

Life in Lin

Keep in touch with what's hap

COUNTY'S TOP TOURIST CHURCHES

East Lindsey churches were outstanding in the Tourist Church of the Year awards for 2003 recently presented by the Bishop of Lincoln the Right Reverend John Saxbee.

Louth St. James was overall winner for the second year running. It has the tallest parish church spire in England and receives visitors from all over the world. Second overall was Horncastle St. Mary, which entered the award scheme for the first time this year.

Lincoln City churches were also successful. St. John the Baptist on the Ermine Estate was third overall, followed by All Saints on Monks Road. Both churches offer a warm welcome to visitors.

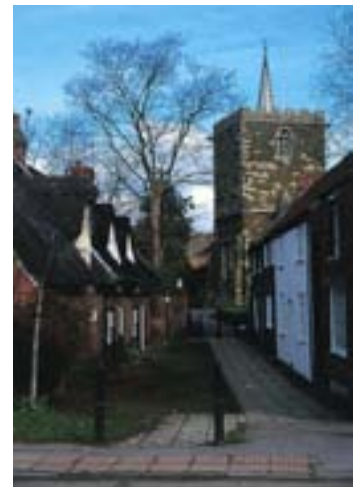
The award scheme also has separate classes including a special category for small parishes, containing less than 500 electors. In this class West Lindsey District was prominent, the winner being Waddingham St. Mary, with Stow Minster in second place. Langton by Wragby, birthplace of Stephen Langton, creator of Magna Carta was third.

Other churches recognised as high achievers were Barrowby All Saints, near Grantham (first in medium sized parishes), Grantham St. Wulfram (second, major churches) and Spalding St. Mary & St. Nicholas (third, major churches).

Not all the entrants were from the Church of England. Epworth Wesley Memorial Methodist church was second in Medium sized parishes, repeating its success from earlier years.



St James' Church, Louth – overall winner



St Mary's Church, Horncastle – second place

HISTORIC HOME OF FORMER CRICKETER FOR SALE

The birth place of Lord Hawke, who was a dominant figure in Yorkshire cricket for half a century and former president of the MCC, has gone on the market.

Willingham House, Willingham-by-Stow, is a Grade II listed former rectory with two cottages set in grounds of two acres.

Lord Hawke, who was born at Willingham House, then known as Willingham Rectory, in 1860 where his father was rector, captained the Yorkshire side for twenty-eight years and was president for the club for forty years, as well as being former president and treasurer of the MCC.

The house, with Queen Anne and early Victorian characteristics has deeds going back to 1605, the year of the Gunpowder Plot, and remains pretty much as it was when the young Martin Bladen Hawke learned to play cricket with the locals on the village green.

The historic Grade II listed former rectory house with two cottages set in grounds of two acres, has been placed on the market by Humberts priced £880,000.



Willingham House at Willingham by Stow

PRIZE-WINNING PICTURE OF COUNTY LIFE

Women's Institute members who were set the task of photographing 'Lincolnshire Life' for this year's County Show, came up with some impressive entries.

Lincolnshire Life editor Judy Theobald judged the competition which included pictures of everything from a frosty churchyard to an empty swimming pool.

The winning photograph was sent by Mrs Edna Pursey of Sleaford. Mrs Pursey's picture showed a horse-drawn ploughing competition at Heckington Show.

"It was very well composed, the subject

filled the photograph nicely and while it depicted something of the county's past, it also provided a record of present-day activities," said Judy.

Mrs Pursey received a trophy and a year's subscription to Lincolnshire Life magazine.



Edna Pursey's winning photograph

LINCOLNSHIRE LIFE PRICE RISE

Unfortunately, due to increases in production costs, we are being forced to raise the price of 'Lincolnshire Life' magazine but have managed to keep this to just 10p. From September's edition, the cost will be £1.95.

Annual subscriptions are also rising for the first time in many years. The UK subscription rate will be £22 and the overseas rate is going up to £28.

We regret having to do this but believe 'Lincolnshire Life' is still excellent value for money with its features about the county's history, culture, folklore, dialect, houses, gardens and books plus a lively letters' page, wedding album and readers' poetry.

Lincolnshire

happening around your county

COUNTY SHOW COMPETITION WINNERS

As usual our stand at this year's Lincolnshire Show proved very popular with visitors who came in their hundreds to take part in our competitions, sample the biscuits made and served by Lincoln College students and to meet members of staff.

The winner of the Poacher Punch competition was Mrs Betty Percil of Dunston. Many people enjoyed the punch but couldn't guess the ingredients. They were one measure of sloe gin, two measures of red wine and six measures of lemonade, to taste.

The winner of the Stately Homes competition was Mrs F Merrikin of

Welton. The answers were: Normanby Hall is near Scunthorpe, Doddington Hall is near Lincoln, Belton House is near Grantham, Grimsthorpe Castle is at Bourne, Tattershall Castle is nearest to Horncastle and Gunby Hall is near to Skegness. Mrs Merrikin wins two tickets to visit any National Trust property.

There were eighteen winners of the children's drawing competition who each received a prize of two tickets for the Wacky Warehouse in Lincoln.

The winners of the Sevenoaks and Glenda Steel competitions will be announced in next month's edition of 'Lincolnshire Life'.



Lincoln College students serving Grantham gingerbread to visitors to the 'Lincolnshire Life' stand

GARDEN HAS GOOD FRIENDS



People who have supported the project to restore Easton Walled Gardens were invited along to see how work was progressing. Easton Hall near Grantham became derelict after the Second World War and was eventually demolished.

The adjoining beautiful terraced gardens became completely overgrown but now the present owners are working hard to restore them. Trees and bushes have been removed from the terraces and the full size of the original garden can now be fully appreciated.

Over the last year 100 people have given their time to help in the garden or give advice, more than 1,500 people

have visited, there are six people working full or part-time on the project and the garden now has thirty 'friends'.

Plans for 2004 include planting 175 yards of hedging, opening for ten days for the snowdrops and opening on every Wednesday afternoon from the end of March.

If you would like to find out more about the project please telephone 01476 530063 or visit the website at www.eastonwalledgardens.co.uk

The true size of the original gardens can now be fully appreciated - the house once towered above the tall hedge at the top of the photograph

SCHOOL'S OWN BOOK ON SIR JOSEPH BANKS

Stand back Harry Potter, Lincolnshire's Sir Joseph Banks is the subject of the next best-seller, according to the head teacher of one of the county's schools.

Martyn Taylor, head of The Lafford High School at Billinghay, was speaking at the launch of the book, 'Sir Joseph Banks: Flora Explorer' written by thirteen-year-old students at the school. They were helped by the school's head of English, Nicola Irvine and in conjunction with Molly Burkett of Barny Books.

In the course of writing the book, the year-eight pupils had carried out extensive research into Sir Joseph's life and also learned about accountancy, business, public relations, writing to deadlines and correspondence. "The project touched on most curriculum areas," said Mr Taylor.

Captain Vic Jones, the naval attaché at the Australian High Commission, came to the school to help launch the book. He said: "The students have superbly captured the essence of Banks and the contribution he made to the society in which he lived." Captain Vic Jones with some of the students who worked on the book

