

The Three Towers

October 2024

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

Photo by Ella Johnson



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Parish News

Village Road Safety Concern - One Young Resident's View

At the most recent Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council meeting, one of Manthorpe's younger residents, 9-year-old Jack Whitaker, most eloquently expressed his concerns over the speed of traffic through the village. Jack told the meeting he felt that he could not go to the park on his own as he felt unsafe crossing the road and using the footpath because too many vehicles were travelling too fast and that large heavy and wide lorries and tractors mount the verge and footpath rather than slowing down.



Jack's concerns were positively received by councillors, who described actions already underway. They also advised Jack that they have for many years been asking LCC Highways to impose a Traffic Restriction Order on the road through Manthorpe to restrict access to heavy vehicles. Sadly, despite repeated requests, as yet, no action has been taken by Highways.

CONGRATULATIONS to Katherine Applegarth, (eldest daughter of Richard and the late Helen Applegarth) and Michael Delaney on their wedding at St Michael's Church, Edenham on 3 August. Wishing them every happiness in their life together.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jack Owen Dean and Jodie Flatters on their wedding at St Michael's Church, Edenham on 24 August. Wishing them every happiness in their life together.

WELCOME to Charlie, Jenny and daughters at KayFen, and to John and Claire at Bay Cottage, Witham on the Hill. We hope you will all be very happy in our community.

CONDOLENCES to Peter Smith, family, friends and neighbours on the loss of Vivien Smith of Witham on the Hill.

EDENHAM CHURCH FETE Thank you to everyone for all their hard work and

Our Wonderful World



Willoughby Gallery
2nd - 23rd October

Be inspired by the talent and skill of the Stamford Stitchers at an exhibition of embroidery, needle craft and textile art.



Open Tuesday to Sunday, 12 noon to 5pm at the Willoughby Gallery - Corby Glen, Lincs. NG33 4NL (W3W: definite.lotteries.unsigned).
FREE admission, some items for sale. Check www.willoughbygallery.com or Stamford Stitchers on Facebook for more information.

donations for the fete. The attendance was low, but the weather stayed dry for much of the afternoon. The delicious home-made teas were very popular. A total of £655.51 was raised for Church funds.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE There should be a leaflet in this magazine explaining how to fill a shoe box with gifts for children in war torn areas or countries suffering natural disasters. The shoe boxes can be taken to certain places between 11 and 18 November. Witham on the Hill WI is planning to have an afternoon filling shoe boxes at Witham Hall School on Tuesday 22 October at 2.30pm and you are welcome to join us. Please bring along items such as soap, flannels, toothbrushes, combs, pencils, note books, small toys, socks, caps etc. No sweets, liquids, toothpaste nor war related items. Thank you for your generous donations. For further information contact Jane Clark 01778 590232.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 5 October 7pm - Edenham Village Hall Quiz Night. See advert on page 10 for details.

Saturday 5 October 9.30am to 12.30pm - St Mary's, Swinstead, Churchyard - End of Year Tidy. Please join us in the churchyard to make it all ready for the winter. All are welcome - the more the merrier! We will be working on the hedges and trees and any weeding. There will be hot drinks and cake available and it will be a chance to meet and thank the fabulous volunteers who have been working very hard to keep the area tidy.

Friday 4 October to Sunday 6 October - Corby Glen Sheep Fair. See advert on page 11 for details.

Saturday 5 October - St Andrew's Church, Thornhaugh, PE8 6HL. An Evening of Song by St Peter's Singers with a programme of beautiful choral music, including works by Mendelssohn, Clara Schumann and Fauré. Tickets £12 from Sue Nicholls 07913 296247 or on the door.

Saturday 12th October – Swinstead Village Hall - 12 Hours Charity Darts Marathon - 10am to 10pm. Come along throughout the day and night to support the dart players & make a small donation for the Air Ambulance Charity. Cakes and refreshments available to buy and bar open in the

' Lets Play Darts! '

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GAME ON!

**#letsplaydarts
#swinsteaddarts**



**SIDE
BY
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evening. See advert on page 6 for details.

Saturday 19 October, 10am-12 noon Macmillan Coffee Morning, St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. Donations for the raffle gratefully received.

Friday 8 November, 8pm - Swinstead Low Noise Family Fireworks Display. See advert on page 8 for details

Wednesday 9 and 23 October – Swinstead Village Hall Social Coffee Mornings from 10am. The fortnightly Wednesday Coffee Mornings are fundamental for our community and are, as ever, a great success - feel free to pop in and enjoy a cuppa and cake. Beverage, cake and raffle for £3.00

Saturday 23 November, 8.30am to 10am - Big Breakfast, St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. The organisers are struggling with helpers and would be grateful for willing volunteers to go on the rota. If you are able to help, please contact Frances Plummer.

Tuesday 17 December, 6.30pm - Edenham - Carol Singing around the Christmas tree in the field near the traffic lights.

Drinking

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Swinstead Village Hall
Committee presents

Low Noise Family Fireworks Display



8pm Friday 8th November

Opp Village Hall on The Green
Bourne Road – Swinstead

By kind permission of Mr Nigel Hawkins



Village Hall Bar
open from 7pm

Hot Dogs £2
Chilli Dogs £3



FREE EVENT – EVERYONE WELCOME

LINCOLNSHIRE CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED RIDE AND STRIDE 2024

On a glorious autumn morning with fluffy clouds scudding across the sky in a gentle breeze, Bob and I set off from Witham on the Hill at 1015 and cycled down the hill to Manthorpe, with our first stop at St Faith's Church in Wilsthorpe. There were plenty of chocolate biscuits to choose from and a book stall too, so we decided to call on the way back to buy some.

The article about the stone effigy near the altar, made interesting reading – apparently Pevsner thought it a 16th century fake but a more recent report from 2002 disputes this, saying it is 13th century. It is a stone model of a knight in chain mail and armour, complete with dagger, sword and shield. One of his feet is missing, possibly damaged during Henry VIII's time.

We met a couple, from Greatford, who were walking to Stamford across fields. We cycled on to St Margaret's Church at Braceborough and before we left the couple arrived! On to St Thomas's at Greatford, where we were greeted by Lois who offered drink and chocolate biscuits! The couple arrived again - they must walk very fast or else we cycle very slowly!

Next stop St Martin's at Barholm, only a short distance, where we were met by Carol and a friend who offered more chocolate biscuits. The couple weren't far behind us and said they would be following us to Uffington. We had a good look around St Michael's Church at Uffington, as it is many years since we last visited it. A very large grand Church – we particularly liked the memorial on the wall to the fallen in the wars with a wonderful coloured image of St George. We sat in the Churchyard and enjoyed our sandwiches, and before we left, we were joined by the couple again. Worrying about them having to walk back once they got to Stamford, they informed us that they had left a car there!

Then we headed for home back towards Essendine to Greatford and

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Saturday
5th October 2024

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RAFFLE TO BE HELD ON THE NIGHT

Braceborough, before returning to Wilsthorpe to purchase some books.

The countryside looked glorious – golden fields harvested, trees still in green leaf and birds twittering. We saw a small egret on the “flooded” field at Wilsthorpe. What better way to spend a sunny Saturday than cycling around our beautiful Lincolnshire?

We will admit to pushing our bikes up Witham hill (can't deny it - we were seen!) and I had to push it the rest of the way too as my chain came off. Got home at 3.45 after a very enjoyable day. Well done to Father Ed, cycling 90 miles – no way could we do that! Thanks to all our generous sponsors - once collected we will have raised about £250, half to the Lincolnshire Churches Trust and half to St Andrew's Witham on the Hill.

Jane Clark



***It's SHEEP FAIR time
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Friday... Beer Festival in the Fighting Cocks pub.

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Sunday... lots of market stalls throughout the village, great food offerings, live music on the Market Place stage, Morris Dancers, Classic Cars and a Fun Fair all weekend!

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Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe Parish Council Report

October 2024

At the Parish Council meeting of Toft cum Lound & Manthorpe in August a resident suggested that the speed limit in Manthorpe should be reduced to 20 mph as they felt that vehicles of all shapes & sizes were speeding above the national limit. Cllr Hartley informed those present that Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership would be doing an assessment of speed in the near future which would then help the Council to make a decision. Cllr Brett reported that the council could order more 30 mph passive speed signs, if required, but encouraged residents to use the bin stickers and make sure that the signs faced the right way.

Cllr Renner reported that after it had rained water was still going along the side of the road at Toft.

Cllr Renner agreed to take on the responsibility for the defibrillators, Cllr Hartley had repaired the roof at the bus stop at Witham on the Hill cross-roads, the annual inspection of the play equipment had been completed & noticeboards had been painted.

It was agreed that the clerk would purchase fireworks for 5th November and Simon Lawton had kindly agreed to be responsible for the event.

It was agreed that councillors would like to arrange a site meeting with the Environment Agency to discuss how the agency would support the parish in the future in-regards to flooding issue and maintenance of the rivers.

The next council meeting to be held at Witham on the Hill Parish Hall on Wednesday 2nd October starting at 7pm, all welcome.

Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, Clerk to the Council



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The Vicar Writes

I've been on something of a nostalgia trip for the past few weeks. This, among other things, is largely the fault my daughter Jessica. She kindly bought me an audio book via Audible called 'A Fabulous Creation' by writer and music journalist David Hepworth (the chap who was interviewing Bob Geldof during Live Aid when he asked for your money in no uncertain terms). The fabulous creation that Hepworth is waxing lyrical about is none other than the twelve inch long-playing record. From 1967 (the year of Sergeant Pepper) to 1982 (the year of Michael Jackson's Thriller) the format, scale, opportunities and limitations of the LP dominated music until the pre-recorded cassette began to outsell vinyl records, closely followed by the Compact Disc from the mid 80's onwards.

Having greedily consumed 'A Fabulous Creation' I then moved onto another Hepworth book 'Uncommon People: The Rise and Fall of the Rock Stars 1955-1994'. What's interesting here is that, however much we might admire or revile the phenomenon of music stardom, we need to remember that the whole thing is largely our fault! We were the architects of their downfall!

It was, of course, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and various other 1960s pop groups who inspired the creation of the celebrity mania that continues to this day. From interviews and archive footage it's clear to see that many of the fans who attended concerts spent less time listening to the music and more time screaming at the sight of their idols. I think it was Paul McCartney who complained that he was regularly jostled, bruised and scratched by over-enthusiastic followers as they tried to touch him. Some fans wanted to be as close as possible to their heroes and heroines but their unrestrained admiration ended up causing pain rather than feelings of love or admiration. That was why the Beatles gave up touring and retreated to the studio (back to 1967 again...).

Jesus would have recognised something of the urgency expressed by the 1960s teenage crowds. In chapter six of St Luke's Gospel, we hear that he was surrounded by huge crowds of people who merely wanted to touch him. That was it. All they wanted to do was to touch him. The difference was that those who pressed around Jesus did so because they primarily saw him as a healer – someone who could cure their ills. Their attitude wasn't necessarily one of faith or admiration for Jesus and his claim to be the Son of God. Indeed, many

people went out of their way to avoid Jesus precisely because they recognised his message and divinity. They knew that accepting him as Messiah would require change and charity on their part – something they weren't willing to countenance. However, most wanted healing for their sickness and infirmity, viewing Jesus as the means to that end. In that sense he became for them not a person or an opportunity but merely a 'thing'.

Everybody deserves dignity and respect. We risk abusing people if we see them as tools or stepping stones to fulfilling our own hopes, needs or desires. If I see another person purely as a means to an end, I will never truly love that person. There's a big difference between saying, "I love you because I need you" and "I need you because I love you." Things are there to be used, but the example of Jesus reminds us that people are here to be loved.

God has no need of us and yet he loves us even to point of sending his Son to die for us. Regardless of our love, fidelity or lack of any regard for him whatsoever, God loves us still. We are his 'fabulous creation' and nothing will turn his loving gaze from us. Being reminded of the joy of the vinyl LP has caused me to look back over my record collection with renewed interest and affection. Perhaps being reminded of God's unending love might provoke a similar reaction in you?

Fr Edward

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Registers of Vicars

Among the spiritual and architectural splendours of a parish church is a small and often ignored attraction. Intentionally placed quite close to the entrance door, inviting examination from the more curious visitor, is the register of the rectors or vicars of the parish. It can be a fascinating document as the entries may go back centuries and contain useful clues as to when the church was founded and hint at some of its history.

Sadly, not all churches display such registers. Even when present, the detail is often disappointingly sketchy and only the name of the incumbent and the year of his appointment are given. But at Bourne Abbey church, the register of Abbots and Vicars is beautifully written in gold on an oak plaque, as is the register of Rectors at All Saints, Pickworth in Rutland, an otherwise small and rather plain church.

In other churches the register is on a framed piece of paper under glass containing considerable detail. Such is the case at Barholm, Tickencote, and Uffington where much information is given on the rector and the patron in some entries.

Usually, a register is in tabular form, and the meaning of the columns for date of appointment and name of the incumbent are obvious. Most contain a



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column for the “patron” who holds a legal right to nominate an incumbent for the church to the bishop of the diocese. This right is called an *advowson*. The patron can be of a high status, the King, a college, or another Christian body. The person who originally founded, built or endowed the church is often the first patron. The *advowson* can descend to the patron's heirs and might be bought and sold like any other property. A college might thus buy the *advowsons* of lucrative benefices in order to provide positions for its future Fellows.

Many churches, according to their registers, had a monastery or priory as their first patron. Many pious medieval patrons chose to grant their church to a monastic house, particularly in the 12th century, when there was a surge of disapproval of churches in private hands. Not necessarily a local abbey, for Edenham it was the Augustinian Priory of Bridlington, for Stamford St Johns the Priory of St. Fromund, a monastery near Virc in Normandy, for Uffington the Prior and Convent of Belvoir.

The monastery thereby became the rector, appointing a vicar, or clerical deputy, to carry out parochial duties. A monastery as rector would generally collect the “*greater tithes*”, those of grain, hay or timber for its own use, while the vicar had the “*lesser tithes*” of wool and milk from animals and produce from fishing and milling. A *tithe* was usually one tenth of the annual production of cultivation and farming of the parish.

After the dissolution of the monasteries by King Henry VIII in about 1538, the *advowsons* formerly held by monastic houses were sold, creating many lay rectors. When Bourne Abbey was dissolved in 1536, the church was retained as the parish church. Thus the register (pictured) reveals this history showing Abbots from 1138 in the left column and Vicars from 1534 in the right column.

I remember talking to the Rev Andy Hawes some years ago when he told me the appointment of the Vicar of Edenham is in the gift of the Lords of

Grimsthorpe Castle. Entries in the register confirm this information:

“In 1130 William de Gaunt gave Edenham Church to the Augustinian Priory of Bridlington. The parish was served continuously by Augustinian Canons until 1539”. And later: “In 1539 the Priory was dissolved and the Parish granted to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk and Katherine, Baroness Willoughby”.

From such a small item there is a surprising volume of information that can be gleaned from these registers. The founding of the church, the influence of the religious disputes in the civil war, incumbents deprived of their living and often the reason, the links of a small parish church to the King or the great families of the realm. So, when next visiting a church, have a look for the register, it may turn out to be very rewarding.

Dick Mundy



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Parish Council of Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Elsthorpe and Scottlethorpe

Notes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting: 10 September 2024

Present: Parish Councillors: Mrs P Cranfield (Chairman), Mr A Wilson, Mr D Hawes (Vice Chairman), Mrs M Marshall. **In Attendance:** Mrs Carole Sands (Parish Clerk). **Apologies:** Mrs M Avis & Mrs A Treacy. (There were no members of the public).

Parish Councillor Vacancy: The Parish Council is looking to co-opt a member to the Council. Please contact the Parish Clerk for more details. Email address - Edenham.pc@gmail.com

Councillor Email Addresses: Agreed to purchase a domain at a cost of £10.

Flooding Main Street Edenham: No update.

Parking Coal Yard: Agreed with Grimsthorpe & Drummond Castle Trust to implement a semi-permanent solution rather than using moveable stones.

Play Area Information: Agreed that a full site inspection should be undertaken on 16 September to formulate a plan to action the points raised in the annual ROSPA inspection report (August 2024).

Drains Along A151: A report confirms that the majority of the drains along the A151 from Copy Lawn Farm to Scottlethorpe Road junction are full of debris. The Parish Clerk to contact LCC on how LCC will resolve this issue.

Parish Council Christmas Carol Event - 17 December: A local resident advised that the landlady of the Five Bells would be willing to hold the annual carol singing event. However, it was agreed not to change the format or location in order to keep its identity as a Parish Council event.

Parish Council Costs & Salaries: Parish Clerk raised the HMRC rules for Home Working and changes to minimum wages. The Parish Clerk to confirm costs at the next meeting.

Village Hall Lease: No update.

Planning Matters: S24/1353 Grimsthorpe Castle Estate Ltd, Conversion of cycle store to a farm shop. The Parish Council does not propose to comment.

Financial Matters: Receipts: Nothing to report. **Expenditure:** (Paid July & August as agreed at the meeting on 9th July 2024) - Play Area Refurbishment: Final 50% cost: £2035.18. The total invoice for £4070.37 has now been paid.

Expenditure to be agreed at this meeting: Annual Inspection Play Area: ROSPA £93.60; Parish Council Admin Costs: (Folders, plastic wallets) £6.20; HMRC PAYE & Salaries 2nd Qtr estimated £422.66; Internal Audit fee (Half year) estimated £100; Parish Council Admin (plastic boxes) estimated £15. Bank Reconciliation Report (to 10 September 2024): Treasurer's Account: £3,531.39; Business Account: £495.66

Parish Council Policies & Procedures: The Parish Clerk to publish the following documents on the Parish Council website: Complaints Procedure; Social Media Policy; Social Media and electronic Policy; Data Protection Policy

Next Meeting: 12 November 2024, 7:30pm at Edenham Village Hall.

Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Scottlethorpe & Elsthorpe Parish Council Councillor Casual Vacancy

There is a Casual Vacancy for a new member. Therefore if any parishioner is interested in becoming involved in Local Government, they should contact the Parish Clerk for further information/details of a members role etc.

Please contact the Clerk by Friday 8th November 2024.

Parish Clerk:

Mrs Carole Sands e-mail: edenham.pc@gmail.com

Parish Council Meetings: Are usually held on the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, November at 19:30 hours in the Village Hall, Church Lane, Edenham.

Witham on the Hill WI

September 2024

Jane E James began her talk saying she has lived in Essendine for 5 years, with her 2 cats. In London she did a diploma in film writing. She wrote her first book in 2014, “The Butcher’s Daughter”, which began as a screen play. She took 2 years to write a book at first but honed her skills and now writes much quicker as her circumstances changed, she needed to earn money!

She has a day job as office manager for Riverford in Peterborough. Jane tends to use familiar localities – her latest book is set in Ryhall, another in Hunstanton, one in South Wales (where she grew up) and some in Stamford. She gets ideas from many sources – she dreamt her daughter married her ex, which was developed into “The Son-In-Law”.

She started by self-publishing but that can be daunting for a beginner. An agent is not essential, though an Editor is important to check for mistakes and consistency. Also good marketing is important. An American company has bought the film rights for “The Crying Boy” so she hopes a film may happen, though it will be set in UK. She plans to retire from her

day job in 2 years, so that she can spend her days writing (she currently writes in the early hours of the morning) Members asked lots of questions and were fascinated by her books.

There are plans for a litter pick on Sunday 13 October as part of the Climate Coalition Day of Action and an afternoon assembling shoe boxes of gifts for the Samaritan’s Purse charity on Tuesday 22 October at 2.30pm in the sports hall at Witham Hall School. All are welcome.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1 October at 7.30om in St Andrew’s Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill, when the speaker will be Horace Liberty with a look at Liberty’s of London, founded by Arthur Liberty in 1875. Visitors and new members are always very welcome. For more information contact Jane Clark, Secretary, telephone 01778 590232.

Seasonal Recipe

This is a wonderful accompaniment to a Sunday roast. It is our most favourite parsnip dish, though this year has been a poor season for parsnips – not many of the seeds germinated, despite several interval sowings!

Parsnip, Potato & Gruyere Bake

1 lb Potatoes

8 oz Parsnips

4 oz Gruyere

7 fl oz Crème fraiche

5 fl oz Double Cream

Thinly slice potatoes and parsnips. Layer in an oven proof dish. Scatter over grated Gruyere. Mix crème fraiche and double cream. Season with black pepper and pour over the potatoes. Bake 180°C for 1 ½ - 2 hours until golden and the potatoes are tender.

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

PARISH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2024

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham	Stamford
6 th October <i>Trinity 19</i>		9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)	11.15am Parish Mass (Harvest)
13 th October <i>Trinity 20</i>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist (Harvest) <i>followed by lunch</i> 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)	11.15am Parish Mass
17 th October <i>Eve of St Luke</i>		6.30pm Eucharist with prayers for healing		
20 th October <i>Trinity 21</i>		9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)	11.15am Parish Mass
27 th October <i>Dedication Festival</i>		9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist 4pm Evensong (Stable Chapel)	11.15am Parish Mass
3 rd November <i>All Saints Sunday</i>		9.30am Parish Eucharist 4pm All Souls Service	11.15am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Mass

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