



# The Witham Word

December/January 2017/2018

The Witham Word is here to serve the community

Sponsored by The Angel Inn, The Parish Council, The Church, VHM, The Blue Cow Inn and The Buffs.

## South Witham Remembers

On a bright, sunny and windy Remembrance Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, a goodly crowd of people gathered at St John the Baptist Church, South Witham for the annual service of remembrance, to mark the deaths of those who fought in World Wars 1 and 2 and later conflicts.



The service of remembrance was held in the churchyard and the names of those soldiers in the village who died defending their country were read out, then wreaths from different organisations in the village were laid around the war memorial.

The silence followed and all returned to the church to continue the Communion Service.

The service was led by the Rev. Graham Buckle and the military wives choir from Kendrew Barracks added their lovely voices to the service and sang a beautiful version of Bring Him Home. Other hymns were accompanied by Cintra Hewson on the organ.

Uniformed personnel represented the armed forces and many of the congregation proudly wore medals showing their time in the military. Although it is a solemn occasion it is truly fitting to remember the sacrifices that so many have made.



### From the Editor

A change to the timings of the Mobile Post Office, from 7th December

#### Market Court

Wednesday 11.15 - 13.15

Thursday 13.15 - 15.15

Friday 13.30 - 15.30

#### Great Close

Thursday 11.15 - 13.15

### The role of the editor:

In theory editing is the process of selecting and preparing written, and other media, used to convey information. The editing process can involve correction, condensation, organization, and many other modifications performed with an intention of producing a correct, consistent, accurate and complete work. However, in this magazine, this usually means I have to alter, sometimes in a very big way, a submission in order to fit the available space, after all we only have 12 pages.

Additionally, paid adverts must come first, as they are largely responsible for paying for the publication of this magazine

If I have to edit some of the submissions that I receive I can only apologise. Rest assured I do not do it lightly!

## A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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](mailto:editor@wword.south-witham.org.uk)

Treasurer: Trish Burton, 13 Moor Lane, South Witham Tel: 01572 768132 Email: [treasurer@wword.south-witham.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@wword.south-witham.org.uk)

**Any articles and advertisements for Feb/March please ensure you get them to the editor by the 15th Jan 2018 Thank you.**

Celebrate  
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Every year 12,000 community groups receive funding from us. All thanks to players of The National Lottery.

**NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDED**

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**SW Parish Council** is pleased to announce that the latest bid for grant funding for the adult exercise class at the school (term time only) and the holiday activities for teenagers at the village hall has been successful.

Further information regarding the activities will appear in the Witham Word, on the village website, the village facebook page and in the two shops.

Please support these free activities.

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## SOUTH WITHAM KURLERS AT THE 2017 BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS



A team from South Witham New Age Kurling Club attended the 2017 British Open Championships on Saturday 30th September and Sunday 1st October. On the Saturday Team event they narrowly missed out on winning a place. However on the Sunday Singles event five attended, with Sue Walton and Peter Hemsell just missing out on the runners-up plate. Maureen Reader, Mick Walton and Ken Reader made it through to the main even cup competition with Maureen and Mick

making it through to the quarter finals but after a tough competition Ken won the third place trophy, missing out on the final by a narrow margin. Maureen and Ken Reader, who started the Kurling Club, have recently left South Witham to live at the coast and will be very much missed.

Photo: Ken being presented with his trophy.

### South Witham Social Networks

Twitter:  
The village has a Twitter account. Follow @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.

**Christmas Trees**

Visit our Christmas barn and choose from a superb range of freshly harvested trees or choose your own tree from our plantation

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www.snowbirdchristmastrees.co.uk

### The Village Hall

Mon - Thursday £8.00 per hour  
Friday up to 5.00pm £8.00 per hour

Fri - Sunday: £15.00 per hour.

Children's Party (2 hours): £20.00  
(£5 per hour thereafter).

Wedding Hire £175.00 whole day,  
(Price includes free set up time)

**A £50 deposit is required to secure your booking. Hall hire charge is payable within 10 days of booking.**

The bar is now bookable **FREE** with staffing by **VHMC** Committee Members.  
Last orders at 10.50pm and the bar must close at 11pm.

If you would like to use the facilities, please contact our Booking Clerk Ilona on **SWVHMC Mobile 07745032450**

Or Email: [swvhmc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:swvhmc@hotmail.co.uk)  
Follow us on Facebook and South Witham Website

Regular Village Hall Activities		
Monday	Yoga with Allison	9.30 - 10.30am
	New Zumba Class Amanda 07557 023009	7.00-8.00pm
Tuesday	New Age Kurling- cancelled until further notice	
Wednesday	New Age Kurling Jane: 01572 767167	2.00 - 4.00pm
	Line Dancing Sandra 07884 437109	7.30-9.00pm
Thursday	New Zumba Class Amanda 07557 023009	7.00 - 8.00pm
Sunday	Football Club David Selby 07940969862	10.30am kick offs

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							
<b>CallConnect</b> - the dial-a-bus service Monday - Saturday <b>Bookings</b> 0845 234 3344 <b>Cancellations</b> 0845 263 8130							

### Local Amenities

**Post Office Van - new timings (From 7th December)**

Market Court Lay-by	Day	Time
Market Court Lay-by	Wed	11.15 - 13.15
	Thurs	13.15 - 15.15
	Fri	13.30 - 15.30
Great Close	Thurs	11.15 - 13.15

**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:** 4th Dec, 29th January  
Market Court - 11.30 - 12.30  
Customer Services - 01522 782010

**Doctor's Surgery:** 01476 860243  
Colsterworth Practice  
Monday and Thursday Surgery at South Witham  
10.30 - 12.00

**Hairdressers**  
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**To prepare you for all those marvellous cracker jokes consider .....**

How does good King Wenceslas like his pizza?.....he likes one that is deep pan, crisp and even. A man visited the doctor and said "Doctor I have hurt my arm in several places " The sympathetic doctor replied " Well don't go there anymore".

I did not do well at school. I thought the four seasons were salt, mustard, pepper and vinegar. At anatomy class I really thought the fibula was a small lie and that varicose meant close by. Also that you had five things in your bowels, those being.....A, E, I, O, and U.

My teacher was very dismayed when he asked if I knew what a seizure was and I told him it was a Roman Emperor, you know Julius Seizure , I came , I conquered, I had a fit! He told me emphatically that a terminal illness was NOT when you are poorly at an airport and that steroids are not what keep the carpet fixed on the stairs. However, I think the final event that lead to my exclusion was when he asked if I knew what being benign was. At this point dear reader I feel that you all know where I am going with this one.....ALL TOGETHER NOW.....BEING BENIGN IS WHEN YOU ARE NO LONGER BEING EIGHT!

What is self evident is that this little bubble world I live in is a remarkably pleasant place full of nonsense, of happiness and you never know what real trouble you are in. Yes the world is a much rosier place in 'David Penny Land'. There are a few communication issues with real life of course but Halcyon days and life prevails.

David Penny (The gardening jobs man) from page 8)



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**South Witham PC allotment  
competitions 2017**

The village once again held the annual competitions; tallest sunflower, heaviest pumpkin and best allotment. Sunflower seeds were provided or villagers could purchase their own. Just under 600 seeds were handed out in total. The competition had a good participation, nearly double the number compared to last year. The measurement was taken when the grower decided that their sunflower had reached its peak. This year the tallest sunflower was grown by Ray and Karen Robinson. It reached the grand height of 283cm.

For the heaviest pumpkin competition, the villagers provided their own seeds. Initially we had a few participants but the unpredictable British weather meant that all but a few pumpkins made it to the big weigh in. This year the heaviest pumpkin was nurtured by John and Pete and was nearly double the weight of last year's winner, coming in at a whopping 20 kg+.

The best allotment has seen many of the patches improve greatly over the year. Everyone should be proud of what they have achieved. One patch stood out from the rest. It has been meticulously maintained over the last 12 months. Clear areas where different crops are grown, barely a weed in sight. For the high standard of their patch it was decided that Mr and Mrs Pemberton were worthy winners of the best allotment competition.

All that's left to say is well done to everyone who has taken part in this year's competitions. Without you all taking part, they won't happen. We look forward to next year's efforts. Will someone break the 3 metres with a sunflower and can a 25kg+ pumpkin be grown in our village?

**South Witham Garden Club**

Mr Robert Holland was the speaker at the September meeting. The Royal National Lifeboat Institute is a registered charity run entirely on voluntary contributions. This means that this charity is completely separate from the coastguard service and independent of the government, and relies solely on volunteers to run the lifesaving service 24 hours a day and 365 days each and every year.

In 2016, 23 lives per day were saved and 558 persons would have died without this service. Lifeboats were launched 8,851 times in that year alone, from stations all around the British coastline. The inland service now exists, the busiest station being that at Tower Bridge! The R.N.L.I. was founded in 1823 by Sir William Hillary from Douglas, Isle of Man.

Mr Kenneth Holland, an ancestor of our speaker, laid the foundation stone of the Skegness Lifeboat Station in 1839. The Holland family have been associated with the R.N.L.I.

ever since. Robert has served as a crew member on several lifeboat rescues and received the R.N.L.I. supporter award in 2009 which was presented to him by the Duke of Kent. The October meeting's speaker was Russ Yates, accompanied by his wife Patricia. The talk, supported by some very informative slides, was about Chatsworth House and Gardens over the past 450 years. Chatsworth is the seat of the Duke of Devonshire. Russ spoke about the various Dukes up to the present 12th Duke, Peregrine Andrew Morny Cavendish.

The House is now open to the public from 11th November to January 7th, but closed on 24th, 25th, 26th December and 1st January. The main season is from March to September.

28th November Penny Vincent demonstrating Christmas flower arrangements.

5th December members Christmas dinner at the White Lion, Colsterworth

For further information contact Patsi on 07880677538



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.

Our school vision and values represent the beliefs we hold.

Our school values are:

- Consideration
- Co-operation
- Determination
- Equality
- Politeness
- Trustworthiness
- Inspiration

Contact us: 01572 767233

[enquiries@south-witham.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@south-witham.lincs.sch.uk)

[www.south-witham.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.south-witham.lincs.sch.uk)

We are looking forward to lots of lovely Christmas activities at school towards the end of term with the children off to the Panto, KS1 Christmas Play and the Carol Singing! The community is welcome to come along to the carol service to be held on the 20th December.

The term is ending the 21st December and we will begin our new term on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.

A reminder that additional volunteers are always welcome to help in school. If you have a spare hour or two each week, pop in to see us as we'd love to hear from you. Please note, as we are committed to keeping our children safe, volunteers will be subject to clearance checks, including DBS.

## FREE COMMUNITY BOXERCISE CLASS

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- Boxercise
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- E-mail: [littlelegsteam@hotmail.com](mailto:littlelegsteam@hotmail.com)

Come and have a look for yourself!!

## South Witham Children's Centre (at South Witham School)

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**Tuesdays 09.30 – 10.30** Stoke Rochford Hall

**Saturdays 09.00 – 10.00** Corby Glen Church Street Rooms

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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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Website: [www.loveyogafit.com](http://www.loveyogafit.com)

Phone: 07736063703

## SOUTH WITHAM playgroup

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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](mailto: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](mailto:swvhmc@hotmail.co.uk)

Witham Word Sponsor

### South Witham Community Group

Email: [joanredhead@mail.com](mailto:joanredhead@mail.com)

### Old Priory Lodge 4927 (Bufs)

#### RAOB GLE

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

Witham Word Sponsor

Contact details:

Peter Key on 07771628395 Or email him [keybunch@aol.com](mailto:keybunch@aol.com)

### South Witham Craft Club (SWCC)

Aileen Ball - 01572 767758

### New Age Kurling Club,

Wednesdays 2pm...4pm

Contact: Jane 01572 767167

£2.50 per session

Sponsored by The Angel

### South Witham Ladies Welcome Club

Tuesday 10th October was our AGM with 9 members attending, apologies from 3. Club matters were discussed and it was agreed to continue with the same format. Annual subs to remain at £14. The programme for 2017/18 will include talks about "Wildlife", "Antiques", "History of clocks" and "Life on a Narrow boat", plus meals and outings.

If any of this sounds of interest, please come along to one of our meetings or become a member, you'll be made very welcome. Tuesday 12th November our speaker was Janice Moulds with a talk entitled "Life on a 17th Century Estate" Janice has worked as a National Trust volunteer at Woolsthorpe Manor for 22 years, and has visited our club on several occasions. Her talk began with some interesting facts about England in the 17th century, population then was only 5 million, 79% lived in the country and nearly all villagers worked for the local Estate. Work was hard and hours were long. Janice described jobs done by men and women, their limited social lives and many other facts, including child labour, compulsory 7 year apprenticeships for all men and the role of women servants in the Manor house and on the farm. A very interesting insight into the life at the time of Isaac Newton who lived at Woolsthorpe Manor.

I have to apologise to members for the omission from the last issue of W.W. due to lack of space. This included details of the AGM and the Christmas lunch.

Most of all my "Thank You" to Mr Ian Haggerty for his very interesting and well presented talk about the Kennedys. The final and most intriguing facts about JFK himself were also omitted.

On December 12th most of our members will go to Greetham Valley Golf Club for a Christmas lunch.

Our speaker on January 9th is Mick Rawle, a talk on "Aspects of Emigration".

As this will be the last issue of W.W. this year we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For further information about our Club please contact :-  
Jennie Keech - 01572767648 or Jenny Pacey - 01572767783

# Christmas Crackers



*An evening of music,  
words and food to  
celebrate  
the Christmas season*

### Featuring

Village Voices

The Ternion Woodwind Trio

Janet Major

The Bythams Choir

at

South Witham Church

7.30pm, Friday 8th December 2017

Tickets: £7.50 adults

(accompanied children free)

available from The Village Shop, Water Lane,  
South Witham

## Garden jobs for the month

- Get the Jeyes fluid out and clean greenhouses, cold frames etc it is still the gardener's best friend.
- Inspect and discard any stored fruit showing signs of rot.
- Inspect newly planted trees and shrubs and re-firm them in the ground with your boot if they have become loose.
- Turf repairs may be carried out in mid-winter warm spells.
- Repair broken panes in greenhouses and sheds, insulate if necessary.
- Generally reduce watering in the greenhouse but don't neglect your plants in the warm spells.
- Pests and diseases love to live in fallen leaves and old stems so complete the final tidy up this month press leaves into black bags and leave to rot down to give free, lovely manure next year.
- Brussels taste even better after a good frost so harvest winter vegetables only as you need them.
- Remove pumps from ponds that are not running all year or drain water features if that is practicable to avoid the pumps being damaged if they freeze.
- Pick any remaining unpicked pears and bring indoors to ripen.
- Check gates, fences and sheds for wind damage.
- All spring flowering bulbs should be planted by now if not do it as soon as possible.
- Clean the lawnmower etc, oil machines and lightly oil tools and check to see which machines need servicing or sharpening now.
- Tar wash fruit trees and place grease bands around the trunks to deter the winter coddling moth, if you are not sure pop round to your friendly local garden centre and have a chat.
- Check again to protect from frosts and remember that fleece breathes better than bubble wrap for wrapping around delicate and precious plants such as Phormium, New Zealand Flax and Fatia Japonica

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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](mailto: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 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017 at 7.30pm

**Present 17-136** Cllr K Jolley (Chair), Cllr C Ashton, Cllr F Parish, Cllr M Kinning, Cllr A Smith, Cllr A White, Cllr J Oldfield, Cllr C v Straubenzee, LCllr/SKDCllr R Adams, Mrs H Sandon (parish clerk), 2 allotment holders

**Apologies for Absence 17-137** Cllr Hodgkin, Cllr S Lansdowne

**Receive Declaration of Interests 17-138** none

**Public Forum 17-139** none

#### Allotments, Cllr Oldfield 17-140

Prize winners, i) Best allotment – Mr & Mrs Pemberton ii) Tallest sunflower – Mr Robinson iii) Heaviest pumpkin- Mr Bell. Mrs Pemberton and Mr Bell were in attendance at the meeting and were congratulated on their efforts by the PC. They were then presented with their trophies by Cllr Jolley and photos were taken by Cllr Parish to put in the WW. Mrs Pemberton thanked the PC and particularly Cllrs Oldfield and van Straubenzee for their hard work setting up and running the allotments, which she said had brought people together, with new friends made along the way. Cllr Oldfield to deliver Mr Robinson's trophy.

**b) Other matters** Allotment holder complaint received by the PC regarding unauthorised people (non allotment holders) on the allotment site exercising their dogs and helping themselves to produce. PC agreed to put a piece in the WW (Cllr Parish to arrange) stating that the allotment area is private and unwanted visitors are not welcome, that no dogs are allowed onsite unless belonging to allotment holders and then they must be on leads. Also that people are not allowed to help themselves to produce, without prior permission of allotment holders as this is effectively theft. This info to be sent to allotment holders also by the clerk and put on the allotment FB page by Cllr Oldfield. Signage to be ordered for the allotment gate, stating that the area is private and no uninvited visitors are allowed.

**Report from LCllr Bob Adams 17-141** Cllr Adams had met with Rowan Smith, LCC Highways Manager who is reviewing outstanding issues for South Witham.

**LCC Fairer Funding, Cllr Adams 17-142** PC agreed that the clerk should write to LCC in support of this campaign, which if implemented would result in an additional £116 million for Lincolnshire.

#### Notes of the PC monthly meeting held on the 3rd Oct 2017 17-143

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

**Parish Council Vacancy 17-144** Cllr Robinson had resigned from the PC due to work commitments. Clerk to put notice of vacancy on village notice boards / SW website and to notify SKDC.

#### Financial Matters 17-145

**a) Monthly Accounts** SWPC total bank balance £16302.18, BMM £16029.45, Play project £272.73.

Payments; chqs issued ; 1) Helen Sandon Oct pay/exps £570.95, includes refund for LCC speed watch licence £40 & wheelie bin stickers £50.00 ), 2) Janine Costello (Oct litter picking) £210.00, 3) T Stafford, (cemetery grass cutting Aug- Oct x 5 cuts at £60) £300, 4) RBL Poppy Appeal £17.50 Bus Shelter damaged 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov approx., end pane of glass broken. The village cleaner had swept the glass up, clerk has obtained a quote of £209 plus vat from Shelter Maintenance to replace the pane with wired clear GRP. PC agreed to this, clerk to arrange and to report to Police / submit insurance claim.

#### Clerk's and Councillors' reports on ; 17-146

##### a) Village Hall/ VHMC, Cllr Parish / Jolley

**i) Heating Repairs** Mr Dalby had fixed the heating problem in the small meeting room. Further problem of no hot water this week, Mr Dalby to fix, Cllr Jolley to arrange.

**ii) Purchase of industrial floor cleaner, £1200 plus vat, VHMC** PC cannot help with this request, clerk to advise VHMC.

**iii) Other** Clerk arranged for Mr Medcalf to do the annual VH PAT testing.

Clerk to invite current VHMC members to December PC meeting to discuss the future running of the VH and the new Committee / lease. Clerk to request that they bring the VH inventory with them to the meeting.

##### b) Road Safety issues, Cllr Parish

**i) Interactive sign** The sign is on order, currently awaiting contact from LRSP re. delivery once site surveys performed. 30 mph wheelie bin stickers also on order.

##### ii) Other

Cllr Parish attended the Lincs Police and Crime Commissioner/ LRSP Road Safety Summit on Frid 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.

Of the various speed reduction measures, random police checks were the most effective and hence LRSP is to enhance the Community Speed Watch Scheme in the New Year. Communities will be encouraged to join up with resident volunteers trained up to use speed guns. The Parish Council would need to cover the cost of the speed display device, speed gun and high vis jackets, further info to be sent to all PC's early 2018 for consideration. All village troughs have now been painted white, thanks expressed to those who helped.

##### c) Jitty dangerous fence / lighting (opp. Blue Cow, High Street to Church St), Cllr Jolley

Resident had written to the clerk to confirm that they had received a quote for fence repairs and advised that work will be done by mid Nov.

Cllr Jolley had not as yet ordered the solar light as it had gone out of stock. Cllr White offered to purchase a similar light at a cost of £35 approx., PC agreed that two lights should be purchased, the other one to go on the jitty between Templars Way and Wellfield Close. Clerk to reimburse Cllr White in due course.

**d) Harold Rd, grass maintenance, clerk** Weeds still present, Cllr van Straubenzee kindly offered to trim this area.

**e) Lottery Grant, Cllr Parish** A grant of £8998 has been awarded to the Parish Council by the Big Lottery Fund, monies to be used to fund the children's holiday clubs and the weekly adults' fitness class. Cllr Parish to liaise with Jack Hubbard re. activities and to also put details of the grant in the WW/ local press.

**f) Play area inspection, Cllr Oldfield** i) Monthly inspection / repairs Cllr Oldfield to do play surface repairs this week, weather depending.

**g) Future play equipment - ideas/ funding- Cllr Ashton** Cllr Ashton had looked at Greatham, Colsterworth and Alma Park play area and is to now contact various play area suppliers and look into grant funding options.

#### Planning Matters 17-147

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

i) S17/2111 Mr Rhodes, Greenacres, Broadgate Rd, prior notification for a change of use from existing B8 storage building to a dwelling, SWPC objections; i) No services to property ii) No proper access to site and with road being 60mph, is dangerous to access iii) Outside of village. Cllrs Adams / Jolley to look further at this to assist the clerk with response to SKDC by the 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2017.

ii) S17/0601 Mr & Mrs Folwell, 27a Water Lane, demolition of existing single storey dwelling and erection of a new dwelling and garage - no further documents received by SWPC for comment, however SWPC has been made aware of changes to the position of the house, ie. the dwelling is now to be built further north to reduce the impact on the dwelling to the south, with changes to the southern elevation to reduce the impact and potential overlooking / loss of privacy. This will then result in various trees on the patio being removed and loss of privacy. Clerk asked to look at TPO's, to advise PC.

##### b) SKDC planning permissions granted/refused

**i) S17/1735, Mr & Mrs Skinner, Erection of dwelling, land adjacent to no. 7 Thistleton Lane, 7A Thistleton Lane** - permission granted by SKDC subject to various conditions being met (see S17/1735 planning application for further info).

#### Correspondence 17-148

Clerk to contact Troughton Walk resident re. hedge that needs pruning as overhanging pavement.

Reported to PC, that someone has dumped five large bin bags full of dog excrement on the North Witham Rd, village cleaner has removed.

LALC letter re. increase in annual subscriptions for PC's, £70 approx. increase for South Witham.

LCC Highways Cluster meetings Oct/Nov, C & C Direct

**Appointment of third member 17-149** Cllr van Straubenzee

#### Date of next meeting 17-150

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017 at earlier time of 7pm  
Meeting closed at 9.05pm

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**Messy Church**

We have now had two sessions of Messy Church. The children at our November session made ascension cups, coloured in special knot patterns, made a washing line connecting the Holy Spirit with the help we need, and most messy of all is the path of footprints made by the painted feet of those who wanted to take part! That is just a flavour of what we do at Messy Church. Messy Church is church for all the family to be part of, young and old, 0-100 years old!! The adults had coffee and cake and enjoyed chatting to each other! The morning ended with singing and a look at the theme for the morning on which the activities were based. Our next session will be on December 2nd, from 9.30 until 11.30, which will be looking forward to Christmas. As well as the crafts, there will be refreshments available throughout the morning. So even if you want to come and chat while the activities are taking place or just have refreshments that's fine too! Adults are allowed to do the crafts as well! So bring your creative self along and have a go!

We look forward to welcoming you to Messy Church in December!

Rev. Graham



**South Witham Village Hall**  
**Presents Our**  
**Over 60's**  
**Christmas Lunch**  
 On  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December**  
**12.00 pm - 3.00 pm**  
**Come along and Enjoy the Fun**

**Roast Turkey Christmas Lunch with all the trimming**  
**Christmas Pudding, Coffee / Tea & Mince Pies**  
**Enjoy a Game of Bingo & Raffle**

Please complete a slip and give to Julie at the Village Shop, Water Lane or contact 07745 032450 or a Village Hall Committee Member  
 If you would like to join us for this Fantastic Fun Afternoon.

**Christmas Services**

Christingle:  
 Sunday 10th December 4.00pm at Castle Bytham Church

Benefice Carol Service:  
 Sunday 17th December 6.00pm at South Witham Church

Candle Service:  
 Sunday 24th December 4.00pm at Little Bytham

Midnight Service:  
 Sunday 24th December 11.30pm at Little Bytham

Christmas Morning:  
 Monday 25th December 9.00am at Castle Bytham  
 11.00am at South Witham

New Year's Eve:  
 Sunday 31st December 10.30am Group Communion at North Witham



**South Witham Church Contacts**  
 Rev Graham Buckle-Priest in Charge  
 Tel: 01572-767236/Mob: 07901 660593  
 E Mail: [dovecote10@btinternet.com](mailto: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 December 2017

	3rd December Advent	10th December Advent 2	17th December Advent 3	24th December Christmas Eve	31st December Christmas 1
Little Bytham St. Medards & St Gildards	9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Sunday School	11.30 pm Midnight Communion	
Castle Bytham St. James		9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Family Service	
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			10.30am Group Communion
South Witham St. John the Baptist	11.00am Holy Communion	6.00pm Evening Prayer	6.00pm Group Carol Service	11.00am Morning Praise	
Readings	Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-37	Isaiah 40:1-11 Mark 1:1-8	Isaiah 61:1-4 & 8-11 John 1:6-8 & 19-28	Romans 16: 25-27 Luke 1:26-28	Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Luke 2:15-21

### Church Services for the Group January 2018

	7 January Epiphany	14th January Epiphany 2	21st January Epiphany 3	28th January Candlemas	
Little Bytham St. Medards & St Gildards	9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Sunday School 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	1 John 5:5-13 Mark 1:7-11	1 Sam 3:1-10 John 1:43-51	Rev. 19:6-10 John 2:1-11	Malachi 3:1-5 Luke 2:22-40	

#### “Joy and Wonder”

It comes around with alarming regularity, and it doesn't seem that long ago when we last celebrated Christmas! Much has happened over the past twelve months in our world, but despite the changes there is one thing that is constant – Jesus, Son of God, was born in a stable, grew up and at the age of thirty began his ministry here on earth!

More often than not, the world forgets the reason we celebrate Christmas. In all the materialism, the tinsel and the glitter, we need to remember that Jesus Christ came to this earth to bring the Good News that God loves each and every one of us in equal measure. And he wants us to respond to his love, as any one of us would in our human relationships. Christmas is always a good time on which to reflect on why this is a major festival in the church, and it is because at that moment in time God sent his only Son so that we might be restored to the right relationship with God we were meant to have from the very beginning!

That all sounds a bit gloomy, at this time of the year, but we have the opportunity to celebrate with wondrous joy what this special gift can

bring us! In all the celebrations, there are those in this world who have very little or none of the comforts we enjoy. I read the other day that we spend on average £121 per child in this country for gifts and treats at Christmas, yet what such an amount could do for a homeless, helpless child either abroad, or even in this country for the poor and needy!

We all have within us the ability to bring some joy and happiness this Christmas. It can be by the gifts we give to those in need, or by an act of kindness, looking out for those who are lonely, need a job doing which otherwise wouldn't get done, or just being there for someone and sharing some time with them!

Christmas is a time for giving, and receiving, I hope that we will never stop giving, especially to those in need. And I hope that we are gracious in receiving, especially as we receive God's love and compassion through the Christ-child.

With God's blessing

Rev. Graham

# Winter Wonderland Dance



*Do you want to attend a christmas party and not spend a fortune?  
Can you not attend your christmas party due to taxi costs?*

*Why not come to the Winter Wonderland Dance  
Tickets are only £10.00 per person*

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017**

**at**

**South Witham Village Hall**

*We have live entertainment from the fabulous*

## Jamie Larkin

*And a beautiful buffet to tantalise your taste buds  
A disco and the bar will be open til late*

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

**Doors open from 7.30pm**

*Tickets available from the Village Store, Water Lane  
or contact us on [swwhmc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:swwhmc@hotmail.co.uk)*

SKDC carried out a review in January 2013 of a Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Plan for South Witham. Amongst its recommendations/opportunities were; the removal of modern lighting columns and replacement with traditional street lighting and the reinstatement of traditional post and rail fencing at Fishpool Dike in Church Lane. Both these eyesores have remained unattended to after nearly 5 years. Surely budgetary constraints and lack of funding cannot still be excuses for this dereliction of Council responsibility. When can the village expect any action? As a resident in the conservation area "je vis en espoir".

(Mike Swatton)

### St. John the Baptist Church South Witham Flower fund

The church flower collection boxes in both the shops in the village, were emptied recently and the following amounts were collected:

Village Shop, Water Lane  
£32.55

Savemore, Great Close  
£74.39

Which gives a total of:  
£106.94

Very many thanks to all who have contributed.

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#### Christmas Fair

Saturday 9th December 12.00-4.00pm  
£7 per Stall  
Call Shaun to book Pitch

#### Children's Christmas Party

Sunday 17th December  
£6 per Child to include Meal & Present From Santa

#### Children's Christmas Cookie & Craft Day

Wednesday 20th December  
9.00 - 3.00pm  
£18 per child to include Lunch and Take Home all Goodies Made

#### Christmas Party Bookings Now Being Taken

2 Course £13.50  
3 Course £16.50

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