

This is part 2 of

***The GEDLING MAGAZINE***

***Online edition for December  
2020***



Mainline Travel opened in April 1979 and I believe have advertised in each edition of the magazine since then so it seems appropriate to express huge thanks to Rick and the committee and to remember the contribution made by Roy and May Skellington in past times.

The Travel Industry has undergone many changes over the 40 years, none more so than at the present and the magazine has been an excellent way for Mainline Travel to present itself to the local community. It is with sadness that we see the demise of the publication but these are changing times and life and events move on.

All the team at Mainline Travel wish the Magazine Committee very best wishes and grateful thanks for their huge contribution.

*John Dawn*



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Soduko for December. Answers at the end of this Magazine

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

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Answers to November's Soduko puzzle

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



# December's Quiz

We are not offering any fancy wrapped prizes for our Christmas Firsts quiz - its just for fun. The good news is the answers are at the end of the magazine so you haven't got to wait a month!

1. 'The First Noel' is a traditional English carol originating from which county?
2. Tom Smith made the first Christmas crackers in London when?
3. Cole and Horsley designed the first Christmas card which was sold in what year?
4. What year did Gedling get a Christmas tree by the Miners' Memorial?
5. From which country did Christingles originate in 1740?
6. King Wenceslaus I of the carol was declared king of what state?
7. Which drinks company ran an advertising campaign in 1931 portraying Father Christmas as we know him to be dressed today?
8. What was the original main ingredient in Mince pies?
9. Which city had the first Santa's Grotto in 1879?
10. What is the name of the first ever toy shop on Regent Street?
11. Turkeys were imported into England from the USA but who was the first King to eat one?
12. Which singing cowboy first recorded 'Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer'?



\*\*\*\*\*

## Answers to November's 'Events in November' Quiz

- |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| A. 1936 | B. 1858 | C. 1605 | D. 1917 |
| E. 1850 | F. 1953 | G. 1968 | H. 1963 |
| I. 1984 | J. 2003 | K. 1922 | L. 1943 |

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Hope Nottingham are supporting Nottingham City Churches Christmas Boxes. Donations are very welcome and will be given out in addition to the standard food parcel.

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- Pack of cards/small game
- Chocolate / sweets (small or larger box/tin)
- Crisps/popcorn
- Pack of fancy biscuits



### How to Donate:

Please bring donations by 4th December latest, in order for us to distribute. Gedling's nearest Hope Nottingham foodbank is Main Street Methodist Church, Carlton. Tuesday during their opening hours.

### Other Christmas Donations (including those arriving after 5th December)

These donations can be taken to any of our foodbanks during their opening hours (see [www.hope-nottingham.org.uk](http://www.hope-nottingham.org.uk)) or bought in Supermarkets where we have a Collection Point and left there in store

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If you would prefer to donate essential items (or if your donations will arrive after 5th December) for our standard food parcels, the following are especially helpful:

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## **Gardening Notes ~ *Greenfingers Gretton***

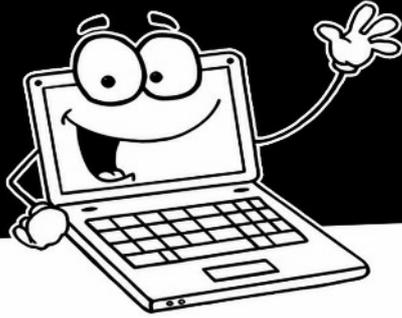
As I come to the close of the strangest year that I can ever remember I need to take a deep breath and think over the events that have occurred and how much having an outdoor space has helped in dealing with them. The saying 'you don't know what you've got till it's gone' has never been more true, and I suddenly realised just how much liberty and freedom of movement I've enjoyed, having being able to go where I like, when I like, for so long. As I've come to terms with the curtailment of my individual liberty for the good of people as a whole it has become even more important to spend time outside in the garden. One recent discovery in the garden is the return of the badger. Large holes have appeared and going round filling them in is a regular task. There are two squirrels that are busy burying food supplies that they'll forget about over the winter. The usual crop of horse chestnuts and hazel bushes will no doubt emerge in the lawn next spring. The pigeons are perfecting their annual tightrope walking skills as they try to reach the holly berries right at the end of the long, thin branches. They've just about got the hang of it when they realise that all the berries have gone.

Tree pollarding has started and the trees are being brought back to the pollard point ready to shoot skywards again next year. This helps keep them within a height where we can tackle their management ourselves without too much risk. I'm still harvesting the last of the carrots from the raised beds where they're kept a little bit warmer than if they were in the open ground. I've also cleared ground to plant potatoes next year. I haven't grown them for several years but increased self-sufficiency where possible seems to be a good idea at the moment. New strawberry plants are settled in rows to get their feet under the table over winter then hopefully produce fruit next year. There are promising buds on all of the fruit trees too.

I've bought more seed for next year - all of the packets are arranged in date order so that I can make a start sowing as soon as February with some plants. I've also saved seed from some flowers in the garden - some bright yellow rudbekias, everlasting sweet peas as well as tomatoes and sugar snap peas. There's nothing like the promise of new plants next year to get me through dark winter days. Care has been much in evidence from many quarters over this strange year. People who know each other have cared for each other, and perfect strangers have cared too. There has been a warmth and willingness to reach out to others that somehow had been largely lost in the rush and bustle of 'normal' life and the world has been a better place for this.

In this, the last article I'll write, it seems a bit perverse to line up gardening tasks. At the time of writing it's still not clear whether families will be able to meet together, which will mean that it will be a very different Christmas this year. Whatever happens, I wish you all as happy a Christmas as possible. We can all look forward to the New Year with its promise of happier times ahead, both personally and for our gardens.

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## Reflections on Past, Present, and Future ~ Neil Kendrick

I have thoroughly enjoyed trawling through past editions from the last 150 years of this esteemed publication and it is with some sadness that I file my last article in the final edition of the magazine. This month I refer mainly to three past magazines and return to a theme I mentioned earlier in 2020.

In December 1991, the Rector Dillwyn Davies writes about the closure of Gedling Colliery, he reflects that how in the magazine of 1881 the then Rector, Orlando Forrester was very keen to bring work to the area for young men of Gedling and, having failed to revive the hosiery trade, he urged on the search for coal



and looked forward to the day when "Gedling Church spire will live to see more than one tall chimney lift an ugly head aloft, and doing useful work in the parish".

Forrester predicted that mining would only last for a limited time.

He wrote "The work they will do will not be work that shall last as church work lasts through the countless ages of eternity".

The publication of January 1900 finds the parish in a 'very different position from what anyone could have expected a year ago'. The magazine reflected on the ongoing Boer War and of families plunged into mourning and for fathers, brothers and sons fighting in the cause of justice in the South African portion of the British Empire. The magazine then goes on to ask for offertories/ collections for the following Sundays to be sent to the Lord Mayor's War Fund and encourages attendance at King's Messenger Meetings and Band of Hope meetings.

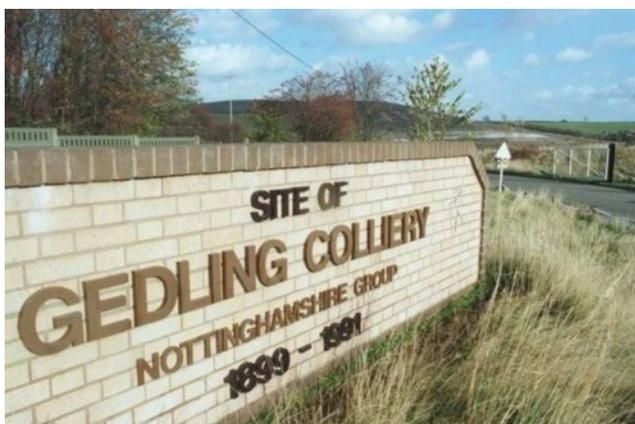
On a lighter note, the Annual Parish Tea gets a mention (didn't they know there was a war on?) as does the considerable success of the church football team who put together a 12 match unbeaten run beating formidable teams as Carlton Wesleyans, Daybrook Choir, Urban Villa, Colwick Baptists, Carlton St Paul's, Freeman's Terrace and Netherfield Rangers.

On Wednesday 29th December 1999 a Torchlight Procession was held though the village to mark the dawn of the new Millennium with 70 people worshippers from several local churches and the Mayor of Gedling. *Continued on next page*

*Continued from previous page ....* **Reflections on Past, Present, and Future**

Walkers in the torchlight procession including babies in buggies and Senior Citizens turned out on a cold, frosty, night. People with lanterns joined the procession through the village in what proved to be a truly community event. I was also interested to read that on the 31st January 2000, the Men's Fellowship held a quiz at the Willowbrook and the Question master was.....Neil Kendrick!

In conclusion, as 2020 ends, we have faced unprecedented, uncertain times. The colliery so anticipated by the Rector in 1881 (though I don't suppose he ever went underground) is no longer there, but on the pit site, thousands have taken to its footpaths since March and enjoyed its breath-taking views and changing landscape.



Though it has been difficult to meet one another socially, community spirit, in the main, has been maintained - not through torch light processions but through people being generous, caring, thoughtful and generally being good neighbours. It feels sometimes, as if we are fighting our own personal wars, and not against a visible enemy. Let us hope that the spirit of the community continues to guide us and offers us hope and solace in these difficult times, in order that we can return to enjoy 'normality', even if that includes quizzes at the Willowbrook!!!!

*Neil Kendrick November 2020*

**N.B. I would like to thank the Editorial Team of the Magazine for all their hard work and for allowing me to share with its readers the lives/stories of some fascinating local people and also to share Gedling's rich history with its current residents.**

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## Friends of Gedling House Woods

FGHW volunteers planted 1000 native English bluebells and 180 UK grown hazel in the last week to develop our woodland margins. The bluebells replaced a few clumps of non-native Spanish and hybrid bluebells which we removed in the spring. We planted the hazels along the verge on Wood Lane itself as we gradually move to reduce the height of trees along the verge and remove the ubiquitous sycamore and Norway maple that have self-seeded there. Thanks to our volunteer workforce for their contribution.



At the GAR end of the woods the road works have started to get more active as the amphibian traps have been removed. There is now a clear route visible across the fields of Gedling Wood Farm and some trees have been lost along the fence line of the woods. The wall around Gedling House garden has had to be moved back and a gang of brick layers are carefully restoring the wall. The A612 junction is due for resurfacing at the end of November and the GAR will be pushing on over the hill. See NCC website for a GAR Flyover



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## St James the Least of All

The Rectory

My dear Nephew Darren

I am sorry I was not alive during that wonderful four-year period when Oliver Cromwell abolished Christmas; no Christmas parties, no carol services, no cards to send and no frantic last-minute shopping. That man was a hero.



Planning for Christmas at St James' normally starts on 2nd January. By Easter, the flowers for church have been carefully chosen to be colour coordinated, and the seating plans and table decorations for the Christmas party have been allocated (with nominated reserves in case someone should inconveniently die in the intervening eight months). Long before Summer is over, the tree lights have been tested, music for the 9 Lessons and Carols Service has been chosen and the service sheets printed. Way before the dark nights set in, car parking attendants will have been found, those who are to light all the candles will have been rehearsed to perfection, and the brass lectern has had its annual polish.

We do not do spontaneity at St James the Least of All. If ever there was a service when time for something unexpected had to be allowed, its place would be announced in the order of service, how long the unexpected thing would happen for would have been decided by a committee, and who was to be spontaneous would have been allocated on a rota.

But the one person none of these well-meaning, efficient, committed organisers can control is the Rector. You could call it a staff perk.

Carols will (accidentally, of course) be announced in the wrong order; if verse 3 was to be omitted, I announce it will be verse 4. This keeps the organist on his toes while the choir hovers on the point of a collective nervous breakdown. At the Christmas supper, my introductory welcome speech and extensive grace make those in the kitchen wonder if the vegetables being boiled should better be served as thick soup.

I offer the helpful suggestion that the tree, having been installed and decorated in the chancel, may perhaps look better in the sanctuary and I turn all the heating off throughout the season, explaining that it will help the flowers to last. All Services will start five minutes early (was my watch rather fast?) so I can look disapprovingly at those still coming in while we are singing the first carol and making it clear that I think they had spent too long in the pub next door.

And so we all reach Christmas morning, with 12 months of planning having gone yet again slightly awry, with parishioners exhausted and I exhilarated at the chaos that has been created with such ease. Mr Cromwell, your spirit lives on.

Your loving uncle, *Eustace*

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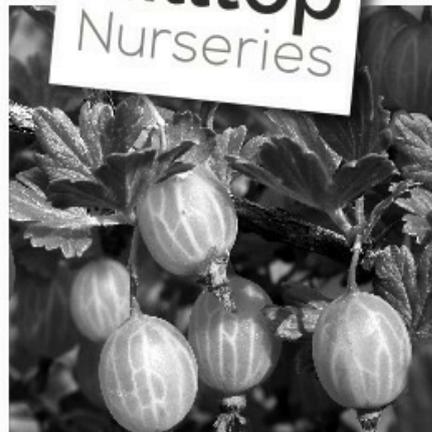
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## Friends of Gedling Country Park

The Friends are running a winter 'Post Card' competition to flag up the application for a grant to set up a Sand Martin Nesting Bank in the Park. To enter, design a picture in any media of: a bird or creature that lives on the park; a landscape; a tree; wild flower; fungi; insect or butterfly. The picture should be small, of A6 size (114.8 x 10.5 cm approx.)



There are 3 age groups:

- a) Up to 10
- b) 10 to 16 years
- c) over 16 years - ages as at the date of closure of the competition which is 31st January 2021

A Prize of £25 will be given to the winner in each age group.

Entries need to have the name of the artist and picture title on the back of the card and a separate sheet with name, age, picture title and email contact which will only be used to confirm entries.

Put your entry in an envelope and send to the Friends of Gedling Country Park 3 Field Close, Gedling, Nottingham NG4 4DE.

Full details are listed on the Friends of Gedling Country Park website and Facebook page. [www.gedlingcountrypark.org.uk](http://www.gedlingcountrypark.org.uk)

The present Friends project is to establish a Tree Trail which will include over 70 species of native British trees. Brian our botanical expert is going to do a series of notes on the trees and has offered this one as a starter, the remainder will be published on the Friends website.

### THE MIDLAND HAWTHORN

#### *Crataegus laevigata*

Whilst common in southern and eastern England, especially on heavy clay soils which are present within the Country Park, the Midland or Woodland Hawthorn is not as universally distributed and as well known as the Common Hawthorn.

The leaves of the Midland Hawthorn are darker, shiny and with small lobes, it is also a more shrubby/bushy tree and generally smaller in habit, though open field specimens can grow as large as the Common Hawthorn. The flowers are generally white and have two styles with two seeds in the haws, as opposed to one and one in the Common Hawthorn. Red flowers are also not uncommon and we have planted two specimens of the variant 'Paul's Scarlet' on either side of the southern entrance to the Memorial Garden. These have distinctive bright red double flowers. Surprisingly one of our Tree Trail specimens, is currently, in leaf and flower and whilst I have observed this phenomenon in the Common Hawthorn (Glastonbury and Appleton thorns), I have never experienced it in the Midland thorn. This unusual occurrence has also been noted in Hollies during 2020 with double crops of flowers and berries, though the second crop of these have not yet ripened.

*Continued on next page*

*From previous page* - Hawthorns are fascinating trees supporting over 400 species of invertebrates of which just 58 are restricted to *Crataegus* sp. Also the palatable fresh leaves were commonly eaten as 'Bread and cheese' in some parts of England, in-fact they are still a recommended addition to a fresh spring salad. The haws and flowers have, for centuries, been used to produce a variety of jellies, wines, liqueurs, teas and ketchups. Hawthorn tea is still available commercially and is recommended by herbalists for various heart conditions, probably because both the dried flowers and seeds have the property to reduce blood pressure.

Hawthorn wood is hard and tough, the scientific name *Crataegus* is derived from an ancient Greek word meaning strength. From yellowish to pink in colour it is used for fine work and veneers, for making boxes, tool handles, mill-wheel teeth, mallets and boat ribs. The May tree has, probably, more connections with ancient beliefs and traditions than any other native species. A 1980's report recorded nearly 25% of records of 'unlucky' plants referred to Hawthorn, more than twice as many as any other tree, in-fact it is thought to have powerful supernatural associations, for both good and evil, in many cultures.

The blossom as the name 'may', suggests is strongly associated with May Day, the ancient beginning of summer and in some places villages still hold festivals with May Queens.



MIDLAND HAWTHORN in leaf and blooming November 8th 2020 - Gedling Country Park Tree Trail

Many country people, incidentally including my mother, consider it unlucky to bring May blossom into the house, however in other parts it is deliberately brought inside to cure sickness.

Further articles on the design and creation of the Tree Trail will follow on the Friends website.

*Brian Osbourne*



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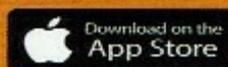
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## The answers to December's 'Seasonal' Quiz

### Christmas Quiz Answers

1. Cornish.
2. 1845
3. 1843
4. 2014
5. Germany
6. Czech state.
7. Coca-cola
8. Meat - mutton.
9. Liverpool
10. Hamleys
11. Henry VIII
12. Gene Autry



## The answers to December's Soduko puzzle

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

## This Month's Recipe ~ Christmas Chocolate Bomb



125g dark chocolate	2 tbsp brandy
125g unsalted softened butter	8 trifle sponges
75g sugar	200ml double cream for the topping
2 medium beaten eggs	cocoa powder to dust

2 pint pudding bowl greased

Place the chocolate in a bowl with 4tbsp of water.

Gently melt over a pan of simmering water or in the microwave.

Stir until smooth and then set aside until it has cooled slightly.

Place the butter and sugar in a bowl and beat with an electric whisk until it is light and creamy

Gradually beat in the eggs. The mixture will appear to have curdled but don't worry it will be fine after the next stage.

Mix the chocolate into the butter mixture along with the brandy until all combined. Set aside.

Cut each trifle sponge into three wafer thin slices and use enough to line a greased 2 pint pudding bowl.

Spoon some of the chocolate mixture over the top. Add a layer of sponges and then a layer of chocolate until you have used up all sponges and chocolate finishing with a layer of sponge on top.

Cover the surface loosely with clingfilm and then place a saucer on top and press down slightly. Place in the fridge for 24 hours.

When ready turn out onto a serving plate.

Whip the cream and spread it around the outside of the bomb.

Dust with cocoa powder and serve.



Ten year's of producing recipes that you all, hopefully  
have tried and enjoyed.

I wish you all happy baking and a Happy Christmas!!

*Joan*





### The Gedling Grapevine

Hot off the press for the last Grapevine - the tall leylandii type trees on the Main Road/ Arnold Lane junction are being taken down . Some similar trees in the garden behind were blown over in a storm earlier this year and these two looked as though they had their roots loosened. Once out of the way the visibility on the mini roundabout will be much better and hopefully there will be less honking of horns and squealing of breaks as drivers from the Shearing Hill direction will get a clearer view of the traffic coming round in front of the Hall!

### Stay Safe this Christmas



### Smile Lines ~ The Last Magazine Christmas Cracker Jokes!!

Q. What's the most popular Christmas wine? A. I don't like Brussel sprouts!

Q. Did Rudolph go to School? A. No he was elf-taught!



Q. How does a snowman go to work? A. By icicle!

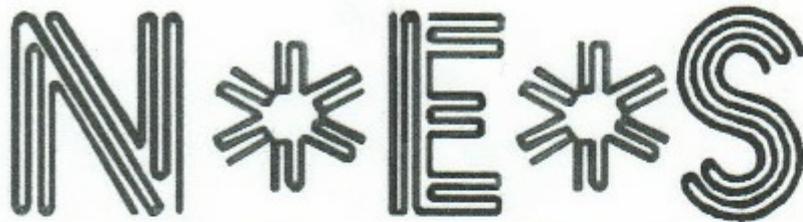
Q. What do they sing at a snowman's birthday party? A. Freeze a jolly good fellow!

Q. How did Scrooge win the football game? A. The ghost of Christmas passed!

Q. What's green, covered in tinsel and goes ribbet ribbet? A. Mistle-toad!

Q. Who hides in the bakery at Christmas? A. A mince spy!





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# Parish Registers



*We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:*

23rd August  
19th November

Elizabeth Wells  
Gladys Aspland

61 years old  
99 years old

## Christmas 2020

*by Andrea Pembleton*

In lowly shed Our Lord was born  
Early on this Christmas morn.  
Babes in arms warm many hearts,  
But Christ's short life had greater parts.  
Respect the man, his message too,  
Compassion, love for me and you.

Be still and enter Holy Ground.  
His presence here is all around.  
Prayers and carols, songs of praise;  
In thoughtful mood our voices raise.  
So, come on in and join the throng,  
Lend your voices to the song.  
Rejoice, Our Saviour's holy birth;  
Rejoice, he loved all lives on earth.



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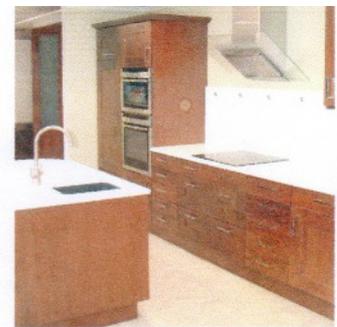
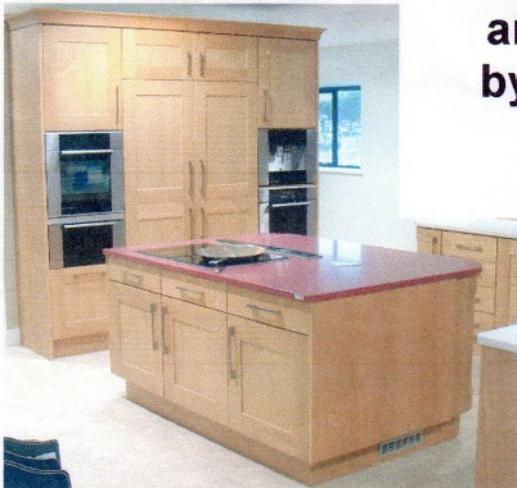


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## **Letter to our advertisers**

First of all we would like to thank you for advertising in the Gedling Magazine over the past year and we trust that your business has benefited as a result. Your payment helped support the church with its ever growing expenses. Thank you.

The first edition of the magazine was produced in June 1870, and has been produced every month for just over 150 years! Although the editorial 'team' have asked throughout the year for somebody to take over the running of the magazine, nobody has come forward therefore it is with regret we have to tell you that the last edition is this December.

Because of the covid 19 virus the last few editions have had to be put on the All Hallows Church [www.allhallowsgedling.co.uk](http://www.allhallowsgedling.co.uk) website to avoid any risks to our distributors. I shall miss the conversations I have had with many of you over the eleven years I have been involved with the advertising and wish you all well for the coming years.

Thank you

*Keith Wollacott Advertising*

## **Supporting our advertisers**

As you will be aware, because of Covid 19, we have had to continue for the last few months online and we have continued to carry the adverts for local businesses. We have about 45 businesses supporting our church by advertising every month in this magazine which has enabled us to give a donation to the church each year. Many of these businesses have supported us for several years. **Please continue to support them!!**

*Keith Wollacott*

## **Thank you to the Editor**

The magazine has always had an editorial team which met every month to finalize the content. This meeting for many years has been led by the Editor, Rick Wilson, who has always managed to pull everything together each month and on behalf of Eleanor, Janet and Joan I would like to thank him. He is the last of a long list of editors and has seen the magazine to its 150th year of production.

Well done Rick.

*Keith Wollacott*

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# Floodlighting

- 20th November Ruth and Cliff Gill. In loving memory of Ruth and Cliff. Missed but never forgotten. United together. Love from Anna and all the family.
- 3rd December Barbara Rogerson. One year today since you left us. Loved and sadly missed by all your friends in Gedling.
- 3rd December Phyllis Wild. In memory of Phyllis who died on 3rd December 1999
- 6th December Norman Wild. In memory of Norman who died on 6th December 1977
- 24th December Tom Yarnall. Loving memories of Tom who died 11 years ago today. Remembered every day and especially at Christmas. All my love Pat.
- 25th December Danny Brooks. In memory of Danny from Mum, Dad, Brothers, Lala and Pops.
- 7th January Audrey and Ted Clark. Remembering my Mum and Dad on their wedding anniversary. Twenty years without you, but always in my heart. Love Kathryn xx.



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