

## 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 <sup>st</sup> Wed – Jean 726248: 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 Group – at the home of Pat Wilmshurst (East Farleigh). Leader, 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 September News by  
14<sup>th</sup> August to Harold Pounds  
745303  
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

**End of summer party Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012.** Put the date in your diary and look forward to an end of summer celebration in Linton Village Hall. Meet up with friends, dance and have fun. Music for all ages. Tickets £10 each including supper. Drinks not supplied. For more information contact Margaret Waller 01622 741236.  
(In aid of St Nicholas Church, Linton)

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



## St Nicholas Parish News Issue 115 August 2012

### Services in Linton Church in August

Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup> August	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30am	Holy Communion

### Rector to leave for pastures new

*The following letter was read to all the church congregations on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July*

For some time both Diana and I have felt that we need to slow down in our parish work and ministry. The recent death of my Mother has, in one sense, changed the situation we are currently in and, with both of us having some health issues to consider, I have decided that it is time to semi-retire from my work. To that end I have been offered the care of five very small villages in the Diocese of Exeter and in the county of Devon. The post is part stipendiary and part-time.

The parishes are near the town of Honiton and comprise of:- Offwell, Cotleigh, Northleigh, Farway and Widworthy. The appointment will commence, after the statutory three-month notice, in mid-October. We have worked in the South West before and I have many contacts and friends in that area. We will be returning to an area we know well.

I have been grateful for the seven years I have ministered here, and leave the parishes in the very capable hands of Revd's David Jones, Eileen Doyle and Cilla McKenzie, together with the Readers and an Evangelist (Kay) soon to be commissioned.

There will be other opportunities to talk to you all personally in the coming weeks about all of this - and my prayer is that God may already have in mind the person that He wants to take you on towards the next few years of Christian witness in this United Benefice.

With my love and prayers,

Peter Walker

The Ordination of the Revd Eileen Doyle to the Priesthood will take place on **Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 4pm** in the Parish Church of St. Andrew, Paddock Wood. The service will be conducted by Bishop Graham Cray. Eileen extends an invitation to all to join her at the service.

**Centre Pages:** Peter's Letter; FKC Bike Ride; 5P Men; The Children's Society; Sunday Coffee Rota; The Bull Inn's Garden.

**Back Page:** Regular Events; Who's Who; End of summer Party.

Dear Friends,

What a Summer! Was there ever such rainfall for so long? I have just heard that the water companies have called off the hosepipe ban. I am reminded of that verse from Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem of the Ancient Mariner in which we read of the experiences of a sailor who, upon returning from a long sea voyage, tells of his adventures on the high seas, not least the shooting of an albatross and the misfortune which followed.

*'Water, water everywhere, and all the boards did shrink,  
water, water everywhere nor any drop to drink'.*

We often take water from the tap as granted, yet without a ready source of water our bodies will cease to function. Our bodies are mostly made up of water, approximately 85% of the brain, 80% of blood and 70% of the body's muscles. Every cell in the body needs water. Water cushions the joints, carries oxygen and nutrients to our cells and regulates the body temperature. These functions, plus many others, are all water dependent, so it is no surprise that we are all recommended to drink 6 to 8 glasses of water a day - (some say that tea and coffee do not count.)

Whilst visiting Trengwainton Gardens a few years ago - it is a National Trust garden near Penzance - I was fascinated to discover that the walled vegetable garden, as viewed from a high wall overlooking the garden, has been constructed with the same dimensions as Noah's Ark! Noah knew a lot about water! (read Genesis chapters 6-9). The Ark itself does pose some interesting practical questions as it bobbed about on that vast expanse of sea. With all those animals aboard what happened about waste disposal and the lighting of the interior? There have been many alleged sightings of Noah's Ark over the years - Mount Ararat in modern day Turkey is still explored today as that is where we are told the Ark came to rest. I do believe we can trust the Biblical account and that all the practical aspects were taken care of by God.

All these facts and figures about the importance of water in our bodies and all the many things it does reminds me of the words in Psalm 139 verse 14: *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made*. Can we doubt that our bodies are made by a Wonderful Creator and that 'Adam's Ale' is His provision to keep us going!

With love and prayers,

Peter.

### Friends of Kent Churches Annual Bike Ride

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September - A cycle ride, walk or even a drive around Kent churches - a chance to see inside them, 'fight the flab' and raise money for your local church by obtaining sponsorship. The money raised is split equally between a church or chapel of your choice and the charity 'Friends of Kent Churches'. Last year churches in Kent raised just over £135,000 to help to save churches in the County. Interested? Please contact your parish organiser, Kath and Paul Cooper 01622 741494 or Co-ordinator Carolyn Millen 01622 843383

### 5P Men Two Family Events coming up!

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July - Family Fun Olympics 2pm at Beacon Fields, Coxheath. Olympic style games. Bring a picnic.  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August Trip to Bredgar and Wormshill Light Rlway. Meet at BRWLR 1.30pm. Picnic optional. Contact Mike Cooper 744047 if interested or for more information.

The Children's Society thanks box holders in Coxheath and Linton for raising the sum of £558.80 during 2011/12. This money will go towards 70 projects giving practical and emotional support to more than 48,000 children, young people and families in this country.

If you would like to become a box holder to collect some loose change during the year for the Children's Society please speak to Marian Simpson 01622 743977

Jean Avery has, for many years, organised the **coffee rota for Sunday mornings** but now needs to give this up due to other commitments. Would someone be able to take this on? The rota for this year is complete so it is just necessary to ensure there are enough supplies available for each Sunday. Please contact Jean on 747571. Meanwhile, we offer many thanks to Jean for organising this for such a long time.

**Congratulations to The Bull Inn** on winning the Shepherd Neame "Large Garden of the Year" award. The garden is a hidden treasure, not seen from the roadside but a real asset to our village.