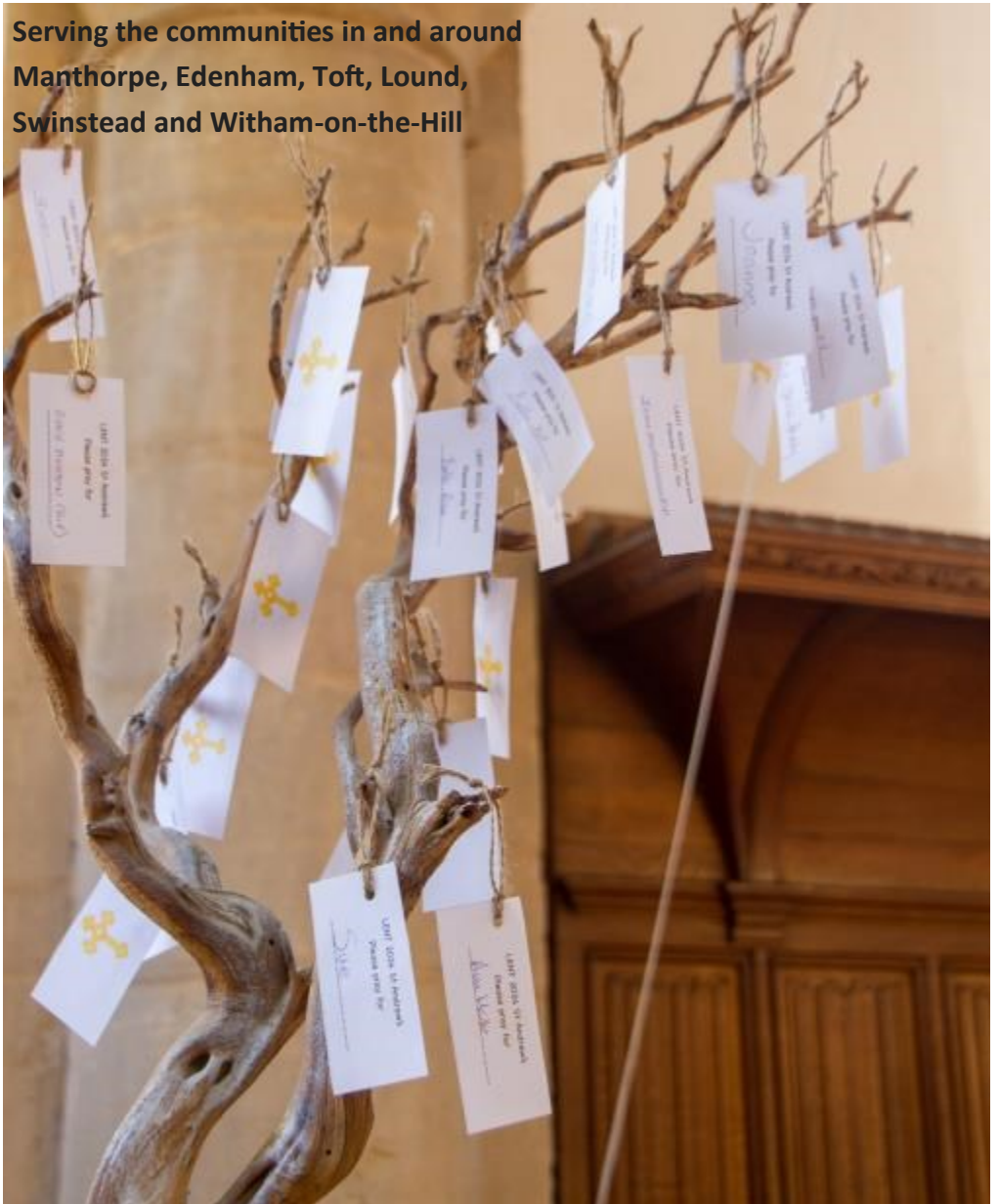


The Three Towers

May 2024

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Edenham & Grimsthorpe Parish Council

Vacancy for Parish Clerk/RFO Edenham

Vacancy: The Parish Council is seeking a person with an interest in the local community for the post of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Working hours: The post is part-time, working hours vary from week to week but average around 1.5 hour per week.

Skillset: Applicants should possess excellent administrative, organisational and IT skills, as well as a flexible approach to working and be prepared to work from home. The position requires attendance at Parish Council Meetings held bi-monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 7.30pm Edenham Village Hall.

Duties include:

Overall administration of the Parish Council's business – preparation of papers for Council Meetings, taking and production of accurate minutes, dealing with correspondence, monitoring Council's policies, advising Councillors regarding legal and good practice requirements and implementing Council decisions.

Maintenance of accurate and up-to-date financial records of the Parish Council, placing orders, preparing invoices for payment, receiving and banking income.

Preparation of the annual budget, completing the annual audit and liaising with internal and external auditors

Salary: The salary is in line with National Association of Local Councils (NALC) pay scales.

More info: For more information please contact the current Clerk. (see below) To apply for the position please send a letter with accompanying Curriculum Vitae by post or email.

Closing date for applications: Friday 17 May 2024 - the Parish Clerk, Mrs Carole Sands, 14 Scottlethorpe Road, Edenham, PE10 0LN - email: Edenham.pc@gmail.com

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Parish News

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED St Mary's Churchyard, Swinstead. Do you or your family have a grave in St Mary's churchyard? Do you love visiting churches and would like to give something back?

Due to ever rising costs, St Mary's PCC is looking for volunteers to mow the grass in the churchyard and keep the areas around the graves tidy. The church owns a mower and strimmer and will pay for the petrol for them. We hope that a few volunteers on a rota system will mean it is not onerous on any one individual. We'll need it cutting until the autumn.

If you can help or would like to discuss helping, please contact Sarah Roberts, PCC treasurer, 07760 468052, email roberts.sarahm@gmail.com

THANK YOU very much to everyone who contributed, helped and attended the Lent Food for Thought sessions and lunches - a lovely time of St Andrew's fellowship.

WITHAM ON THE HILL OPEN GARDENS CANCELLED due to insufficient number of volunteer gardens. It is hoped to try again in 2025.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK in your new home in Hastings to Elaine and Duncan Brock. You will both be greatly missed for all your voluntary work in Witham on the Hill.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 4 May - Swinstead Village Hall - Sausage & Cider Festival returns! Traditional Ciders, Grimsthorpe Venison and Grasmere Farm Specialty Sausages, and a great line up of live music. Tickets are now on sale £10 adults, £5 children (6 – 17 yrs.), Under 5's free. For both events prebook tickets at villagehallevts@gmail.com or call/WhatsApp msg 07805 659540 or alternatively, pop into Village Hall bar for your ticket.

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Wednesday 8 and 22 May – Swinstead Village Hall - Social Coffee Mornings. A great way to meet up with friends – new and old – held every other Wednesday from 10am. Beverage, Cake & Raffle for £3.00.

Sunday 12 May 3pm Cake, fizz and petanque on the Village Green, Witham on the Hill (in the Parish Hall for fizz and cake if inclement weather). Tickets £5 from Debra McMillan

Saturday 25 May 11am to 4pm - Greatford Mill Open Garden. Entrance £5 (children free). All proceeds go to charity.

Monday 3 June, 7pm - Witham on the Hill Parish Hall. Witham on the Hill Historical Society AGM. A meeting to wind up this local charity and decide on how to deal with archives and assets.

Thursday 6 June - Swinstead Village D-Day Beacon Lighting to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings. This commemorative event will allow the community to come together to pay respect to those who died during the Normandy Landings and remember the sacrifices of those who took part in the operation. **Beacon will be lit at 9.15pm** on the Village Green on Bourne Road. Feel free to join in on this special event and invite your family and friends. Raise a glass in the Village Hall Bar afterwards.

Saturday 8 June, Swinstead Village D-Day Memorial Street Party – A Street Party for all the Swinstead villagers to come together, dress up in 1940's fashion and enjoy some cake and bubbles. Feel free to BYO picnic and the Village Hall will provide tables, chairs and music. The Village Hall Bar will be opened throughout the afternoon and there will be road closure on Bourne Road. More details to come.

Saturday 15 June - save the date - St Peter's Singers return to Grimsthorpe. Programme details to be available from the beginning of May but there's definitely a nautical theme emerging! Tickets can be booked from 7th May from suelnicholls@hotmail.com.



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity



Greatford Mill

Greatford, PE9 4QA

Saturday 25 May
11am - 4pm

Adults £5 Children free



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The Vicar Writes

Mary's Month of May

Two young boys went to stay overnight with their grandparents. As they prepared for bed, they bid their grandmother goodnight and knelt to say their prayers (Grandma insisted!) in front of the picture of Mary and Jesus which hung on the wall in the spare bedroom.

In their prayers the boys asked God to protect their family and then one of them asked Mary, the Mother of Jesus, **VERY LOUDLY**, to help bring him a bicycle for his birthday later that year. His brother immediately told him to quieten down, "I'm sure Our Lord's Mother isn't deaf!" he complained. "I know", replied the older boy, "but Grandma certainly is!"

In the first chapter of St Luke's Gospel, the Blessed Virgin Mary pays a visit to her cousin Elizabeth who, despite her advanced years, is also expecting a child. Upon her arrival, Elizabeth describes Mary as being 'blessed'. Mary is blessed because she believed in the Lord's promise to send a Saviour and because she responded willingly when asked to play the central role in what was to follow. Elizabeth praises the Lord for the wonders he is doing 'in' and 'through' her cousin's humanity and through Mary's faithful response to his

call.

This episode reminds us that our prayer can also be one of praise for what God has done through Mary. In honouring Mary as the 'Mother of our Saviour', we acknowledge our common bond with her humanity and we draw strength from her example of faithful obedience but, more importantly, we also give thanks to God for the Christ that she is helping to bring forth.

Mary is a sister in our humanity, a companion in our faith and mother of the one who came to save us all. As such, she is not only someone who should inspire and encourage us but she is a constant reminder to us all that we all need to bear Christ to a waiting world, to bring him forth in our own hearts and lives.

Elizabeth honoured Mary because she recognised what God was doing in and through her. Perhaps we could do the same as we acknowledge the presence and potential of Christ in everyone we encounter. We might also consider making a pilgrimage to one of the various sites and places associated with Mary. On the 18th May there's the annual May Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Egmonton in Nottinghamshire (I went to school in nearby Tuxford) and the National Pilgrimage to Walsingham in Norfolk takes place on Monday 27th May. This



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month I'll be paying my first visit to Medjugorje, a village in Bosnia and Herzegovina which has had a strong association with Mary since the early 1980s (and through some very difficult times). It will be an opportunity for me to experience something new and different and, I hope, a chance to rest and pray. I look forward to telling you all about it in the June or summer edition of the Three Towers.

Fr Edward

Churchyard at Edenham

Some of you may be aware that cutting the churchyard grass at Edenham has become something of a practical and financial challenge. New financial pressures brought about by issues with the church building, rising costs and the need to apply an incremental increase to our yearly payments to the Diocese have put the PCC in a difficult situation. We need to pay at least £10,000 to the Diocese of Lincoln this year and the going rate for cutting the grass from April through to October could cost almost a fifth of that amount. It's not that the rates are unreasonable (far from it), it just means that a sizeable amount of the money we need to raise each year is given over to grass cutting.

We don't currently have a long-term solution but I've made a start on the churchyard this year (fifteen hours of my own time invested so far) and I'm appealing for help from those who may have family graves at Edenham. Firstly, we need to purchase a mower and strimmer (the church doesn't own either) and then I'd like to explore dividing the churchyard into manageable sections in the hope that folk might 'adopt a section' (perhaps where there's a family grave) and commit to helping keep the grass down as much as possible from Spring to Autumn.

Churchyards are a community asset but more often than not they're an asset that is managed (and financed) largely by the regular worshipping community that gathers on a Sunday. We need help (both financial and practical) and I'd like to encourage, if possible, a wider sense of community ownership. I don't have any relatives buried in the churchyard but I'm doing my best to try and honour those who are buried there by giving my time and energy to maintain it. If you'd like to help me, please drop me a line via edenhamoffice@gmail.com.

Many thanks,

Fr Ed



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Steam Action 48th Annual Produce Show

Saturday 7th Sept 2024 at Edenham Village Hall - 50p an entry!

Open to residents of Edenham, Swinstead & Witham Parish, relatives of those who live in Edenham Parish, eligible members of Steam Action, pupils of Edenham School, Grimsthorpe Castle Day nursery & Pillarwood Farm Pre-School

Friday 6th September

6-7pm – Please bring your entries to the hall

Saturday 10th September

8.30-10.30am - Please bring your entries to the hall

2pm - Viewing and refreshments

3pm - Presentation of trophies followed by

3.30pm - Auction of produce

Scottlethorpe38@gmail.com or telephone Amanda Treacy 01778 591252 for queries

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 Foliage pot plant
- 9 Hanging basket (judged on premises)
- 10 Cactus or Succulent

SECTION B – DECORATIVE (Completed in the last 12 months)

- 11 Arrangement of flowers (not to exceed 24" overall)
- 12 Button hole used for a wedding (man or woman)
- 13 Pressed flower (size A5)
- 14 A flower or foliage arrangement in an unusual container
- 15 Decorative door wreath (12" in diameter)
- 16 Decorative headdress
- 17 One vegetable and one bloom (open to any interpretation)
- 18 Greenery arrangement not to exceed 18" overall

SECTION C –FRUIT AND VEGETABLES (Grown by the exhibitor for at least two months)

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

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

- 36 Homemade beverage (alcoholic or non-alcoholic)
- 37 Jar of curd any flavour (must have cellophane top)
- 38 Jar of jam any flavour (must have cellophane top)
- 39 Jar of marmalade any variety (must have cellophane top)
- 40 Jar of chutney any variety (must have cellophane top)
- 41 Three scotch eggs
- 42 Victoria sponge (jam filled, sprinkled with castor sugar)
- 43 Victoria sponge baked by a man (jam filled, sprinkled with castor sugar)
- 44 Six squares of flapjack
- 45 Showstopper (baked item with WOW factor)
- 46 Four fruit scones
- 47 One rich fruit cake
- 48 Savoury quiche in foil container
- 49 Apple pie in foil container
- 50 Loaf of bread
- 51 Decorated chocolate cake

- 52 Chocolate Guinness “Bake off cake” (see recipe on last page)
- 53 Five pieces of shortbread
- 54 Five decorated cupcakes
- 55 Five pieces of lemon tray bake
- 56 Six sausage rolls

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

- 57 Drawing or Painting (oil or watercolour)
- 58 Sewing machine item
- 59 Wood crafted item
- 60 Hand knitted or crocheted item
- 61 Item of patchwork
- 62 Wind chime
- 63 Article of embroidery or cross stitch
- 64 Veg & Produce Show themed bunting flag (any material, triangle, A5 size)
- 65 Upcycled/recycled item (include the item origin and what it has transitioned into)
- 66 Item of paper craft

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

- 67 Item of cookery
- 68 Vegetable model
- 69 Drawing or painting of your home (A4 max)
- 70 Miniature Garden (maximum size 12” x 18”. Traditional or modern. Be creative!)
- 71 Home grown fruit, flower or vegetable
- 72 Veg & Produce Show themed bunting flag (any material, triangle, A5 size)

Section F - CHILDREN 7–15 years (key stage 2 - 4)

- 73 Item of cookery
- 74 Vegetable model
- 75 Drawing or painting of your home (A4 max)
- 76 Miniature Garden (maximum size 12” x 18”. Traditional or modern. Be creative!)
- 77 Home grown fruit, flower or vegetable
- 78 Veg & Produce Show themed bunting flag (any material, triangle, A5 size)

Section G – PHOTOGRAPHY (Taken after March 2020 with the exception of class 82)
(Maximum size of photo 7” x 5”)

- 79 Funny photo
- 80 Bridges
- 81 Sunrise or sunset

82 Farming

83 Circles

Section H – DISASTER

84 Planned entry that ended in disaster

Section D – HOMEMADE Class 52. Bake off cake recipe

Cake

275g plain flour

400g caster sugar

250g unsalted butter,

75g cocoa powder

250ml Guinness

150ml sour cream

2 large eggs

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

2.5 teaspoons bicarbonate of soda

Topping

300g cream cheese

150g icing sugar

2 teaspoons cornflour

125ml double cream or whipping cream



The poster features a central title 'Thurlby & Northorpe Repair Café & Book Exchange' with gear icons on either side. It is divided into several sections: 'What do you do with:' with a list of items; 'Bring it along to the Repair Café!' with a list of activities; 'Fancy a new book, magazine or jigsaw?' with a list of options; and 'Where and When?' with event details. There are also two photographs: one of a man working on a wooden board and another of two men working on a project.

**Thurlby & Northorpe
Repair Café
& Book Exchange**

What do you do with:

- A toaster that no longer pops up?
- A bicycle that needs a puncture repaired?
- A pair of garden shears that need a sharpen?

Bring it along to the Repair Café!

- Volunteers will repair your items for free
- Meet with others to share & learn
- Enjoy the tea, coffee and cakes on offer

Fancy a new book, magazine or jigsaw?

- Bring an old one and exchange for new
- Find yourself a new author, or one from an old favourite!

Where and When?

- Sunday 26th May 2024
- 2.00pm – 4.30pm
- Thurlby Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Thurlby, PE10 0EE (NEW LOCATION!!!)
- For more information email – thurlby.repair.cafe@gmail.com

The Toft Trig Point

Regular travellers around our area will be familiar with the narrow and pot-holed lane from Toft village to the junction with the Manthorpe to Thurlby road. On the right is the golf course, then farmland. On the left is a farmhouse, then more farmland. The verges either side of the lane are quite wide in places, bounded by tall hedges.

About halfway between the farmhouse and the junction with the Thurlby road another hedge goes off at right angles to the lane. On the Thurlby side of this hedge, about 200 yards from the lane is a concrete Ordnance Survey Trigonometrical Pillar, often called a trig point. Such an edifice is four-sided, four feet high, two feet square at the base tapering towards the flat top which holds a brass plate. Unless the hedge has been cut, only taller people can spot it by standing on tip-toe and peering over the top. Binoculars will be useful and a long telephoto lens will be needed for photography, which alas I do not have, hence the rather fuzzy photograph.

The building of trig points on high ground began in 1935 to assist the mapping of Great Britain by the Ordnance Survey. When all the trig points were in place, it was possible in clear weather to get a line-of-sight to at least two other trig points from any one trig point. Careful measurements of the angles between these lines-of-sight using an instrument called a theodolite then allowed the construction of a system of triangles which covered the entire country. This network of triangles originated from a





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precisely measured baseline five miles long on Hounslow Heath near London. Using trigonometry, the dimensions of the sides and angles of all the other triangles were calculated. The process was called triangulation and was used as the basis of the very accurate Ordnance Survey maps we have today.

The man responsible for the design of the concrete trig point, as well as the planning and implementation of the triangulation, was Brigadier Martin Hotine, head of the Trigonometrical and Levelling Division of the Ordnance Survey.

Most people's experience of trig points is on top of a high hill or mountain, in the upland areas of Great Britain. The pillar is often surrounded by exhausted walkers taking selfies and eating sandwiches, usually in thick fog or pouring rain. In the flatter areas of the country, they are rarer and must be sought out but are certainly easier to reach.

Originally about 6,500 trig points were built in the period between 1935 and 1962 but many have now been lost due to road building, housing development and farming. As far as I know, the Toft trig point is the only one in our area, although there is another one by the hedge on the narrow road from Pickworth in Rutland to the A1 southbound slip road. Trig points, sadly, are no longer used to construct OS maps, having been replaced by radar, laser measurement, aerial and satellite photography and the global positioning system (GPS). However, trig points are still marked on OS maps by a small triangle and are very useful navigation beacons for climbers, hillwalkers, mountain bikers and other such energetic people. The height of the trig point above sea level in metres is marked alongside its symbol. The Toft trig point is marked as 58 metres which is 190 feet in English.

I cannot even suggest that a visit will be particularly enlightening. There is nothing much to see; it is after all just a four foot concrete pillar. Just a small reminder of the history of map-making and an interesting part of our local history.

Dick Mundy

WITHAM HALL

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Witham on the Hill WI

April 2024

The speaker Dorothy Wood explained that she was not a milliner. Her passion is fabrics and threads.

Although not a wearer of hats, she decided to make one for her niece's wedding and attended a 3-day course at Wolverhampton. She wasn't happy with the result and has never worn it.

For a friend's wedding she made a hat with matching bag which had a very large brim that hid her face. For her daughter's wedding she made a smaller pretty blue hat and for her son's wedding she made a pretty lilac fascinator.

Dorothy then showed us how to make a hat – stretching sinamay fabric over a wooden block, painting it with stiffener then leaving to dry. The crown is treated in the same way. Nylon wire is stitched to strengthen the brim and petersham is stitched on. The hat can be decorated with sinamay flowers. Fascinators can be made by attaching feathers to a comb or headband – much simpler than a hat.

It can take a week to make a hat, so it is very time consuming and expensive to run a business, which she decided against doing. She likes to move on to new things and hasn't made any more hats.

The winner of the competition was Vicky Cox, with a hat she had made at a WI workshop. A reminder to members that the glass fusion workshop by Claire Hart is on Friday 26 April at 10am in the parish hall and that there are a few spare places.

The outing to the Priest's House in Easton on the Hill will be on Friday 17 May.

The next general meeting will be on Tuesday 7 May at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, when Penny Wainwright will give a talk on Lincolnshire Women in Aviation. New members and visitors are always most welcome. For further information, contact Jane Clark tel 01778 590232.

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Duende

Paintings Drawings and Prints

Phil Bowman



The exhibition includes works inspired by Andalusia. Phil's work bridges the areas of figuration and abstraction, working from both observation and the imagination. His paintings usually feature heightened colour whilst the figure drawings capture some sense of movement and line.

Drawings Etc.

Images using pencil, ink and acrylic

Alison Atkins



A long time ago Alison trained as a graphic designer so composition, texture and colour are really important to her. She likes to work alone at her kitchen table where the light is good and there are no distractions.

www.willoughbygallery.com



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WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL CHURCH AND SCHOOL ESTATE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Witham-on-the-Hill Church and School Estate Educational Foundation is able to make grants to those residents of Witham-on-the-Hill, Manthorpe, Toft and Lound who are undertaking courses at colleges and universities and also those who are on apprenticeship schemes.

Applications for educational grants can be made by submitting a request via email. The request should explain the type and duration of your course and how you would propose to use the grant during your studies.

Applications to:

The Clerk to the Trustees

Email: withamtrust@gmail.com

Jane's Seasonal Recipe

This is my variation on a recipe from bbcgoodfood.com. It is made in a slow cooker so is handy if you have to go out. I make it on Sunday before I go to Church, then finish it when I get back, so it is ready an hour later.

Slow cooked chicken pasta

*100g sliced chorizo
4 chicken thighs
2 tablespoons red chilli pesto
6 sun dried tomatoes
1 teaspoon dried basil
750ml hot chicken stock
300g dried penne pasta
150g spinach
150ml double cream
grated parmesan*

Heat the chorizo in a pan over a medium heat. Add chicken and brown for 5 mins. Put chorizo, chicken, chopped sundried tomatoes, basil and 150ml chicken stock into slow cooker. Mix well. Cook on high for 2 ½ hours. Add the pasta and remaining stock, cook for 1 hour, stirring well after 30 mins. Try to keep the pasta submerged so that it cooks properly. Stir in the spinach, which will wilt, then stir in the cream. Serve sprinkled with parmesan.

Serves 4

PARISH SERVICES FOR MAY 2024

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
5 th May Easter 6 / Rogation	3pm Meet at Little Bytham Church for Rogation Walk to Edenham (includes Prayers of Reparation at the site of Vaudey Abbey)	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 5pm(ish) BYO Tea (hot drinks provided) followed by said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm
9 th May Ascension			7pm Sung Eucharist
12 th May Easter 7	8.45am Parish Eucharist	10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)
19 th May Pentecost		10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)
26 th May Trinity Sunday		10am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)

For Baptisms, Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Confessions or any other pastoral or spiritual need contact:

Vicar: The Revd Fr Edward Martin SSC 01778 591358 - Edward.Martin@lincoln.anglican.org