# THE TOWER

November/December2017



#### **EDITORIAL**

Our editorial will be brief as this issue is tight for space. We would however, like to draw your attention to page 9 which is about an unsung flying ace of WWII, an RAF reconnaissance pilot, who married a South Kyme girl (Anne Casswell Chambers) and is buried with his wife in our churchyard. This article is from of a more extensive piece written by Jonathan Falconer to be published soon in 'Britain at War' magazine (published by Haynes) and is reprinted in part here with his kind permission. In the church, there is a brass plate to his memory, on the south wall under the stained glass window.

This year seems to have been a good year for many bird species and numbers for most small garden birds are up. Although it has been a mild autumn so far, birds will now start to find it increasingly difficult to find food, so please keep your bird feeders topped up when the temperatures drop towards freezing, putting out suet fat balls and blocks will help give them the energy they need to survive the winter.

Finally, we hope that you will all enjoy a very pleasant and enjoyable Christmas and look forward to a bright and prosperous New Year

Mervyn & Judy Head



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Contributions for 'THE TOWER' should be emailed to: mervynhead@outlook.com, or posted at 52 High Street, South Kyme

Items for the next issue must be received by 20 December 2017

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#### **CLUBS AND SOCIETIES**

#### SOUTH KYME TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The club meets in the village hall on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 p.m. Membership is £5.00/year, with a session fee of £1.50. Age restriction is 16+ and any new members will be welcome. We have 3 tables and plenty of bats and balls. Tables can also be hired by non members•at other times•for £2.50 per hour per person. To book, please call 01526 861566 or 01526 869297

#### SOUTH KYME WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

South Kyme WI meets in the village Hall at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month, why not come and join us? The yearly membership fee is £39.00 which works out at £3:25 a month. You are welcome to come along to a meeting to see if you like us and want to join. For further details please contact Mary Jackson on 01526 860489 or Pam Bunker on 01526 861323 or go to our website at http://www.skwi/.com

For our November meeting we will be covering a LAMPSHADE and December we will be having our XMAS DINNER. For more details please contact SUE LOCK on 01526 869118 or PAM BUNKER on 01526 861323.

#### SOUTH KYME PETANQUE (BOULES) CLUB

We regret to say that the Boules season has now ended. The clanking of boules and cries of 'Ooooooh B----' will not be heard coming from behind the Village Hall until next Spring. Au revoir.

#### SOUTH KYME SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

The club meets in the village hall at 7.15-10.00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Membership is £5.00/year, with a session/match fee of £2.00. New members will be most welcome.

#### SOUTH KYME LADIES KEEP FIT GROUP

The ladies keep fit group sessions are now on each Friday afternoon (unless otherwise announced) from 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm. The fee is £15.00/month, so please do come along and experience a work out tailored to suit your individual needs by the qualified fitness instructor. For further details, please contact Josie on 01526 860645.

#### FREE BOOK EXCHANGE

Please come along and exchange your books free of charge. The Coronation Hall is open weekly for book exchanges on Tuesday 7.30-8.30 pm, Wednesday 7.30-10.00 pm and Friday 2.00-4.00 pm.

#### LOCAL LIBRARY SERVICES

#### **MOBILE LIBRARY VAN**

The library van will be outside South Kyme village hall from 10.30 - 11.00 am on the following dates - always on a Monday:

#### 20 November, 18 December

#### **HECKINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

The library is situated on the ground floor of the parish council building in St Andrews Street, Heckington, opposite the church. The library is open to residents of South Kyme and has computers installed for public use.

Opening hours are:

Monday - Saturday

Wednesday

10.00 am - 12.00 noon

10.00 am - 4.30 pm



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#### **COMMUNITY POLICING**



Contact details for your Neighbourhood Policing Team at the Sleaford Police Station, The Hoplands, Boston Road, Sleaford, NG34 7LZ are:

PC 569 Derbyshire
PC 400 McLardy
PC 418 Green
PCSO Kennedy
PCSO Ironmonger
PCSO Welby-Everard

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 Vicar:
 Rev Mike Rose
 Tel: 01526 861746

 Churchwardens
 Mrs J Morris
 Tel: 01526 861269

 Mr M Cass
 Tel: 01526 860857

#### **Church Services**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>
2 November	7.00 pm	All Souls Service to commemorate the
		departed at Walcott
5 November	11.00 am	Holy Communion
11 November	10.50 am	Act of Remembrance at war memorial in
		the churchyard
12 November	10.45	War Memorial Billinghay
19 November	11.00 am	Morning Prayer
3 December	11.00 am	Holy Communion
7 December	7.30 pm	Beer & Carols at The Hume
17 December	3.00 pm	Crib Service
Christmas Eve	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass Service at Billinghay
Christmas Day	10.00 am	Christmas Morning Service Billinghay

#### Letter from the Vicar

We have a full programme of activities, events and services for November and December, these include the major festivals of All Souls, All Saints, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas. The details of all of these services are as above. You are most welcome to be with us at these services.

As we look forward it seems quite astonishing how fast this year has passed. So much has happened in such a short space of time. For some of us this year has been one of loss. The All Souls Service on Thursday 2 November is a place where we can join with others in a similar situation to offer all we are to God, to ask his blessing upon our lives and to remember those we love but see no longer. It is a solemn occasion but also one where we remember with love and joy. We also join together for our Parish Acts of Remembrance on the 11th and 12th of November to give thanks for those whom gave their lives so that we might live freely.

Our Midnight Mass this year is at St Michael's and All Angels, Billinghay at 11.30 pm on Christmas Eve. Please join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and on New Years Eve which is on a Sunday this year we have a group service at St Andrew's Church, Timberland at 10.00 am

May I take this opportunity to wish you a blessed Christmas. And may God be with you in 2018.

Your Vicar, Mike.

#### SOUTH KYME PARISH COUNCIL

With the leaves falling and Autumn in full swing, let us hope for a mild one or even an 'Indian Summer' which in the UK is generally more akin to a monsoon! In the background, the Parish Council (PC) continues to do its best to address your concerns to make the village a nicer place to live. Remember the PC does not have the monopoly on ideas so please come along to the public forums preceding every PC meeting to put forward your thoughts and initiatives for consideration.

At the last PC meeting In September Councillor Alex Alexander was co-opted to the PC. However, we still have one vacancy for anyone who may have the time, energy and community spirit that is needed. The Heckington Fen Wind Farm issue has not yet been resolved by the Government and time is now extremely short to meet the final Feb 2018 deadline for Ecotricity to prove compliance with the original and variation planning applications. Once again, no news is good news and every day that passes increases the odds of a successful outcome to stop this blight on the fenland landscape. You will notice that the area around the main village noticeboard has been cleared of foliage and a big thank you to Colin Louth for his efforts. The noticeboard itself is deteriorating and needs refurbishment, and this is ongoing, whilst I have also noticed that the post box badly needs a lick of paint and I have approached the sub-contractor for Royal Mail to deal with this. As mentioned in the last edition of the Tower, the committee for the youth club (now termed Activity Group) will be working over the winter to make sure that we have all the elements in place to start this initiative for the youngsters of South Kyme by the summer of 2018.

Furthermore, the PC and Village Hall Committee have agreed in principle to purchase a ceremonial flag pole for the village and are now working out the details although it is likely to be sited within the village hall grounds. The Dog Warden (Emma) continues to perform her task diligently and is currently working on producing posters to highlight the issues surrounding dog mess which, as you know, is a constant problem. Some of you will have spotted American Mink on the river and we believe there are 2 adults and 3 kits. We have sought advice from a variety of agencies and are also in the process of writing to the local farmers to ask for assistance with trapping. These animals are voracious predators and will decimate any wildlife but fortunately they tend to move on once food stocks run out. (ironically the best way to get rid of them is for otters to move in!). We are aware of the problem and will monitor the indigenous wildlife for the next year but if the problem continues we have other options available and the offer of a loan of several traps. The 'Best Kept Village' competition this year did not see us through to the finals but it was a close-run thing and the judging panel scored us very highly at over 90%. Some Gardens and premises lacked the sparkle that is required however, the final report was extremely positive with only minor issues noted and this bodes well for future competitions.

The Village Tidy Group continues to present the village in a pristine condition and should be complimented on its collective and individual efforts. Meeting on the last Saturday of each month the next VTG,s are: 28 Oct and 25 Nov, thereafter, and over the winter, they will be advertised as required. New individuals are always welcome. The group meets behind the village hall at 0830 and works for about 3 hours before retiring to the 'Hume' to socialise.

The next council meeting and public forum will commence at 7.30 pm Thursday 23 November in the Coronation Hall.

Finally, from everyone at the Parish Council, have a fantastic and safe Christmas and New Year.

E S Langley (Chairman)



At the time of writing we have just started another school year and already our thoughts are turning towards Christmas.

2016-17 was another highly successful year at school in terms of the attainment and progress our children have made and I am delighted to report a summary of this to you.

In Reception, the percentage of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development (achieving at least the expected level) was in line with the National Average. The percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading and number was above the National Average. By the end of Year 2 the percentage of pupils working at the new national expected standard as a minimum was above the national average in writing and maths but just below in reading. In Year 6, the percentage of pupils who achieved the national expected standard was above the National Average for all subjects for the second year running.

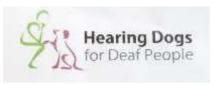
In terms of the progress that the Year 6 pupils made from the end of Year 2, our progress scores at school are all positive which means on average, pupils by the end of Year 6 do better than those with similar prior attainment nationally.

#### PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

If your child was born between 1.9.13 and 31.8.14 then he/she is eligible to start school in September 2018. Applications can be made online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions or over the phone by telephoning the Schools Admission Team on 01522 782030. **Applications cannot be made until the 13th November 2017.** Applications must be received by the School Admissions Team by 12 noon on 15th January 2018. We will be holding an open day event in school on Tuesday 21st November at 2pm . If this time is not convenient then please contact school to arrange a time to come and view our school. I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support and we look forward to building on our successes this school year.

With best wishes,

Mr R Allen, Headteacher



## USED STAMPS AND INKJET PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Used stamps and empty inkjet printer cartridges can be used to raise funds to purchase and train Hearing Dogs for deaf people. Please don't throw away envelopes

with stamps on them, but cut them off with a border of at least 1 cm of paper around the stamp - please note that post office printed lables and pre-paid marks are not required. You can put your used stamps and cartridges through the letter box at 77 High Street South Kyme, or call me, Ann Hobbs on 01526 869014 if you would like me to collect them.

#### Wing Cdr Donald 'Steve' Steventon DSO, DFC - RAF photo-reconnaissance ace

He joined the Royal Air Force in the late thirties to train as a pilot and in the world war that followed he flew unarmed Spitfires and Mosquitoes on risky photo-reconnaissance (PR) missions across Europe. 'Steve' became a squadron commander during 1942–43 and played a crucial part in uncovering Hitler's V-weapons programme. He continued to fly PR sorties up until the end of the war and was much decorated for his skill and courage as a pilot and a leader of men. When peace returned his flying career took quite a different turn, but in the end it was an unexpected twist of fate that decided how it should end.

On 15 May 1942, 'Steve' Steventon was flying a Spitfire PR IV (R7037) high above the western coastline of the Baltic on a sortie to photograph the north German port of Swinemünde after covering Kiel, and on the look-out for the German heavy cruiser *Prinz Eugen* sailing to Kiel from Norway. Far below he spotted an airfield on the northern tip of the island of Usedom. Noticing evidence of recent development activity he decided to switch on his cameras and made three short runs over the island. Unbeknown to 'Steve' and the photo-interpreters his cameras had stumbled across the first evidence of a German ballistic missile test site and that the earthworks were part of a secret Nazi programme to develop a long range ballistic missile capable of hitting targets in Britain – the V2 rocket. On 10 February 1943 'Steve's' award of the DSO was gazetted: "Since being awarded the DFC, this officer has taken part in a large number of operational sorties, and now commands the squadron. Sqn Ldr Steventon has displayed great ability and leadership, which has maintained the efficiency and morale of the squadron".

'Steve's' extensive operational experience as a PR pilot and squadron commander had been recognised by the Americans, who awarded him the Air Medal on 20 July "in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with the war". The Americans requested that the RAF allow him to join a delegation of three USAAF officers (all of whom were operational photo-reconnaissance pilots) led by Colonel Elliott Roosevelt (son of US President Franklin D. Roosevelt) with the job of investigating several reconnaissance aircraft then under development in the USA. The award of the American DFC to 'Steve' was announced on 26 July for "outstanding technical skill, resourcefulness and courage in successfully executing numerous long-range photo reconnaissance missions" between 1942 and 1944.

When 'Steve' was posted to the RAF Flying College at Manby in Lincolnshire in September 1950 as a flight commander and instructor, he and his wife of three years, Anne, moved to a house in the village of Little Cawthorpe, about 5 miles from the airfield. With the dangers of wartime flying now in the past, 'Steve' and Anne were looking to a more stable future and eagerly awaited news about their application to adopt a child as their own. After breakfast on the morning of Tuesday 18 September 1951 'Steve' waved goodbye to Anne and drove the short distance to Strubby. Little more than a minute after his take-off in a de Havilland Vampire, an explosion caused the Goblin engine to catch fire within seconds. 'Steve' radioed Strubby tower to request an emergency landing, and at 300ft on the downwind leg 'Steve' rolled the jet onto its back and baled out. His parachute streamed but did not deploy fully and he was killed when he crashed through the roof of a cottage on Beesby Manor Farm at Alford.

Two months later the *Journal of the Royal Air Force College* recorded 'Steve's' passing with these humbling words: "'Steve' was one of those exceptional figures that Cranwell has consistently produced at intervals in its history. In a series of notable appointments his success was immediate and outstanding. He was something of a legend in the Royal Air Force for his acute mind, his personality and the indomitable courage that earned his redoubled decorations".

#### NOTICES



#### ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE AT SOUTH KYME WAR MEMORIAL

On Saturday 11 November at 11.00 am, there will be a service of remembrance and laying of wreaths at the war memorial in the churchyard. Please come and support this act of remembrance for our fallen service men and women.

#### THE DICKINSON TRUST

Written applications for grants from the Dickinson Trust are invited from residents of South Kyme by 10 December latest please. Each application must stress the reason for applying e.g. Health/Food/Clothing, etc. There is no age limit for applications, just a demonstrated need for aid. Please send your application to either: Mrs J Morris, 30 High Street South Kyme, or Mr R Clark, 46 High Street, South Kyme.

#### THE HUME

The next coffee mornings will take place from 11 am on Wednesday 8 November and Wednesday 13 December. A selection of cakes will be available.

#### **CHEESE AND WINE - PUMPKIN EVENING**

Well, we excelled ourselves again this year and made the grand total of £1,145.00 for the air ambulance. Thank you to all who entered pumpkins and everyone who came and made it a great night. Thank you also to everyone who donated the lovely baking, the fab prizes and donataions. Thank you to Vijay for some of the delicious cheese that he donated, a special thank you for all of the hard work of everyone who helped, whether in the kitchen, on the stalls and anywhere else it was needed - it could not have been done without you. Finally, thank you to Craig for being a great compere.

Pauline Midgley

#### SOUTH KYME OIL SYNDICATE

We were so very sorry to hear that due to poor health, Ron Moggridge can no longer continue ordering oil for the village syndicate. We are sure everyone who has benefited from Ron's hard bargaining skills will join with us in thanking him for his time and effort over the years. We should also thank his wife Pat for taking phone calls and delivering order slips. Thank you both!

Frances & Tony

#### NOTTINGHAM SHOPPING TRIP

This year's shopping trip to Nottingham will be on Wednesday 15 November. If you have not booked your seat on the coach yet, please contact Elsie Coy on 01526 860790.

#### SOUTH KYME CORONATION HALL

November and December see the usual weekly activities of Monday Dance Groups, Tuesday Table Tennis, Wednesday Bowls and Friday Keep Fit. Why not come and try one of these activities?

Cafe Kyme mornings will continue on the first Tuesday of the month from 11.00 am, so we look forward to seeing you on 7 November and 5 December. They are a great opportunity to meet up with your fellow villagers and have a good chat whilst munching on some delicious home baked cakes. Homemade soup is also available. These Coffee Mornings are an important source of income for the Hall, so please support us.

The Hall will be open on Sunday 5 November for the start and finish of the Three River Challenge.

The Chine Supper will be on Saturday 11 November, 6.30 for 7pm. This popular, traditional event will also feature entertainment from the Spalding Ukulele Band. Tickets priced at £9 are available from Elsie on 01526 860790 or Sue on 01526 869118.

Another popular, traditional event is the visit from the Salvation Army Band. This will take place on Tuesday 19 December starting at 7.15pm outside the Hall and moving inside at 7.30-ish. As usual mince pies and mulled wine will be available to facilitate the vocal chords.

The latest improvement to your Village Hall has been improved lighting to the small 'committee room'. You can now actually see what you are doing in there! Don't forget that this room can be hired as part of the whole hall or just on its own. It is ideal for meetings or small social events.

If anyone would like to get involved in the hall, has any suggestions about future events/activities or how we can further enhance this important facility, please let us know. South Kyme Village Hall is YOUR village hall.

Our next Committee Meeting will be held in The Hume on Monday 27 November starting at 7.30pm. Please come along; you are always welcome.

Josie Philips (Chairman)

#### SOUTH KYME OIL SYNDICATE

Following Ron Moggeridge's retirement from running the village oil syndicate due to ill health, I have taken over from Ron to keep this money saving scheme running for the benefit of the village. I would like to express my thanks to Ron for the sterling work that he has done in setting up and running the scheme for our benefit.

To make administering of the scheme and ease of contact simple, I would appreciate it if all of those currently in the scheme could let me have their email address as soon as possible please. If you are not already in the scheme and would like join and take advantage of the syndicate's buying power to reduce your heating oil costs, please let me have your email address, your name, full postal address and telephone number, or if you do not have an email address, please contact me on the number below.

Contact details for me, Mervyn Head are: email: mervynhead@outlook.com
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#### SOUTH KYME CORONATION HALL BOOKING RATES

#### FOR BOOKINGS

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#### **HIRE RATES**

#### Main Hall:

Village Resident - £50 all/part day Non-Resident - £100 all/part day

#### Small Room:

Village Resident - £25 all/part day Non-Resident - £50 all/part day

An hourly rate (£10 Main Hall, £8 small room) is also available for groups wanting to use the Village Hall regularly, or for anyone just needing an hour or two.

If required, an alcohol licence is available for £20.

A £20 set up fee and £20 clear up fee will be charged if the hall is needed the night before or the morning after an event.

These rates include the use of the kitchen, equipment and crockery.

#### PHOTO REPAIR / RESTORATION / SCANNING & PRINTING

Do you have any photographs you need restoring, retouching or reviving? If you have an old photograph that is damaged or you want a copy I can help. I can restore and repair damaged photographs, remove blemishes, build up missing areas through damage, colourise and tint old black and white photos, enlarge, copy and even create photo montages of your treasured memories.

Prices can vary considerably based on the amount of work required and the materials needed, but may be roughly assessed as follows:

**Level I:** Relatively small amounts of work - crop, repair minor scratches, marks or blemishes on the background; adjust brightness, contrast & colour balance. Prices from £9.50 to £12.25.

**Level II:** As Level I + repair damaged edges & corners, creases and lines in the background and minor marks and blemishes on the subject not requiring extensive rebuilding; convert black & white or colour photographs to sepia tone or sepia to black & white. Prices from £17.00 to £19.75.

**Specialist:** As Level II + repair to more significant damage, remove or add objects, join photographs, replace backgrounds. Prices from £27.75 to £31.50.

Montage/Colourise/Tint: Prices on enquiry.

Additional Prints: up to 6" x 4" print £ 3.40

up to 5" x 7" print £ 4.90 up to 8" x 10" print £ 5.85

Please call or email for an individual quote.

Ríversíde Studío, Ríversíde Lodge, 52 Hígh Street, South Kyme, Líncs LN4 4AE Tel: 01526 861098 Emaíl: judyhead1@outlook.com

#### **DEFIBRILLATORS IN SOUTH KYME**

In addition to the defibrillator unit at South Kyme Golf Club, there is also one at Sycamore Farm, Clay Bank, South Kyme, which is available for village use if it is ever required - phone either David Casswell on 07711746902 or Michael on 07711746903

11 November 1918 signalled the end of The Great War between the Allies and Germany. Since 1921, the nation has come together to remember the sacrifices that hundreds of thousands of British and Commonwealth Service men and women made not just during the Great War, but World War II and all subsequent wars and conflicts including Iraq and Afghanistan.

We especially remember those young men from South Kyme killed in action (KIA) in The First World War, or have died on active service whose memorials are in the church/churchyard of South Kyme:

**Private William H Thompson -** 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment KIA Gallipoli 09/08/1915 aged 19

Sergeant John H Lingard - 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment KIA Somme 01/07/1916

**Private Percy Skelton -** 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment Died of wounds 06/11/1916 aged 21

**Private? Edward Freeston** - 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sherwood Forresters Died 10/12/1916

**Private John Edward Creasey -** 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment Died of wounds 27/09/1917 aged 22

Private Edward Pridgeon Holmes - 2/8<sup>th</sup> Worcestershire Regiment KIA 21/03/1918

Private William Bates - 1/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Kings Own Lancs Regiment KIA26/04/1918

Corporal Joseph Auden Munks - 24<sup>th</sup> County of London Battallion 'The Queens' KIA 18/09/1918

**Private Abraham Wells -** Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) – 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion KIA 05/10/1918

Sergeant Pietro Alfredo Giovetti - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve KIA 21/09/1941

Wing Cdr Donald Wilfred Steventon DSO, DFC - Royal Air Force Killed on Active Service 18/09/1951



#### **USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

#### **EMERGENCIES**

ELECTRICITY	Tel: 0800 6783 105
LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE HQ	Tel: 01522 532222
FLOODLINE	Tel: 0845 9881188
WATER	Tel: 0845 7145145
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY	Tel: 0800 807060

<u>HELP</u>

 CITIZENS ADVICE
 Tel: 0870 1224422

 PARENTLINE
 Tel: 0808 800 2222

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 Tel: 01476 592921

 SAMARITANS
 Tel: 0845 7909090

 CRIME STOPPERS
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 SWINESHEAD MEDICAL GROUP
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 HECKINGTON MEDICALCENTRE
 Tel: 01529 460213

 BOSTON PILGRIM HOSPITAL
 Tel: 01205 364801

 LINCOLN COUNTY HOSPITAL
 Tel: 01522 512512

#### **EDUCATION**

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#### **TRANSPORT**

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