

St Botolph's Chronicle

October Edition
23/10/20

This month's Editor – Carole

Dear Friends,

Introducing our new Churchwardens

Mike Harvey

Margaret and I arrived in Sleaford in the summer of 2018 and have been regular worshippers at St Botolph's ever since. We have always believed that we should be a part of the church family wherever we live as we have moved around a fair bit in our lives. We have worshipped in quite a few Church of England churches in our time. I think it is fair to say though, that we have been struck by the happy welcoming atmosphere we have enjoyed since our arrival and we quickly felt at home here, whenever we returned from our trips to our house in Spain



So, as some people may not have got to know me well over these two years, here's something of my background. Margaret and I have been married 37 years and have four grown up married sons. Between them they have given us two granddaughters and eight grandsons, scattered between Sheffield, Lincolnshire, Hitchin and the South Island of New Zealand.

I spent all of my working life in the pharmaceutical industry, particularly in manufacturing and product development and my career took us from Hampshire to County Durham to Oxford and finally to Cheshire. When I retired from full-time work ten years ago, we decided to give living in Spain a trial, having previously bought a house there. We fell in love with the lifestyle, the weather and the vast range of activities it was possible to get involved in, and for eight years we were happy to make it our main home.

Both Margaret and I have tried to be active members of whichever church we have attended. I was Church Warden of our village church near Oxford, a PCC member of our church in Cheshire, and a Chaplaincy Councillor and Treasurer of our church in Spain

However, we decided two years ago, that we would need to spend more time in England to see more of our grandchildren as they were growing up, hence our decision to relocate. Lincolnshire seemed to be a good focal point for our UK based families and after a few false starts we ended up in Sleaford, first in a rented house and then in our bungalow on Mareham Lane. We are really glad with that outcome. I am really looking forward to a greater involvement in our parish and getting to know all of you better.

We still expect to spend part of our time in Spain where we have made many friends over the past decade, but depending on the consequences of Brexit, there will be limitations as to how often we will be able to visit. Time will tell how that works out in practice!

Sally-Anne Caunter

I've lived in Quarrington for 25 years, moving here from Surrey for a quieter place to live and better air quality. We lived next to the M25 and I suffered with my sinuses from all the pollution. Luckily as a teacher, there are jobs all around the country. My last job was at Barkston and Syston CE Primary School as Headteacher. I enjoyed it - most of the time - and felt privileged to lead a church school.

I live with my husband, John. We've been married for 33 years. Unfortunately, John now has vascular dementia and after a few mini strokes, he can't walk very well. If you're up early, you may see him on his mobility scooter with our dog Pippin. Our daughter Katherine is now 27. She lives in Quarrington with her partner Andy. They have his two children, Hannah and Robert, to stay every week and I was really happy when the children decided to call me Granny.

I have taken early retirement as I've been diagnosed with metastatic cancer. This

means that I'm on chemotherapy pills and other treatment for the rest of my life. My main side effect is tiredness but I'm learning to pace myself. The plus side is that I now have time to give more back to the church so I'm looking forward to the role of Churchwarden. I hope I can do it as well as my predecessors.

Here's a photo of me at the Mount of the Beatitudes, near the Sea of Galilee.



Do not forget the Helpline number if you cannot get through on our usual numbers
07592 065567

The Larder

The Food Bank continues to need regular donations to help those families facing difficult times during this pandemic especially over half term holiday when there are no free school meals available. Please continue to remember the larder when shopping and add a few items to your basket or trolley to donate.



Guess the Young'un

Last month's young'un was Rev. Mark Thomson

Church opening:

The church continues to be open on Wednesdays between 12 and 1pm for private prayer. This allows 72 hours between opening of church to abide by COVID-19 cleaning rules.

Church Services

Booking a place at our church services

As you know, we can seat 25 people in the pews each week and since September we have been operating a weekly booking system, which Maria manages for us. We ask you to "request" a place at church during the week leading up to the service by contacting Maria, either by email or by phone by Thursday morning. We will then allocate places to as many people as possible and as fairly as possible. Maria will then confirm if you have a place for the Sunday near the end of that week. But please do ask for a place if you want to come as we are not usually oversubscribed.

You may contact Maria by e-mail at _stbquarrington890@gmail.com or by phoning 01529 240139.

Our services will continue to be available on YouTube and Maria sends out the link by email as soon as the editing has been completed.

Sunday 23rd October

Just a reminder that the clocks got back in the early hours of Sunday morning. Don't turn up too early!

Churchyard Clear Up

We are experiencing difficulty in disposing of the garden refuse that has collected over the summer. We hope to have everything removed in the next few weeks. We usually have a churchyard clear up in October, but we have decided to postpone that until all the refuse has been removed and we can then refill the fenced leaf container with this year's leaves, which will then rot down over the next 6 months or so.

An Early Autumn Walk



My husband and I just love walking, stepping out along coastal paths or following trails across fields deep in the countryside, breathing the air of freedom. On 22nd September, we decided to explore an 8-mile route starting at the Rutland village of Braunston and taking us along a picturesque path, which included Withcote Hall, Launde Abbey (built by Oliver Cromwell's son Gregory) and Leigh Lodge. The sun was shining and the air pleasantly warm as we packed our picnic and set off.

As with all walks, although we were following a map, there were several uncertainties regarding the path we should take. Our first challenge came deciphering whether a 'farm track' was actually the 'green lane' described in the route plan. We were bold, and speedily marched forwards across a field where cows were lazily lying in the sunshine 'chewing the cud' and giving us vacant, disinterested stares (as they do!!).

We marched on across hillocks (which were more challenging on the legs than we thought they would be) and fields surrounded by electric wires we cautiously stepped over, where grazing sheep skipped out of our way as though we were there to herd them off to market!!



Sometimes we were lost, the plan and map not resembling anything like the route we were taking, but help was at hand. Sitting munching on our picnic, with the spread of Withcote Hall below, two gentlemen (who seemed to know exactly where they were going), walked past with a cheery 'Good afternoon'. They would prove invaluable as we continued on our walk, where the way ahead was not too clear. With them, we either agreed a more probable route or trusted their judgement in pointing out the way ahead.

Towards the end of our journey we were tired, with aching legs and bodies weary from the challenges we had overcome, looking forward to a sit down and cup of tea. The last 3 miles seemed endless, although thankfully, relatively flat, straightforward and firm underfoot. We had definitely lost the 'spring' in our step, although still feeling high spirited from the success of our long walk. Looking back on our day, I couldn't help comparing the walk to life's journey, where we often set out on paths where we need to be bold in order to overcome challenges and hazards. Sometimes we lose our way and are grateful for the people who guide and help us to get back on track again. During our senior years, having been on this wonderful adventure called 'life', we can feel tired and weary, yet have so much to celebrate and be grateful for. Having passed through many challenges ourselves, we can encourage and support others.

A wonderful day, a lovely walk, definitely worth a second visit. By Susan Tuck

Remembering our Loved Ones Service

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions on church attendance, the ministry team in consultation with the wardens have taken the decision to invite only the recently bereaved families whose funeral were taken by our clergy to attend the service, which will held in church on Saturday 31st October at 4pm. We will, however, video the service and make it available through YouTube on 1st November. We recognise that this is a change from our traditional service, and you may be disappointed that you can't attend in person, but we pray that you will understand. We will continue the tradition of reading out the names of all of those whom we love but see no longer. If you wish for your loved one's name to be read at the service (we will light a candle for them too) please email or phone the name(s) you wish to have read out to Maria or speak to the stewards after the service this Sunday we will put your name(s) on the list. The service will be conducted by Al and me.
Thank you for your understanding. Mark

Public Notice - 23rd October 2020

MONUMENTS IN THE CHURCHYARD

The PCC of St. Botolph's Church, Quarrington hereby gives notice that it is seeking to arrange Topple Tests, by a qualified contractor, on a number of unstable monuments and gravestones within the churchyard.

In accordance with the Churchyard Regulations, the PCC gives 6 weeks' notice from the date below of the testing of the monuments.

If the monuments relate to one of your loved ones, please contact the Parish Administrator stbquarrington890@gmail.com or contact Rev. Mark Thomson on 01529 306776

In the meantime, areas of the churchyard have been taped off for safety and we ask everyone to take extra care in these areas.

Names on graves affected:

Alice Abraham d. 1903
Doreen & George Crossland d. 1996
Robert Hoyes d. 1939
Martha Smith d. 1906
Mary Ann Smith d. 1911
Esther Atkinson d 1963 Kenneth Thomas d. 1977
Mary Jane Payne d. 1919



Giving During the Lockdown

If you wish to make a donation by cheque, or set up a regular gift through the bank by standing order, then please give to the following account: -

By bank transfer

Bank: HSBC. Account Name: St Botolph's Church, Quarrington.

Sort Code: 40-42-07

Account No 21515403

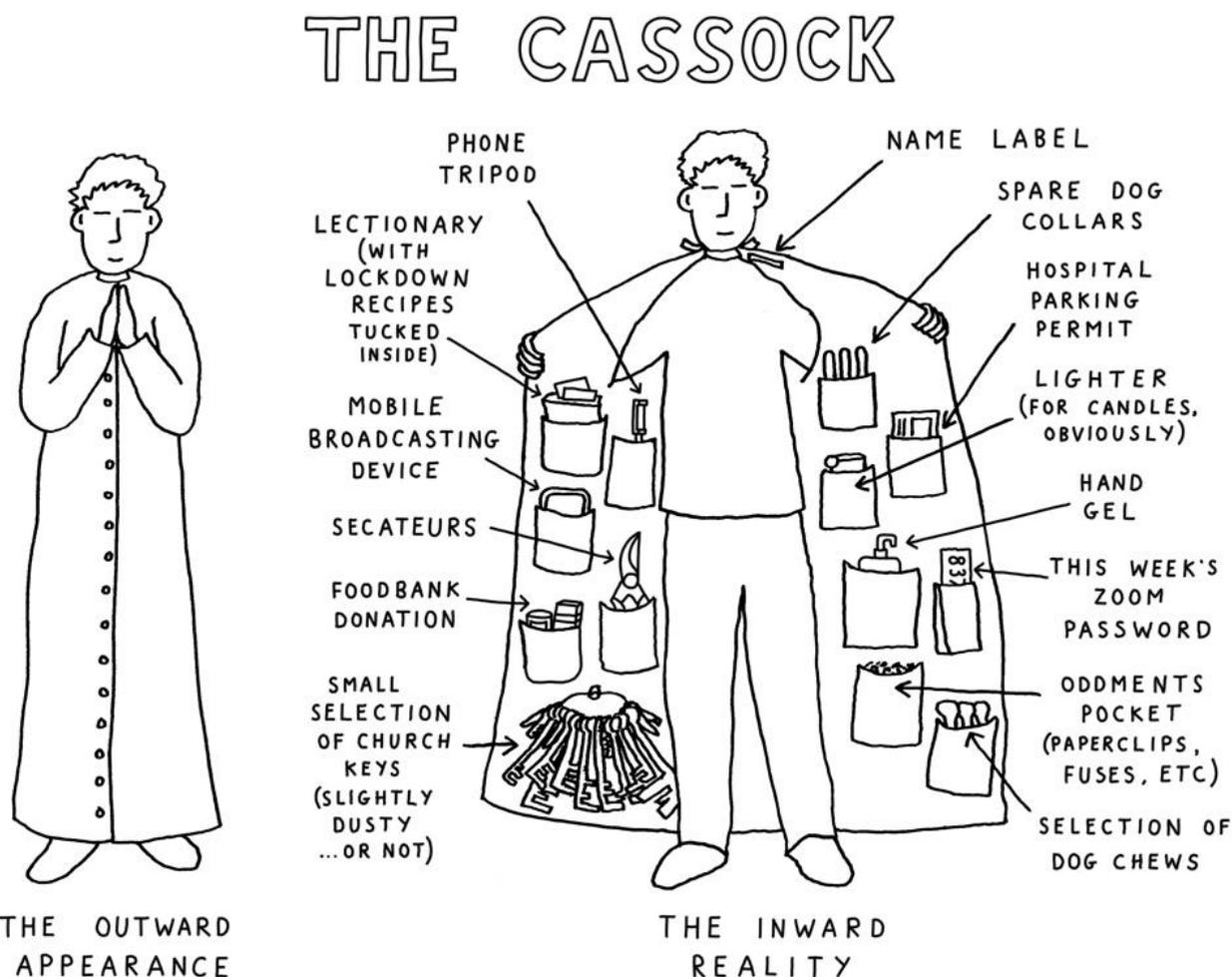
By Cheque:

Please send any cheques made payable to "St Botolph's Church Quarrington" to: Mr D Pursell, St Botolph's Church Treasurer, 75 London Road, Sleaford, NG34 7LL

Via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)

PGS receives regular giving on our behalf via the direct debit system and then passes it on to us, including the Gift Aid on behalf of taxpayers. More details from our treasurer

Please do not hesitate to contact David Pursell on 01529 306448 or by e-mail at jndpursell@hotmail.com to get information or advice about any aspect of our giving. And thanks again for your continued support.



CartoonChurch.com

Thanks to David Walker for the use of his cartoon