

**Linstead
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THIS WAS AN EASTER UNLIKE ANY other. We gave Thanks that we have survived. We give thanks that we are returning to normal; but that begs the question what is normal? I wonder for instance if those ubiquitous little glass sentry boxes will ever disappear from shops. Will we ever feel comfortable without masks, or will we feel just a little bit naked, underdressed? No, I don't think things will never be quite the same again.

Christmas celebrates birth. Easter celebrates rebirth. A new start. Not a Brave New World, but a chastened, more sober, more serious old one.

We can no longer take for granted the company of family and friends; but we realise how precious they are to us as never before. We can no longer take for granted our communities; but we realise how important our neighbours are for our mutual survival. We now realise with a singular clarity of vision, that these are gifts, gifts to be cherished. We have all lost people we knew and loved but by God's grace we have survived and as at the first Easter, Mankind was given a fresh start, so have we been given a fresh start. Let us be thankful for that and be grateful.

ALTHOUGH THE CHURCH BUILDING has not had much in the way of the warmth of human company, the same cannot be said for the churchyard. Thanks to Benny Fenton and his team, it looks magnificent.

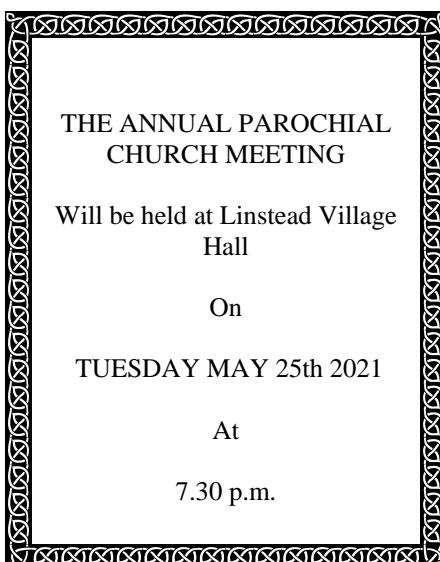


Team Times

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS THAT WE report the death of Roger Wilkinson. Since their arrival in Linstead both Roger and Vicky have been heavily involved in the life of the village. Roger served as Churchwarden for 10 years, only standing down last year. We send our deepest sympathy to Vicky and their family. He will be deeply missed by all of us.

9 th	No Service
16 th	Mrs P. Keable & Mr D. Keable
23 th	No Service
30 th	No Service

GETTING BACK TO NORMAL HAS TO be our priority. The first thing is to hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting. We need (desperately) more people to assist on the Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) which sounds terribly grand and time-consuming but really isn't. We meet around four times a year to organise the running of the church. Currently, I am the only churchwarden (we need two) but I am also the PCC Treasurer, PCC Secretary, Team Council Representative, oh, and also the Lay Elder. The situation is at best ludicrous, at worst; downright unhealthy. On its own, each job is modest in terms of time-commitment. Put altogether, well, I am rather keen to get my life back! All of which means I need help.



So please, please, come to the APCM and support the church, the community (and me).

SERVICES IN MAY COMPRIZE Matins on Sunday May 16th at 9. 30 a.m.

ROTAS FOR MAY

DATE: FLOWERS & CLEANING

2nd No Service