



The Witham Word

February/March 2018

The Witham Word is here to serve the community
Sponsored by The Angel Inn, The Parish Council, The Church, VHMC and The Buffs.



'Check Your Speed' Wheelie Bin Stickers

These stickers, obtained by the **South Witham Parish Council**, are now available to be stuck on wheelie bins warning motorists that they are in a 30 mph area. The bins should not be left out indefinitely, only on the days

the bins are put out for emptying.

The stickers may be purchased from both of the shops in the village, at a cost of 50p. each

They are A4 size, and have the same design layout as the larger passive notices, keeping the design of the scheme uniform.

In order to be used legally, terms and conditions, which can be viewed on the village website, need to be adhered to.

Stickers are only available to house owners and tenants, and after a signature and address is provided. They are primarily for houses on the High Street, North Witham Road and other streets in the village where there are issues with speeding vehicles.

We're back!

South Witham Community Group is pleased to announce that coffee mornings will restart on Wednesday 14th February at SW Village Hall and will continue every fortnight.

9am to 12 midday
Everyone welcome
Toys for children

Any offers of help will be very much appreciated!



Contact
Joan 07710626176
Sandra 07468481648
Fran 07778563952



All drinks and
cakes 50p each



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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, and at the discretion of the editor. 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 April/May please ensure you get them to the editor by the 15th Mar 2018 Thank you.

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KURLERS ENJOY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Kurling Club members enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch at The Angel Inn on 15th December. The food was lovely and the service was excellent.

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

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**Single Garage For Sale,
 located on Great Close –
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Regular Village Hall Activities

Monday	Yoga with Allison	9.30 - 10.30am
	Street Dance Classes	5.15 - 6.00 (5 - 10 yrs)
	Hayleigh Lockwood Twose	6.00 - 6.45 (11+ yrs) 6.45 - 7.45 (Adults)
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	Panda classes (Dance) Amanda Wood	3.30 - 4.10 (2 - 4 years) 4.15 - 4.55 (4 - 6 years) 5.00 - 6.00 (7 - 14 years)
	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							
CallConnect - the dial-a-bus service Monday - Saturday Bookings 0845 234 3344 Cancellations 0845 263 8130							

Local Amenities

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

Market Court Lay-by	Wed	11.15 - 13.15
	Thurs	13.15 - 15.15
	Fri	13.30 - 15.30
Great Close	Tues	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: 26th Feb, 26th March
 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

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 The Blue Cow Inn 01572 767887

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E MAIL-kate@kwrplanthire.co.uk*

I said to my gym instructor. 'Can you teach me to do the splits?' He said, 'How flexible are you?' I said, I can't make Tuesdays'
You know somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen – it said, 'parking fine'. So that was nice.
I saw this advert in the shop window. 'Television for sale, £1, but volume stuck on full. 'I thought, 'I can't turn that down'
I was in the army once and the sergeant said to me, 'What does surrender mean?' I said 'I give up'
Conjunctivitis.com– now that is a site for sore eyes.
My mate asked me 'what do you think of voluntary work?' I said 'I wouldn't do it if you paid me'
I've decided to sell my vacuum cleaner – it was only collecting dust.
So I was reading this magazine thing the other day and it gave some examples of how we and our American cousins see things. The examples given in this instance were based upon the stance that the elders of particular churches take on falling attendances. You might have seen the type of thing where a large sign is erected outside a church and a stimulating or uplifting sign is flashed up for motorists and travellers to read as they pass by. One such sign apparently reads 'NOT ALL QUESTIONS CAN BE ANSWERED BY GOOGLE'. Which I thought was quite up to date and in your face a bit. As an aid to safe driving another Baptist church announced 'HONK IF YOU LOVE JESUS.....TEXT WHILE DRIVING IF YOU WANT TO MEET HIM' another sign showed an awareness of the techno age by exclaiming 'READ THE BIBLE IT'S USER FRIENDLY PLUS WE OFFER TECHNICAL SUPPORT HERE ON SUNDAY AT 10.30'. Lastly 'ADAM BLAMED EVE, EVE BLAMED THE SNAKE AND THE SNAKE DIDN'T HAVE A LEG TO STAND ON'



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South Witham - 01572 767887

Wednesday 14th February 2018

24.99 per person

to start

cajun tempura king prawns with a tomato and horseradish dip
lamb koftas with a yoghurt mint and cucumber dip
roasted red pepper and tomato soup

the main event

fillet steak with tender stem garlic chilli broccoli and creamed
mashed potatoes
rosemary rack of lamb with buttered crushed new potatoes and
green beans
oven baked sea bass on a bed of crushed new potatoes and topped
with ratatouille

penne pasta with sautéed vegetables in a creamy pesto sauce
topped with grilled halloumi cheese and garlic bread

to finish

a trio of sharing desserts; salted caramel and chocolate tart,
passionfruit & mango cheesecake and belgian waffle topped with whipped cream,
strawberries and chocolate sauce.



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

To Report Dog Fouling issues
call South Kesteven District
Council on 01476 406080 or
log on to

www.keepskclean.co.uk

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**.

South Witham Garden Club

At the November meeting, Penny Vincent demonstrated designs for Christmas flower arrangements for the home.

The designs ranged from a small table posy, consisting of pink and white roses and a pink candle, followed by a design consisting of two arrangements which were hanging on a frame. A large piece of driftwood was the feature of the final design, which consisted of three separate arrangements of red carnations and cream alstroemerias. Penny had highlighted this creation with Christmas lights. All the arrangements were the prizes in our raffle. Penny was thanked for a very interesting demonstration.

On Tuesday 5th December, eight members joined for a Christmas dinner at The White Lion in Colsterworth. This turned out to be a very entertaining evening.

On Saturday 9th December, a Christmas fair was held at the Angel Inn and the garden club's stall provided a raffle. The first prize was a Christmas hamper with the contents being kindly donated by members and friends. The second prize was a bottle of whisky and a Christmas cake was the third prize.

Our AGM takes place on January 30th at the village hall, when the club's agenda for the coming year will be discussed, and the annual subscriptions will be due. Our speaker on 27th February will be Mr Peter Ball. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy new year.

Visitors are always welcome to any of our meetings for the small fee of £2.

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
www.south-witham.lincs.sch.uk

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.

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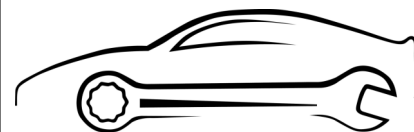
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South Witham Club Details

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

Coffee mornings fortnightly starting Wednesday February 14th in the village hall 9.00 - 12.00
Email: joanredhead@mail.com

Old Priory Lodge 4927 (Buffs) 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,

Wednesdays 2pm - 4pm
Contact: Jane 01572 767167
£2.50 per session

Sponsored by The Angel

Gardening jobs for the month - February 2018 - from David Penny

Let's start with the Queen I mean Clematis of course. When the bad frosts have gone cut late flowering clematis (those that flower after June) down to about 60cm. (2ft)

Have fun planning your vegetables and flowers chosen from the magazines. If you have never grown vegetables or flowers from seed, give it a go this year. It is really quite simple and great fun.

Any compost left outside will be very cold so bring it into the greenhouse/shed to warm up before use.

Dead head pansies, they will bloom again I promise.

Feed beds and borders when frosts have gone, it is a good use of any old unused plant food rather than throwing it away.

Check your plants for any damage or rot, cut out weak or damaged stems

Re-firm any plants that may have been loosened by frost or winds.

It is time to clean greenhouses, tools, staging using one of my favourite products- Jeyes fluid or any other cleaning fluid of course.

Troughs, window boxes and containers will benefit from a clean also..... Jeyes again.

Prune deciduous hedges and buddleia down to mid-calf height (leave buddleia globosa, the orange one untouched but you can remove diseased or damaged stems)

Harvest winter flowering broccoli, leeks and sprouts.

If we have deep frosts that have frozen the pond, gently melt the surface with warm water rather than breaking the ice, fish hate and are damaged by the vibrations of the ice being smashed.

Start slug patrols to catch those pesky slugs before they become a real menace.

Always check that greenhouses are correctly ventilated.

Spray almonds and peaches with your preferred fungicidal spray.

This is the last month for deep winter digging

Warm the ground up with cloches or fleece

If we have late snow, brush it off evergreens to save the branches from being bent downward and possibly damaged under the added weight.

Also keep off lawns if frozen and do not be tempted to give a hard early cut of the lawn, the first two cuts should be very light indeed with the mower set on the highest cut.

The big month of March is coming up so enjoy a nice cup of tea.

Happy Gardening to you all.

David Penny

South Witham Ladies Welcome Club

Instead of a meeting in December, members went to Greetham Valley Golf Club on Tuesday 12th for a Christmas Lunch. A pleasant outing enjoyed by everyone.

On January 9th our speaker was Mr. Mick Rawle with a talk entitled 'Aspects of Emigration'. Mr. Rawle has been a Family Historian for 35 years with the Leicester & Rutland History Society and has traced his own family back to the 1450s. In the 1800s Edward Rawle, one of Mick's ancestors, skippered the 'John' sailing ship headed for America, however the vessel was wrecked soon after setting sail, with the loss of nearly 200 lives, some 70 passengers survived, including Edward. He was later tried for manslaughter, but cleared on a technicality – the ships new compass not having been correctly checked prior to sailing!!! Mick gave us a lot of facts and figures about emigration to the USA from Liverpool and Plymouth, mainly trades people looking for a better life.

Between 1615 and 1776 many people, often those convicted of very minor crimes, were transported to the USA and Australia (instead of being jailed or executed). Also children and young people from various institutions and "remand" homes were deported. In all, some 35/40 million Europeans emigrated to America alone between 1820 and 1924.

During the Potato Famine of 1848/56, mainly due to emigration, the Irish population almost halved from 8 million to only 4.5 million. A fascinating talk on a very extensive subject.

Our meeting on February 13th is about "Wildlife of the Yorkshire Coast" by Geoff Lee.

March 13th will see an old friend, Jeff Dale, on the subject of Antiques & Auctions.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings for just £2.00 per evening or join our Club for a annual subscription of £14.00.

For further information about coming events please contact:
Jennie Keech - 01572 767648 or Jenny Pacey - 01572 767783

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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, the village shop in Water Lane and both pubs. Should you require a hard copy then please contact the Parish Clerk. This applies, as well, to the minutes of the meetings for the months in which The Witham Word is not published. They can also be found in the same places, or obtained from the Parish Clerk as indicated above. Many thanks.

SOUTH WITHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9th Jan 2018 at 7.30pm

Present 18-01 Cllr K Jolley (Chair), Cllr C Ashton, Cllr S Lansdowne, Cllr F Parish, Cllr M Kinning, Cllr J Oldfield, Cllr A Smith, Cllr C v Straubenzee, SKDCllr A Webster, Mrs H Sandon (parish clerk)

Apologies for Absence 18-02 Cllr Hodgkin, Cllr A White, LCCllr/ SKDCllr R Adams

Parish Council Vacancy 18-03

i) Candidate Interviews Two residents applied for the Councillor vacancy and undertook a short interview with the Parish Council.

ii) Voting by SWPC to fill the vacancy The Councillors present then voted and with the majority vote, Mr Golding was voted onto the Parish Council. Parish Clerk to advise candidates of decision and to invite Mr Golding to join the PC from February onwards.

Receive Declaration of Interests 18-04 none

Public Forum 18-05 none

Notes of the PC monthly meeting held on the 5th Dec 2017 18-06

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

Financial Matters 18-07

a) Monthly Accounts SWPC total bank balance £33667.78, BMM £33395.03, Play project £272.75.

Income received; 1) Main grant - Lottery fitness £8998, 2) Vat reclaim £1387.86

Payments; chqs issued ; 1) Helen Sandon Dec pay/exps £509.36, 2) Janine Costello -Dec litter picking) £105.00, 3) Paul Dalby (VH heating motorised valve) £85.98, 4) DGM Electrical Ltd (heating fault) £95.70 & 5) Annual Pat test £310.15 6) Keith Jolley (refund for key cutting) £45.00, 7) to 10) British Standard Locksmiths - VH main door locks/keys, £182.40 & £350.40, loft hatch keys/ locks £174.00, VH fire door repair £60.00, 11) Mr Elson cemetery hedge cut £216.00.

b) Agree Cemetery Scale of Charges 2018/19 After comparison with local Parish Council charges in the area, ie. Colsterworth and Skillington, SWPC agreed to keep the charges at the same level as last year.

c) Precept 2018/19 to be agreed/ set by SWPC Information circulated by the clerk to cllrs prior to meeting. Clerk gave overview of forecast total costs at the eoy 2017/18 and discussed impact of Precept figures on band D equivalent (average house). PC agreed to keep the

Precept at the same level as last year £23360, effectively a rise of £2 approx. per household, as band D reduced slightly and Government support grant reduced from £1185 to £600 for 2018/19. Clerk to advise SKDC of Precept set.

Clerk's and Councillors' reports on ; 18-08

a) Village Hall/ VHMC, Cllr Jolley

i) Repairs – heating, plumbing, showers VH heating/ electrical repairs and Pat testing completed. Cllr Jolley to arrange for shower replacement work to go ahead as per Mr Dalby's quote, agreed at Dec PC meeting.

ii) Other

Fire exit door to be repaired as loose in frame, so has been activating alarm, Cllr Jolley to arrange repair with BM Locksmiths.

Cllrs would like to meet with new VHMC members to discuss future events/ running of VH in an informal setting. Clerk to request dates from VHMC for this purpose and several cllrs agreed to meet up.

b) Other Road Safety issues, Cllr Parish

i) Interactive sign Cllr Parish advised that the sign is on order, but no date confirmed by LRSP for delivery. The suggested sites for install have been approved by LRSP, with an alternative suggested site on High St as entering the village from Mill Lane, with sign to be installed on a free standing post, as supplied by LRSP at nil cost. Brackets to be bought by PC to move the sign around the village regularly. Cllr Parish to also check if there is any cost incurred for LCC to move the existing electric speed sign to an alternative location in the village.

ii) Other Cllr Parish in receipt of 100 wheelie bin stickers. She is to put an ad. in WW re. this venture, as need residents on key village roads motorists speed along, to purchase/ display on bins, so stickers are effective with their message when lined up on bin days. Idea being to then sell stickers in Water Lane shop for 50p each. To advertise on FB page and village website also.

c) Jitty lighting, Cllr Jolley Solar light given to Cllr Jolley, for him to arrange install with Mr Medcalf.

d) Allotments signage, Clerk Clerk to order signage as discussed at Dec meeting.

e) Play area inspection, Cllr Oldfield **i) Monthly inspection / repairs** Cllr Oldfield to sort play surface repairs when weather permits, no other issues.

f) Future play equipment - ideas/ funding- Cllr Ashton Cllr Ashton to follow up sports lead, for help with equipment ideas / funding.

Planning Matters 18-09

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

i) S17/2375 Little Chef North Bound, Great North Rd – external alterations includ. installation of external seating area, canopy and bin store No objections from SWPC

ii) S17/2464 Ms L Sherwood, Mill House, 53 Mill Lane, - erection of one dwelling 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) S17/2111 Mr Rhodes, Greenacres, Broadgate Rd, prior notification for a change of use from existing B8 storage building to a dwelling - details not required (22/12/17), subject to conditions , see SKDC website for details.

ii) S17/0601 Mr & Mrs T Folwell, 27A Water Lane, demolition of existing single storey building and erection of a new dwelling and garage –permission granted by SKDC subject to conditions, see LCC website for details.

iii) S17/2254 Mr A Millmore, Coverley Barn, Church St, fell 2 x Goat Willow and 1 x White Willow, work allowed by SKDC as at 4/1/18.

Correspondence 18-10

LCC advanced notice of temporary Traffic Restriction for Tues 30th Jan 2018, location -Thistleton Lane to inspect disused structure (bridge SYB/20), diversion in operation. LCC Highways grass cutting 2018/19, LCC notification of the Adoption of the Lincs Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Site Locations. PKF Littlejohn LLP external auditor info for 2017/18 accounts. LALC news, LALC info re. new General Data Protection Regulations (comes into force May 2018) and role of Data Protection Officer, more info to follow from LALC. Clerks & Councils Direct.

Appointment of third member 18-11 Cllr Hodgkin

Date of next meeting 18- 12 Tues 6th Feb 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9pm

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What is Messy Church? Messy church is a different way of doing church, which includes crafts, and other ways of story-telling. Who is it for? It is for anyone! There are no age limits, you can attend whether you come as a family, or on your own. There is something for everyone! If you want to be part of the crafts or just enjoy the company and a coffee and some cake! Come and enjoy!
 Our next session is February 3rd, at South Witham Church, 9.30-11.30am. If you can't be there for the beginning don't worry, join us when you can during the morning!

Messy Crafts from our January Session about Jacob's dream!



Deanery Evensong
 During Lent on the following Sunday evenings, there will an evensong in the churches below to which the deanery is invited. You would be welcome to attend!

- 18th February– Bourne Abbey 6.30pm
- 25th February—Swinstead 6pm
- 4th March Corby Glen 6pm
- 18th March North Witham 6pm
- 25th March Colsterworth 6pm

FREE MULTI-SPORT YOUTH CLUB

For Young People Aged 12-18





Tues 3rd, Weds 4th, Thurs 5th and Fri 6th April.
11am – 1pm

At South Witham Village Hall

This club will be run by professional sports and fitness coaching company, Finding Fitness Ltd.
 The club has been funded by a National Lottery grant, and is therefore completely free of charge to attend.

Activities on offer will include Table Tennis, Pool, Fusbball, Cricket, Football and Boxercise.




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

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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 February 2018

	4th February 2 before Lent	11th February Sunday before Lent	18th February Lent 1	25th February Lent 2	
Little Bytham St. Medards & St Gildards	9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Sunday School		
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	Colossians 1:15-20 John 1:1-14	2 Cor 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9	1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15	Rom 4:13-28 Mark 8:31-37	

Church Services for the Group March 2018

	4th March Lent 3	11th March Mothering Sunday	18th March Passion Sunday	25th March Palm Sunday	
Little Bytham St. Medards & St Gildards	9.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Sunday School		
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	6.00pm Deanery Evensong		
South Witham St. John the Baptist	11.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Holy Communion		
Readings	1 Cor 1:18-25 John 2:13-22	Col 3:12-17 Luke 2:33-35	Heb 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	Palm Gospel or Mark 11:1-11	

New Shoots!

This is always a strange time of the year! Christmas is over, New Year celebrations are finished, the Christmas decorations are down and everywhere seems rather bare! The weather is dreary, cold and dull, we are not quite at the point where spring seems to be around the corner! And yet there are signs of new growth if we look around us! The spring bulbs are beginning to show, pushing their shoots through the dark earth! There are signs sometimes we don't see, below the top of the soil where the shoots and roots are beginning to grow and push up and down respectively, taking in the nourishment that the earth has to offer with its moisture and nutrients.

As a society today we tend to look for outward signs of things that are happening, but at the same time our inquisitive minds are searching for reasons and detail as to why things do happen! Science has come a long way, and scientific breakthroughs seem to happen almost on a daily basis! It is our thirst for knowledge that pushes along the discoveries that are being made.

In a way it is the same with our faith, you can't actually produce anything physical to show you have a faith, but there are outward signs that show you believe! Those signs are how we treat others, how we care for them, how we love them, how we want the best for them. However, there is one thing that probably overrides all of the above, and that is we would want others to know and feel the same about

their faith.

It's a bit like wearing one of those outrageous badges when we have a big birthday! It tells others that we have reached a landmark on life's journey! As we discover more and more about ourselves, and the more we uncover about our faith and what it means to us and what we can achieve with it, the more we will want to tell others about it! I sometimes hear those who say they can be a Christian on their own, the truth I believe is that we would want to be with others of a similar mind. Like going to a club, we want to be with those who have a similar interest, we want to learn from other people's experiences, and share some of our own so that others can gain from them.

If you have a faith and want to know more, then please come and join us at one of our services. (The service schedule grid will show you where you can find us worshipping on any Sunday.) If you don't have a belief, but would like to know more, then please contact me for a chat. (You'll find my contact details in these pages.) Alternatively, you can attend the Lent course at the Rectory, on Thursday evenings starting on the 22nd February at 7.30pm, continuing on the following four Thursdays! You too can then find and nurture new shoots!

Rev. Graham

WANTED

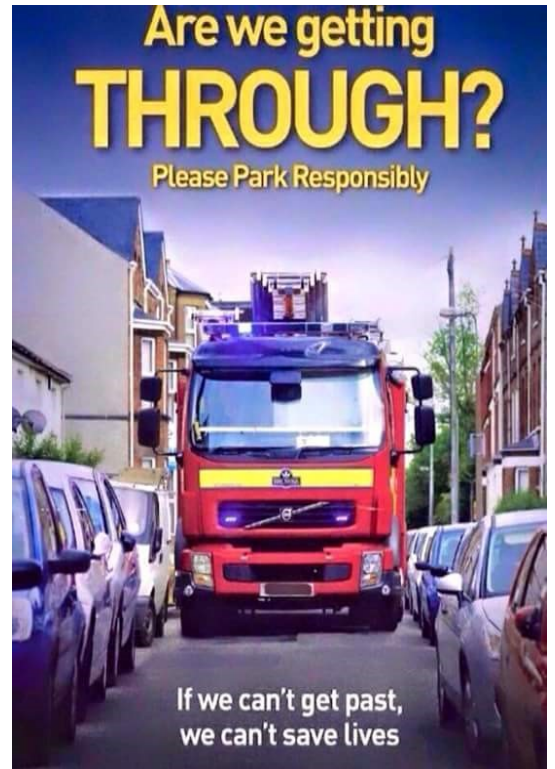
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If you are interested, or require further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the editor:

Dave Parish, 6 Hillview Road, South Witham
Tel: 01572 767430
Email: editor@wword.south-witham.org.uk



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We also accept sponsorship, your company name will be on every issue and you would be supporting your local community by investing in the Witham Word.

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