.30pm	Newsletter Meeting
Sat	14	10am	Bacon Butty Morning	Tue	14		
Sun	15	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	15	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	16	7pm	Gardening Club	Thu	16	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	17			Fri	17		
Wed	18	6.30pm	Dog Training	Sat	18	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Thu	19	6.30pm	Dog Training	Sun	19	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	20			Mon	20	7pm	Gardening Club
Sat	21	10am	Bacon Butty Morning	Tue	21	10am	Scraps R Us Dog Training
Sun	22	10am	"The Gathering"	Wed	22	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	23			Thu	23	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	24			Fri	24	6.30pm	Bird Auction
Wed	25			Sat	25	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Thu	26		Private Hire	Sun	26	10am	"The Gathering"
Fri	27			Mon	27		
Sat	28	10am	Bacon Butty Morning	Tue	28		
Sun	29			Wed	29	6.30pm	Dog Training
Mon	30			Thu	30	6.30pm	Dog Training
Tue	31		Private Hire	Fri	31		

Village Hall Fair

The Village Hall was adorned with Christmas decorations on Friday November 8th it was a wonderful festive occasion. There were numerous stalls with Christmas gifts to buy and light refreshments were served. All those who attended had a good time and enjoyed themselves. The amount raised was £255. We would like to thank all who helped in any way to make this an excellent start to Christmas and of course, a Very Big *Thank You* all who came to support us.

Wigtoft Village Hall



Bacon Butty Mornings

Our winter Bacon Butty Mornings continue in the Village Hall on Saturdays 10am until noon

We will have our delicious Bacon Butties and cakes each Saturday until next spring

If you are able to help out at any time please get in touch, the more help we have the easier it is to organise.



All funds raised go towards the maintenance and development of this village facility.

Booking Wigtoft Village Hall

To book the Village Hall, please contact Wendy on 01205 461005

The hire charge is £9 per hour, which includes heating, lighting and the use of the kitchen and all crockery.

Wigtoft News & Views Meeting

Open Invitation

You are invited to an Open Meeting for the Wigtoft News and Views on January 13th 2020 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. This will entail looking at the way forward for the magazine which belongs to the village. We would very much welcome your views and ideas.

Please can all organisations within the village send a representative so that your group can have input and receive information. Tea and coffee will be served. We look forward to seeing you.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who helped on the morning of this fund raising event for Macmillan Cancer Support. Also for the kind donations and to everyone who come to support this charity year after year. We raised £400, which is fantastic.

Well done everyone.

Thanks again, Jean

Wigtoft Church Lottery

It's that time of year!

Once again St Peter and St Paul's Church are holding a monthly lottery in 2020. If you already are a member or wish to join please fill in the necessary form included in the Newsletter and let one of the PCC receive it with your annual membership fee by the end of January.

You have to be in it to win it!!!

Church Lottery Winners October 2019

1st..... Mrs Taylor (£20)
2nd.... Mrs J Barkham (£10)
3rd..... Mrs J Simpson (£5)

Drawn at the Coffee Morning November 2nd

Church Lottery Winners November 2019

1st..... Mrs L Nicholson (£20)
2nd..... Mrs C Wheatley (£10)
3rd..... Miss A Padley (£5)

Drawn at the Coffee Morning November 22nd



Sam Snail's Jobs In The Garden

Have you planted up your rice field yet, that's all the ground is fit for.

There are fields of cabbages rotting all around us, it smells like pig fodder.

The mud on the roads and verges will be a nightmare when it freezes, so take care in your car or even walking your dogs. It is broken bones waiting to happen.

Stinging nettles, which are weeds, are a fantastic companion plant. Growing them amongst herbs alters the chemical compounds within the plants which increases their essential oils and flavours. They are good for the soil, they withstand slugs and snails so make up a compound and spray affected plants, Hostas etc.,

Hope you have some good wellies at the moment .

Regards from Sam



WIGTOFT and DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN GARDENING?

YES. THEN WHY NOT JOIN LIKE MINDED PEOPLE AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF OUR CLUB. WE MEET ON THE 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7pm, WIGTOFT VILLAGE HALL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

December 16 th	Christmas Party
January 20 th	Steve Weatherby-Barton - Life in a cab
February 15 th	tba

WE ALSO ARRANGE VISITS TO PLACES OF INTEREST

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

Barbara - 01205 460400 or Jean - 01205 460546

Topical Talk

I was looking at a programme on the TV recently about the Nazi occupation of Guernsey during the last war. For whatever reason, Hitler decided to heavily fortify the island, probably expecting us to try to retake it.

The UK government decided not to defend the Channel Islands early in the war but allowed the Germans to walk in unopposed – we probably did not have the ability at the time to do anything about it, seeing that it was so soon after Dunkirk. The German fortification of the island was massive – huge guns around the coast with reinforced observation posts all round the island and a massive 360 degree cannon in the centre of the island which could fire shells for 20 miles in any direction – all connected by underground tunnels with their own power supply and storage facilities.

All this was probably in vain because when the allies invaded France at the Normandy landings they bypassed the Channel Islands, but in doing so it cut the supply line to the islands consequently, by the time the war ended, not only were the islanders suffering from near starvation, but the German troops also.

We visited Guernsey in the late 1960's and had a tour round one of the underground facilities; this had been a hospital and it was huge, all built with reinforced concrete. We were told by a guide about the thousands of slave labourers that were employed in the construction of the fortifications – they were mainly Russian and east European POW's and their treatment was horrific. They were literally worked to death and their bodies were thrown into the wet cement that was used for construction; so the walls and floors of these places became the burial place for probably hundreds of these unfortunate slave labourers.

An article in the Times on Oct 17th caught my eye. It stated that the remains of Captain Matthew Flinders, who led the first circumnavigation of Australia, were to be brought home to the place of his birth at Donington. They were identified by experts excavating St Johns burial ground in Euston, central London as part of the HS2 rail project. Members of his family are buried in the churchyard of St Mary and the Holy Rood and Flinders, who died in 1814, left instructions for four marble slabs to be placed in the church to commemorate him and his forefathers. There is also a stained glass window and a display marking his life. The report from the Times goes on:- The Rev Charles Robertson said “it is with great honour and joy that we received the good news that the mortal remains of Captain Matthew Flinders will come to

Donington. It is a privilege to welcome home this great explorer to rest in peace in his home church.”

Another newspaper report recently named a man from Edinburgh, Richard Martyn Turner, as the victim of a shark attack in the Indian Ocean. He was on holiday with his wife on the island of Reunion and went for a swim in the Hermitage Lagoon alone. When he did not return the alarm was raised and a search was launched. No body was found but four sharks were later caught in the “safe” lagoon and when a post mortem was conducted on them a human hand was found in one with a wedding ring on, which was later identified as belonging to Mr Turner.

In Australia a puppy snatched by an eagle and dropped into the back yard of a house has captured the imagination of Australians – it turns out that it is a rare alpine dingo. The home owner, in Victoria, took it to a nearby animal hospital where it was identified. After treatment DNA testing confirmed that it was a pure alpine dingo, the rarest and most endangered of the country’s native dogs.

A tiny Scottish island with just six inhabitants is set to see its population increase dramatically. The 4,000 acre island of Ulva in the Inner Hebrides is inviting people and businesses to relocate there. There are many ruined cottages on the island which will be renovated. So far 350 people have registered an interest.

Jamie Howard, a member of the family that owned it, has just left the island because he is unhappy about the sale of the island. It was the subject of a community buy out in June last year. His grandmother bought the island in the 1940’s for £10,000.

Colin Scrupps

Breaking News

The UK High Court has ruled that there cannot be a Nativity Scene in Parliament Square this Christmas Season. This is not for any religious reason. Apparently it has proved impossible to find Three Wise Men in the whole of Westminster Palace and Whitehall. A search for a Virgin continues.

There was, however, NO problem finding enough asses to fill the stable.

Farming Report

As it has been several months since I have done a farming report for the Village Magazine, I will do one for the December issue. Although, it will be mainly bad news I am sorry to say.

The rape harvest went quite well in August/September, but then we started to have some really heavy storms, which in turn flattened a lot of early wheat down to the ground, making the combining much slower and making it a lot smaller grain, which then makes a lower bushel weight. Unfortunately, the wheat was high in moisture, so there was extra cost in drying, as it has to be below 15%, to store in big heaps in the stores in the yard.

People have said for years that Farmers are always grumbling and miserable but this year I really do think it is justified as it has gone on for so long.

To make matters worse, since late September/October and all of November it really does seem to have rained most days, probably the worst that I can remember in 60 years in Wigtoft on our own farm. We have not drilled one acre of wheat and only ploughed two fields, so it really is very serious.

The Farmers who grow potatoes are even worse off, as many have only lifted 50% of the crop and it is unlikely that any more will be lifted until the New Year due to the ground being completely sodden. The vegetable growers have also had a difficult time just getting the Brussels, white and red cabbage to a hard road, making very deep ruts in the field.

My apologies for being all doom and gloom but I am only reporting the honest facts. In spite of my report I do wish the people of Wigtoft a Very Happy Christmas and hope we will all have better weather in 2020.

Our local farming expert:- Chris Tunnard.

The Gathering

Bored with Brexit and life in general? Enjoy reading of changed lives in the "Hope at Christmas" magazine delivered to your door this month. Better still, meet the "ever-living" Jesus too and make 2020 the best year ever.

Join us at the Village Hall on Sundays 10.30am to mid-day. Children have their own special fun time on Saturdays December 14th and January 21st 2.30pm-4pm. Don't miss out, make every minute count!

Have a wonderful Christmas and abundant blessings through the New Year.

The dates of our next meetings in Wigtoft Village Hall are as follows:-
December 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd No meeting on the 29th, January 5th, 12th, 19th 26th.

Daphne and Bridget Tel; 01205 723259.

It all starts on Christmas Eve with preparations for the big feast or perhaps midnight mass?

The Festivals of Nine Lessons And Carols from Kings College Chapel in Cambridge is for me the beginning of the real Christmas. After this I need my cup of tea and the first seasonal mince pie.

As I plan Christmas day lunch I realise that only my mother's tried and tested recipes will suffice. Of course pigs in blankets were unheard of in her day so I have to divert from tradition for a wee while. I think of endless preparations when we were small. Will complete meals in a minute be the shape of things to come?

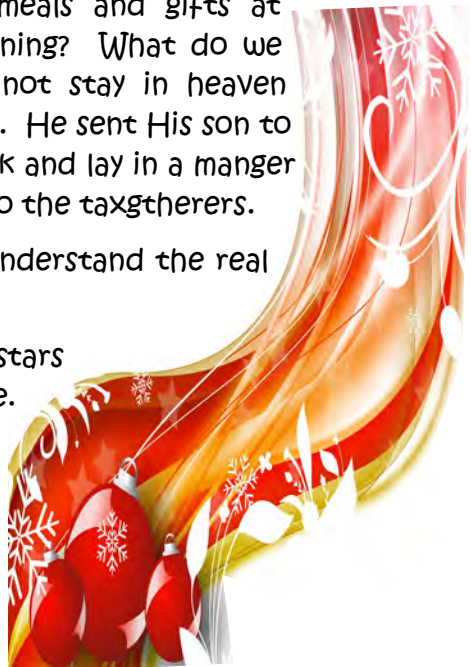
Will the extra special pork pie survive until Boxing day buffet? My mother was a children's nanny in Melton Mowbray until she married, so we always had a real pork pie at Christmas. Tea and toast were available for the diet conscious.

It is good to see people enjoying meals and gifts at Christmas but what is the true meaning? What do we really think about it all? God did not stay in heaven watching the celebrations from above. He sent His son to live amongst us. He fed on human milk and lay in a manger full of hay. Mary was even obedient to the taxgatherers.

Both carols and services help us to understand the real meaning of Christmas.

The Wise Men's journey beneath the stars gave us the real Christmas message. Rejoicing and Worshipping they returned home.

So Christmas is a true mix of spiritual and material pleasure. We need not decry the joys and gratifications of Christmas. Let us worship as we feast.



Happy Christmas everyone Avis M Padley

Threkingham

The village is situated at what was an important crossroads during Roman times: the Grantham / Donington road is known as Salters Way which passes through the village (before the bypass) and was an important trade route between the salt producing area around the Wash and the settlements situated in the Midlands. The other road at the crossroads is the old Roman road, which was known as King Street, part of which is now Mareham Lane, linking Bourne to Sleaford. One of the great Roman engineering feats lies just east of the village – this is the Car Dyke, built to retain the water off the higher ground that ran down to the Fens and provide a canal route between Peterborough and Lincoln; parts of this Dyke are still visible today.

It is thought by some that the village was initially called Laundon but changed its name after a nearby battle with the Vikings in which three Viking kings were killed, but this is now thought to be unlikely.

The village appears to date from around 500/600 AD when the area around the crossroads was settled by Saxon invaders – possibly by a tribe with the name of Threcginhas, from which the village got its name. One of the earliest written references to the village relates to the death of St Werburgh; she was the daughter of the first Christian King of Mercia, by the name of Wulfhere – she died in a nunnery at “Threkingham” on February 3rd 699. there is no evidence of where this nunnery may have been sited; there are other references to a Friary in the village prior to the Black Death and one of the fields, in 1911, north of the village, was known as Monks Field.

The Danes

The Anglo Saxon Chronicles of 787 mark this year as the start of the Viking invasions of the east coast. These continued sporadically for a number of years until about 850, when the first major invasion took place. In 865, what was described as a “great army” of Danes landed in East Anglia and overwintered there. This Viking army was led by Ivar, Halfdan and Ubba. After moving north to York they returned south in 869 to East Anglia. It would be at this time that the Danish army made its camp near to the crossroads at Threkingham, this being an important point on the then transport routes. These forces had been harried by the Anglo Saxon forces over the preceding years, then, on September 22nd 869 these forces gathered together to do battle with the Danes. They attacked the Danes at the crossroads: there were, by all accounts, about 800 Saxons led by Earl Algar, 200 men from the Crowland Monastery as well as 300 men from Deeping, Langtoft and Baston, all supported by the sheriff of Lincoln with about 500

men. They assembled at Stow Green and launched their attack towards the Danish camp at the crossroads. On the first day, taken by surprise, the Danes lost a large number of men, including three kings. They retreated to their base camp and defended themselves. They buried their dead overnight to the north of the village, the three kings being interred in burial mounds – one of these mounds can still be seen in a field to the west of the village.



Overnight the Danes received reinforcements and on the second day the Saxons again engaged with the Danes: by nightfall, the battle still raging, the Danes changed their tactics and made as if to retreat – this tactic led to the Saxons breaking into smaller parties to go in pursuit; the Danish ruse worked and the smaller parties of Saxons were re-engaged by the Danes, rounded up and killed, almost to a man: very few of the Saxon troops lived to tell the tale.

To be continued.

Colin Scrapps

Kirton Community Library

The library is run by welcoming volunteers and is freely open to everyone, with a good selection of books and a greater range that can be ordered in.

We also have audio books, computers and a printer/photocopier available.

Opening hours are: Tuesday 10.00am to 1.00pm
Thursday 2.00pm to 4.00pm Saturday 10.00am to 12 noon

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or contact Frances on 07845 481621 or f_brooks@sky.com

07/09/19	Hoorah! My birthday at last. Mum gave me a snuggly bed and a brand new toy. My friend gave me a box of bickies. She says I am now an adult dog and must behave like one. What does this mean?
18/09/19	Went to a big garden nursery. I couldn't understand owner's enthusiasm. Too much for me!
24/09/19	Obliging milkman left my friend's gate ajar. I tried to dash through but was lifted from the ground and carried away. Harsh treatment yet again!
25/09/19	Another wet day. Tired of walks in the rain but I do enjoy paddling in the puddles.
29/09/19	Left all alone again. Found a box of tissues and shredded them into confetti. A just reward for the one who deserted me.
01/10/19	Still raining hard so I had to wear my conspicuous red jacket. I hate it.
03/10/19	Another lady visited the old one today. I hadn't met her before so I registered my disapproval by frequent barking. The hostess eventually ordered me to be quiet. She said I was spoiling her concentration on the Scrabble™ game.
13/10/19	As we passed the old one's gate I spied her by the window, which she opened, inviting us in. It was raining heavily so I did not need another wet walk. Owner was given coffee while her jacket dried out. I had extra bickies and a warm up with lots of cuddles. Too wet to search for cats in the back garden today, but I will try again in the future.
15/10/19	Scrabble™ again. The old one won so was in a jubilant mood.
22/10/19	Owner won all three games of Scrabble™. Hostess definitely pouted, but we were still allowed refreshments at half time. Both humans save me a taste of cake or human's bickies.
27/10/19	Walking along a lane we had to get onto the verge to avoid a huge tractor. Mum was mud splattered. I jumped sideways unto a muddy pool of water. I hadn't realised that the flooded field had overflowed. What a surprise! When we returned home I had to endure yet another shower.

Happy Christmas and a trouble free New Year. Lots of love. Mousehound



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	7 pm Parish Council Meeting <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>		10am - Noon Coffee Morning <i>Sutterton Methodist</i>		Green Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9.15am Holy Communion <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>				General Election Day	Blue Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9.15am Holy Communion <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>	7pm Gardening Club <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>		10am - Noon Coffee Morning <i>Sutterton Methodist</i>		Green Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	Blue Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i> Please Check First
29	30	31				
		4pm Crib Service <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>				
		31 New Year's Eve				

Age Calendar

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3 Green Bin Collection	4 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
5	6	7	8	9	10 Blue Bin Collection	11 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
9.15am Group Service Wigtoft Parish Church		10am Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall			6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall	
12	13	14	15	16	17 Green Bin Collection	18 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
10.30am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church	2pm PCC Meeting Wigtoft Parish Church 7.30pm Newsletter Meeting Wigtoft Village Hall		10am Church Cleaning Wigtoft Parish Church			
19	20	21	22	23	24 Blue Bin Collection	25 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church	7pm Gardening Club Wigtoft Village Hall	10am Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall			6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall	
26	27	28	29	30	31 Green Bin Collection	
	3pm Newsletter Meeting Wigtoft Village Hall					



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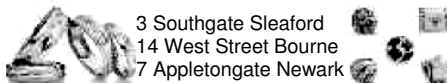
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Ethel and Arthur Major lived in a council bungalow in Kirkby on Bain: Arthur had served in the Great War and had been wounded.

He courted and married Ethel Lillie Brown who, unbeknown to him, was already the mother of a young daughter who had been brought up by her parents as Ethel's sister.

The Majors had a son Lawrence who had been born in 1919: by all accounts Arthur was a drunkard who came home nearly every night drunk. Things got so bad that Ethel and her son got to the stage where they would walk to her parent's cottage a mile away to sleep at night: there was gossip about Ethel's daughter/sister and Arthur challenged her about it; she admitted that she was the girl's mother but refused to name the father – after that the marriage was more or less over.

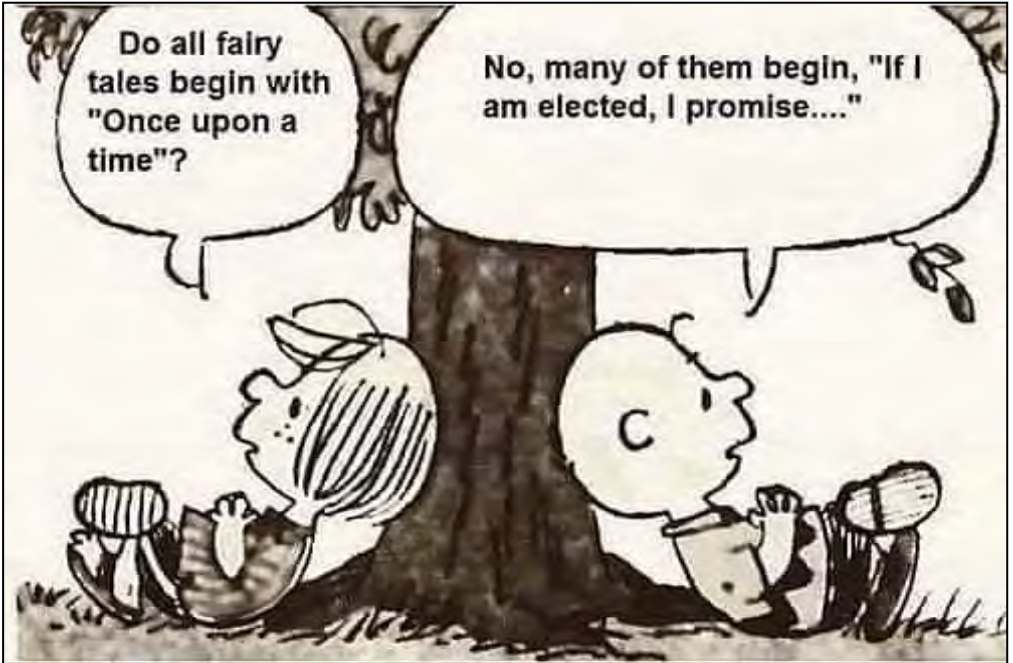
In 1931 Ethel took out a summons for separation and maintenance but did not proceed with it after Arthur promised to reform. However, this did not happen and at the beginning of May 1934 she found letters to her husband that were signed "Your loving sweetheart Rose". After this it was a marriage in name only. On May 22nd of that year Arthur got home from his work at a local quarry and prepared his own supper; later that evening he collapsed in great pain and his wife and son helped him to bed. Ethel's father called later that night and found Arthur in great pain with his legs jerking and he was foaming at the mouth; when a doctor was called he diagnosed an epileptic fit and gave him medication. Ethel took him a cup of tea the next morning but her husband remained in a stupor all that day. When the doctor called again he thought that the patient was much better. In the evening the convulsions returned and Arthur died in great pain on May 24th, about 48 hours after falling ill. Ethel contacted the undertaker and arranged the funeral, but the doctor had not been contacted. When this finally happened the certificate said that Arthur had died of an epileptic fit. Two days later, as Ethel and her relatives were preparing to go to the funeral the police arrived and postponed it. It seems that they had had an anonymous letter that mentioned the fact that a neighbour's dog had died when it had eaten some food left out for it by Ethel. An autopsy was carried out on the dog and on Arthur as well and the results showed it both had died from strychnine poisoning, and it was later proved that that had been administered in corned beef that Arthur had eaten for his supper on May 22nd.



Ethel was arrested and it was proved that she had access to a locked box her father, a gamekeeper, had in which he stored strychnine for use in vermin control.

Ethel was tried at Lincoln in 1934 and found guilty of murder, but with a strong recommendation for mercy. The judge rejected this and she was sentenced to death – she was hanged at Hull prison on Dec 19th 1934, being the only woman prisoner to have been hanged at Hull.

Colin Scrapps



Sutterton Methodist Church Services for Dec. / Jan.



1 st December	10.30am - Mrs Pat Gooding
8 th December	10.30am - Rev. Frances Ballantyne
15 th December	3.00pm - Rev. Alan Barker - Carol Service
22 nd December	3.00pm - Rev. Alan Barker
29 th December	10.30am - Mrs Libby Craggs
- - - - -	
5 th January	10.30pm - At Kirton Methodist Church
12 th January	10.30am - At Kirton Methodist Church
19 th January	10.30am - At Kirton Methodist Church
26 th January	10.30am - At Kirton Methodist Church

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 5th August 2019

Present: Cllr P Craven; Cllr S Collingwood; Cllr S Baxter; Cllr G Wright; Cllr B Leggott.

Also Present: Borough Councillor M Cooper; County Councillor M Brookes;
2 members of the public.

Public Forum

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council about poor drainage and the likelihood of future flooding. The member of the public was advised that, as the area in question is in Sutterton, they need to approach Sutterton Parish Council. Councillors advised that the best option is to contact Lincs County Council via the automated system on their website. The Clerk offered to help with any information about this course of action.

Chairman's Remarks:

The Chairman thanked the two members of the public for attending and invited them to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

Apologies for absence and reasons given

None.

To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

None

Police report

None.

Notes from the monthly meeting held on 3.6.19 to be approved and signed as minutes.

It was resolved to accept the above notes. The notes were confirmed and signed as minutes by the Chairman, Cllr PC.

Accounts for payment, budget figures and financial report.

As the July meeting was cancelled, there were two lists of accounts for payment to be agreed.

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.6.19	Pay	208.00		
15.6.19	HMRC	52.00		
30.6.19	Payroll Services	18.00		
6.6.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
15.6.19	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
1.6.19	Village Hall hire 2018 and 2019	500.00		
4.6.19	Stationery	5.50		
TOTAL		810.16	1.33	811.49

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.7.19	Pay	208.00		
15.7.19	HMRC	52.00		
31.7.19	Payroll Services	18.00		
5.7.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
15.7.19	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
9.7.19	Councillor Training	6.25	1.25	
TOTAL		310.91	2.58	313.49

Finance report

Confirmation from Lloyds Bank has been received that the mandate has been updated as per the submitted mandate change form.

It was resolved to accept the accounts for payment and the budget figures.

ACTION: Clerk to make payments and add updated budget figures to the website.

Planning

None.

Correspondence

3.6.19	LALC weekly e-news 3.6.19	e mailed to Councillors 7.6.19
10.6.19	LALC weekly e-news 10.6.19	e mailed to Councillors 13.6.19
10.6.19	LALC quarterly news bulletin	e mailed to Councillors 13.6.19
17.6.19	LALC weekly e-news 17.6.19	e mailed to Councillors 24.6.19
24.6.19	LALC weekly e-news 24.6.19	e mailed to Councillors 25.6.19
25.6.19	Rural Bulletin by e mail	e mailed to Councillors
4.7.19	Boston Borough Council Bulletin	e mailed to Councillors 23.7.19
8.7.19	LALC weekly e-news 8.7.19	e mailed to Councillors 12.7.19
19.7.19	E mail from Environment Agency regarding drop-ins at the Boston Barrier Hub, Marsh Lane, Wednesdays in August 12pm to 7pm.	e mailed to Councillors and posted on Facebook 22.7.19
16.7.19	LALC weekly e-news 15.7.19	e mailed to Councillors 22.7.19
22.7.19	LALC weekly e-news	e mailed to Councillors 23.7.19
29.7.19	LALC weekly e-news	e mailed to Councillors 30.7.19S

Councillors Reports

Cllr SC advised that he has been contacted by the pest control company who currently look after the play area. The Clerk advised that a written quote would be required. Cllr PC gave details of another pest control company who could be contacted for a quote. It was resolved that the clerk should ask both companies for a quote.

ACTION: Clerk to ask for the above two quotes. Agenda item for October.

Cllr SC advised that following heavy rain, standing water collects on the main road near the chicken sheds. It was resolved to report this to highways once photos were available.

Cllr GW advised that he attended a meeting at Boston Borough Council for Chairpersons and Vice-chairpersons. He found the session very useful and informative. Items such as the regeneration project/transformation programme and well-being were discussed. A group is being set up to review complaints and grievances and the Borough Council are looking to volunteers to join the group. The advice from Boston Borough Council is for Councillors to follow the Code of Conduct and the Good Councillor Guide.

Cllr BL advised that the repairs to Green Lane were not holding up. He had recently towed 2 cars onto Green Lane as the edges of the road are crumbling causing the cars to leave the road.

ACTION: Cllr BL to forward photos to Clerk who will then log a repair request with Highways.

Cllr PC brought two Certificates of Appreciation he had prepared to be sent to ex Councillors Marion Scrupps and Matthew Tunnard to thank them for the time they had given to the Parish Council and the village.

ACTION: Clerk to forward with a covering letter.

Clerk's Report.

An e mail has been sent to the contractor asking him to advise after each cut of the grass in the play area has been completed. A reply was received on 25.6.19 confirming that an e mail will be sent. The contractor has since reported the following cuts: 4.7.19, full cut; 14/7/19, strimmed; 15.7.19, full cut; 23.7.19, full cut.

The article for Wigtoft News and Views from the Chairman and Vice-Chairman has been sent. There will be no charge.

Highways have advised that a further inspection has been completed regarding the Parish Council's report about poor visibility when joining the A17 from Burtoft Lane South and that no further work will be undertaken.

The Clerk advised Council that hours worked by the Clerk from 1.4.19 to date are currently 20 more than the 4 hours per week target. This is due to the heavier work load at the beginning of the financial year. There are also 5.8 hours holiday unused from last year. With no meeting in September, the Clerk expects that this will be substantially reduced. A further report will be made at the October meeting.

The Clerk has not had time to find out the owner of the track running by the play area. Hopefully this will be completed in time for the August meeting.

ACTION: Cllr PC offered to help with this.

Cllr Graeme Wright has attended the Chairman/Vice Chairman's liaison meeting at Boston Borough Council on the 29th July, 19.

The Clerk was asked about progress on the repair and treatment of the benches.

ACTION: Clerk to chase.

To discuss and agree any action needed regarding the advisory speed warning signs

Cllr PC had established that all of the signs are now in place and their location has been checked to the agreed sites. No further action required.

To receive the playground quarterly safety inspection report from Cllr PC and the monthly visual inspection report from Cllr GW for June and July. To decide who will undertake the monthly inspection for August and September. To discuss requesting the annual playground safety inspection by Wicksteed at a cost of between £45 and 71 plus £15 for a detailed analysis of risk assessment. (no price change from last year).

The above reports were received. Action is needed to clean various pieces of equipment by jet washing.

ACTION: Clerk to contact contractor for a quote for the work.

Cllr SC felt it would be informative to pay slightly more to have an accompanied inspection this year. It was resolved to order an accompanied safety inspection and a detailed analysis of risk assessment at a cost of £86.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange.

To discuss the tenancy agreement for the 4.6 acres of allotment land (carried forward from last meeting)

The tenant has confirmed that he does not have a tenancy agreement but he felt it would be a good idea to have one in place. It was resolved to issue a 3-year agreement, with the rent to be review after 2 years of each 3-year cycle, starting from 1.11.19 this year. Cllr PC suggested checking the acreage by referring to the drainage rate bill.

ACTION: Clerk to check acreage and issue a tenancy agreement.

To discuss the purchase of any additional equipment for the Christmas Lights (Carried forward from last meeting)

Cllr PC had contacted Mr Matthew Tunnard to see if the PC could reimburse him for the purchase of an extension lead to power the Christmas lights from the church.

Mr Tunnard said that no payment was necessary and that he had been happy to purchase.

To review and adopt a Discipline and Grievance procedure for the Parish Council

This had been previously sent out to Councillors. It was resolved to adopt this policy.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Two new Parish Council members

The Parish Council are delighted to welcome Sally Smith and Sandra Bingham as Parish Councillors for Wigtoft.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 7th October 2019

Present: Cllr P Craven; Cllr S Collingwood; Cllr S Baxter;

Also Present: County Councillor M Brookes; Sally Smith and Sandra Brigham as new Councillors to the Parish Council.

Public forum – none.

Chairman's remarks – The Chairman, Cllr PC, welcomed Sally Smith and Sandra Brigham to the Parish Council. The new Councillors signed their declarations of acceptance of office, declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Registration of Local Choice Interests. Sally Smith and Sandra Brigham were then able to participate in the meeting as Councillors.

ACTION: Clerk to forward the declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Registration of Local Choice Interests to Boston Borough Council.

Apologies for absence and reasons given

Cllrs B Leggott and G Wright sent their apologies. It was resolved to accept their apologies and reasons for absence.

Borough Councillor M Cooper sent his apologies.

To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

None

Police report

An e mail had been received from the Police about hare coursing activity in the area. The Police asked if any residents spot any hare coursing activity, could they please call 101 immediately.

Notes from the monthly meeting held on 5.8.19 to be approved and signed as minutes.

It was resolved to accept the above notes. The notes were confirmed and signed as minutes by the Chairman, Cllr PC.

Accounts for payment, budget figures and financial report.

As there was no meeting in September, there were two payment lists to be agreed.

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.8.19	Pay	208.00		
15.8.19	HMRC	52.00		
15.8.19	Payroll Services	18.00		
5.8.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
5.8.19	Stationery	5.45		
6.8.19	Postage	2.12		
TOTAL		292.23	1.33	293.56

Date of invoice	Details of payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	Overall total
15.9.19	Pay	208.00		
15.9.19	HMRC	52.00		
30.9.19	Payroll Services	18.00		
5.9.19	Printer Ink	6.66	1.33	
15.8.19	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
15.9.19	Clerk use of home as office	20.00		
24.9.19	Play area annual inspection	86.00	17.20	
26.9.19	Clerk travel claim 31.5.19 to 26.9.19	34.50		
TOTAL		445.16	18.53	463.69
RECEIPTS				
27.9.19	Precept 1.10.19 to 31.3.20	4624.50		

Finance report

Notification of the precept payment for 1.10.19 to 31.3.20 has been received. £4624.50 was expected to be received into the bank account on 1.10.19. The bank account was checked on this date and the payment had not yet been received.

The VAT return will be prepared up to the 30.9.19 and submitted before the next meeting.

The Bank Reconciliation up to 30.9.19 is due to be completed following receipt of the September bank statement. In line with the agreed procedure, a volunteer Councillor will be required to complete the quarterly check. Cllr SC volunteered to check the bank reconciliation.

It was resolved to accept the accounts for payment and the budget figures.

ACTION: Clerk to make payments and add updated budget figures to the website. Clerk to forward paperwork to Cllr SC for the bank reconciliation check.

Planning: None.

Correspondence

- | | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 6.8.19 | LALC weekly e-news 5.8.19 | e mailed to Councillors 9.8.19 |
| 31.7.19 | Parish Council Newsletter from Boston Borough Council | e mailed to Councillors 9.8.19 |
| 12.8.19 | LALC weekly e-news 12.8.19 | e mailed to Councillors 19.8.19 |
| 17.8.19 | Invitation to Neighbourhood Planning workshops | e mailed to Councillors for response 19.8.19 |
| 20.8.19 | LALC invite for nominations to join the County Committee | e mailed to Councillors 26.8.19 |
| 21.8.19 | LALC weekly e-news 19.8.19 | e mailed to Councillors 21.8.19 |

27.8.19	LALC weekly e-news	26.8.19	e mailed to Councillors	1.9.19
31.8.19	Parish Council Newsletter from Boston Borough Council		e mailed to Councillors	1.9.19
2.9.19	LALC weekly e-news	2.9.19	e mailed to Councillors	9.9.19
6.9.19	East Midlands Airport request for feedback re the Future Airspace Programme		e mailed to Councillors	9.9.19
10.9.19	LCC notification of recommendation for Highways Contractors for 2020		e mailed to Councillors	20.9.19
13.9.19	LALC quarterly bulletin no 170.		e mailed to Councillors	17.9.19
16.9.19	Invitation to Boston Community Transport's AGM		e mailed to Councillors	17.9.19
16.9.19	LALC Annual Report 18/19, paper copy.		Taken to meeting	7.10.19
17.9.19	LALC weekly e-news	16.9.19	e mailed to Councillors	18.9.19
18.9.19	Boston Borough Council – consultation re Council Tax support scheme		e mailed to Councillors	20.9.19
18.9.19	LCC Minerals & Waste adoption of statement of community involvement.		e mailed to Councillors	20.9.19
23.9.19	LALC weekly e-news		e mailed to Councillors	23.9.19
30.9.19	LALC weekly e-news		e mailed to Councillors	1.10.19
30.9.19	Wigtoft News and Views October/November		e mailed to Councillors	1.10.19
1.10.19	Parish Council Newsletter from Boston Borough Council		e mailed to Councillors	1.10.19

Councillors Reports

Cllr PC – had received a report from a resident asking if the wildlife garden could be tidied up. Cllr PC offered to do this. Also received a report from a resident about overgrown trees on Wigtoft Bank. **Clerk to report to Highways.**

No other Councillor's reports received.

Clerk's Report.

Update on benches treatment requested 13.8.19. The Clerk was advised at that time that the work was due to be completed imminently. Further update requested 30.9.19.

The Clerk advised Council at the August meeting that hours worked by the Clerk from 1.4.19 to date are currently more than the 4 hours per week target. This is due to the heavier work load at the beginning of the financial year. There are also 5.8 hours holiday unused from last year. This excess currently stands at 11.5 hours plus the unused holiday hours from last year. A further report will be made at the November meeting.

Grass Cutting reports and quote for pressure washing the play area equipment:

It has been reported to the Clerk that the playing field grass was cut on the 4/7; 14/7; 23/7; 12/8 and 27/8.

The Clerk requested a quote for jet washing some of the play area equipment on the 14.8.19. This has not been received and was chased on 3.9.19 and 30.9.19.

The Clerk contacted Boston Borough Council regarding the original request for an additional dog bin in March 2019. A reply has been received stating that the street cleaning/bin emptying is still under review and therefore any new bins cannot be ordered.

The Clerk has requested the annual inspection of the trees in the play area/playing field.

The Clerk attended a Clerk's Liaison meeting at Boston Borough Council on 26.9.19. Agenda items were about the new Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest, Standing Orders – when can they be suspended and when not, Dispensation requests and recording of advice given to Council by Clerks.

To discuss the quotes received for mole control in the play area.

Two quotes had been received, one for £300 per annum and one for £450 per annum. It was resolved to clarify whether the cheaper quote was like for like with the more expensive one i.e. would the Clerk need to notify the contractors when mole activity was seen. **ACTION: Clerk to obtain clarification.**

To decide whether to undertake a half year internal audit

The Clerk advised Councillors that a quote had not been received. It was resolved to request an internal audit providing costs are the same as the last internal audit.

ACTION: Clerk to check cost and request audit if appropriate.

To discuss the e mail received from Boston Borough Council about 2 street lights which need replacing at a cost of £350.

Following a discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk should contact Boston Borough Council to find out how many old and new type street lights there are in the village and what reduction in running costs there would be if the Parish Council were to spend £350. **ACTION: Clerk to action the above.**

To discuss the annual play area inspection and review the September monthly inspection undertaken by Cllr SC.

There were no areas of concern arising from the annual inspection undertaken by Wicksteed. All areas were classed as low risk. There were some advisory comments about future regular checks. The monthly check by Cllr SC did not reveal any areas of concern. The pressure washing of the play equipment and shelters is in hand. The August inspection highlighted a damaged area of perimeter fencing. Cllr PC offered to repair this as soon as he is able.

To commence the annual budget planning process

The Clerk asked Councillors to consider any areas of required spending for the next financial year in advance of the next meeting.

To commence the planning of the Annual Parish meeting

It was resolved to hold the Annual Parish meeting on the first Monday of March 2020.

ACTION: Clerk to advertise the meeting and invite relevant groups and committees to the meeting.

To discuss the fact sheet received from the National Association of Local Councils about the use of personal e mail addresses and devices by Councillors (in respect of Data Protection).

The fact sheet had been sent out to Councillors. The key details were discussed and Councillors were made aware that they should not be using a shared e mail address or sharing any information contained in Parish Council e mails with anyone. They were also made aware that if they retain any Parish Council documents, they must not contain any personal data. It was resolved that there should be a quarterly agenda item reminding Councillors of the above. **ACTION: Clerk to add to the agenda quarterly.**

To discuss the response from the Council's Insurers following the query at the August meeting.

The Clerk advised Councillors that the Insurers have confirmed that the policy covers up to £500,000 for Legal Liability and Legal Expenses which covers certain legal disputes and includes employment issues.

To decide if anyone is to attend the Resilient Communities Conference

It was resolved that no one would attend.

To discuss whether to enter the Best Kept Village Competition for 2020, what actions are required and whether to involve residents.

Following a discussion, it was resolved to place an item in the village magazine asking residents if they think it is a good idea and would they like to get involved with putting the application together. **ACTION: Clerk to put an item in Wigtoft News and Views to ask the above questions of residents,**

To set a date for the Clerk's annual review.

It was resolved to hold the review at 18:45 prior to the December meeting. The review will be undertaken by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Meeting closed at 20:45

Next meeting is on the 4.11.19 at 19:00.

Best Kept Village Competition 2020

The Parish Council would like your input on whether to enter the Best Kept Village competition in March next year or not. The entry fee is about £18 and this would be paid from Parish Council funds. We would also like to know if anyone would be prepared to help put the application together. This should not take up a massive amount of time. It would be ideal to have some input from residents who have lived in the village for differing lengths of time.

To give your feedback and/or to volunteer to help, please either speak to one of your Parish Councilors or contact the Clerk on wigtoftpc@gmail.com.

The Royal British Legion Kirton and District Branch

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Hello Readers

The Kirton and District branch of the Royal British Legion would like to bring to your attention the services we can offer ex-service men or women in our community.

As you may have seen on the TV the RAF benevolent fund and the Royal British Legion are highlighting through the media that they are there for all of our ex-service personnel and their dependants to support them.

If you know of any ex service personnel who live in the area who may like our support or may like to help us raise funds for the poppy appeal, we are always in need of volunteers at this time of year.

There may be someone who has recently just moved to this area and they may not be aware that the legion has a branch in Kirton. They may not need our support at this time but would like to help us to support those that do, please get in touch and let us know.

Kind Regards

Roland Reece

Chairman & Poppy Appeal Organiser

Roland.reece@btinternet.com

Tel: 01205 722501

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to all our readers**

Please call in at Wigtoft Church at some point in December to
see the fantastic Christmas Tree display

Many thanks to the Friends of Wigtoft Church and all
the other helpers for all their hard work and to the
sponsors of the trees for their support.

WIGTOFT NEWS AND VIEWS NEWSLETTER

The Wigtoft News and Views Newsletter team are:

Editorial Team Ann Mulbregt, Sally Smith, Colin Scrapps,
Liz Leonard, Virna Atkinson, John Craggs

The Newsletter is always grateful for any contribution towards the running costs of printing the magazine.

Advertisements are accepted for inclusion based on annual charges, the rates for which are:
Half page.....£70 Quarter page£40 Eighth page..... £20

For all contributions, news, views and advertisements please email
wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com or call 01775 248190

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Help with the Magazine

We now have a *new* treasurer for the magazine but more help is always appreciated. New ideas for items to include in the magazine to keep it fresh or help to put it together and distribute it would be welcome.

Let's try to keep the magazine going and interesting.

Please contact a member of the team or email
wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com with and ideas

Garden Waste Collection Service 2019/2020 Brown Bin Collections

**Brown bin collection start
again at the end of
February 2020**



The Mobile Library



**The mobile library will be in
Glebe Way, Sutterton between
11.50 & 12.20 and in Station Road
between 12.30 and 1pm on
December 9th and January 6th**

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