

## 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 Time – All welcome (Details from Eileen 204241)

The Rector: Rev'd Peter Walker  
01622 747570 - Marriages,  
Thanksgivings and Baptisms (Not  
available Mondays)  
Rev'd David Jones - 01622 741474  
(Not available Fridays)  
Deacon - Rev'd Eileen Doyle -  
01622 204241

Churchwardens  
Mr Roger Bettle 743278  
Mr John McKenzie 741318  
Items for June Parish News by  
14<sup>th</sup> May to Harold Pounds  
745303  
[h.p.pounds@btinternet.com](mailto:h.p.pounds@btinternet.com)

We are preparing a rota for **summer opening of the church** on  
Wednesday & Saturday afternoons from 2 - 4pm from  
Wednesday 2nd May until the end of September. If you would  
like to help with this, please let Kath know and consider which  
dates are best for you (01622 741494).

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



## St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 112 May 2012

### Services in Linton Church in May

Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am	Family Service
Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> May	7.30pm	Ascension Day Service, West Farleigh
Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup> May	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
Sunday	27 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am	Holy Communion

*Many thanks to the flower arranging team for the wonderful displays  
in the Church for Easter*

**Rogation Sunday - Beating the Bounds:** 13<sup>th</sup> May, 10.30 - 1500hrs  
Start from Linton Church Car Park

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 11am at West Farleigh Church a marriage-focused  
Family Service** with an opportunity, at a point in the service, for any  
couples who wish, to renew their vows en masse.

**Linton's Premier Social Event - The famous Linton Strawberry  
Cream Teas and Art Exhibition** 2.30 to 5.30pm on Saturday  
16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June at Linton Church.

5P Men Saturday 12th May, 10am to 4pm, 5P Men **Voyageur  
Canoe Trip** on the River Medway with Ed Bassett of EB  
Adventures. Starting at Allington Lock where the canoe will be  
launched from the slipway, we will paddle up to East Farleigh , have  
lunch and return in the afternoon. The canoe is 30ft long, very safe  
and stable, seats 12 people. 12 places are available on a first-come  
first-served basis. Cost of the trip is £25. To book a place, please  
speak to Mike Marsh 01622 745702 or 07595428639.

**Centre Pages:** Peter's Letter; St Nicholas Guide book; 'God in all things'  
MSO; 'Linton Park'; E. Farleigh Farmers' Market;  
'Service, Bread and Soup'.

**Back Page:** Regular Events; Who's Who; Church Summer Opening.

Dear Friends,

I am very grateful to all those who have offered their condolences on the loss of my Mother. Also for your prayers and for the many cards we have received. I was with my Mother when she died and was able before this to pray, read scripture to her and anoint her. My Mother was 92 years of age and had lived in her own bungalow right up to the day she was taken to the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro. She was active and her mind was still sharp. She went in on the bus to Penzance each week to do her shopping. She did much of her garden, though a man did come to cut the grass. She was a wonderful Mother to me and to my sister Julia who, with her husband Stuart, came over from Australia for the funeral at the newly built Crematorium in Camborne. It was a service of thanksgiving for a long life; I was able to give the talk and Diana read the lesson from Romans 8.

I deal with death a lot in my work, and though I have helped others through the time of death and bereavement, when it is one's own flesh and blood it takes on a different characteristic. In the midst of this sadness we were also celebrating Easter. I was glad to be with you for the events of Holy Week and Easter, for in these events we remember that death has been conquered and that there is that assurance that in Jesus we have the victory. Faith was such a solid rock for me during those final days as I sat at my Mother's bedside day after day gently assuring her that I was with her and that God was there too. She may not have heard everything I said or prayed but occasionally there was that waking moment when with a gentle nod of the head she knew what was happening.

How faith needs to be that mainstay during not just the run of the mill day-to-day living but especially when times are tough. The first disciples were dumbfounded when they saw Jesus on a cross - 'we had hoped for so much more' was the thrust of their thoughts. Yet when all seemed lost, there was Jesus in the garden with a simple word 'Mary' to her who, in her tears, was in despair. The familiar action of the bread breaking with the two disciples on the Emmaus road, and Thomas who needed proof and proof came that second week in the upper room.

Saint Paul wrote: 'If Christ is not raised our faith is in vain'. I thank God for the faith which had its nurture at the lap of my Mother and the encouragement of my Father. It has seen me through many a good year and bad - yet, through it all there has been, as that hymn reminds us, 'Blessed Assurance Jesus is mine, O what a foretaste of Heaven Divine'.

May we know again that Blessed Assurance so that, when the hard times come, there is that foundation on which to go forward and have that Divine encouragement.

With my prayers, Peter.

An updated and enhanced edition of the **St Nicholas Linton guide book** has been published and is now on sale at just £1.50. This has further information found while preparing the 150th Anniversary and Church Trail in November and includes new photographs.

**'God in all things'**. A 'Taster' Course in Spirituality on 4 Monday evenings - 11, 18, 25 June, and 2 July at Christ Church, Milton-next-Gravesend, Old Road East, Gravesend, exploring some of the themes of Christian Spirituality. Open to anyone who is searching for God in any way. See posters for more information.

**Maidstone Symphony Orchestra**, Conductor Brian Wright. Final concert of the Season, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm at Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. Debussy – Fetes/Nocturnes; Beethoven – Piano Concerto No. 3, soloist Maurizio Baglini; Elgar – Symphony No. 1. Tickets £10, £19, £23. Students £5, 18s and under free. Tel 735830 cheques, 0845 1552277 credit cards or [www.mso.org.uk](http://www.mso.org.uk)

**'LINTON PARK'** By David H Cleggett. If you would like to borrow this very fine publication – it is a limited edition – please see the Churchwardens.

**East Farleigh Farmers' Market** – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 9am to 12noon in The Bull Inn car park. Food ; plants; and specialist stalls.

**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 all can be catered for. Next date is Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May.