

St. Andrew's, Irnham

How our forebears spent money on this church:-

[Our record starts in the seventh year of King George 11's reign]

- 1734 A new set of bell ropes 12 shillings, 6 pence
A regular need.
- 1739 Looking after the clock 16 shillings
Similar expenditure upon a clock continues until 1858/9 (when, presumably, it was removed).
- 1741 'Ale for ye 5th of November' 3 shillings, 10 pence
Similar expenditure commemorating the gunpowder plot occurs throughout the 18th century, seeming to cease circa 1800.
- 1746 'Prayer for Day of Thanksgiving' 3 shillings
'Ale for Day of Rejoicing' 10 shillings
Undoubtedly celebrating the Battle of Culloden and the end of the Jacobite cause as a serious political threat.
- 1747 'An Act against swearing' 1 shilling
- 1759 'Paid a Prayer of Thanksgiving for the ceasing of the Distemper among the Beasts' 4 shillings
- 1759 'Gave the Ringers for the Prince of Wales Coming of Age' 5 shillings
Prince George, who succeeded in 1760 as King George III
- 1761 'Spent at the Kings Coronation' 15 shillings
- 1762 'a Form of Prayer for taking of Havanna' 2 shillings
One the last major operations of the Seven Years' War, 1755-63
- 1768 George Brewster's charge for mending the fence 1 shilling, 10 pence
The Brewster family still live and work in this parish
- 1781 'The Expenses of them that were Confirmed' 7 shillings
This is the first entry of monies paid in expenses (travel and meals) to the confirmation candidates. This gift continues until the early 20th century.
- 1800 Richard Cox, Churchwarden, goes to Lincoln:-
'My Dinner and Liquors' 6 shillings
'being unable to get home, being a very bad night' 2 shillings
- 1815 July 10th 'Form of Prayer on account of the splendid Victory at Waterloo.' 2 shillings, 9 pence

- 1817 **‘A form of prayer for Prince Regent’** **3 pence**
A modest sum, compared with the Waterloo prayer two years earlier. The Prince succeeded as King George IV in 1820. He reigned until 1830 when succeeded by his brother, King William IV, who, in turn, was followed in 1837 by his niece, Queen Victoria.
- 1832 **‘Cholera prayers’** **3 shillings**
- 1848 **‘Paid to M G Hare for 19 stone coal’** **1 shilling, 3 pence**
The first record of the Churchwardens spending on heating fuel. The Hare family still live and work in this parish.
- 1848 was a year of revolutionary fervour in Europe with many popular uprisings. It is tempting to surmise that the introduction of the comfort of heating for the villagers was in some way connected to this!*
- 1875 **‘Tuning Harmonium’** **7 shillings, six pence**
The first record of an accompanying musical instrument in the church.
- 1900 **Paraffin** **2 shillings, 6 pence**
The first record of an alternative (perhaps accompaniment) to coal. Paraffin now becomes a regular item of expenditure.
- 1901 **Insurance** **10 shillings, 6 pence**
The first record of insurance; initially, this seems just to have been against fire. Queen Victoria dies and is succeeded by King Edward VII
- 1909 **Mowing the graveyard** **5 shillings**
The first record of payment for mowing. Presumably, the graveyard had previously been grazed.
- 1910 **A set of bell mufflers** **10 shillings, 6 pence**
King George V comes to the throne; possibly the mufflers were purchased for mourning his father, King Edward VII
- 1935 **‘Jubilee Papers’** **1 pound**
King George V celebrated his Silver Jubilee. He died the next year, 1936, being succeeded by his elder son, King Edward VIII who abdicated before the year was out in favour of his younger brother, King George VI
- 1941 **Fire buckets for the A.R.P** **13 shillings**
A precaution against incendiary bombs
- 1945 **‘Flag of St. George’** **1 pound, 18 shillings, 6 pence**
‘Service papers for V.E. Day’ **6 shillings, 6 pence**
‘Rope for flag’ **3 shillings, 6 pence**
The end of the Second World War

- 1949 **‘Lionel Peasgood Memorial’** 13 pounds, 5 shillings
Died on active service in the War. The tablet is on the south wall under that to those fallen in the First World War
- 1953 **‘Coronation Hymn Sheets’** 1 pound
King George VI died in 1952 and was succeeded by his elder daughter, Queen Elizabeth II
- 1954 **The first recorded Fete makes:** 23 pounds.
- 1959 **‘East Midlands Electricity Board’** 33 pounds, 18 shillings
This first entry presumably refers to the installation of an internal electric lighting system (renewed in 2004)
- 1961 **‘Messrs Spires & Co Electric Heaters’** 9 pounds, 19 shillings, 6 pence
‘Messrs Chandlers Calor Gas’ 2 pounds
Oil fired central heating was installed in 2004
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