

## VILLAGE IN SHOCK

Fosdyke is reeling from the tragic news of the death of one of its own sons, Gary Johnson, who was born in Fosdyke and lived in Bell Lane with his brother.

Gary, was a keen and conscientious motorcyclist who travelled safely on a daily basis to his place of work in Donington.

On Monday, 13 November, Gary was in collision with a car on his way to work and he subsequently died of his injuries.

Gary will be remembered as a quiet, unassuming, hard working, law abiding man, and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

We send our sincerest sympathies to his brother, Chris, and sister, Kim, and to his extended family. Rest in peace, Gary.

### RADIO INTERVIEW FOR LOCAL BAND

Boston's radio station Endeavourfm have been playing one of Phatt Knappii's songs and recently DJ Alice Kat invited the band along for an interview and to play a couple of acoustic numbers.

Alice (pictured front left) also came along and performed some of her songs at the social club's Open Mic night in October.

The band are also taking bookings for next year and have an



hour-long set of their own material which they plan to play at festivals. They will still be playing their bread and butter 80's cover at pubs and parties. Contact [terry@phattkknappii.uk](mailto:terry@phattkknappii.uk) for more details.

FOSDYKE PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

## CHRISTMAS DOLE

THE CHRISTMAS DOLE WILL BE GIVEN OUT ON

### Thursday, 21 December, 2017

at 12.00 in the

### VILLAGE HALL

ANYONE WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED THE DOLE PREVIOUSLY BUT CONSIDER THEY MAY BE ELIGIBLE SHOULD APPLY IN WRITING GIVING THEIR DETAILS AND REASONS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW BY MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER, 2017.

Clerk to the Trustees,

DENIS GLENN, 3 OLD MAIN ROAD, FOSDYKE, BOSTON, LINCS PE20 2BU

New applicants must have been resident in the parish for at least two years on 1 December when they apply. The Trustees will consider applications, giving full details, from persons who are retired or in receipt of benefits. Only one application per household will be considered and the applicant must not have a spouse or partner in full time employment. The decision of the Trustees will be notified to new applicants by telephone prior to 21 December.

Chris Andrews' **WILD**  **TIMES**  
**Feeding the Feathered Friends**



Hello again! Chris from the RSPB's Frampton Marsh nature reserve here again with your monthly look at the best in local wildlife.

Do you feed the birds? If so, you aren't alone. Surveys have shown that nearly half of all UK adults feed the birds in their garden. Anything from a few crumbs from the toaster to full-on buffet of specialist feeders. In fact, it has been suggested that feeding the garden birds is the UK's biggest leisure activity. Some people take it to quite extraordinary lengths. Harry Redknapp recently revealed that he spends over £2000 a year on feeding the birds in his garden.

Now, we can't all do it to that scale. But even a little bit of help for our feathered friends can have really very positive effects. Winter can be a tough time for many birds. So the bit of food you put out really can be a lifeline. But what are the do's and don'ts of feeding?

Well, let me start by exploding a common myth. Bread really isn't a good thing to feed to birds. OK, yes, they like the taste. Now I like chocolate (trust me, I really like chocolate!), but if I ate only that I'd end up rather ill. Bread fills up the bird's stomach, but doesn't give them the nutrients they need to survive. A few crumbs off the plate at the end of the meal will be fine, but not entire loaves. Certainly not if they have started to go mouldy, you can give them some nasty diseases that way.

So no bread. But how about some fat? Granny always used to put out the fat from the Sunday roast. That is fine, isn't it? Well, sorry, no again. Fat does provide lots of energy. But the stuff from the roast is the wrong sort. It is too soft, and will smear itself over the birds' feathers, ruining them. Also, the meat juices it will contain will



Courtesy Nigel Blake, [spb-images.com](http://spb-images.com)

go rancid, again giving them a nasty upset. But many other kitchen scraps can be used, such as bruised apples or cheese that has gone a bit hard. Check out the RSPB website for lots of suggestions.

Rather than scraps, you may decide to buy one of the many commercially available birdfoods out on the market. There is lots of choice, including locally produced from Vine House Farm, near

Deeping St Nicholas. The key thing here is that quality beats quantity. Birds really can tell the difference and will far prefer coming to a garden that has good quality food, rather than one that puts out oodles of cheaper stuff. Cheap bird food is often bulked out with wheat or broken dog biscuit, which the birds don't like and will only attract rats. Cheap peanuts can be even worse, as they might be infected with a fungus that actually turns the nut toxic! So quality bird food is definitely a worthwhile investment.

One thing you may notice is that different birds will like different foods, and indeed different places to feed. Goldfinches have soft bills, and so prefer softer seeds like husk-free sunflower seeds or nyger seed. Blackbirds prefer to feed on fruit down on the ground. Blue tits love to dangle acrobatically from a hanging feeder. So variety of offer will mean you have many more birds coming into your garden.



Courtesy Chris Gomersall, [rspb-images.com](http://rspb-images.com)

Now, if you were having friends around for dinner, you wouldn't serve it on dirty plates, would you? The same principle applies to feeding birds. Pretty though they can be, often their table manners

aren't up to much. Bits of food get dropped everywhere and they do sometimes, er, perform other natural activities shall we say? Which means bird feeders and tables can get pretty mucky, a potent breeding ground for all sorts of nasty diseases. Not good for you or the birds! So every week or two, give everything a jolly good scrub with mild disinfectant. That way, no upset tummies for anyone.

Talking of dropping food, sometimes the birds drop whole seeds, which then start growing in the spring. Not always what you want in your neat garden. To stop this happening, before you put it out, put the seed in a microwave

and zap it for 30 seconds or so. It sterilises the seed, so no chance of it growing.

Finally, one reason people don't feed birds is because they are worried about attracting other visitors. Rats, mice and squirrels will eat birdfood. But if you only put out enough to last the day, the first two shouldn't bother you as they prefer the cover of darkness. Or, to deter all three, mix some chilli powder in with the food. They will hate the taste, but birds don't mind it. You can also get cages to fit around feeders which can help keep squirrels off. Or larger birds, not everyone wants to feed pigeons!



Courtesy Nigel Blake, rspb-images.com



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# SINGLE WORD CLUES

Down

## Across

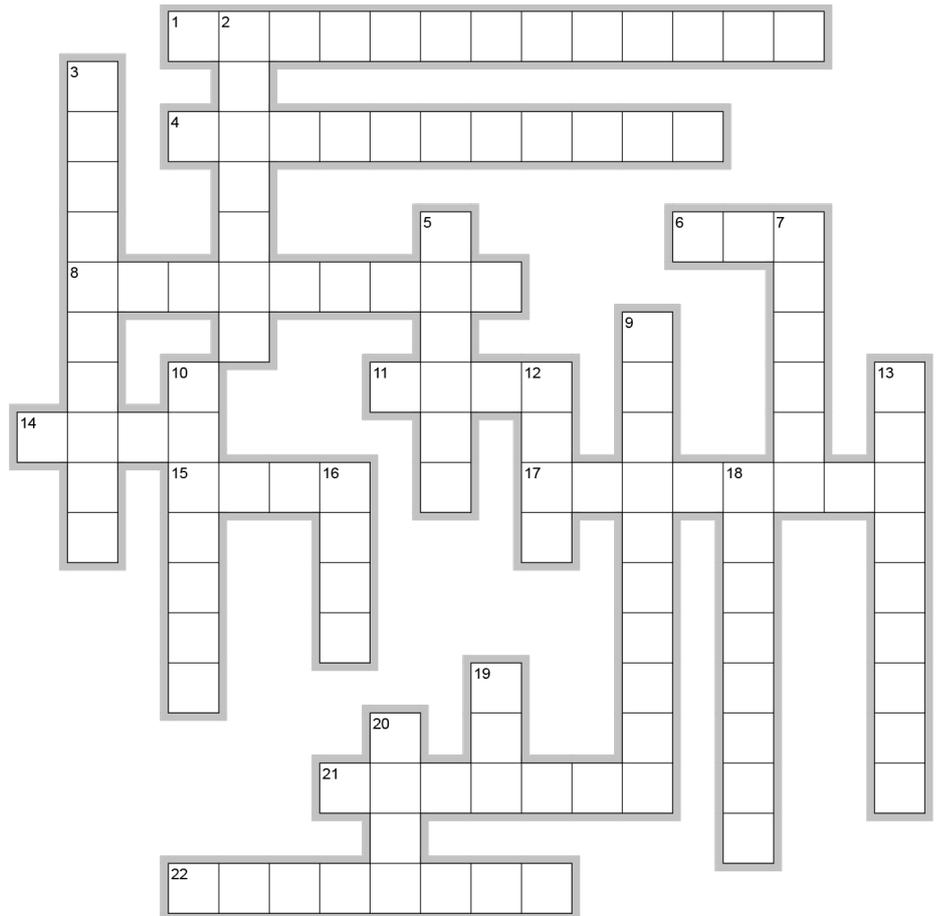
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| 1. Decay (13)      | 2. Wearing. (7)  |
| 4. Use. (11)       | 3. Dent. (10)    |
| 6. Finish. (3)     | 5. Join. (6)     |
| 8. Fun. (9)        | 7. Impair. (6)   |
| 11. Sacrifice. (4) | 9. Spread. (10)  |
| 14. Charter. (4)   | 10. Book. (7)    |
| 15. Filmed. (4)    | 12. Work. (4)    |
| 17. Forward. (8)   | 13. Gorging. (9) |
| 21. Deal. (7)      | 16. Lecture. (4) |
| 22. Waste. (8)     | 18. Supply. (8)  |
|                    | 19. Carrier. (3) |
|                    | 20. Earn. (4)    |

## THE FENNEY MYSTERIES

You might be interested to know that Jane Crane, who has written several of the Fenney Mysteries for *Fosdyke Magazine* has recently been given a three-book deal with London publishers Aria.

Jane is a part of the Spalding-based writing group, Red Wine Writers.

# PUZZLES



## SUDOKU

Solutions Page 15

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## MAKE US A CROSSWORD!

If you'd like to try to make your own crossword puzzle for *Fosdyke Magazine* there's a nifty little free crossword maker called Eclipse Crossword that can be downloaded at [www.eclipsecrossword.com](http://www.eclipsecrossword.com).

It's easy to use. All you need to enter is twenty words and their clues and the app does the rest. Save two pdfs (blank with questions and answers) and send to [terry@fosdyke.org.uk](mailto:terry@fosdyke.org.uk)

## SOCIAL WINNERS

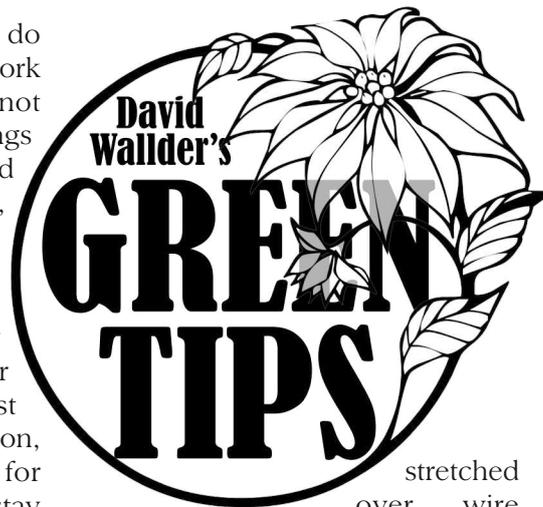
Dave Bristow and John were the social club's Whist Drive winners on Saturday, 4 November. Jane Bristow and Norman Raynor were second..

Winners of the Domino Drive on Saturday, 28 October, were David Bristow and Gary Britchford with Barbara Spinks and Mary Baldwin runners-up

# Colourful December

December is not a completely bleak month for colour in the garden. Plants like the winter flowering heathers and jasmine should be in flower throughout the month. Witch Hazel and Iris unguicularis are others that can be relied upon to cheer up December days in the garden. There should be berries on trees and shrubs if the birds haven't eaten them all.

There is still plenty to do outside, although the pace of work can be gentler now. There is not the urgency with which things have to be done in the spring and summer. With borders tidied up, it is an ideal opportunity to give borderline-hardy plants such as Penstemon protections against hard frosts. As the years go by and our winters become milder and nurseries breed more robust plants, many, including Penstemon, that were once always lifted for winter protection now happily stay outdoors all year round. But they are not immune to the harshest weather, so it is well worth covering them as winter enters its coldest phase. The easiest way of doing this is by covering the plants with a cloche, either glass or plastic. More utilitarian cloches can be made with plastic sheeting



stretched over wire frames. Alternatively, use horticultural fleece or a layer of straw held in place with pegged down netting.

Winter pruning of fruit trees is a satisfying job to be undertaken now. It's a good time to do any major pruning of ornamental deciduous trees, not only because

the plants are now in their dormant phase, but also, with the leaves now off, it's easier to see what you are doing. It's also easier to identify dead and diseased wood, which can then be cut out. Consider shredding the prunings rather than burning them, they make a terrific mulch, or can be added to the compost heap to rot down mixed greener material. If your garden is mostly laid to shrubs and lawn, so there isn't much bulky material for the compost heap in the summer months, keep a pile of shreadings to mix in.

I have found 2017 to be a universally terrible year for blackspot on roses. Presumably this is related to the overall dampness that we've suffered. No matter what the mould resistant species, all roses seem to have eventually succumbed. All the spraying and desperate removing of affected leaves appears to have been in vain. Early action in the plants growth cycle would seem to be the best opportunity to combat this problem. You can spray roses with a winter wash, as with fruit trees, to kill off any remaining blackspot spores on the plant and in the soil. First, clear away all old foliage on and around the roses as the spores can be transferred from the leaves to the soil. Spray the soil around the bushes as well as the roses themselves. Then cross your fingers that it's done the trick.



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Dancing as well as singing at November's Open Mic!



Phatt Knappii



Karen Clare



Kiya Brown



Open Road

# GREAT NIGHT!

It was another busy Open Mic at Fosdyke Social Club on Thursday, 9 November. There was barely time to fit in all the acts!

If you've been promising yourself a visit why not go along to the next one on Thursday, 14 December, from 8pm?

**DON'T MISS THE NEXT ONE!**

# SPONSOR A CHARITY

Fosdyke resident Jamie Wadlow runs Cowbit Athletic FC and on Saturday, 19 May, 2018 is holding a charity event titled "Cowbit vs the Stars" as his team will be taking on an all star Celebrity team in Aid of Save the Children UK. It will be at Peterborough United's ABAX Stadium.

He already has a full team of celebrities and is appealing to local business to get involved with sponsorship.

He is offering free tickets to the event and photos with the celebrities. He is looking for a handful of sponsors, to be able to support the event with funds between £200-£500.

He can be contacted at [cowbitathleticfc@gmail.com](mailto:cowbitathleticfc@gmail.com)



An end-of-evening jam



Tony Nuccoll



Castro's Catflap

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## FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

### Sunday, 12 November

Fosdyke Sunday 3 - 7 South Holland United

### Saturday, 11 November

Fosdyke 2 - 1 Wyberton "A"

Benington Res 5 - 2 Fosdyke Res

### Sunday, 5 November

Holbeach United Sunday 6 - 1

Fosdyke Sunday

### Saturday, 4 November

Fosdyke 3 - 0 Railway Athletic Res

Digby 3 - 3 Fosdyke Res

### Sunday, 29 November

Pinchbeck United Sunday 4 - 0

Fosdyke Sunday

### Saturday, 28 November

Fosdyke 6 - 0 Caythorpe

Northgate Olympic 7 - 1 Fosdyke Res

### Sunday, 22 November

Jubilee FC 10 - 2 Fosdyke Sunday

### Saturday, 21 October

Boston Athletic 3 - 1 Fosdyke

Fosdyke Res 3 - 0 Leverton

Sheepgate Reserves



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# THE BERIDGE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Beridge Educational Trust was set up by The Reverend B Beridge in 1907 to promote education (including religious education in the doctrines of the Church of England) of persons under the age of 25 in the area comprising the parishes of Fosdyke and Algarkirk.

This trust now has three new Trustees and invites applications for small educational related grants from residents within the two parishes stated above.

Application forms are available from the Diocesan Trustee. The Vicar of Kirton, Algarkirk and Fosdyke, the Reverend Paul F Blanch at Kirton Vicarage, Penny Gardens, Kirton, PE201HN Tel 01205 624128.

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Well, the elves and various W other of Santas helpers having been working hard all year to help create an even bigger and better Christmas Fayre than last year. Our Vicar, Father Paul, will be opening the event, so it's a good chance to come along and meet the new vicar, as well as to relieve your pockets of some of that troublesome cash - meet your neighbours, have a bite

## All Saints Fosdyke

Churchwardens:  
Jon 01205 260672  
Terry 01205 260408

Four pages of  
Church news  
and gossip

to eat, meet Santa, and have a jolly good chinwag. Details of the Christmas Fayre are in the poster on the back page of this newsletter.

## CONFIRMATION AND REFRESHER COURSE

This course begins at The Vicarage in Kirton on Thursday, 7 December, at 2pm and will meet each Thursday until Christmas for Part 1. Course Books will be provided. If you are interested or just curious - please contact a PCC member in the first instance or The Vicar of Kirton, Algarkirk and Fosdyke, the Reverend Paul F Blanch at Kirton Vicarage, Penny Gardens, Kirton, PE201HN Tel 01205 624128.

## MESSY CHURCH

It sounds disgusting - bit it is a way for young people to experience church, and locally - it is growing at our sister church in Algarkirk. If you would like more information, please ask Fr. Paul or one of our churchwardens.

## POP-IN LUNCHESES

Resume in January 2018. Provisional date booked is Tuesday, 9 January. Margaret and the Pop-In team would like to thank everyone who has helped by attending the lunches or working with the team to produce them. A great big thank you is due. We run

these lunches to promote a sense of community spirit in the local villages and to provide much needed funds to keep our church going for the benefit of the community we serve.

## GARDEN OF REST

At this time of year, it is natural to think of our departed loved ones, and to leave tributes at gravesides. Please consider the volunteers who look after the Garden of Rest for us in their free time, and dispose of unwanted materials in the bins provided. THANK YOU.

## CHURCH CLEANING

We like to keep our church clean, neat and tidy - a fit and proper place for worship. This is no easy task, and we like to thank all those who have cleaned the brasses, maintained our linens etc., and of course the wonderful Belinda who has made such a great job of cleaning this lovely building on the very small pittance that we can afford to pay. Thank you Belinda, on behalf of us all.

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS

On behalf of Fr. Paul, Terry, Jon and the Church Council of All Saints Church we would like to thank our very many supporters in the parish and to wish one and all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful, prosperous and fulfilling New Year 2018.

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## THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

What is Christmas all about? When you get on the bathroom scale in the morning, you may be hoping that it registers a smaller number than the day before - you may even be hoping that you've lost weight. It's the quantity of mass in you, plus the force of gravity, that determines your weight. But what determines your mass?

That's one of the most frequently asked, and most-hotly pursued questions in physics today. Many of the experiments circulating in the world's particle accelerators are looking into the mechanism that gives rise to mass. Scientists at the famous CERN facility as well as at a very interesting place called Fermilab in Illinois, USA are hoping to find what they call the "Higgs boson." Higgs, they believe, is a particle, or set of particles, that might give others mass.

The idea of one particle giving another mass is a somewhat counter-intuitive. Isn't mass an inherent characteristic of matter? If not, how can one entity impart mass on all the others by simply floating by and interacting with them?

So the Scientists in Cern, Switzerland claim they have now got the

evidence they need to prove the existence of what is called the "Higgs boson", the basic building block of all matter, and therefore everything in the universe. Journalists like to call it "The God Particle", the origin of everything.

We could perhaps rewrite the Christmas Day Gospel from St John's Gospel - Chapter 1 as follows:

*In the beginning was the Higgs boson:*

*and the Higgs boson was the God particle.*

*Through it all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through it.*

*All that came to be had life through it ...*

I could go on, and if you are the kind of person who really puts a lot of store by modern science, then no doubt this is very exciting. If you are the kind of person who believes that science has all the answers and has made religious belief and religious explanations of the world unnecessary, then no doubt you may even feel vindicated. As someone said to me the other day in Fosdyke Church, I used to attend this church as a boy, then I grew up! The inference being that religion has no credible place in a grown up world.

Yes, all this is important stuff, a sure example of the extraordinary ingenuity of humanity in formulating such theories and making such discoveries.

But let's not miss the whole point.

Scientific discovery is one thing. It gives explanations, causation, but it does not uncover motives and purposes.

When I changed that reading form St John Chapter 1, I had to make some very subtle changes. I had to get rid of the word "with", and change the "he"s to "it". I had to remove all idea of relationship, all idea of dependence, all sense of hope. I had to remove the personal and make it completely impersonal. I had to remove all sense of purpose, and substitute the mechanical..

If science is to be an explanation of everything, then we have to do without any sense of meaning or

purpose in the world. If we lay bear the mechanism, then all that is left is machinery.

The Gospel reading tells a very different tale. It tells us not how the world came to be - neither does the book of Genesis for that matter - but it tells us that the universe has purpose, the Word has meaning, and that such things as love, and loyalty, honesty and integrity, the powers that bind us together throughout our lives, the forces that confirm our deep intuition of the immortality of the soul, the values that underpin our hope in a greater and almighty power, these are much more than merely the movement of genes, but the force that gives life and light to the universe.

When we hear the words "In the beginning was the Word" - when we celebrate the Christmas story in all its beauty and charm - we are being told that life has a purpose, The Word has Meaning, and however important the Boson may be (and it is) what binds the world together is not a particle but a loving heart. The very heart of a loving God who send us his only Son as the best gift we will ever receive!

Please join us for our Festival of Lessons and Carols at Fosdyke, All Saints on Sunday 17th December at 6pm. Also a very special invitation to be with us on Christmas Eve at 9pm for the Christmas Eve Mass of the Nativity.

Every best wish for Christmas and the New Year,

Your friend and priest,  
†Father Paul

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## SHARING A POEM

Earlier in the autumn, I was enjoying my favourite day-off activity, which is to browse in charity and second-hand shops. I came across a slim volume of poetry by a man called Shane Jagger. I would like to share one of his poems with you:

At Christmas  
we give each other  
small gifts

So why at this time?

It  
reminds us  
a child was born  
who would grow up  
amongst ordinary people  
and by his coming into this world  
would bring an extraordinary great gift  
of news

The  
Real  
could be  
approached  
without intermediary

by  
all men  
simply by the means of love

This is why we gift each other at  
Christmas

if we remember

I was – and am – struck by the authenticity of this man's response to the birth of Jesus. It might be quite possible to debate whether he has got the theology of the incarnation perfectly 'spot on'. But what I am hearing is a response from the heart that is genuine, and that, to me, gives voice to an instinctive 'experience' of Christmas. I do not know his faith background. I do know that he was born in 1960,



worked in the fish markets in Hull, and from the late 1970s until his death earlier this year, lived in the Scottish borders.

Reading Shane's poem, got me to thinking: how would I describe the meaning of Christmas in just a few words? And I wondered whether I should set myself the task of trying to write a description, or to draw a picture, or to take a photo (I'm afraid, writing music is beyond me!) as I make my own preparations to celebrate the birth of Jesus this year? And if I set myself this task, would you perhaps like to join me? Wouldn't it be wonderful if, across the Diocese of Lincoln, in our own ways, in our own voices, we were able to express something to ourselves – and to others – of what Christmas really means to us?

For the Feast is a feast for all people; the celebration of the giving of God's very self to the world in love; a giving that invites a response from us all.

May you know God's blessing and love this Christmas, in whatever circumstances you celebrate it!

Bishop Nicholas

P.S. And if you want to send me your words or your picture, or whatever else your response to the birth of Jesus might be, please do!

We are most grateful to Beshara Publications (www.besharapublications.org.uk) for their kind permission to reprint the work of Shane Jagger here.



On St Andrew's Day - Thursday November 30th Fr Paul will be in Church for Noon Prayers and therein after, every week in All Saints Parish Church at the same time. (Emergencies and funerals permitting) This simple but reverend worship service lasts around 15 minutes.

This is a wonderful opportunity to prayer, be silent and also an opportunity for parishioners to meet with Fr Paul for a chat, advice, spiritual direction or whatever the need may be.

On certain days we hope to offer you coffee and cake!

Please join us if you can – we are not only open on Sundays.

# Gj's

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3

Saturday, 25 November

# Christmas faire

2pm  
at the village hall

Thursday, 7 December

# Confirmation and Refresher Course

7pm

Sunday, 10 December

# Holy Communion for Advent

9.30am

Sunday, 17 December

# Village Candlelit Carol Service

6pm

Sunday,  
24 December

# Candlelit Service of the Nativity

9pm  
(aka midnight  
mass for early  
sleepers and  
partygoers)

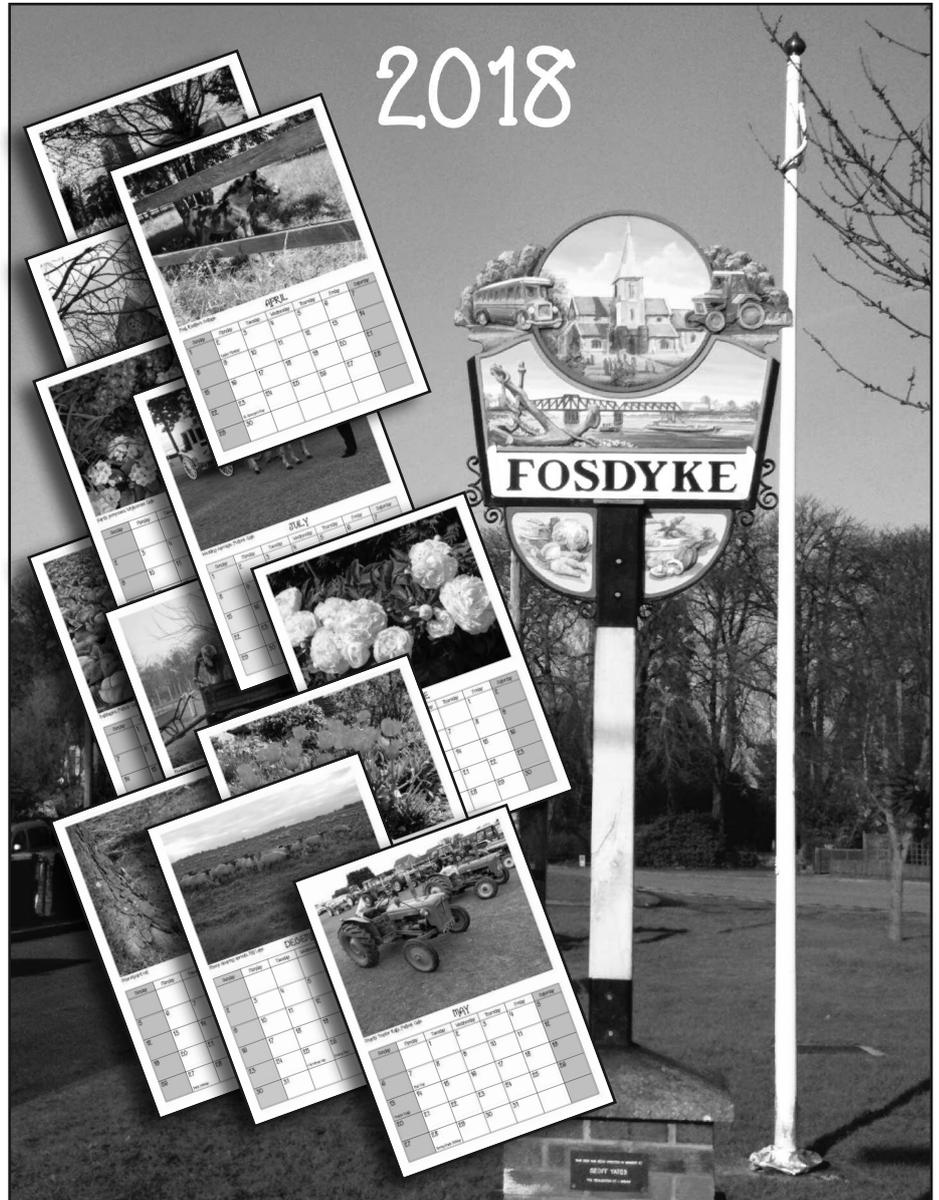
# 4

# FOSDYKE CALENDAR FOR 2018

Liz Martin has been wandering the streets of Fosdyke with her camera all year and has chosen her favourite

photos to create a full colour Fosdyke calendar for 2018 with the intention of giving any profit towards All Saint's church repair work.

Calendars are A4 and cost £10 each. There is a limited number so please contact Liz on 260275 if you would like one.



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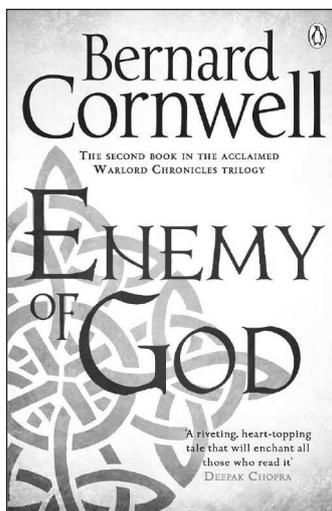
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Liz Wallder's  
**Book Review**  
**Enemy of God**  
 by  
**Bernard Cornwell**



Bernard Cornwall writes historical novels and this is no exception: it's the second book of a trilogy all about the warlord Arthur, his love for Guinevere and his quest to make peace all over England. A story we've all heard before, but, as ever, Cornwall puts his twist on things, making it all come to life..

Derfel is the narrator of this story; a lowly warrior who, as in most of Cornwall's books, is large, blonde, kind and good, even when placed in terrible situations. He becomes Arthur's friend and confidante and tries to get him to take on the throne that is there for the taking.

Guinevere is a power crazy, intelligent woman who realises that as she can hold no actual power of her own the only way she can rule is through the man she is married too and when she realises that Arthur won't take on the kingship, looks for a man who will.

Lancelot is a preening buffoon who likes to prance around, often to be found polishing his armour but at any sign of a fight suddenly has pressing engagements elsewhere leaving other men to fight for him.

Merlin is portrayed as a randy old goat that prances around, all mystic and shaking human bones at one moment then trying to get some pretty maiden into bed the next.

I'm a fan of Bernard Cornwall and found this a very exciting book to read- it's full of sword fights and magic and battles, horrifically portrayed as Cornwall doesn't shy away from spurting blood and beheadings but warriors always die as heroes with dignity and holding their swords to the end.

I'm just coming to the end of the third book where Arthur and Derfel are old men (in their forties!) but I enjoyed the humour in "Enemy of God" more. I loved reading about Arthur and his knights when I was young and Cornwall certainly makes all those stories come alive. And adds more blood.

**FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL**

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Fosdyke/>  
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Margaret is an experienced dog trainer and competitor in Obedience Competition. She has also trained her Golden Retrievers to work for the gun and has carried out demonstrations of gun dog training at County shows including All About Dogs in Brentwood, Essex, for three years running. She currently offers Behavioural advice for problem behaviour in pets.

[www.petbehavioursolutions.net](http://www.petbehavioursolutions.net)  
 For further information please ring Margaret on 01406370920 [margaret.law4@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.law4@gmail.com)

# Fosdyke Social Club

**Saturday, 2 December**  
**XMAS MEAL**

8pm

**Saturday, 9 December**  
**WHIST DRIVE**

8pm

**Thursday, 14 December**  
**OPEN MIC**

Opens 8pm - music 8.30-11pm

**Friday, 15 December**  
**XMAS DRAW**

8pm

**Saturday, 16 December**  
**XMAS QUIZ**

8pm

Chicken/fish/scampi and  
chips supper.

Members £5.50, guests £6

**Sunday, 24 December**  
**SECRET**  
**SANTA DRAW**

8pm

## BEETLE WINNERS

Tammie Ryan won the Beetle Drive at the social club on Saturday, 11 November, with Dave Baldwin second and Mary Baldwin third.

## THINGS YOU DO TO RAISE MONEY



David Plum from The Ship raised £250 for the Poppy Appeal by dressing as Dr Frank N Furter from The Rocky Horror Show.

## LOST BALLS

Fosdyke's three football teams are appealing to the children of the village to return any balls they find.

While every effort is made to locate lost balls, they aren't cheap after all, there are often occasions when they just can't be found, yet industrious youngsters seem to be able to find them!

## Fosdyke Village Hall

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# CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER



Once a fortnight The Ship holds a Fun Quiz Night. On Monday, 30 October, it had a Halloween theme and question master, Dave Plum, dressed as Dr Frank N Furter from The Rocky Horror Show, to raise money for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Dave eventually raised £250 and while we considered putting the photo on the front page we decided it wasn't appropriate! It's on the opposite page. But you can make up your own mind about that. One team got into the spirit of things as you can see in the photo above.

## GOOD NEWS FOR FOSDYKE RESIDENTS

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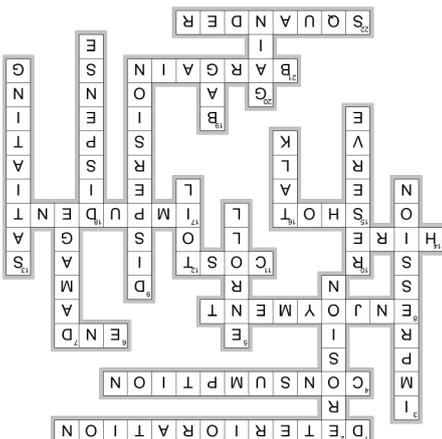
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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| 8 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 8 |
| 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 1 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 6 |
| 7 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 1 |
| 4 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 7 |



## The Ship Inn

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Evening Menu 5.30pm until 9pm

Friday Evening Special  
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Sunday

Lunch Carvery (12 noon until 2pm) £8.50  
(two courses £12)

Sittings 12 noon and 1.30pm  
Sorry, no food served between 2pm - 4pm  
Main Menu available from 4pm

# FOOD AND SPIRITS

a fictional ghost story  
by Nina Mercetter

Just off the main road from Fort William to Inverness the Golden Griffin should have been a popular and, in the holiday season, thriving hotel and restaurant. It's two AA symbols belied the talents of a remarkable chef whose culinary delights should have packed the tables every night.

Yet when Donald and Betty Arkwright booked in one Friday night only one other room was taken and the occupants had, by the accounts of the pretty young receptionist, gone into Glenrith for fish and chips.

As full-time assessors, on this occasion representing Bartholomew's Guide to the Hotel's and Restaurants of the Highlands, the Arkwrights led a nomadic and uneventful life traveling the length and breadth of the UK on freebees. Whether it was because they looked so much the archetypal assessors, and therefore couldn't be, or because they were such an unassuming couple, their identities had never been discovered by those they were assessing.

They'd never had children, and, despite their ever changing scenery, locations, and different people they met, they kept themselves very much to themselves.

Donald kept a little notebook in the inside pocket of his suite jacket and, whenever no one else was around, scrawled copious notes with a lead pencil, which he licked every few words, while Betty had invested in the latest technology, well it had been twenty years earlier, with a dictaphone tucked into her closely clutched handbag. Back in their room they would discuss their findings, and agree on a rating for the current establishment.

The Golden Griffin had its own agenda however. For one thing you would never see a local either eating or drinking there. Unlike other hotel bars in the area it wasn't treated as a "local" by anyone. Had

the Arkwrights been a little more outgoing they might have discovered earlier why The Greff, as the locals called it, wasn't the popular haunt it ought to be.

They had met all manner of owners and managers, so the Cameron family, the receptionist was the youngest, seemed no more or less unusual than any other.

"This roast beef is exquisite," Donald remarked kissing his thumb and finger before drawing into the air with a "Wmumph."

"Don!" Betty blushed. It was

unusual for her husband to display such enthusiasm about anything, at least in public. Not that anyone else was in the restaurant.

"What's the Dover sole like?" he asked as if he'd not noticed her embarrassment.

"It is rather good," she admitted. "And nicely presented."

"Hello?"

"What?" They looked at each other, then around the room. They were still alone.

"You didn't say that did you?" Don asked. Betty's head stopped in mid shake.

"I did! You heard me!" There was mixed hope and excitement in the voice.

"Who is this?" Don demanded, jumping up from the table as if his speed would enable him to catch the speaker.

"Alistair Campbell. Lord of Glen Nevis."

Don spun round. The voice had been directly behind him.

"Sorry. I can't manifest visually, and it takes a great deal of ethereal power to allow you to hear me. Just

## Fosdyke Weight-Loss Club

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in case your not sure yet, I'm what you would probably call a ghost. I died back in '92. That's 1192. Poison."

Don has collapsed back into his chair, bum on seat but legs akimbo over the arms. Betty's bottom jaw was virtually resting on her ample breasts, but that could have been due to her bra straps being too tight.

Despite their self-induced sheltered life they accepted what was before them and reacted accordingly, with Betty just getting the edge.

"What do you want Alistair?" she asked.

"Lord, if you don't mind."

"My apologies." Somehow she managed to curtsy despite being seated, but destroyed the moment with an impatient, "Well, Lord of Glen Nevis?"

For a moment the room seemed to crackle with some primeval terror and Donald thought his wife might have pushed the spirit too far and there was a chance he would enjoy his dinner all over again albeit

in a sudden rush of vomit, but a large burp seemed to ease his fears, both in respect of his stomach and the atmosphere.

"So you felt it too?" The source of the voice had moved yet there remained an echo in its previous position.

"That feeling wasn't your doing then?"

"No. It's been plaguing me nigh on 700 years. You can help me dispel it."

Donald shivered.

"How?" asked Betty. His wife, he decided, was coping far better than he was.

"Well it's like this . . ."

They reached The Gate, about two miles on from the Greff, at 7.30 the following evening, in plenty of time for their meal. The surroundings were pleasant enough but both of them were unable to stop themselves making judgments despite this being a purely social visit. Neither could remember the last time they'd had a meal out just for the pleasure of it. It was a

strange experience for them.

Had they been on duty, so to speak, then the restaurant food would have been given a reasonable rating, but the service needed a lot of improving.

At 10 o'clock, over two liquor coffees, Betty unscrewed the top from the pewter bottle that had been exactly where the spirit said it would be; under a floorboard in their room at the Greff.

It took only a few moments for the atmosphere to change. Following a feeling of surprise, that caught the other dozen or so customers as much as Donald and Betty, a feeling of love, tenderness and unbridled passion overoad all other feelings. Yet it lasted such a short time that gasps and moans of disappointment, when it dissipated, left many embarrassed faces.

So it was that Alistair Campbell, Lord of Glen Nevis, well at least back in 1192, was reunited with his sweetheart of the clan McKenzie. Seems Shakespeare had heard the story but decided to use Venice for the backdrop. What of the Golden Griffin? Well, having lost its purpose, the minor demon that had been conjured to keep Campbell from escaping the building returned to wherever it came from and the hotel began to prosper. Indeed, following the publication of Bartholomew's guide it was the most sought-after restaurants in the Western Highlands.

And Donald and Betty? They'd discovered two things. It could be fun to eat out, and they had a skill at communicating with ghosts. It was the start of a new career.

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### Copy Deadline

If something has happened to you or a friend, or is going to happen, we want to hear about it. So, contact Terry - preferably via email: [terry@fosdyke.org.uk](mailto:terry@fosdyke.org.uk) or phone: 01205 260275 or knock on the door or post your info through the letter box 6 Whitecross Gate

**no later than 14 December**

### Fosdyke Village Hall Lottery 250 Draw - Latest Winners

|     |               |           |     |
|-----|---------------|-----------|-----|
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| 219 | Mrs A Smalley | Sutterton | £10 |
| 161 | Mrs M Rylott  | Gosberton | £10 |
| 39  | Mrs J Gwynne  | Fosdyke   | £10 |
| 87  | Mr M Gell     | Holbeach  | £15 |
| 154 | Mrs J Potter  | Sutterton | £20 |
| 34  | Mrs J Hchnab  | Holbeach  | £25 |

**Next draw: Monday 11 December at the Village Hall Bingo Night**