# Your Church & Community Newsletter May 2018

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" (Shelley)

ny news letter article that starts 'it's spring the birds are nesting, the leaves are...' etc... means I rarely get to the second sentence. My apologies for that, it's maybe my inner rebel. Actually it is spring and it is a wonderful season, full of hope and new birth. Bluebell woods are my favourite... Hope you are still reading? Easter happens around the same time which is convenient unless you live in the southern hemisphere, or the tropics, in which case Easter doesn't coincide with a reciprocal natural event. 'Reciprocal' to the idea of resurrection, new birth, renewal, life after death, the possibility of quantum surprises etc.

Many struggle or reject the Christian understanding of a bodily resurrection, even Christians! What might be lost without the resurrection story? Something about the nature of God being involved somehow in everyday life, rather than 'other-worldly' spiritualities? The possibility of a physical life after death, rather than an ethereal existence, or nothing at all? The idea that how we live now really matters, rather than a self focussed 'eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die'?

Wouldn't we rather have all of that? Spring or no spring.

Thanks if you have gone past the second sentence, it's not easy writing news letter articles, so I've resolved to always read to the end even if it's about spring or Easter bunnies...

Best Wishes, Phil

## It's a grave matter....

he churchyards at St Denis, Morton and Holy Trinity, Rolleston have only a little room remaining.

Both church communities want to provide spaces for the village residents well



into the future. Many people value this provision. Residents of the parish and those on the church electoral roll have the 'right' to churchyard burial.

At Rolleston there is the opportunity of purchasing an extension, whilst at Morton there is the possibility of using spaces unused for well over 100 years.

The land available at Rolleston is 'glebe' i.e. "land (in addition to or including the parsonage house/rectory and grounds) which was assigned to support the priest"). From 1 April 1978, by virtue of the Endowments and Glebe Measure 1976, it became vested "without any conveyance or other assurance", in the Diocesan Board of Finance of the Diocese to which the benefice owning the glebe belonged.

The Diocese and Church of England are now responsible for providing stipends and pensions for all clergy. Glebe land if sold today must therefore contribute to the stipend and pensions bill, and cannot be gifted to the parish. Hence the need to buy the small parcel of land from the Diocese.

It's worth noting that to provide a parish priest with all the Diocesan support in our Benefice of 7 parishes, costs very roughly around £10k per parish. A good part is provided by parish share but funds also come from other sources in the Diocese and Church nationally. This figure is largely support /Diocesan costs and does not represent the priest's stipend!!

The cost of the land Rolleston Church plans to buy, a quarter of an acre, is £3000, plus legal costs, and should suffice for the next 200 years at the present population size and with about half the residents wishing burial.

The alternative is to let the local authority provide burial space, which may be several miles away. As a church we believe we have a duty to our parishioners to provide space for them to be laid to rest in their own parish.

The Parochial Church Council has agreed to do all it can to acquire the land for this purpose during the current year. It is planning some events the proceeds of which will contribute towards the costs mentioned.

Your support and encouragement is welcome, as are your views if you would like to communicate with us!

Every blessing,

The Revd Phil, Julian Ellis (Churchwarden) Peter Salter (Churchwarden)



## The Friendship Lunch

The next gathering of our Soup and Cake lunch is on 16th May (the third Wednesday of the month), at Morton Church Hall 12.00 for 12.30.

This is a very informal meal, with plenty of time to chat and catch up with friends and acquaintances.

This occasion will be our last meeting until the Autumn

Please phone Lyrrie on 830717

if you hope to join us

### Morton & Fiskerton Local History Society

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As announced on last month's Tatler, our May meeting will be held
on Tuesday May 1st at the Morton
Church Hall at 7.30pm as usual.
This month our speaker will be
Jeremy Lodge,
who will be telling us about the
time when
Lowdham Grange was a
Young Offenders Unit.
Visitors and members welcome.

I'm running in the 2018 LON-DON MARA-THON on 22<sup>nd</sup> April in support of LINKS International, a charity helping communities escape poverty by realising and developing their own potential.

Why? Well I truly believe this is a special appointment for me which is perhaps better explained in person (happy to do so!) but briefly, I'm finding my passion for long distance running also comes with the gift of helping others through charity fundraising.

Can I please therefore encourage you to support LINKS through my marathon effort and raise as much money as possible for their work. Link to LINKS below for my fundraising page, 100% of any donations made will be realised and be sure to tick the gift aid box if you can.

Thank you and Many Blessings Ian Beadles"

<u>justgiving.com/</u> <u>fundraising/ian-beadles</u>

# **Church Services for May 2018**

Services may be subject to change
Please see Church Notice Boards for further details

Date	Time	Church	Service
Sunday 6th 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Morton	Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am	Bleasby	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Rolleston	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Thurgarton	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Upton	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Hoveringham	Evening Praise
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Upton	Holy Communion
Sunday 14th 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Bleasby	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Halloughton	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Hoveringham	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morton	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Rolleston	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Thurgarton	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Upton	Morning Praise for Everyone
Sunday 20th Pentecost or Whit Sunday	10.30am	Bleasby	Benefice Service Holy Communion
Sunday 27th Trinity Sunday	10.30am	Bleasby	Morning Praise for Everyone
	10.30am	Morton	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Rolleston	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Thurgarton	With Methodists
	10.30am	Upton	Morning Praise for Everyone
	12.00pm	Hoveringham	Short service at Tractor Rally

The next issue of The Tatler will be June 2018. Please send items for inclusion to: gayle@carterjames.myzen.co.uk by the 15th May.

Thank you, Gayle





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