

The Three Towers

April 2013

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



New e-mail address for notices or other contributions

Please note the new e-mail address for the editor for any notices or other contributions is **the3towers1@gmail.com** - as usual the contact e-mail addresses are printed at the bottom of each page.

.....
April 1st 3pm - 5pm - Afternoon Teas will be served in Edenham Village Hall on Easter Monday. Raffle, gift bag tombola, Easter egg hunt (weather permitting) £1 per child. Proceeds for Edenham Village Hall and Church "Raise the Roof" fund. Donations and offers of help to Hazel on 01778 425821

.....
At the **Christingle service** in December £147. 58 was raised for the Children's Society thank you to the children of Edenham School for helping to make up 100 Christingles.

Sarah and Trish would like to express their thanks for all the support they got from the local community at the coffee morning they held on the 16th of February. They were extremely touched with people's generosity and raised a fantastic £213 towards Sarah's London Marathon chosen charities.

April 5th at 3.00pm - an invitation to take part in an afternoon tea in the Parish Hall in Witham on the Hill. A selection of savoury and sweet delights will be on the menu. All are welcome, and if successful we hope to repeat the occasion from time to time in the future.

The price will be £ 5.00 per person and all proceeds will go to the Parish Hall fund. If you would like to join us, it would be helpful to call Angela on 01778 590331 to have some idea of numbers, but it's also ok just to show up on the day. We look forward to seeing you!

THE VICAR'S WRITES

This month I begin a three month sabbatical (or to be more accurate) extended study leave. This is the third time during my ministry of thirty three years that I have had the opportunity for time off the treadmill of Parish ministry and had the opportunity for fresh challenges. In 1990 I was able to undergo the Spiritual Exercise of St Ignatius Loyola and in 2000 I was on pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella (1563 miles on my bike)! This year I am again having a long guided retreat, attempting a total immersion language course and hoping to write up some accumulated academic work from the past ten years. In my absence the Assistant Curate Fr David Pickett will be the first port of call for pastoral and spiritual care and he will be ably assisted by an army of others.

It is times like this when I am acutely aware of the contribution of so many voluntary helpers in the life of our three Parishes. Most of the administration and the day to day management of three medieval buildings and their daily and weekly use are down to

volunteers. The lay officers of the Parishes carry tremendous responsibility on behalf of the whole community – no praise is high enough for them. Consider how many volunteers it takes to produce and distribute this Parish news! In every aspect of the life and ministry of the Church the Vicar has a supporting role; all the important work that holds everything together is by lay people.

Which begs the question – what on the earth is the use of a priest? A priest is not much good to anyone unless he is a man of God. By that I mean that his life is entirely centred round the fact of the Gospel. His vocation is to be a person whose heart is fixed on Jesus. As any priest knows, he constantly fails to meet this hope and desire. It is all too easy for the concerns of family life and the rough and tumble of life in the community to knock him off centre. No priest ever judges that they have 'got it right' – this one certainly doesn't.

That is why it is so valuable to step back, take stock and then begin again. It is good to put

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everything down and then see what needs to be picked up and what can be discarded. If you are a praying person you might pray for me that I will have grace and courage to do just that.

Sunday 21st April sees my equivalent to 'Harvest' – the Parish Confirmation. It is an important event in the life of the thirteen people being presented. It marks the end of a long period of preparation. But it is also a time of renewal for our corporate life. We look forward to welcoming Bishop Norman again, and he will also be speaking at the Swinstead Stewardship Supper on Saturday 20th April. That is the last weekend before I set off for retreat - nothing like leaving on a high!

REGIONAL HOUSE

Easter Feast 6th April 7.30pm

As the weather conspired to scupper the Winter Feast, the Friends Association have organised an Easter Feast. For £10 you can enjoy a selection of tasty casseroles, enjoy a fine wine and help to raise money for the Garden Project! Phone 01778

591358 if you would like to come.

DAYS OF REFLECTION

Participants arrive from 10.00am for a 10.30am start. The days usually divide into two sessions, one before noon and one after lunch. There is usually plenty of opportunity to be alone and quiet. Often there is worship at midday – on Fridays this is always the Eucharist. The days draw to a close with corporate prayer at 3.30pm. After this tea is available (and cake!). There are no set charges at Edenham; the suggested contribution for a day, which includes lunch and refreshments, is £12.50. Guests can give more or less according to circumstances and inclination. To book a place, make an enquiry and notify of any dietary requirements, please call 01778 591358 or email:

edreghouse@tiscali.co.uk

Further information can be found on www.edenhamregionalhouse.org
Saturday 20th April: The Ascent of Love. Bishop Norman Banks (The Archbishop's Provincial Visitor) introduces the wisdom of

∞ *R.J. Scholes* ∞
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the Carmelite tradition, particularly of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross.

Saturday 11th May: May is Mary's month and I ...
(G. M. Hopkins)

This quiet day is an opportunity to develop your own prayer and reflect on the special place that Mary has in the redemption story. We will use different Scripture reflections, along with poetry, simple writing, pictures, objects and surroundings to help us respond to what is in our hearts. Led by Rosey Fuell and Wendy Smith

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Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Wanted

There is a need for volunteers to act as village Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators in the villages of Toft, Lound and Manthorpe. Currently, the only service this area receives is an e-mail notification of messages sent out by the national police warning system. Although these are useful and important, they may not reach everyone. Also, a volunteer in each village would be better placed to act on behalf of the community with regards to liaising with the PCSOs, the local police and other bodies.

If you believe you may be able to assist your neighbours in this then please contact the editor at the3towers1@gmail.com

Edenham Village Hall AGM

The Edenham Village Hall AGM will be held on Wednesday 24th April 2013 at 7:30pm. Please attend if you are on the committee or support the Hall throughout the year. We look forward to seeing everyone there for a review of the last 12 months and a look ahead into the coming year.

Edenham Parish Wheelbarrow competition update

The theme for the 2013 competition will be 'At the heart of the community'. It is hoped that decorated barrows will be displayed from July 22nd to August 5th inclusive for visitors and parishioners to enjoy. Judging will take place during the week commencing July 22nd.

To take part you will need to register your entry with Ray Biggs (01778 591205 or ray@grimsthorpe.co.uk). Entry fee is £5 per wheelbarrow. Please consider taking part.

Witham on the Hill
OPEN GARDENS
(approximately 10 gardens)

Sunday 7th July 2013
2-6pm

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Dates for your Diary - all in the Witham-on-the-Hill Parish Hall unless detailed.

Monday 22nd April 2013, 7.30pm, Sheila Berrell "The French Prisoner of War Camp at Norman Cross".

Monday 20th May 2013, 7.30pm, Nic Lance "The Young Tennyson in Lincolnshire & Beyond".

Monday 24th June 2013. 7.30pm, David Bond "Peterborough Cathedral".

Monday 14th October 2013. 7.30pm Paul Scott (or another speaker from the Society) "Sir Joseph Banks".

Next Members Meeting is the AGM: 7.30pm, Tuesday 14th May 2013.

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Lincoln Cathedral now offers a gift aid scheme. If you are a UK taxpayer and are able to gift aid your entrance charge, as a thank you we will give you a free annual pass. This pass enables free entry into the Cathedral for one whole year, and includes ground, roof and tower tours throughout the year, when the tours are available. If you are not able to gift aid you can make your entrance charge a donation and still receive a free annual pass. For more details please contact our visitor services office by telephone: 01522 561600 or by email; visitors@lincolncathedral.com. We thank you for your support and hope that you will be able to visit soon and make the most of your wonderful Cathedral.

Ruth Paynton, Visitor Services team Leader

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The Whist Drive held on 15th
March in the Parish Hall, Witham
on the Hill raised £78 for church
funds. Among the winners were:

GENTS

LADIES

Mrs P. Garrard

Mrs P. Collier

Mrs A. Blanchard

Mrs S. Hartley

Mr M. Brac

Mrs D. Xavier

Thank you to all those who
supported the evening and to
everyone who kindly donated
prizes. The next Whist Drive,
which will be the last one until the
autumn, is on Friday 19th April
and 7.0pm in the Parish Hall,
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Clerk's Notes of the Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council Meeting – 27th February 2013

Parish Donations. Donations have been given to individuals who have carried out tasks on behalf of the Parish Council.

Replacement Street Light Policy. SKDC advised that they wished to use low energy bulbs. Although these appeared brighter than existing bulbs, the Parish Council would wait until the next bulb was replaced before deciding on whether to take any further action.

NHW review. There is a need for a local Co-ordinator for the NHW scheme in the Parish. An email has been circulated asking for volunteers; a flyer will also be compiled and circulated to all Parish residents. Temporarily, Mr Anderson will take the lead in obtaining and distributing relevant literature to the Parish community.

Farm Vehicles Turning sign. The County Councillor reported that he had not approached the County Council as he was told that discussions were in place

between Mr Blanchard and Highways. However, Mr Blanchard stated that this was not happening. A letter from the Parish Council to Mr Brumfield. In addition, the County Councillor would follow up on the issue.

Planning Applications.

Mr Mossman – amendments to permission. With SKDC.

Mr Smith – Two storey side extension. With SKDC.

Parish Property.

Playing Field. Attempts to speak to a contractor reference painting the playing field hut door had failed. As the bus shelter at the Manthorpe crossroads, the WI bench, the bench on the road by the bridge in Manthorpe, the playing field hut roof and 2 of the Parish noticeboards also require maintenance, the Clerk would seek out a different contractor to carry out these tasks. The Clerk explained that all bar one of the individuals who volunteer to cut the grass on the mound had agreed to stay within the scheme. The wording of the roster would be altered to encourage a more proactive response from

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individuals who should have had the key passed to them.

Jasmine Cottage. Following improved loft insulation last year, the attic in Jasmine Cottage was now suffering from damp.

Ventilation panels have been installed to rectify the fault. Also a local company has been asked for a quotation to fix 2 windows that do not close properly.

Highways.

Manthorpe. The footpath by the bridge is currently in the repair programme for the end of March.

Toft. Hotel Entrance and Rockery on Lound Road. Two of the 3 landowners have had formal legal letters issued as they have not cleared the Highways land as requested. The footway moss on Fairways has been cleared by local resident, Mr Neil Adams. The Parish Council will write a note of thanks to Mr Adams.

Lound. Pothole repairs to Lower Street will be carried out in the next financial year.

General Items.

Indemnity Agreement. An Agreement to Indemnify has been

received from Mr Richard Hartley in respect of electricity supplied by him to the playing field hut. This will be signed following successful negotiation on a minor amendment.

Community Lights in Parish.

The Parish Council wishes to place on record its thanks to all residents who had contributed to the festive occasion by setting up external lights in their gardens.

SKDC Electoral Review. Details for residents to comment have been posted on the Parish website.

Village Signs. The Parish Council will investigate costs to install more welcoming village signs in the Parish.

County Councillor Report.

Care Quality Commission report relating to Stamford and Rutland Hospital dates back to August 2012. Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has stated that since that time several vacant nursing posts have been filled and nursing rosters have been reviewed to ensure staffing levels are adequate.



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Service. Post the consultation on "Being the Best" the Service is looking to potentially having 27 Hubs instead of 13, with 2 in South Lincs at Grantham & Market Deeping.

L.C.C. Wind Turbine

Consultation. A poll in the county showed that 89% agreed with L.C.C.'s stance & 63% thought wind turbines had no place in Lincs.

Highways. Salt usage this year has been 25,000 ton with 10,000 ton still in store. A further 9,000 ton is being delivered. An extra £6.4 million from Government over 2 years has been granted for pothole repair. However, the estimated cost to repair all Lincolnshire potholes is £100 million with £400 million needed to

bring all Lincolnshire roads up to standard.

Education. Bourne Grammar School is increasing their intake to about 200 this year. Previous entries are 2010 – 100, 2011 – 150, and 2012 – 180.

The next meeting will cover the Parish Annual Meeting and the Parish Council AGM; 8th May 2013 commencing 7pm.

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Friday 24th May 2013 at 7.30 pm

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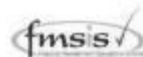
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Edenham School News

It's been a while since we passed on our news to the Three Towers but not because life has been quiet – quite the opposite.

Our Advent celebrations were extremely enjoyable and culminated in a week of Christmas Nativity and Tudor productions, a Christmas Party for the whole school and a family Carol service.

The New Year brought great fun in the snow. I think we are becoming accustomed to the annual downfall with pupils readily prepared with snow coats, hats, scarves and boots. The corridor is transformed into a chaotic scene of melting snow and mucky wellies but that's how great childhood memories are made!

Our efforts to develop Learning Outside the Classroom for our pupils are going really well. We have mentioned trips to Burghley, Grimsthorpe, the Theatre and the cinema in the Autumn. This term, the pace picks up again with visits to Duxford and Coningsby for our World War 2 project, The Big Bang Science Fair in London. Visitors will include Jules Howard,

a Zoologist specialising in Dinosaur Discoveries (sure to be a smash hit), Jumicar (a road safety project within which children can drive minicars) and representatives from the Osprey Conservation project who will teach us about the fascinating migratory journey of the Ospreys from Rutland Water to the Gambia and back.

The Friends of the school continue to work hard to run events and raise funds without which we would not be able to provide such a rich range of learning – huge thanks to them.

David Hawes is nearing the end of his Forest School training and has been working with small groups of pupils from across the age ranges – den building, making tools, cooking on campfires, exploring the world around us and generally getting extremely wet and muddy.

Our grounds development project is due to begin on March 11th to build an outdoor classroom space, planted with native woodland trees including a large fire pit and shelter-building/ art area. The aim of this will be to provide a bridge between learning in the classroom

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and learning in the wild woods (a daunting place if you never explore it!). Cathy Mellor who helped design our beautiful children's garden is overseeing this project. We hope to hold an open evening in the Summer to which families will be invited to learn more about the Forest Schools project and have a go at some hands-on activities.

Music is blossoming with support from the Lincolnshire Music service through whole class instrumental tuition. Year 3 and 4 pupils culminated the term's learning with a recital including Samba and djemba drumming, whilst this term all Year and 5 and 6 pupils are learning a brass instrument. The pupils are working with Sinfonia Viva to compose and perform pieces together. The recital will take place at Bourne Grammar School, with Morton School, on April 23rd. Meanwhile, other instrumental pupils are working hard with Mrs Kong to prepare a short concert for other pupils and their parents at the end of this term.

And finally, here's thanks to the brilliantly hardworking staff in our

school and the fabulous students who will have a go at anything and throw themselves into learning with gusto!

Contact us if you'd like to come and visit on 01778 591207 or visit our website at www.edenham.lincs.sch.uk

Details of school and public events, and family services are listed on this site – we'd be delighted to meet you whenever you are able to join us.

Best wishes, Head Teacher.

Mrs Kris Radford-Rea

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Jason Kendall

FREE QUOTES

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Notes from the Edenham Parish Council Meeting 12th March 2013

Open Forum A roadside grit bin was requested for School Lane and the issue of dangerous parking on the A151 near to Edenham School was raised. Parents are reminded that the Village Hall car park is available for use at School opening/close times. The community police team are requested to monitor the parking and use the necessary enforcement actions against people contravening road traffic regulations.

All parishioners are reminded that the Open Forum is their opportunity to voice concern/raise local issues with their councillors. Parishioners can contact the council and register for e-mail reminders of forthcoming meetings by e-mailing the parish clerk at clayton_epc@o2.co.uk.

Emergency Defibrillator East Midlands Ambulance Service has agreed to provide, install and maintain an emergency defibrillator within the parish – to be located outside Edenham Village Hall. Installation is planned

for the end of March. Many thanks to Cllr Biggs for his work in acquiring such a valuable resource for the community.

Jubilee Celebration Funds It was agreed that should there be no financial support required for the defibrillator then the remaining funds should be used to purchase a memorial bench for the Edenham Playing Field.

Highway Matters The on-going issue of potholes on parish highways was discussed with the need, not only to improve the standard of such repairs, but to address root causes of damage. It was considered that in a high percentage of cases standing water due to roadside drainage grips and dykes etc being blocked was a significant factor. Cllr M Hill (LCC) advised the meeting that revised repair schemes are currently under trial. Concern over the drainage issues to be passed to the Highways Dept.

Councillor Resignation The Chairman, Cllr Joyce, formally resigned from the council wef from the end of the meeting. All members again thanked Cllr Joyce for her contributions during

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her many years as a councillor and latterly as Chairman. Cllr Martin, Vice Chair, will deputise until the Annual Parish Council meeting in May whereby all council officers have to be elected for the forthcoming year. Any parishioner interested in becoming a councillor and taking an active part in local government should contact the Parish Clerk - clayton_epc@o2.co.uk or any councillor for details.

Charles Read School Concerns had been raised over the proposed closure of the Charles Read School at Corby Glen and the impact it would have upon children locally, an issue upon which the meeting agreed – Cllr Hill (LCC) gave an update on LCC's similar concerns and the efforts being made to save the school - it is hoped that another sponsor can be found to maintain the facility, especially looking forward to the area's increasing demand for school places.

SKDC – Electoral Review Cllr Robins briefed the meeting on the current electoral review of SKDC and on their proposal to reduce District Councillor numbers from

58 to 55. If the proposal is accepted by the Local Government Boundary Commission then further information of any subsequent changes to District Wards will be promulgated.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 14th May 2013 immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting which commences at 7:30pm in Edenham Village Hall.

Parish Council Meetings take place on the second Tuesday in every other month -- Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov at 7:30pm in Edenham Village Hall

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David and Jane wish to offer their heartfelt thanks for the lovely messages, kind and generous gestures and wonderful show of support received at this sad time. Mum would have been so honoured and touched that so many of her friends from the Parish were able to attend the service. Thank you to all who gave cakes to help provide a wonderful 'Mary' style spread and to those who provided assistance on the day of the funeral. A special thank you to Sally Bentley, Gill Stanford, Pam and Brogan Cranfield, Jane Bates, to Edenham Village Hall committee and to Father Andy. The 'Edenham' Mum knew and loved did her proud! **Thank you.**

Edenham Church will welcome **The Stamford Singers** who will perform a **Concert on Friday 17th May at 7.30pm**. Tickets are £8.00 adults and £4.00 for children under 14yrs, from Ruth 01778 591328. Refreshments will be served during the interval so if anyone would like to make something delicious, please tell Ruth.

All proceeds to the Edenham Raise the Roof appeal.

JANE'S SEASONAL RECIPE

Frances Plummer baked these for a recent village event and they are quite delicious. A good way of persuading children to eat their veg!

CARROT AND RAISIN CUPCAKES (MAKES 12)

- 225g carrots
- 130g raisins
- 2 large eggs
- 130g caster sugar
- 120 ml corn oil
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- Grated zest of 1 orange
- 120 g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon bicarb
- Pinch salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Preheat oven to 160 and line muffin tins with cake cases. Finely grate carrots and combine with raisins. In a large bowl beat eggs and sugar for several minutes and then add oil, vanilla and orange zest and beat well. Sift flour, bicarb, salt and cinnamon then gradually add these to the egg and sugar mixture, beating well. Pour mixture into the bowl containing the carrots and raisins and blend well. Spoon mixture into the cupcake cases to about 2/3 full. Bake for about 25 mins – the cupcakes will be quite dark brown in colour and feel spongy to the touch. Remove from oven and leave in tins for about 10 minutes before putting them on wire rack.



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

Witham on the Hill Wi March Meeting

Our President, Ann Burbidge, welcomed 16 members and a visitor from Carlby WI to our 46th anniversary meeting - celebrating with a chocolate cake! Our speaker, Carole Bonney, gave an in-depth account of her work as a foot health practitioner, drawing our attention to the importance of exercise and care of the skin on our hard worked feet. One of the ladies volunteered to be the client and left with a feeling of well-being and of "walking on air". We all wished we had been able to partake and relax in this most beneficial treatment. Mrs Bonney offers a mobile service, both privately and to care homes. Jane Clark gave our vote of thanks.

20th March will be the date for our next walk starting at Exton, with lunch at the Fox & Hounds. Seven ladies enjoyed a great day out at the Alan Titchmarsh Show, ITV Studios, Waterloo, on 4th March. Our next meeting is on 2nd April - the Annual Meeting with "in-house" entertainment!! As usual all ladies will be welcome. For further information, contact: Ann Burbidge 01778 590132.

SWINSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's Notes 7th March 2013

It was agreed to pay the LALC annual subscription.

A poster outlining proposals for a review of Local Government Representation has been displayed and further details of the review will follow.

Following a burglary in the village, residents are asked to be extra vigilant.

Butter Cross Cllr Somerville will continue to liaise with a preferred bidder who will submit final costings following clarification of details and conditions to be approved by L.C.C. (Highways).

Pollution from Braziers The disposal of local waste by burning in braziers was considered to be a potential health hazard. The Clerk will liaise with Environmental Health at SKDC to confirm current regulations and a letter will be drafted to explore alternatives.

Roads and Pavements With the exception of a repair to dangerous kerbing in Croake Hill, none of the repairs agreed with the LCC Civil Engineer on his tour of the village

had been attended to. Of special concern are the blocked drains and gulleys which continue to cause flooding down Creton Road hill, High Street and Bourne Road. A request by the Clerk for a visit by the road sweeper has also been ignored. The extension to the soak-away in Bourne Road, agreed as part of the engineer's visit, is particularly urgent as sand-bags had to be employed on Bourne Road. The road surface on Forstedd Hill and pot holes on Creton Road and Park Road also continue to worsen. The Clerk will write a further letter to the Engineer to ensure this work is progressed with urgency.

The Clerk will also write to the Grimsthorpe and Drummond Trust to request that the trees, hedgerows and verges at the top of the High Street near the football field be tidied up.

The Diamond Jubilee Community Wildlife Orchard

Cllr Webb reported that the application form and invoices to support the Council's claim for the Wildlife Grant had been successful and payment will be made following submission of an Invoice.



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The final amount will be £258.00.

A condition of the grant is that the Council publicise the award; this will be done in the promotional material advertising the "Community Planting Day", now brought forward to August 31st.

Arrangements for the erection of the gate to the paddock are in hand and the materials for tree protection paid for by the grant have also been delivered.

Villagers are reminded to contact the Clerk should they wish to purchase a tree (at £6 each).

Football Field Following receipt of the water bill for the football field and in consideration of the costs of maintaining the field in a useable condition through mowing and hedging, it was decided to review the continuing costs and benefits of this amenity at the next meeting.

Telephone Box Given the cold weather it was considered unlikely that BT would commence painting the telephone box yet. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact members of a working party to clean and prepare the box prior to painting later in March.

Dog Fouling An increase in this offence was noted, especially in the High Street. This was disappointing given that the litter bins display notices that it is now acceptable to deposit dog faeces in them. Villages are asked to report incidents to Councillors. The Clerk is to write to SKDC for further posters and fine warning notices.

Noise Nuisance For the third year running, the council has received complaints regarding loud music being played in the Croake Hill area. This has been reported once again to SKDC for action.

Date and time of next meeting and AGM 3rd May 2013 7pm.

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PARISH SERVICES FOR APRIL 2013

	SWINSTEAD	WITHAM	EDENHAM
April 7 th Easter 2	8.45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
April 14 th Easter 3	8.45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
April 21 st Easter 4			10.30am Combined Parish Service - Confirmation
April 28th Easter 5	8.45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
May 5 th Easter 6 Rogation Sunday	8.45am Parish Communion 4.00pm Meet at Swinstead for Rogation Walk to Edenham	10.00 Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 5.30pm – 6.30pm Bring and Share Tea followed by Evening Worship

FOR BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, BANNS OF MARRIAGE, CONFESSIONS, OR ANY OTHER PASTORAL OR SPIRITUAL NEED CONTACT :VICAR: THE REVD CANON ANDREW HAWES SSC 01778 591358 - athawes@tiscali.co.uk

ASSISTANT CURATE; THE REVD DAVID PICKETT 01476 552 457 - Fr.DavidPickett@hotmail.co.uk

LICENSED READER: MRS HEATHER LEE 01778 591338 - hmleevine@talktalk.net