

WIGTOFT



VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017



Wigtoft Village Contact Details

Parish Council Members

B Leggott	Chairman	S Baxter	
S Collingwood ...		M Tunnard	
P Craven		A Spencer	
M Scrupps		M Brookes	
V Atkinson	01205 460259	M Piper (Clerk)	

Village Hall Committee

Virna Atkinson..	01205 460259	Shaun Taylor	01205 460000
Sally Smith	01205 460117	Jeff & Wendy McCombie	01205 461005

St Peter & St Paul Parish Church

Priest in Charge

Rev. Charles Robertson

01205 820223

PCC Contact

Jane Barkham

01205 460714

Sutterton Methodist Church

Minister

Rev. Alan Barker

01406 423270

Pastoral Assistant

Mrs Maureen Millard

01775 725911

Police

Kirton Police Station

01205 722002

Constable Martin Appleby

07500 920446

Email: martin.appleby@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Police Non Emergency 101

Medical Non Emergency 111

General Contacts

Sutterton Doctor's Surgery

01205 460254

Boston Borough Council

01205 314200

BBC - Out Of Hours Emergencies

01205 360300

BBC - Refuse Department

01205 311112

Western Power Distribution

0800 6783105 or just 105

(To report power cut)

Another year!!! Wishing you all a very happy 2017!

Here I am hoping that this year will go a little slower than last, which seemed to fly by. We had a wonderful end of year in the village with our Christmas Tree Festival, carol and crib services. Each event went well and we welcomed many new faces through St Peter and St Paul doors.

I received many compliments on behalf of the village regarding its festive look. A great many people made an effort to decorate their homes. Wigtoft came alight and it certainly made for a fun atmosphere.

Now we are beginning to prepare for our Flower Festival (*see details on page 24*) If you would like to help in any way then please come along, you will be most welcome. The Bacon Butty season to support the village Hall is almost coming to an end. The last is on Saturday March 25th, I'm pleased to say it will continue for a further three weeks, this time proceeds will go to the church repair fund. Bacon Butty mornings are still well attended and we hope you will continue to attend them in the church right throughout the summer months.

Spring is on the way which means it won't be long before some of us will be in our gardens. The bulbs are already beginning to show and some trees have buds on them. So make the most of the coming weeks to put your feet up before all that grass cutting starts again.

We are pleased to celebrate some new arrivals in the village (*page 13*). Sadly we have one bereavement (*page 26*). Which leaves me to remind you if you wish to let us know of anything we can share together as a village then please let me know. We may be a small village but this means that we can look out for each other when necessary.

I hope you enjoy the magazine. The Editor's wife.

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St. Peter & St. Paul

WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH NEWS

Roof Repairs

At long last we have received the required planning permission from Boston Borough Council for the roof repairs on Wigtoft Church, it did delay us but we were then able to submit our faculty to the Diocese and hoped to proceed with other paperwork. Unfortunately we seem to have now encountered some other problems. We had been told by our architect that the faculty had been discussed by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and they were willing for this to go ahead but shortly after Christmas an e-mail from the Archdeacon was received which told us that she had raised a problem, we are not aware what the problem is but have spoken to our contact in Lincoln and they are sure it can be resolved.

Three tenders have been received by our new architect and we have decided to accept one from CEL Ltd. They are well known for their work on churches, but unfortunately their quote came out about £28,000 over our budget, and this was the Lowest. This discrepancy was due largely to the budget figures supplied by our original architect being under estimated.

The Grant organisation are not willing for us to reduce the scope of work which would have meant leaving out work on the Tower, which currently has no leaks, but providing we are seen to be trying to raise some more funds from other sources they would be willing to consider an increase in the grant.

We have approached the Lincolnshire Churches Trust to apply for additional funding towards the repairs but obviously will have to wait some time for a decision. We have some extra funds raised from events in 2016, but at the moment we do not know how much extra the grant organisations will be able to give us. Fund Raising for this project is still ongoing and if anyone is able to give a donation, however small, we would obviously be most grateful and all donations will be specifically put in the Church Building Repair Fund.

A belated Happy New Year to one and all.

Wigtoft PCC

Church Lottery Winners

December 2016

1 st	Pat Robinson	(£20)
2 nd	Chris Tunnard	(£10)
3 rd	John Johnson	(£5)

Drawn at the Church, Dec. 24th

Members of the Wigtoft Parochial Church Council are:

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

The Haven Group Church Services For February

Date	Wigtoft	Swineshead	Sutterton	Donington	Bicker
5 th	10.30am Group Service				
12 th	9.15am Holy Communion	10.45am Holy Communion	10am Holy Communion 3.30pm Jelly Church	9.30am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion
19 th	9.15am Holy Communion	10.45am Family Church	9.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer	10.45am Holy Communion
26 th		10.45am Holy Communion	9.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	4pm Evensong

The Haven Group Church Services For March

1 st		7pm Ash Wednesday Service			
3 rd					2pm Women's World Day of Prayer
5 th					10.30am Group Service
12 th	9.15am Holy Communion	10.45am Holy Communion	10am Holy Communion 3.30pm Jelly Church	9.30am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion
19 th	9.15am Holy Communion	10.45am Family Church	9.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Prayer	10.45am Holy Communion
26 th		10.45am Holy Communion	9.15am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	4pm Evensong

Wigtoft Village Hall Dates & Information

February 2017

March 2017

Wed	1	7pm	Dog Training
Thu	2	7pm	Dog Training
Fri	3	7pm	Dog Training
Sat	4		
Sun	5		
Mon	6	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Tue	7	10am	Scraps R Us
Wed	8	7pm	Dog Training
Thu	9	7pm	Dog Training
Fri	10	6.30pm	Bird Auction
Sat	11	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Sun	12		
Mon	13	7.30pm	Village Hall AGM
Tue	14	10am	Scraps R Us
Wed	15	7pm	Dog Training
Thu	16	2pm 7pm	Welcome Club Dog Training
Fri	17		
Sat	18	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Sun	19		
Mon	20		
Tue	21	7pm	Gardening Club
Wed	22	7pm	Dog Training
Thu	23	7pm	Dog Training
Fri	24	6.30pm	Bird Auction
Sat	25	10am	Bacon Butty Morning
Sun	26		
Mon	27		
Tue	28	10am	Scraps R Us

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

Village Hall News

The Village Hall Committee will be holding their annual AGM on Monday 13th February at 7.30 at the hall. Anyone is welcome to come along. We now have a vacancy for a secretary so if anyone is interested please come along to the AGM.

The Bacon Butty mornings are still well attended, although they will finish for the summer at the end of March. We would like to say a big thank you to all who have supported the butty mornings. We will let you know in the next newsletter how much was raised and what the money will go towards.



Wigtoft Village Hall



Bacon Butty Mornings

**Bacon Butty Mornings are once again
taking place until the end of March**

Saturday mornings 10am until Noon

**All funds raised will go towards the Village Hall
maintenance, repairs and improvements**

We will have our usual stalls of plants, garden
produce, bric-a-brac, books and Scraps-R-Us.

Not forgetting the best home made cakes in Lincolnshire!



So come along and enjoy!!!!!!



Booking Wigtoft Village Hall

To book the Village Hall, please contact Wendy on 01205 461005
or e-mail villagehall@wigtoft.com

*The hire charge is £8 per hour, which includes heating,
lighting and the use of the kitchen and all crockery.*



Although I am no longer on the Wigtoft Church PCC or the Parish Council I would like to congratulate the members from the Friends of the Church who put on the Christmas Tree Festival over the Christmas period, up to New Year.

All members put in an enormous amount of work and the result in the end was brilliant. It must have pleased all concerned that the sum of £2,060. Was raised towards the Church Fabric Funds. I was away for the crib service in Yorkshire but I understand that the church was almost full, which must be satisfying for all the work put in.

Although a grant has been awarded to repair the church roof, I understand that John Craggs is having some problems with Lincoln meeting the right dates and filling in forms correctly. They seem to enjoy putting in small details to make life difficult for John. I think the whole village must be grateful to John for putting in so much time on behalf of the church.

Our thanks also, to Mr Trevor Blackmore and his son Tom, who kindly gave a large Christmas tree for the Village Hall car park and another to go inside the Church.

Chris Tunnard

Wigtoft Christmas Decorations

I would just like to say how festive the village looked over the Christmas period. It was lovely to see so many people taking the time to light up for Christmas. It really did make the village shine.

Sally Smith

Wow! What a Wonderful Sight!

Many thanks, to all those who decorated trees, windows, pathways and houses with Christmas lights of all shape and size over the festivities. The village looked wonderful. People who came to visit commented on how lovely homes looked and what an effort had been made. So well done! Next year, perhaps more will join with us in making our village special at this wonderful time of year!

Libby Craggs

In winter robins are easy to see as they come down to investigate any strange object they see. Male and female look alike but the cock feeds the hen and can be more curious and aggressive

In January most gardens are haunted by at least one inquisitive robin. The upper plumage is brown but the distinctive red breast makes it very noticeable. Marauding cats seldom catch a fully grown robin



The story of a robins journey back to the UK featured in the Waitrose™ Christmas advert has aroused a lot of interest. Did it hitch a ride on a cruise liner or a fishing boat?

Some people think of a robin as a departed family member as it is impossible to begin work in a garden without a robin coming to investigate. They are agile birds and my present red-breasted friend has become able to cling to the half coconut hung from the bird table. He feeds on the fat as easily as the blue tits

The robins song is short and sweet and can easily be missed. Their nests can be found in the strangest of places including old pans and kettles; lined with soft hair and fluff

Why do so many robins appear on Christmas cards as it is the fiercest bird in our country? It has been voted the most popular bird in Britain and is a colourful addition to greeting cards. It will come close to humans who are digging the soil and can be trained to eat from a hand. Yet these little balls of energy will fight to the death to defend their territory. They will increase their size by fluffing up their feathers to intimidate a rival. If this fails battle will commence

When the female hears the male sing she will stay in the neighbourhood until noticed, and will then build the nest.

Life would be not be the same without our cheerful robins to entertain us.

Church Cleaning

Church cleaning for February will be Wednesday the 1st and for March, Wednesday the 8th from 10am both days

We also share together in a chat (*what the rest of us call a gossip*) and a cuppa.
If you would like to help please come along, you will be made most welcome

Topical Talk

In November I read about the passing of Kay Starr. Younger people will probably never have heard of her, but a few older ones will remember her from the 1950's, when her songs such as "Rock and Roll Waltz", "Wheel of Fortune" and "Changing Partners" were all the rage – many of us used to waltz to "Changing Partners" with our local DJ Ron Diggins in the old Wigtoft village hall.

Her father was a full bloodied American Indian and her mother was mixed American Indian: Kay started her singing career when she was just 7 years old, on a Dallas radio station. Her style was "pop" and "hillbilly" and by the age of 10 she was making \$3 a night, a small fortune in the depression years.

She sang with the Glenn Miller band for a time and in 1947 she signed up with Capitol Records. She continued performing and touring, both in the US and in the UK – in 1993 she was on tour with Pat Boone; some of her songs were used in commercials in 2006 and 2014. she was married 6 times and had a daughter and a grandchild. She died in November 2016, in her 90's, in Beverly Hills.

Over the years I am sure many of you will have remarked about the beautiful stone architecture in Stamford, how rugged and timeless the buildings seem to be. But have you noticed what they are roofed with?. Maybe not; but the majority of these buildings have what is known as Collyweston slate as a roofing material. The village of Collyweston is actually in Northamptonshire but is not far from Stamford – this material is actually a type of limestone that is layered and has been in use for more than 600 years; but in recent years the industry has almost disappeared. One of the problems was the fact that the stone had to be mined and then left outside for the frost to split it along the layers, but in recent years the lack of reliable frosts has meant that the industry has come close to extinction. However, laboratory tests carried out at Sheffield University have found a way of doing this in industrial freezers which imitate the action of natural frost, and the stone can now be split in 2 or 3 days rather than the traditional 2 or 3 years.

As a result of this many old buildings which had been roofed with Collyweston slate and are in need of repair can now have their roofs recovered with the original product rather than concrete tiles.

Kings College, Cambridge, which first used the slate in 1893 is now due to be repaired with slates from the reopened mine – one of the longest distances the slates have travelled is to New York, where the Old Westbury Gardens, Long Island, was built in 1906.

St. Helena is a small speck of land in the South Atlantic, half way between Africa and South America – it has just 4000 inhabitants and is one of the most remote inhabited islands in the world; at the moment it gets most of its supplies by boat, but a few years ago some wise old owl in the British Government (the island is part of our overseas territories) decided that it would be a good idea to build an airport there – it would encourage tourists and make delivery of goods to the island easier: so, £285 million was spent constructing the runway for this mammoth project and it was duly completed – with just one snag – cross winds!. It was built in a position where, when landing, planes were subjected to fierce cross winds thus making the landing of most aircraft impossible for most of the year.

The island was important to the UK in the past, before the Suez Canal was built; it provided a stopping point for shipping when it had to travel round the Horn of Africa into the Indian Ocean; but once the canal had been built its importance disappeared.

The place is probably best known as the place where Napoleon was exiled to after his defeat and where he eventually died.

A small British airline, Atlantic Star, is now bidding to provide a solution – it is proposing to provide a commercial service to St Helena during gaps in the weather, using small jets that carry just 66 passengers – watch this space!!.

I appear to be in trouble – again. In the church yard we have two lengths of laurel hedge, both in the region of 7-8 feet high. When I say hedge, it is with tongue in cheek, because, in fact they are more or less just a series of tree trunks growing together. They are like this because, although they were originally a true laurel hedge, they were left untrimmed over the years and got out of hand. A few years ago Les Warby and myself trimmed them and tidied them up and since then I have contrived to “knock them into shape”. It has not been easy but they began to look a little less of an eyesore. As one gets older (like me) a hedge of this height means climbing steps, this being a “rough old hedge” meant it has to be pruned by hand. So, without any consultation I decided it would be a good idea to reduce the height so that it could be trimmed without having to use steps. I did this to one length and guess what!. Before I had got it finished there were complaints. Not your normal complaints where someone comes up to you and tells you straight to your face – no, this was anonymous. I do not know who it was, but if you read this perhaps you will come forward and do a better job. Many times we have appealed for help with work in the church yard but with little response, apart from the “true few”, so come on whoever you are and put your muscle where your mouth is. I have stepped aside from this task so its all yours.

Colin Scrapps

Wigtoft Events

Christmas Tree Festival

What a great time we all had! The Friends of the Church worked for days before the main event putting up Christmas trees and decorating accordingly. They prepared menus and shopped till they dropped. The atmosphere was electric with excitement with everyone working so very hard and full of enthusiasm.

The main event was held on the weekend of December 3rd. 2016. it went with a bang! It began with a carol service on the Friday evening led by Rev Charlie Robertson. This was well attended and followed with mulled wine and mince pies, a good start to a wonderful weekend.

Saint Peter and Saint Paul's church looked spectacular with about 170 Christmas trees and received much deserved praise from our many visitors who had come from far and wide. To compliment the decorations craft stalls were placed around the church where people could buy various Christmas gifts. Refreshments were served, which as usual met a very high standard. Breakfast, lunch and tea were on an extensive menu. Needless to say, people came and enjoyed the variety of cakes made by our ladies, the best bakers in Lincolnshire!

The week end was a financial success making £2,060.00. An extraordinary achievement.

This wonderful occasion only happened with the commitment of Friends of the Church who work tirelessly for the good of this lovely church. We are grateful for all those who worked so very hard throughout, in whatever capacity, giving their time and making this weekend such a success. **Thank you one and all!** Also to those who came and spent their pennies, we hope to see you next year.

We also wish to thank Oliver and George Tunnard, who retrieve and replace our Christmas trees from storage. It is good and encouraging to see young people helping on these occasions.

It would be remiss of us not to thank in particular Jean Knight who organises this event. Jean works weeks before preparing, arranging and encouraging us all, we would be lost without her tireless dedication. **Thank you Jean.**

Our next event is our annual Flower Festival This begins on the weekend of April 22nd 23rd continuing the following weekend, April 29th, 30th & May 1st.

If you wish to help in any way, or indeed become a Friend of the Church, please contact Jean Tel;-01205 460546. We hold regular meetings. All are very welcome.

Flower Festival

Our Flower Festival will be on April 29th. Saint Peter and Saint Paul's will be decorated to its usual high standard by Friends of the Church.

If you can help in any way then please volunteer, we need your help! There is much to do, flower arranging, refreshments, general organising and tidying. Many hands make light work! The preparation is part of the whole event and a great deal of fun so why not join us.

Come along on the weekend and see the beautiful displays and of course, partake of our delicious refreshments. See you there!



Sam Snail's Jobs In The Garden

If your garden is not too boggy to walk on, or you can reach them from a path check your Helebores, cut away any of their leaves that hide the emerging flowers or look diseased, the flowers look much better on bare stems. Remove any plant or leaf debris covering bulbs that are coming through. I have Snowdrops and Irises appearing already. The winter Honeysuckle shrub that looks a bit boring all year is really earning its' place now, with the wonderful scented flowers it carries until about March. Prune it hard after flowering to keep it neat.

Check trees and shrubs again this month for diseased or broken boughs and prune them off. It is a good time to raise the canopy of most trees this month which makes room underneath them for planting later in the spring. There is something quite beautiful about trunks of trees when exposed with the different textures and colours they show. Leave a small amount of the branch and cut at an angle to avoid damage, and disease to enter the wound.

It is mostly tidying up jobs this month while waiting to see what comes through and cleaning the area of rotting growth from last year. Leave any old dry growth on a bit longer to protect the crowns of hardy perennials from frost. Hopefully we will soon see the days lengthening this month, which is always welcome.

Keep warm and keep well.

Regards, from Sam

The Stork Comes To Wigtoft



We celebrate with and offer congratulations to two new babies and their families born since the last edition of our magazine.



Caroline (nee Johnson) and Henry Spencer wish to announce the birth of their little girl, Olivia Jessica born on October 26th 2016, 7lbs 2oz. We wish both parents and their daughter well for the future.

Kelly and Simon Collingwood now have a baby daughter, Jessica Louise born on December 23rd 2016. A gift for Christmas! A much welcomed sister for Owen. Every good wish to you all.

Editor's Note

On the subject of the birth of Caroline and Henry's daughter. Caroline's father, James Johnson, was heard celebrating the birth of his granddaughter, he said that he was very excited by the news and was looking forward to a new experience - he said that he had never slept with a grandmother before.....



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 TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7pm, WIGTOFT VILLAGE HALL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Feb 21 st	Michael Hoadley on "The Archaeology of Gardening"
March 21 st	Garden Club Annual General Meeting

WE ALSO ARRANGE VISITS TO PLACES OF INTEREST

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

Chairman, Malcolm - 01205 460635 or Treasurer, Barbara - 01205 460400

St. Peter & St. Paul

WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH LOTTERY

*Do you take part in our Parish Church lottery?
If not why not?*

There are many ways to support your Church financially, one way is via the Church lottery. Many people in the village are already members of the Church lottery. For just £12 a year you will be entered into the monthly draw for cash prizes of £20, £10 or £5. You can have more than one entry! To enter just fill in the form below and return it to a member of the PCC and you will be contacted to confirm your membership, or just contact a member of the Church PCC.

All lottery fees should be paid by the end of February. The prizes are drawn monthly, winning names are published in the News & Views the month following the draw.

All proceeds go to the maintenance of your Parish Church

WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH LOTTERY 2017

Application to join/renew

Name

Address

.....

.....

Telephone No.

The annual cost of the lottery is £12 per entry, payable by the end of February each year, entries not paid for by that date will not be included in the draw.

Please return this form to any member of the PCC

Bezz Butcher CHIMNEY SWEEP

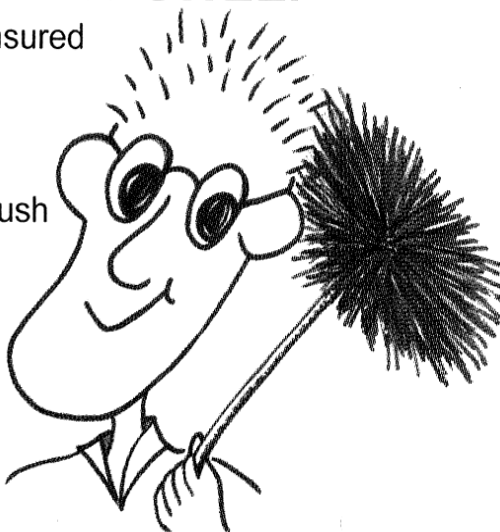
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Saturday	9.00 - 11.30	11.30 - 2.00	6.00 - 9.00
Sunday	9.00 - 11.30	11.30 - 3.00	Closed

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			10am Church Cleaning <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
			7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10.30am Group Service <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>	7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	10am Scraps R Us <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>			Blue Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
			7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	6.30pm Bird Auction <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9.15am Holy Communion <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>	7.30pm Village Hall AGM <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	Valentine's Day	10am - Noon Coffee Morning <i>Sutterton Methodist</i>	2pm Welcome Club <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	Green Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
			7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9.15am Holy Communion <i>Wigtoft Parish Church</i>					Blue Bin Collection	10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>
			7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	7pm Dog Training <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	6.30pm Bird Auction <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>	
26	27	28				
		10am Scraps R Us <i>Wigtoft Village Hall</i>				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10am - Noon Coffee Morning Sutterton Methodist 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	2 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	3 Green Bin Collection	4 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
5	6	7	8 10am Church Cleaning Wigtoft Parish Church 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	9 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	10 Blue / Brown Bin 6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall	11 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
12	13	14	15 10am - Noon Coffee Morning Sutterton Methodist 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	16 2pm Welcome Club Wigtoft Village Hall 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	17 Green Bin Collection	18 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church		10am Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall	21	22 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	23 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	24 Blue / Brown Bin 6.30pm Bird Auction Wigtoft Village Hall
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 10am - Noon Bacon Butty Morning Wigtoft Village Hall
9.15am Holy Communion Wigtoft Parish Church		7pm Gardening Club Wigtoft Village Hall	28	29 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	30 7pm Dog Training Wigtoft Village Hall	31 Green Bin Collection
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	3pm Newsletter Meeting Wigtoft Village Hall	10am Scraps R Us Wigtoft Village Hall 2pm Friends of the Church Wigtoft Village Hall				

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Sutterton Methodist Church Services for Feb/March

5th February 10.30am - Mrs Libby Craggs
12th February 10.30am - Mrs Dee Moden
19th February 10.30am - Rev Alan Barker
26th February 10.30am - Rev Trevor Hancock



8th March 10.30am -
15th March 10.30am -
22nd March 10.30am -
29th March 10.30am -

Sutterton Methodist Church

The Church with the yellow door

Come along to our Coffee Mornings



These are held on the first and third Wednesday every month 10am until noon.

Coffee served with plenty of friendly chat

A warm welcome given to all

Wigtoft Welcome Club

The Welcome Club meets at Wigtoft Village Hall on the 3rd Thursday at 2pm every month.

Everyone is welcome to join for £3 a year joining fee.

Play bingo for cash, and a raffle. Tea and coffee is served at half time.

**Please contact Ray or Lesley Woods for further information on
01205 460234**

December 2016

- 5th Ye olde vache scribbling cards and letters all day. I felt sadly neglected
- 6th It won both games of Scrabble™ today. I was praised and it was delighted
- 7th Scribbling took place again today. So glad I had a friendly walker
- 8th Lots of cuddles and no visitors today
- 10th Sympathetic dog handler managed my walk before heavy rain fell.
Hooray!
- 11th Younger nephew replaced the transformer on the flashing lights of the Christmas tree and gave me a fun walk. Older nephew was grumpy!
- 12th Postman brought a pile of letters. He is a jolly good fellow
- 13th Friend brought presents for the boss and I. They were added to the pile in the spare room
- 14th A huge pile of post again. Poor postman!
- 15th My present from the Scrabbler smells wonderful. Hers has no aroma
- 16th 2 visitors and 11 cards today
- 17th A stress free day for us both
- 18th Favourite female came today. I love her
- 19th I gave her a nudge when she was writing and she had to begin again. I smiled
- 22nd 3 generations of one family came. We exchanged presents and everyone was so happy
- 23rd A Wigtoft friend brought a wrapped box. It smells earthy What can it be?
- 24th A happy day with many visitors - most brought presents for the old and for me
- 25th At last we can open the parcels! This was the best ever Christmas for me! Even the chief was delighted. A nephew came today. He walked me
- 26-29th I needed a few quiet days with extra time to snooze after the festivities
- 30th The old one rang several people to say 'Thank you' for presents and visits
- 31st Lots of phone calls. I listened



January 2017

- 1st The old girl broke her New Year's resolution after just a few hours.
Ho, Ho, Ho
- 2nd Back to the dull routine
- 6th Overnight frost made my walk cold so I made my handler return to the fireside quickly
- 10th I now bark if the boss tried to have an extra hour in bed. I have no wish to stay alone for more than eight hours
- 11th Challenged by the mousehound again. His owner refers to me as 'the beast'. I didn't bark a word

FLOWER, ART & CRAFT FESTIVAL



St Peter & St Paul Church WIGTOFT



Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd April

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th April,

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May

10am until 4pm each day



Stalls, crafts, books, raffle
Homemade cakes & refreshments

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get involved or help please call
Virna - 01205 460259 or Jean - 01205 460546*

All proceeds towards Church fabric fund

Squadron Leader George “Johnny” Johnson (of Dambuster fame) Born Nov 25 1921)

George “Johnny” Johnson was born in Hameringham in Lincolnshire: he was the youngest of 6 children born to Charles and Ellen Johnson. His mother died when he was 3 years old leaving his father, a farm foreman, to bring up a young family. They lived in a tied cottage and the eldest sister Lena was largely responsible for his early upbringing. He went to school in Winthorpe until the age of 11, after which, through a bursary scheme, he was sent as a boarder to an agricultural college in Hants. He left school in 1939 having passed his school certificate.

This was on the outbreak of WW2 so in 1940 he volunteered to join the RAF as a navigator, but instead he was elected for pilot training. In 1941 he was sent to Florida to start his pilot training. Unfortunately he did not make the required grade for this so, instead, he opted to become an air gunner. In 1942 (July) he was posted to RAF Woodhall Spa where he was designated as a reserve gunner. This gave him the opportunity to fly with numerous crews in the squadron.

He continued on operations as an air gunner until the chance came along to train as a specialist bomb aimer. He did a course at Fulbeck in 1942 and returned to his squadron (No 97) and filled a vacancy for a bomb aimer with the crew of Joe McCarthy, an American. Johnny was not too happy about operating with an American skipper but, having met him, soon changed his mind.

His first raid with his new skipper was on Munich on Dec 21 1942, conducted in bad weather. They were attacked by night fighters both to and from the target – they lost all power in one engine and had problems in another, forcing them to land at RAF Bottesford. Johnny flew with this crew for a further 18 missions which brought him to the end of a full operational tour, followed by leave.

After this Johnny was selected to be part of the specialist 617 Squadron (Dambusters) and he arrived at RAF Scampton on March 27 1943: just at this time he was due to be married but due to the forthcoming training for their specialist role, all leave had been cancelled. Johnny appealed to his new commanding officer Wing Commander Guy Gibson, who eventually granted him leave, but only 4 days.

Johnny's Lancaster crew were detailed to attack the Sorpe Dam which was slightly different from the other structures to be attacked in so far as it was an

earthen dam as opposed to the concrete of the others. This meant the attack had to be along the length of the earth dam wall as opposed to the right angle attack on the others. Due to the difficult approach to the dam they had to make 10 attempts before they were satisfied and the bomb was released.

For his part in the raid Johnny was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal which, along with other members of the squadron, he received at Buckingham Palace. As a part of McCarthy's crew he took part in a further 19 missions during his time with the Dambuster Squadron, until April 1944. At this time he was given a rest from operational flying and was posted to Scampton where he became a bombing instructor until the end of the war. After that he qualified as a navigator and received a permanent commission. He spent time flying with the RAF's Avro Lincoln planes before transferring to RAF Coastal Command, flying with Avro Shackleton's. Following this he did a tour of duty in the Far East before returning to the UK.

He was promoted to Flight Lieutenant in 1948 and continued in the RAF until 1962, retiring with the rank of Squadron Leader. His years of service were 1940 – 1962.

On his retirement Johnny became a teacher, firstly as a primary teacher and later in adult education, followed by a period teaching psychiatric patients at Rampton Hospital. On his retirement from teaching he and his wife moved to Torquay where he became active in politics, supporting the Conservative Party.

On a personal note, he married Gwyn Morgan in 1943, they had 3 children and were together until her death in 2005. After this he withdrew from public life, however he emerged again during the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the Dams raid in May 2013. he now lives near Bristol.

He is the last surviving member of the Dambusters Raid. He does occasionally give interviews on the various aspects of his active service.

Colin Scrapps

Bereavement

The Friends of the Church would like to extend their condolences to the family of Mrs Martia Case who has recently passed away peacefully at home. Martia, 92, was an enthusiastic supporter of Wigtoft Church and attended many events when able to do so. She will be sadly missed.

Her funeral will be held on February 2nd at Surfleet, mid-day.

The Royal British Legion

Kirton and district Branch



Dear Readers

I would just like to update you on the activities of what your local branch of The Royal British Legion has been doing.

We started off the year with a service to commemorate the start of the battle of the Somme on July 1st 1916 with a sunset service at the war memorial on the 30th June 2016 to Remember 100 years ago, the men of Kirton who were killed in this battle which lasted for 3 months.

We then held a service in support of Boston Wood Trust in Jenny's Wood on the 6th November to remember the men of Wyberton who gave their lives for King and County in the two world wars.

On the following day, Monday 7th of November the children of Kirton Primary School planted a field of remembrance crosses on the approach to the church, this made a fitting tribute for the Sunday Remembrance parade when entering the church.

At the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month we held a service at the War Memorial conducted by the Parish Church of Kirton in attendance were Parish Councillors, members of TRBL Kirton and District Branch and Women's Section, Kirton Primary School, Middlecott Academy and the Middlecott Academy Cadet Force, there were also a large gathering of the general public.

On the 13th November, the Sunday Remembrance service was outstanding with a very large parade of Parish Councillors, Branch members including the Women's Section, Kirton Fire Service, Army Cadets, Scouts Organisation, Girl Guides Organisation and the Middlecott Academy. It is a credit to the parents and the entire village on how well the



younger members of the parade behave on the parade and in the church service.

At our monthly meeting in December we were proud to present to Mr Ian Turner a Tie Pin and a letter of appreciation from the head of the poppy appeal for all his hard work in volunteering as a street collect for more than 15 years, collecting on the streets of Kirton for the poppy appeal

The Royal British Legion Women's Section and Kirton District Branch of TRBL provided and displayed a Christmas tree in Kirton's St. Paul & St. Peter Parish Church Christmas tree festival.

Please have a safe and a very good new year

Roland Reece
Poppy Appeal Organiser

Wigtoft Parish Church



Coffee Morning



**Coffee mornings in the Church
will start again on April 1st**

Saturday Mornings 10 - 11.30am

**The first three, 1st, 8th & 15th of April being
held in the Village Hall (*it's warmer!!*)**

**Please come along for a friendly chat and
light refreshments which now include
bacon butties and home made cakes.**

***All money raised for Church maintenance and repairs
Organised and run by The Friends Of Wigtoft Church***

Shodfriars Hall Boston

Shodfriars Hall dates from between 1350 - 1375, although some people have dated it later than that at around 1500.

There is some confusion about the origins of the building. Some reports state that it was built during the reign of Henry V11 (1457-1509) by a rich merchant. If so, this would fit in with the fact that it stood close to the river – a report from the late 1400's describes the house as having its own staithe (landing stage) on the river.



It was also known in its earlier years as the Corpus Christi Guildhall. Whether it served this purpose before it was a merchants house or after, it is difficult to ascertain.

The house was owned at one time by the famous map maker and explorer Sebastian Cabot. His father John was one of the first Europeans to discover America. Sebastian inherited the house along with a number of other properties around England when his father died on a voyage in 1498. he lived there for a spell with his widowed mother and two younger sisters.

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The Shodfriars

This name relates to the Dominican friars who occupied much of the area between this building and the Guildhall. They were called shodfriars because they had footwear whereas most other friars went barefoot. They were also known as the blackfriars because of the black cloak that was worn over a white habit. There does not appear to be any evidence that the shodfriars actually occupied this building, but it seems likely that the building got its name after its extensive rebuild in the 1800's – the narrow lane at the side of the building is called Shodfriars Lane, this having got its name much earlier from the fact that the friars had occupied much of the immediate area.

The Guild of Corpus Christi

This guild was founded by Gilbert Alilaunde, a Boston merchant, in 1335. it was the major guild in the town, its members consisting of rich merchants and members of the “upper class”, such as bankers and clergy. One such person was

John de Skirbeck, butler to Edward Prince of Wales. Gilbert, the founder of this guild is recorded as having given funds, decorated the Guilds chapel in the Stump and also to have given land and property.

This guild had income from rents which it received from land and property in Boston, Skirbeck, Wyberton, Kirton and Algarkirk.

The guild has been called Boston's aristocratic guild: it was, in reality, a rich mans club. With an entry fee of £2-4-4p (1335) it was certainly out of reach of all but the wealthy.

Their private chapel at the Stump was attached to the exterior of the church, to the east of the porch. It is thought that the chapel was removed in 1627 to provide stone for the repair of the church itself.

(More next time.)

Colin Scrapps

Badly Thought Out Church Notices

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'.

The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

.....

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

.....

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Garden Waste Collections 2017

Garden waste collections start again of Friday March 10th 2017.

If you paid for garden waste collections for 2016 the first two collections for 2017 are included in that payment. Details of how to register and pay for the remainder of 2017 will be published by Boston Borough Council early in the new year.

Details will be available on the council website at www.boston.gov.uk or by calling 01205 311112

MINUTES OF THE WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (306) HELD ON MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2016 IN WIGTOFT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT B Leggott (Chair), M Scrupps, V. Atkinson & M. Piper (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

S. Baxter, P. Craven, S. Collingwood, M. Brookes, A. Spencer,
M. Cooper, M. Tunnard,

2. PUBLIC FORUM

One member of the public attended.

A resident of Hipper Lane reported that on the left hand side from A17 the footpath is completely overgrown forcing her children and pedestrians to walk on the road. Clerk to report to Council. Another matter brought up was the fact that children catching the school bus from the layby just off the A17.

The buses are finding it very difficult to park because there are large lorries or trailers parking there on a regular basis.

Clerk to contact relevant peoples.

The island on the A17 at this junction is very dirty and slippery and a danger to pedestrians crossing to pick up school bus.

3. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 3rd October 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2016 having been previously circulated are to be signed by Cllr. Leggott at the next meeting.

4. POLICE MATTERS

No members of the police attended and no crimes were reported.

5. HIGHWAYS

It was reported that there are some large stones on the grass verge outside

Spring Cottage, Asperton Road

Clerk to contact BBC Highways Re; Footway lights

Clerk to contact Footpath dept. The path between Jasmine House & Dewsbury House is very overgrown.

6. PLAYGROUND

Cllr Craven to speak to grass cutting contractor concerning loose grass, particularly around the toddler area.

7. FINANCIAL

C/A £9350.79 D/A £2260.68

Rent Invoice for Mr Waudby £350.00

Cheque for £10.00 Christmas Tree for Church

8. PLANNING

There were no planning applications.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Transparency Funding

Minerals & Waste Local Plan

10. A.O.B

Christmas Lights to be switched on.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

The next meeting will take place at Wigtoft Village Hall on Monday 5th December 2016 at 7.00pm

***The next meeting will take place at Wigtoft Village Hall on
Monday 6th February 2016 at 7.00pm***

All are welcome to attend

The Mobile Library



The mobile library no longer calls in Wigtoft, it will however be in Glebe Way, Sutterton on February 13th between 2.30 & 3.30
March 13th between 2.30 & 3.30

**Garden Waste Collection
Service 2017**

Brown Bin Collections

The next garden waste collection will be on March 10th and 24th



WIGTOFT NEWS AND VIEWS NEWSLETTER

The Wigtoft News and Views Newsletter team are:

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

The Newsletter is always grateful for any contribution towards the running costs of printing the magazine. Any donation towards the funding of the magazine is very welcome. Thank you so much to all those who have given so generously in the past.

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leave with any member of the Editorial Team by the 18th of the month*

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