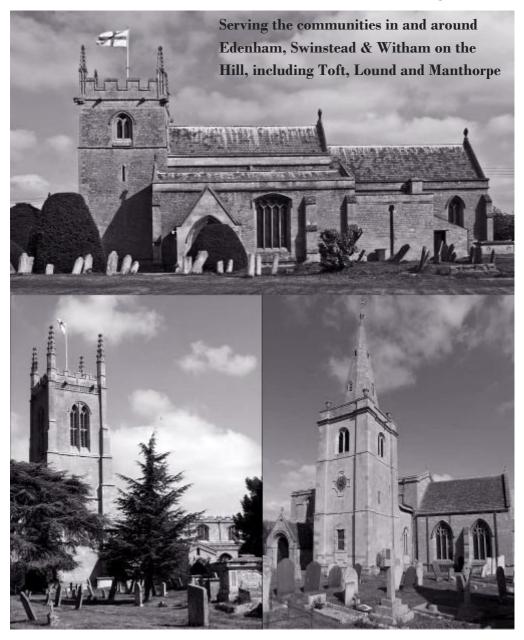
The Three Towers

February 2015



Parish Notices

CONGRATULATIONS to Katherine (nee Clifford) and Nigel Jordan on the birth of Imogen Catherine on 11 December. A third grand-daughter for Angela and David.

GOOD LUCK to Andrew and Sally Harris in your new home in Little Bytham.

BAPTISM Billy Smith, son of Poppy (nee Kirkwood) and Jim, on 7 December 2014.

CAROL SINGING in Witham-on-the-Hill and in Manthorpe raised **£136.47** and **£217.04** respectively - and these *ARE 2 VERY RESPECTABLE* sums! Thanks to everyone who generously donated and especially those who gave out refreshments. Wonderful singing by both village groups - well done to all who sang their hearts out once again.

CONGRATULATIONS Wilf and Jo Vergette and their family for getting into their newly rebuilt house before Christmas!

WELCOME:

Nicola and Simon Lawton who have moved into Chippenham House in Manthorpe.

Mathew and Brigid Donnison who have moved into Kerbeck in Manthorpe.

We hope that you will all be very happy in our community.

MR FOTHERGILL'S GARDENING CLUB I have the seed catalogues for 2015. If anyone would like to order seeds please let me know. I will submit an order early in February. If the bulk order is over £300 in total, each person gets discount of 40%, and if over £150 discount is 20%. This applies only to seeds – onion sets, potatoes, plants, and trees get a 10% discount. In addition, for every 5 packets you order, the cheapest one is free. What a good deal! Jane Clark tel 01778 590232.

Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

THE VICAR'S WRITES

I am often asked, "What do you think about Islam?" My perspective on Islam is founded chiefly on my studies of Medieval History. At University I read some of the Koran seeking to understand the remarkable rise of Islam and its conquest of North Africa. In the space of a few decades, in the seventh century, it supplanted a vibrant Christian culture and established a power base to which the Eastern Mediterranean succumbed. At another stage I studied the Crusades and the rise of the Ottoman Empire. Some years later I found myself in exchange visits with the Greek Orthodox Church and gained insight from friends there about life under the Turkish occupation – which in some parts of Greece did not end until 1921

What did I learn? I learnt that Mohammed cannot be compared to Jesus or Buddha, both of whom history teaches were pacifists and peacemakers. Mohammed was a warrior and a war lord. He was a

charismatic figure with a ruthless streak. He ordered the deaths of those who questioned his authority and he himself took part in the beheading of many of his enemies. Although a 'peace code' can be drawn together from the Koran, it sets out a world view of conflict between Islam - the community of peace and fellowship with Allah - and the Infidel – that is to say anyone outside Islam. War is a tool and means of conversion and the Koran emphasises that Allah blesses those who fight for him. 'When you throw the spear, Allah throws it with you' is one verse I remember. Powered by this creed the highly skilled Arab Cavalry led by Mohammed tore through North Africa declaring victory for Allah.

Herein lays the problem for moderate Muslims. It is very difficult to condemn outright the use of violence for religious reasons. In France there are six million Muslims. In recent surveys one in ten declared support for militant Islam – that is six hundred thousand supporters of those most of us would see as terrorists.



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Last week the Islamic University of Cairo condemned ISIS for their violence but also stated that they could not be declared heretics. Given the foundation of Islam, the example of its founder and the weeping wound of religious conflict in the Middle East, only the most naïve western liberal believes that sword of Islam can be easily sheathed.

I am often asked what should we do in the face of militant Islam. The answer to that is simple: "Practice your Faith with the same discipline as Muslims practice theirs."

Most religious practice in Islam is derived from Christianity — pilgrimage, feast and fast (for forty days) weekly worship, the Holy Book, daily prayer and so it goes on. Significantly in Greece church bells were banned for four centuries by the Turks in order to allow the call to prayer to be heard. Isn't it shame we are short of bell-ringers to call the church to prayer and mark our Holy Days. Or has no one noticed the bells are often silent now? No need to

outlaw it in this part of England is there?

News from the Regional House

Thursday 26th February and 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March: Edenham Regional House Lent Evenings. 7:30pm – 9:00pm. 'Asking the Fathers'

Introduction to the Apostolic

Fathers: Clement of Rome,
Polycarp of Smyrna, Ignatius of
Antioch, Justin Martyr and
Tertullian. These evenings will
introduce the men who helped
develop Christian life and
understanding of the generation
after the Apostles. Polycarp, for
example, knew John the Apostle.

Days of reflection: Friday 27th February: 'Stillness, quiet and waiting'.

A time for prayerful reflection on a winter's day led by Canon Valerie Rampton who uses many resources in different media as aid to meditation and prayer.

On Saturday 21st February we will be hosting another 'Live Lounge ' session by 'Smuggler Jack' in the Vicarage. 'Smuggler

Jack' is a five piece band playing original songs as well as some golden oldies. Tickets are £15 and include a two course supper and free drink. Numbers are limited so please do book early!

Food for Thought: Every Thursday in Lent at St Andrew's Parish Hall

1100 - Coffee and Bible Study

1200 - Lunch.

For more details ring 01778 591358 or see posters.

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Fire Station News

After a guiet time the incidents in the last couple of months have been many and varied. We were called out to an animal rescue. emergency in Sutton St James – the journey in itself was eventful, the fen roads testing out the appliance suspension to its maximum. On arrival we were faced with an aging thoroughbred horse laying on its side in a stable and unable to get up because of the limited space combined with a rheumatoid leg. With the roof timbers not substantial enough to do any winching, we were faced with getting long straps under and around the animal, attaching them to lines and physically trying to pull the horse to its hooves. The horse had been down a long time and although very tired and distressed, it soon reminded us of its power as it flailed around its stable sending all of us scurrying for cover. One kick from those powerful legs could do unimaginable damage.

With this not working we decided the only chance we had of getting her standing again would be to drag and skid her out of the stable on her back. Salvage sheets were laid out to act as skid aids and it took all of us pulling on lines and manoeuvring her legs with crooks before the horse unceremoniously finally came out into the stable yard on her back. We then allowed the horse to recover before once again using straps to help to pull her back to her legs and this time we were successful. A very emotional owner was able to walk her around the yard, a little the worse for wear but remarkably agile after its ordeal.

A road traffic accident in thick fog just outside Corby Glen presented us with different challenges. On arrival, there were casualties thrown clear from a head-on crash and one passenger trapped inside a vehicle. It was then a matter of prioritising which casualty to deal with first. With a crew of five, we were glad to see the police already on scene and dealing the traffic build up.

The passenger in the vehicle actually appeared to be the least injured of everyone and, leaving a

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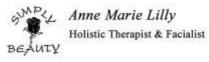
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casualty carer with him, we assessed the remaining two casualties who were being cared for by passers-by. Grantham's appliance was next to arrive and I was able to instruct them to begin the extrication of the casualty in the car.

With the help of two of Corby's personnel they set about cutting the roof off the vehicle. Active safety systems in modern cars present us with all sorts of challenges and Grantham's Crew Manager was so impressed by the knowledge of one of our Firefighters, Matt Smith, that he singled him out for special praise at the incident. One of the great advantages of retained firefighters is the many and varied personal trade skills that we can bring into play at an incident. Thankfully none of the casualties appeared to be seriously injured and they were soon all on their way to hospital in the care of the ambulance crews.

A recent well reported incident certainly threw something else into the mix. For the first time in my 28 years with the Service the incident printout read "light aircraft into

building". Our local knowledge gave us an advantage over other crews attending and within a few minutes we were in attendance.

On approach the wing tip of the aircraft could be seen jutting out from a bungalow roof. The air ambulance crew were already in attendance but were unable to approach too closely because of the fuel pouring out from bottom facing wing. We quickly deployed a hosereel and a dry powder extinguisher. Utilising the short extension ladder, we were able to get air ambulance crew up to the pilot who was still stranded in his damaged cockpit. Although very confused and disorientated, he had what appeared to be only slight injuries.

Our main problem was getting the pilot down from his perilous position. Grantham's rescue appliance carries a Heavy Goods Vehicle access platform which we able to utilise to give us the height and solid working area needed to transfer the pilot onto a spine board. Remarkably, the pilot was not trapped and, although it was quite a difficult manoeuvre, we

Lincolnshire Police—Restorative Justice

Lincolnshire Police has a Restorative Justice resolution programme that brings criminals and victims together. There are a number of critics of Restorative Justice, who say it's a soft option and policing on the cheap, but in reality it provides a real voice for victims and an opportunity to influence what should happen to the offender. An impressive 92% of victims, who provided feedback after their offence was dealt with by a restorative resolution in Lincolnshire, stated they would recommend it to others.

Parish Councils have been asked if they wish further information and are invited to request leaflets and/or a Restorative Justice Coordinator to attend a public meeting. Please see the Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe website for more details:

http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/ToftcumLoundandManthorpe/section.asp?catId=26426

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had sufficient crew for it all to go quite smoothly. The injured pilot was soon in the air again but this time in the air ambulance.

Faced with what to do now with a light aircraft balanced precariously on a bungalow roof, it suddenly struck me that I had a friend who actually flies out of the airfield involved. A quick phone call and

he arrived to give some expert advice which proved invaluable to us and investigating police officers. Many thanks to that person, you know who you are, local knowledge really is one of the main assets for any emergency service!

Watch Manager Lynch

Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

The Christmas Whist Drive

The last Whist Drive of the year was held on Friday 12th December in the Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill when £117 was raised for Church funds. Among the winners were:

GENTS LADIES

1st Mr. M. Brace 1st Mrs. W. Stratton

2nd Mrs. P. Cranfield 2nd Miss E. Munton

3rd Mrs. P. Garrard 3rd Mrs. V. Curtis

Among the raffle winners were Mrs A. Blanchard, Mrs. P. Garrard, Mrs J. Templeman, Mrs. S. Hartley, Mrs M. Imminck, Mrs G. Stanford, Mr. S. Osborne, Mrs. H. Strickson, Mrs J. Osborne, Mrs M. Barlow, Miss E. Munton and Mrs E. Basdon. Many thanks to everyone who donated prizes - there was a wonderful display, and for the refreshments. Donations of prizes and are always most acceptable, so please keep them coming. At the November Whist Drive £100 was raised

Future Dates for Whist Drive: Friday February 20th at 7.0pm Friday March 20th at 7.0pm

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Contributors are reminded that the cut-off for assured entry into next edition of The Three Towers is the 10th of the previous month. Please send your contributions to the editor: the3towers@gmail.com or the Advertising Manager: member@witham2001.fsnet.co.uk. Of course, you can always use a pen and send your contribution to Fr Andy at The Vicarage. We thank everyone for their support to The Three Towers and look forward to your continued support.

Witham on the Hill WI

New member Juliet Renner was welcomed by our President, along with all our ladies, to our Christmas Meeting. The entertainment followed the business section and caused some amusement among our members when our President and Margaret Rine read a Christmas based story, entitled the Shepherd and the Psychiatrist. However, that was just the beginning. A guiz had been organised by Sue Cork, with suitably seasonal questions, also our 'baby' photos were arranged around the room to guess who was who! Refreshments. consisting of the most delightful savoury and sweet temptations, with wine and other drinks to choose from, had us all in the mood to continue the festivities. Ann Burbidge introduced us to the game 'Play your cards Right' with strong competition between the two teams. The raffle was won by Margaret Rine and the competition by Jean Marshall and Fiona Darroch. Finally we all dived into Santa's Sack for a surprise gift. Great fun was had by all. Hambleton peninsula will see our stalwart hikers in January and the table tennis will resume in February. Our Christmas lunch

will be in Witham when all will indulge in good fare. February will also be the month for our Games afternoon - which, at the moment, is a complete mystery! Our next meeting is on 3rd February 2015, when we will have a go at circle dancing with Julie Bell. We look forward to seeing our members along with new. In the meantime we wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year. For further information contact Jane Clark, tel 01778 590232.



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SWINSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes the Parish Council meeting held 8th January 2015

Present: B. Lynch – Chairman, C. Lunn, S. Webb, PCSO S. Bowden andMrs J.M. Hunt-Webb (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies: G. Brown, M. Somerville
- 2. Declarations of Interest: None
- 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting: The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th November 2014 were agreed as an accurate record and signed.
- 4. Correspondence: The following had been received:

An e-mail from SKDC regarding the removal of the metal stake which supported the litter bin recently removed on the High Street.

The SKDC Minerals and Waste Plan for consultation by 5th February 2015.

A Helping Hand advertisement which has been passed to the Three Parishes magazine for publication.

Details of a Budgetary Planning and VAT seminar for Parish Councillors on 24th January at Rippingale.

An advisory note from the Local Government Chronicle that sector -led Local Improvement Grants have been cut by 10%.

Details of the LCC Funding Advice network Grants Scheme.

- 5. Financial Report: The report was presented and agreed. It was agreed to retain the precept for 2016 17 at the same level as that for 2015-16
- 6. Highways: A reply is still awaited from LCC following the Parish Council's request for "Hidden Dip" signs top be sited both ways on the A151 to the west of the Forstedd Hill junction.

A Closure Sign has been deployed warning of forthcoming remedial works on Park Road. Yellow road markings have been made in Park Road to indicate the extent of forthcoming muchneeded carriageway repairs.

Recent works to the drainage system seem to have been effective with a resultant decrease in standing water through the village.

7. Buttercross: Quotations for work to the base should be available for consideration at the next meeting. The work will require approval from LCC Highways.

8. Croake Hill: The Parish Council continues to receive anecdotal reports of further anti-social behaviour including loud hammering on resident's doors through the night. PCSO Bowden stressed the need for residents to ring 101 as soon as possible as these events occur and also to report them to SKDC.

PCSO Bowden makes regular adhoc visits to the village. If operational pressures allow, he also times his visits to co-incide with those of the Mobile Library so that residents can let him know of any concerns they may have. (Residents are encouraged to use the Mobile Library on a "Use it or Lose it" basis and the forthcoming dates will be placed on the noticeboard.)

It was agreed that District Councillor Nick Robins would be appraised of these latest concerns.

PCSO Bowden reported that since June 2014, there had been a total of 28 incidents reported for the village of which three were concerns for safety, three suspicious circumstances (door knocking etc) one of violence which was not treated as a crime, three for theft including monies taken from the church, and an attempted burglary where items

were disturbed, eight Anti-Social Behaviour calls which included noise nuisance, malicious communications and an apparent abandoned vehicle, two for criminal damage and three abandoned or hoax calls. He stressed that compared to elsewhere, these statistics were on the low side.

- 9. Community Wildlife Orchard: The orchard is in good order generally with work on hedge trimming to be organised shortly.
- 10. Dog Fouling: Council members were appalled to hear of incidences of persistent dog fouling within the Churchyard in spite of notices banning the walking of dogs within its confines. Arrangements for new, more prominent notices are in hand and residents are asked to report any instances of dog fouling in the Churchyard or anywhere through the village to members or the Parish Clerk.
- 11. Councillors' Reports: A letter is to be sent to a resident whose hedge has over-grown a footpath.

Quotations will be sought for the supply of a replacement seat located at the entrance to Croake Hill. It was also noted that the Notice Board requires some refurbishment and costings for this will also be obtained.

12. Date and Time of next meeting: Thursday 5th March 2015, 7pm.

Time Meeting finished: 8:23pm

29th October to 20th November Open Art Competition Exhibition of Entries

Swinstead News

Dog fouling - Someone is exercising their dog in the St Mary's Church Churchyard and not cleaning up after themselves.

Please note that dogs are not allowed in the Churchyard; the only exceptions are Guide dogs or Assistance dogs.

Steam Action AGM

Hello and Happy New Year! The Steam Action AGM meeting will be held in Edenham Village Hall on Wednesday 11th Feb at 7.30pm in the meeting room.

This is a public meeting open to anyone who would like to know more about Steam Action or become involved. Lucie

Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery Programme for 2015

1st to 29th April Lesley Dyason, Lyn Armitage, Keith Sturgess Paintings

6th May to 3rd June Maureen McCormick 'War Brides' Paintings

10th June to 8th July Pat Armstrong, Robert Bibby, Jane Sanders Ceramics

15th July to 12th August Prue Pye and Kathryn Parsons Paintings & Ceramics

19th August to 16th September Celia and George Slack Paintings

23rd September to 21st October Willoughby Memorial Trust 50th Anniversary Display

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Notes of the Edenham Parish Council Meeting 13th January 2015

Open Forum. Three members of the public present - Concern raised over yet another road traffic accident on A151 (Near to Grimsthorpe House, Grimsthorpe) incident details to be recorded on Parish Accident Log. Details were also given on consideration being given by Grimsthorpe Estate to the possible change of use of the old post office/residence, Edenham. The re-occupancy/ utilisation of this empty property was welcomed by the meeting subject to the necessary planning application etc being granted. Clarity was requested on the progress of the planned upgrade of the current broadband service throughout the parish - Cllr Hill (LCC) stated that superfast broadband roll-out plans were progressing and gave details of the council's website where information could be found on specific locations. The main villages of Edenham and Grimsthorpe are hopefully to be included in 2015, however the

outlying farms etc could be somewhat later. The poor standards of recent pothole repairs carried out on Scottlethorpe Road were also commented on. Cllr Hill took note and outlined the County Council's plans to improve pothole repair procedures and equipment. The chairman thanked the members of the public for their attendance.

All parishioners are reminded that the Open Forum at each Parish Council meeting is their opportunity to voice concern/raise local issues with their councillors. They are also reminded that the Local Election will take place in May; hence it is an opportunity for anyone interested in contributing to their local community to step forward and stand for election to the council. Details can be obtained by contacting the parish clerk at edenham.pc@btinternet.com or contacting any of your current councillors.

Highways: Chairman requested that details of any road traffic accidents witnessed/reported (however minor) within the Parish should be passed to the clerk. This

will allow a more accurate account of the road safety to be passed to Highways/Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership who only receive reports if police/ emergency services are involved. A total of 7 incidents have been reported since the last PC meeting in November.

Financial Matters: Proposed annual budget for year 2015/16 studied and agreed. It was also agreed that the Precept upon SKDC for the year should remain the same as year 2014/15 at £2,750.

Play Area Maintenance: Site meeting to discuss a joint maintenance contract with Edenham Village Hall committee for maintenance of the Children's Play Area and Village Hall Surrounds to be arranged. Report at next meeting.

Dog Fouling. Reports received about dog fouling - in particular along Scottlethorpe Road, Edenham. All dog owners are reminded that it is their duty to clean up after their pets wherever they are and be considerate to

other footpath and road users.

Property Address. Householders/ Businesses are reminded that their properties should be clearly identified with a house number or name. Could the emergency services easily find you if the unfortunate should happen and you called on their services?

The next meeting of the Edenham Parish Council will take place in Edenham Village Hall on Tuesday March 10th, 2015 at 7:30pm





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************* 米 JANE'S SEASONAL RECIPE 米 It has been a bumper year for carrots in our garden – the largest we 米 have ever had, mainly due to the load of soil we bought from British 米 💥 Sugar! So this quick and easy variation on carrot soup is worth a try, if you like something a bit different. 米 SPICY CARROT & COCONUT SOUP ***** 1 TABLESPOON OIL **※** 700 G CARROTS, PEELED & CHOPPED 米 ***** 1 ONION, PEELED & CHOPPED ***** 2 CLOVES OF GARLIC, FINELY CHOPPED 米 ***** 1 TEASPOON CUMMIN SEEDS ***** 1 LITRE VEG STOCK ***** 400 ML CAN OF LIGHT COCONUT MILK ***** 2 TABLESPOONS FRESH CORIANDER, CHOPPED 米 1 TABLESPOON DESICCATED COCONUT, TOASTED 米 米 Heat the oil in a pan, Add veg & cumin seeds. Cook over moderate 米 heat for 5 mins, stirring. Pour in stock, bring to boil, cover & simmer for 20 mins. Liquidise & add coconut milk. Heat through. Serve in warm bowls, with swirl of coconut milk & a sprinkling of coriander & toasted coconut. ₩ SERVES 4 ************

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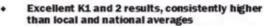




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Contact our school to make an appointment and visit at a time that suits you.



- Historical links with Grimsthorpe Castle and estate
- Well-established partnership with Grimsthorpe Pre-school - Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs available.
- Great breadth of provision for ICT, Music, the Arts and Sport
- Excellent opportunities for out-door learning including a Forest School
- Dedicated and creative staff
- A committed local community
- Strong pastoral and spiritual links with our local church

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

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Edenham School

After all the excitement and delights of the Christmas term, the children have settled back into school for a busy term 3. The final week of term included a visit to Grimsthorpe for their wonderful pre-school concert, Christmas productions (photos of which are on the website), Christmas lunch, a wonderful party followed by an Advent carol service and we even found time to make Christingles for the church!

The school community also bid farewell to Mrs Kong – she has taught at Edenham in many different capacities over recent years, in KS1, modern foreign languages for KS2 and Music throughout. She is a very talented lady, and she will be missed.

Term 3 began with an Epiphany family service led by Father Andy with a procession of wise men and gifts to the stable. On Tuesday 13th the children in years 2, 3, 4 start swimming lessons in Bourne for 10 weeks and after-school clubs recommence.

February 2nd sees us attending a

Candlemass, everyone is welcome.

On Friday 6th February the whole school is going to visit the National Space centre in Leicester. We are all really excited about this – we look forward to seeing Edenham School transformed into a Launchpad or Mars research station before the Spring is over!

The following week on February 11th Class 1 are hoping to visit Horbling School to take part in celebrations for the Chinese New Year involving Dragon dances and Chinese food.

Later activities will include Billy's Branston Potato Bus, a Hot Dog lunch, Sports Relief and Lent.

In between all of this, teachers and students are extremely busy learning together under the new National Curriculum. We are particularly enjoying developing Geography and History using the outdoors as much as we can. The area surrounding Edenham is so beautiful and richly resourced – we are extremely lucky.

Have a look at our website for

pictures and pointers – www.edenham.lincs.sch.uk

Admissions to Edenham School

Applications for the Reception intake for September this year will now have closed. It has been a pleasure to meet so many families during the Autumn Term. If you are new to the area and have missed the deadline, contact Schools Admissions – you'll find their detail on the Lincolnshire.gov website.

If you are seeking a school place for your child, please contact the school office on 01778 591207 or at enquiries@edenham.lincs.sch.uk and make an appointment to come and visit. We look forward to meeting you.

GARDENER/PAINTER & DECORATOR References Available Local Resident 01778 426409 Jason Kendall

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It's about time

Editor: the3towers1@gmail.com

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PARISH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2015			
	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
1 st February Candlemass The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord		10.30am Three Parishes Candlemass Service	6pm Service to begin week of guided prayer Vicarage
8 th February 2 nd Sunday before Lent	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 6pm Service to end week of guided prayer Vicarage
15 th February Sunday next before Lent	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 6pm Evening Prayer
18 th February Ash Wednesday	9am Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes		7.30pm Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
22 nd February 1 st of Lent	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 6pm Compline and meditation at the Vicarage
1 st March 2 nd of Lent	8.45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion 6pm Compline and meditation at the Vicarage

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

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