

Regular Events in the Benefice of Linton, Coxheath, Hunton, East and West Farleigh

Every Monday	4.20 for 4.30pm	Wellsprings silent prayer – The Vestry, St. Nicholas Linton. Details from Cilla 741318
Every Thursday	1.30 to 3pm	'PSST'- Fellowship and Bible study. For weekly venue, phone Becky 07949 646865
First and Third Wednesdays in the month	7.30pm	The Next Step – fellowship group open to all. Bible Study, Prayer, Worship and Friendship. Venue varies, so call Becky 07949 646865
Every last Wednesday in the month	12 noon	A said Communion Service at St. Nicholas, Linton.
Every Thursday	10am	Holy Communion (1662) Holy Trinity, Coxheath
	1.30 to 3pm	"Up and Running" Toddler Group, Holy Trinity, Coxheath. Contact David 741474 for details
	3.30pm	Seekers (6 – 11yrs) Holy Trinity, Coxheath Further information from Becky 07949 646865
Every Saturday	10am to 11am	Meeting for prayer and short Bible Study. Details from Peter 747570

The Rector: Revd Peter Walker 747570 - Marriages, Thanksgivings and Baptisms (Not available Mondays)

Revd David Jones - 741474 (Not available Fridays)

Churchwardens
Mr Roger Bettle 743278
Mr John McKenzie 741318
Items for May Parish News by 14th April to Harold Pounds 745303
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

Feasts of the Lord

Wednesday 31st March - Feast of Unleavened Bread

Thursday 1st April - Feast of Firstfruits

Tonbridge Christian Arts Group/Absolute Gospel Committee invite you to enjoy a unique experience of food and teaching at Tonbridge Evangelical Free Church, Douglas Road at 7.30pm. Tickets £6 per evening from Tonbridge Christian Resource Centre 01732364517 Info. www.tcags.com

"A wonderful meal and inspiring Bible teaching about these prophetic feasts. Restoring Biblical feasts that have been lost to the church".



St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 87 April 2010

Services in Linton Church in April

Thursday 1st April 7.30pm Maundy Thursday, Benefice Holy Communion, All Saints, West Farleigh

Friday 2nd April 9.30am Good Friday 'An Hour at the Cross'

Sunday 4th April 9.30am Holy Communion, Easter Day

Sunday 11th April 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 18th April 8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
11.00am Family Service

Sunday 25th April 9.30am Holy Communion

Churches Together in Maidstone – Easter Services

Maundy Thursday 1st April 7.30pm United Holy Communion Service, Maidstone Baptist Church, Knight rider St.

Good Friday 2nd April 10.30am March of Witness from Maidstone Baptist Church to the top of Earl St. – Service at approx 11.00am. 11.30am approx. United Good Friday Service, Salvation Army, Union St. 7.30pm 'Jerusalem Joy' Musical Service with music by Roger Jones and C. T. in M. Choir, United Reformed Church, Week St.

Easter Sunday 4th April 6.30am - Sunrise Holy Communion Service at car park, top of Bluebell Hill, led by Rev Gary Watt, followed by breakfast.

There's nothing quite like home grown veg. and fruit – the holders of **allotments in Wheeler's Lane, Linton** can vouch for that! A sunny site, friendly people, two social events a year and the satisfaction of home grown produce all combine to make having an allotment an enjoyable pastime. There will be a new plot available in the autumn so, if anyone is interested, would they please contact Cllr Jane Sawyer on 01622 746659 or rossawyer@freeuk.com. (Priority will be given to Linton residents)

Enjoy an excellent entertaining evening with Dr. Jazz at Linton Village Hall on Saturday 17th April - 7.30 to 11pm. Tickets £12.50 (including dinner). Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Tickets and details - Mike Brooker 07721328539 or 01622 746067 and David Sendles 01622 745612. Don't delay, tickets going fast!

Centre Pages: Peter's Letter; 5P Men; Mothers Union x Street Pastors; Linton Walks; Cream Teas.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Feasts of the Lord.

Dear Friends,

The great festival of the Christian year is upon us!

How does this event in world history impact on the lives of people today when times are hard? Yes, the world is still in difficult times. There continue to be many terrible things that are happening. Spiritual wickedness in high places, organised crime - how is it that so many school children seem to have access to alcohol and illegal drugs of addiction? The media broadcast into our homes scenes of sexual depravity and foul language that would never have been tolerated a few years ago. Wars continue, lives are lost, evil regimes continue, the list goes on.

But let us look back into history, to the time of the Roman Empire. Things were pretty grim then, poverty, starvation, disease, corruption and cruelty. And then a very special thing happened in the midst of all this. A baby was born in a simple cattle shed to a young father and mother. Jesus the Saviour.

Quite apart from His divine nature Jesus Christ was a man of immense courage and insight. He had the strength to stand up and speak out against evil, against the rottenness and hypocrisy of wicked people in those days. At the Last Supper He bequeathed to mankind the wonderful sacrament of the Holy Communion that has given to millions the strength and courage and understanding to stand up too and to overcome evil with good.

He knew that He was to die and that, in reality, it was to be a most grisly and horrible death - the only way Romans knew how to execute people. That highly 'sophisticated' instrument of torture and death, the cross, where eight inch nails were driven through the nerve centres of the wrists and feet ensuring an agonising and lingering death. He, who had bestowed the divine love and compassion on the sick, the poor, the starving, the thieves and sinners in their miseries because they needed Him so much, as we do today, yet how many people today give Him not one thought except perhaps by taking His Name in vain.

Death at the hands of the Romans was not the end. If it had been there would be no story to tell and no Christian faith. The brother-in-law of Billy Graham, Leighton Ford says this about Good Friday and Easter Day: 'Friday's here, but Sunday's coming!' This is the message which brings hope to a world still hurting and suffering from the havoc of sin today. Jesus alive again and with us by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May you all have a happy and blessed Easter!

Peter.

5P Men

Monday 19th April 7pm - Tour and meal at Shepherd Neame Brewery. (See March edition of this 'News' for full year's programme) For more information on 5P Men, the programme, or to book a place on specific events, please contact Mike Marsh 745702 or David Simpson 743977 or email 5pmen@talktalk.net

Mothers' Union meets the Street Pastors

Maidstone is the clubbing capital of Kent, with up to 12,000 partygoers on a Saturday night. Street Pastors work closely alongside the police, paramedics and the brand new "Urban Blue" bus project to provide emotional, spiritual and practical support to those in need. If you have a youngster who visits nightclubs in Maidstone, why not come to meet 2 of the pastors and hear about their work.

We invite all to join us for an informative evening that will take place in the new meeting area (with toilet facilities) in Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath on Wednesday April 21st at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact Lesley Marsh 01622 745702.

Many thanks, Lesley

The Tuesday Linton Walks starting at 5pm are back! The walks are easy to manage, between 3 and 4 miles in length and are not only an opportunity to take some healthy exercise but also a social event with up to 30 people taking part. They take in all of the countryside in and around Linton, private land as well as public footpaths, and will show you just how beautiful the countryside we live in is, as well as showing you places that cannot be reached or appreciated in any other way. Do come. You will be made very welcome. For more information contact David Sendles on 01622 745612 or go to the Linton Village website www.lintonkent.org N.B. On and from 20th April the walks will start at 6pm.

A date for your diary

Saturday and Sunday 26th and 27th June – Strawberry Cream Teas and Art Exhibition, at St. Nicholas Church, Linton.