

The Three Towers

July 2019

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



**Toft cum Lound &
Manthorpe
Parish Council**



Parish Summer Party on the Field

2pm onwards 6 July

Manthorpe Playing Field

BBQ (Burgers, sausages, vegetarian)

Tea, coffee and cakes

**(Previous notification requested numbers attending
to the Parish Council by mid-June)**

Bring your own soft/alcoholic drinks and seats as usual

Family Friendly Rivalry Pétanque

Prize giving of the Wheelbarrow Cottage Garden competition

All Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe residents and friends are invited

Parish News

Witham e-mail Group - In addition to the Facebook page, we are trying to create a Witham e-mail group through which we hope to keep people in the loop about events / happenings in the village. If you are willing to join in please send your email address to Frances Plummer at francesplummer@btinternet.com.

Defibrillators in Manthorpe & Toft - Please note that the defibrillator located in the vestibule of Toft House Hotel can only be accessed after closing time from the golf club car park side of the building. All other entrances to the hotel are locked.

Should you have to use either of the Parish Defibrillators, please advise the clerk to the Parish Council afterwards. The pads will need replacing ready for the next time.

Edenham Village Hall Award - Edenham village hall has been awarded 2nd place in the Tesco Bags of Help scheme. This has enabled us to refurbish the back stage area of the village hall with new lighting, painting and new carpet tiles. We would like to thank all those that supported us in the voting.

The committee is now looking at various funding to assist with the refurbishment of the kitchen. Any help, advice, volunteering, donations etc, please contact Pat Smith 01778 591004.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS Jade Anderson and Robert Schwarz on 1st June at St Andrew's, Witham on the Hill.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS Freya Lygo and Joshua Frett on 15th June at St Andrew's, Witham on the Hill.

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A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

Thank you all for making my last day at Edenham Regional House so special. I have enjoyed 12 years working there and it was great that so many people turned up to wish me well. Thank you to everyone who donated to my gift voucher – I was stunned at your generosity, and will have great fun deciding what to buy. Many thanks too for all the gifts and cards. I was very touched by all the kind words. Thank you to everyone who provided such delicious food for the bring and share lunch – it is always amazing how such a magnificent feast comes together. Many thanks too to all those who washed up, ensuring I didn't have to do it on my last day! I look forward to my retirement, to spend more time with Bob but I will still be busy with lots of things. You will still see me at the Regional House but in a different capacity, as a visitor! Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Jane Clark XXXX

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 6 July, Summer Fete and Garden in a Wheel Barrow Competition, Parish playing field, Manthorpe. The Parish Council is planning a summer fete., The fete will also play host to the Parish Garden in a Wheel Barrow Competition.

As ever, the event needs supporters/volunteers to assist with the organisation on the day and the breakdown and clear-up the following day. If anyone has spare time and the inclination we would be pleased to hear from you - contact Jeremy Dawson. It should be a fun day for all the family.

Thursday 11 July 2019 – Walk to Grimsthorpe Castle & Garden Tour.

Two hour walk through fields and woodland from Edenham Vicarage to Grimsthorpe Castle. Lunch in Coach House or own picnic lunch followed by a tour of the garden with head gardener Jim Handley. Walk back to Edenham, appropriate shoes and clothing for weather necessary. If you do not wish to walk you can meet the group at lunch time in the Coach House.

POP IN CAFE

AT

Witham on the Hill Parish Hall

Tuesday 24th September

2-4pm

ALL WELCOME

BRING FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS

Drop in for a cup of tea, piece of cake and a chat

Free of Charge

Organised by Witham on the Hill WI

Thursday 18 July, 7.30pm, St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill, Music in Quiet Places. Meraki Duo - Meera Maharaj on flute & James Girling on guitar, playing a whistle stop international tour, with music from the US, France, Spain & Romania. Tickets £15 (£13 concessions) from Stamford Arts Centre or on the door. Refreshments will be available for a small charge.

Thursday 25 July FOOD FOR THOUGHT Eucharist at 10.15am in St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill, with bible study at 11am in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, followed by a simple lunch at noon – donations to Christian Aid. All welcome.

Sunday 18 August 3pm Rounders Game on the village green, Witham on the Hill, followed by a bring and share picnic. All welcome, whether to play or just watch!

Thursday 5 September, 7.30pm, Castles, Construction, Conquest & Compensation, Stamford Arts Centre. A talk by Dr David Roffe. Entry £6.

Friday 11 October, Edenham Regional House - Women in World War One. Julia will talk about 'the price of peace' from the perspective of the fiancé, wife and mother using poetry and extracts to read.



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The Vicar Writes

For the most part, my time as Vicar of Edenham, Swinstead and Witham and Warden of the Regional House has been one of great encouragement and joy. Certainly, there have been one or two learning curves along the way but experience has taught me that that's no bad thing. However, as we approached the beginning of May, and having booked the Bishop months before I arrived, I had to admit that it was increasingly unlikely that I'd have any Confirmation candidates to present to him when he joined us for a joint Parish Eucharist for Pentecost on 9th June. I'd fixed all the dates for Confirmation prep in my diary back in February anticipating at least one or two children from the schools and possibly an evening session for adults. Unfortunately, there wasn't any take-up from the schools and the names of potential adults didn't bear fruit either.

One of the most obvious reasons given was that no one had met me yet! It's possibly a bit much to sign-up for eight sessions with a Vicar you've never met and, in reality, most clergy tend to begin talking indirectly with people about the possibility of Confirmation long

before it's time to commit to the preparation. What was encouraging was that, as time went on, a good number of people expressed an interest in being Confirmed next year so at least I could rest assured that my aftershave wasn't to blame! But that still left me with a dilemma – what to do with the Bishop? Ordinarily, Bishops descend for Confirmations, stewardship campaigns or to bless some part of the Church that's been restored. Of course they do a great deal more than that (and I'm ever grateful for the support and encouragement I receive from the Bishop of Richborough) but I still had to think of a theme or angle for the Bishop's visit. If there weren't to be any Confirmation candidates then a broader focus was needed.

Fortunately, the Church of England's Calendar came to the rescue as I'd asked Bishop Norman to join us for the feast of Pentecost. Pentecost is always a good time to have a Bishop around as it recalls the moment when the Holy Spirit first descended upon the followers of Jesus after his Resurrection and Ascension. The account of what happened (as chronicled in the Acts of the Apostles) was certainly dramatic. A fierce rushing wind filled the room

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where they were gathered and tongues of fire appeared above the head of each disciple (which is why Bishops wear a mitre, the tall flame-shaped hat that they usually don in Church). Furthermore, the Holy Spirit transformed that ramshackle collective into the most effective band of evangelists the world has ever known – don't forget that the 2.2 billion Christians we have in the world today began with that meagre handful.

The feast of Pentecost leads us to recall not only the time when the Holy Spirit was poured-out upon the Church but also the time when the Spirit's presence and dynamism became a part of our own lives too – it was this that became the theme for Bishop Norman's visit. At the beginning of the service, after having heard the account of the descent of the Holy Spirit, Bishop Norman blessed oil set aside for the occasion and invited all those present to come forward to be anointed as a reminder of their Confirmation and to be renewed in the power and joy of the Spirit. More than fifty people queued to be anointed that Sunday receiving the sign of the cross with the oil on their foreheads together with the words "May almighty God by the power of his Holy Spirit renew and

encourage you in the faith". It was an incredibly moving moment and something that I will cherish for years to come.

Afterwards, several people spoke to me of how refreshing it was that everyone present became the focus of the celebration rather than the usual handful of Confirmation candidates. I knew exactly what they meant and I do believe that it served as a wonderful opportunity for renewal and refreshment (victory snatched from the jaws of defeat you might say). Nevertheless, I'll still be praying for candidates for next year and I'll still be fixing dates in my diary in the hope that some will feel moved to take those first full steps in faith. As Pentecost reminds us, extraordinary things can happen when only a handful are open to what God can do. Chances are most of us were part of a handful of nervous people stood at the front of Church when we were Confirmed (I know I was) and it only takes a handful to change the world forever. Bishop Norman will be back next year; if in the meantime you feel either called or moved to consider Confirmation (no matter how tentatively) then please to drop me a line – I'll be mightily relieved to hear from you!

Fr Edward

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EDENHAM REGIONAL HOUSE

The house remains open for visitors for days of quiet and guided reflection, despite building work taking place. All are welcome to spend time alone, in the stable chapel or a quiet room, or in the summer house, or with a group of people for prayer and bible study, or even a secular meeting, for up to 30 people. Do call to discuss your requirements and we will do our best to accommodate your needs. A simple lunch can be provided, and special diets can be catered for. The suggested charge is £8 for a day, which includes unlimited tea or coffee, or £16 if you would like lunch. You may pay more or less, depending on your income or inclination. The house has a group of Friends who meet to discuss fund raising, and do voluntary work at the house. A reminder that the Eucharist takes place in the Stable Chapel every Friday at noon, and is followed by a bring and share lunch, which is a very social occasion when you can meet up and chat with Christians of all traditions. If you would like more information, call Father Ed or Peter Knight at the office 01778 591358 or email edenhamoffice@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you very soon!

Swinstead News

Flower Rota

30 Jun - 7 Jul Isobel Skerritt
14 - 21 Jul Pat Wright
28 Jul - 4 Aug Grace Strutt
11 - 18 Aug Jan Andrews
25 Aug- 1 Sept Sylvia Rice- Oxley

Garden Fete at Swinstead Hall by kind permission of Mr and Mrs N Ridley. It is being held on 21 Jul starting at 2.30pm

Harvest Festival on 4 Oct, Service in church at 6pm. Supper in village Hall 7pm

Bingo 8 Jul and 12 Aug at 7.30pm

Coffee Mornings - 3, 17 and 31 Jul at 10.30am - 12 noon. Tea / Coffee and cakes - £2.00 - All Welcome

Village Bingo Night - Saturday 20 Jul - Eyes Down at 7.30 pm

Village Hall Fete and Games - Saturday 4 Aug from 12 noon onwards - free entry

Afternoon Tea from 4pm - Tickets £5

Licensed Bar - 7.30pm to 11.00pm

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Sunday 14th July 2019

2-6pm

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105 years ago this month

(From entries made by the Rev L H Cooley into the Parish Magazine—reproduced by kind permission of The Witham on the Hill Historical Society)

July 1914

Collections for the Stamford

Infirmary. - The house-to-house collections were very kindly made by Mrs. Hill in Witham and Manthorpe, and by Miss Lee in Toft and Lound. The amounts are:- Witham £3/4/0, Manthorpe 11/4, Toft-cum-Lound 15/9. Total for the parish £4/11/7, which is an increase of 30/- upon last

year's amount.

We beg to thank the subscribers most heartily for their increased support of this deserving cause, especially this year when the calls upon us all are so numerous.

Stamford Red Cross Motor Ambulance. - A house-house collection in aid of the above has been made in Witham, and the handsome sum of £8/16/4 has been realized, and has been sent by Mrs. Fenwick to the Mayoress of Stamford.

The Lincolnshire Hut at Netley. - This hospital is entirely supported by the monthly contributions from Lincolnshire villages. We collect here about 14/- per month. A few



additional monthly subscribers of 6d. or 1/- would be most welcome. Lady Ancaster (Grimsthorpe) appeals also this month for towels and socks as the articles most required at present at the Front.

Overseas Club Penny Fund. - A sum of 19/- has recently been collected and given by the schoolchildren towards this fund, which despatches gifts and comforts for the troops abroad.

Postcards are enclosed in the parcels, to enable recipients to send their thanks to the donors.

British schoolchildren contributed to the war effort in ways other than designing and painting fund raising

postcards. For example, a few weeks before Christmas 1915, the 'Overseas Club' launched an appeal aimed at the children of Britain. It invited each of them to take at least one penny to school, where their teachers would set up collection points. The money collected would go to providing parcels of tobacco and cigarettes and other comforts, "so that everyone of our brave soldiers and sailors will be happy on Christmas day." said a publicity leaflet. The appeal was a great success and each child was given a colourful certificate bearing his/her name – to show that they had contributed to the 'Penny Fund'.



2019 VEG & PRODUCE SHOW

EDENHAM VILLAGE HALL

Get a head start on your entries for this year's Veg and Produce show! Edenham Village Hall, Saturday 7th September, open to all those who live in the Three Towers parishes, as well as relatives and pupils of Edenham School.

Section A – Flowers (Grown by the exhibitor for at least 2 months)

1. One rose (any variety)
2. Vase of six roses (any variety)
3. Vase of mixed flowers cut from open border (any variety)
4. Tallest Sunflower (judged on premises)
5. Flowering pot plant
6. Vase of five dahlias
7. Vase of five chrysanthemums
8. Vase of sweet peas
9. Foliage pot plant
10. Hanging basket (judged on premises)
11. Cactus

Section B – Decorative (Completed in the last 12 months)

12. Arrangement of flowers (not to exceed 24" overall)
13. Wreath
14. Button hole used for a wedding (man or woman)
15. A collage of leaves or fruits (maximum size A4)
16. A flower or foliage arrangement in an unusual container
17. Arrangement of flowers, fruit or vegetable not to exceed 12" overall
18. Arrangement of garden materials (no purchased blooms)
19. One vegetable and one bloom (open to any interpretation)

20. Greenery arrangement not to exceed 18" overall

Section C – Fruit and Vegetables (Grown by the exhibitor for at least two months)

21. Box of mixed vegetables (maximum box size 18" x 12")
22. Cucumber
23. Three potatoes any colour
24. Three quality carrots with 3" tops
25. Pepper (any variety)
26. Three onion sets
27. One large onion
28. Three greenhouse tomatoes
29. Three pods of runner beans
30. Unusual shaped, or sized, fruit or veg
31. Pair of marrows, courgettes, squash or pumpkins
32. Five shallots
33. Three beetroot
34. Tied bunch of three herbs
35. Three dessert apples
36. Three cooking apples
37. Bowl of dessert fruit

Section D – Homemade (Completed in the last 12 months, wrapped in Clingfilm)

38. Homemade beverage (alcoholic or non-alcoholic)
39. Jar of curd any flavour (must have cellophane top)
40. Jar of jam any flavour (must have cellophane top)
41. Jar of marmalade any variety (must have cellophane top)
42. Jar of chutney any variety (must have cellophane top)
43. Jar of piccalilli (must have cellophane top)
44. Victoria Sponge (jam filled, sprinkled with castor sugar)
45. Six squares of flapjack
46. Showstopper (baked item with WOW)



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factor)

47. Four fruit scones
48. One rich fruit cake
49. Savoury quiche in foil container
50. Apple pie in foil container
51. Loaf of bread
52. Decorated chocolate cake
53. Bake off cake (see under Section H)
54. Five pieces of Shortbread
55. Five decorated cupcakes
56. Lemon tray bake
57. Six sausage rolls

Section E – Handicrafts (Completed in the last 12 months)

58. Drawing or Painting (oil or watercolour)
59. Sewing machine item
60. Wood crafted item
61. Hand knitted item
62. Item of patchwork
63. Wind chime
64. Article of embroidery or cross stitch
65. Crocheted item
66. Upcycled / recycled item
67. Item of paper craft

Section F – Children Under 7 years (key stage 1)

68. Item of cookery
69. Vegetable model
70. Colouring competition (See sheet attached or speak to Show Secretary)
71. Photograph of an animal
72. Miniature garden (maximum size 12" x 18". Traditional or modern. Be creative!)
73. Home grown fruit, flower or vegetable
74. Item of handicraft (e.g. cross stitch, sewing, knitting, crochet)

Section F - Children 7 – 15 years (key stage 2 and 3)

75. Item of cookery
76. Vegetable model
77. Colouring competition (See sheet

attached or speak to Show Secretary)

78. Photograph of an animal
79. Miniature garden (maximum size 12" x 18". Traditional or modern. Be creative!)
80. Home grown fruit, flower or vegetable
81. Item of handicraft (e.g. cross stitch, sewing, knitting, crochet)

Section G – Photography (Taken within the last 12 months with the exception of class 82) (Maximum size of photo 7" x 5")

82. Recreated photo (include old and new photo – see rules for example)
83. Squares
84. A landscape
85. A Historic Building
86. Animal/s

Section H – Disaster

87. Planned entry that ended in disaster

Section D – Homemade

Class 53. Bake off cake recipe

Marrow & Pecan cake with maple icing
Prep: 25 mins | Cook: 1 hr, 20 mins

250ml sunflower oil, plus extra for greasing
300g self-raising flour
2 tsp mixed spice
½ tsp baking powder
250g light soft brown sugar
4 large eggs
finely grated zest and juice 1 orange
300g marrow flesh, coarsely grated and squeezed of any liquid
200g pecan

For the icing
50g butter, softened
250g cream cheese
4tbsp maple syrup

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An exhibition of ceramics and found objects by **Mirella Bandini**
opens on Wednesday 17th July and runs to 14th August



Mirella is an emerging artist working primarily in ceramics, often coupled with or inspired by found objects. She has an inherent love of old rusty metal, gnarled wood, wire and cotton thread, and these elements weave their way into her pieces. She follows an intuitive process of making – a communion between clay and the human hand. She explores the spontaneity and surprise of random and unique finishes over which she has little to no control. Her pieces are frequently figurative in nature with a deeply emotive quality. They are often bound physically or contextually to a specific place. This connection to place and emotion strives to create a continuum between mind, space and object. Her landscape architectural education and South African upbringing emerge as generators in her work and contribute to its underlying emotive qualities.

Meet the artist at the gallery on Saturday 20th July 2.00 - 4.00pm

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Witham on the Hill WI - June 2019

We were so grateful to Adrian Childs who stepped in at very short notice, as unfortunately our planned speaker was ill. Adrian told us all about his military flying career which started in 1964 at Cranwell having spent his childhood on RAF bases. He was selected to fly fast jets. He started flying Jet Provosts then progressed to Hunters and then Lightnings. During his career, he had been posted to Anglesey, Devon, Scotland, Cyprus and Canada. He told us tales of how he blocked the runway at Nicosia after an emergency landing and had to be pushed off the runway by 30 people. There was also a time when he had a fault in his regulator and became hypoxic while flying. Luckily, because of all his training he recognised the symptoms. Adrian showed several videos demonstrating the speed at which manoeuvres are made, making us appreciate the skill the pilots have as the planes go from 0-200mile/hour in 12 seconds, and can land at 170miles/hour. In the selection of photos there was a lovely one his brother had taken of Adrian flying in his plane – it was taken from another plane as his brother was also in the RAF. On retirement from the RAF, Adrian volunteered to pass his enthusiasm on to young people as a member of the Air Experience Flight at RAF Wyton. He did this until he reached the RAF's compulsory "stop flying" age. A vote of thanks was given by Jane Clark.

June Dandridge told us about a visit to the Japanese garden at North Clifton. It sounded like such a beautiful place to visit. There was also some hilarity as our WI President ended up in the kitchen helping with the washing up! Raffle winner was Ann Burbidge. The competition was flower of the month Vicky Cox won, Lou Blaes came 2nd and Dorothy Stewart 3rd.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 2nd July is a joint meeting with Carlby WI. Ashley Baxter's talk is titled "From Peterborough to St Petersburg". The meeting will be held at Witham on the Hill Parish Hall at 7.30pm. All visitors are sure of a warm welcome. For further information contact Secretary, Jane Clark 01778 590232

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Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council

Clerk's Notes 16 May 2019

Public Forum

- Concern was expressed about the age of the pads for the defibrillators – to be discussed in the meeting.
- The footpaths along Manthorpe & Toft had been cleaned, great improvement.
- Concern about the unfinished surface dressing at Toft-Lound Road – clerk reported that this was scheduled for early summer.
- Potholes/roadside breakup was still a problem

Chairman's opening remarks – Cllr Stephenson welcomed all those present & asked the clerk to explain about the co-option process.

Apologies – Cllrs Robert Reid

Declarations of Interest – None

Minutes of Parish Council - Matters Arising

Traffic Regulations Order – to write to LCC Highways after receiving responses from parishioners. **Action RS.**

Clerk has reported highways breakup to LCC Highways.

Highways

1. Filling potholes/roadside breakup still a concern around the parish. **Action Clerk/C.Cllr.**
2. Request for double white lines at Witham on the Hill Cross roads as concern about the junction onto the A6121. **Action Clerk/C.Cllr.**
3. Request for a zebra crossing from the entrance of Toft Hotel to Toft Golf Course. **Action Clerk/C.Cllr.**

Request that Cllr R Davies, Cabinet member for Highways and Rowan Smith, Highways Manager attend a Parish Council meeting. **Action Clerk/C.Cllr.**



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Planning Applications

S18/0576: Gate Cottage, Lound, erection of outbuilding. **Granted 11th April 2019**

S19/0217 Eden Lodge, Main Street, Manthorpe, Erection of a single storey rear extension. **Approved April 2019**

S19/0031 Chippenham House Wilsthorpe Road Manthorpe - Date Received: 7th January 2019 FIRST SCHEDULE Use/operations/other matter Lawful development certificate (proposed) for the erection of a single storey rear extension. **Agreed 03.05.19**

S18/1501 Amber House, Manthorpe – It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the local Ombudsman. **Action RS.**

Late-None.

Financial Report

Balances to date:

Income - Rents = £1002.50 collected & SKDC Cleaners grant = £426.90

Expenses = donations £2,275.00, maintenance of village = 310.00, annual subscriptions/insurance £559.64 = £3,144.64.

Current Account balance = £4,341.95, BIAA = £1,059.46, MMBS = £22,994.55, Petty Cash 0.52p = Total £28,396.48.

Insurance – The clerk had amended the policy to include the two new notice boards. The council was happy that the sum insured for street furniture was correct at £24,000.

It was agreed that Cllr Hartley would check the Asset Register. **Action RH**

Defibrillator Pads – It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Dawson that the Council would purchase:

2 sets of Adult pads costing £111.60 (including VAT) which had a shelf life of 5 years. Plus 2 sets of pads costing £30.00 (including VAT) shelf life of 2 years. **Action Clerk.**

It was also agreed that Cllr Renner would do an additional check of the

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defibrillators weekly (monthly checks to be continued by volunteers).

Payments:

1. Royal British Legion, Church, LIVES, Lincs Air Ambulance, Edenham & Willoughby Schools, St Barnabas Hospice @ £325.00 each
2. 2. BHIB Ltd Council Insurance £423.76
3. 3. R Harris Grass contractor x6 £210.00
4. 4. M Whitehead-playing field maintenance £100.00
5. 5. LALC-Annual sub £135.88
6. 6. St John Ambulance – defib pads adults £111.60/£30.00 each

Parish Property

Jasmine Cottage-Councillors were informed about the process to be put in place in the autumn for the commencement of a rent review. **Action JD/Clerk.**

Playing Field-It was proposed by Cllr Hartley & seconded by Cllr Stephenson that the Council purchase smaller goal posts/nets maximum of £200. **Action RH**

It was also agreed that the old equipment to be removed. **Action RH.**

Bus Shelters-Manthorpe/Toft & other council street furniture – obtaining quotations for maintenance had been difficult. **Action JD.**

Defibrillators - all accounted for & working. It was agreed that information should be placed inside the box with contact details of who to inform that the defibrillator had been returned. **Action RS.**

Marquees – It was agreed to sell the old marquees. **Action RH**

It was agreed that the Council would purchase 2 new marquees, same size etc., as previous to a maximum of £2,000. **Action RS**

Correspondence

1. LALC – March edition. Cllrs 20.03.19
2. SKDC – Parish update. Cllrs 209.03.19

3. Election details. Cllrs 20.03.19
4. European Parliamentary Elections Notice. Cllrs 15.04.19
5. Salvation Army – request to site clothes bank on land. Cllrs 15.04.19
6. SKDC Best Kept Village Comp, entries in by 7th May. Cllrs 15.04.19-no response
7. LALC-Clustering of Parish Councils. Cllrs 15.04.19
8. LCC -Annual Resilient Communities Conference Emergency Planning Service. Cllrs 30.04.19
9. LALC-Weekly updates. Cllrs 30.04.19
10. Letters from parishioners requesting new play equipment

Report from Outside Bodies

1. The Clerk reported on behalf of the County Councillor that the Reactive Speed sign, Witham on the Hill Cross Roads was working, the Lound Road, Toft , surfaced dressed completion early summer. The damaged bollards and missing sign at Toft are in the system. SK have cleaned Toft & Manthorpe
2. Cllr Benn introduced himself as the new District Councillor and gave a brief breakdown of the new District Council.

Any Other Business – items to be placed on next agenda

Village Party to be held on 6th July at the Playing Field, Manthorpe, to include Wheelbarrow Competition, afternoon tea, evening BBQ.

Date of Next Meeting – 20th June 2019 at 7.30 at Toft House Hotel.

A PILGRIMAGE JOURNEY

WALKING THE CAMINO PRIMITIVO INTO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA IN NORTHERN SPAIN



This is Jane Bradley's story of her amazing journey through Northern Spain on the Camino Primitivo (translated as the "Original Way"). It is a journey of discovery. Discovery about one's own inner strength, the beautiful, if tough, countryside and the history of all those who have undertaken this challenge through the ages.

One of 3 routes in the Northern Caminos network, Camino Primitivo competes with the Camino del Norte (Northern Way) and the Camino Ingles (English Way). Some 95% of walkers choose the easier del Norte and Ingles caminos. Only the hardy remaining 5% tackle the steep climbs and descents of the Camino Primitivo.

First walked by King Alfonso II of Spain in the 9th Century to commemorate the discovery of the remains of the apostle St James in Compostela a couple of years before, the Primitivo now sees roughly 1,200 pilgrims each year – Jane Bradley being one of those in 2019!

Jane's story:

I have just returned from the wonderful experience of walking the Camino Primitivo into Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain. Ever since Father Andy made his camino by bicycle from Edenham, I have it in mind to make a camino myself. Then 5 or 6 years ago, I noticed a company advertising the camino as a 2-week walk, with all accommodation booked and a bag to be

carried on to each night stop. I saved it on my iPad, reviewed it regularly but did nothing further. There are many recognised routes from various cities in France, southern Spain and Portugal. The Primitivo route has one of the longest histories with recorded pilgrimages from 827. It begins in Oviedo, passes through the Asturian mountains into Galicia and on to Santiago de Compostela – a total of 328 kilometres or 203 miles.

In October 2018, my husband, Des, and I moved out of our house on Home Farm after 30 years of farming to our retirement in a bungalow in Edenham. This was a big step, especially for Des who had moved to the farm with his own parents at the age of 11. In the new year of 2019, we began to make holiday plans – should we drive the North Coast 500 in Scotland that we had had to postpone the previous year? But suddenly, like a bolt, I realised that I had to make my camino – now. We could drive anytime but I had to walk while I still could.

I did not even want to wait until later in the year, in case my joints couldn't manage it. And I wanted to make a walk of thanksgiving at this turning point in our lives and a walk of discernment for what might come next. I booked the trip for immediately after Easter. That gave me almost 8 weeks to prepare.

I had a walking Lent, walking every day, increasing my distances, praying all the way. I wore out the soles of my boots and had to replace them with only 3 weeks to walk them in. I bought socks with individual toes, like gloves, soaked my feet in salt water, bought blister plasters, practised with walking poles and carrying my daypack, stocked up on nuts and dried fruit. Not only did I prepare myself, but I had to prepare Des, who was used to being looked after while he worked long hours on the farm. I had to teach him the dishwasher, the washing machine, the water softener – at least he could cook a bit but he didn't know where the Hoover lived.

At the end of April, after a prayerful and joyous Easter, my first confession and Bank Holiday Monday spent with all the family, I flew to Oviedo. I was a little anxious – I was on antibiotics after an emergency tooth extraction and

despite all the encouragement from my sons, after looking at my maps, one son sounded a little warning about the hills. My intention had always been to walk alone, at my own pace, with space for my own thoughts and prayers but whoever had heard of Oviedo? I was convinced that the plane would be full of little old ladies in walking boots, just like me!

It wasn't and we landed in sunshine but surrounded by snow-capped mountains. The next day, I explored the city, visited the cathedral and got my first stamp or compostela on my card. I had to collect these from cafes, shops, hostels along the way to prove my route, in order to apply for my certificate at the end. But I really just wanted to start walking.



The next morning, I was up before the hotel started serving breakfast. A cleaning lady made me tea and found some cake. She wanted me to take my suitcase with me. I could not make her understand that someone would collect it later. In the end, I just had to walk out and leave them both, her and the suitcase!

I followed the shiny gold scallop shells embedded in the pavement which led the way out of the city. These scallop shells, along with yellow arrows, are the markers for the whole route and never failed, even though some were unexpected and some a little mysterious. At the edge of the city, I spotted another walker heading purposefully into a housing estate so I just followed him. Fortunately, it turned out to be a short cut to avoid the railway station and we came back out on the way marked route again. Once in the countryside, the paths were lined with abundant wild flowers, the meadows



were full of cows and I walked to the sound of their bells, from one herd to the next. We passed numerous small chapels and churches, mostly locked but all still beautifully decorated with flowers inside. I did walk alone. I spoke to people in passing, walkers and locals, but there was no English spoken.

The following days followed a similar pattern of up early before it was light, a varying breakfast, walk for 6-7 hours with occasional breaks for nuts and water, arrive in a town and demand by signs and demonstration how to make my litre of English tea with *mucho mucho agua caliente* and *leche fria*. Depending on where I was staying, either a meal was provided at my accommodation or I found a pilgrim's menu – 3 courses with wine, water and bread for 10 Euros – often shared with other pilgrims.

One of the main challenges was the language. I can understand a little Spanish but only speak a few words. This part of Asturia is very rural, with no English spoken at all, not even by young people, very unlike more touristy parts of Spain. I did not converse with anyone properly for 4 or 5 days. My sister sent me a thought for the day each day and my brother exchanged some WhatsApps at the end of each day. Every couple of days, I telephoned Des, to make sure he was coping. But initially I couldn't share what I had done each day, with anyone. It was hard. And the way was getting harder

too – steeper, higher, long downhill stretches through forests on shaley paths – very hard on the knees.

I chose to take a steeper option on one day called the Hospitales route – a big climb and long walk along a ridge with spectacular views to either side. The Hospitales were the ruins of mediaeval resting stops run by monks for pilgrims. However, the early morning cloud never lifted, I walked the ridge from sign post to sign post in dense fog, nearly missed seeing the Hospitales and actually bumped into a wild Asturian mare with her foal – I think she was a surprised as I was!

After about 4 days, I began to see the same people enroute, starting out at the same time or finishing at the same place as me – a German lad and his school friend on their 2nd camino, a French man on his 6th week of walking and a giant Dutchman and his father who had walked countless caminos and never saw each other during the day but met up every evening. They could all speak a little English, so I finally had some people that I could swap notes with. They were all staying in hostels or albergues along the way; so, they had a certain race each day to secure a bed for the night.

At least I had a certain bed but I had to reach it each night, I could not decide to stop early if I was tired. And some days, I was very tired. Windmill topped hill top after windmill topped hill top, I never want to climb another, my knees cringe at the very thought even now. At the end of some days, always up hill, I just kept repeating the lines from the hymn ‘O Jesus, I have promised’ - O let me see thy footmarks and in them plant mine own – and thought of all the pilgrims who had planted their footprints before me. Sometimes, I just counted 10 steps, then 10 more. Only on one evening did I think that I might not be able to walk the next day but after a bath, a light supper and a good night’s sleep, amazingly I felt fine the next morning.

But the ways were very beautiful, sometimes up above the clouds, beside streams where often baths had been built for pilgrims to wash along the way. The cuckoo followed me the whole journey and became my call to prayer each morning. And swallows appeared on their journey from Africa and finally met me back at home.

I had one rest day in Lugo, a lovely small but perfectly walled Roman city, with nice shops and cafes. The weather was warm and sunny and, as it was a bank holiday, there were many families out together - making me feel rather homesick. I also found that my fellow pilgrims did not have a rest day and walked on without me. However, not long after, the Primitivo route joined in with the main Camino Frances at Melide where the route became less hilly, more populated, more pilgrims, more cafes and suddenly, it was downhill to Santiago.



Unfortunately, the weather deteriorated and the following few days were wet and windy. The final morning barely dawned it was so dark and wet. I set forth after breakfast, heading up a short hill to join a constant stream of other walkers and pilgrims marching across the top, except for 2 people waiting at the end of my road.

It was Max and his friend Fiona, the young people I had met up with repeatedly earlier in my walk and lost at Lugo. They had recognised my fluorescent vest and waited for me. We decided to walk the last day together. They encouraged me to stop for lunch with them to allow the weather to clear. Sure enough, as we paused at the Pilgrim Monument, the sun shone down on the cathedral in the distance and we dried off as we walked the final stretch, arriving into the square in front of the mighty cathedral in glorious sunshine.



What a spectacle that square is, in fact the whole town is a rare place – filled with weekenders, locals, holiday makers, coach tours, school trips of all ages, pilgrims, including those who kiss the ground on arrival, cyclists who swoop in as if finishing the Tour de France, groups who have to don matching tee-shirts for the final photos – all observed from the sidelines by tweedy Americans staying at the Parador Hotel. I sat, stunned, in the sun.

The cathedral is mostly closed for renovation but I could see the massive botafumeiro, the incense thurifer that requires 8 priests to swing it the length of the cathedral, within the scaffolding. Eventually, I also managed to track down the Portico of Glory, the door way used by thousands of pilgrims and the handprint formed in the marble column where all those pilgrims touched the column as they entered the cathedral. I wished I could have slipped my hand into that print too, but it is now safely preserved in the cathedral museum.



Much later, my friend Erica said ‘was I allowed to be proud of my achievement?’ I’m not sure but Fiona, aged 32, had spent 2 days on the bus when her knees gave out. I admit that I did 10km by taxi along a road that I should have walked, but it was a 34km day. I think I am a bit proud. The thanksgiving part was easy, singing praises to God every day was a privilege, I read all of the Psalms, but the discernment, I am still waiting for. As the nun after the English speaking pilgrims service said ‘Sometimes, we have to wait to be invited’.

Edenham CofE Primary School

A note from the Chair of the Local Governing Board

Dear all, after 9 years as a governor, with effect 19 June 2019, I decided to stand down both as Chair and a member of the Edenham CofE Primary School Governing Board. The last 9 years have been fulfilling. In particular, helping to steer the School through the disruptive times of late caused by the multiple changes of senior leadership was very interesting. I look forward to the new leadership taking the School to new heights and ensuring the best all-round education for our children.

I wish everyone connected with the School the very best for the future. Of course, my special thanks go to my fellow Governors for their hard work and outstanding support. Edenham School is extremely fortunate to have attracted such an enthusiastic and talented group of people who willingly give up their time to assist the School.

Best wishes,

Tom McWilliams

We can't quite believe another term came to an end already. It has been a very exciting Spring Term packed with lots of exciting events and learnings. The children have been busy cooking, going on village walks, carrying out R.E and Art projects, preparing for music and sports events and of course undertaking SATS. We hope you all had a fantastic and restful week off.

New Altar Cloth - We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Cox for designing and creating our new altar



cloth to be used in Collective Worship. I am sure you will agree it looks fantastic!

Parking - Polite Reminder Please can parents park considerately on the roads around school, avoiding the yellow zig zag lines and not blocking the drives along School Lane. You can use the village hall car park if required. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Morning Drop Off Just a reminder, the school gate opens at 8:30 am. Until this time Mrs Haddow and Mr Pasqualino will not be available to supervise children.

Rogation Walk - The whole school took part in our annual Rogation Walk on Thursday. It is always lovely to see the whole school taking part in activities such as these with the older children keeping the younger children going – our smaller legs did amazingly well to keep up! Thank you to Grimsthorpe for allowing us to congregate at the Estate, and letting our Eco Warriors explore and bug hunt.

Parental Support - We have recently had parents ask how they can get involved with school life and support us. There are many ways in which

this can be done, from giving up 10 minutes on a Friday to sell Freeze Pops, helping out with school events or coming in to school to read with children. If you are interested in becoming involved please speak to the office.

Warm Weather - Fingers crossed, when we return after half term the sun will be shining. Please ensure your child brings a hat and water bottle to school with them (named) and sun cream is applied before coming to school. If your child suffers from hay fever, we ask you to please administer any medication in the morning before school starts.

Snag Golf - As usual Class 4 will be taking part in 'Snag Golf' during the Summer Term. The golf pro (Darren Game) is running golf camp at Toft Golf Course during half term. If your child is interested, visit <https://ljga.co.uk> to book a place.

Thank you – Liz Porter wanted to pass on her heartfelt thanks for the lovely gifts she received from the parents.

Jane's seasonal recipe

With the soft summer fruit season fast approaching, what better than a raspberry cake?

Raspberry and almond cake

6oz sr flour

6oz caster sugar

6oz soft marga

6oz ground almonds

2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon baking powder

4 eggs

10oz raspberries (fresh or frozen)

Mix all ingredients, except raspberries, to a smooth batter - a soft dropping consistency (can be done in a food processor). Pour half the mix into an 8ins deep round lined or loose bottomed tin. Sprinkle half the raspberries over the mix, & cover with the rest of the batter. Lightly press the remaining raspberries into the top of the cake and bake for approx 80 mins at 165c until firm, & skewer comes out clean. Leave to cool in the tin for 10 mins. Turn onto wire rack to cool. Dust with icing sugar & cinnamon mix. Can be served warm or cold with raspberry sauce, cream or crème fraiche.

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PARISH SERVICES FOR JULY 2019

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
7 th July Trinity 3	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer (Grimsthorpe Castle)
14 th July Trinity 4			10.30am Group Service & Picnic (Grimsthorpe) 4pm Evening Prayer (Grimsthorpe)
21 st July Trinity 5	8.45am Parish Eucharist 2.30pm Church Fete (Swinstead Hall)	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer (Grimsthorpe)
28 th July Trinity 6	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evening Prayer (Grimsthorpe)

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