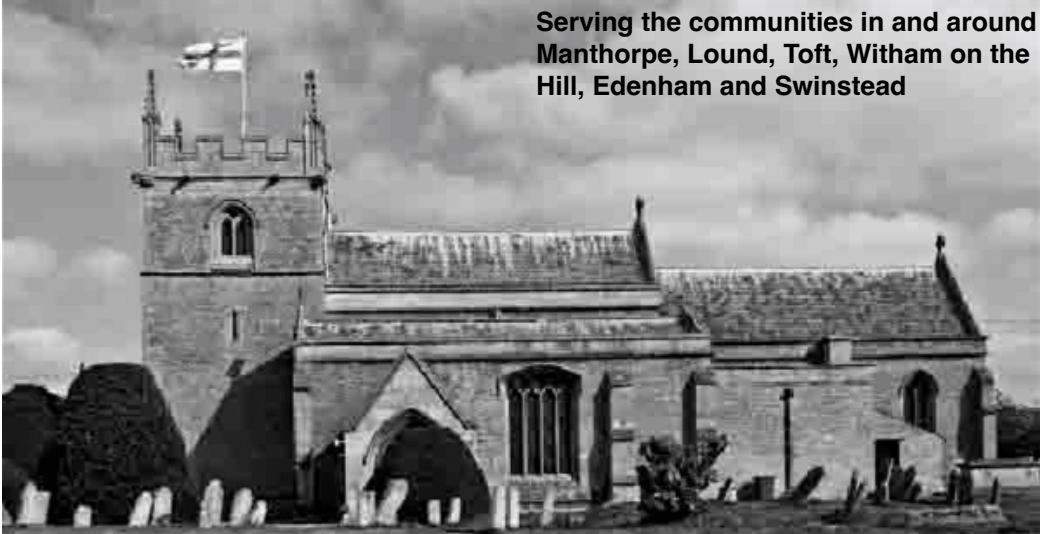


# THE THREE TOWERS

June 2026



## Farm Shop



We now sell fruit & veg

**Opening times:**  
**Monday: 9am till 5pm**  
**Tuesday: 9am till 5pm**  
**Wednesday 9am till 5 pm**  
**Thursday: 9am till 5pm**  
**Friday: 9am till 5pm**  
**Saturday: 9am till 5pm**  
**Sunday 10am till 4pm**

**Red Tractor Farm Assured**  
**All from our farm**

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**& Jacob Lamb**

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[www.clarityhomecare.co.uk/spalding](http://www.clarityhomecare.co.uk/spalding)

**01775 567 089**

# Help with Heating Oil Costs

Funding has been made available through Lincolnshire County Council's Crisis and Resilience Fund to help residents with the rising cost of heating oil.

Currently, Lincolnshire County Council has heating oil vouchers worth £300 each that are available for eligible Lincolnshire households who rely on heating oil as their main source of heating and hot water.

This support is specifically for heating oil costs only.

Households may be eligible if they:

- Have a household income below £36,000
- Have savings under £6,000
- Use heating oil as their primary heating source
- Are at immediate risk of losing access to heating or hot water

Many rural households across Lincolnshire remain heavily dependent on heating oil and can face significant financial pressure during periods of increased energy costs. Lincolnshire County Council is keen to ensure this support reaches as many eligible residents as possible, particularly those who may be isolated or less likely to access support online.

As such, in addition to the online application below, telephone support is available for residents who need assistance completing the process by calling our designated number 01529 572575.

Applications can be completed online, [www.lincolnshirecf.co.uk/crf](http://www.lincolnshirecf.co.uk/crf)

Kind regards,

Claire Edwards  
Communications, Marketing and Grantmaker

Please note that we have moved offices, our address from 13 March 2026 is Glennys Sanders House, Pride Parkway, Sleaford, NG34 8GL



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Contact: Debbie

Tel: 01780 481356 Mobile: 07716 719329 Email: [debswelton@yahoo.com](mailto:debswelton@yahoo.com)

# Parish News

**Swinstead Village Hall and Bar** would like to give a huge shout out to Benedict McGorty of **Sanctum Spaces Grantham**, who offered their services to revamp the wooden flooring in the Village Hall Bar. Back in the day, Benedict's father ran a furniture business in the old abattoir, thus he has a real love for our village and was more than pleased to help. Meantime drop by the Bar for a refreshment, open Friday & Saturday evenings, and see the gorgeous flooring for yourself.

**Congratulations** to Rob and Anna of Lings Farm Cottage, Witham on the Hill who were married at Burghley on 18 April. Wishing you a lifetime of happiness.

**Baptism** baby Lillia-Mae Anita James-Newman at St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill on 3 May.

**Welcome** Dionn, Steve and Onyx to East Green, Witham on the Hill. We hope you will be very happy here.

## Dates for your Diary

**Swinstead Village Hall Bar - Spring/Summer Opening Hours - Every Friday & Saturday 7pm to Close.** Pool table, table tennis and dart board with electronic score board, along with a great mix of board games, playing cards and background music to keep you entertained. The volunteer bar staff will be sure to greet you with a nice cold beverage, or you may like to try on-tap beers, Tiger, Amstel and Moretti (*subject to change*). For all other information on upcoming events or to book the hall for an event or party, please visit [www.swinsteadvillagehall.com](http://www.swinsteadvillagehall.com)

**Wednesday 3 and 17 June from 10.30am to 12pm - Swinstead Village Hall Social Coffee Mornings.** Come and meet some new friends and enjoy some company, accompanied with coffee, tea, scones, cakes and bakes, and a chance to win a prize with one free raffle ticket, all for £3.00.

**Saturday 27 June, 2pm, St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill - Charity Tea & Bingo** on behalf of OCD UK. See **page 17** for details.

**Thursday 2 July, 7pm, Glen House, Manthorpe - Swift Awareness Week.**  
See article on **pages 22 and 23.**

**Saturday 25 July, 3pm – Edenham Vicarage Garden Fete.** Please make a note in your diary. If you can help run one of our lovely garden games that no other fete has, that would be very helpful. If you have any unwanted gifts, we can use them on the tombola or for raffle prizes so hold on to them. Don't worry about the weather either because we can cope with anything, last year we were throwing dice and beanbags down the aisle in church while it poured with rain! If you can help, please contact Ruth Atter - 01778 591328. If no answer, please leave a message and Ruth will get back to you.

**Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council-sponsored Garden in a Wheelbarrow Competition.** See below for details.

**Saturday 5 Sept, Edenham Village Hall - Steam Action 50th Produce Show.** See pages 13 to 16 for the full schedule.

## Wheelbarrow Competition 2026 for Manthorpe, Toft & Lound Residents



**Theme is**  
**“Commonwealth Games”**

**Prizes to be won for the best**  
**Wheelbarrow**

**Adults : 1<sup>st</sup> £25 : 2<sup>nd</sup> place £15**

**Children £10**

**Exhibit your barrow at the end of your driveway**

**Entries will be judged end of July**

**Any questions ring Alison on 01778 590347**

# In Celebration of Listed Buildings

One thing we are quite good at in this country is protecting and preserving our ancient monuments, old buildings, historic sites, bridges, cathedrals, castles and churches. But this happy situation was not always the case. In fact, it is only recently that strong, legally binding protections have been put in place.

By the mid-19th century, much of Britain's heritage was being slowly destroyed. Tourists were chipping bits off Stonehenge or carving their initials into the megaliths. The owners of the ancient monuments at Avebury and Silbury Hill planned to have them cleared away to make room for housing. The 15th century Tattershall Castle in Lincolnshire was sold to an American who promptly tore out the medieval fireplaces. Construction of the railways in Victorian times damaged sites such as Berwick and Northampton Castles, as well as the ancient walls of York, Chester and Newcastle.

However, a few heroes came to the fore. In 1872 John Lubbock, an MP and botanist, bought Avebury and Silbury Hill in Wiltshire to prevent the owners from selling them off. The former viceroy of India, Lord Curzon, stepped in to buy back Tattershall castle. He rescued and reinstalled the fireplaces and restored the castle. In 1847 the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust was formed by a local act of Parliament to prevent the sale of the Stratford property to American showman P. T. Barnum.

John Lubbock's actions led to the Ancient Monuments Protection Act 1882. But the legislation was regarded by some as a grave assault on the individual property rights of the owner. The act was extended in 1900 to protect a wider range of buildings. In 1908 The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) was established to document ancient monuments and buildings and to identify those most worthy of preservation. The most significant changes took place after the end of the Second World War. The Town and

Country Planning Act of 1947 began the system of listing buildings and structures of architectural or historical importance, with dire penalties for any alteration or demolition.

The 1983 National Heritage Act established English Heritage, a government agency with a broad remit to run the national system of heritage protection and to manage state-owned historic properties. On 1 April 2015, English Heritage was divided into two parts: Historic England inherited statutory protection functions including the listing of buildings and to maintain the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), and English Heritage Trust, a charity that manages the historic properties and took on the English Heritage name and logo. Historic England has listed almost 380,000 historic properties in England and each one is graded according to its level of importance. Only 2.5% are grade I, 5.8% grade II\*, the remaining 91.7% grade II. All are entered on the NHLE.

Listed Building status is only given to above ground structures. Archaeological sites entitled to legal protection are entered on a schedule and are thus called scheduled ancient monuments. There are almost 20,000 entries for scheduled monuments on the NHLE. Only deliberately created structures, features and remains can be scheduled. Monuments on the schedule include prehistoric standing stones, burial mounds, castles, monasteries, abandoned farmsteads and villages.

The NHLE is organised and is searchable by County Parish (CP) (which often consists of more than one village) within District within County e.g. Witham on the Hill in South Kesteven in Lincolnshire. An entry includes an Overview with photographs and a map, and the Official Listing



War memorial at St Andrew's  
Witham on the Hill

containing a detailed description.



Witham Stocks

Locally, we are well-served with listed buildings. Witham on the Hill has 12 including St. Andrew's Church, the War Memorial in the churchyard, the old stocks, the Six Bells pub and the telephone box. They are all listed grade II apart from the Church which is listed grade I. The official listing for the War Memorial says: "Former cross now a War Memorial. C14, converted c.1919. Ashlar and sandstone. 3 sandstone steps support the C14

square base with stopped angles, into which is fitted a contemporary square chamfered shaft. From this rises a C20 tapering octagonal shaft with crucifixus".

In Edenham with Grimsthorpe and Scottlethorpe there are 49 listed buildings including Grimsthorpe Castle and St. Michael's Church both grade I, the gate piers of the church, Elm Terrace on the Scottlethorpe Road and the phone box on the main road all grade II. The listing for the gate piers reads "Pair of



Gate piers at St Michael's, Edenham

gate piers. Mid C19. Ashlar. Square gate piers with chamfered plinths and angles rising to pyramidal copings having gablettes on the 4 sides. To the front are deeply sunk lancets". The listing for Elm Terrace states "Former terrace of 12 estate workers' houses, now terrace of 6, circa 1880, altered C20".

In Swinstead there are 32 listed buildings, which, from the list, appear to be mostly private houses. Also, Grimsthorpe Castle and St. Mary's Church both grade I, Swinstead village cross is scheduled, and another phone box listed grade II. The entry for Grimsthorpe Castle appears to refer to the park and not to the house. For the village cross the official listing reads "Village cross, Scheduled Ancient Monument No. 144, C14. Ashlar. Octagonal plan. Cross shaft and square base stand on chamfered plinth and 2 octagonal steps. The shaft rises via stop chamfers and is about 4'0" high".

In Toft with Lound and Manthorpe CP there are five, all listed grade II. Toft has two: the bridge over the River East Glen and the cottage to its west. Lound has one: Manor Farm House. Manthorpe has two: the bridge, and to the south of Manthorpe, Bowthorpe Park Farm House. For the bridge at Manthorpe the official listing reads: "Road bridge.



1813, repaired C20. Squared limestone rubble with ashlar dressings. Single span elliptical arch, with rounded keystone. Above an oval panel bearing the date 1813 in raised letters. Rounded coped parapet is ramped up to the centre and splayed at the ends".

For all these and far more we must thank the foresight of the more enlightened of our forebears. The likes of John Lubbock and Lord Curzon whose efforts helped give England the enviable position of prominence in the preservation of our visible history. Although you may need an architectural glossary to interpret the official listings of these old buildings, it is far easier, and very rewarding, just to take a short drive to visit and admire them.

Dick Mundy

# THE VICAR WRITES

What does it mean to be human? It's an age-old question. Sometimes we label or caricature others as being 'inhuman' so that we don't have to think of them as being like us or to avoid the idea that, if circumstances were different, we could ever end up like them. So, we end up creating a definition of being human that reflects the way we like to think of ourselves (and one which excludes those people whose actions make us face up our own potential for destructive behaviour).

Some of our most serious ethical debates tackle the question of the nature of humanity. We can value human life so highly that we end up ignoring the good of other forms of life or we can value it so little that we can justify the deaths of thousands of innocent people for an, apparently, greater good. Humanity still has the potential to cultivate a bright and equitable future for all, or it can turn away from its responsibility to care for the entirety of God's creation and simply bury its head in the sand. Whichever way you view it, working out what it means to be human in our modern world really is a complicated business.

Back in May we celebrated the Solemnity of the Ascension, a day when we truly celebrate what it means to be human. Jesus rose from the dead as a fully human person, recognisable as the same person as he was before but also different. The difference was that mortality was no longer a concern for him. Having died once, Jesus would never die again. His resurrected body state was intended for eternity ('fit for heaven' we might say, to quote Away in a Manger). However, though the disciples rejoiced at having him back with them, it soon became clear that Jesus couldn't stay with them indefinitely. Soon, Jesus would have to return to the state of being that he (Jesus) enjoyed with the Father, before he took flesh in the Incarnation and stepped into the risky, everyday world of human existence.

Our celebration of the Ascension is important for our understanding of the developing relationship between humanity and eternity. The account of Jesus, disappearing up into Heaven tells us that, when Jesus the man returned to God, humanity became a part of God in eternity. Jesus didn't stop being human when he returned to the Father. All that he was, all that we are, was taken up into the nature of God. We may wonder what it means for human beings to be made in the image of God. Human beings are, and always will be, God's creation (God's children) but the Ascension casts us in a different light; now humanity is also a part of God. That means that, on the one hand, we now share God's love and regard for the world he has created but it also means that all our struggles and weaknesses are part of the reality of God's consciousness

all our struggles and weaknesses are part of the reality of God's consciousness and agenda.

As you might imagine, all this has huge ramifications. If humanity is, literally, a part of God, then we're no longer entitled to deny the humanity of any of God's children (no matter what their situation or circumstances might be). That means we must take difficult ethical questions concerning life and death extremely seriously, because they concern the humanity that God has received and taken into himself. Our future is truly bound-up with God's future and when that happens, the possibilities and responsibilities grow exponentially. It's a daunting prospect but it reinforces the notion that we are in this together with each other and with God!

God is neither distant nor unconcerned by the real concerns of everyday people, nor is he content to leave them as they are to fend for themselves. For, having received the humanity of Jesus into the Godhead, God now looks to send the Holy Spirit to his people at Pentecost, to pour out upon the Church the one who will help us to recall the teachings of Jesus and to bear witness to the eternal future that God promises to all who trust in him. It's now up to us, with the Spirit working in and through us, to declare to the world the Good News of Christ's victory over sin and death and the putting-off of mortality in favour of eternity. As people, we are no longer limited to three-score and ten, nor are we doomed to repeat the endless destructive cycles of thought and behaviour that have brought about so much misery and injustice to the world. No, the future for us remains bright and full of hope, stretching out from here into the joy and promise of eternity. In fact, one might say that for humanity, as for Jesus, the sky is now the limit!

Fr Edward

## **Witham on the Hill WI May 2026**

Members discussed the resolutions to go forward to the National Annual meeting. Jane Clark presented the one concerning lack of public toilet facilities and encouraged members to lobby local councils to take part in the scheme for businesses to allow access to their toilets. Sue Brotherhood presented action for women's homelessness and encouraged members to support homeless charities. A majority of members voted in favour of both resolutions.

The speaker, Peter Hinton, JP, explained he was in the RAF and was involved in Courts Martial. Then spent 8 years in Local Government in Leicestershire. He explained the system of Criminal and Civil Courts. 95% of cases are dealt with

# Steam Action 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Produce Show

Saturday 5 Sept 2026 at Edenham Village Hall - 50p an entry!

Open to residents of Edenham, Swinstead, Witham, Manthorpe, Toft and Lound, relatives of those who live in Edenham Parish, eligible members of Steam Action, pupils of Edenham School, Grimsthorpe Castle Day nursery and Pillarwood Farm Pre-School and all those who receive a copy of The Three Towers magazine.

## Friday 4 September

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

## Saturday 5 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](mailto:Scottlethorpe38@gmail.com) or telephone Amanda Treacy 07984427799 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 / tub (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 Six cheese straws (any size)
- 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 Lemon Meringue Pie
- 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 to celebrate 50 years
- 52 Tea Loaf “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 Hand knitted or crocheted toy
- 60 Hand knitted or crocheted garment
- 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 Self portrait (any media) (A4 max)
- 70 Miniature outdoor scene (fits in a shoe box)
- 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 Self portrait (any media) (A4 max)

- 76 Miniature outdoor scene (fits in a shoe box)
- 77 Home grown fruit, flower or vegetable
- 78 Veg & Produce Show themed bunting flag (any material, triangle, A5 size)

SECTION G – PHOTOGRAPHY (taken within the last 12 months)

(Maximum size of photo 7" x 5")

- 79 Funny photo
- 80 Flowers
- 81 Sunrise or sunset
- 82 Farming
- 83 Squares

SECTION H – DISASTER

- 84 Planned entry that ended in disaster

SECTION D – HOMEMADE Class 52. Bake off cake recipe

**Cake**

- 300 ml strong black tea
- 375g mixed dried fruits
- 200g light soft brown sugar
- 275g self raising flour
- 2 medium eggs
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tsp mixed spice

in the magistrates' court, with usually a bench of 3 magistrates and a legal adviser. There are 12,000 magistrates in the country, 57% are ladies and 81% are aged over 50. Magistrates are not paid but get lunch expenses. On one occasion as a sole magistrate, Peter dealt with 126 cases! 70% of cases are motoring offences.

Magistrates can issue arrest warrants and house searches. They order fines, community service or short prison sentences. An offender can opt for trial by jury. More serious offences which could incur harsher sentences go to Crown Court. Technology and CCTV in the current era are helpful for clarifying the offence and establishing guilt. Drugs and alcohol account for almost 50% of all crime. The talk was interspersed with various humorous tales of his personal experiences. Deirdre Dunne gave the vote of thanks for a very informative talk.

The next WI meeting will be on Tuesday 2 June at 7.30pm on the village green with games and a bring-and-share supper. If weather is inclement, it will be board games in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill. Visitors and new members are always very welcome; entry fee £5. For more information contact Jane Clark, Secretary: tel 01778 590232.



## Raising Funds for OCD-UK

&

**a-SISTERHOOD**  
helping women worldwide  
#empowering #supporting #protecting

## Cream Tea & Bingo Charity Event

**On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June Time 2pm**

**Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill Bourne PE10 OJH**

**Tickets £12.50**

**Cream Tea, Scone, Jam & Cream**

**4 rounds of Bingo for Prizes**

**Contact : Alison Whitehead 01778 590347 to purchase your ticket  
or email on [alison.whitehead45@btinternet.com](mailto:alison.whitehead45@btinternet.com) for more details**

**Raffle Tickets on the day £1 per strip**

# 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 apprentice 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](mailto:withamtrust@gmail.com)



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# **Edenham, Grimsthorpe, Scottlethorpe and Elsthorpe**

## **Notes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting 5 May 2026**

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Mrs P Cranfield (Chairman), Mr A Wilson, Mr D Hawes (Vice Chairman) Mrs A Treacy, and Mrs E Unwin.

**In Attendance:** Mrs Carole Sands (Parish Clerk).

**Public Open Forum:** As there were no members of the public present at the meeting, the Chairman closed the open forum.

**National & District Council Updates:** Not in attendance

**Election of Officers:** Councillor Mrs P Cranfield was appointed Chairman and Councillor Mr D Hawes was appointed Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms were signed.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Mrs M Avis

**Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting 10 March 2026 were approved.

**Request for Dispensation:** None requested

**Declaration of Interest:** Councillor Mr A Wilson agenda item relating to the village hall.

**Parish Clerk & Councillors Update from Previous meeting:**

**Councillor Vacancy:** The position continues to be advertised on the Parish Council website, notice boards and in the Three Towers magazine.

**Community Street Cleaner Position:** The Parish Clerk confirmed that only one application was received. The applicant was successful. The Parish Clerk will set up employee HMRC PAYE for salary payments and issue the letter of confirmation of employment.

**New Parish Council Matters:**

**Zurich insurance:** The quote for this financial year 2026/2027 was accepted. Annual payment is due 1 June 2026.

**Play Area:** Internal Inspection report and photographs were sent out prior to the meeting to all councillors. It was decided to leave the equipment in place for the time being with a full review planned during the July Parish Council meeting.

**Financial Matters:** The accounts and bank statements were checked and



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signed by Councillor Mr A Wilson.

SKDC Precept **£3,400.00**; VAT Refund (FY 2025/26) **£53.25**

### **Financial Matters:**

LALC membership fees **£113.86** (payment agreed in March Meeting);  
Lloyd's bank account fee **£12.75** (April, May & June £4.25 per month); Zurich  
Insurance (due 1 June 2026) **£423.1**; Internal Auditor Fee (FY 2025/26) **£100**;  
Salary and HMRC PAYE (Qtr1 June 2026 estimated) **£404.56**; Parish Council  
admin: **£21.09** (inc VAT)

**Financial Matters:** The accounts, invoices and bank statements were checked  
by Councillor Mr A Wilson and signed as an accurate record.

Community Account **£ 6,187.09**; Business Savings Account **£ 501.75**

**Annual Accounts/Internal Audit:** The parish clerk circulated the internal audit  
report to the Council members prior to the meeting.

**AGAR Exemption Certificate, AGAR Section 1 Governance Statement for  
approval, AGAR Section 2 Accounting Statements for approval:** all  
documents were completed, appropriately signed and dated.

**Correspondence:** Various had been forwarded to the Parish Councillors prior  
to this meeting. No further discussions were required on any of the items.

**Next Meeting Date: 14 July 2026**

## **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  
member's role etc.

**Parish Clerk:** Mrs Carole Sands e-mail: [edenham.pc@gmail.com](mailto:edenham.pc@gmail.com)

# MANTHORPE & TOFT SWIFT GROUP

Manthorpe is very lucky to have these majestic summer visitors, arriving late April, to then leave at the end of August. They are an amazing bird. Living for 10 months of the year entirely on the wing. But they are falling in numbers at a rapid rate, putting them on the UK Red List of Conservation Concern, with UK numbers plummeting by 68% between 1995 and 2023. Modern building practices being the main reason, with loss of nesting sites in older building roofs.

But we can help them. Since starting with just 1 nest box at Glen House in 2022, the interest in the Manthorpe swift colony has grown considerably. Our Parish Council bought 10 swift nest boxes in 2025, with the vision to help encourage the conservation and spread over our Parish, of our dwindling number of birds. These nest boxes were installed before the first arrivals on the 30 April. Meaning there's now a total of 18 boxes within Manthorpe, and Toft.

Our colony is centred either side of Tate House, with successful nesting sites there, and at Mill Farm and Glen House.



I've set a Facebook Group up 'Manthorpe & Toft Swift Group' to try to grow further interest in our swifts. Please follow if you use social media. The page already has 80+ followers.

Also, a first for 2026, is a camera in one of the boxes at Glen House. This has been fitted in a box that raised 2 fledglings in 2025, so fingers crossed for the same again this year. I will share proceedings on the Facebook page, and via email to those houses with a Parish box fitted.

As with last year, we will host an evening

gathering during Swift Awareness Week at Glen House. This will be at 7pm on 2 July. Please pop along, bring something to sit on, and enjoy an evening with neighbours, with an informal talk on our swifts, and the help we can offer them.

If you would like to get involved in the conservation of our village swifts, please contact me on the email below.

In the meantime, please enjoy the birds screaming flight displays on a summers evening.

Paul Toseland, Glen House, Manthorpe, [mail@paultoseland.co.uk](mailto:mail@paultoseland.co.uk)



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# WITHAM HALL SCHOOL

## WITHAM HALL FUN RUN – MAKING EVERY SPLASH COUNT

The Witham Hall Fun Run was another lovely afternoon, with pupils, staff and families all getting involved (and getting very wet!). Organised by the Friends of Witham, the event raised money for The Willoughby Foundation in Bourne, which supports children with complex SEND needs.

There was music, sunshine, lots of cheering and plenty of water pistols waiting at the finish line - although not everyone managed to stay dry for long.

A huge thank you to everyone who ran, donated, or simply came along to support. The JustGiving page is still open for anyone who would still like to contribute.



## WITHAM HALL HITS THE MARK

The Witham U13 and U12 shooting squads travelled to the West London School of Shooting to compete in the prestigious IAPS Clay Pigeon Competition, enjoying a hugely successful and memorable day against some exceptionally strong competition from leading schools across the country.



The standout achievement of the day came from the U12 team, who produced an outstanding performance to finish in first place in the WLSS team format. The U13 team also secured an excellent third-place finish.

There were also some superb individual performances. George came fourth in the U13 category, while Freddie claimed second place in the U12 competition.



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## **Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery**

Moreley's Lane, Corby Glen, NG33 4NL

12 – 5 pm. Tuesday – Sunday

ADMISSION FREE

**Wednesday 17 June** and run until **Wednesday 8 July.**

**An Abstract in Time and Space and Waves and Wildflowers**



This two-person exhibition brings together the contrasting yet complementary work of Jeannie Payne and Sophie Purvis. Inspired by shape, line and colour,

Jeannie's work explores architectural forms, symmetry and impossible geometric structures, influenced by 16th century drawings, dance and nature. Sophie presents ceramics, watercolours and paintings inspired by meadows, wildflowers and the sea, combining bold abstract works with delicate natural studies in an exploration of colour, movement and material.

[www.willoughbygallery.com](http://www.willoughbygallery.com)



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# Jane's Seasonal Recipe

A tasty quick and simple supper dish from the Dairy Diary.

## **Crumpets with Cream Cheese and Herbs**

225g spinach  
250g cream cheese  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh tarragon  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives  
4 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley  
2 spring onions, finely sliced  
8 crumpets

Put spinach into a large pan, cover. Wilt over medium heat for 3 mins. Drain in a colander, then roughly chop. Soften cream cheese, stir in herbs and spring onions. Season. Toast crumpets. Spread with herby cream cheese and spoon spinach on top. Serve warm

SERVES 4

**Help the Lincolnshire Churches Trust maintain  
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**Get sponsored for the Bike, Ride and Stride**

**Saturday 12 September 2026**

You can cycle, walk, run or even ride your horse between churches, raising money for your local church and the Lincolnshire Churches Trust.

Join your friends or family or have a peaceful day on your own, visiting Lincolnshire's beautiful churches, and be sponsored for every church you visit.

For more information and to get forms contact your local organiser or see the website for the County Organiser, [www.lincolnshirechurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.lincolnshirechurchestrust.org.uk).

Your local organiser is: **Jane Clark tel 01778 590232**



## PARISH SERVICES FOR JUNE

	Witham	Edenham	Bythams
7 <sup>th</sup> June <i>Corpus Christi</i>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist  4pm Evensong (Grimsthorpe Chapel)	9.30am Parish Eucharist (Castle Bytham)
14 <sup>th</sup> June <i>Trinity 2</i>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist & Baptism  4pm Evensong (Grimsthorpe Chapel)	9.30am Parish Eucharist (Careby)
21 <sup>st</sup> June <i>Trinity 3</i>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist  4pm Evensong (Grimsthorpe Chapel)	9.30am Parish Eucharist (Little Bytham) <i>Note: change from usual monthly pattern</i>
28 <sup>th</sup> June <i>Ss Peter &amp; Paul</i>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11.15am Parish Eucharist  4pm Evensong (Grimsthorpe Chapel)	9.30am Patronal Festival (Creeton) <i>Note: change from usual monthly pattern</i>

For Baptisms, Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Confessions or any other pastoral or spiritual need, contact: The Revd Fr Edward Martin SSC 07736 711360  
Edward.Martin@lincoln.anglican.org