

# Parish Profile - Rector The United Parish of Hykeham

St Michael and All Angels



St Hugh



All Saints'



## ***Introduction***

We are the United Parish of Hykeham working with people of both North and South Hykeham where everyone is valued and diversity celebrated. The parish has a liberal catholic style of worship with an open policy towards marriage and baptism. We are looking for a Rector who will help us to develop our Christian Community within our united parish.

Our Mission Statement 'Playing for God'

We aim in our church life together:

- to create **WORSHIP** that will enable people, wherever they are on their journey with God, to express their feelings, to feel accepted and valued, and to experience joy.
- to work with **YOUNG PEOPLE** in order to share the Gospel and to show them God's love.
- to reach out to people with **PASTORAL CARE** whatever their need might be.
- to **NUTURE** faith, to facilitate and encourage a growing and deepening understanding of Christ, the world and ourselves.
- to **REACH OUT** and respond to others by being aware of the diversity of needs both in our local community and the world at large.
- and, to establish structures of **ADMINISTRATION** which demonstrate an appropriate stewardship of human and financial resources.

## ***Our Parish***

The United Parish of Hykeham covers the town of North Hykeham with its two churches, All Saints' and St. Hugh's and the village of South Hykeham and its church St. Michael and All Angels.

We are situated to the south west of Lincoln along the old Fosseyway (A46). The Hykehams have grown rapidly over the last few years and further expansion is planned. The current population (as 2011 census) has North Hykeham as 13,884 and South Hykeham 835.

The United Parish was established on 1st July 2013 and the formalities of how this is to be run are being progressed at the Diocesan Office and will be put into action as soon as possible. A united Parochial Church Council will oversee the parishes while each church will have a District Church Council (DCC) responsible for looking after and maintaining their church. Our United Parish is in the Diocese of Lincoln, the Archdeaconry of Lincoln and Graffoe Deanery.

The next Rector of Hykeham will face challenges and opportunities to:-

- Work in three different church buildings
- mould two Parochial Church Councils into one.
- continue the growth of our young adults and children within the churches.
- continue to provide the range of daily, weekly and seasonal services, and the wide range of occasional services.
- foster our links with other denominations in Hykeham
- link the Newark Road part of South Hykeham to its village church which is over one mile away.

## ***Our New Rector***

Our parish is diverse with its three individual churches. It requires an able person to identify the needs of the congregations in all the churches, encouraging them to grow in discipleship and numbers.

The United Parish of Hykeham is seeking a new Rector who:-

- is a spiritual person—prayerful and compassionate
- has empathy with our worship traditions
- is committed to a liberal vision of the church
- will celebrate the individuality of our three churches
- will bring in new visions and challenges and is able to communicate these to others
- is able to train clergy and laity
- committed to ecumenical partnerships
- takes seriously the safe guarding of children and vulnerable adults
- able to foster links with primary and secondary schools
- is financially aware
- has a sense of humour

## ***Our Commitment***

- administrative support
- a weekly day off
- prayers for him/her and their family
- expenses paid
- time for professional development
- an annual retreat

## ***We can offer***

- faithful congregations
- hospitality
- prayers
- support both financial and practical
- dedicated team of lay ministers
- willingness to try new ideas and new approaches
- music
- our charm, wit and laughter.
- freshly baked scones

## **The Vicarage**

- The Vicarage is at the side of All Saints' Church. It was built in the 1960s and has undergone a number of alterations over the years.
- The ground floor comprises a sitting room, dining room, study, kitchen, toilet and utility room. Upstairs there are four double bedrooms, bathroom and separate toilet. The building is centrally heated by gas. Outside there is a single garage with a large garden.

## ***History of North and South Hykeham.***

The old village of North Hykeham dates back to the Angles who occupied Britain after the Romans left . It was known as Haeccaham on the Weodum (as the river was called). Following the Norman Conquest there were two Manors in North Hykeham each owned by a different



Lord. Over the next few centuries the manors changed hands and in 1492 one of them was granted to Christ's College Cambridge which is still a major land owner to this very day. The other manor became linked to the church and after the dissolution of the monasteries, passed into private ownership and was eventually broken up. North Hykeham church was first mentioned in 1160 but, by 1535 it was merely a 'free chapel' standing on Meadow Lane and was in ruin by 1700. From 1700 to 1867 there was no church in

North Hykeham and prayer meetings were conducted in a room at the 'alehouse', now the Harrows pub. All Saints church was built in 1850s at a cost of £1,450 on land given to the parish by Christ's College.

The Methodist Chapel was built on Chapel Lane in 1881 and has been extended in recent years, while the newest Church of St. Hugh on Harewood Crescent dates from 1969. The first parish council was established in 1894 and met in the old school building that is now Park School Day Nursery. They moved to the Tin Tabernacle on Newark Road in 1948. The present Memorial Hall was built in 1969. The council now have offices on Witham Fields, this was a hall but has now become the

Council Offices. In 1974 the village took on Town status with its own Mayor. The arrival of the original Asda store in the late 1960s heralded a new style of Shopping in the area as did the opening of the Forum Shopping Centre a few years earlier. The post-war period has seen many new housing estates and there are plans for in excess of a further 1000 new houses along the Newark Road. North Hykeham is twinned with Denzlingen in the Black Forest region of Germany.

### **South Hykeham**

The village is set approximate five miles south of Lincoln. The village was mentioned in the Domesday Book when it was described as "Hichum" and consisted of 14 households and two fisheries. The parish is now split into two distinctive areas—the old village and the newer part which has grown up along Newark Road. The village is still rural with a small parish church. The present church may be the third to have been built on the site. The first recorded date of a Church in South Hykeham was 1138. The west tower was constructed in the 13th or 14th century. In 1866 the spire was struck by lightning. This was repaired and a programme of restoration commenced in 1869 including the erection of the south porch, removal of a gallery and installation of new windows. Stain glass windows were later installed in memory of the Lord of the Manor E R C Cust, the Rector's young son and a former churchwarden and his wife. In this part of the village there is a small Primary School, areas of farmland and several houses. The Newark Road area is by contrast a much larger area made up of many homes and businesses.

### ***Amenities and Attractions***

There are a wide range of clubs and societies that meet in the town with a Sports Centre, Sailing Club, in-door and out-door bowls, cricket and football pitches. There are number of parks and green spaces with Whisby Nature Reserve on our doorstep.

There is good public transport into the city of Lincoln, with all its many amenities and attractions including cathedral, castle, university and theatres plus numerous restaurants and pubs.

The Terry O'Toole Theatre has both professional and amateur entertainment on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

## **Education**

### Primary Schools

Within the parish there are four primary schools, all with infant and junior sections (some have Nursery and Early Years provision)

- All Saints Church of England Primary School.
- Fosseyway Academy
- Ling Moor Academy
- South Hykeham Community School

As a parish we are currently active in All Saints and South Hykeham Schools with assemblies being take in both of them on a weekly basis. The Rector is also an ex-officio Governor of All Saints School. Clergy also visit the other two schools. The schools use our churches for their Harvest gifts, Christingle services, Palm Sunday/Easter, along with curriculum items like Baptisms and Weddings.

### Secondary Schools

There are two secondary schools;

- North Kesteven School
- Sir Robert Pattinson Academy

These schools also have children from the outlying villages.

## **Our Churches**

### ***The Parish Church of All Saints'***



At the junction of Mill Lane and Moor Lane in the 'Old Village' of North Hykeham. The church is Victorian built in 1858 in the style known as 'Decorated Victorian Gothic.' All Saints' is a lively church and its people are open and welcoming to visitors and newcomers. Babies and children are most welcome. In our pattern of services we seek to provide something for everyone. The church is also the home of the town War Memorial.

The church was reordered in 2000 when the choir stalls were removed, floors levelled, new chairs installed, the pulpit was reduce in size and

made more accessible. The main inner entrance doors were changed from wood panels to glass panels, a loop system and CCTV cameras installed. The heating system has also been replaced.

We are now in the process of looking at putting a small servery at the rear of the church and modernising the vestry, new pew cushions are also being made.

### ***The Parish Church of St. Hugh***



This church is situated on Harewood Crescent, between Baildon Crescent and Broadway (behind the Forum Shopping Centre). A modern church built in 1969 which combines beauty and simplicity. The lovely windows came from the former church St. Peter-in-the-Bail, Lincoln. A warm welcome awaits you at this church. Families, couples and people by themselves will find a home and a sense of belonging in this Christian Community.

The church has recently installed a multi-media package, replaced the organ and installed solar panels on the roof.

This church has recently been granted a faculty to build a new servery, disabled toilet and storage room on the side of the church. We have just received a large grant from Wren for the internal fittings of the building.

### ***The Parish Church of St. Michael.***



This church is in the 'Old Village' of South Hykeham. This is our country church. The church tower is medieval, while the body of the church was thoroughly restored by the Victorians in 1869. As soon as you step through the door there is a sense of peace and tranquillity. Here, you can escape from the hustle and bustle of daily life and enter the timelessness of God. There is a small congregation ready to grow, and you are warmly invited to join it.

Over the last year the church has been redecorated, the pews were removed into storage along with the lectern. The apse of the church is in need of underpinning but before this could be done an archaeological inspection had to be made. We are looking at becoming a community building and hope to install a servery and toilet within the church. A faculty is now being applied for to carry out the underpinning, return some of the pews and lectern, to re-site the organ, and to have the bells repaired and operated electrically and to repair and replace downpipes and guttering.

### ***Ecumenical Connections***

We are part of Churches Together in Hykeham and Swallowbeck, this consist All Saints' and St. Hugh's North Hykeham, St. Michael's South Hykeham, Hykeham and Swallowbeck Methodist Churches, St Georges Church Swallowbeck, St. Peter and St. Paul's Catholic Church and Hykeham Faith Christian Fellowship. These churches hold joint events together – from service for the Week of Prayer – to Witness on the Village Green on Good Friday:



Question Time at the Terry O'Toole Theatre, Carol Singing at Asda, and other social events through the year.

We are part of the Graffoe Deanery which consists of 29 churches to the south and south east of Lincoln. This is a very rural area with Hykeham being the largest populated parish.

### ***Worship***

The parish has liberal catholic style of worship, where vestments are worn at all services; there is a reserved sacrament in All Saints' and St. Hugh's churches. All the laity in our three churches are valued for where they are on their Christian journey.

Our worship was Eucharistic centred but as a result of less ordained staff changes have had to be made, whereby each church receives the

Eucharist once a fortnight at its main morning service. All three churches use the same form of liturgy.

The current pattern of services is as follows:

***All Saints'***

Sunday                    8.00 a.m.                    Said Eucharist:

On the first Sunday of the month the Book of Common Prayer is used. All other Sundays follow Common Worship. There is a short sermon at all of the services; the Eucharist is celebrated facing west with a server in attendance. A congregation of between 15 and 20

9.45 a.m.                    Sung Eucharist 2nd and 4th Sunday  
of the month

This service follows seasonal Common Worship. There is a Reader, server, Eucharistic minister along with a small adult robed choir. Attendance is 40—60. The Seekers (Sunday school) come into church to either receive Communion or a blessing.

9.45 a.m.                    Sunday Service 1st & 3rd Sundays of  
the month

This also follows seasonal Common Worship, but without the Eucharist. These services are led by a Reader. The choir is also in attendance, on the third Sunday there is no organist but we sometimes have two guitar players at this service. Attendance is 40—50.

11.45 a.m.                    Baptisms on 2nd and 4th Sunday

These are usually take place with a maximum of three families with approximately 50—60 guests per family.

6.30 p.m.                    Evening Prayer

This is a sung service using Common Worship is used on 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Each service begins with a Service of Light where candles may be lit in memory of loved ones; anyone who has had a funeral during the week is invited to this service.

On 3rd Sunday of the month a shortened Eucharistic service using the Book of Common Prayer is added to the above service. The attendance for this is usually 20 but can be double with bereavement families.

All of the above services have laity involvement with readings and intercessions.

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

This is a said Eucharist service with a short sermon. On the first Wednesday of the month it is followed by a healing service. On the second Wednesday it is the Mothers' Union corporate communion. Attendance for this varies from 6—15

### ***St. Hugh's Church***

Sunday 9.45 a.m. Sung Eucharist 1st and 3rd Sundays  
of the month

This service follows seasonal Common Worship on a multi-media screen. With a Reader, server, Eucharistic minister and acolytes along with a small adult robed choir. Attendance is 30—40. At the present time there is no organist and so the music is from CDs through the organ.

9.45 a.m. Sunday Service 2nd and 4th Sundays  
of the month

This also follows seasonal Common Worship, but without the Eucharist. These services are led by a Reader. The choir is also in attendance. Attendance is 30—40.

### ***St Michael's Church***

Sunday 11.15 a.m. Said Eucharist 1st and 3rd Sundays of the  
month

This service follows seasonal Common Worship liturgy. The laity reading the lessons. Attendance 5-12

11.15.a.m. Sunday Service 2nd and 4th Sundays of  
the month

This service again follows seasonal Common Worship liturgy and is as above but without the Eucharist. Attendance is 5-12

When there is a 5th Sunday in a month services are as follows:

8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist at All Saints'

10.30 a.m. United Eucharist this alternates around the three  
churches

6.30 a.m. Evening Prayer at All Saints'.

### **Occasional Offices**

In recent years there have been between 50 and 100 funerals in the parish. The majority of these take place at Lincoln Crematorium with about 20% of these having a service in church first.

Baptisms typically take place on the second and fourth Sunday after the main Sunday service at All Saints'. There is a maximum of three children baptised at any one of these services, there is no music at this service.

During the year between 100 and 130

Baptisms are carried out with around 40 of these being adults.

Baptisms also take place at St. Michael's in the main morning Eucharist.

Baptisms also take place at St. Hugh's after the main morning service.

Baptisms for church members usually take place in the main morning service.

All Saints and St. Michael's are both popular churches for Weddings. All Saints' having between 25 –40 and St. Michael's 3—5 a year.

### **Communication:**

There is a Parish Office, (see below) it is open every morning from 9.00—12.00 and is part of the Ark Complex. The Administrator deals



with the day to day running of the church.

She also attends the Surgery which takes

place on a Friday evening in All Saints

Church where she helps with the bookings

for Baptisms and Weddings. She attends to

all paper work relating to weddings

including the writing of the registers.

Information for funerals also come into the

parish office and is then co-ordinated. All

relevant information is then sent back to the

funeral director. All necessary information

regarding weddings and funerals are then

sent to the Diocesan Office. The Church produces its own parish

magazine The Hykeham Herald. The editor for this is Fergus Redford,

and the magazine is collated and printed in the parish office.

We have a weekly reading sheet which is given to each member of the

congregations and shows, opening sentence, the Collect, Old and New

Testament Readings, the Psalm, Gospel Acclamation and Gospel along

with closing prayer. There is also a Sunday Link giving times and dates

of weekly events and other useful information. These are produced in the Parish Office. We offer a wedding hymn sheet printing service, and print copies of minutes for outside groups and organizations.

We do have a web site that is <[nhallsaints.co.uk](http://nhallsaints.co.uk)> this is at the present time being updated. You can find our church magazine here along with other information about the parish.

The Parish is a charity in its own right and copies of the financial statement can be obtained from the Parish Office.

### **Church Halls**

**All Saints Hall** (also known as the Ark Complex) is situated next to the church and has two halls, the oldest of these is a wooden building and the larger hall, added in the 1950's, is of brick construction. They are joined by an entrance hall off which is a new toilet block built in 1998 and a kitchen which was completely gutted and refurbished in 2007. The Parish Office is also housed in this complex along with the churches' Charity Shop and Coffee Shop. The hall is used every day. The Parish Office is open every morning. The Community Shop is open every morning and two afternoons, this is manned by volunteers. The hall is also used by cubs, scouts, brownies and guides. There are dance classes and dances, swing band sessions and the local organ society hold their meetings monthly in the Ark. Kumon learning classes, Aikido and Martial Arts also meet in the Ark. The local Mothers' Union and Women's Institute, Hykeham Camera Club, 2 x 2s Mums and Toddlers Group, Farmers' Market, Church Bingo Group, Monday Club of adults with learning disabilities, Tuesday Lunch Club for those alone all take place in the Ark. There is also Seekers' (Sunday school), Children's Holiday Clubs, and numerous children's parties.

**St Hugh's Hall** is situated behind the church it has also had a new toilet block in 1999 and a refurbished kitchen in 2013. This hall has a play group that meets every morning during term time. Cubs and Scouts also use this hall along with Jo Jingle and other groups. This hall also caters for a number of children's parties.

To supplement the hall St. Hugh's church is hired out on Tuesday evening for a Keep-Fit class and on Wednesdays for the Hykeham Choral Society. The Railway Club meet monthly and make use of the multi-media equipment. The local town and district councils also hire the church for meetings.

In addition both halls are used for church functions and events.

## **Staffing**

The parish has just changed from a Team Ministry with a Team Rector, House for Duty Priest and a curate in training. At present the retired House for Duty Priest is covering the Eucharist services. We have one retired priest (in his 90s) who still helps out. There are two Readers who lead the non Eucharistic services. There are 18 lay people across the parish authorised to administer the chalice at the Eucharist in Church, four of these are authorised to administer Home Communions.

The parish employs a part-time paid administrator, and volunteers run the charity and coffee shops.

The church wardens act as vergers and for the occasional offices of weddings and funerals they get paid.

## **Major Festivals**

Advent Carol Service takes place on Advent Sunday in the evening and alternates between our three churches.

Christmas Eve at 4.30pm there is a Christingle and Crib service at St. Hugh's and a Crib service at St. Michael's and a 6.00p.m Christingle service in All Saints.

Midnight Mass is celebrated in all three churches at 11.30p.m

Eucharist at both All Saints' and St. Hugh's takes place at 9.45a.m.

On the Sunday evening after Christmas there is a joint Nine Lessons and Carols this rotates around the three churches.



## **Lent and Holy Week**

Ash Wednesday takes place as part of the 9.30a.m. Eucharist.

Two Lent courses take place on a Tuesday afternoon in All Saints' Church or the Ark at 2.00 p.m. and in St. Hugh's Church on a Thursday evening at 7.00 p.m.

The Holy Week

Monday 7.30 p.m. Eucharist at St. Michael's

Tuesday 7.30 p.m. Eucharist at St. Hugh's

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. Eucharist at All Saints' followed by Ecumenical Prayer Group

Thursday 7.00 p.m. Maundy Meal in St. Hugh's Church Hall

Good Friday	10.00 a.m.	Good Friday liturgy with activities for the children in the Ark
	2.00 p.m.	Last Hour in All Saints Church
	3.15 p.m.	Ecumenical Service on the Village Green.
	7.00 p.m.	Tenabre in All Saints Church
Easter Eve	8.00 p.m.	Service of Light at St. Michael's where the Easter candles are lit.
Easter Day	6.00 a.m.	Dawn Mass on the Village green followed by breakfast in the Ark
	6.30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross

### ***Civic Services***

There are usually two Civic Services during the year in All Saints' church. The Civic Service is usually at the end of September, and the Civic Carol Service is the Sunday before Christmas.

On the Saturday nearest to All Souls' Day we hold a service of Light and Life and families for whom we conducted a funeral within the last two years are invited to come and light a candle. This service alternates between All Saints' and St. Hugh's churches and usually the attendance is 60—80.

**Remembrance Day Service** at All Saints is part of our normal morning Eucharist to which the Town Councillors, British Legion, Air Cadets are invited.

At St. Hugh's Church there is a service at the end of their morning service.

### ***Special Services***

#### ***Weddings***

Bookings for weddings are made at the Surgery on Friday evenings (for the three churches) in All Saints' Church 6.00 –7.30. We cater for a large number of weddings each year. We have a Parish Policy which allows us to perform weddings for divorced people as long as the circumstances are appropriate.

#### ***Marriage Blessings***

We are always pleased to offer the opportunity, for whatever pastoral reason, to create an opportunity for people to have their marriage blessed.

### **Renewal of Vows**

We are delighted to offer this ministry to couples who want us to help them celebrate a significant anniversary with a rededication service.

### **Baptisms:**

We have an open policy for Baptisms and are always pleased to receive children and adults for Holy Baptism.

### **Funerals**

We undertake to officiate at funerals and offer pastoral care of the bereaved for any family that are resident in the United Parish. We are always ready to respond when the need arises. It will never be inconvenient or the wrong time. Most people contact the Funeral Director first who then makes the appropriate arrangements with us. We are equally pleased to be invited to officiate at the local Crematorium or in one of our Parish Church buildings. Funeral parties are invited to come back to church on the Sunday following a funeral to make a further act of memorial and to seek the comfort of the established congregation.

### **Confirmation**



Courses for both adults and young people are arranged when the need arises.

### **Charities**

#### **Locally: The Nomad Trust**

This is a small local registered charity offering services to the homeless in our local community. For the past 22 years they have contributed to supporting adults who for one reason or another, have become homeless. They operate the only direct access, emergency night shelter in the country. They offer a counselling service, rehabilitation guidance and a resettlement service with floating support.

#### **Nationally: The Children's Society**

They look at the world through the eyes of children and never flinch from what we see. When society sticks labels on children they seek to

understand what is bottled up inside. Through this understanding they work with children to imagine, explore and identify the most effective ways to meet their needs. They cannot help every child, so they focus on those who are in most need.

***Internationally: Christian Aid***

Christian Aid is an agency of the churches in the UK and Ireland. They work wherever the need is greatest—irrespective of religion or race. They believe in strengthening people to find their own solutions to the problems they face, they support local organisations that are best placed to understand local needs. They strive for a world that will put an end to poverty and they campaign to change the rules that keep people poor. There are many other charities that the churches donate to during the year.

***Joining In—Adult Groups and Activities***

***Tuesday Lunch Club***

This is an opportunity for the elderly and those living alone to have a simple meal (Soup and Pudding) and enjoy good fellowship. Transport can usually be arranged. The Tuesday Lunch Club meets in the small hall in the Ark Complex at 12.30 p.m. At Christmas the group is treated to a full Christmas Lunch and just before our break in August we have our lunch at the Whisby Nature Reserve Cafe.

***Big Breakfast***

This takes place at St. Hugh's on the third Saturday of each month and is where you can enjoy a full hearty breakfast, or just have cereals and a piece of toast. It is open to everyone.

***The Ark Cafe***

This is open during the week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. It provides a meeting place where people can find refreshment and fellowship.

***The Community Shop***

This shop is run by volunteer staff and is open every morning and on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. It provides a valuable community amenity and is an environmentally sound project as it recycles all sorts of goods.

***The Mothers' Union***

This group meets in the Ark small hall in the afternoon of the 1st Wednesday of each month. They start with a service in All Saints' Church. The Mothers Union are part of a worldwide organisation whose main aims are to support and encourage family life in all its forms. They

enjoy outings together and listen to a wide variety of speakers.

### ***Pastoral Group***

This is a group of lay people who have undertaken some training in order to visit folk in their homes. They aim to address a range of social needs from bereavement to loneliness.

### ***Social Events***



All three churches have a range of Social Events each year. They range from concerts, quizzes, mini markets culminating in a joint Christmas Fair. The object is firstly to bring people together to enjoy each other's company and secondly to raise much needed money to fund the life of the churches.

### ***Women's Fellowship***

This is an informal women's group that meets in the Methodist Church Hall on the second Tuesday of each month in the evening. They have fun, parties, outings, listen to speakers and enjoy each other's company.

### ***Community Bingo***

A small group of people meet together every other Thursday morning in the Ark to enjoy fellowship and play bingo. Anyone is welcome to join in the fun.

### ***Monday Club***

Adults with learning disabilities come together to sing, draw, have Christian teaching and share each other's company. This takes place on a fortnightly basis.



## ***Children's groups and activities.***

### ***2 x 2 Toddle Group***

Parents and toddlers (pre-school aged children) meet in the Ark on Wednesday mornings during term time.

### ***Seekers***

Sunday school by a new name, is lots of fun, full of interesting activities and Christian teaching. This group meet in the Ark at 9.45 a.m. during the first part of the morning service, they then come into church either to receive a blessing or Communion. Parents and friends are also invited to think about becoming helpers.

### ***Summer Holiday Club***

This is an annual event taking place during the first week of August. The Holiday Club is very popular, gathering together around 60 children and needs almost as many helpers. It runs Monday to Thursday 10.00 –12.00 and caters for children aged 4 –11 years. It is an ecumenical event. It ends with a Fish and Chip supper for all who have taken part along with parents and friends who celebrate the work that has been done during the week.



### ***The County***

Lincolnshire is one of the largest counties in England which stretches from the river Humber in the north, down to the Wash in the south, and it borders Northants, Rutland and Nottinghamshire to the west. It is full of wide open spaces, and is not as flat as everyone imagines. It has a long coast line to the east with a number of busy resorts and the beauty of the Wolds along with the flatness of the fens.

### ***Things to See—Places to Visit***

There are plenty of interesting places to see and visit. There is everything from historic buildings and over 600 church buildings. The medieval Lincoln Cathedral, Lincoln Castle. In the county there are other castles and windmills, stately homes which you can explore. The county has a number of English Heritage and National Trust properties, not

forgetting the museums and art galleries that show Lincolnshire life. Lincolnshire is also famous for being World War II Bomber County and still has a number of airfields intact.

Lincolnshire is full of places to explore, if you enjoy eating out, many of which use locally grown produce. A number of these also sell real ale, some produced in the county. A number of our towns still have markets at which the local produce can be purchased for home use.

Lincolnshire also enjoys catering for a number of antiques craft fairs, like Hemswell, and Swinderby and many of our towns have craft and antique shops.