

Winster Village Magazine

February 2026

The Garden Year (1834)
Sara Coleridge

January brings the snow,
makes our feet and fingers glow.

February brings the rain,
Thaws the frozen lake again.

March brings breezes loud and shrill,
stirs the dancing daffodil.

April brings the primrose sweet,
Scatters daisies at our feet.

May brings flocks of pretty lambs,
Skipping by their fleecy dams.

June brings tulips, lilies, roses,
Fills the children's hand with posies.

Hot July brings cooling showers,
Apricots and gillyflowers.

August brings the sheaves of corn,
Then the Harvest home is borne.

Warm September brings the fruit,
Sportsmen then begin to shoot.

Fresh October brings the pheasant;
Then to gather nuts is pleasant.

Dull November brings the blast,
Then the leaves are falling fast.

Chill December brings the sleet,
Blazing fire and Christmas treat.

It's not normally the role of the village magazine to wag the finger at Anti-social behaviour but recent reports of dog fouling have made it necessary to put finger to keyboard.

The people of Winstan DO NOT WANT to play hopscotch over 'piles of poo' to walk down their public pavements. Nor do they want their children to be subject to possible serious infection. The culprits appear unable or unwilling to understand and take responsibility, BUT it's not just a 'poor show' - it is breaking the law. Understand, you will be caught and the law applied.

If you don't clean up your dog's waste you could face a fine of up to £100 fixed penalty notice (FPN) in England and Wales. This could escalate to a magistrates' court hearing and a fine of up to £1,000 if you don't pay.

Dog excrement can present the very serious risk of toxocariasis - an infection caused by the eggs of the Toxocara worm. Symptoms include breathing issues, seizures, and blindness, with children being more susceptible due to the increased likelihood of them playing in areas with contaminated mud or grass.

You won't be offered a pass if you say you 'didn't know', and not having any bags is not an acceptable excuse either, so make sure you have some with you when you leave your home.

Places covered by the Public Space Protection Order usually include:

- Parks, playing fields, and playgrounds
- Town centres, shopping centres and car parks
- Footpaths, pavements and roads

The easiest and most convenient way to clean up your dog's waste is to use disposable bin bags and these can be purchased at the shop:

- Scoop up the mess with a disposable bag
- Dispose of the bag in a dedicated dog bin
- If you have to throw it into a normal bin, remember to use two bags.

Some public areas of the UK are exempt from this law, such as:

- Agricultural land
- Woodland, marshland, moorland or heath
- Highways with a speed limit of 50 miles per hour or more

If you are unable to bend down to pick up after your pampered pooch, please walk them in one of the above exempt places. There really are no excuses.

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Hello 2026!

Back to the old routine - copy dates are **18th** of each month. Send anything you wish to include, to me (Helen Witty) at **mag@winster.org** anytime and I'll schedule for the next edition.

Remember it takes a few days to prep, print and distribute the magazine so better to advertise events a month early if the date is between 18th and 25th.

Winstar Local History Group Next Meeting

Monday 23 February at 7.30 in the Burton Institute
Lynn Willies, Illustrated talk on Quarrying in and around Winstar, Cromford and Matlock from the seventeenth century to the present day.

Everyone welcome.

Regular Village Activities including Mobile Library

Stay and Play , Primary School, Friday's—term time only 9:30-11:30, for parents and carers of infants and young children. Free. Refreshments provided. Contact: Kerry McClay 07760161785	
Senior Club , Burton Institute, Fridays, 10am - 12noon	
Luncheon Club , Burton Institute, Mondays, 10:45 - 13:45	
Yoga , Burton Institute, Tuesdays 6.15-7.45pm, Sheila Clapham 07842145005	
Chair Based Exercise -every Thursday 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Burton Institute - please note change of start and end times - effective immediately	
Morris Dancers Practice , Burton Institute, Tuesdays 8pm	
Shorter walks of 4-6 miles , first & third Tuesday of each month, easy pace. Meet at the Old Bowling Green at 9.45am. Bring own drink & snack. Usually ending with pub or café lunch. Contact: Anthea Rawlence: a.j.rawlence@btinternet.com or 01629 650480 or 07860140435	
Longer walks of approx. 8 miles , second Tuesday of each month, meeting at the Old Bowling Green at 9.45am. Bring own drink, snack & packed lunch. Contact: Steve Edgar: steve.edgar1@btinternet.com or 07977148748 or Katharine Edgar: katharine.edgar@btinternet.com or 07875655243	
Winster Community Café Hub - Jubilee Room, Wednesdays, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm	
Parish Council Meeting - First Monday of the month, 7pm, Burton Institute	
Post Office Closed - Every Tuesday and Thursday	
The Cafe in the Church - Taking a break until Spring	
Pickleball -Winter schedule- weather permitting - equipment available to borrow	
Monday evening 6 to 7.30	Tuesday morning 10 to 12 noon
Thursday evening 5.45 to 7.15	Saturday morning 10.30 to 12.30
Barre Fitness Classes at the Burton Institute. Wednesdays 9.15am, 10.30am & 5.45pm. Various classes to suit your ability. Contact Samantha on 07852299927	
Winster Sunday Sing, Say & Play! The Red Lion, Birchover. Every 1st Sunday evening 7:30 pm start. Come and have a sing – all welcome – great for your health!	
Community E-Bike Rides - Free to Winster residents with an e-bike. Dates in the diary Thursday 24th July and Thursday 18th September - Meeting 10am at the Bank Top Cafe. Contact Andrew Talbot on 07525 464003 for more info	



Mobile Library
Friday
 9:30 -10:00 am

opposite
 village shop

13-Feb

Quick Competition for you!

Who made it through Christmas and New Year without the dreaded lurgy currently doing the rounds? The Witty household didn't and the strains of coughing, snuffling and sneezing can still be heard even now. Some, however, did make it to New Year celebrations and here's a quick competition for you to try. Put a name to these masked faces. The answers appear elsewhere in this issue. GOOD LUCK!

Number 1



Number 2



Number 3



Number 4



Number 5



Number 6



Peak EPedals Community Rides

Monthly community E-bike Rides 2026 dates for your diaries

- Thursday 19th February
- Thursday 26th March
- Thursday 16th April
- Thursday 21st May

More information can be found on our dedicated website

<https://www.peakepedals.net/community-ebike-rides>



Anyone for Chess?

I wondered if there might be folk in the village up for a game of chess. If you are interested, please get in touch. You might be a player a bit rusty like me. You might be a beginner who would like to improve your game or even someone who hasn't played before but would like to learn.



Geoff Dalton 01629 650213

Winster school is still very much open!

We may be small but we are most certainly mighty with new children joining us in the near future!

Our family atmosphere and commitment to tailored individual learning is second to none.

Please continue to support our village school by spreading the word to prospective parents.

We welcome all children and offer excellent special needs support.

Thank you.

Info@winster.derbyshire.sch.uk 01629 650238

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Dear Friends,

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, the church equivalent of an AGM, is on Sunday 19th April this year at St. Mary's Church, South Darley, following the 10 a.m. service that morning. Anyone can attend, please make a note of the date and come if you can, but in accordance with church rules only those on the Electoral Roll can speak or vote. If you want a particular matter to be discussed please talk to your churchwarden or coordinator, any PCC member or me.

This year we have to elect PCC members and Deanery Synod representatives, both for a three year term of office. It was agreed at a previous APCM that PCC members should be elected for a three year term to avoid holding elections every year. Anyone who is elected can, of course, resign at any time during this three year term. Elected Deanery Synod representatives are automatically members of the PCC. Churchwardens and Coordinators are elected every year at the Vesty Meeting which is held immediately before the APCM. Treasurers and a secretary are elected by the PCC at its first meeting following the APCM.

Our Rector, Stephen, asks if you will prayerfully consider whether you can represent your church on our Joint PCC or take on the role of churchwarden, treasurer or secretary for your church. PCC meetings are generally held every 6 weeks and any documents to be discussed are circulated the week before to keep the meetings as efficient and short as possible.

Nomination forms will be in our churches by the beginning of March. Once completed please hand them to me or your churchwarden / coordinator. This will save a lot of time at the APCM.

Last year the PCC decided that the annual report would be sent out by email to those on the Electoral Roll who we have an email address for. The same will happen this year. If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like a report emailed to you please let me know. Hard copies will only be provided on request so if you would like a paper copy please let me know by 22nd March and I will make sure one is printed for you.

With my thanks and best wishes to you all,

Penny Dakin (PCC Secretary)

1. Anthea Rawlence
2. Martin Firth
3. Judy Hinsliffe
4. Marion Fuller-Sessions
5. Clive Newton
6. Rosie Strauss

Vegetarian Cassoulet Recipe

- Leeks, onion, carrot - Chopped finely and softened in a little olive oil (1 of each)
- Garlic or garlic salt to taste - stirred into the pan and cooked for 2 mins
- 400g of sliced mushrooms - sliced and added to the pan (can be any sort you like but a mixture of closed cap and shiitake is really good)
- 400g of cannellini beans- added to the pan (drained)
- 400g of tinned tomatoes - added to the pan
- 1 teaspoon of paprika - optional
- Season to taste
- 2 bay leaves and pinch of thyme - optional
- 1 tablespoon of tomato purée

Transfer to a large casserole dish and put into a medium oven (180) with the lid on for 15 minutes.

Mix 150g of bread crumbs with chopped parsley and sage and sprinkle with lemon juice. Sprinkle this mixture over the casserole and pop back under a grill or very hot oven without the lid until golden brown.



M: 07790 019093

W: www.abelectricaltd.com

E: ab@abelectricaltd.com

Village Organisations & Contacts

Village Magazine: Editor:	Helen Witty - mag@winster.org	650920
Advertising:	Bev Atkins - ads@winster.org	650086
Emergency Telephone Tree:	Call 15 Volunteers Simultaneously in Case of an Emergency 01629 698699	
Village Shop: Managers:	Jayne Hufton & Katrina Prosser sales@winstervillageshop.com	650683
Opening Hours:	Mon - Sat 8am-6pm and Sun & B/H 9am-4pm	
Post Office: Sub-Postmistress:	Carolyn Ludlam - postoffice@winster.org	650668
Opening Hours:	Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-12.30pm	
Doctors Surgery:	Mon, Wed 8.30am-12pm, 2pm-6pm.	650207
Opening Hours:	Tues, Thurs 8.30am-12.30pm. Fri 8.30am-1pm.	
Burton Institute: Chair:	Bernard Bowler - bbwinster@gmail.com	650261
Treasurer:	Keith Deacon keith@winster.org	
Bookings and photocopier	John Geddes john@winster.org and institute@winster.org	650364
Primary School: Clerk:	Francesca Allsopp-Pick- Info@winster.derbyshire.sch.uk	650238
Carnival: Chair	Irene Webster - issi.web@hotmail.co.uk	07500371658
Secret Gardens & Xmas Tree:	Gill Geddes - gill@winster.org	650364
Winster Country Show: Chair:	Ali Carter - aliabsolute@hotmail.com	650885 07836512149
History Group:	Geoff Lester - geoff.orchardmine@gmail.com	650090
Luncheon Club:	Rosie Strauss - rosiejay.strauss@btinternet.com	650564
Playing Fields/Tennis Court:	Sharon Talbot - sharonetalbot@yahoo.co.uk	650718 07546527214
Darby & Joan:	Sandra Purslow	650222
Morris Dancers: Chair	Richard Powley - richard.powley@makepaper.net	636994
Secretary	Bev Atkins - bevatkins@btinternet.com	650086
Entertainments Group:	Rod Shiers - rodneyschiers@gmail.com	650523
Senior Club:	Dave Crutchley - d.crutchley905@btinternet.com	650024
Open Thursday Club:	Christine - relax@peakserenity.co.uk	650712 07837725337
Village Choir:	Marion Bowler	650261
The Orchard Group:	Dave Robinson - daveandhes@gmail.com	650395
Yoga: Info & Booking:	Sheila Clapham - sheila.clapham@btinternet.com	07842145005
Bakewell & Eyam Transport:		641920
Winster Shop Window:	Ali Carter - aliabsolute@hotmail.com	07836512149
District Councillor:	matthew.buckler@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	
Parish Council:	Parish Council contact clerk@winsterparishcouncil.gov.uk or via the 'contact us' page on the council website www.winsterparishcouncil.gov.uk	
Vicar:	Rev. Stephen Monk: rev.stephenmonk@btinternet.com	734257
Winster Community Wakes and Carnival Archive Project	Celia Pendlebury Celiap.wcwa@gmail.com	07704 38874
Winster Dial-a-Ride:	Deborah Hofman deborah.hofman@icloud.com	07785 547819

WINSTER WAKES AND COMMUNITY ARCHIVES PROJECT

We have been busy digitising printed photographs of Winster people and community events. There are fewer and fewer of these coming to light recently. People just don't print their photos as they used to do. But there must be thousands of digital photos of Winster Morris, Carnival, East Beast, Secret Gardens, Guisers and many other village events on people's mobile phones, tablets and laptops.

Alongside the Archive Project's Winster Shop window display

there will be envelopes available containing a memory stick so that you can upload digital photographs and donate a copy to the archive. It is important that, on the envelope, you remember to tell us who you are and the subject of the photographs (event, name, place, year, date, time, etc) and leave them in the box in Winster Shop.

Photographs will be preserved in the Derbyshire Record Office archives for future generations.

Pat Coleman

Winster Wakes and Community Archive presents:

FILM NIGHT

A showing of digitised tapes, films and photographs from Winster's past. It's hard to identify events and people in some of them.

Everybody is welcome to come and help us put names to faces

**Burton Institute
Friday 16th February at 7.30pm
Refreshments**





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Thank you and Thank you and Thank you

From Sue Thompson

To the Luncheon Club - a big thank you for all the work that went into providing the fabulous Christmas meal for luncheon club. I would also like to thank the cooks, helpers and entertainers for all their work throughout the year.

And to the Cafe in the Church - what a delight and a surprise to open the door to not just the smiling young choristers of the village but a festive hamper. Thank you, all

From Mavis Barker

A very big thank you to Kate, the Winster Wakes Queen and all of her helpers for the very lovely hamper of goods delivered at Christmas from St Johns Church Cafe profits. Also thanks to everyone involved in the Church cafe. Thank you very much.

From Wendy Kirton

At what was a very emotional time for me, the arrival of the hamper and the greeting sung by the 7 lovely young ladies really lifted me. Thank you.

and finally

I would like to say a very big thank you to Kate. Tara. Anya. Hannah and of course not forgetting Marg, for my lovely basket of goodies. What a lovely surprise. I shall enjoy eating everything!! Lots of love to you all

Christine Aykroyd xxxxx

ALL ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

The Café in the Church bought goods from the village shop which were labelled Winster Village Shop and 18 hampers were made for older people in the village.

A group of Winster's teens took them to the people and sang a carol for them to make it a Christmas gift

We hope the residents enjoyed their treat!



February Services at St. John's Winster, St. Mary's S.

Darley, St. Helen's Darley Dale

1st Feb

10 a.m. Holy Communion at St.
Mary's

11 a.m. Holy Communion at St.
Helen's

2 p.m. Open Door St .Helen's

**4pm Informal Service at St. John's –
tea/coffee from 3:30pm**

8th Feb

10 a.m. Family Service at St Mary's

8 a.m. Holy Communion at St.
Helen's

15th Feb

**10 a.m. Holy Communion at St.
John's**

11 a.m. Holy Communion at St.
Helen's

22nd Feb

10 a.m. Morning Worship at St.
Mary's

11 a.m. New Beginnings at St.
Helen's, cafe open 10:30 a.m.

**Note also there is an Ash
Wednesday Service, 7pm on 18th
Feb at St Helen's**

Winster Bunting – update on progress

Wow! What a fantastic response to my previous article asking for help with refreshing the Winster bunting. Amazingly, as I write this in mid-January, all the bunting triangles are either cut out or allocated to be cut out by helpful volunteers in the near future. We'll soon be in the sewing phase of the project.

Packs of triangles, tape, instructions and everything else you need to make a length of bunting will soon be available. Can you help with the sewing phase? Would you like to do this in your own home or in the company of others? All materials provided, but access to a sewing machine is required. Please let me know if you haven't already been in touch about sewing and are able to help.

How else can you help?

- Are you able to sponsor a strip of bunting – just £10 covers the cost of the material for one strip and £20 covers the cost of material and tape for one strip
- Please support the village quiz on Fri 27 Feb when all the proceeds will be donated to fund bunting

If you can help with any of the above, please contact me on WhatsApp or email (watch spelling of katharine)

Katharine Edgar – katharine.
edgar@btinternet.com or
07875655243

Winsters Surgery would like to thank

There can't be many in this village who don't have personal experience of Ashgate Hospice, one way or another. It's a place we hope will always be there for when we or a loved one need it but you may have heard that they are now in need of us.

Money is tight and without immediate funding, we risk losing this essential care that touches so many lives every day. The people of Winsters are amazing and through the initiative of Winsters Surgery staff and patients, £700 has been raised on behalf of the hospice. Thank you, each and everyone of you, who entered our raffle to raise this fantastic sum.

We would also like to thank everyone for the many gifts and Christmas cards the staff at the surgery received. Winsters Surgery hope you all had a merry Christmas and best wishes for 2026.

Did you know it takes £20,000 for a single bed for a month? If you still wish to help, here is the link to the Ashgate Hospice donation page

<https://ashgatehospice.org.uk/precious-bed/>



How to Advertise in the magazine

Enquiries: Bev Atkins at ads@winster.org or ring 650086

Charges per issue

We can offer reduced rates for 2 or more months
- please enquire

	Full Page	1/2 page	1/4 page
Colour	£30	£15	£7.50
Black and White	£24	£12	£6

Or Business Directory £20 per year

30 words maximum including contact details

Monochrome - words only

Personal announcements - such as births, deaths and marriages; passing a driving test etc. incur no charge nor do village activities which are organised for the benefit of the village. Enquiries: Helen Witty at mag@winster.org or ring 650920

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VICAR'S FEBRUARY MESSAGE

A February Thought.

Already, we're moving quickly into 2026! I was truly shocked on Christmas Eve; Our kettle blew up! And I cannot do anything without a cuppa. I went to a certain shop in Chesterfield, and they had Easter Eggs out!! Now I thought that was barmy, but as Christians we do need to take time to do two things, one is look to the past and reflect on where we've come from. Then look to the future and see where we'd like to go. Or where we feel God is calling us. Reflecting on new opportunities involves pausing to assess past experiences. Jesus uses our gifts and talents to serve him. Then, considering your gifts, skills, and future goals, I ask this because to gain clarity, build confidence, and make informed decisions, we all need to pause and reflect. Please don't think that this sounds like some management speak. From young people to the elderly, reflection is critical. Throughout his life, Jesus went to 'quiet places' to think and pray. We need the same space to reflect on our lives. A concrete example is when my dad was dying, he reflected on his life, and he spent time looking at the past and, yes, even looking to the future in faith and hope. As we move towards the Season of Lent, let us take

time to pause and reflect on where we feel God is calling us and what God is also calling us to let go of. I know this isn't always easy, but in God's grace, we can transform challenges into growth and learning from mistakes, and aligning actions with Kingdom values and aspirations for personal and community development. To do this, ask yourself what went well, in 2025, and what didn't, what do we ask forgiveness for, and what do we simply need to do to help us all to be more Christ-like? You may have some heavy issues going on in your lives, but please remember God's forgiveness, grace and love are so much bigger than our human mess.

May God surround you with peace and joy.

Love & Prayers.

Stephen Monk (Rev'd)

If life's been tough for you or if you want to start anew, please join us at St Helen's Church, Darley Dale, on Ash Wednesday, 18th February at 7 pm. Please remember we all need God's love. Because when God forgives, then God forgets!

With thanks to our lovely community

Your kindness, help, thoughtfulness, care and compassion, throughout the past year and now, are incredible and so appreciated by myself.

Cynthia was also very grateful for all the help and kindness, she received, that helped to add variety and richness to her life latterly.

You are a wonderful community and I feel so privileged to live here.

Wendy of Ashlea

Don Ingham does

QUIZ NIGHT

30th January 2026 7:30 p.m. Burton Institute

This month's worthy cause is our lovely village Christmas Tree - much in need of an injection of cash; funds being heavily depleted last year in replacing 4 faulty sets of lights.

You know what you need to do

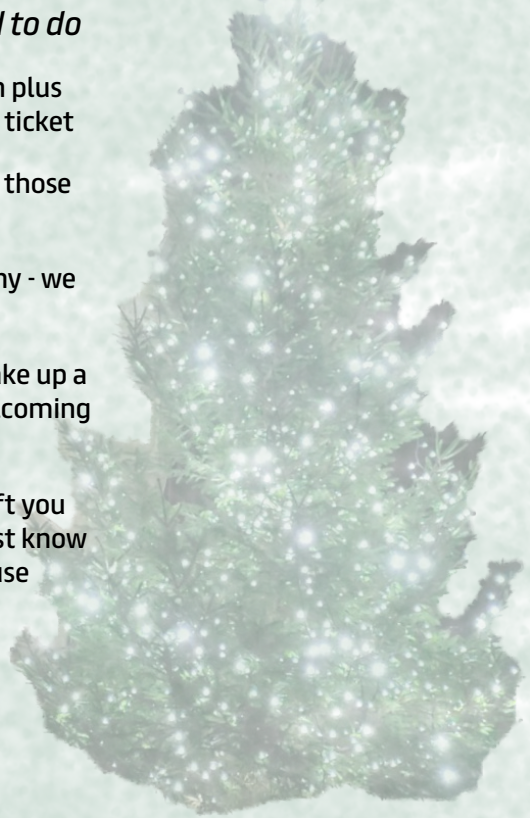
Bring funds - £4 per person plus additional £1 for each raffle ticket

Bring refreshments - to get those little grey cells firing

Bring friends - if you have any - we like teams of 6

If you don't have friends, make up a 6 by sitting with the ever welcoming regulars

Bring Raffle prizes - that gift you received at Christmas you just know you are never going to use



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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Joinery services

Simon J Percival Joinery Winster's local Joinery & handyman - no job too small 07779105470	R STONE JOINERY Bespoke joinery manufacturing specialists. www.rstonejoinery.co.uk rstonejoinery@gmail.com Unit N8, Riverside Business Park, DE45 1GS 07971815683
---	---

House maintenance services

A.P. Brown: Electrical Contractor (Winster/Elton) All Installations, NICEIC Approved ab@abelectricaltd.com 07790019093	Matlock Glass Co Ltd Replacement windows & doors, double glazing. Safety glass 01629 582043
Gary Beech Chimney Sweep NACS and HETAS approved www.chimneysweepmatlock.co.uk garybeech0@gmail.com 07899034738 01629 825340	JPB Services Decoration, Mowing and Strimming 4 East End, Elton 07966526946

General

Leacroft Garage and Car Sales 01629 650253	All mechanical and body repairs to any make. MOT
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Secret Gardens of Winster

Grant Awards 2025 After a successful Secret Gardens event last July, the Secret Gardens Committee are pleased to announce that the following grants have been awarded to local organisations:

Burton Institute	£2,500
Darby and Joan Club	£250
Winster & Elton Luncheon Club	£250
Christmas Tree Fund	£200
Public Access Defibrillator upkeep	£200
Wyns Tor Singers	£150
Pancake Races	£35
	£3,585

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Wish you were here!