

The Three Towers

May 2015

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





Thursday 7th May 2015

On Thursday 7th May we will be asked to vote for our MP and for our District Councillor. You may even be lucky enough to have so many local people interested in their community that you will have to choose between them to form your Parish Council.

One national newspaper recently reported Manchester Central as the most politically apathetic city in the UK. Please do not let this happen to us in our villages!

People all over the world are have given their lives for the privilege to decide on how and by whom they are governed.

**No matter what your political colour is or if you are more than a bit fed up with our politicians,
YOUR VOTE WILL COUNT!**

Thursday 7th May - General, District and Parish Election

Thursday 14th May & 11th June, 11am - Bible Study at St Andrew's Parish Hall Witham on the Hill; followed by a simple soup lunch - donations to Christian Aid. Everyone welcome.

Saturday 16th May, 10am to 12 noon - Coffee morning with cake stall and raffle at Bothy Cottage Grimsthorpe. Glenys and Eddy Peeling are your hosts. All are welcome and proceeds will go to the Edenham Church Raise the Roof appeal.

Cryptic Cakey Conundrum - deadline for entry 14th June. In aid of the Edenham Church Raise the Roof appeal. Quiz sheets £2 each available at above coffee morning or from David Kelby (01778 426820) Pam Cranfield (01778 591375) or Ruth Atter (01778 591328). Draw of correct quiz sheets will take place on 6th July at the Edenham Church Garden Fete. The prize is a homemade cake or bake once a month for 6 months from July to December 2015, each provided by a different Edenham Church star baker!

Tuesday 19th May, 7pm - Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM in the Toft Hotel.

CONGRATULATIONS Matthew King and Emma Pratt on your marriage at Edenham Church on 28 March.

BAPTISM Sophie Marshall Roberts, granddaughter of Rachel and Jeremy Marshall Roberts at Edenham on 12 April.

BAPTISM Penny and Otto, children of Clare (nee Renner) and Gareth Burley at Witham on the Hill on 19 April.

E-mail notices -Toft, Lound & Manthorpe - If you wish to receive local information notices then please send your name, house address and e-mail address to the editor at the3towers1@gmail.com

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THE VICAR WRITES

The season of Easter lasts fifty days. The first forty recounts the dynamic time of the young Apostolic community coming to terms with their experience of meeting with the Risen Christ, the growing conflict with the Jewish authorities and the dramatic growth in the number of believers. The fortieth day sees the anniversary of the Ascension of Christ – the last occasion the apostles saw and talked with Christ in his resurrected form. Easter ends on the fiftieth day – Pentecost. Pentecost was the temple harvest festival marking the first fruits of the fields and vineyards, and it was at this festival that the young Christian community experienced the dynamism of the Spirit that Jesus had promised would come from the Father which would lead them into all truth: a Spirit of power and love and self-control.

It is this seven weeks that is the time of formation for the Christian faith. In this time all that is needed for its life is given and established. Foremost among this foundation

was the witness of the eleven apostles. Jesus made absolutely certain that all of them knew, with cast iron certainty, that he was Risen. All but one of them were to bear witness to that truth in their own deaths. It is the fact of the resurrection that is the transforming fact of history: more than that it is the transforming fact for the whole created order. In the resurrection of Jesus, creation is being renewed.

Throughout the month of May the worship of our churches looks to this light and listens to this good news. It is also in May that we share two important events; the first is the Parishes' service of Baptism and Confirmation, the second is a service of thanksgiving for the restoration of the roofs at Edenham Church. Both, in their own ways, are witnesses to the fact of the resurrection. They are celebrations of hope for the future and mark new beginnings. This hope is the great Christian virtue: hope transforms all situations in life. Our parish churches and their weekly worship are expressions of this hope being lived out in our midst. Open to all, full of beauty

and, one as visitor commented in the visitors book, 'peace and joy abounds' - and all because the Lord is risen.

Jehovah's Witnesses (JWs)

Several people have brought to my attention an increase of activity by JWs in some of the Three Tower Villages – one having fifty JWs visit on one Saturday morning! I am also aware that in some cases their approach has met with some success. Just to make a few things clear. JWs are not Christians. They do not believe that God was incarnate in Jesus (God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, as Christians profess in the Creed Sunday by Sunday). They believe that Jesus is a being separate to God (identical to Michael the Archangel) and therefore they have no concept of God revealing himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (The Holy Trinity). Therefore, they deny the two central tenets of the Christian Faith, the Incarnation of God in Christ and the Holy Trinity. Their claims are supported by their own version of scripture which in key areas are not the

same as the Bible. I'll say a bit more next month – but these are the essential differences which lead to the construction of a belief and ethical system that do not resemble orthodox Christianity.

REGIONAL HOUSE

Saturday 9th May: 'The Glory of God.' 10am to 4pm.

Bishop Norman Banks returns to Edenham this year leading a day exploring the rich spirituality of Bishop Michael Ramsay; one time Archbishop of Canterbury, whose holiness is recognised with a memorial in the current calendar for worship in the Church of England. Suggested contribution £12.50 includes lunch. To book 01778 591358 or edenhamoffice@gmail.com.

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ANDREW HAWES - COLLECTED POEMS - 1970 - 2014

One of the many things I look forward to at Christmas is receiving Father Andy's Christmas card. A simple home-made card but in it will be Father Andy's Christmas poem. Each year his poem will reveal a new truth about Christmas and each year his poem will help me to approach more closely Christ's love. What a joy then to find that Father Andy's "Collected Poems" was to be published!

From the innocence of the sixteen year old through to the wisdom of the sometimes tortured soul of the sixty year old, one can follow Father Andy's journey through life. The poems are many and vary in inspiration, content and style but all echo the conviction and faith that are Father Andy. Many of us will recognise places, people and events and they will all take on a new meaning and significance when seen through the eyes and filtered through the soul of the poet.

In the blurb we read that using an intimate tone, his poems are concerned with characters, situations and places as well as love, sorrow, spirituality and faith. Indeed they are but they are also genuinely good poetry.

This book of poetry has already given me hours of pleasure and much food for thought and I know that it will continue to do so. If you would like to share this moving journey, "The Collected Poems" is available from The Regional House Bookshop. Andrew Harris

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Fire Station News

The first 3 months of the year have been very busy for the fire crews of Corby Glen as our appliance rolled out of the doors 50 times by the 4th April. All this made life very hectic, so it was nice to reflect on the long service of Firefighter Brian Walsingham when he was awarded the British Empire Medal for his service to the community and for 50 years with the fire brigade.

It is remarkable to think of the changes Brian has seen since joining the Service in 1965. Equipment has evolved, a new station has been built and a new appliance is parked at the station but we must not lose sight that we are really doing the same job with the same goals that Brian joined up for all those years ago. Over seventy guests including the Chief Fire Officer crowded into the fire station to see his medal presentation made by the Queen's representative, the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire. A massive well done to Brian's wife Jill for organising the occasion,

enjoy your day at the Buckingham Palace garden party, you both deserve it.

Of course in that time Brian has been helping us strive to uphold the Service values of 'making Lincolnshire a safer place to live, work and visit'. The all-wheel drive capabilities coupled with winter tyres of our new appliance certainly came into their own when we were called out to a road accident on a minor road near the village of Hawthorpe during one of the few snowy nights of the past year. While other attending appliances struggled to get there, we were unhindered in our journey and were soon in attendance. It was a dark, very cold windy night and the crews did a fantastic job in releasing the driver from his vehicle which had skidded into a ditch. Thanks very much to the driver of the Range Rover who transported the casualty to the waiting ambulance which had not been able to get close because of the icy conditions.

The recent windy weather saw a car blown off the road and into a

dyke. Modern cars offer all sorts of dangers and technical issues to firefighters and one of the first considerations of the incident commander will be to assess any safety systems such as airbags which have not activated. We carry restraints to deal with steering wheel airbags and info to reveal the car's interior to identify all remaining safety systems, cutting through a live safety system cable can cause serious issues for casualties and rescuers alike.

The car's battery will be disconnected early in the incident and ignition keys taken at least twenty metres away so they cannot remain live. At this particular incident we were tasked with a "b post rip" – that is to cut

the middle post of the vehicle away from the vehicle and remove the door to create a bigger exit route as possible – "always make the hole to fit the casualty, not the casualty to fit the hole". We were almost being blown off our feet by the gale force winds but again the crews performed manfully to release the casualty.

Please remember we are still recruiting at the station and looking for those elusive people who can cover on any weekday between the hours of 8am to 5pm. You may be that person, come up and see us on any Tuesday evening 6.30pm onwards to see if you are that person – your fire station needs you!

Watch Manager Lynch

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**ANDREW
HAWES**

**COLLECTED
POEMS
1970 - 2014**



Andrew Hawes is a priest, poet and librettist.

Born in Grimsby in 1954 and schooled at De Aston School, Market Rasen, he left Lincolnshire for six years to study Medieval and Modern History at Sheffield University and to train for the Priesthood at Westcott House Cambridge. He also read for a Theology Degree at Emmanuel College.

Returning to his home Diocese of Lincoln to be ordained in 1980, he spent four years as curate in his birthplace, followed by five years as Vicar of Lutton with Gedney Drove End, Dawsmere, also in Lincolnshire. In 1989 he came to his present post where he is Warden of Edenham Regional House Retreat Centre and Vicar of Edenham, Witham on the Hill and Swinstead.

He has been writing poetry from an early age and has collaborated with his composer brother, Patrick Hawes, by providing the libretto for many musical works.

Andrew Hawes Collected Poems 1970-2014 is the only publication containing all his poetry produced to date and the poems are presented in a chronological sequence according to writing and subject revealing the development of technique and theme.

Using an intimate tone, his poems are concerned with characters, situations and places as well as love, sorrow, spirituality and faith.

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Cover image: Painting by Andrew Hawes of Lawrence Street, Grimsby

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Witham on the Hill WI

SPEAKERS 2015

5 May History of Peterborough Cathedral - Rev Canon Richard Cattle

2 June Sew Friendly - Leanne de Lima Aranjo

7 July Poetry - Doreen Reed

4 August Gardening at Burghley - John Burrows

1 September Here Be Dragons - Richard Adams

6 October Travel Eyes - Lisa Cooper/Amar Latif

3 November Wine tasting with Adnams - Chris Church

1 December Christmas party

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Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Highways

Parish Council Clerk's Notes

2 April 2015

Matters Arising

Restorative Justice: As nothing had been heard back from the general public concerning a briefing on restorative justice, it was decided to take no further action.

Faulty streetlight, Manthorpe: The streetlight had now been repaired.

Planning meeting at Carlby 24 Feb: District Councillor Ibis Channell reported that the meeting went very well. District Councillor Martin Wilkins stressed that even when parish councils do not have any objections to a planning application, SKDC would like to be informed of the parish council's thoughts on the application. This could influence the Planning Committee's approach to any conditions that they may wish to impose on an application.

Sandbags: It was agreed not to take up SKDC's offer of sandbags for flood protection.

Dip in road outside The Wilderness, Manthorpe: LCC Highways stated that no action was necessary but the situation would be monitored.

Street lighting, Manthorpe: It was commented that the streetlamp recently installed on the Wilsthorpe Road is extremely bright and shines directly into the windows of the adjacent houses. (Note, subsequent to the meeting the office responsible for street lighting advised that a cover would be placed around the lamp to reduce the glare into the affected houses.)

Grass verges, Lound: Despite receiving an incident number from LCC Highways, nothing has yet been done to make good the damage caused by a previous traffic diversion around Toft.

Planning Applications

SKDC approved Mr & Mrs Mossman's new vehicular access in Lound.

County Councillor's Report

Councillor Martin Trollop-Bellew informed the Council that:

The Boundary Commission is reducing the number of councillors in Lincolnshire from 77 to 71 and that county councillor allowances had been increased by 2.2%.

Peterborough and Stamford NHS Trust has decided to extend the opening times to the Stamford hospital minor injuries

departments; including weekend and evening cover.

Stamford hospital is an integral part of our local NHS trust with 40% of the trust income coming through Stamford. The trust will spend between £8.5 and £9.2 million in the current financial plan. The Trust is trying to obtain an MRI scanner. It has a portable scanner but intend to purchase a permanent device.

The Stamford hospital Hurst ward will be demolished to make space for 2 additional miniature operating theatres.

Hospital parking would be increased but it is expected that a parking charge will be introduced.

Listed building restrictions demand that the west end of the Stamford site be sold - it cannot be altered and does not comply with the 2004 disability act.

There has been an attempted blackmail of a County Councillor. The blackmailer demanded £10,000 or threatened to accuse the councillor of paedophile activity. Lincolnshire police is aware of the attempt.

District Councillor's Report

The change to the SKDC boundary has meant the removal of District Councillor Ibis

Channell's position. Although she had no report to make, Councillor Channell handed a letter of her appreciation to the Parish Council for their support during her period in office. It was agreed that the Chairman would write and thank Councillor Channell for her excellent work over many years.

Parish Property

Defibrillator Fuses: Fuses for the defibrillator in Manthorpe had been replaced. Both Parish defibrillator are in good condition.

Jasmin Cottage Rent Review: The Parish Council would initiate a rent review of Jasmin Cottage.

Financial Summary

Barclays Current Account - £4610.00; Barclays Saving Account - £1055.58; Melton BS - £21107.00

Small Authorities' Requirements

To ensure compliance with the requirement to publish details of parish matters online, it was decided that details of Parish finance and property would be placed on the Parish website.

Local Elections

As all 5 Parish Councillors will not stand at the next election, all 5 positions on the Council will be

vacant. The possibility and impact of not enough nominations to form a Parish Council was discussed. Should less than 3 parishioners put themselves forward then SKDC would have to call a By-Election. Should this fail to raise sufficient interest then it would be possible for the Parish to be subsumed into another neighbouring parish.

AOB

Roster for grass cutting
Manthorpe Playing field: The Parish Playing Field grass cutting roster is yet to be published. Action is being taken to compile the list. The key to the Parish shed was not returned at the end of the 2014 season. The clerk will have a new key cut.

Some side panelling of the small shed on the Playing Field are broken. These will be repaired.

Disrepair of the Parish Playing Field Boundary Fence: The Boundary fence surrounding the Parish Playing Field is in a very poor state of repair. The clerk would ascertain the Parish responsibility to make good this fence.

Parish Summer Party: It was decided a decision on a possible Parish summer party on the Playing Field would be left to the

new Parish Council.

E-mail Contact Details: It was decided to take action to try to compile a full list of parishioner e-mail contact details.

Back Lane Hedges: A member of the public reported that the footpath leading up towards Back Lane in Toft is overgrown. It was agreed to speak to residents to ask them to clear the path.

Parish Cleaner: Although the Parish no longer has a paid cleaner, we do have one parishioner who carries out this task on a voluntary basis around Manthorpe.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was set for 7.00pm on Tuesday 19th May 2015.

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A Whist Drive was held in the Parish Hall, Witham on the Hill on Friday 20th March when £90 was raised for Church Funds. The winners were:

GENTS

1st Mrs.A.Blanchard
2nd Mrs.M.Imminck
3rd Mr.M.Brace

LADIES

1st Mrs.S.Olley
2nd Mrs.J.Templeman
3rd Mrs.B.Carter

The raffle winners were Miss E Munton, Mrs. D Bennett, Mrs M Imminck, Mrs S Olley, Mr G Templeman, Mrs H Strickson, Mr S Osborne and Mrs T Brace. Thank you to all those who have supported the evening and to all those who kindly donate prizes.

Great British Fish and Chip Supper

Friday 15th May 2015

Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15th May 2015 for Spinal Injuries Association.



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SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

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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.

This year the event will be held on Sunday 28th June from 2pm to 6pm.

Adults £4, children under 16 years free.

Teas and homemade cakes will be served throughout the afternoon at the Parish Hall.

Tea and cake £1.50 per person, soft drinks for children free.

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Swinstead News

4 May Whist drive in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

16 May Bingo in the. Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Flower rota:

2 - 9 May Anita Henson

16-23 May Natachia Henson

30 May - 6 June Jill Barry

Willoughby Gallery

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

Maureen McCormick, the American artist daughter of war bride Elsie Grocock of Swinstead, tells her mother's story in paint. American troops were based at nearby Grimsthorpe Castle during World War II. At village dances the local girls danced with soldiers - they were introduced to men from all over Europe and the USA. Suddenly small village life was opened up to the world. Many war brides, like Elsie, picked up and went to new homes and new countries. The world was larger

then – no mobile phones, no affordable airfare. Many women were promised a different life to the one they actually arrived at. Unlike the many immigrant families who went to America together, war brides left their families and embarked on new lives alone. Women who were homesick or unhappy couldn't just turn around and go home.

Maureen was born in Swinstead and emigrated with her mother to the USA in 1945. Since qualifying and raising her own family, she worked as an artist in Massachusetts, California and France. Maureen now lives in the suburbs of Chicago, shows and sells paintings and teaches. She exhibits at the Atkinson-O'Rourke Gallery.

Among other examples of Maureen's work the loneliness of the war bride in her new surroundings is to honour her mother and the women who sacrificed their lives - whose lives were completely changed by the war.

JANE'S SEASONAL RECIPE

If you still haven't had your quota of chocolate for Easter, try these – delicious; and very simple to make.

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250G SR FLOUR

125G CASTER SUGAR

50G CHOPPED HAZEL NUTS

Blend all the ingredients, except the nuts, in a food processor until smooth. Add the nuts. If the mixture is too crumbly add 1-2 tablespoons water. Form into 1 inch balls. Place on a baking tray, spaced apart, & press each one down lightly with a fork. Bake for approx. 10 mins at 180c. Leave to cool for 5 mins, before transferring to a wire rack to cool. Store in an air-tight tin. (These cookies will be soft set)

Parish Clerk Vacancy -The Toft cum Lound and Manthorpe Parish Council is looking for a replacement clerk. Regretfully, our current clerk is standing down before the Parish Council AGM in May. **This is a paid appointment.** Interested? Then please contact the editor at the3towers1@gmail.com

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

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PARISH SERVICES FOR MAY 2015

	Swinstead	Witham	Edenham
3 rd May 5 th of Easter	8:45am Parish Communion 6pm Evening Prayer	10am Parish Communion	11:15am Parish Communion and Holy Baptism
Friday 8th May			7.30pm Thanksgiving Service
10 th May 6 th of Easter			10:30am Confirmation and Parish Communion
14 th May Ascension Day			7.30pm – In the Vicarage Garden – in Church if inclement.
17 th May 7 th of Easter	8:45am Parish Communion 6.00pm Evening Prayer	10am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
24 th May Pentecost	8:45am Parish Communion	10am Parish Communion 6.00pm Evening Prayer	11.15am Parish Communion
31 st May Trinity Sunday		10:30 am Group	6.00pm Evening Prayer
4 th June Thanksgiving for Holy Communion Corpus Christi	7.30pm Eucharist and time of silent devotion (followed by refreshments)		