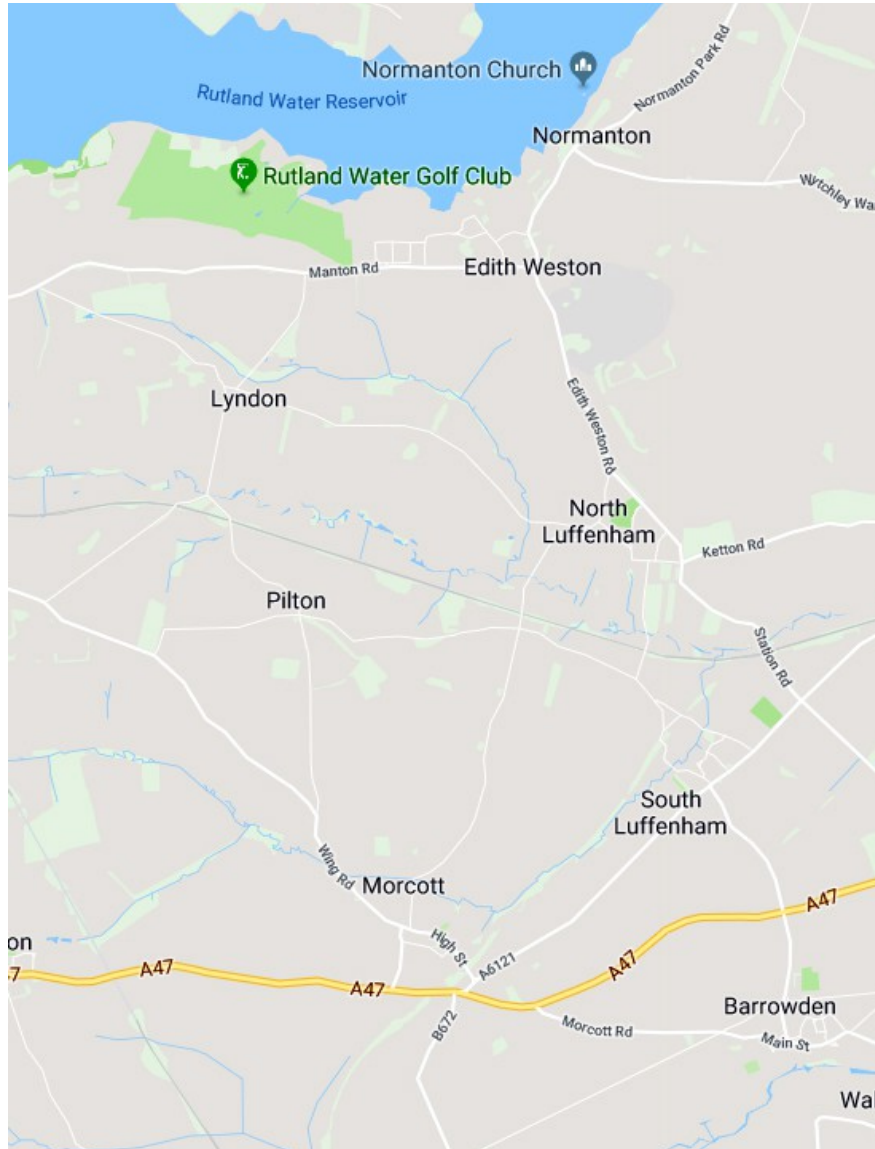


North Luffenham

Seat of my earliest Pridmore families, Luffenham is divided into North and South. Augustine Pridmore (1703 – 1792) was born in South Luffenham but his son, also Augustine (1728 – 1776) was born in North Luffenham.



Discovery of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery to the north of the modern village suggests that there were people living here in the village in the 5th and 6th centuries A.D. The village grew and prospered during the Middle Ages.

In the 17th century the village was the scene of a small English Civil War siege when in 1642 Lord Grey and his parliamentary forces were gathered at Leicester. With gunpowder and ammunition taken in raids on Oakham, they marched to Brooke to arrest Viscount Campden. Henry Noel, a known royalist, heard of this and decided to take a "little guard" into his house, Luffenham Hall. Disappointed at Brooke, Lord Grey and his 1300 soldiers made their way to North Luffenham, destroying the nearby hamlet of Sculthorpe and surrounded the Hall. There was little actual fighting, although the church register does record the burial of an unnamed parliamentary soldier on 21 February 1642. Outnumbered by seven to one, Henry Noel had little choice but to surrender. The Hall was plundered and the parliamentary soldiers attacked the nearby church, smashing windows

and defacing a statue of Henry Noel's first wife (the damage to the fingers and nose can still be seen). Noel was taken as a prisoner to London, where he died shortly afterwards.



St John's church North Luffenham

The original Luffenham Hall (the village school is now on the site) was built in around 1635 and belonged to the Noel family. Although besieged during the Civil War it was occupied by the Noels until the 18th century. It was demolished in 1806. All that remains is the garden ha-ha (a sunken boundary wall) and outbuildings along Church Street.

To the east of the parish church is the present day North Luffenham Hall. Built in the mid-1500s, this was originally Digby Manor House and only later became known as Luffenham Hall.



North Luffenham Hall

The Church of St John the Baptist is a fine antique fabric, with a tower surmounted by a spire. The churchyard contains 31 graves maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. These include 11 Canadian servicemen who died while North Luffenham was a RCAF base in the 1950s.

Archdeacon Robert Johnson (1540–1625) was Rector of North Luffenham for 51 years, from 1574 until his death; he founded Oakham and Uppingham Schools in 1584, as well as other charitable institutions including almshouses.

South Luffenham

The Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales describes South Luffenham as follows in 1872:

LUFFENHAM (SoUTH), a village and a parish in Uppingham district, Rutland. The village stands $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile S by W of Luffenham r. station, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ SW of Stamford; and has a post office under Leicester. The parish comprises 1,417 acres. Real property, £1,896. Pop., 400. Houses, 82. ... The property is subdivided. The manor belongs to Lord Aveland. The Hall is occupied by the Misses Wingfield. The living is a rectory in the diocese of Peterborough. Value, £423. * Patron, Balliol College, Oxford. The church is variously Norman, early English, decorated, and perpendicular; comprises nave, aisles, and chancel, with S porch and W tower; and was repaired in 1861. There is a national school.

The village lies on the north side of the road from Uppingham to Stamford. It is divided into two parts by a tributary of the River Chater where a pleasant belt of meadow and trees adds to the picturesqueness of the site. The part of the village on the south-east side of the stream has the church and rectory, to the south-west of which is a good round dovecot of stone.

South Luffenham Hall stands a short distance to the south-east of the church. It is a rectangular building of two principal stories above a high basement floor, with square-headed transomed windows of two lights, and stone-slatted hipped roofs with widely projecting covered eaves and small wooden dormers. The longer sides face north and south, the latter being faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of coursed dressed stone, the angles are emphasised by quoins and the windows have moulded architraves. Externally, the building has much in common with Lyndon Hall (built 1665) and, like it, is a good example of the Jacobean-Classical overlap, dating probably from the latter part of the 17th century.



South Luffenham Hall

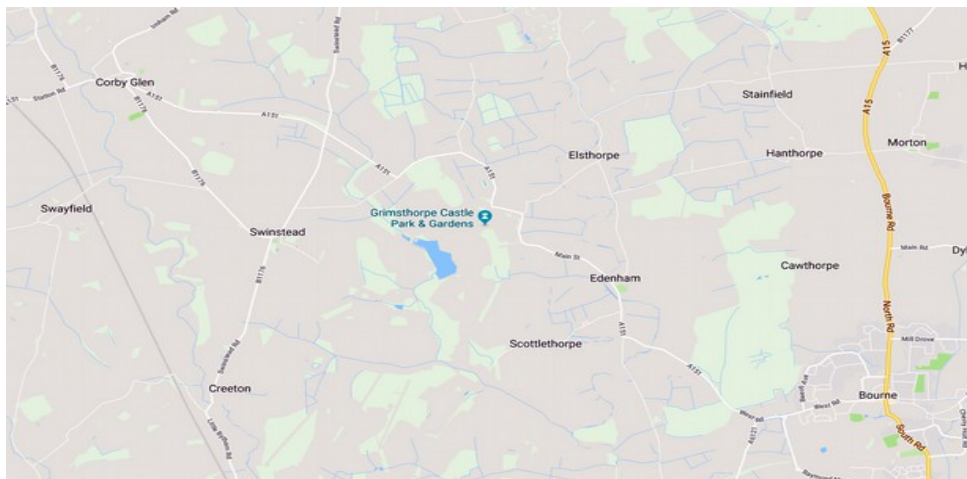
The old windmill south of the railway station has now only a stump remaining; a cornmill stands on the north side of the station. The mill of South Luffenham was claimed by the co-heirs of Alice de Bidun, and was recovered from them by Robert Mauduit. In 1544 John Tooky and his wife Cecily settled land, a watermill and a horsemill in South Luffenham, with remainder to Clement Tooky, Henry Tooky and Boniface Tooky in tail. This mill still belonged to the Tooky family in 1709 when Noah Tooky and his wife Sarah conveyed it to Robert Meres



South Luffenham Windmill

Corby Glen

Robert James Pridmore (1853 – 1929) and his wife Selina (nee Pick) lived in Corby Glen after their marriage in 1873 and had all of their family of 15 there. It was approximately 9 miles from Bourne but did not retain all of this Pridmore family which scattered to many parts of the UK (Lancashire, Yorkshire etc) and Canada



Corby Glen (known just as Corby before the 1950s) is a Danish settlement first recorded in Domesday in 1086. Still known simply as 'Corby' to many of its inhabitants, the village was renamed Corby Glen in the 1950's to avoid confusion with Corby in Northamptonshire.

The earliest written reference to the village was in the Domesday book, although the name 'Corby', meaning wooded area, originates from the Danes. It is likely that the settlement was known in Roman times with King Street and Ermine Way running close by.



St John's Church, Corby Glen

The Church of St John has uncovered some of the finest examples of medieval wall paintings in the country, and an ancient Market Cross still stands in the Market Place. Most of the houses in the centre of the village are stone built with pantile roofs and the narrow streets retain their original charm.



Market Cross

There was almost certainly a Roman presence here, for the major roads of Ermine Street and King's Road run close by, but the village as we know it dates back to the period of Danish settlement in

this area. The village name comes from a Danish word for a woodland. The village was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086.

A medieval market cross stands in the square. The cross is a reminder that Henry III granted Corby the right to hold a weekly fair and an annual sheep market in 1238. The sheep market is still held and may be the longest-running fair in Britain.

One popular inn is the Fighting Cocks, an 18th century inn named for the popular entertainment of cockfighting. Many inns maintained cockpits for entertaining visitors, and there is a suggestion that an inn has stood on this spot for as long as 1000 years.