

# The Three Towers

July 2015

Serving the communities in and around  
Edenham, Swinstead & Witham on the  
Hill, including Toft, Lound and Manthorpe



# Parish Notices

**WELCOME** to Kevin at Elm Avenue and to Susie Grigson at Witham Manor, Witham on the Hill. We hope you will be very happy here.

**GOODBYE** to Chris, Judith and Robbie Shepherd and to Jackie and John Wand. Good luck in your new homes.

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS** to Jolyon Hibbins and Jessica Beaton on 19 June at St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill.

**CONDOLENCES** to all friends and family of Margaret Lyall, wife of the late Harry Lyall, formerly of Edenham, who died in Somerset in June.

**3rd July 7.30pm in Peterborough Cathedral** - St Peter's Singers. Tickets £12 from Sue Nicholls, 11 Willoughby Rd. Bourne PE10 9JP

## **Garden Fetes:**

**4th July 3.00pm** Edenham: in the vicarage garden

**26th July 2.30pm** Swinstead: in the garden of Swinstead hall

**9th August 3pm to 5pm Pimms & Strawberries**, 10 Church Lane Edenham—proceeds to Edenham Church Roof Repair Fund

**12th September Steam Action 39th Annual Veg & Produce Show.** For info contact Nikki 01778 591197 or Lucie 01778 591426

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## **E-mail notices**

### **Toft, Lound & Manthorpe**

If you wish to receive local information notices then please send your name, house address and e-mail address to the editor at [the3towers1@gmail.com](mailto:the3towers1@gmail.com)

# THE VICAR WRITES

I had my wrist slapped quite firmly after my little article in last month's Three Towers (commenting on the decline of community events). So – apologies to the gangs responsible for the 'Edenham Extravaganza' for 'Steam Action' and 'Witham on the Hill open gardens' to raise money to support the Parish Hall. To my apologies I add genuine appreciation for everyone's hard work.

Thinking again about my remarks last month, as someone involved in the largest charity and voluntary organisation in the communities (the Church of England), I was reflecting on the effect changes in society are having on my work with and through it. In the past five or so years there has been a sea change in the relationship of church to the communities in which they are set. A very powerful tide has turned. The centuries old rhythm of times and seasons married to the times of change and crisis in family life no longer connect or resonate with

the life of the Parish Church. The festivals of Mothering Sunday, Easter, Whitsuntide, Harvest, Remembrance are all receding in the community memory. It is also true that the secular alternatives to Baptism, Marriage and Funerals are increasingly popular. There is no doubt the church is closer to the edge of life than it has been for at least two hundred years. This is a view widely shared by colleagues in a variety of settings. Recently the Regional Minister of the Baptist Union said in conversation with me 'it's as if the ground has been pulled out from under our feet.'

But there are other changes that work against the church's vitality – the complete destruction of Sunday as a Sabbath day has opened up a massive variety of alternatives for the consumer to select for an activity of choice. In these parishes although more people (than ten years ago) come to church fewer and fewer of them attend regularly. An inevitable consequence of this is that it is very difficult to find any cohesion – to build up a family or team spirit.

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In turn this makes organising and sustaining community events a considerable challenge. Hence last month's remarks.

In January this year the two hundred or so members of the three parish church's electoral roll received a questionnaire. The purpose of the survey was to discover how far these changes were affecting individuals and family involvement, and whether there was an appetite to reshape the pattern of worship in our parishes to avoid the Sunday circus. 52 replies were received and of these 63% attended irregularly. But when asked 'is it difficult for you to attend church on a Sunday' all of them ticked the box 'not really!' The replies were anonymous, and I have no idea why this should be the case for individuals. The only reason must be there are better, more urgent things to do, for an hour or so on a Sunday.

I have always thought that attending Sunday worship is the hardest habit to establish and the easiest to break. I have regular conversations with people who say

'I used to attend church, and I don't now, I miss it, I suppose I should get back to it.' That is easier said than done. We live in a culture where the essential qualities needed to establish this habit are scarce: sacrifice, commitment, self-discipline, not to mention belief, have been transposed to the gym or golf course rather than the communion rail. In the end we all do what we want to do. It is a shame we don't always appreciate what we need to do.

I have no real idea how to respond in the current social revolution. As I told the Bishop of Lincoln 'you'd better sign me off as incompetent!' If anyone has any ideas perhaps you could let me know. Perhaps we will see the disappearance of the parish church as we know it and the growth of Christian communities which are smaller and embedded in society in a different way; leading a life which will be quite counter cultural and radical in contrast to a wider society. I also expect that although the buildings will remain in our villages they will not be sustained as places of weekly gathering and

activity – which is in fact the case in many surrounding villages. Where Christian community grows out of ‘church life’ Christian presence and ministry will survive and thrive, but it might not resemble anything we know at present. All this might happen quite quickly – God knows!

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** Bible study followed by a simple lunch Thursday 2 July at 11am in St Andrew’s Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. Proceeds to Christian Aid.

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all the helpers, adults and children, who spent several days giving St Andrew’s Church, Witham on the Hill, a very thorough spring clean. It was great fun wielding very long poles with brushes on the end, which reached to the very top of the clerestory. We got rid of a lot of cobwebs and spiders, and the Church smells much nicer now! With 4 weddings in the Church coming up in the next few months, it is a job well done. Thanks too, to those who worked hard clearing weeds and ivy in the Churchyard. Well done everyone!

## **RAISE THE ROOF**

### **PIMMS & STRAWBERRIES**

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# Lincolnshire Churches Trust

## Summer Party 2015 at Grimsthorpe Castle

### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July

Join the Wandering Minstrels to celebrate the delights of Gilbert & Sullivan, with a light-hearted evening of songs and scenes from the comic operas.

Tickets are £20 per person to include sparkling reception with canapés at 6pm. Concert starts at 7pm. Email [dickinson893@btinternet.com](mailto:dickinson893@btinternet.com) or phone 01529 307433 for tickets.

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#### Contact:

**Trevor Watson – District Commissioner**

**Mobile : 07875 498018**

**Tel: 01529 240243**

**Email: [trevorkwatson@btinternet.com](mailto:trevorkwatson@btinternet.com)**



## **Notes from the Edenham Parish Council Meeting 12th May 2015**

**Annual Parish Meeting:** No members of public present. The chairman introduced PCSO Bowden (Community Police Team) who gave a brief summary of Policing matters within the local area, encouraging all to be vigilant and to notify the police team if anything appears unusual within the parish by using the 101 Police number. It may be innocent but could be that small piece of information that may help to reduce crime in the future. The issue of motorbikes using the A151 throughout the Parish was raised. PCSO Bowden is aware of the problem and will endeavour, along with the traffic police, to monitor the road and address those riders who use the road in a dangerous manner.

### **Parish Council Meeting:**

**Acceptance of Office:** Members signed new acceptance of office forms following the Local Elections. Members re-elected were: P Cranfield, R Biggs, T Martin, A Wilson, A Edwards and A Whadcock. Cllr. Cranfield was elected as Chairman and Cllr. Biggs, Vice-chairman for the forthcoming year. The council is a member short and encourages

parishioners to consider standing for co-option onto the council at the next meeting (July 14<sup>th</sup>).

**Highways:** Consultation on Lincolnshire Highways proposal to reduce the current 40mph speed limit on Main Street (Traffic lights to Pillarwood Farm), Edenham down to 30mph received – no objections. Potholes on Scottlethorpe Road, Edenham to be reported.

**Financial Matters:** Financial accounts for the year 2014/15 along with internal audit considered and accepted by the council. External Audit Return completed and agreed by council. Secretary to place notices of Electors Rights to view accounts and forward audit Return to Auditors. Copy of the accounts and Audit Return can be found on the Parish website. (<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/EdenhamGrimsthorpeElsthorpeScottlethorpe>)

**Play Area Maintenance:** Site meeting to discuss a joint maintenance contract with Edenham Village Hall committee for maintenance of the Children's Play Area and Village Hall Surrounds still to be arranged. Report at next meeting.



**Planning Application** - S15/1094/  
Full/PJM/PC1: Application for  
change of use – 41 & 43 Main  
Street, Edenham from C3 dwelling  
with ancillary Post Office to C3  
mixed use – Day centre young  
adults with learning difficulties.  
Considered prior to meeting – No  
objections, only minor concern  
over vehicle access. It will be good  
to see this asset being used again.

**Spring Bulbs:** It was agreed that  
the council should purchase and  
plant more spring flowering bulbs  
throughout the parish – a  
maximum of £40 was allocated.

**Dog Fouling:** All dog owners are  
reminded that it is their duty to  
clean up after their pets wherever  
they are and be considerate to  
other footpath and road users.

The next meeting of the Edenham  
Parish Council will take place in  
Edenham Village Hall on Tuesday,  
July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. - Meetings  
take place on the second Tuesday  
in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & Nov  
in Edenham Village Hall @ at  
7:30pm. Contact the parish clerk  
at [Edenham.pc@btinternet](mailto:Edenham.pc@btinternet) for further  
information on any council  
matters.

## **Edenham Church Garden Fete**

**Saturday 4th July**

**In the Vicarage**

**Starts 3pm**

Come and enjoy the delicious homemade teas. Try your luck in a traditional garden game in the lovely surroundings of the Vicarage garden and visit the many stalls. All proceeds to go to the Church Roof repair fund.

If you can help to set things up, please come to the Vicarage at 10am on Sat.4th July. If you have any donations for the fete, raffle prizes, tombola prizes, cakes etc, they can be left at the Vicarage from Friday.

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## SMALL THINGS

Have you ever considered the importance of the crumb tray on your electric toaster? Small things matter. Many years ago, when I had the privilege of teaching people to serve at the altar I more than likely was asked the question: "Why is it important that we get these small things right and that we do things correctly?" My answer would be along the lines that small things make up larger things and larger things are not complete without the detail of smaller things, and especially when we are taking part in the liturgy, which is the offering of ourselves in worship to God. God deserves the best that the human race can give him. Without a crumb tray, your toaster would create a mess on your kitchen

surface. Just think of all the small things in our lives. How many times in our daily routine do we need to think about and concern ourselves with seemingly small things? Just to take one example: doing the weekly visit to the supermarket. We put things into our trolley, each item complete in itself, but put together with all the other items that find their way into the trolley. Sometimes, we don't remember putting them there - that is a different matter, which we don't need to worry about. That trolley of shopping is a complete whole, but made up of many smaller things, without which the total would be incomplete. So don't disparage the seemingly smaller things; without them parts of our lives may well collapse. Don't let that happen. Fr David

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## Swinstead News

**6 July Whist Drive** in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

**13 July Bingo** in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

**26 July Garden Fete** at 2.30pm in the grounds of Swinstead Hall by kind permission of Mr and Mrs N Ridley. Stalls, refreshments, raffle

### Flower rota

27 June - 4 July Dorothy Pell

11 September In Swinstead Church - Concert ,Patrick Hawes (piano), soloist to be announced.

Tickets £15.00, to include refreshments.

Tickets from Edenham Vicarage , 01778 591358

## Willoughby Gallery

**“Colour and Clay” 10th June to 8th July** - Pat Armstrong, Jane Sanders and Rob Bibby

Colour and Clay showcases the work of three artists who all work in clay. The differing forms and use of glazes produces a diverging range of colourful works.

**“Life Essence” - 15th July - 12th August** - Prue Pye and Kathryn Parsons. Life paintings by Prue use soft, earthy colour with elements of layering and movement. Kathryn’s intricate porcelain sculptures and jewellery capture the essence of plants and lichens found growing locally. Join Kathryn and Prue on Sunday 19th July 12-5pm, to celebrate the opening of the exhibition, see demonstrations and meet the artists.



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# Witham on the Hill WI

## June meeting

Leanne and Louise from Sew Friendly told us how they set up the business in Bourne, which has now been going strong for just over a year. Leanne grew up in Zimbabwe, and spoke of her earliest memories of her mother at the sewing machine. Leanne learnt skills from a nun in a convent. She started dressmaking in England 3 years ago and made her first ball gown. She started tutoring children and met Louise. They felt a need for a haberdashery shop in Bourne after being inspired at a craft exhibition in London. Seven weeks later Sew Friendly was born, and quickly took off, also offering a range of sewing classes. Jean Marshall gave the vote of thanks, who said their enthusiasm was inspirational, and that it was good to find a younger generation who want to interest people in textiles. Several visitors and two new members were welcomed to the meeting. The next walk and pub lunch will be in Thurlby. A group of members are looking forward to seeing Tom Jones at Toleshorpe on 30 June. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 7 July at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, when Doreen Reed, a poet from Norfolk, will entertain us, and members from Carlby WI. Visitors and new members are always most welcome. For further information, contact Jane, Secretary, tel 01778 590232.

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# **Steam Action 39th Annual Veg & Produce Show**

**Saturday 12th September**

New Classes announced!

Homemade – “Homemade Beverage (alcoholic or non-alcoholic)”.

Photography – “Garden friends or enemies” and “Portrait of a vegetable”.

Schedules to be released shortly.

Entries 25p

We look forward to seeing all your entries, then joining everyone for tea and cake, presenting the trophies and auctioning off the produce!

For info contact Nikki 01778 591197 or Lucie 01778 591426



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Name [please print] .....

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Your local organiser is: **Jane Clark tel 01778 590232**

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## TRUDY'S GINGER CAKE

225g sr flour  
1teaspoon baking powder  
175g soft butter  
175g golden caster sugar  
3 eggs  
1 tablespoon golden syrup  
2 teaspoons ground ginger  
2 tablespoons milk  
1 tablespoon ground almonds  
2 tablespoons ginger syrup  
5 pieces preserved stem ginger

### **FOR THE ICING**

225g golden icing sugar  
Juice of 1 lemon  
2 pieces preserved stem ginger

Mix all the ingredients, except the stem ginger. Beat until smooth & creamy – with an electric mixer if necessary. Cut the 5 pieces of ginger into small pieces & fold into cake mix. Spread into a buttered & base-lined 20x26 cm oblong tin. Bake at 170c for 40-50 mins until risen, springy & firm to touch in the centre. Leave to cool in tin for 10 mins then turn out & cool on a wire rack. Mix lemon juice & icing sugar to make the consistency of thin cream. Spread over top of cold cake. Cut into fifteen squares & decorate each slice with a small piece of stem ginger.

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- ♦ A committed local community
- ♦ Strong pastoral and spiritual links with our local church



Contact Mrs Kris Radford-Rea (Head Teacher) to arrange an individual visit — see contact details below...

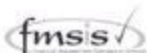
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## PARISH SERVICES FOR JULY 2015

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
5 <sup>th</sup> July 5 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	8.45am Parish Communion 4.00pm Grimsthorpe Evening Prayer	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
12 <sup>th</sup> July 6 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	8.45am Parish Communion 4pm Grimsthorpe Evening Prayer	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
19 <sup>th</sup> July 7 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	4pm Grimsthorpe Evening Prayer		10.30am Three Parishes Communion and Holy Baptism Grimsthorpe Chapel
26 <sup>th</sup> July 8 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	8.45am Parish Communion 4pm Grimsthorpe Evening Prayer	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
2 <sup>nd</sup> August 9 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	8.45am Parish Communion 4pm Grimsthorpe Evening Prayer	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion and

FOR BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, BANNS OF MARRIAGE, CONFESSIONS, OR ANY OTHER PASTORAL OR SPIRITUAL NEED CONTACT :VICAR: THE REVD CANON ANDREW HAWES SSC  
01778 591358 - athawes@tiscali.co.uk

LICENSED READER: MRS HEATHER LEE 01778 591338 - hmleevine@talktalk.net