

The Three Towers

March 2015

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



Public Access Defibrillators are installed and ready for use in Manthorpe and Toft.

The Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council put in a bid to the British Heart Foundation in February 2014 for two public access defibrillators. The Foundation approved our bid at the beginning of May and agreed to purchase the defibrillators provided we paid a proportion of the costs.

It was the Parish Council's responsibility to find suitable locations for the units and purchase appropriate secure cabinets. We are grateful to Joy and Michael Dawson for agreeing to the Manthorpe unit being sited at Mill Farm Barn and to the Toft House Hotel for agreeing to the Toft unit being sited in an external porch.

As it is sited outside, the Manthorpe cabinet is fitted with a heater to make sure the defibrillator pads will work correctly, even in the depths of winter. For security, both cabinets have keypad locks and are fitted with alarms that sound when the cabinet door is opened.

In Case of Emergency - Dial 999 or 112 from a mobile

. The **ambulance service will** know your location from the landline or mobile you are using and will **give you the access code** to the cabinet if a defibrillator is needed. Enter the code into the keypad and open the door. Take the defibrillator to the emergency.



Parish Notices

WELCOME to Jess Cooke and Johnny Lyon and Jet the dog to Scoth Farm, Edenham - we hope they will be very happy.

CONDOLENCES to Sylvia Foster and family on the loss of Hubert on 26 January. Sylvia and Hubert lived in Manthorpe for many years.

Saturday 21st March Susan Johnson will hold a Coffee Morning in aid of the Edenham Church Appeal at 30 Scottlethorpe Road 10.00 am to 12.00 midday. Cake Stall and Raffle. All welcome.

Parish Clerk Vacancy The Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council requires a replacement clerk. The Council runs 6 meetings a year and, according to our District Councillor, it runs fun meetings. No previous council experience is required but an ability to produce a record of the meetings and numeric literacy is required. Please contact the editor on the3towers1@gmail.com if you are interested in this paid part-time job and wish to know more about it.

Whist Drive

A Whist Drive was held on Friday 16th January when approx. £75 was raised for Church Funds. Among the winners were:

GENTS

1st Mrs A Blanchard

2nd Mrs M Imminck

3rd Mrs G Templeman

LADIES

1st Mrs B Carter

2nd Mrs P Collier

3rd Mrs E Basden

Among the raffle winners were Mrs.E.Basden, Mrs.M.Imminck, Miss E.Munton, Mrs G.Stanford, Mrs.H.Strickson, Mrs.V.Curtis and Mrs.J.Templeman. Thank you to all those who supported the evening and to those who kindly provided prizes - these are always gratefully received. The next Whist Drive is on Friday 20th March 7.0pm in the Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill.

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THE VICAR'S WRITES

I write this on the first day of Lent – Ash Wednesday and every kind of media is full of reaction to the Church of England's House of Bishops' letter to politicians. I haven't read the letter yet – not least because it's rather long (about twenty thousand words) and the time elapsed between my writing this and you reading it may render everything that follows irrelevant, but I have a few observations to make.

The first is that much as the Bishops would like to make some Christian contribution to the political discussion of the nation they are unlikely to achieve anything of the sort. One reason for this is that they are not distinctly Christian. They are Bishops of a church that is so bound up with the political establishment they have hardly any distinguishing features or language. They are, as a body, ultra –sensitive about their place in the House of Lords and would never do anything to jeopardise it. The latest example of this was the

furor over women bishops in November 2013. Parliament went berserk after the measure was turned down and the Bishops ran to the General Synod with plans to bring the legislation back so fast they had to change all the rules! It is very unlikely that a bishop will say 'boo' because they are frightened of cooking their own parliamentary goose.

The second is that for the past thirty years the House of Bishops, and with them the rest of the Church of England, has largely been a rubber stamp to most changes in society, playing a furious catch up game on remarriage of divorcees, women's equality and very soon (no doubt) gay marriage. The Church of England has for the most part become a humanist body with the Divine being relegated to a comforting numinous presence. Modern liturgy serves a very matey God compared to the exalted holiness of the Divinity worshipped in the more traditional liturgy of the Book of Common Prayer. This humanising of God is seen in the new alternative

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Baptism rite which has removed both any mention of sin or Satan as being too off –putting to young families. Ironically removing one of the reasons for being Baptised – deliverance from the powers of evil and a rejection of the devil.

For these reasons and many others the media, left, right and centre, will have great fun carving up the Episcopal letter and use it as further evidence in the case for disestablishment, and another reason for dismissing the Church of England as a rather tired and irrelevant cultural backwater.

As priest in the Church of England all this fills me with sorrow and penitence because we have so squandered opportunities to witness to the glorious liberty that belongs to those who are children of God. The Gospel of Christ crucified is one, as St Paul says, in which God 'nailed all human power and authority to the cross' casting a judgement on the way human society orders itself. At his trial Jesus pointed out to Pilate, the Roman Governor; 'You would have no power if it had not been

given you from above.' This echoes words of Jesus at the last supper when he says to his disciples 'in the world great men make people feel the weight of their authority' [It is something that presses down] 'that is not how it should be among you, whoever would be great among you must be the servant of all.'

That is something I hope the Bishops wrote to those in the political life of our nation. 'Your job is to serve not to expect to be served – if you wish to exercise power you must first learn to recognise your own needs and weakness and love tenderly, do justly and walk humbly with God.' That is something worth saying and something worth living by.

Weekly Activities for Lent at Edenham Regional House and in the Parishes of Edenham, Witham on the Hill and Swinstead

Sundays: 6.00pm – Guided meditation followed by Compline - Stable Chapel

Tuesdays: Lent Course 2015: Confident Discipleship



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Become more excited about what a life lived with Jesus can be like;

Discover appropriate resources for the journey ahead;

Become more confident disciples of Jesus.

Venue: Edenham Regional House
Tuesday 3rd, 10th 17th and 24th
March at 2:30pm.

For further details contact Judy Watson on 01778 441128 or email watsonjs1@aol.com

Thursdays: Food for Thought at Witham Parish Hall

11.00am Coffee followed by Bible Study (on next Sunday's Gospel)

12.00pm Soup and cheese lunch proceeds to Christian Aid – minimum donation £3

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

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 March: 'A quiet day for Passiontide'.

With Palm Sunday and Holy Week only a few days away Sister Rachel Overton (who among other things is Spirituality Advisor in Peterborough Diocese) will lead a day to help participants prepare for this vital time in the Christian year.

Suggested Contribution: £12.50 includes Lunch

Weekday Eucharist

Wednesday 9:00am Swinstead:
Thursday 7:15am Witham: Friday
12:00pm Stable Chapel: Saturday
12:00pm Stable Chapel.

In Lent these services will follow the Order for Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer.

Three Parishes Choir, also known as the Dibley Singers, will practice for the services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday on Wednesdays 18th and 25th March from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Vicarage all are welcome!

Volunteers needed urgently to

organise and host coffee mornings in aid of Edenham Church Roof repairs, starting in April and once a month thereafter. For more information **PLEASE** contact Ruth on 01778 591328 A.S.A.P. There is a new Flower rota in church waiting to be filled in. PLEASE take a look at it sometime and put your name down against one of the dates available. It doesn't have to be anything expensive or grand in the way of flowers, it could be just greenery, or greenery with candles, or even some pot plants; anything that will help decorate the church each week.

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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.

Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery Programme for 2015

1st to 29th April 'Grass Roots'

Lesley Dyason, Lyn Armitage, Keith Sturgess *Paintings*

6th May to 3rd June 'War Brides : Promise & Sacrifice'

Maureen McCormick *Paintings*

10th June to 8th July 'Colour & Clay'

Pat Armstrong, Robert Bibby, Jane Sanders *Ceramics*

15th July to 12th August 'Life Essence'

Prue Pye and Kathryn Parsons *Paintings & Ceramics*

19th August to 16th September 'The Nature of Things'

Celia Slack and George Slack *Paintings*

23rd September to 21st October

Willoughby Memorial Trust 50th Anniversary *Archive*
Exhibition

29th October to 20th November

Open Art Competition *Exhibition of Entries*

Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council Meeting 22nd January 2015 Clerk's Notes

Matters Arising:

Restorative Justice: The Parish Councillors agreed that we should contact the co-ordinator to see if a speaker would come and run an educational session on restorative justice.

Actions: Clerk

1. Contact Co-ordinator re potential meeting.
2. Contact residents via e-mail to establish how many would attend a meeting.
3. If meeting is planned, share information with other local councils and encourage others to participate.
4. Ask for permission to place a notice in Toft House Hotel.

Put notices on village notice boards.

SKDC Sandbags Offer: Sand Bags and sand have been ordered by the Clerk and she is waiting for a delivery date. Discussions are underway to agree on a storage site.

Action: Clerk –Speak to SKDC to hold off delivery. Ask SKDC when and how the sand is likely to be

delivered.

Faulty streetlamp, Manthorpe: Contrary to the LCC street lighting department's advice, the faulty street light in Manthorpe has still not been repaired.

Action: Clerk – Report fault once more to LCC

Highways:

Toft:

Fairways No Through Road Sign: Mrs Cook reported that there had been no further response from residents. Item closed

Footpath: Mrs Cook reported that Mr Lees has withdrawn his offer to sell the land for the footpath following contact with LCC. It does not appear that there is any possibility of this going ahead now, which is very disappointing for those involved over a 12 year period in trying to get a new footpath. Item closed

Mrs Cook reported that resurfacing work was carried out on Fairways.

Manthorpe:

Bridge: The dip in the road on the bridge has been filled in. It is being monitored by Highways. Item closed

Dip in the road outside The Wilderness on Wilsthorpe Road

∞ *R.J. Scholes* ∞
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appears to have further deteriorated. LCC Highways, Mr Brumfield, said that no action would be taken but the situation would be monitored.

Lound: Grass verges: Deep ruts following a recent traffic diversion remain and are in need of repair. A Lound resident confirmed that he had already reported this but, to date, nothing had been done. Highways have issued a case number and it has issued a work order.

Action: Chairman – Follow up progress of this repair

Planning Applications:

Shade Greener: Biomass Boiler – application passed by LCC.

Manor House Farm: no comments to be made.

County Councillor's Report:

Offsted carried out an inspection on the Childrens service – good service meeting children's needs when required. 5 out of 6.

County Council proposing to increase its share of the council tax by 1.9% - this will be required to be cleared by full council in February.

At the last full council meeting in December it was decided to recommend to boundaries

commission that there should be a reduction in the number of councillors. Change will be in place for the next elections in May 2017

District Councillor's Report:

Mrs Channell is holding a group meeting at Carlby Village Hall on Tuesday 24 Feb from 7.00 to 9.00 pm to discuss planning matters. There will be 3 speakers: Paul Thomas, Justine Johnson and Rachel Armstrong.

Parish Property:

Defibrillators: Manthorpe defibrillator found to be faulty. It was found that the cabinet fuse had blown and this has been replaced with a spare. Mr Cork contacted the provider who stated that this fault had occurred in some other boxes due to a current surge when the heater comes on. They will therefore supply a less sensitive type of fuse. Toft House Hotel defibrillator was checked on 16 January, tick all OK and alarm fully working.

Financial Summary

Barclays Current a/c £3555.55

Barclays Saving a/c £1055.58

Melton BS £21107.00

Next meeting: Thursday 2 April 2015 at 7.30 pm at the Toft Hotel.

Witham on the Hill WI

President, Julia Haynes, welcomed members and our speaker, Julia Bell, to this our first meeting of 2015. Hardy members are looking forward to the walk on 17th March though the venue is yet to be decided. Our Book Cub is going strong and we can't wait to start reading 'The Storyteller' by Jodi Picoult and 'Hope in a Ballet Shoe' by Michaela DePrince. Monday 9th February will see us enjoying a Social Afternoon with games, chat and refreshments at the Parish Hall in Witham on the Hill. The Annual meeting in April invites members to show their skills in all crafts, using various mediums, ready for the display at Sleaford in September. What a splendid evening we had with Julie Bell who demonstrated her extensive knowledge of dances from around the world. There was no shortage of ladies who leapt at the chance of "tripping the light fantastic" and keeping warm on a cold winter evening! The March meeting will welcome Denise Taylor from Hearing Dogs for the Deaf; and we have been collecting our used postage stamps for this charity. As usual, a very warm welcome awaits any lady wishing to join in the fun. Jane Cark tel 01778 590232.

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Witham on the Hill

Parish Hall

OPEN GARDENS 2015

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

28th JUNE 2015

This event is probably the most important in the Parish Hall's calendar for fund raising to help cover maintenance and running costs.

We have previously been able to open more than 10 gardens for this event which has been enjoyed by both local villagers and visitors. It is proposed that we will hold the event this year on Sunday 28th June. We need at least 10 and a maximum of 12 gardens to ensure a great day. We hope that you will be able to open your garden for this important, fun event.

For further information or to confirm your participation please:
email Richard Burbidge ribur@btinternet.com
or call 01778 590132

We look forward to hearing from you.

View from the Pew

As I was tidying some files I came across this and I thought I would like to share it.

God's Dream

I myself will dream a dream within you
Good dreams come from me, you know
My dreams seem impossible, not too practical
Not for the cautious man or woman
A little risky, sometimes a trifle brash perhaps
Some of my friends prefer to rest more comfortably in sounder sleep
With visionless eyes
But for those who share my dreams I ask a little
Patience, a little humour, some small courage and
A listening heart
I will do the rest.

Charles Peguy

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Edenham Village Hall Committee

Edenham Village Hall Committee is holding its AGM on 29th April 2015 at 7:30pm. Over the past year we have had a lot of feedback and comments regarding the new running and booking procedures for the hall. As a team of volunteers we are always looking for new committee members with new ideas who want to make a difference to an important part of our local community; if you would like to be involved in the decision making

and procedures for the hall then feel free to join us on the night or get in touch beforehand by emailing info@edenhamvillagehall.co.uk or on call 01778 591197.

Swinstead News

2 March Whist Drive in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

9 March Easter Bingo in the Village Hall at 7.30pm



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Witham on the Hill Parish Council Acting Clerk's Notes of the Meeting on 12 January

Car Parking on the Village

Green: Little positive support for the extended parking area on the Green has been forthcoming and the PC has only a fraction of the funds needed to put the scheme into effect in any case. Against this background it has been decided not to renew the Planning Application. As an alternative the PC will investigate ways of making the existing parking area more user-friendly and more obvious to those who are visitors to the village. Local residents are encouraged to use the spaces already available rather than parking along the road outside the church and Village Hall.

The Boules Pitch: Several people have kindly offered to help restore this to its former glory in the Spring and the PC very much hopes that, once restored, it will be more used, and better maintained, going forward.

Street Lights: Rather than these being turned off at night between the village and the cross-roads at the bottom of the hill (on the A6121) the PC will explore with SKDC possible alternative forms of lighting which may be cheaper to run and less visually intrusive.

Motocross: The company which ran the motocross site near to West Farm has been told by SKDC to return the site to its original condition but has appealed against this decision. The appeal is due to be considered by the Planning Inspectorate in April and the PC has written expressing the hope that the appeal will not be upheld.

Clerk: A new permanent Clerk has been recruited who will begin work on 1 April. He is Bernard Champness, who lives locally and is very well qualified for the post being also Clerk at the much larger parishes of Thurlby and Bretton. His contact details will be given in a later edition but in the meantime residents can always contact the PC through me – my email address is christophershepherd@btinternet.com.

Meetings: The next PC meeting is due to be held on 9 March and residents are warmly invited to attend in order to raise any matters of concern which fall within the PC's remit. The date of the AGM had been fixed for 11 May but it may now be necessary to change this to fit in with the new Clerk's busy schedule. Details of any changes will be given in advance.

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

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JANE'S SEASONAL RECIPE

Still on a carrot theme, these brownies are very rich, so do cut them into very small pieces!

CHOCOLATE AND CARROT BROWNIES

150g Bournville dark chocolate

120ml sunflower oil

175g sugar

1 egg

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

50g cocoa

125g sr flour

4 tablespoons milk

150g grated carrots

50g white chocolate

Melt dark choc. Leave to cool. Whisk oil, sugar, egg & vanilla. Stir in cocoa, flour, milk, grated carrot & cooled dark choc. Mix well.

Spoon into a greased 24 cm square tin & bake 180c for 25 mins.

Leave to cool in tin. Drizzle melted white choc over the top of the cake.

Leave until quite cold – preferably overnight so that the cake firms up. Cut into small squares. If cut too soon, the cake will be very crumbly.



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

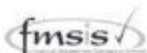
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If Only?

We have recently passed through Remembrance Tide, which in the year of 2014 had an added significance in the commemoration of the beginning of WW1. Back in 1998 I preached a sermon on Remembrance Sunday, based on an article which appeared, that year, in the Royal British Legion magazine. This article discussed what the world in 1998 might have been like, if WW1 had not taken place.

The article suggested that the world of 1998 could well have looked very different from the world of 1998 in which we were living at the time. What could have happened if Archduke Ferdinand and his wife had not been assassinated on June 28th 1914? That idea alone could have led to there still being an Austro-Hungarian empire. There could still be a Kaiser on the Germanic throne. What of the Common Market? Would it have been a world in which an obscure Russian revolutionary called Lenin had died of a stroke in Geneva, forgotten

except by historians and a few slightly mad followers? Would it have been a world in which an embittered and eccentric Austrian house painter, named Adolf Hitler, had spent his later years involved with extreme right wing groups, in places like Vienna? Would it have been a world in which an Italian journalist, named Benito Mussolini, had built up a newspaper empire to have rivalled that of the Murdock empire? Would it have been a world in which we had not seen Communism, National Socialism or Fascism? Would it have been a world in which the war of 39-45 had not taken place? Would it have been a world that had not seen nuclear weapons, nor the state of Israel, but with large Jewish communities spread throughout Europe in particular, and the world in general, especially New York, all contributing to the greater intellectual and cultural life?

I said in my sermon we could dream and speculate as to what might have been; but we didn't know then, and we don't know now. The reality is that we live in

the world as it is, whether it is 1914, 1939, 1998, or 2015. The constant reality throughout past history, the history of today, and the history yet to come, is the suffering of Jesus Christ, who died for you and me, and all those who gave their lives in history as it was. Never forget that Christ rose from

the dead, and gave us the gateway to eternal life, which is available to all, however history was or might have been.

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

Fr David

Historical Society

Monday 16th March, 7.30pm, Jonathan Smith - "Bourne Water"

The talk looks at the history of the town's mineral water businesses, Bourne was once well known for its pure mineral waters and its roaring trade in bottled water. £2 members, £3 visitors on the door.

Monday 27th April 2015, 7.30pm, Stuart Orme – "Life at Norman Cross": the world's first POW camp

On the outskirts of Peterborough was the Norman Cross Depot which was the world's first purpose-built prisoner of war camp. Built in 1797, the camp was the 'home' of many thousands of Napoleonic prisoners of war. This illustrated talk tells the story of the camp, its inmates and the politics of the whole affair, as well as revealing the remarkable story of the beautiful items made by the prisoners which are now displayed at the Museum. £2 members, £3 visitors on the door.

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PARISH SERVICES FOR MARCH 2015

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
1 st March 2 nd of Lent	8:45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11:15am Parish Communion 6.00pm Meditation and Compline Stable Chapel - Vicarage
8 th March 3 rd of Lent	8:45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11:15am Parish Communion 6.00pm Meditation and Compline Stable Chapel - Vicarage
15 th March Mothering Sunday	10.00am Mothering Sunday Service	10.00am All Age Communion	11:15am All Age Communion 6.00pm Meditation and Compline Stable Chapel - Vicarage
22 nd March Passion Sunday	8:45am Parish Communion	10.00am Parish Communion	11:15am Parish Communion 6.00pm Meditation and Compline Stable Chapel - Vicarage
29 th March Palm Sunday			10:30am Palm Sunday Liturgy 6.00pm Deanery Evening Prayer Old Somerby

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

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