

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

Every Monday	4.20 for 4.30 pm	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	7.30 pm	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 1.30 to 3pm	Holy Communion (1662) Holy Trinity, Coxheath "Up and Running" Toddler Group, Holy Trinity, Coxheath. Contact David 741474 for details
<u>The Rector: Revd Peter Walker</u> 747570 - Marriages, Thanksgivings and Baptisms (Not available Mondays) <u>Revd David Jones</u> - 741474 (Not available Fridays)		<u>Churchwardens</u> Mr Roger Bettle 743278 Mr John McKenzie 741318 <u>Items for June Parish News</u> by 14 th May to Harold Pounds 745303 h.p.pounds@btinternet.com
<p><u>Maidstone Symphony Orchestra</u> Conductor Brian Wright - Saturday 22nd May at 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. <i>R. Strauss, Till Eulenspiegel; Lalo, Cello Concerto; Berlioz, Symphonie Fantastique.</i> The superb Italian cellist Sylvia Chiesa plays the beautiful late-romantic concerto by Edouard Lalo. Elsewhere, orchestral high jinks abound with Richard Strauss's irrepressible tale of a lovable rogue, <i>Till Eulenspiegel</i> and Berlioz's exciting and revolutionary <i>Symphony Fantastique</i>. Tickets £12, £16 £21, FT Students £5. 18s and under free. Tel:736392 or Leisure Centre 0845 1552277 or www.mso.org.uk</p>		



St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 88 May 2010

Services in Linton Church in May

Sunday	2 nd	May	9.30am	Holy Communion,
Sunday	9 th	May	9.30am	Holy Communion
Thursday	13 th	May	7.30pm	<i>Ascension Day Holy Communion Holy Trinity, Coxheath</i>
Sunday	16 th	May	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
			11.00am	Family Service
Sunday	23 rd	May	9.30am	Pentecost Holy Communion
Sunday	30 th	May	10.30am	Trinity Sunday Holy Communion <i>Benefice Service. Preacher Rev. Ross Garner</i>

Holy Trinity Church, Coxheath

The Dawn Chorus Saturday 8th May at 7.30pm

The Dawn Chorus, a local group of enthusiastic singers, invites you to share a light-hearted evening of sacred and secular music (including popular singalong items...!) Refreshments will be served and all ages, including children, are welcome, Entry is free, with a collection in aid of The Family Trust.

The Children's Society - Box Collection - Note to all box holders. Jean Avery, 747571, will be collecting the boxes during May and would be most grateful if they might be brought to Church during that month.

Don't forget - Saturday and Sunday 26th and 27th June. Strawberry Cream Teas and Art Exhibition at St. Nicholas Church, Linton.

Linton Walks - Please note that on and from Tuesday 11th May, the walks will start at 7pm.

5P Men Monday 24th May 7.30pm. The Bull , East Farleigh - Talk with Guest Speaker or outing.

Centre Pages: David's Letter; Linton Boundary Walk; Peter Bonnert's Music; Maidstone Bible Week; Rochester Theological Society.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Maidstone Symphony Orchestra.

Hi fellow voters,

By the time you read this letter it will be all over or at least we'll all be fed up with elections and be glad to know the World Cup is only weeks away. With a projection that so many people are disillusioned with Government and politics I wonder how many of us will vote and, if we do, why? All my life I have lived in areas which are considered 'safe seats' and I have felt like moving to a place where my vote may actually change the status quo in returning its Member. I think it is sad that we have come to this point. My grandparents had three front windows and in each one they placed the sticker for each of the main parties. Staunch Socialists, they became disenchanted with voting as they also lived in a town that always returned the same MP, year after year. At election times I sometimes wonder what is actually important in life. Is it worth it? Ought we to take a stand and simply refuse to vote until politics cleans itself up, or the way we vote changes? Is opting out a responsible stance?

I think not, as to opt out of anything gives others the chance and the excuse to feel that their way is the correct way. We are called as Christians to be 'salt and light' in the world; to speak out against those who would run rough shod over the weak, disadvantaged and those without a voice; to be light, to shine in the darkness and to demonstrate that there are other ways than those put forward by the loudest and most powerful. We may be a lone voice, as was the speaker at a recent Parish Council meeting who spoke up in favour of the traffic calming scheme in Coxheath, against what some see as the democratic voice of the majority. Sometimes the lone voice gathers momentum as those, who are afraid to stand up to the perceived wisdom of the mass, join in and a new movement grows to challenge accepted views. The history of the world is full of the lone voice! Their view may not be right but at least it can be heard and not drowned out. So if you didn't vote then you had your chance and can't moan when decisions are made. To those who did, well done, and I can only hope your voice will be heard but at least you spoke up and made your point.

The events of Easter show that Jesus did just that. The crowds welcomed Him, then in a week called for His death. He triumphed over the power of evil – one lone person made all the difference! Are you another lone voice?

David

You are invited to Peter Bonnett's Evening of Music for All at East Farleigh Parish Church on Saturday 15th May at 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from any East Farleigh Choir member or on the door at £5 each. Refreshments will be available. Proceeds will go towards the restoration of the clock face and hands.

Maidstone Bible Week 10th - 13th May, at the Life Church, Brewer Street 7.45 for 8pm each night. Theme: 'Salt and Light'.

Monday 10th May 'Christians as they are before God' Ephesians 1:3-14. Speaker Rev G Nicholson Methodist Supt. Minister in Leeds.

Tuesday 11th May 'Christians as they are before the World' Ephesians 5:1-16. Rev G Nicholson.

Wednesday 12th May 'Our Driving Responsibility', Psalm 8. Speaker Rev Lyndon Bowring, Executive Chairman of 'Care'.

Thursday 13th May 'The Sacred Secular Divide' Romans 11:33-12:2. Speaker - Rev L Bowring.

Rochester Theological Society - 'Pastoral Care or Leadership: Can We Have One Without the Other'.

A Morning with the Ven. Dr. Paul Wright, Archdeacon of Bromley and Bexley on Saturday 5th June from 10am to 12 noon at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

Paul will examine the opportunities and tensions that arise between the pastoral care provision that is expected from those who lead ministry within the church and how leadership can be expressed in the light of that pastoral care. The question to be explored during the morning is whether it is possible to have both. Information about Dr. Wright and the venue is contained in a flyer, a copy of which can be obtained by post or online from H Pounds (contact details on the back page of this 'News'). You are asked to let the organisers know that you are coming by Tuesday 1st June - Canon Michael Insley: 020 8464 2076 michael.insley1@btinternet.com or Rev. Sharon Francis: Sharon.francis@ukonline.co.uk

Linton Boundary Walk 4- 10.30am Sunday 9th May 2010

Have you walked around Linton yet? The Beating the Bounds walk takes place this May, for the **seventh** successive year. Help us make it the biggest ever event this time! Starting at 10.30am from the Church car park, on Rogation Sunday, this is an enjoyable walk of between 7 and 8 miles. It passes along the Greensand Way, down through private apple orchards to the River Beult, and then follows the river along beyond the Stile Bridge before climbing back up to the Greensand Way and through Linton Park to the Church. Part of the walk crosses private land not normally open to the public. There will also be a brief review of the Linton Boundary Project and a chance to see some of the newly discovered boundary markers. We will stop at the Stile Bridge, near the half-way point, where refreshments can be obtained. There is no charge but a £5 donation is suggested. More details from David Sendles 01622 745612. Prizes for the oldest and the youngest to complete the walk, and a refreshing visit to the Bull Inn afterwards for those who so wish...

Friends of Linton Church.

Did you know?

– It costs £8 to visit Canterbury Cathedral -

Yes, we know Linton Church is not QUITE the same! Even so, we at St Nicholas Church Linton, are very proud of our little church and would like to share what we do have with the community, and with visitors passing by. So we are planning to open the church building on occasions other than Sunday services, so that we can do just that – share.

We recognise that only a small proportion of the population attend church on Sundays, but many more still appreciate the special atmosphere that can be found in the Churches of Great Britain. St Nicholas Linton has just that; a sense of quiet and peace; a sense that people have prayed here for a thousand years. Just think of the people who have been here in that time, coming to church with all their worries, their pain, their sorrows, but also their joys; sharing the happy times and the special occasions in their lives; people just like us.

Over time the building has changed immeasurably but it has always been at the very heart of the village of Linton. The church has an outstanding position overlooking the Weald of Kent and on the Greensand Way, linking it with many other villages and their churches. Our Church is a part of the national heritage and as such is of interest in so many ways – the actual building, historical artefacts and furniture inside, and historical monuments. (***Another “Did you know” – Did you know that we have monuments sculpted by the man who sculpted Nelson at the top of Nelson’s column in London?***) People come from far and wide to visit the Cornwallis Chapel in St Nicholas Church with its beautiful monuments.

So whether you enjoy visiting historical places, or need a quiet place to reflect and contemplate, or would like to have somewhere special to pray to God in whatever your tradition, or just to come and enjoy some refreshment and chat, this is what St Nicholas Church is here for, and we welcome you.

We plan to start small, by opening on **Wednesday afternoons during May, from 2 – 4pm** and, depending on availability of welcomers, and the number of visitors we receive in that time, we hope to extend this during June.

Keys to the church will still be available if you wish to visit outside these times, from Mary Price on 01622 741597, or from John McKenzie, Churchwarden, on 741318, or Paul & Kath Cooper on 741494. And of course you are most welcome to come along for any of our church services detailed in the monthly Parish News.

Oh, and by the way – we won’t be charging anything!!

The Parochial Church Council.