

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 April Parish News
By 14th March to Harold Pounds 745303
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra - Conductor Brian Wright - Saturday 27th March at 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. Soloist Ching-Yun Hu, piano. Elgar, *Overture Cockaigne*; Beethoven, *Piano Concerto No 1*; and Tchaikovsky, *Symphony No. 6 'Pathetique'*. Born in Taiwan and educated in the USA Ching-Yun Hu won the top prize at the 2008 Arthur Rubenstein Competition. Tickets £12, £16, £21, FT Students £5. 18s and under free. Tel: 736392 or Leisure Centre 0845 1552277 or www.mso.org.uk

If you might be interested in having this church open for a few hours a week during the Spring/Summer months, please take a copy of '**Opening St Nicholas Church to Visitors**' which is by the church door and/or speak to Kath Cooper



St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 86 March 2010

Services in Linton Church in March

Friday	5 th March	7.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer, Holy Trinity, Coxheath
Sunday	7 th March	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	14 th March	11.00am	Mothering Sunday (<i>See Notice that accompanies this News</i>)
Sunday	21 st March	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		11.00am	Family Service
Sunday	28 th March	9.30am	Holy Communion

A Women's World Day of Prayer is taking place at 7.30pm on Friday 5th March at Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath. Over three million people worldwide will be praying and worshipping during this annual day of prayer using a service prepared by Christian women in Cameroon.

Women, men and young people are all invited to this service at which the Revd Ruth Bierbaum will be the guest speaker.

'Cream Teas' - On Saturday 13th March from 2.30 to 5.30pm cream teas will be served in St. Nicholas Church, Linton as part of the **Mothering Sunday Weekend**. Why not bring along your Mum (or anyone else who is special to you) for a special treat on this Saturday before Mothering Sunday.

A Feast of Living Spirituality in Rochester Cathedral

Saturday, 6th March 12.30 - 18.00

12.30 Register and bring your own picnic lunch (drinks provided)
13.30 Welcome - 14.00 Workshop - 15.15 Evensong or Personal Space - 16.00 Workshop - 17.15 Worship

Freighter Service for free disposal of bulky waste. Saturday 20th March 10.15 to 11am Wheeler's Lane and Cornwallis Avenue junction. Also at Hubbards Lane outside Cornwallis School from 8.45 to 9.15am the same morning

Centre Pages: Peter's Letter; 5P Men Programme; Churches Together - Easter; Tearfund.
Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; MSO; Church Opening.

Dear Friends,

It was a very moving service on Sunday February 7th at Coxheath church when a hundred folk gathered to celebrate the Confirmation of six young adults - four from Coxheath, one from Linton and one from West Malling.

I have been remembering my own Confirmation 45 years ago (!). A mere lad with many others of similar age who knelt in pairs before the Bishop of Lewes in the parish church of St. Mary, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex. I met the lad who had knelt with me some years later at the memorial service of the minister who had prepared us. He was in an office job in London and was surprised to see me in a dog collar!

Memories of past events shape our future too. Recently I was listening on Radio 4 to an interview with Clive James, the Australian broadcaster and journalist, who has published his autobiography entitled 'Unreliable Memoirs' in which he recalls his early years 'Down Under' and his subsequent move to London and his journalistic career.

His early memories, he says, are as clear as if the events happened yesterday and yet events of even last week are somewhat hazy! It is, (I am told!) an affliction of the more senior amongst us - hence the term 'a senior moment', I guess.

Memory lies at the centre of our Eucharistic liturgy. The word that characterises this is 'anamnesis' which is an ancient Greek word meaning 'recollection', literally 'loss of forgetfulness'. The Holy Communion service is an act of anamnesis when we recall and remember the events of the Last Supper and fulfil our Lord's request 'do this in memory of me'.

So as we watched the six adults kneeling before Bishop Michael Gear and receiving the laying on of hands, then to receive Holy Communion for the first time, my memories flashed past and I thanked God that their memories of this day will be forever emblazoned on their minds as they continue on their Christian pilgrimage with us and receive, in memory of He who died on the Cross for us, the bread and the wine of the Holy Communion, His body and blood shed for us and then crowned by the events of the first Easter Day which we will remember next month.

With good wishes and prayers,

PETER

5P Men Programme 2010

- March Monday 22nd 7.30pm The Bull East Farleigh - Jonathan Barns on MAF and Colin Brewer ex BA747 pilot on his experiences.
- April *Monday 19th 7pm Tour and meal at Shepherd Neame Brewery.
- May Monday 24th 7.30pm The Bull, East Farleigh. Talk, Speaker to be arranged.
- June Monday 14th 7.30pm Walk and pub visit. Details to follow.
- July *Friday 16th to 19th Boat weekend - North Oxford Canal, Rugby.
Monday 26th 7.30pm Bowls at Clare Park, Maidstone.
- Sept Monday 6th 7.30pm Petanque at White House Pub, West Farleigh.
*Friday 10th to 12th Christian Vision for Men (CVM) Annual Conference - 'Code Life' Warwick.
- Oct Saturday 16th 8-10am Breakfast - Speaker - Max Sinclair - Founder of CVM. Venue to be arranged.
- Nov Monday 22nd 7.30pm The Bull Pub, East Farleigh - Talk 'Antarctica' Mike Marsh.

For more information on 5P Men, the programme or to book a place on the events marked * please contact Mike Marsh 01622 745702 or David Simpson 01622 743977 or email 5pmen@talktalk.net

Churches Together in Maidstone – Easter Services

Maundy Thursday 1st April 7.30pm United Holy Communion Service, Maidstone Baptist Church, Knightrider Street.

Good Friday 2nd April 10.30am March of Witness from Maidstone Baptist Church to the top of Earl Street – Service at approx 11.00am.

11 30am approx United Good Friday Service, Salvation Army, Union Street.
7.30pm 'Jerusalem Joy' Musical Service with music by Roger Jones and C T in M Choir, United Reformed Church, Week Street

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.

Tearfund - Maidstone Support Group: Wednesday 10th March 7.45pm Loose Baptist Church, (meeting at the school site in Boughton Lane Loose). Ample parking.

Wim Mauritz, Tearfund's Church Relationships Manager for the South East will talk about "The Local Church - Transforming Lives" and provide an update on "Haiti and Tearfund's response"

For more information please phone Karen Mackley 01732 870625 email:sanderkl@lsbu.ac.uk or visit website: www.tearfund.org