

The Three Towers

May 2014

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



Parish Notices

9th May at 7.30pm in the Edenham Village Hall - a lecture by Gill Darby entitled "Elizabeth Taylor and her Diamonds" in aid of Swinstead Church. There will also be light refreshments and a glass of wine. Tickets now on sale, priced £8.

Congratulations: Ian and Jane Holdup of Edenham are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Laura to James Powell of Toft.

Well done & thanks to Pamela Adams, Jenny Gilbert, Lyn Powell and Penny Watering who organised a very successful Charity Dinner and Auction in Toft Country House and Hotel on Friday 21 March 2014 in aid of Cancer research. The event raised £ 2,369.00 and the organisers would particularly like to thank the Toft Hotel for allowing them the use of the function room, as well as donating a number of items for the auction. Also, thanks to the hard working staff who served a delicious meal, and even found the time to stay behind and participate in the event. Special thanks also go to Rob Immink who acted as auctioneer and to the many donations gratefully received from local businesses in Bourne and Thurlby - without which the evening could not have gone ahead. The support for the event was heart warming, and a fantastic time was had by all.

Spring clean & churchyard working party: Sunday 11 May from 11.30am (after the Eucharist) at St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill, with a bring and share lunch. Please bring suitable cleaning or gardening equipment. Everyone welcome all day or for an hour. Whatever time you can spare will be greatly appreciated, to make the Church look spick and span for the Confirmation taking place the following Sunday.

Coffee morning in St Andrew's Parish Hall on Saturday 5 April raised a magnificent £255 for the Ear Foundation. Well done to Sarah Lambert and her team of helpers from Witham's Tuesday morning playgroup. Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

Congratulations to Sally and Andrew Harris on their 25th wedding anniversary on 1st April. A weekend celebration included the renewal of their vows in St Andrew's Church, Witham on the Hill, with a champagne and canapés reception in the Church afterwards. Sally looked stunning in the pretty blue floral dress that she wore on her wedding day.

Witham on the Hill Historical Society Talk St Andrew's Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill

Monday 12th May 2014, 7.30pm, Don Chiswell - "Hereward the Wake", Hereward the 'exile', as he should correctly be known, led the last resistance to the Norman Conquest, including the burning of Peterborough. Was he the heroic patriot depicted in literature or an opportunistic robber?

£2 for members, £2.50 for non-members

Witham Church and School Estate Trust

Established in 1908 by the consolidation of property and land held in trust by the churchwardens of the historic parish of St Andrew's Witham on the Hill (including Manthorpe, Toft and Lound). The trust now administers the income from investments which must be used for the upkeep and insurance of St Andrew's Church, Churchyard and Parish Hall. It also has an educational element which grants to parishioners undergoing higher education or apprentice training. There is a vacancy for a Trustee (who must either live in the Parish of Witham on the Hill or have business interests in the same). Anyone interested should send their details to the Clerk. The Trustees also invite applications for educational grants – applications should also be sent to the Clerk: Mr Colin York, Clerk to the Trustees, 12 The Green, Thurlby, PE10 0HB



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THE VICAR WRITES

As the list of services at the back of the Three Towers reveals we have a torrent of baptisms in May – including a double baptism at Edenham and an adult baptism during the Confirmation on the 18th May. All this is taking place in the season of Easter which begins with the whole church renewing their Baptismal Promises on the morning of Easter Day.

There was a time, not so long ago, when the community of the baptised was almost identical to the community in which it was set. In other words – most people were baptised. It was unusual not to be. This might be taken as evidence that the pervading way of life and culture was Christian. This culture was universally reinforced by life in school and by the media, not least the BBC, who marked the great Christian Festivals by playing hymns before or after the news (yes, I am that old)!

Times have changed. To be a Christian now means to be at odds with so much of what is taken as normal in our community

life. There has been a sea change and one day we will wake up and suddenly realise we cannot in any sense say we are living in a Christian country. I am not thinking here about the headline issues such as homosexual marriage, the abandonment of marriage as the basis of parenthood, the embracing of a culture of death in the administration of routine abortion and the acceptance of assisted suicide. I am thinking about the total abandonment of Sunday and the widespread ignorance about the basic outline of the story of Jesus and the claims of the Christian Faith.

For myself, I am not at all nostalgic about the past. In many ways I prefer the way things are. People now expect a priest to have something different to say about marriage, family life, relationships between the sexes, work, community and what it means to be human. No longer do I feel any attachment or loyalty to the establishment. I relish being radical. I know in my guts that the Christian world view is now more

vital (in every sense of the word) I can get quite fired up when I hear and see what purports to be the latest initiative in freedom and equality!

Which brings me back to Baptism, which is the means of initiation into the Church: where all are the unique and infinitely loved children of the Heavenly Father; given the glorious liberty of the children of God; made heirs of a New Creation and given a share in the spiritual gifts of the age to come. That is a project and manifesto worth living and dying for.

THE ANGEL ALBUM AND BEING NUMBER 1

I am aware that many readers follow my brother Patrick's career with interest. Over the last month I have received all kinds of correspondence and comments on Patrick's latest collection (released on Decca). Yes, it is true I wrote the text for ten of the songs on the album. For anyone who is interested, I do have some copies of the CD on the Regional House bookstall and there is to be

a premiere of the collection at St John's Smith Square in London on Monday June 9th – for which I could obtain tickets at 'mate's rates' if anyone would like to go. Likewise there is a premiere of 'Eventide', a Choral Work commemorating Edith Cavell, on 12th July in Norwich Cathedral and another premiere - 'The Angel of Mons' in Winchester Cathedral on the 23rd August – again if anyone would like to know more please let me know.

ROGATION TIDE

Rogation Sunday is the fifth Sunday after Easter – its title derives from the Latin verb 'rogare' meaning 'to ask'. It was traditionally marked by a procession around the parish boundary, asking God's blessing on the growing crops and the work of human hands in the care of the land. We no longer 'beat the bounds' but we do have the Rogation walk from Swinstead to Edenham – leaving Swinstead at 3.00pm on 25th May and ending with a service at Edenham at 4.30pm followed by a bring and share tea at the Vicarage.

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Thou Didst Flee Like a Hart

Saturday 17th May 10.00 am – 4.00pm

St John of the Cross is one of the renowned mystics and writers on prayer in the Christian tradition. This day will explore his life and work, and reflect on its implications for our own journey of faith. Led by Bishop Norman Banks.

The Easter People

Friday 6th June 10.00am - 4.00pm

The life of the Christian is formed by being baptised into the death and resurrection of Christ. St Augustine proclaimed 'we are an Easter People and our song is Alleluia!' This day will reflect on the resurrection life of the Church. Led by Canon Arthur Middleton, author of "Prayer in a workaday

world", and other writing on prayer and the history of Christian spirituality.

New Appointment

From the beginning of May a new voice may answer the phone at the Vicarage! Samantha (Sam) Pont has been appointed to be the administrator of the Regional House – Sam will also be increasing our presence on the internet and developing our web site. We look forward to Sam being part of our team!



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A Whist Drive was held on Friday 14th March in the Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill when £95 was raised for Church funds. Among the winners were:

GENTS

1st Mrs P Garrard
2nd Mr M Brace
3rd Mrs A Blanchard

LADIES

1st Miss E Munton
2nd Mrs T Brace
3rd Mrs S Hartley

Among the raffle winners were Mr A Stanford, Mrs G Stanford, Mrs H Strickson, Mrs P Cranfield, Mrs S Olley, Mrs T Brace, Mrs M Imminck, Mrs A Blanchard and Mrs D Xavier. Thank you to everyone who has supported these evenings over the past few months and to all who have contributed prizes - these are an enormous help. After the summer break we hope to see everyone again on Friday 19th September at 7pm.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR'S JEWELLERY

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For the first half of her career Gillian Darby worked at the Victoria and Albert Museum, in a curatorial capacity in the ceramics and Far Eastern departments and as a lecturer in the education department. For the next twenty years she was firstly a tutor and lecturer at Christie's Education, and subsequently director of their (former) London Art Course. Her main area of expertise is in ceramics but she has always loved and collected jewellery and has lectured extensively on both subjects in Britain and abroad.

View from the Pew

A BIG THANK YOU

Every Thursday in Lent a few dedicated people organised a lunch in the Parish Hall in Witham on the Hill to support Christian Aid. You may have seen the campaign advertised "Super Soup Lunch". The day started at 11.00 am for a brief study on the next Sunday's Gospel and lunch was ready soon after midday. Soup, bread, cheese, fruit and coffee.

It was meant to be a "simple meal" and on the surface it was: no wine, no extravagant puddings and no fuss. And yet, it was the richest fare you could wish to have because it was provided and served with all the love and attention of those who really care for their friends and neighbours. It was with delight that everyone was welcomed, new faces and familiar ones, representative of every age group from very young children to the not so young.

On the last Thursday a whole walking club joined in, thanks to Jane who invited them. It was a

real pleasure to share this precious time with them. No charge was made, donations were welcomed and thus an amazing £254. 53p was raised for Christian Aid.

I cannot thank enough those people who gave so generously of their time and money to organise this event, and to those who joined in to make this such a successful event.

Angela Cardew A.P.D.H.A.

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Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council Meeting Notes 20 March 2014

Vacant Clerk Position: Mrs Anne Anderson has volunteered for the position, to be effective from 1 April 2014. The appointment was unanimously agreed and a formal offer letter and statement of terms will be prepared by Mrs Cook.

Planning Applications:

Mr William Vergette, Ashley House, Manthorpe. Extension of house and erection of stable block. Approved by SKDC.

Mrs Penelope Dawson – The Old Bake House – Extension of Poly Tunnel and shade netting area. Approved by SKDC.

Highways: An update on the Parish Walkabout issues on 16 September 2013 is as follows:

Toft: Hotel Entrance. Highways have written to Mr Lees reference acquiring the land for the Toft walkway. Unfortunately, they have yet to receive a reply so a recorded letter has been sent. If a positive reply is not received before the end of March, Highways will have to remove the scheme. Mrs Cook was asked to visit Mr Lees to discuss the way ahead.

Lound: Road to A6121 will be

surface dressed next year subject to budget review.

Manthorpe: Road surface at bridge remains under constant review by Highways.

Surface water on the junction of Wilsthorpe Road – the problem has been resolved by the owners of the property.

Condition of verges in the vicinity of Glen House –Western Power have stated that they will reinstate verges in the spring and sow grass seed. Action by the Chairman is on hold, pending completion of the building works. The Clerk will also speak to Highways at a meeting arranged on 26 March as the ownership of the verges is with Highways.

Action: Clerk/Chairman.

Finance Summary:

Barclays Current Account
£1328.03
Barclays Savings Account
£1055.18

Melton BS £21107.00 @ 1.7%
from 10 Jan 14.

Cheques: Two cheques were signed as follows:

Clerk salary + expenses. £458.30.
Community cleaner £342.82.

On-Line Banking: Government legislation now permits Councils to

use electronic/on-line banking instead of cheque book payments. It was agreed to stay with the current system of 2 Parish Councillor's signatures on cheques.

Clerk's Salary: With the acquisition of the Parish computer, payment details to employees (Clerk and community cleaner) can now be passed electronically to HMRC in accordance with full payment submission (FPS) requirements. It was agreed to pay the new Clerk quarterly by direct debit. Contracts of employment are needed for employees.

General Items:

Defibrillator: Mr Cork reported the following: the locations for siting the defibrillators in Manthorpe and Toft have been agreed; An outer wall at Mill Farm and within an external porch of the Toft Hotel. Both defibrillators will remain the property of the Parish Council. Applications to the British Heart Foundation for funding towards the cost of defibrillators for Manthorpe and Toft were prepared in February. The form required additional information from the ambulance service which was added by Julie Allen of East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) on 24th February, who then forwarded the application to

the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

Following a query from BHF concerning ownership and security, Mr Cork spoke to Sarah Mumby, project officer at BHF about our defibrillator applications. He explained that the Toft defibrillator would be the property of the Parish Council and we had chosen the Toft Hotel location because we thought it was best for local residents, being a focal point of the village and it had the advantage of not needing an outdoor heated cabinet. She said that now she had this explanation, BHF would be able to consider funding our application for this location. They spoke about cabinet security and the risk of theft, particularly in the Manthorpe location and Mr Cork explained the Parish Council had consulted with EMAS and decided to have the cabinet protected by an access code which EMAS would provide to those dialling 999. Although BHF prefer unlocked cabinets, Sarah Mumby said our decision would not stop us getting funding, now that BHF had an explanation from us as to why we needed the additional security. Mr Cork thought there is a good chance of getting approval for both defibrillators although Sarah Mumby was fairly non-

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committal. What is clear is that we have only got past the first assessment of our application and that BHF needed to hear our explanation on location and cabinet specification before putting the application forward for a decision. A final decision will be made in 3-4 weeks. Mr Cork has obtained 3 quotations for defibrillator cabinets from different suppliers. Details will be given in due course so that a decision on which supplier/colour can be made. There was some discussion on security and access for local residents, with perhaps the codes being given to all concerned, especially as the mobile signal is poor in Manthorpe. A decision can be made when the success or otherwise of the project with BHF is determined.

Parish computer: A new Toshiba laptop has been purchased at a cost of £299.99. A VAT refund of £50 will be due. IT policy is needed.

Litter bin at bus shelter: The Chairman has spoken to SKDC who are now considering the request. As yet there has been no reply from SKDC.

Gas Burner Purchase: Cost of new unit is some £62. Ongoing and purchase will be made before

the summer.

Donations: All receivers of charitable donations have replied thanking the Parish Council for the contributions.

AOB:

County Councillor Trollope-Bellew reported the following:

As previously covered, the MOD unit at Peterborough City Hospital is closing. The impact will equate to 31 equivalent posts, not as many as first thought.

County Councillor's allowances will increase to £10,100 per annum, which is still below the national average. The sum has been recommended by an independent remuneration panel.

A meeting will be held in April to discuss shale gas fracking in Lincolnshire as the county has been assessed to have substantial reserves of gas. Government agencies, companies and Councillors will be in attendance. There was some concern that general public representation would be denied at the meeting. There have been no applications at present to extract the gas. Details will be given after the meeting.

EMAS is reviewing their plan to close some units in the area.

Debate continues on response times following a 999 call.

A car accident occurred at the junction of the A6121 and Lound Road earlier in the year; damage to Highways signs and plants owned by the Parish Council took place. The Clerk would discuss the way ahead with Highways at the forthcoming meeting.

The Councillors thanked the outgoing Clerk, Adrian Childs, for his contribution over the last 12 years.

The date of the next meeting:
The Parish Annual Meeting and the Parish Council AGM will be 27 May 2014 commencing 7.00 p.m.

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Tuesday of the month

April, our annual meeting, was very well attended. Many members brought along a wide variety of hand-made craft items to inspire others – from large quilts, water-colour paintings, felt mobile phone cases, to greetings cards, and photographs of bridesmaids dresses! First, the usual business, reporting advance notice of our intended walk on Thursday 10 April, followed by a

lent lunch, at noon, in Witham parish hall supporting Christian Aid. The newly established 'book club' is proving very popular and members are reading the second book for the next get together. At the moment ten members are actively involved, but others are showing interest. The NFWI Resolution regarding organ donation and the co-operation of families was discussed briefly, in preparation for the vote next month. The LSFWI council meeting reported on by Jane Clark, our delegate, was delivered in depth. Jane was also lucky to win a raffle prize at the event.

The annual meeting followed with a record of the last year's annual meeting made available for viewing. Julia Thompson, Treasurer, presented the financial account. Jane Clark, Secretary, read the committee's report of all the events through the year, and the President, Julia Haynes, thanked the committee and members for their support throughout the year. The new committee was announced and the ballot for President was unanimous in re-electing Julia Haynes for the coming year. The annual competition results showed Anne-Marie Lilly 1st, Jane Clark 2nd with Frances Plummer and Julia Haynes joint 3rd. All

were presented with gift vouchers and silver cups. The meeting closed and a brief committee meeting followed to elect the new officers and allocate roles. The next meeting on 6 May will welcome our speaker, Detective Chief Superintendent Chris Stevenson, QPM (retired).

For further information contact Jane Clark tel 01778 590232.

WI Programme 2014/15

3 June Liz Pick: Cake decorating

8 July Joint meeting at Carlby village hall, Colin Young: auctioneer

5 August Tony Clayton: Locks, bridges & tunnels

2 September Brenda Jones: Charles Worth

7 October Richard Quirk: Yeoman of the Queen's bodyguard

4 November Tony King: Just popping out for a stroll!

2 December Christmas party

3 February Mrs Bell: circle dancing

3 March Hearing dogs for the deaf

7 April Annual meeting

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Jason Kendall - Local resident

References available

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Swinstead News

Whist drive on Monday 5 May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Come and enjoy a game with us.

Bingo on 12 May at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Good prizes. Proceeds for Church funds.

Flower rota

3 - 10 May Jill Barry

17 - 24 May Joyce Dickens

31 May - 7 June Dorothy Pell

The Willoughby Gallery

' Paper, Bone, Wood & Stone '

7th May - 4th June. 12 noon - 5.00pm every day. Closed Mondays (open Bank Holidays)

The Willoughby Trust Memorial Gallery in Moreley's Lane, Corby Glen is delighted to present, during May, paintings and ceramics by Lyn Lovitt and sculptures, large and small, by Mike Lovitt. Lyn is widely known for her ceramic work and she is now developing a reputation and interest in her paintings and drawings. She captures a

mysterious mood of quietness with the composition and colour of her work. Mike is showing some of his large stone pieces of sculpture along with small works in bone and wood. There are some of his strong, graphic working drawings on show as well.

This exhibition, in the beautiful 17th century building, is well worth a visit during May.

www.willoughbygallery.com

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Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 16th May 2014

Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 16th May 2014 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting Spinal Injuries Association's (SIA) vital services. You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes.

In 2014 SIA is celebrating its 40th anniversary and so we want to make the batter matter and raise £25,000 from everyone holding suppers. Last year we raised £12,500 from the suppers.

The money raised from the suppers will help the SIA offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to rebuild lives after spinal cord injury.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Manager, Elizabeth Wright, says, "The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family". We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

For more information or request a fundraising pack

call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email:

fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit

www.siafishandchips.co.uk

JANE'S SEASONAL RECIPE

This is a quick supper dish that is almost a meal on its own. Our leeks have been abundant this year, so this is a variation we always enjoy. This is also the time of year when we get lots of cauliflowers all at once – 16 this spring! We have eaten cauliflower in some form every day for the past 2 weeks; cauliflower cheese being the most popular, but also cauliflower & stilton soup, & cauliflower curry!

Leeks wrapped in ham with cauliflower cheese

4 leeks

4 large slices of cooked ham

1 small cauliflower

1 oz butter

1 tablespoon plain flour

½ pint milk

4oz mature cheddar cheese

Coarsely ground black pepper

Paprika

Clean the trimmed leeks thoroughly under running water, to remove any grit. Cook them whole, for approx 3 mins in the microwave until lightly cooked (or steam them). Leave to cool. Blanch the cauliflower florets for approx 3 mins until just cooked. Make a cheese sauce: melt butter, stir in plain flour, over a medium heat, add milk gradually until smooth and bubbling. Add half the grated cheese & season well. Wrap the leeks in ham slices, place in a large shallow dish with cauliflower. Pour over the cheese sauce, sprinkle with the rest of the grated cheese and paprika. Bake at 200c for approx 30 mins.

Good with crusty bread & a green salad. SERVES 2

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Contact Mrs Kris Radford-Rea (Head Teacher) to arrange an individual visit — see contact details below...

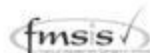
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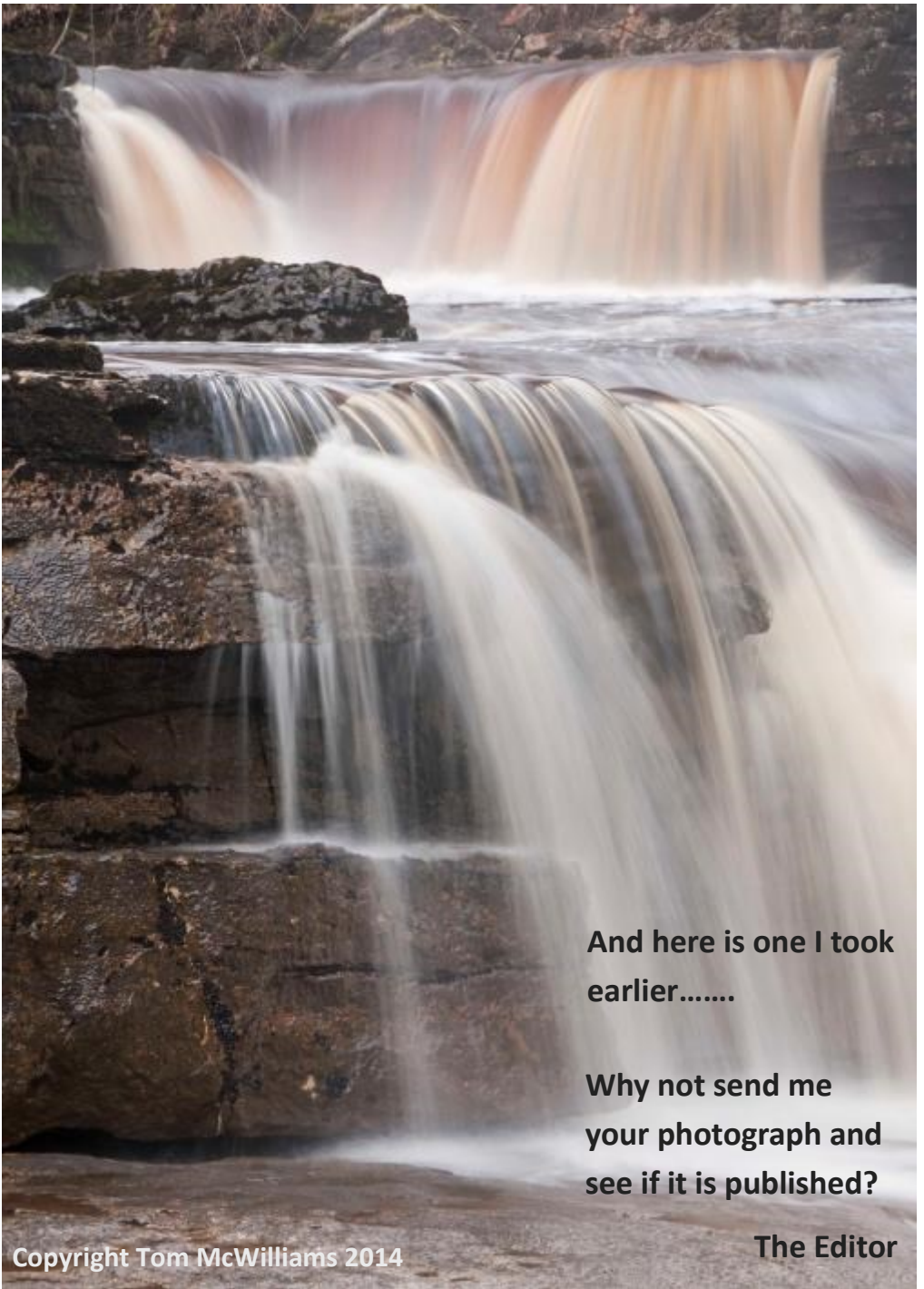


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The Editor

PARISH SERVICES FOR MAY 2014

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
4 th May Third Sunday of Easter	08.45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion and Holy Baptism 6.00pm Evening Prayer
11th May Fourth Sunday of Easter	08.45 Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion 6.00pm Evening Prayer	11.15am Parish Communion and Holy Baptism
18 th May Fifth Sunday of Easter	6.00pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Three Parishes Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist	
25 th May Sixth Sunday of Easter	08.45am Morning Prayer Meet at 3.00pm for Rogation walk to Edenham	10.00am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 4.30pm Rogation Service
29 th May Ascension Day		7.30pm Sung Eucharist	
1 st June Seventh Sunday of Easter	08.45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 6.00pm Evening Prayer

FOR BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, BANNINGS 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 552457 – daipicket@hotmail.com

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