

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 Wednesday	1.30 to 3pm	'PSST'- Fellowship and Bible study. For weekly venue, phone Ruth 743866
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 Ruth 743866.
Every second Wednesday in the month	12 noon	Service of 'Prayers for the Parish' at St. Nicholas, Linton
Every last Wednesday in the month	12 noon	A said Communion Service at St. Nicholas Linton.
Every Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion (1662) Holy Trinity Coxheath
	1.30 to 3.00pm	"Up and Running" Toddler Group, Holy Trinity, Coxheath. Contact David 741474 for details

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

Associate Rector: Revd Ruth Bierbaum - 743866 (Not available Fridays)

Revd David Jones - 741474 (Not available Fridays)

Churchwardens
Mr Roger Bettle 743278
Mr John McKenzie 741318

Items for July Parish News
By 14th June to Harold Pounds 745303
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

***Stop in the Name of God:** Find some stillness today --- a time for rest, reflection and renewal - led by **Margaret Palladino**. Linton Church, Saturday 2nd June 10.30am - 4.30pm Bring a packed lunch! (tea, coffee and juice will be available throughout the day) also bring a bible, notebook and pencil + art materials if you use them. We suggest £7 donation towards expenses - but do not wish anyone to be excluded because of cost. To reserve a place or for more information contact Cilla McKenzie by 18th June: Tel 741318. Please advise of special needs when booking as facilities are limited.
Please note that this event is not to be confused with the Diocesan event at Detling that takes place on the same day.*

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St Nicholas Parish News
Issue 65 June 2008

Dear Friends,

As I write this we are in the middle of The Maidstone Bible Convention being held at the Maidstone Baptist church. The speakers over the four evenings are Richard Bewes, former Rector of 'All Souls', Langham Place, London, and Graham Cray, Bishop of Maidstone.

There was also a special meeting with Richard Bewes for those in church leadership and Ruth, David and I attended that.

The question being addressed was: 'Facing a New Pre-Christian Era'. It has long been said that we live in a 'Post Christian Era'. Sundays have never been quite the same with the influx of supermarkets open, sport, and more recently the allowing of betting shops to be open, to name but three. Many people know very little or even nothing about God and Jesus. Don't want to know!

Looking at Acts of the Apostles chapter 17 verses 16 onwards we are told of the encounter of Paul with the leaders of the city of Athens. Paul *'was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols.... Some of them asked 'What is this babbler trying to say?'* Speaking to the men at a place known as the 'Areopagus' Paul said that, as he walked around and looked carefully at their objects of worship, *'I found an altar with the inscription: 'To an unknown god''. 'Now'* said Paul, *'what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you'.*

Peter's letter continues inside.....

5 P Men's Group Monday 2nd June 7pm - Visit to Wm. Harvey Hospital, Ashford (a look at how a major hospital functions). Details from Mike Marsh 745702 or 07734 336339

Centre Pages: together@detling; Events in Yalding; Strawberry Teas; Linton Barbecue; Linton Village Hall; Barn Dance, West Farleigh.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Some stillness.

Services in Linton Church in June

Sunday	1 st	June	9.15am	Holy Communion
Sunday	8 th	June	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
			11.00am	Family Service
Sunday	15 th	June	9.15am	Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd June 9.15am Holy Communion

Peter's letter continued from previous page

We face, not a 'Post-Christian' era, but a new 'Pre-Christian era'. For in a sense we are right back into Athens and the altar to the unknown god: God, who is truly unknown by countless people the world over. The search is on for the God we know yet so many, who seek a spiritual dimension to their lives, wander down all sorts of peculiar roads to, what one has said, seeking 'to fill the God-shaped blank'.

We were encouraged at the conference to re-kindle our hope in that, in a positive sense, we have all to play for as we look forward to what can be done to address the question of 'who is the unknown God'?

The starting point is always Jesus. We were reminded of the great Saint Augustine who said that 'this child of the manger fills the whole world'. At His Ascension into heaven Jesus filled, and fills, the whole universe; there is no part which cannot be reached.

As Christians we need to heed the words of that hymn: 'Stand up, stand up for Jesus'. We sing that hymn with great gusto! As we strive to address all that would criticise and try to undermine the Christian faith and set up false idols, let's 'nail our colours to the mast' and help others to find that for which they seek – a Living Faith in Jesus Christ, and, in so doing, encourage ourselves as we grow in Him.
Peter.

Barn Dance in West Farleigh Church -

Friday 6th June 7.30pm. Dancing to The Hatted Hens Band. £8 to include Ploughmans Supper. Bring own drinks and glasses. Tickets from Helen 01622 814445

together@Deiling The Diocese of Rochester is planning a weekend of events on **21st and 22nd June** at the Kent County Showground, Detling. Over the weekend, we will be thinking about what it means to be One People with One Purpose and One Passion. Throughout the weekend there will be a programme of activities suitable for all ages. Saturday (10am to 8pm) will finish with a big bang, with music, dancing, a hog roast and more! Sunday's events (10am to 5pm) will culminate in the Peteride Ordination Service, to which all are invited. Admission is free but you need to wear an official wristband. If you plan to go, ring David on 741474 to obtain the appropriate band for the day you wish to attend.

Events in Yalding

Yalding Scout Group's Garden Safari – In Yalding High Street - Sunday 8th June 2pm to 5.30pm. Admission £4 (children free). Nine gardens, all within walking distance of each other in the centre of the village. Refreshments, plants, flowers and vegetable stalls also available. Contact Karen Martin 814444 for more details.

St. Peter and St. Paul's Church Yalding Flower Festival Friday 27th June 6-8pm, Sat 28th 10am-5pm and Sun 29th 11am - 5pm. Village history, refreshments, admission free. Informal concert Sat 28th June, 6pm "Words and Music for a Summer Evening". Tickets £5 (under 13s free). More information from 815403

Linton Church - Strawberry Cream Teas 2.30 to 5.30pm, Sat 28th and Sun 29th June.

Yet another record success last year! Come along to this popular and well supported event and have a strawberry cream tea with scones or cake, biscuits, tea and coffee etc. Sit outside and enjoy the view or wander around the church and churchyard at your leisure. We will again feature the ever-expanding exhibition of paintings and artefacts by local artists.

Saturday 12th July, Linton Barbecue. In Philip Daubeny's meadow, along the Greensand Way. Please put this most enjoyable and popular event in your diary - further details will follow..

Linton Village Hall is available for hire for parties or any other activity and there are discounts for Linton residents. Current activities there include a pre-school nursery, Maidstone Wargames Society, table tennis, badminton and Irish dancing. Check the notice board outside the hall for more details or contact the Lettings secretary on 746659 or 745950 or via the website <http://lintonkent.org>

True: These sentences actually appeared in church notices or were announced:-

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.