

The Three Towers

April 2017

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



Dates for your Diary

1st Monday of each month - whist drive, 7.30pm, Swinstead Village Hall

2nd Monday of each month - bingo 7.30pm, Swinstead Village Hall

8 April Smuggler Jack in the Swinstead Village Hall. In aid of Church funds.

19 April Swinstead A.G.M. In the church at 7pm

23 April from 11am at St Andrew's, Witham on the Hill. Church and churchyard cleaning party. All help gratefully received, even if you can only spare an hour. Please bring tools & cleaning materials; and food for a bring & share lunch. Let's get the Church looking good for the wedding season!

26 April 7.30pm, Edenham Village Hall AGM. The Village Hall committee is looking for new active members to join the committee. We need help with new ideas to look after the hall and thoughts on how the hall is run. Can you spare a few hours a month?

Saturday 20 May 10am-12noon, St Andrew's Church coffee morning in the Church.

Saturday 17 June, Handful of Harmonies Concert, St Andrew's Church. Details to follow.

16 July, Grimsthorpe Castle, 'The Delights of Gardening'. The 2017 decorated wheelbarrow competition. All members living in The Three Towers area are invited to take part.

23 July Garden Fete in the grounds of Swinstead Hall. In aid of Church funds.

Witham on the Hil Historical Society

All in the St Andrew's Parish Hall and talks cost £2 for members and £3 for non-members, unless otherwise stated.

Monday 3rd April 7.30pm, members' meeting

Monday 10th April 7.30pm, Anthony Poulton Smith, "When Nature Calls "
The history of the Privy.

Parish News

THANK YOU to the family of the Late Margery Lynch, aged 93, for the donation of £765.00 for the up keep of the CHURCH - St Mary's PCC .

CONDOLENCES to all her family and friends on the loss of Madge Maile, formerly of Witham on the Hill, who passed away on 28 February.

PETER NAYLOR aged 97 years, formerly of Manor Farm, Lound, passed away on 27 October 2016, in Queensland, Australia.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR GARDEN WASTE. Spring is nearly here and the work in the garden recommences. It is a timely reminder that a variety of animals with their young are now in the fields around our villages and that care needs to be taken with disposal of garden waste.

We have been reminded by our local farmers that grass cuttings and the like are dangerous if ingested by a variety of livestock including horses, sheep and lambs. Recently we are aware that some of this material has found its way into paddocks and fields adjacent the residential areas – either by accident or deliberately - but either way we must ensure we dispose of our own waste safely and sensibly – the recycling of green waste by SKDC via the “green wheelie bins” is an environmentally friendly option.

Please help our farmers keep their animals healthy so we can all enjoy the benefits of our rural environment.

Defibrillator Training - It has been suggested that there may be a need for a repeat training session on how easy it is to use this potentially life-saving equipment. If you wish to take part in a training session then please contact either David Kreuzberger (07966 442872 , 01778 590251, davidk@doubledaygroup.co.uk), or Rosemary Woolley (01778 560634, tlampc2@gmail.com). **This training could give you the confidence to save the life of one of your loved ones.**

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Plea for Help to Keep our Parishes Tidy

If you have recently switched on either your radio or your television you will not have escaped the news that Government funding is being cut across most services. This percolates down to our own County and District Councils in some shape or form. The impact upon our own Parish is that there will no longer be funds for some services which we have previously taken for granted. If we, as a community, wish to maintain the appearance of our villages we will have to take on the burden as individuals to plug the gaps. Issues which have recently been discussed at the Parish Council meeting include grass cutting of highway verges and cleaning street signs – both of which if not maintained will quickly impact the overall appearance of the area.

The purpose of this note is to ask that, if you have the time, are physically able and have the inclination, you assist by carrying out these activities in areas adjacent your own properties. We are well aware that many of you already do this – so thank you for your community spirit and keep up the good work ! If you are physically or medically unable to assist but would like some help then please do contact any of your Councillors and we will see what can be done to meet your needs.

THE VICAR WRITES

Easter Day is fairly late this year; late enough for the school term to begin on Easter Tuesday. A few years ago it was as early as it could possibly be on the third Sunday in March. This is a great social irritant these days and there are calls for a fixed date for Easter. There is usually a secular voice barking for this and politically it may become a reality in a few years' time, such is this erosion of the Christian Faith in British society. It would be a great step forward for the liberal humanist establishment. I don't personally care if they fix a date for another Spring Bank Holiday, as long as they call it something else: Tulip Monday or London Marathon Weekend. Just leave Easter out of it.

There is a good reason for the shifting date of Easter and it is found deep in the foundations of the Judeo-Christian tradition. It is the phases of the moon that decide the date for Easter. The Christian Easter shadows the Jewish Passover for it was at the time of the Passover that Jesus was arrested, tried and executed. And it was as the Passover Festival was drawing to a close that his tomb was found to be empty. The Passover Festival is timed to match the full moon by which, millennia before, the people of Israel made their escape

from slavery in Egypt.

In 325AD the Council of Nicaea established that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. From that point forward, the Easter date depended on the ecclesiastical approximation of 21 March for the vernal equinox. This explains why the date can fluctuate between 21 March and 18 April.

I am more concerned that the Eastern Churches do not share the same date because they calculate the date differently. This is very complicated because they still use the Julian calendar to calculate the date – a calendar that hasn't been in use since the early days of the Roman Empire. Then they add days to make it fit a more modern calendar. The result is that it is literally once in a blue moon that the dates are the same.

Nevertheless the principle is the same. Easter is rooted in events in history that happened at a particular religious festival. It is not the date that matters but the real and present connection with the actions of a God who saves. A God who enters his creation to bring hope and meaning to the chaos humanity has caused. It may be possible for Parliament to fiddle with the date of the Bank Holiday but no politician, and not

even the British Secular Society, can alter the fact that a man called Jesus was crucified on the day before the Passover Sabbath and three days later his tomb was empty.

No one has ever managed to prove those two things did not happen. Christians believe that these historic events initiated a profound change in the possibilities of being human and marked a new era in the long history of creation. I'd rather celebrate and those that want a fixed date when the banks are closed are welcome to it, as long as they don't make celebrating Easter illegal!

PART TIME ADMINISTRATOR – EDENHAM REGIONAL HOUSE TRUST

Edenham Regional House is a Church of England vicarage which acts as a retreat house and conference centre. We are looking for an administrator to organise bookings, enhance communications with users of the House, keep track of finances and help with the management of the House and grounds. Efficiency in IT skills and use of social media will be important.

The post is 10 hours per week and will pay £8.45 per hour. Exact working hours are flexible and will be agreed with the Warden of the House to whom the post reports.

For further details and initial enquiries, please contact the Revd. Andy Hawes on edenhamoffice@gmail.com or on 01778 591358. Written applications with names and contact details of 2 referees should be sent to Edenham Regional House, Church Lane, Edenham, Bourne, Lincs, PE10 0LS by Friday 28 April 2017.

Edenham Regional House

Creative Fridays are free and take place on the 4th Friday of the month from 10am to 3pm are:

28th April - Baking Day with James & Marlene Briggs

26th May - Gardens of Grimsthorpe Castle – a trip to Grimsthorpe.

23rd June - Fun with letters led by Erica Burt

28th July - Paint and Pray Workshop – follow your own inspiration with Kate Austin of Christ Art.

More details 01778 591358 or on www.edenhamregionalhouse.com

Each Thursday during Lent until Easter - "Food for Thought" – bible study at 11am, followed by a simple lunch at noon, in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. Donations to Christian Aid.

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2017 Wheelbarrow Event

Many of you will remember the display of decorated wheelbarrows in Edenham Parish during 2012, with the theme of the Queen's Jubilee prompting a variety of displays.

Five years on, I would like to ask everyone to consider repeating this for 2017. The aim is to fill the roadsides and gardens with even more colour and create a visual treat for all those who live, work and even drive through our villages.

The theme for 2017 will be **'The Delights of Gardening'**. The hope is that during the summer months, residents will place their decorated barrows where they can be seen and enjoyed by others. By way of a joint celebration everyone will be invited to bring their barrow to Grimsthorpe Castle on **Sunday 16th July** where they will be displayed and judged as part of the 'Garden Day' event in the park.

There is no formal entry form to fill out but it would be good if you could contact me to let me know if you plan to take part.

(ray@grimsthorpe.co.uk).

For 2017 the **invitation** to join in is **extended to all the villages within the Three Towers area.**

Wouldn't it be great if we had 100 floral wheelbarrows on display for everyone to enjoy?



Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council

The Council meeting held on 15th March took place at Toft Hotel

The Clerk reported that there were three vacancies on the grass cutting roster and anyone interested should contact a member of the parish council. The Street light at Manthorpe bridge was working but the branches on the tree nearby had not been removed as promised. It was agreed to arrange a highways walkabout with Lincolnshire County Council to discuss flooding issues, footpath at Manthorpe Bridge, reactive speed sign on the A6121, and concerns over safety issues from Witham cross roads to Toft.

It was agreed by all councillors that they had no objection to the proposed extension to create additional storage area at Manthorpe House.

Various issues were discussed about property owned by the council. It was agreed to increase the parish donation to LIVES and Willoughby School from £100 to £200 each with the other groups remaining as previous years.

Councillors would also like to remind residents to dispose of their garden waste either in a green bin provided by the District Council or their own compost heap. Please do not place on other peoples' property as grass cuttings may ferment in an animals' stomach and could cause death if the animal is not found in time.

D.Cllr Martin Wilkins reported that the District had increased its part of the council tax at £4.00 instead of the £5.00 allowed by government. Savings still have to be made as SKDC has to be self-sufficient by 2020. Neighbourhood plans are being developed within the Glen Ward and once approved are included in the District Local Plan and must be considered when planning applications are being considered. Parish Councillors agreed that the parish would not benefit from such a scheme as a Neighbourhood plan as no large estates would be allowed. All agreed.

Cllr Martin Trollope-Bellew reported that the County Council had raised its portion of the council tax by 3.9% which included 2% towards social care.

This will raise 9.8 million but 18 million will still have to be taken from reserves. He also reported that a consultation will now take place later in the year to ask residents option on the idea of a unitary authority. The Waste & Minerals Draft Plan has gone to the inspector then it will go out to consultation. In conclusion Martin informed those present that this would be his last meeting as he would not be standing for election in May. Cllr Stephenson thanked Martin for all his work during his time as their County Councillor.

The next meeting will take place on 17th May 2017 at Toft House Hotel. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting, the AGM of the Parish Council and Parish Council Meeting.

Rosemary Woolley, Clerk to the Council.

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MANTHORPE IN BLOOMIN' WHEELBARROWS!

As you may have read in Ray Biggs' advert, he has widened the catchment area for all Three Towers readers to join in this year's wheelbarrow event. Manthorpe residents will be getting a flyer through their doors to invite them to join in and make a wonderful display for their front gardens and driveways in a wheelbarrow. You don't have to be a keen gardener or green-fingered to join in as long as your display is bright and cheerful with the theme 'The Delights of Gardening'. There is a small prize on offer for Manthorpe residents and also we can arrange transport if required to enter the wheelbarrow competition at Grimsthorpe on the 16th July. I will need to know who would like to enter for the Grimsthorpe competition in advance. Look forward to seeing your wheelbarrows on show. For Further information contact Alison Whitehead, Church Farm Manthorpe. 01778 590347

Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery

The gallery will open for the 2017 season on 5th April with an exciting joint exhibition of functional and figurative ceramics inspired by folklore and the natural world. Bodies of Clay - 5th April – 3rd May, Ceramics by Alison Coaten and Katherine Winfrey. During exhibitions the gallery is open Tuesday to Sunday (and Bank Holiday Mondays) from 12 noon - 5pm.

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Witham on the Hill WI

The 50th Anniversary of Witham on the Hill WI started with a bang but not in the way we planned. We had been locked out of the hall! David Clifford was a hero and came to our rescue by climbing through a small window to let us in. Once we were in the hall, we set up our gold-themed room with personalised balloons and a beautiful flower arrangement made by Susan Peskett. Forty members, old and new, enjoyed a 1967-inspired supper including a fabulous black forest gateau made by Julia Haynes.

It was great to be joined by Past Presidents and good friends who had travelled especially to be with us for the celebrations. It was a bit of a challenge to guess who matched up with their childhood photos - we were a cute bunch when we were younger! Many of our members were surprised just how much they remembered or had learned about 1967 in a general knowledge based quiz.

Many of the "Guess the Intro" questions in the music round had lots of the ladies singing along. Even the raffle prizes were 1960's inspired and the Babycham was won by Lincs South representative Rebecca Main who is our WI adviser. The other raffle winners were Sandie Streets, Doreen Whitaker, Susan Allen and Jane Wilmott. The competition was a gold item. Delia Holland Jones came 1st, Sandie Streets 2nd and Jill Lessey 3rd.

Jean Marshall thanked the President and committee for arranging such an enjoyable party. Our next meeting is the Annual General Meeting on Tue 4 Apr at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

Members are reminded that we need volunteers to join the committee and, as this is Julia Haynes's last meeting, a new President is required. All visitors are sure of a warm welcome. For further information contact Secretary Jane Clark tel 01778 590232.

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The ambulance service will know your location from your mobile and will ask you your geographic position from a landline. They will give you the access code to the cabinet if you can assure them that there is at least one other person with the injured person. Enter the code into the keypad and open the door. Take the defibrillator to the emergency.

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Edenham Extravaganza - Saturday 1st July / 11am – 4pm

Come down to Edenham Village hall for some fun on the field! This year we have fantastic stalls, food, games and rides, a dog show, and a fly past! (Times and planes TBA).

Barn Dance – Edenham Village Hall – Saturday 1st July / 7.30pm

Join us for live music and dancing to “The Wagonload of Monkeys”. For tickets please contact Pat on 01778 591004. Tickets are £10 and include a ploughman’s supper. All money raised goes towards Steam Action.

Edenham Veg & Produce Show

This year the Veg & Produce show will be on Saturday 9th September at Edenham Village Hall.

As per last year, this is open to everyone in the Three Towers parish. Below are the crafting and photography classes so you can all get started!

Wind chime

Woodcraft (e.g. turned / carved)

Hand knitted baby/child garment

Item of Patchwork

Embroidery or tapestry

Knitted or crochet item

Upcycled / recycled item

Item of paper craft

Photo taken in the last 12 months

Recreated photo (include old and new)

Circles

Village Life

A Steam Action Event

Amusing photo with caption



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(Serves 4)

Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery

Moreley's Lane, Corby Glen

Bodies of Clay – 5th April to 3rd May

Ceramics by Alison Coaten and Katherine Winfrey

A joint exhibition of functional and figurative ceramics inspired by folklore and the natural world.

Alison is fascinated by the human desire to make sense of existence through religion, myth and folklore and the use of art to create concrete images of worship in the form of icons and idols. Her use of this imagery helps to build a sense of familiarity within her work and these images are then reworked using secular and personal iconography.

She works using hand building and press moulding, with a limited palette of white crackle glaze, gold lustre and occasionally ceramic decals reproduced from her drawings. Layers of slip and glaze create pits and surface texture, defined with Indian ink and Alison incorporates blown or hand painted glass eyes.

Katherine makes slip decorated earthenware pottery which is oven and dishwasher safe. Form and function are important but she says she must enjoy making the piece, the owner must enjoy using it, and it must make them both smile. She has learnt much of her craft in La Borne in France and is therefore greatly influenced by French pottery, old and contemporary, handmade and manufactured. She is also inspired by various folk arts from around the world, old English earthenware and closer to home her garden and the local wildlife.

She uses grogged red earthenware clay and most of her work is thrown and then altered with hand built elements where appropriate. She covers the pieces in an off-white slip and then decorates with coloured slips and a combination of slip trailing and sgraffito.

Meet the artists at the exhibition on Saturday 8th April

During exhibitions the gallery is open Tuesday to Sunday (and Bank Holiday Mondays) from 12 noon - 5 p.m.

www.willoughbygallery.com

Whist Drive in Aid of Church Funds

A Whist Drive was held on Friday 18th February in the Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill when £48.20 was raised. The winners were:

GENTS

- 1st Mr M Brace
- 2nd Mrs E Brewster
- 3rd Mrs D Bennett

LADIES

- 1st Mrs T Brace
- 2nd Mrs W Stratton
- 3rd Mrs B Carter

The raffle winners were Mrs W Stratton, Mrs A Blanchard, Mrs E Brewster, Mrs T Brace, Mrs G Stanford and Mrs D Bennett. Thank you to all those who supported the evening - we were a bit lacking in numbers this time, hopefully there will be more next time. The next Whist Drive will be on Friday 15th April, which will be the last one until the autumn.

Angela Cardew A.P.D.H.A.

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Notes from the Edenham Parish Council Meeting 14 March

Open Forum: Chairman welcomed 3 member of public. Concern was raised about the future of the children's play area - the chairman assured the meeting that although there are some minor defects to be rectified following the recent safety inspection the council are drawing up an action plan. This will entail major work to replace the current woodchip play surface with a more durable material that will save money in the long term and ensure the facility is retained.

The latest update from 'Onlinelincs' on Phase 3 of the broadband upgrade project was discussed - full details can be found at www.onlinelincs.org.

Chairman thanked all for their attendance and input, closed the Open Forum and opened the Parish Council Meeting.

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: Cheques signed; (a) Clerk's wage 4rd Qtr 2016/17 - £275:31p. (b) Post Office (HMRC) PAYE 4rd Qtr 2016/17 - £68-80p

Street Cleaning: Following discussion with the management team of the local McDonalds' Restaurant reference the amount of litter in the parish, some of which originates from their premises, they have readily agreed to provide assistance to the council's litter picking operative. Many thanks to them for helping to ensure our community is not only tidier but a little more environmentally friendly.

Interactive Speed Warning Sign: Following a disappointing response to the council's recent questionnaire in the Parish Magazine, on the subject of excess speed of traffic on the main A151 through Edenham, it was agreed that the Lincolnshire Road Safety Team should be requested to carry out a speed survey. This will enable an accurate assessment of the problem to be made prior to any other fund raising efforts to purchase an interactive speed warning sign being undertaken. Many thanks to the few residents that did respond and pledge donations.

Hedges: The council would like to take the opportunity to remind property owners/farm tenants that where their boundary hedges border highways/ footpaths then it is their responsibility to keep them trimmed back so as not to encroach onto them. This will ensure that they are safe for users and it will also enhance the parishes appearance - many thanks for those that do. (Your local litter picker now finds it difficult to walk along the grass verges in places due to hedges/trees being left to grow right to the carriageway!!)

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.

The next meeting of the Edenham Parish Council will take place in Edenham Village Hall on Tuesday, 9th May, 2017. This will take place immediately following the **Annual Parish Meeting** that will commence @ 7:30pm.

Council Meetings take place on the second Tuesday in Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & Nov in Edenham Village Hall at 7:30pm.



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PARISH SERVICES FOR APRIL 2017

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
2 April Passion Sunday	8.45am Parish Communion 6pm Deanery Evensong Little Bytham	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
9 April Palm Sunday		10.30am Palm Sunday Liturgy	
10 April Monday		7.30pm Eucharist	
11 April Tuesday		7.30pm Eucharist	
12 April Wednesday		7.30pm Healing Service	
13 April Maundy Thursday		7.30pm Liturgy of the Last Supper and Watch until midnight	Watch continues from 00.30am until 9am Morning Prayer and Litany
14 April Good Friday		10.30am Family Service 1.30pm Liturgy until 3pm	6pm Meditation until 6.30pm Stable Chapel Edenham Regional House

PARISH SERVICES FOR APRIL 2017

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
Easter Day 16 April	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 6pm Evening Prayer
23 April	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
30 April		4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Three Parishes at Edenham
7 May	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion 4pm Evening Prayer	11.15am Parish Communion

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 - beltislobelle@btinternet.com

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