

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

Every Monday Except Bank Holidays	4.20 for 4.30pm	'Wellsprings' silent prayer – The Vestry, St. Nicholas Linton. (Details from 'Cilla 741318)
Term time only: First four Tuesdays in the month	10.00 - 11.30am	'PSST'- Fellowship and Bible study. (Contact Becky Parnham 07949 646865)
First and Third Wednesdays in the month	7.30 - 9.00pm	The Next Step - A group that meets for study and prayer. (Contact 1 st Wed – Jean 726248; 3 rd Wed – Anne 745702)
Every last Wednesday in the month	12 noon	A said Communion Service at St. Nicholas, Linton.
Every Thursday	10am 1.30-3 pm 3.30pm	Holy Communion (1662) Holy Trinity, Coxheath. "Up and Running" Toddler Group, Holy Trinity, Coxheath. Contact Kate Till 746482 for details. Seekers (6 – 11yrs) Holy Trinity, Coxheath. (Further information from Becky 07949 646865)
Every Saturday	10-11am	Ladies Prayer Time – All welcome (Details from Eileen 204241)

The Rector: Rev'd Peter Walker
747570 - Marriages,
Thanksgivings and Baptisms (Not
available Mondays)
Rev'd David Jones - 741474 (Not
available Fridays)
Deacon - Rev'd Eileen Doyle -
204241

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

Breaking Bread and Drinking Soup! On the last Wednesday of each month there is a short informal service of Holy Communion in St Nicholas Church at midday followed by a light lunch of homemade soup and rolls. The service is open to all. If you would like also to stay for lunch please give Kath a call on 741494, so that everyone can be catered for. Next date is Wednesday 25th April.

Printed by Jerry Whitmarsh - your printwork too? Tel. 01622 747572



St Nicholas Parish News Issue 111 April 2012

Services in Linton Church in April

Sunday 1st April 9.30am Palm Sunday Holy Communion
Sacred Music for Palm Sunday 6pm East Farleigh
Thursday 5th April 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Coxheath
Friday 6th April 2.00pm Good Friday
Sunday 8th April 9.30am Easter Day Family Service
Sunday 15th April 8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
Sunday 22nd April 9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 29th April 10.30am *Benefice Service Holy Communion
All Saints, West Farleigh*

St Nicholas Linton Parish Church- Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the Church on **Thursday 26th April at 7.30pm**. This is your opportunity to hear what your Church has been doing in your community and to express your views. We look forward to welcoming you to this important meeting. John McKenzie, Churchwarden, on behalf of St Nicholas PCC.

Robert Hanvik is the Kent Messenger, Village News Correspondent for Linton. Contact details (0) 7900 930824 r.n.hanvik@gmail.com

These are some more of the events taking place in Linton in April, all starting at 7.30pm. Mon 2nd Parish Council Meeting; Mon 16th Village Hall AGM; Tues 17th Parish Annual Meeting; Sat 21st Rockaholicks Dinner-dance Village Hall; Mon 23rd Friends of Linton Church AGM in the Church; Thurs 26th PCC Annual Meeting in the Church. Now, these represent a great deal of hard work, all done by unpaid volunteers freely giving up their time. It is a remarkable tribute to a small village like ours that so much gets done this way and so much effort is put in. It would be really nice if everyone in the village could show their appreciation by making a small effort of their own to attend as many of these meetings as possible. It would give a real boost to the committees and workers to see people supporting them in this way. And you never know, you might find out something interesting along the way!
Jerry Whitmarsh, <http://lintonkent.org>
(More information is on the Linton website about all these events)

Centre Pages: David's Letter; KC Youth Orchestra; Healing Day; 'God in all things'; Mother's Day Cream Teas.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Mid-week Communion and soup.

Dear readers,

This is very much a letter written at the last moment. Peter Walker was called down to the West Country where his mother is very ill. Hence, this unexpected letter from me. As I write, the news doesn't look good but at the age of over 90 years she's had a long life and we pray that her last days, if they are indeed that, will be peaceful.

But the news raised in me thoughts of the approaching Easter Season and of the confusion that sometimes occurs with life and death. We were reminded the other Sunday in our reading from the Gospel of St Mark of the words of Jesus when He said to the crowd and also to his disciples , 'For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?' (Mark 8 v 36,37). We hang on to life as if it were the only thing that has any value, but Jesus is asking us to realise that we do gain life when we lose it! Confused? Well, perhaps yes, but throughout life we realise that the human things we long for and desire pass very quickly and fail to satisfy as we thought they would. Easter points us in the direction of true life, the life that Jesus died to give us. Life, to that way of living that leads us to eternal life, a life lived in the presence of the only perfect person who ever lived.

At a funeral service, we often use the words of Jesus recorded by St. John (John 11 v 25). Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die!' Words of encouragement and hope at the time of death but also words for the present, for Samuel Shoemaker* said 'Eternal life does not begin with death; it begins with faith.

Have a great Easter and enjoy life in all its fullness.

Yours, David

**Shoemaker's contributions and service to Alcoholics Anonymous and as a minister of the Anglican Communion and Episcopal Church of America have had a worldwide effect. The philosophy that Shoemaker codified, in conjunction with Bill Wilson, is used in almost every country around the world to treat alcoholism.*

Kent County Youth Orchestra This talented ensemble of young players are giving their Easter Concert on Saturday 7th April at Maidstone Leisure centre at 7.30pm. The soloist in Dvorak's Cello Concerto is Matthew Sharp; this beautiful work is followed by Tchaikowski's ever popular Symphony No 6, 'The Pathetique'. The standard of playing is amazingly professional and the orchestra richly deserves our support. Tickets £16, £14, & £6 (students). 01622 358402 during office hours. More information available at their website www.kent-music.com

Diocese of Rochester Healing Day 21st June 10-4pm at St. Andrew, Paddock Wood. Open to all, cost £10 (Bring a packed lunch). Closing date - Monday 7th May. Beatrice Brandon, Archbishop's Adviser for the Healing Ministry. Tel. 01634 560000
The key aims of the day are:- to give an overview of the healing ministry within the Church of England and within the wider context of contemporary Society; to raise awareness of the healing ministry as a way of proclaiming and living out the Gospel; to help you assess the current state of the healing ministry in your parishes; and to help you develop a strategic approach to this ministry, including practical decision making.

'God in all things'. A Taster Course in Spirituality, Mondays 11th, 18th, 25th June and 2nd July and a reunion on 10 September. Christ Church, Milton-next-Gravesend, Old Road East, Gravesend DA12 1NV. 7.30-9.30pm (coffee /tea available from 7.15). £7.50 per session or £25 for the series of five.(concessions for students and unwaged)
Open to anyone who is searching for God in any way, and introducing some of the themes of Christian spirituality. Here is an invitation to explore ways of listening and responding to the presence of God in our everyday lives. The evenings will explore different ways of praying, using some well tried spiritual practices and include resource material. There will be an opportunity for meditation, quiet reflection, learning, sharing and worship - sometimes assisted by the use of music, art and poetry; and for those who wish individual discussion, a group facilitator will be available. Applications must be made by 14th May on a registration form that can be obtained from Harold Pounds 01622 745303

'Cream Teas and Music for Mother's Day' celebrated in the Church on Saturday 17th March was enjoyed by very many people and raised £232 for church funds. Kath Cooper, thanks all those who worked so hard to make the event so successful.