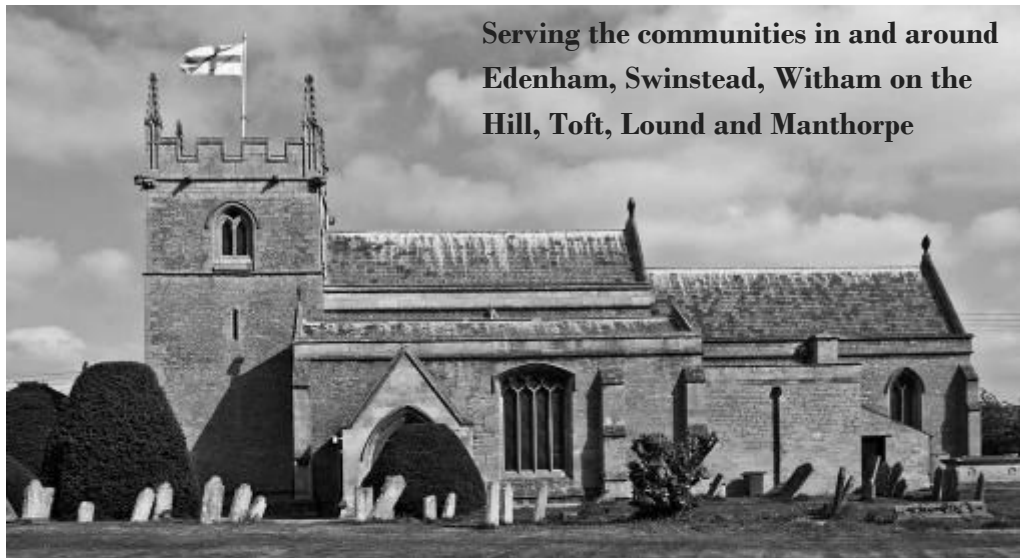


The Three Towers

April 2016

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



Parish Notices

CHARITY APPEAL - LONDON ONE MORE TIME: Tony Spratt is putting on the trainers to run the London marathon on 24th April. He is looking to raise money for Thorpe Hall Hospice as his chosen charity and any support would be greatly appreciated. He will call round the village in the coming weeks to sign up willing sponsors.

THREE TOWERS DELIVERY Many thanks to Barbara Vann for volunteering to deliver the mags in Manthorpe. Thanks to Lorna Cook for taking over the delivery in Toft. Well done to Jenny Gilbert for her many years' of service delivering in Toft.

CONGRATULATIONS to Joanna Thompson (daughter of Julia and Ray Thompson of Witham on the Hill) and Nick Greaves on their engagement; with a wedding date fixed for October 2016!

CONDOLENCES to John Atkinson and family on the loss of Marianne Atkinson, who lived in Edenham for many years.

CONDOLENCES to the family of Vera Middleton, of Scottlethorpe Lane, Edenham.

WELCOME to Nicky, Andrew & Ollie at The Old School House, Witham on the Hill.

CONDOLENCES to Trudy Templeman on the loss of her brother, Roger Taylor.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SPRING CLEAN & CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Sunday 10 April from 11.30am, starting immediately after the morning service, with a bring and share lunch. Please come and help, even if you can only spare an hour - all help gratefully received.

Help us to get the Church sparkling for all the weddings and baptisms due to take place this summer!

(More) Parish Notices

Saturday 9th April, 9.30am - COACH TRIP TO LINCOLN: to attend a service at Lincoln Cathedral. There will sufficient seats for anyone who would like to take the opportunity to visit the sites, galleries and shops of uphill Lincoln. Coach leaves Edenham 9.30am: Service at 12.30pm and leaves Lincoln 4pm. Cost adults £10 children (under 16) £2.50. If you would like to book a place please contact the Vicarage (01778 591358) or add your name to list at the back of each of our parish churches.

Thursday 21st April, 11am - St Andrew's Parish Hall - "FOOD FOR THOUGHT" – **bible study** followed by a simple lunch at noon, in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. Donations to Christian Aid. Thereafter on Thursdays monthly: 19 May, 16 June, & 21 July.

Saturday 7th May, 10am - St Andrew's Church Witham on the Hill
Flower Arranging are you interested in flowers? We are having a teaching session and demonstration in preparation for the baptism and confirmation on the Sunday. We invite you to bring some WHITE flowers - maybe 3 bunches of something you like, Lyzianthus, Roses, Lilies, Daisy Chrysanthemums and some greenery. Make the Greenery taller than the flowers, perhaps some trailing Ivy or big variegated leaves - see what you can come up with, there is always grape Ivy in the lanes. You can have a go in Church, with guidance if you need it. Just enjoy your creative streak. Make sure that the flowers and greenery have a good drink over night in a bucket. If you are using Lilies that they are shut tight - buy them the week previously and keep them somewhere where they will come out.

Do bring the children, there is plenty of room to play and there will be tea, coffee , squash and biscuits. The aim is to have fun.

Any queries contact Karen Lawrie on 01780 759159

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THE VICAR WRITES

This month covers the whole of the Easter season; this begins on Easter Day and lasts the forty days until Ascension Day. There are other patterns of forty in the calendar – Lent has forty days, and there are forty days between Christmas Day and The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemass). In the story of Noah's flood it rained for forty – days and forty nights. It doesn't end there! Elijah travelled forty days and nights to reach Mount Horeb where the Lord spoke to him in the 'soft murmuring voice'. The first mention of forty in Scripture is during the time of the Israelites Exodus from slavery in Egypt: having reached the Jordan and seeing the Land of Canaan – the promised land, they offended God and were sent off to wander across the deserts for another forty years. In psalm 91 we read 'for forty years long I was grieved with this people and said in my heart they shall never enter into my rest.'

Here we begin to enter the mystery of forty days in the Christian year: these six-week periods of reflection on one particular aspect of the revelation of the God who is creator and source of life and purpose. The

human psyche and the human will are very slow to be formed, and to truly understand. It takes about six weeks for something to really sink in! Teachers will tell us that the same is true of the summer holidays – it takes about six weeks for most things to leak out! In the classic tradition of worship that we enjoy in our parish churches each season has its own hymns and prayers and the repetition of them enter the heart and mind taking root there and bear fruit in understanding and devotion. This is why regular attendance at worship is crucial for spiritual life and growth.

This necessity of rhythm in Christian Prayer and spirituality is a very real challenge in contemporary life. It is a noticeable trend that attendance at worship has become more erratic in the past ten years: this is a national trend and not limited to our communities. I expect there is a loss of rhythm and regularity in other areas of life too. Humanity is created to know, love and reverence God and from this fundamental purpose in life arises a need for ritual and patterns. We find strength and meaning in life when we develop a rule of life to scaffold our use of time and resources: the modern leisure industry and various sports exploit

this. The problem is that these activities only deal with one part of a human being: if a human being is to become fully human then it must have a lively spirituality and this means the same disciplined application that many give to a golf swing or their running time. This is the key lesson in life and it takes a very long time for some of us to learn it.

News from the Regional House Edenham Vicarage

Two days of study and reflection

Friday 15th April: Who was Ignatius Loyola? A day exploring the person and legacy of St Ignatius. Why and how did he write his Spiritual Exercises? How do they work? This day is organised as a training day with the Retreat Association and is open to anyone interested in finding out more about Ignatius and his legacy. Led by Canon Andrew Hawes who has over twenty-five years of experience of working with Ignatius!

Friday 20th May: A Day with St Clare. St Clare lived 800 years ago, but still speaks to us today.

We will hear her life story. We will question her radical commitment to poverty and ask how it can be relevant to us today. We will look

at how creatively she used the restrictions imposed upon her by the authorities of the day, and explore how we can use our limitations more positively. Led by Canon Valerie Rampton.

These days begin at 10am for a 10:30am start and end by 4pm. Suggested contribution to cover costs is £15 – including lunch, to find out more phone 01778 591358 or www.edenhamregionalhouse.org.

Toddler Church

Toddler Church at Edenham Vicarage on a Monday afternoon between 1pm and 3pm, stories, songs, craft activities and play. Contact Lizzie Muirhead lizzie_muirhead@hotmail.com or 01778 591358 for details.

Celebrating Mari

Ringers from the Local Guild expertly handled Edenham's 8 bells in loving tribute to "Mari" (Marianne) Atkinson before and after her funeral and committal at Edenham Church on 23 February 2016.

Mari was born in Bourne and celebrated her 87th birthday on 31st January 2016. Her father came to The Gables, Edenham to

farm with his brother-in-law Alf Cropley.

Mari attended Bourne Grammar School and met her future husband, John, at a club for young people in Edenham Village Hall.

After teacher training at Bishop Grosseteste College in Lincoln, she taught at Bourne Secondary Modern, Charles Read School and at Edenham.

Her ringing began aged 17, in 1946, when Arthur Holmes formed a post war band of new ringers. She became part of Bill Holmes' crack team whose skill and enthusiasm led to the establishment of eight bells in Edenham tower. Mari taught many new ringers the ropes! And after 60 years loyal retired in 2006.

She and John were regular helpers at the Church Garden Fete and always returned to support village events, especially the Steam Action Christmas lunch.

Calm in a crisis and famous for her cooking - no one left her home hungry! Mari wished to remain at home with John and was able to do this thanks to the kind support of neighbours and extemporary live in carers

making her latter days as positive and comfortable as possible.

Conversations with Mari were always fascinating, whether it was the history of Edenham, tales of ringing at Lincoln Cathedral when she was at college or village churches with eccentric rings and numerous other topics. We always left her company with more knowledge, having been entertained and inspired.

Thank you Mari – we miss you - loving wife, mother, good friend, neighbour – a lady who will always be remembered with great affection and a smile.

Swinstead Parish Council Minutes

In addition to the Clerk's notes that appear in this magazine, the full minutes of the Swinstead Parish Council meetings can now be found on the SKDC website.

Either type "Swinstead Parish Council Minutes" into you favourite search engine and choose the link that begins with "**moderngov**".

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Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council Meeting

Clerk's Notes 20th January 2016

Street lights from Manthorpe Bridge to Witham on the Hill had been repaired. Councillors thank all residents of Toft who took part in a clean-up campaign along the footpath, greatly appreciated. The spare soup left from the annual fireworks party had been donated to a local food bank. The kerb between Stonehaven & Church Farm, Manthorpe, is being investigated by Enforcement Officers from the District.

There had been very little response for a request for residents to help organise a celebration for the Queen's 90th birthday. If you would like to help or have any ideas please speak to one of the five Parish Councillors:- Richard Stephenson, Jeremy Dawson, Richard Hartley, David Kreutzberger and Graham Freeland.

The tenant at Jasmine Cottage asked for a temporary structure to be used as a home office and store. It was agreed that the

council should arrange for the playing field to be fenced. If you have any free time and would like some exercise, while helping in your community, please put your name forward to cut the grass at the playing field, there are two vacancies. If you are interested please contact the Clerk or a Parish Councillor.

It was agreed that residents required more information on how to access the defibrillators situated at Toft & Manthorpe.

British Heart Foundation advice: If you come across someone who is not breathing or breathing erratically, the most important thing is to call 999 and start CPR.

The emergency operator will tell you the code to access the defibrillator. Don't delay or interrupt chest compressions to get it, send someone else.

Follow the instructions given in the defibrillator.

A grant request from St Andrew's Parish Church was postponed until the next meeting so they could provide further information.

C.Cllr Martin Trollope-Bellew reported on the draft proposal for new divisions from the Boundary Commission which recommended that Toft Lound & Manthorpe be placed in a new division called Colsterworth Rural which goes from Denton, Grantham to Thurlby, Bourne. Councillors agreed that the villages should be removed and placed in the proposed Baston & Barholm division as it had more in common with the south of the district than the north. He also reported that the County Council was expected

to increase its' part of the council tax with the extra 2% going towards social care. It was expected that the District would also increase its council tax. Finally he said that the Government had accepted the devolution bid but must include an elected Mayor.

The next meeting would take place on 16th March 2016 at 7.30pm at Toft House Hotel.

WHIST DRIVE

A Whist Drive was held on Friday 19th February in the St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, when £100 was raised for church funds. The winners were:

GENTS

1. Mrs D. Bennett
2. Mr M. Brace
3. Mrs G. Stanford

LADIES

1. Mrs J. Templeman
2. Mrs S. Olley
3. Mrs E. Basden

The raffle winners were Mr S. Osborne, Mrs E. Basden, Mrs M. Imminck, Mrs J. Osborne, Mrs E. Brewster, Mrs G. Stanford, Mrs A. Blanchard, Mrs H. Strickson and Mrs P. Collier. Thank you to everyone for your support and to all those who very kindly donated prizes - a tremendous help.

The next Whist Drive is on Friday 18th March at 7pm in the St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

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Notes from the Steam Action AGM 10th February 2016

Chairman's Report from 2015:

Last year's AGM - surprise resignation from Ruth Atter, Vice Chairman. Founding member of SA some 40 years ago. We still hope Ruth will help with SA.

February - Annual Dinner at the Woodhouse Arms. Note - does not come from committee funds.

June - Edenham Extravaganza. First Family Fun day and barn dance. Rained all day but a great day! Fantastically organised and well attended. Afternoon Tea the week after.

September - Veg & Produce show. Brilliant day but entries were down by nearly 100 compared to previous year.

October/November - Pantomime rehearsals. Very busy few months.

November - Glenys retired from delivering birthday presents etc. Glenys deserves a medal for all her hard work over the years. Glenys was the face of Steam Action, giving cards and presents to Senior Citizens on their birthday, taking get well cards and

flowers, fruit baskets.

December - Rounded the year off with the Christmas Party where we cooked lunch for 70 people and gave a presentation to Glenys. Then put on a Pantomime which we've been told was our best yet! Followed by 2 public performances of the Pantomime, each one sold out!

Overall an extremely successful year, financially and enthusiastically. Plenty of ideas to continue with the development of Steam Action.

To give due warning, Jane will be stepping down as Chairman in 2 years time but will remain on Steam Action Committee.

Treasurers Report: 2015 made £500 more profit than the year before. Barn dance and pantomime making the most. Comfortable position to organise more events this year. Thank you Caroline for the clear accounts. No bill from the Village Hall for Christmas. Estimated to be £100.

Moving forward: Became apparent that Ladies are increasingly reluctant to take part

in SA events as they don't class themselves as "old". Long discussion re chasing the state pension or do something different. Times are changing. 40 years ago the elderly in the Parish needed looking after. We bought them logs to heat their homes as there was no central heating, gifts and veg boxes when they could not get to the shops. Local shows and dances as people did not have the means to travel. For most, the only time they left the village was on the annual SA day trip. It's becoming more apparent that the elderly are no longer in need of our help, as much as they are no longer elderly! Took lead from our motto, "to foster a community spirit". Our two biggest fundraisers from 2015 were the extravaganza and the pantomime. Very community orientated.

ACTION - Send out quarterly newsletter, keep people informed and explain what SA is about. (No, we are not train enthusiasts!) Proposal to lower the age for all to 60. To be discussed/voted on at next SA meeting.

Re-election of Officers:

Advertising manager: member@witham2001.fsnet.co.uk

Chairman - Lucie proposed Jane, seconded by all. Vice Chairman - Doris proposed Lucie, seconded by Tony/all.

Secretary - All proposed Lucie Wilson. Treasurer - Kim proposed Caroline Haver, seconded by all. No need for PRO but decided all to share the birthdays. Pat to be told if someone is ill – info will be passed to relevant person.

The rest of the committee were re-elected en masse. Invited Emma Aque and Mike Smith to join the committee. Emma accepted, Mike declined.

Committee funds: Owned by Pat Smith, everyone gives £5. Funds stand at £27.04. No need for contributions at this time.

Edenham Vegetable & Produce Show

Saturday 27th August 2016

Please note this year the show is **open to all who receive the Parish Magazine**. That is those that live in Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Elsthorpe, Swinstead, Witham on the Hill, Toft, Lound and Manthorpe.

Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

View from the Woods

February 2016

Our Yorkshire adventure has its mix of ups and downs. My satnav giving up the ghost as soon as we arrived is definitely one of the downs. Finding a reliable builder to install a new bathroom is another. High on the list of ups is watching deer wandering about the woods as we sit at the kitchen table having breakfast.

Negotiating a long narrow lane to reach the house is easy enough, now that I know where the passing places are. One or two people, from the safety of their cars, do tend to sit implacably making me reverse for considerable distances even though there may be a passing place just behind them...I have got used to it now and I don't mind at all. I have witnessed someone trying to reverse when she had no choice (two cars coming towards her could not be faced off) - it was such a protracted and scary experience that I am more than ready to fling my car into reverse and move aside. Far better than watching a car disappear into the beck or

climb up a steep bank on the other side!

This said, we have encountered nothing but a warm welcome and very friendly people. We are some way off the centre of a large village. There are two other houses near us on the other side of the beck than can be reached over a small bridge. The rest of the area is made up of about 60 park homes, mostly inhabited by people who have retired. It reminds me of Portmeirion where all the properties are beautifully tended but somewhat out of scale, being much smaller than ordinary houses of a similar style.

Everybody is keen to tell us just how marvellous it is, living in the woods:..... "Just wait 'til the bluebells come out!"...."you should see it in summer...." "You can fish in the beck, you know"...Actually, I love it just as it is, I have always loved trees before they come into leaf when the bare branches have a beauty all of their own and signs of spring are already visible.

Our house is at the very end of the lane that leads onto a footpath



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through the woods leading to a locally well-known waterfall, just a short walk away. There is, therefore, no passing traffic but a good number of walkers. It has the pleasing effect of feeling secluded without being isolated.

No more the wide skies and wonderful sunsets which we enjoyed for nigh on 30 years but I cannot express the wonder of living surrounded by the woods and in close proximity to a beck. We can actually see it from the house. The wildlife is enchanting, a wide variety of birds visit the bird table and feeders throughout the day. We watch rabbits and squirrels scampering about..... Start a new veggie patch? I think not!... but we do have great plans for the portion of woodland which forms part of our garden.

At night we hear the owls calling to one another and look forward to the time when we will be able to light our wood burner... that and the many other things which need attention are still in the “work in progress” file..... We are in no hurry.... tomorrow is another day....

Bourne 2 Care

This is a day care and respite care service for learning disabled adults, moved into The Old Post Office premises at 43 Main Street, Edenham in mid-December.

We have already forged links with the Grimsthorpe Estate and Father Andy at the Parish Church, who comes every Friday morning, and look forward to widening links to the local school and community. If you would like to visit us for a look round and a coffee, you are most welcome to pop in any weekday morning from 10am to 12 midday.

From time to time, we have open days and fund-raising events for our Amenities Fund and we will advertise these in the magazine.

In addition we are offering a hot 2-course meal on a Wednesday at 12.30pm for £3.50 – places are limited to 4 each Wednesday. You can call in to book or ring 01778 591481 (no message service, so, if no answer, either ring again or pop in to day service). Bookings need to be received by 3.30pm Tuesday at the latest.

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Witham on the Hill WI

The St Andrew's Parish Hall in Witham on the Hill has a new projection screen. The WI made a financial contribution towards it and we were very pleased that Tim Hudson was able to use it for the photos he shared us about his travels in India. Travelling to India for 33 years, he had many slides showing life in India. It was interesting to see the contrast between the formal colonial buildings built by the British Raj in Calcutta and the more fluid design of Hindu temples. Tim loved to take pictures in everyday places like flower markets and of children in the streets - the atmosphere and colours came across beautifully. He travelled through India to Darjeeling and the pictures of the tea trains and tea plantations with the workers picking tea leaves showed how people live and work. Tim loves to walk and has been lucky to go on several guided treks in the mountain regions complete with mules to carry the supplies and tents. We all realised how

enthusiastic Tim was about India so were not surprised to learn he is going to visit again this year. Vote of thanks was given by Julia Haynes

Raffle winners were Fiona Darroch & Jill Lessey. The competition was a favourite curry recipe Sandie Streets won for the second month running, Delia Holland Jones came 2nd and Jane Clark 3rd.

Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 5th April. The speaker will be Rebecca Main, WI Adviser. All visitors are sure of a warm welcome.

On Saturday 27th February 2016 at St Andrew's Parish Hall we held a Swishing Morning. This involved swapping an item of clothing or an accessory for another one. It was a great success enjoyed by all members & visitors.

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Willoughby Gallery

The Gallery will be open every day from March to November 12-5pm except Mondays (but open on Bank Holiday Mondays)

23rd March to 20th April Brazil and other Stories - Paintings by Keith Andreetti

27th April to 25th May Elements - Local textile artists group Follow the Thread

1st to 28th June Summer Exhibition 2016 - Mixed media by Kim Wooldridge, Jilly Shore, Janey Hill, Mona Storey and Anne Hall

6th July to 3rd August Art and Clay - Newton Art and Pottery Club members with pictures and ceramics.

10th August to 7th September Opposites Attract - Collage artist May Jones and photographer John Byford.

14th September to 12th October A Changing Rural Scene - Corby Glen Local History Society

20th October to 18th November Open Art Competition - Exhibition of all entries

Appeal

Lincolnshire Independent Living works closely with the People's Partnership, focussing on improving the lives of those within Lincolnshire whom have a disability. They wish to know of any existing disability groups in order to build a picture of what is currently available in the county to aid those with disabilities.

They are interested in attending meetings and providing support to groups, listening to people's concerns and finding new ways in which they can support and represent disabled people. As well as unifying the voice of disabled people against cuts, changes to benefits and other procedures that have a negative impact.

They ask if any reader is aware of any organisation or club in our area that may be running. Or your thoughts on setting one up?

Those with information or are interested in finding out more, contact: Zoe Cabot, Assistant Manager, Lincolnshire Independent Living at zcabot@outlook.com

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Notes from the Edenham Parish Council Meeting 8th March 2016

Open Forum: An e-mail received from a parishioner reporting potholes in Scottlethorpe Road, Edenham and their concern over slow progress of the areas broadband upgrade was read. Cllr Biggs briefed meeting on his recent site visit around the Parish with Lincolnshire County Council's broadband project manager, highlighting business and residential concerns over the projects progress. The manager indicated that the countywide project has reached a target of 93% coverage but that the remaining 7% would prove challenging to achieve, however the visit had given him a good insight into the parishes particular concerns. It is hoped that several alternative technical solutions may be suitable/viable to overcome the areas issues with its current telephone infrastructure and the many remote residences/businesses.

All parishioners are reminded that the Open Forum at each Parish Council meeting is their opportunity to voice concern/raise local issues with their councillors. Details can be obtained by contacting the parish clerk at edenham.pc@btinternet.com – or

contacting any of your current councillors.

Financial Matters:

Clerk's Salary - Admin & Street Cleaning (inc HMRC PAYE) for 4th Qtr 2015/16 £329.23p.

Invoice - Subscription Lincolnshire Assoc. of Local Councils (2016/17) - £103.04p inc VAT.

Highways: Potholes along Scottlethorpe Road and Church Lane, Edenham and standing water on A151 near to Grimsthorpe to be reported to Lincolnshire Highways.

Parish Christmas Tree: It was agreed that a Parish Christmas tree should be erected for Christmas 2016. It is hoped that this will be positioned in the field between Church Lane and Ford Cottage, Edenham for all passing through the Parish to enjoy - subject to necessary site surveys etc.

Smaller Authority Transparency Code: The council is to apply for a grant from the Department for Communities and Local Government to upgrade its IT system to include a scanner which will enable the council to meet its obligation under the code to upload documents to the Parish Website.

Parish Council Asset Management: To enable longer term budget planning the secretary had drawn up a list of Parish Council Assets along with location etc. Chairman allocated responsibility to individual members to carry out an initial assessment of the items and to report back at next meeting. Necessary maintenance planning will then made.

Suspicious Activity/Vehicles: All parishioners are reminded to be vigilant in their local area and report anything suspicious, however minor, to the Police using the Police 101 tel no.

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.

Property Address: Household/ Businesses are reminded that their properties should be clearly identified with a house number or name. Could the **emergency services** easily find you if the unfortunate should happen and you called on their services?

The next meeting of the Edenham Parish Council will take place in Edenham Village Hall on Tuesday, 10th May, following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7:30pm.

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Jane's Seasonal Recipe

If you haven't had your ration of chocolate over Easter, try these tasty little biscuits. They are quick and easy to make – however, you do have to prepare the mixture several hours before hand, or leave overnight. They are fudgy biscuits with the texture of a brownie. Once baked, the biscuit top cracks and the icing sugar contrasts with the chocolate inside. The children will enjoy making these – rolling the biscuits is very messy!

CHOCOLATE CRACKLE TOPS

(makes about 40 biscuits)

200g plain choc (Bournville is best)

90g butter

150g caster sugar

3 eggs

1 tablespoon vanilla essence

175g plain flour

25g cocoa powder

½ teaspoon baking powder

Icing sugar for coating

Melt choc & butter gently in microwave, stirring frequently until just melted. Stir in sugar & mix 2-3 mins until dissolved. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well. Stir in vanilla. Mix in flour, cocoa & baking powder until just blended. Cover with cling film & put in fridge 2-3 hours or overnight, until mixture is cold & holds its shape. Using a teaspoon scoop mixture out & roll into small balls – about size of a walnut. Drop balls one at a time into icing sugar & roll until heavily coated. Remove ball with a slotted spoon & tap against side of bowl to remove excess sugar. Place well-spaced apart on greased baking sheets & bake for 10-12 mins at 170c. Do not overbake or the biscuits will be dry. Leave on tray for 3 mins until just set. Using a palette knife transfer to wire rack to cool completely.



BOURNE U3A

OPEN DAY – MONDAY 25TH APRIL

Loneliness and boredom can be risks for those individuals who finally have time on their hands.

They have longed for a chance to retire or reduce their working hours and break away from the routine. But reality can soon set in. The loss of a partner or move to a new area can all be obstacles which might be proving difficult to overcome. Bourne U3A can make a difference.

The group brings together semi-retired and retired people who are considering the chance to learn new skills, brush up on old pursuits or simply meet like-minded people.

“There is no pressure – people can choose an activity which appeals to their particular interests. There are really so many different groups that we believe each member can find something,” said Richard Morrison, the groups’ coordinator.

And if there is nothing that appeals from the long list of activities then members will often set up their own group – one of the latest is model trains while another is considering brewing. These activities will find their place alongside the traditional

from drawing and painting, handicrafts, arts and French for beginners to the unusual – clay pigeon shooting, curling, bird-watching and ten pin bowling.

Rehearsals are underway for the latest production from the U3A Players where members can hone their acting skills or work back stage. In the meantime, other members will be planning trips out to the theatre, discovering different eating places or joining in the supper group. The walking group brings together members who might enjoy a shorter stroll or head off on a more challenging trek. The Ladies Fun and Exercise Group is another option while Pilates will test the muscles.

Others might opt to exercise the mind through the groups for reading, creative writing or discussion.

Richard said: “We believe our members are grown-ups who through their lives have had different experiences and are able to share these, although with not necessarily with other like-minded people. But it is an opportunity to talk and discuss without fear or favour!”

The Open Day on Monday, April 25th, runs from 2pm to 4pm at The Corn Exchange, Bourne.

Edenham School

Wanted! Governor! - Our School Needs You...

Edenham CE Primary School is a vibrant village school, approximately 5 miles from Bourne in Lincolnshire. We have enthusiastic and involved families, a stable, dedicated and experienced team of staff, and a governing body who are committed to ensuring the best possible experience for pupils in our school.

Our school leadership is strong and well-established, and our Head Teacher is fundamentally committed to developing our role as governors, as a central part of our school community. We have a Vice-Chair to the Governing Body who works closely with the current Chair to support that role and will continue to do so with our new Chair.

All schools including ours, are facing challenging times and we are working extremely hard to balance our already high-quality provision with massive changes in most areas of school organisation – including a new National Curriculum, new national assessment expectations, more school converting to academy status, reduced Local Authority service etc.

Sadly for us, our superb and dedicated Chair person has chosen to stand down as her own business is rapidly growing and changing.

We therefore find ourselves in an unusual position for our school – seeking a governor who would be interested in and prepared to take on the role of both Governor and Chair to the Governing Body.

The Chair plays a crucial role in our school:

Leader of the board - Confidante - Cheerleader

Critical friend - Ambassador - Mediator

The Chair needs to be able to:

Confidently work with the Head to lead a team of volunteers and professional people

Manage their time effectively – and provide a good balance of their time to getting to know us and leading governor work in the school

Understand our values and vision and, commit to supporting them

Communicate effectively with a wide range of people

Maintain a cheerful and positive approach in any situation or circumstance

Be curious - taking on new information and knowledge quickly, sometimes in areas with which they may be less familiar, for example, safeguarding, Finance or school improvement.

The changes and choices facing our school would benefit from someone who has some understanding of an Educational environment and the educational climate, particularly working with children or young people. However – this is NOT critical! Many of the governors and members of our community who have had the greatest impact have been able to share their knowledge and skill sets from any number of different walks of life.

This governor could become our Local Authority Governor, appointed Lincolnshire, or would be co-opted by the rest of the governing body.

All our governors are elected or appointed for a period of 4 years. Some serve less than this time due to other commitments, but most give at least 4 years, often choosing to stand for reselection whenever possible.

We would provide high quality support and training wherever possible including the possibility of participating in the National Governors' Association 'Leadership Development Programme'.

We believe this could be a tremendous opportunity for the right individual and extremely rewarding for them working in our school community.

We encourage you to contact Mrs Kris Radford-Rea, our Head Teacher, for further information.

kris.radford@edenham.lincs.sch.uk or call 01778 591207.

Kris looks forward to hearing from you.

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PARISH SERVICES FOR APRIL 2016

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
April 3 rd Easter 2	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11:15am Parish Eucharist 4.00pm Evening Prayer
April 10 th Easter 3	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11:15am Parish Eucharist 4.00pm Evening Prayer
April 17 th Easter 3	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11:15am Parish Eucharist 4.00pm Evening Prayer
April 24 th Easter 4	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11:15am Parish Eucharist 4.00pm Evening Prayer
May 1 st Rogation Sunday	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist Rogation Walk Meet at Church 4pm followed by tea	11:15am Parish Eucharist

FOR BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, BANNS OF MARRIAGE, CONFESSIONS, OR ANY OTHER
 PASTORAL OR SPIRITUAL NEED CONTACT :VICAR: THE REVD CANON ANDREW HAWES SSC
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