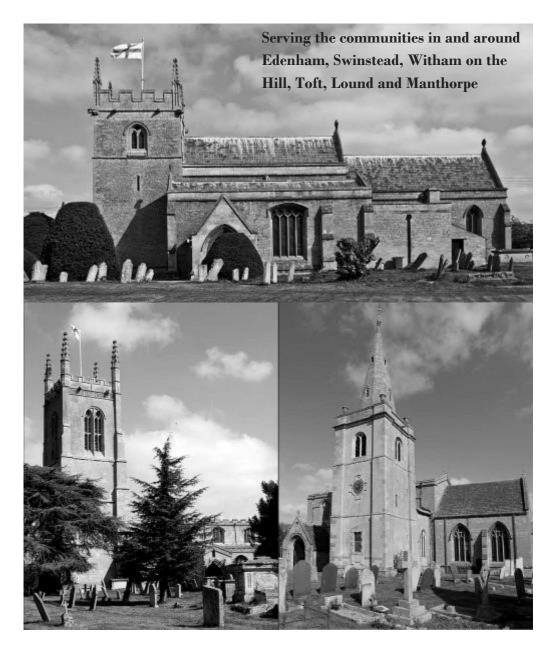
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November 2016



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Dates for your Diary

Saturday 5th November, 6pm, Manthorpe Playing Field, lighting of the annual Bonfire.

Monday 7th November, 7.30pm, Swinstead Village Hall. Whist drive

Saturday 12th November, 10am until noon, 10 Church Lane, Edenham - coffee morning in aid of Edenham Church. Any cakes or raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated.

Sunday 13th November, 6pm, Swinstead Church, Remembrance Service

Monday 14th November,7.30pm, Swinstead Village Hall. Bingo in aid of church funds.

Thursday 17 November & 15 December,11am, St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, "**Food For Thought**" – bible study followed by a simple lunch at noon. Donations to Christian Aid.

Saturday 19th November, 10am until noon, St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill - coffee morning. Do come along for a chat, buy some cakes and books spend money to help repair our church roof.

Saturday 19th November, Swinstead Village Hall. Smuggler Jack, tickets £7.00 from the Rectory.

Monday, 28th, November, 7,30pm, St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, Mike Osbourne "Civil War in the Fens" to the Witham on the Hill Historical Society - £2 members, £3 non-members. All welcome.

Sunday 4th December, Edenham Village Hall, Steam Action Pantomime "He's behind you!" Remember to keep this date free. There will be two performances. Adults £4, under 16s £2. Doors open at 1.30pm and 5.30pm for the 2pm and 6pm performances. Contact Nikki on 01778 591197 or Pat on 591004.

Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

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Parish News

Condolences to Jean Croft, family and friends on the loss of lan Croft, who passed away suddenly on 28 September.

Congratulations to Becky Culpin and Christian Crawford who were married at St Mary's Church Swinstead on 17 September.

Congratulations to Joanna Thompson and Nick Greaves (daughter of Julia and Ray Thompson of Witham on the Hill) on your marriage at Normanton Church in October.

Edenham Church Christmas Flowers: The colour of our Christmas decorations in church this year will be red. Please use red or cream candles that will last for several occasions starting with the Christingle service. There will be a list in church, please add your name if you can help to decorate.

Samaritan's Purse Filled shoe boxes of goodies for children in disaster zones, can be delivered to ShoeZone in Peterborough or Grantham between 1st and 18th November. For further information contact Jane Clark tel 01778 590232 or visit the Samaritan's Purse website.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Swinstead Church Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper. £469.00 was raised for Church funds

Witham on the Hill Church Cleaning Since Edna Rose retired from cleaning St Andrew's Church last year the cleaning has been somewhat haphazard. The Parochial Church Council has decided to set up a rota of cleaning and would be glad of anyone willing to help. The more people that volunteer the less often it would be your turn. It is estimated to take approximately 2 hours, once a week to vacuum and dust. The cleaning could be done at a day and time to suit you. Please add your name to the list in Church, or contact Jane Clark, Trudy Templeman or Father Andy. Grateful thanks to all willing volunteers!

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THE VICAR WRITES

This month begins with All Souls Day (when we commemorate and pray for the departed) on the 2nd November and includes Remembrance Sunday on the 13th November.

In one of the darkest times of the year we come face to face with the fact of death. One of the features of our contemporary society is the trivialisation of death, or to be more accurate, the marginalisation of death. Death is pushed to the edge of life, dealt with in a clinical and swift way and increasingly surrounded with a wishy-washy fairy tale approach to the question of the spiritual survival of an individual beyond death.

It is now very rare for a body to remain in the family home for any period of time. It is also unusual for a body to be brought to church before a funeral. Around half of the funerals from these villages are now a 'secular' funeral - without formal religious content (although they have a remnant of Christian sentiment). Even funerals in a Christian setting have a much reduced Christian content - there is an emphasis on celebration and thanksgiving, very little focus of prayer for the departed or the proclamation of Resurrection faith.

As a priest I am amazed at funerals that have no New

Testament reading and contain not one prayer for the soul of the departed. To say the least it has all become a bit thin. Some of the poetry and readings used at funerals have no foundation whatsoever either in the horrible reality of grief or Christian teaching (most of the poetry is of a very poor quality any way!).

To my mind it is hard to improve on a traditional Prayer Book rite followed by a burial. Cremations may be necessary or advisable for practical reasons but Crematoria are simply 'temples of death', unlike churches whose life is bound up with every aspect of life at all times and in all situations. Churches witness to the whole revelation of God in creation and human experience.

Crematoria in themselves have nothing to say. It is a sad state of affairs that we live in a culture that cannot stand too much reality. The truth is there in Scripture 'in the midst of life, we are in death.' If we can live hopefully and peacefully with the fact of death then we can live a life free from fear and liberated to be generous.

For the Christian there is also the important knowledge that in due time each person will be accountable beyond death for their stewardship of life. It is rather naïve to assume that everyone at death has an immediate ticket into

the fullness of eternal life. Eternal life begins in the present in the lives of those who believe and trust in Jesus who said of himself (in the well known funeral reading) 'I am the way, the truth and the life, no one can come to the Father except by me.'

BISHOP'S VISITATION

The Bishop of Grantham is to make a visitation to our parishes on Monday 7th November. He will be available to meet at the usual 'Food for thought' at Witham Parish Hall at 11am when he will lead study and discussion on the Gospel for Remembrance Sunday. He will remain at Witham in the Parish Hall for a bring and share lunch that begins at noon. Please feel free to come to either or both!

In the evening there will be a service of Evening Prayer in the Stable Chapel at Edenham Vicarage at 6.30pm followed by an open meeting in the Vicarage from 7pm. Again all parishioners are very welcome to attend. The evening meeting will be an opportunity to discuss any topics of local or wider significance that you would like to raise with the Bishop.

The Bishop will also preach and lead the Act of Remembrance at Witham on the Hill beginning at 10am on Remembrance Sunday.

SUPER MESSY SATURDAY

The first SMS went like a bomb with forty children and loads of adults helping. It was certainly messy! This month the theme will be Remembrance and will take place on Saturday 12th November from 9.30am to 11.30am at Edenham Church. Children of all ages are welcome and adults are also welcome to take part. It will be messy – so be prepared!

Swinstead News

Swinstead church flower rota:

30 Oct - 6 Nov - Jan Andrews 13 - 20 Nov - Jill Rudkin 27 Nov - Advent no flowers

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Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council

Clerk's Notes 21st September

The Council meeting discussed various highways issues which included the Manthorpe Bridge, dropped curb outside Stonehaven/ Church Farm, Manthorpe, and a request for speed signs at Lound. Councillors asked the clerk to write a letter of thanks to haulage contractors P Thory Ltd, for their swift response in stopping their vehicles from using the village. If residents of Manthorpe have concerns about HGV's please contact the clerk with the contractors name, time and (vehicle registration number if possible).

The following planning applications were discussed and no objection raised by the Councillors: The Old Bakehouse, Manthorpe - 2 storey side extension and single storey verandah, Oak House, Lound - single storey rear extension and additional dormer window. To crown and lop 3 ash trees were allowed at The Gables, Toft.

It was agreed that a quotation for

the work to be done at the bus shelter in Toft be accepted and work to commence as soon as possible.

Councillors approved the following: Standing Orders, Equality Statement and Complaints Procedure.

The clerk reported that all rent requests had been sent to tenants. It was agreed that the rent at Jasmine Cottage be increased taking into account what maintenance and improvements the tenant had undertaken.

C.Cllr Martin Trollope-Bellew reported on the response received from the questionnaire for Devolution in Greater Lincolnshire. He also said that the poppies exhibition at Lincoln Castle had been a large success. Finally he informed the meeting on the new boundary changes which would come into force at the county council elections in May 2017.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 16th November 2016 at Toft House Hotel at 7.30pm. Residents are welcome to attend and voice their concerns during the public forum.

Please do not forget the Annual Fireworks will take place on 5th November, usual time, usual place.

Rosemary Woolley, Clerk to the Council. Telephone 01778 560634 (answer machine) or emailtlampc2@gmail.com

High Speed Fibre Broadband for **Toft Lound & Manthorpe**

The Chairman of the Parish Council & Clerk met with members of Careby, Little Bytham, Witham on the Hill, Essendine and Internet provider Gigaclear to discuss the possibility of bringing a fibre network to the parish.

This is early stages but councillors

would ask that you go onto the Gigaclear website www.gigaclear.com and register an interest, the more that do this the greater the possibility it will happen. The company has successfully installed at Essendine and Carlby. Please report if you have registered to either Richard Stephenson 590355 or the Clerk Rosemary Woolley before the next council meeting in November.

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Witham on the Hill WI

Ruth O'Mellia came to talk to the WI about the work St Barnabas Hospice does in the Grantham and Lincolnshire area. The hospice has been running for 34 years and is helping people to live with life limiting illnesses, from diagnosis to end of life. St Barnabas charity is a nationally acclaimed model of excellence which helps people with cancer and 10 other life limiting illnesses such as MS, Parkinsons, AIDS, dementia and COPD.

They have staff who have time to spend with the patient and carer so are able to offer family support, welfare advice, palliative care and bereavement services. Also available are facilities for physio, tai chi, painting, knit and natter, singing and a wig bank.

In 2015 St Barnabas had 9,162 referrals of which 95% were spoken to within a day. They had 165 admissions to Grantham Hospice. On average it costs £780 per day as an inpatient to the unit in Lincoln, where patients stay on average 16 days. St Barnabas also provide hospice at home care.

Ruth's inspiring talk will remind us all to support the charity events St Barnabas fundraisers organise, or to shop in one of the 26 shops in Lincolnshire to help raise the 4 million pounds needed each year to run the charity.

Vote of thanks was given by
Sandie Streets. Raffle winner was
Jean Marshall. The competition for
a flower of the month was won by
Frances Plummer, Susan Allen
came 2nd and Julia Haynes 3rd.
Members were asked to bring
donations of small gifts and
stationery or toiletries for the
Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes,
which are given to children in
disaster zones.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st November. Keith Appleyard will be coming to talk to us about Life as a Spook, which should be fascinating. All visitors are sure of a warm welcome.





Christopher Kent

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Applications are made to the Lincolnshire County Council from 14th November 2016 until noon on the15th January 2017. Whatever you do, try not to miss the deadline - life becomes very stressful for a few months if you do!

The preferred method for applying is online - go to http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/schools/school-admissions. You can also apply by telephone on 01522 782030.

Don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions about the admission process or if you wish to make a personal visit. We very much look forward to meeting you.

Please contact me directly on 01778 591207

or by email: enquiries@edenham.lincs.sch.uk.

Best wishes,

Mrs Kris Radford-Rea (Head Teacher)

Advertising manager: member@witham2001.fsnet.co.uk Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

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Notes of the Witham on the Hill Parish Council Meeting 19th September 2016

Open Forum: Grimsthorpe
Estate had agreed to the erection
of a sign to highlight a concealed
entrance. Mr Peter Smith said that
the cost would be in the region of
£120. The Council informed Mr
Smith that they agreed to
reimburse the monies and that a
formal invoice showing the actual
cost would be required.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: the minutes of the 18th July 2016 were accepted as a correct record.

County Councillor's Report:

County Cllr Trollope-Bellew reported that the Consultation on the Devolution of Lincolnshire had finished and they received 4432 responses. Of the replies received 49% were not in favour of a Mayor, 46% were in favour and 4% did not know. 69% stated that they wanted all 10 authorities to work together. On the 20th October the County Council would meet to discuss their response. He explained that a unanimous decision was given to keeping the A&E department at Grantham

Hospital open.

Clerk's Report: Grimsthorpe and Drummond Castle Trust Limited confirmed they agreed to warn drivers of a concealed entrance by the erection of a sign on the north side of the Witham on the Hill/Little Bytham road, within the hedge and to the west of the entrance to West Farm. It was suggested that we or parishioners should be responsible for trimming back the hedge to ensure the sign remained visible.

Planning Applications: S16/1646 and S16/1644 - erection of single storey oak extension at Palace Farm, Main Street had been refused.

S16/1916 – garage conversion including new bay window, porch extension to main entrance and provision of new PV panels to roof of rear (south west elevation) at The Holt, Bottom Lane. Response by 26th September 2016. Council made no comment.

S16/2020 – works to trees and fell tree of heaven and reduce crown by 20% of silver birch at Somersby House, Main Street. Response by 27th September 2016. Council

made no comment.

Review the fixed asset register: Since the last meeting a Rachael Smith from South Kesteven District Council had written to say she had taken over responsibility for the maintenance and repair of play equipment in our area. She said that the fort slide was in need of substantial repair and various parts had been removed but in so doing it had rendered the whole structure unstable so she had cordoned off the whole structure The contractor had come back with ideas and costings and had suggested that some of the wood removed was salvageable and as a result had decided not to remove the fort immediately in the hope that some of it will be made good.

It was clear from the above that the District Council took ownership of the play equipment and as a result consideration would need to be given to removal of this and other items from the Asset Register.

It was further agreed that the noticeboard on the Six Bells wall, the security fencing on The Green and playtop surfaces should also be removed. This would leave the noticeboard on the Green, 2 steel benches, 2 Berkshire & Seaker tables and 5 village street signs on the Register.

Notice received from the External Auditor: A letter had been received from Grant Thornton, the External Auditor, to say that the audit for the year ended 31st March 2016 had been concluded. There would be no fee to pay. The Auditors had also sent a notice saying that it was noted that the Council held a high level of reserves, approximately 5.86 times the annual precept for 2015/16. The Council should consider the level of general reserves required and consider taking steps to reduce the level in future years if necessary. These comments were noted. It was felt that these reserves might be used to help the church roof being repaired and other projects within the village. The Clerk said that he would check whether we had powers to pay for church roof repairs as he felt that we might not

Expenditure: £150.60, £85.49, £85.49 – B M Champness (salary

for July, August & September); £2.20 – HMRC (PAYE).

AOB: The Clerk explained that for the next meeting we would have to consider the 2017/18 Precept. Consideration could be given to taking over services from either the County or District Council such as grass cutting and similar services.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 21st November 2016 at 7.00 p.m. at St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

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The first Whist Drive of the season was held on Friday 16th October at 7pm in the Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, when £51 was raised for Church funds. The winners were:

GENTS LADIES

1stMr.M.Brace1stMrs.V.Curtis2ndMr.G.Templeman2ndMrs.S.Olley3rdMrs.A.Blanchard3rdMrs.T.Brace

The raffle winners were Mrs.V.Curtis, Mr.M.Brace, Mrs.A.Blanchard and Mrs.G.Stanford. Thank you to the faithful few who supported the evening and to those who donated prizes. We missed those who had other commitments. We hope to have a few more people next time.

Future Dates: Friday 18th November at 7.0pm

Friday 9th December at 7.0pm

Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Defibrillators

Public Access Defibrillators are installed and ready for use in Manthorpe and Toft.

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Type the link below into your favourite web browser and spend a really worthwhile 5 minutes finding out why you should use 112 in preference to 999 when dialling the Emergency Services from your mobile.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPZv 8dABfU

ST ANDREWS PARISH HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PUDDING NIGHT COMPETITION

Saturday 19th November 7.30pm in the Parish Hall Tickets £7.50

Taste the wonderful creations by creative cooks

Plus Supper & Free Glass of Wine
Short Quiz & Raffle

Bring your own drinks

To purchase your ticket call Janet Kirkwood on 01778 590203, 07779666161 janet@kirkwood.demon.co.uk or Kevin O'Hara on 01778 590315 by 14th November

Please state if you are entering a pudding in the competition.

Proceeds towards the maintenance of the Parish Hall

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

Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com



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- Take you where you like when you like
- Friendly, helpful drivers and office staff

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| ******** | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| ※ Jane's Seasonal Recipe | 米米 | | | | |
| Pears make delicious puds and this one is very tasty and quick to make in the microwave. | 米米 | | | | |
| ** STICKY PEAR & TOFFEE PUDDINGS | *** | | | | |
| 100G BUTTER, SOFTENED | 彩 | | | | |
| 120G SOFT BROWN SUGAR | 米 | | | | |
| 2 PEARS, PEELED, CORED & CHOPPED | *** | | | | |
| ★ 1 EGG | 米 | | | | |
| ₩ 60G SR FLOUR | 米 | | | | |
| ☆ 2 TEASPOONS ICING SUGAR TO DUST | ** | | | | |
| ☆ 1 TEASPOON GROUND CINNAMON TO DUST | 米 | | | | |
| * | 米 | | | | |
| Mix 40g butter & 60g brown sugar. Divide in base of 4 x | ** ** | | | | |
| 200-250ml ramekin dishes. Top with chopped pears. Whisk remaining butter & brown sugar until pale & fluffy. | * | | | | |
| Add egg & stir. Add flour & mix to a smooth batter. Spoon | * | | | | |
| into the ramekins. Cook 2 at a time in microwave (660w or 700w) for about 2 ½ mins until risen & cooked through. | ※ | | | | |
| Leave to stand for 1 min. Dust with icing sugar & | * | | | | |
| cinnamon. Serve with clotted cream, crème fraiche or ice cream. | 米 | | | | |
| * | 米 | | | | |
| ★ SERVES 4 | 米 | | | | |
| * | 米 | | | | |
| 米 | 米 | | | | |
| ※ | 米 | | | | |
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For security and training purposes, telephone calls may be recorded and monitored.

| PARISH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2016 | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| | Swinstead | Witham | Edenham | |
| 2 ND NOVEMBER ALL SOULS | 9am REQUIEM MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED | | | |
| 6 TH NOVEMBER THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT | 8.45am PARISH COMMUNION | 10am PARISH COMMUNION | 11.15am PARISH COMMUNION 4pm EVENING PRAYER | |
| 13 TH NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY | 8.45am PARISH COMMUNION | 10am PARISH COMMUNION | 11.15am PARISH COMMUNION 4pm EVENING PRAYER | |
| 20 th NOVEMBER SECOND BEFORE ADVENT | 8.45am PARISH COMMUNION | 10am PARISH COMMUNION | 11.15am PARISH COMMUNION 4pm EVENING PRAYER | |
| 27 TH NOVEMBER ADVENT SUNDAY | 8.45am PARISH COMMUNION | 10am PARISH COMMUNION | 11.15am PARISH COMMUNION 4pm ADVENT SONGS OF PRAISE | |
| 30 TH NOVEMBER ST ANDREW'S DAY (Wednesday) | | 6.30pm PATRONAL FESTIVAL FOLLOWED BY FISH AND CHIPS! | | |
| 4 TH DECEMBER ADVENT 1 | 8.45am PARISH COMMUNION | 10am PARISH COMMUNION | 11.15am PARISH COMMUNION 4pm EVENING PRAYER | |

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

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