



The Witham Word

Here to Serve Your Community - August/September 2017
Sponsored by The Angel Inn, The Parish Council, The Church, VHM, The Blue Cow Inn and The Buffs

Message from the Editor

First of all I would like to thank Clare for all her hard work and dedication over the last few years in editing this publication, The Witham Word. I hope I am able to follow in her footsteps and produce a magazine that is just as informative.

I have no plans to change things drastically, at least in the first instance, though will always be open to any ideas and suggestions from you, the readers, on how things might be improved.

As Clare mentioned in the last edition, to make my job a little easier can I ask that all copy for the Witham Word be typed and sent electronically before the deadline of each issue. If this would be difficult please get in touch with me using the phone number at the foot of this page.

To the right of this piece is an article from our new local correspondent. Hopefully this will be enjoyed by all.

Many thanks.

New contact details are at the bottom of this page.

From Our Local Correspondent

Hello South Witham, I am your new local correspondent. I will be writing to you every 2 months and I might have a rant or a moan, or even an observation or two.

This month I have 10 questions. You don't have to answer them, but might agree with one or two!

1. Why does it always rain when I wash my car?
2. Why, when I indicate at a T-Junction does the driver at said junction not pull out? I have indicated so that they can!
3. Why does anyone watch EastEnders? No-one is surely that mean, nasty, scheming, bitter, twisted etc. etc. It really isn't portraying anything like real life.
4. Why do the birds wait for me to clean my car before crapping all over it?
5. Why does Channel 5 have such depressing programmes like Can't Pay We'll Take It Away, The Butcher Surgeon, Nightmare Tenants and Slum Landlords? (perhaps it should have EastEnders!)
6. Why are weather forecasters nearly always wrong?
7. What is the point of adverts? Stupid people acting stupidly so you will buy what they're selling?
8. Why do people hate Christmas? It's a lovely time of the year, brilliant for children (we were all young once). We should all enjoy it and make the most of it.
9. Why, on Britain's Got Talent and The X Factor, do they always do close ups of the judges on every show? We know what they look like!
10. Why do young terrorists believe they go to heaven when they blow themselves, and others, up? They don't. They die. Unlike the older ones who radicalise the younger ones and live a hell of a lot longer!

In the next issue (October/November) I won't moan so much!

The South Witham Community Group

Invites you to the fortnightly coffee club in the Village Hall
9am - midday
August dates 6th and 20th
September dates 12th and 26th



The perfect opportunity to catch up with friends and make some new ones over a cuppa and a slice of something yummy

All proceeds go back into projects for your Community

SKDC is launching the Big Clean

This is initially a 12 week street cleaning programme for the District starting in August

If you know of any grotspots within South Witham village that need attention, such as graffiti, fly tipping, weeds, litter, broken street furniture/signs etc.

Please report to SKDC at www.southkesteven.gov.uk/skbigclean or by calling 01476 406066

Also if you are willing to help with the clean up, please visit the website for further details.

All material published in *The Witham Word* including adverts, editorials, articles and all other content is published in good faith. Any opinions, beliefs and views expressed in any article do not necessarily reflect the opinion of *The Witham Word*. However *The Witham Word* accepts no liability for any errors or omissions and does not endorse any companies, products or services that appear in this publication.

The Editor reserves the right to edit, shorten or otherwise change as necessary any submission for publication. All submissions must include a name and address, though these can be omitted upon request. Any submission after the deadline may not be included. No group or individual should assume that space will be reserved for them past the submission deadline unless discussed on a monthly basis with the Editor.

Editor: Dave Parish, 6 Hillview Road, South Witham Tel: 01572 767430 Email: editor@wword.south-witham.org.uk
Treasurer: Trish Burton, 13 Moor Lane, South Witham Tel: 01572 768132 Email: treasurer@wword.south-witham.org.uk
Any articles and advertisements for Oct/Nov please ensure you get them to the editor by the 15th Sept 2017 Thank you.



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 Fri - Sunday: £15.00 per hour.
 Children's Party (2 hours): £20.00 (£5 per hour thereafter).
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Cathy Hodgkin: 01572 767519

Email: svvhmc@hotmail.co.uk SWVHMC Mobile: 07745032450
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Bus 28	South Witham to Grantham						
School	7.35	7.55 (SD)	9.30	11.00 (NS)	13.00	14.50 (NS)	17.04
Park Estate	7.40		9.35	11.05	-	-	-
Grantham to South Witham							
S.W		9.00	10.30 (NS)	12.00	14.00 (NS)	16.15	17.45
NS = Not on Saturdays SD = School Days only							
CallConnect - the dial-a-bus service Monday - Saturday Bookings 0845 234 3344 Cancellations 0845 263 8130							

Regular Village Hall Activities

Monday	Yoga	9.30am-10.30
	New Zumba Class Amanda 07557 023009	7-8pm
Tuesday	New Age Kurling- Jane: 01572 768264 Ken: 01572 767676 £2.50 per session	7-9pm
Wednesday	Community Group Fortnightly Coffee Mornings	9am-noon
	New Age Kurling Line Dancing Sandra 07884 437109	2-4pm 7.30-9pm
Thursday	New Zumba Class	7-8pm
Sunday	Football Club David Selby 07940969862	10.30am kick offs
	Circuit Training Steve 07432630956	6-7pm

Local Amenities

Post Office Van

Market Court Lay-by	Tues	8.30-10.30
	Wed	1pm-4pm
	Fri	10.45-1pm
Great Close Store	Mon	3.30pm-5pm
	Tues	10.45-1pm
	Fri	8.30-10.30

Fresh Fish Delivery
 Dean - 01472 236768 / 07766527963

Village Shop: 01572 767225
 Mon-Fri 7.00-20.00;
 Sat 8.00 - 20.00; Sun 9.00 - 18.00

Great Close Store: 01572 768384
 Mon-Sat 6.30 - 21.00;
 Sun 8.00 - 18.00

Mobile Library: 14th Aug, 11th Sep, 9th Oct
 Market Court - 11.30 - 12.30
 Customer Services - 01522 782010

Doctor's Surgery: 01476 860243
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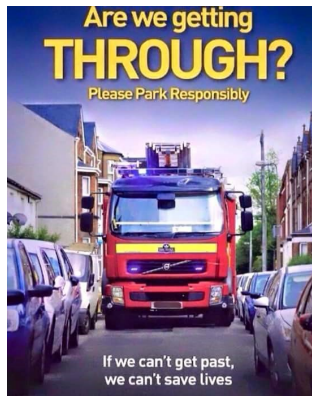
South Witham Social Networks

Twitter:

The village has a Twitter account. Follow
[@southwitham](https://twitter.com/southwitham)

Facebook:

If you are on Facebook you can join one
of the village Facebook groups so you can
see what else happens in and around
South Witham.



**Stamford Rural
Neighbourhood Team**

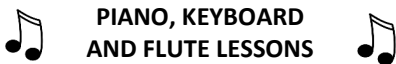
Police Contact Details
Team email:

stamford.npt@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: @lincspolice

Facebook: Stamford NPT

Non Emergency
contact number 101



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FREE SPORTS YOUTH CLUB

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Tuesday 29th August - Friday 1st September 2017
At South Witham Village Hall - 11am-1pm each day



kwik CRICKET

Activities to include:
Badminton Mini Tennis Table Tennis Pool
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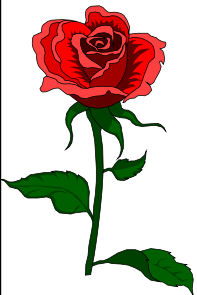
New to 2017:
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South Witham Garden Club



The meeting on 30th May was our annual photography competition, plant sale and quiz. The "single flower" and "garden view" photographs were won by Mrs Jill Baines. Congratulations to her. A good selection of plants brought by members were eagerly snapped up. Mrs Margaret Spiers devised a fantastic and very difficult quiz, which we all enjoyed very much.

Bees were next on the agenda at the next meeting on 27th June. The speaker was Mr. Richard Davies from Farcet, near Peterborough. He told us that he was going to tell stories about bees rather than give a lecture on bee keeping. He spoke about the life cycle of bees and the fact that the queen mates with many males who then die after mating. She lays up to 1,500 eggs each day in early summer. A hive will consist of between 50,000 and 60,000 bees and will produce up to 50lbs of honey. The speaker

went on to give us more details of various types of bee. Mr. Davies had brought with him an "observation hive" containing about 5,000 bees, which were very, very lively and busy within the glass fronted hive. They were already making a honeycomb.

Jars of honey were on sale which were made by his own bees at Farcet. He also explained that the hives could be moved to a different field of a particular flower in order to produce a certain taste in the honey.

Instead of our normal meeting in July Mr & Mrs Spiers have invited members to their home for a social evening.

In August we have the plant competition judging which will take place at Mr & Mrs Walter's home in Colsterworth where we will again enjoy one of Ann's delicious meals.

For information about any of our gatherings please feel free to contact Patsi on 07880677538 or Jennie on 01572 767648



At South Witham Academy we are committed to providing our children with a broad and varied education in a safe and nurturing environment so that they reach their full potential. On 1st November 2016 we became part of Brooke Hill Academy Trust. Being part of a Multi Academy Trust is an exciting prospect for the South Witham school community, enabling us to offer a richer curriculum, increased resources and greater extra-curricular opportunities to benefit all of our pupils. We are passionate about providing the best possible opportunities to help our pupils develop academic, social, sporting and creative skills.

Our school vision and values represent the beliefs we hold. Our school values are:
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We welcome ALL families with children aged 0-5 years

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 Catherine also offers private sessions and corporate yoga in your workplace. Get in touch for more information.

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SOUTH WITHAM playgroup

We offer a friendly, caring and safe environment where children can learn through play

Places are available from 2 years of age and FREE educational places are available for 3 & 4 year old children

We are situated in the School building and are OFSTED inspected

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South Witham Club Details

South Witham Archaeological Group (SWAG)

Meetings held 1st Tuesday of the month at 19.30
Peter Ball - 01572 767758

South Witham Garden Club (SWGK)

Meetings held last Tuesday of the month - new members welcome
Patsi: 07880 677538

South Witham Ladies Welcome Club (SWLWC)

Meetings held 2nd Tuesday of the month
Jenny Pacey - 01572 767783
Jennie Keech - 01572 767648

South Witham Vegans & Vegetarians (SWV&V)

Contact Fiona Stuart - 01572 768236

Village Voices

Meet to sing a variety of music every Friday evening
01572 767653 or southwithamvillagevoices@gmail.com

Just for kicks - Line Dancers

Sandra 07468 481648



Monday Parish Rooms, Corby Glen, 6.30 to 8pm
Wednesday Village Hall, South Witham, 7.30 to 9pm
Thursday Village Hall, Colsterworth, 2 to 3.30pm
All sessions £3.00

South Witham Village Hall Management Committee (SWVHMC)

Mobile: 07745032450
Email: swvhmc@hotmail.co.uk

Witham Word Sponsor

South Witham Community Group

Email: joanredhead@mail.com

Old Priory Lodge 4927 (Bufs)

RAOB GLE

Meet at the Angel on a Wednesday night from 8pm.

Contact details:

Peter Key on 07771628395 Or email him keybunch@aol.com

Witham Word Sponsor

South Witham Craft Club (SWCC)

Aileen Ball - 01572 767758

New Age Kurling Club,

Tuesdays 7pm...9pm

Wednesdays 2pm...4pm

Contact: Ken 01572 767676 or Jane 01572 767167

£2.50 per session

Sponsored by The Angel

South Witham Ladies Welcome Club

By the time you read this we will be well into summer and hopefully some really good weather. Our Church Lane garden should be in full bloom with colourful begonias, but with little rain this does mean a lot of watering and weeding is needed.

At our meeting on June 13th 12 members and one visitor welcomed Mr John Manterfield who gave a talk entitled 'Professions of Georgian Lincolnshire' He began by describing the three learned professions Law, Divinity and Physic. Their practitioners, lawyers, the clergy and doctors had great power and responsibility because of their specialist knowledge and the way they created a sense of mystery about what they did.

The illustrated talk included vivid cartoons and caricatures from the period, such as the "triple plea" showing the lawyer pleading for a man's money, the parson for his soul and the doctor for his body.

He also glanced at the other professions such as teachers, architects and surveyors. Those recognised in memorials inside St. Wulfram's Church in Grantham provided several examples, notable names included Samuel Forster, attorney-at-law and his successor George White who lived for many years in Vine House, between Swinegate and Watergate. This was built in 1764 by John Langwith, father of John Langwith, the notable local architect, surveyor and auctioneer, who also designed the Vicarage (now known as the Rectory) for St. Wulfram's. John Manterfield concluded that medicine was

the most valued profession and that although nationally both lawyers and clergy came in for much criticism for their greed and the abuse of their powers, they were generally well regarded in Grantham. This was an illuminating session making us all more aware of our local history.

We do not have a meeting in July, instead we will be joining a coach trip to Bakewell in Derbyshire on Monday 24th, let's hope we have good weather! On August 8th our speaker will be Dr. John Sutton giving us a talk about "Votes for women-Suffragette Movement 1903-1918". In September we have Ian Haggerty - "John F Kennedy - facts about this intriguing family".

If these subjects are of interest to anyone, please come along and join us at one of these meetings (ladies and gents all welcome).

We are now in the process of compiling our programme for next year starting in October with our AGM. If anyone has suggestions for speakers please let us know as it gets harder every year to find someone different and interesting (at a reasonable price).

Meetings are held in the village hall on the 2nd Tuesday each month and last for about 2 hours commencing at 7.30 PM. Guests are always welcome.

For further information please contact:-

Jennie Keech - 01572 767648

Jenny Pacey - 01572 767783

A New Musical: Peter - The Rock

Dull, he wasn't! Passionate, loyal, impulsive and human, like us. He was one of the first apostles of Jesus Christ, a leader in the Early Church and eventually, a martyr. He was a man who reached the heights and plumbed the depths, a man of shifting sand, who became the rock on which Christ built his Church.

This musical is the story of St Peter, written and composed by Revd Richard Rice-Oxley, and is based on the words of the New Testament. Richard's first musical was The Jesus Story, telling who Jesus was. This was performed by a local choir in several venues.

We hope you will be able to join us - either in the choir, or at one of the performances.

Rehearsals

There are 6 Saturday workshops booked for the autumn:

Saturdays September 9th, 16th, 30th, October 7th, 14th, 28th 2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

These will be in Swayfield Village hall as before, with the exception of **October 14th** which will be in **Harrowby Lane Methodist Church, Grantham.**

Final rehearsal: Thursday November 2nd 7 p.m. – 9.30 p.m. in Swayfield Village Hall.

Performances

**7.30pm Friday 3rd November
Swayfield Village Hall**

**3pm Sunday 5th November
Harrowby Lane Methodist Church,
Grantham**

Further details from: Janet Roberts, Tel: 01476 550374

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South Witham Parish Council

Supporting Our Community

SOUTH WITHAM PARISH COUNCIL - Sponsors of THE WITHAM WORD

Parish Council meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7.30 in the Village Hall All Meetings are open to the public. Any item to be discussed by the Parish Council must be received a fortnight before by the Parish Clerk, Mrs H Sandon, 53 Pridmore Road, Corby Glen. NG33 4JN. Tel 01476 552166 or email parish.clerk@pc.south-witham.org.uk. If draft minutes of the previous meetings are not published in the Witham Word then they can be found on the village website, notice boards throughout the village, both shops and both pubs. Should you require a hard copy then please contact the Parish Clerk. Many thanks.

SOUTH WITHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th Jul 2017 at 7.30pm

Present 17-096 Cllr K Jolley (Chair), Cllr F Parish Cllr M Kinning, LCCllr/ SKDCllr R Adams, SKDCllr A Webster, Mrs H Sandon (parish clerk), 2 VHMC members, 3 residents.

Apologies for Absence 17-097 Cllr A White, Cllr Hodgkin, Cllr C Ashton, Cllr A Smith, Cllr C v Straubenzee, Cllr S Lansdowne, Cllr J Oldfield

Receive Declaration of Interests 17-098 none

Co option to fill Parish Councillor Vacancy 17-099

The Clerk had received one application for the Councillor vacancy and had invited Ray Robinson along to the Parish Council Meeting. With all Councillors in favour, Ray Robinson was elected onto the Council, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat on the Council. Clerk to advise SKDC of appointment and to forward Mr Robinson's Pecuniary Interest's form / updated register. Clerk to update Councillors' contact details and display on website / village notice boards.

Public Forum 17-100 Residents present raised the following matters;

i) Harold Rd - undeveloped land is very overgrown with weeds with no one taking responsibility for the upkeep. LCCllr Adams had looked into this but had yet to establish who should be maintaining the land. Clerk to make enquiries with Reeds Assoc. of Oakham, Conroys & Woodland Property Services.

ii) Speeding through the village raised again. Cllr Parish to give update on progress by the PC, see Road Safety issues 17-104 b) below.

Report from LCCllr Bob Adams 17-101 LCCllr Adams explained that there is a "Fix my Street" phone app to report pot holes quickly to LCC Highways to deal. Clerk had reported (on line) Templars Way to LCC to deal, as numerous pot holes along the carriageway, all fixed within a couple of weeks.

Bob Adams also mentioned the Big Clean Scheme launched by SDKC to clean up grotspots across the District. Initially this will run for 12 weeks, starting in August and aims to tackle weeds, fly tipping, graffiti and broken street furniture. To report an area needing attention, call 01476 406066 or visit www.southkesteven.gov.uk /skbigclean . Clerk to put details on website / WW. Bob Adams to further chase green bin for Mick Chapman who is looking after the communal green play area off Wimberley Way/ Troughton Green voluntarily.

Bob Adams has a meeting with LCC Highways Manager Rowan Smith on 14th July 2017, so requested all outstanding highway issues are emailed across to him in readiness.

Notes of the PC monthly meeting held on the 6th June 2017 17-102

The notes of the meeting were approved by the Council and signed by the Chair in acceptance as minutes.

Financial Matters 17-103

Monthly Accounts SWPC total bank balance £23973.03, BMM £23700.34, Play project £272.69. Income received; 1) allotment income £15.00 banked. Final allotment has now been rented out, £15 to be paid /agreement to be returned.

Payments; chqs issued 1) Helen Sandon (parish clerk Jun pay/expenses £503.03), this includes refund to Mr Robinson for materials to fix vh porch guttering £10, 2) Janine Costello (Jun litter picking) £210.00, 3) Broxap Ltd skatepark bin purchase £277.14. Clerk had registered SWPC with Pensions Regulator to comply with Gov legislation, then as an employee, chosen to opt out of the Pension scheme.

Clerk's and Councillors' reports on ; 17-104

a) Village Hall

i) **Hire of hall / field for large event in 2018** Two VHMC members attended the meeting to discuss the hire of the VH and recreational field for a Triumph Motorcycle meet on the weekend of 11th/12th August 2018. The rec to be used for camping, with hog roast and bands to play. Approach made by National Events Officer for Triumph Motorcycle Owners Club who lives in South Witham. 24hr security to be provided by club. SWPC agreed in principle to this event. SWPC to determine the fee for the VH rec hire, clerk to advise VHMC.

ii) **Electrical works** Clerk to chase progress on the install of the VH emergency lighting.

b) Road Safety Issues, Cllr Parish Cllr Parish explained that Rowan Smith has agreed to do a survey of the High St to assess options available in terms of markings. He does not recommend physical measures as these lead to increased vehicle speeds, noise and emissions and can spoil the look of the village. To provide costs of what is permissible to Cllr Parish and PC would need to fund, as no LCC funding available. Re HGVs, he explained that the Police do not have the manpower to monitor HGVs through the village and Highways have no enforcement powers. Cllr Parish stated that villagers spotting unauthorised HGVs should continue to report to the Police via Stamford Police facebook page - provide registration number /photo for them to investigate.

Re active signs - all PC's preferred sign providers are acceptable to LCC. PC has permission to buy and then agree location with LCC. Clerk to report broken bollards by A1 sliproad to Highways England to deal. (Church Lane railings / pot holes covered in Jun PC mins).

c) Great Close flooding issue, clerk LCC to investigate (re. Rowan Smith).

d) Solar street lighting options (High Street to Church St & Wellfield Close to Templars Way), Cllr Jolley

Clerk to further chase LCC street lighting for permission to install lights.

e) Monthly play area inspection, Cllr Oldfield Cllr Oldfield to repair children's play area surface and install bin this month. Annual Rospa due in August.

f) Future play equipment - ideas / funding - Cllr

Ashton In the absence of Cllr Ashton, no update on this item this month. Cllr Parish to forward grant funding / equipment suppliers to Cllr Ashton to explore.

Planning Matters 17-105

a) New planning applications received by SKDC for Parish Council comment

i) S17/1171 Mr J Rhodes, Greenacres, Broadgate Rd, prior notification of a change of use from existing B8 storage building to a dwelling. SWPC objects to this application in the open countryside, Cllr Jolley and LCCllr Adams to assist with response to LCC, clerk to report.

ii) S17/1082 Mrs Claire v Straubenzee, Tanyard House, 13 Church Lane, fell 5 x Salix trees - no objections from SWPC

b) New planning applications received by SKDC for Parish Council comment after publication of the agenda

none

c) SKDC planning permissions granted/refused

i) S17/0852 Mr & Mrs T Skinner, erection of detached 3 bedroom dwelling on land adjacent to no.7 Thistleton Lane, permission refused by SKDC, as proposed design, scale, materials and massing of the dwelling are not acceptable and would have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the site and street scene.

It would also have an undue adverse impact on the residential amenities of occupiers of no. 7 Thistleton Lane due to the overbearing and over dominant impact on the rear aspect and garden. For full details view on SKDC website.

ii) S17/0814 Mrs Christine Pentland, 17 High St, fell 1 Holm Oak and replace with wild cherry - work allowed by SKDC

iii) Mr & Mrs Taylor, 17 Church Street, trees in Conservation Area- Section 211 Notice, tree pruning - work allowed by SKDC

Correspondence 17-106

SKDC Consultative Draft Local Plan 2017, SKDC new mobile library timetable - clerk to display - WW/ website

LCC contact details for online reporting of issues, online portal www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/faultreporting, email - cschighways@lincolnshire.gov.uk, Tel 01522 782070, C & C Direct, LCR

Any other business 17-107

SKDC agreed to revisit and clear up the fly tipping on the carriageway / verges of road from Moor Lane to Sewstern, (as reported by clerk 21/2/17), they will not touch the fly tipping within the field as this is private land.

Clerk arranged for pathway from VH rec to Templars Way bridge to be strimmed by Webster grass maintenance. **Appointment of third member 17-108** Cllr Oldfield

Date of next meeting 17-109 Tues 5th Sept 2017 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

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Monthly Rota for Readers and Vergers at St John the Baptist Church South Witham

1st Sunday of each month
Reader Chris Medcalf
Verger Hannah Godbert

2nd Sunday of each month
Reader Peter Ball
Verger Chris Medcalf

3rd Sunday of each month
Reader Alex van Straubenzee
Verger Gwen Peasgood

4th Sunday of each month
Reader Mike Swatton
Verger Chris Medcalf



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Booking Essential !

St. John the Baptist Church Flower Fund

South Witham Village Shop
Since the collection tin was stolen in late April, an amazing £24.44 has been donated. Many thanks are due to Gordon, his staff and all the customers for their generosity

Great Close Store
The collection tin this time revealed an astonishing £121.81. This contributes greatly to our church looking beautiful at all times. Many thanks to the owner, his staff and all the customers for their generosity.

This makes a fantastic total of :
£146.25
Thank you.



South Witham Church Contacts
 Rev Graham Buckle-Priest in Charge
 Tel: 01572-767236/Mob: 07901 660593
 E Mail: dovecote10@btinternet.com
 Church Warden:- Chris Medcalf - 01572 767664

Morning Prayer is said every Wednesday at Castle Bytham at 10am. Whilst the church roof is being repaired we are holding it in various places, please call me for details. Many thanks Rev Graham

Church Services for the group August 2017

	6th August Transfiguration	13th August Trinity 9	20th August Trinity 10	27th August Trinity 11	
Little Bytham St. Medards & St Gildards	9.00am Holy Communion		6.00pm Evensong		
Castle Bytham St. James		9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Morning Praise	
Careby St. Stephens			9.00am Holy Communion		
Creeton St. Peter	6.00pm Compline			9.00am Holy Communion	
North Witham St Marys		11.00am Family Communion			
South Witham St. John the Baptist	11.00am Holy Communion	6.00pm Evening Prayer	11.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Family Service	
Readings	2 Peter 1:16-19 Luke 9:28-36	Rom10:5-15 Matt 14:22-33	Rom 11:1-2 & 29-32 Matt 15:21-28	Romans 12:1-8 Matt 16:13-20	

Church Services for the Group September 2017

3rd September Trinity 12	10th Sept Trinity 13	17th Sept. Trinity 14	24th Sept. Trinity 15		
9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Sunday School 6.00pm Evensong			
	9.00am Holy Communion				
		9.00am Holy Communion			
6.00pm Compline			10.30am HC Harvest Festival		
	11.00am Family Communion				
11.00am Holy Com- munion	6.00pm Evening Pray- er	11.00am Holy Communion	6.00pm Harvest Festival		
Rom. 12:9-21 Matt. 16:21-28	Rom. 13:8-14 Matt 18:15-20	Rom.14:1-12 Matt. 18:21-35	Philip.1:21-30 Matt 20:1-16		

Not as planned!!

Having been on our summer holidays, and had a nice relaxing time, our journey to the destination was far from trouble free! We left on the train from Grantham five minutes late, knowing that we only had one hour to cross London and catch our train to Cornwall from Paddington station. Eventually we arrived about ten minutes late into London, we dashed down to the underground and caught the first train. All was going well and we had plenty of time in hand for our next train! We arrived on the concourse only to find that no trains were leaving Paddington and no trains were arriving! Services were delayed because a problem further down the line, Ealing to be more precise! The problems didn't end there, as when we got near to Exeter the train manager announced that the train was to terminate at Exeter because the driver had run out of hours and we were to catch the next train that would take us further! Whilst on this journey we were told to alight at Plymouth as we would miss our connection to Looe if we continued on our train to Liskeard! So we duly got off at Plymouth and a taxi was provided for the last part of our journey!

What was a well-planned journey had turned into a bit of a nightmare!

However, we made our destination, albeit nearly three hours late! In some ways this replicates life, we plan our journey, looking ahead to life that is straightforward and filled with times of pleasure and joy, but it doesn't always work out that way. None of us knows what is going to happen next, I think maybe that is a good thing, you may think differently! There are not many things that are totally consistent and constant in life, in fact I would go as far as to say there is nothing that can be totally relied upon! Except, that is, God! He is constant in everything, and none more so than his love for us! No matter who we are, where we come from, or what we have done in the past, God loves each and every one of us equally and without favour! Sometimes that is hard to believe, as we encounter difficulties and we wonder why God allows things to happen which hurt us and make life difficult. God does not promise an easy life, but he does promise to be with us and to love and care for us no matter what situations we find ourselves in!

With God's blessing
 Rev. Graham

News from South Witham Village Hall Management Committee

Our first event this year was the Ladies Night in May in memory of Jade Rowlands and what a night we had! We thank everyone for supporting this event and a BIG thank you, to you all for helping us to raise over £300.00 for Jade Rowlands Daughters' Fund. Jade would be so pleased with you all and we know the family are so grateful for the support the community has given them. Well done Ladies!

Our Summer Gala and Music Festival which took place in July was again a great success and enjoyed by all. The weather was also kind to us too. The VHMC plan this event over the year, to say it's not hard work is an understatement, with only 7 committee members the weekend starts Friday and doesn't finish until Sunday. We could not do this without the help and support of our family and friends, so a BIG thank you to you all, you know who you are! BIG thanks to our bands and singers who were fantastic as usual and a BIG thank you to Darren Hudson for the loan of his trailers for the day, we would not be able to have the live music without your help. Roll on next year!

We are trying to arrange a Roller Skating Disco for the children, hopefully in August – Look out for poster!

By the time you read this the School Leaver's Disco would have been held at the Village Hall, we would like to wish you all Good Luck in your new schools.

The VHMC appreciate all the support we receive from the community whether you would like to hire the village hall for your own private party whether it's a special birthday / anniversary / wedding / children's birthday party, regular user groups for Zumba, Yoga, Kurling Club, Line Dancing or attending the events the VHMC organise at the village hall. With the money raised / received it helps us to continue to pay our rent of £600.00 pa to the Parish Council, our wonderful cleaner, all licences plus helping to raise funds for improvements and the maintenance of your village hall. 2017 Future Events – Look out for the posters at the Village Hall, Village Shop, South Witham Village Facebook page and you can also follow us on Facebook – South Witham Village Hall

Our contact details – Email: - swvhmc@hotmail.co.uk or SWVHMC Mobile: - 07745 032 450

Should you wish to contact us to hire the village hall, have a great fundraising idea or join our team of helpers please get in touch we would like to hear from you.

We would like to take this opportunity to THANK YOU AGAIN for your continuous support.

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Saturday 2nd December
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From Jamie Larkin (As Seen At Gala)

Tickets £10.00 per person (OVER 18'S) - Doors open from 7.30pm
Includes a beautiful buffet to tantalise your taste buds with a disco and the bar will be open til late

Dress code: Suit & Tie for Gents and Evening/Cocktail dresses for the Ladies

Tickets available from the Village Store, Water Lane or contact us on

swvhmc@hotmail.co.uk

Over 60's Christmas Lunch
FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

12.00 pm - 3.00 pm

Roast Turkey Christmas Lunch with all the trimming, Christmas Pudding, Coffee / Tea & Mince Pies