

St. Botolph's Chronicle

May and June 2108



Celebrating 800yrs

Help us Celebrate

St. Botolph's Church is 800 years old

June 2018

Monday 4th A talk on the history of the church by Mark Bamford and Christopher Micklethwaite.

This is in conjunction with Sleaford Museum who are to put on an exhibition of artefacts relevant to the development of Quarrington and Sleaford.

Friday 8th Set up in Field (With thanks to the Mountain family for use of the field)

pm Freshe Ayre group in school

Saturday and Sunday 9th and 10th

10 am – 4pm in the field next to church

Meet the Knights of Skirbeck. (<http://www.knightsofskirbeck.co.uk/>)

Find out about Medieval Life

Dress up in a homemade costume and you may win a prize
Hog Roast, Beer tent, displays, lots of family fun!

Sunday 10th 10.30 am Service in the field

6 pm Freshe Ayre concert in church

Tuesday 12th 7.30pm In the Church - Terri and Nigel perform Lincolnshire Songs.
Tom Lane to give a brief talk on the History of Quarrington in the church

Saturday 16th 2pm Teddy & Pets Blessing service

Sunday 17th 11am service led by Bishop of Lincoln including the Re-dedication of Lychgate -
Followed by coffee and cake

Children's Competition Activities 800 Years at St. Botolph's

At primary school many years ago, one art and craft activity I remember was to make a glove puppet. He had a large nose and ears, thick lips and a mop of sticking up hair. He was very ugly. I am reminded of my puppet every time I look at the stone head with its sticking out tongue over the door at St Botolph's Church. The puppet head was first made from a ball of plasticine which was then covered with strips of newspaper stuck on with wall paper paste. The several layers of paper were left to dry and become hard before the plasticine was scooped out. It was then painted and attached to the glove material which we had cut and sewn.

One of the competitions for the 800 Year Celebrations for 9th and 10th June is to make an ugly gargoyle, which could be human or an animal. There is no limit as to the size of the entry. It could be small like a puppet head or much larger using a balloon for the basic shape.

There is also the chance to make a knight's shield which could be made from stiff card or even a sheet of thin wood. The shield can be decorated simply with, for example, lines and stars or with pictures which illustrate your life and hobbies.

If these two ideas seem very complicated, then you could always enter the picture competition. You can use paints, crayons, felt tips, charcoal, pencil or pen and ink. Use your imagination to make a picture of life in Medieval times with knights in armour, castles and dragons and princes and princesses.

The entries will be judged on both days by The Knights of Skirkbeck, the re-enactment group, who will be camping in the field next to the church on the two days mentioned above.

Good Luck
Charles Coulson

A View from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

As you will know, on 17th June we will be celebrating the 800th anniversary of the construction of the current church building. The Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Reverend Christopher Lowson, is coming to our Church on that date to lead a service of thanksgiving and celebration.

As part of our celebrations we are holding a number of fun events in the week leading up to 17th June. These include the visit to the field next to the church by the Knights of Skirbeck, medieval re-enactment group; a history talk on the Saxon village and church in Quarrington; a medieval music performance; and displays, in church, of the work of children from St Botolph's Primary School. The town museum is also involved in the celebrations. There will be a display in the museum itself and there will also be a talk in the Community Hall on Grantham Road on 4th June on the history of the church and the parish of Quarrington.

A programme of events has been put together and full details are printed elsewhere in this edition of the magazine. Posters are being put up around the town and invitations are available in church and are also being handed out by members of the church family. Information about the events will also be circulated in the near future through the museum, the school and the local media. All the events are free of charge, although we will invite people to make donations to help cover the cost of the celebrations.

Please do come along and join the celebrations and invite your family and friends to come along too. There will be fun for all the family.

Every Blessing, Rev. Mark

The Churchyard

With the combined efforts of some really hard-working friends and cadets from RAF Cranwell we have been able to clear the area beside the church room. We now have to decide how we can best use this area. We are still busy removing ivy from the base of the Yew trees to enable new growth near the base and in the centres of the trees.

We are looking at the possibility of leaving parts of the churchyard as controlled wildlife areas in line with the idea of 'Gods Acre'. You can see details of this idea on the internet if you are interested (www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk). One of the areas will be in front of the church and the other alongside the path in the newest part where we hope to plant wild flowers. We are being helped with the planning by 'Rural England' and 'Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust' who have been to survey the churchyard. Our thanks to the young man who has been clearing the area beside the path in readiness.

Our thanks go to the Mountain Family for their help in removing the waste after clear up sessions. Also thank you to those who have taken on individual tasks throughout the year.

This year we have had several enquiries about where ancestor's graves are. We have been able to use the map of the churchyard to search for these burial plots.

This year's churchyard clear-up dates are Saturdays July 28th and November 3rd. We would be delighted to see you if you are able to help. They run from 10.00am to noon each day.

Please help St. Botolph's school

Earlier in the year the school applied for a Tesco grant to help towards the renovation of the school garden. They are very pleased that they have been successful, so their name will now be on one of the three boxes in branches at Sleaford and Grantham (two Express outlets) If you shop in Tesco could you please help by placing your blue chips into the St. Botolph's School box which will be in store from May 1st until June 30th Thank you to everyone who helps with this important cause and please pass on to family and friends.

Singapore

Growing up in the fifties I was aware that the Malaysian peninsula had suffered greatly during the Second World War but as a child it was a faraway land that I would probably never visit. As air travel has become more accessible, so the world shrinking, we have been fortunate enough to visit Singapore several times on our way to or from Australia when visiting our son. Previous visits have concentrated on afternoon tea at Raffles, shopping, general sightseeing and soaking up the unique multi-cultural atmosphere. In January we had a six-night stop in Singapore so decided to take time to study the history of the once British colony, established by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles in 1824. The problem with us Westerners is that we study history that has been written by us for us so I have grown up being really interested in History but with the Western assumption that the history of the world only began when it affected the West! On visiting the Singapore National Museum, I was fascinated by the various transformations undergone by this land, who knew that Changi is a tree! Its location at the tip of the peninsula has made it an ideal trading post dating back to the fifteenth century where it was a bustling port trading with countries from all around the world. Its history also shows that Singapore has always welcomed people from across the globe so becoming a hub of international culture. From the nineteenth century it became a major trading post for Britain and its expanding empire which led it to being one of the richest colonies. The dark days of the Second World war eventually had a catastrophic effect on the prosperous outpost as Japan entered the war with their eyes firmly set on the rich resources of the Malaysian peninsula. At this time Singapore had become a vital military post for the Allies so was heavily armed and guarded. Military personnel lived with their families in relative comfort and any threat from the Japanese was expected to come from the sea which was closely viewed. But the Japanese did not attack from the sea they crossed through the jungle using light tanks and within 55 days had conquered the Malay peninsula, Singapore fell on 15th February 1942: life changed dramatically for all those living there as they became prisoners of a cruel regime. A visit to Changi Prison museum, which houses the stories, artefacts and pictures of life under Japanese control, is a very moving experience telling of unimaginable cruelty but also of unbelievable heroism, sacrifice and endurance. Singapore is a vibrant city, not without some controversial issues, but interesting and well worth visiting if you have the opportunity.

What's on in church over the next two months

Sunday 6th May - at 11 am All Age Worship

Thursday 10th May – 7.30pm Ascension Day service

Sunday 13th May - at 11 am Holy Communion

Sunday 20th May - at 11 am Holy Communion with Baptism - Celebrating Pentecost

Sunday 27th May - at 11 am All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 3rd June - at 11 am All Age Worship

Sunday 10th June – at 10.30 am Service in the Field

Sunday 17th June - at 11am Re-dedication of Lychgate with Bishop of Lincoln

Sunday 24th June - at 11am Holy Communion

Dates for your Diary

6th – 17th June Celebrations for the 800th Anniversary of St. Botolph's Church including a Medieval Weekend, watch this space for news of what will be on that week culminating in the Bishop of Lincoln re-dedicating the Lychgate in a service on **Sunday 17th June**

Thursday 21st June Christopher Mickelthwaite will be doing a walk/talk about Old Quarrington to the Sleaford History Group. It will start at the Lychgate at 7pm and all are welcome

Churchyard clear up dates: **July 28th and November 3rd**

From the registers

BAPTISMS: Feb- Chloe Martin-Morey; **March** Noah Warnes; Hugo Raynor, **April-** Aidan Smith; Harry Holmes;

WEDDINGS: **May** Simon Burrows and Stephanie Burnett

FUNERALS: **Feb** - Jean Porter; Dorothy Smith; **March** - Shirley Taylor

April - David Cunnington

WHO'S WHO

Rector: Rev Mark Thomson 01529 306776 markthomson839@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Tim Conning Mob: 07894 500295 timconning@btinternet.com

Andrea Barker 01529 306747 andrea.alice@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator: Maria Fryer, 01529 240139 m.fryer@outlook.com

Treasurer: David Pursell, 01529 306448 jndpursell@hotmail.com

Community Centre Manager: Amy Bennett, 07522055567 amybennetwork@gmail.com

Editor: Carole Shepheard Tel. 01529 307781 caroleshepheard@icloud.com

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Tiddlywinks: held in the Church room every Tuesday (during term time) 10am – 12 noon; a group for children between birth and 5 with their carers to meet in a warm safe environment to play and chat. Coffee, tea, squash, biscuits and cake provided.

Vestry Hour with Rev. Mark Thomson: held in the church room every Wednesday between 6 and 7pm to book Baptisms, Weddings or just to talk to Mark. No appointments needed.

Mid-week Communion: Wednesday at 10 am in church

1st Thursday – Men's group at The Horseshoe (see Rev. Mark)

2nd Wednesday – Ladies group (see Rev. Heather)