

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

MBC Freighter Service - Saturday 14th November

The freighter will be available for the disposal of bulky refuse etc. at Wheeler's Lane/Cornwallis Avenue junction from 10.15 to 11.00am.

Maidstone Symphony Orchestra - Conductor Brian Wright - Saturday 28th November 7.30pm Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. Peter Moore - 14-year-old trombonist, current BBC Young Musician. Haydn - Symphony No 100 "Military"; Ferdinand David - Trombone Concerto; Dvorak - Slavonic Dances Op. 46. Tickets £12, £16, £21, FT Students £5 01622 736392 or Leisure Centre 0845 1552277 or www.mso.org.uk



St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 82 November 2009

Chance for a last minute application! One of the 5 Almshouses in Linton will shortly become available for rent. Suitable for a retired single person or couple, over 60 years of age. Preference to those having connections with Linton. The attractive cottages are situated on the main bus route and consist of a living room, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. There is a small garden for each cottage, and also a communal garden. **We have been advertising this during October but, if you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please get in touch immediately!!** Application forms from: The Clerk to the Trustees, Mrs K Cooper, Linton Park Almshouses, c/o Forge Cottage, Linton Hill, Linton, Maidstone, Kent ME17 4AW (Tel: 01622 741494) email: cooperkathryn@bopenworld.com.

Extended closing date for applications - 3rd November 2009

Saturday 31st October. Light Party in Church (An alternative to Halloween) For children in year 1 to 6, and younger children if accompanied. Games, craft, stories and songs.

Saturday 7th November 10.30am to 4.00pm Meeting of Servants of Christ the King at Linton (Church and Hall). All invited. Please see the poster in Church.

Centre Pages: David's Letter; 5P Men's Group; New Bishop of Rochester; Advent Service; Health and Healing; Scam Mail; Yuletiders; St. Faith's Church - Talk.

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

Services in Linton Church in November

Sunday	1 st November	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	8 th November	10.00am	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday	15 th November	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		11.00am	Family Service
		3.00pm	<i>Annual Bereavement Service West Farleigh</i>
Sunday	22 nd November	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	29 th November	10.30am	<i>Benefice Service (with Guest Speaker) West Farleigh</i>

Dear Fellow Readers,

The autumn months are, for me, months of reflection: reflection about the way in which we interact with so much of life. We begin with harvest with its focus on thanksgiving for the world and the produce that God has given us. St Luke's Day, October 18th, is when we consider the contributions that medical advances have informed our understanding of relationships to our bodies. Then to Remembrance Sunday when we look back to the contribution that former and present generations have made and are making, even to the present day, to the improvement of relationships between nations and within nations. Most of our enjoyment in life comes about when our relationships are good and I would suggest that our problems in the world come from a breakdown in relationships. We abuse the world by our greed and need for profit and easy gains. In recent years there is a growing awareness that things have got to change and we need to re-engage with the world in a responsible and positive way. Health problems arise when we fill the body either with the wrong food or too much. Alcohol and drug abuse have shown us how they affect relationships in so many ways through, amongst other things, growth in crime, breakdown in health and in financial difficulties. The growth in the health and gym club culture comes from a realisation that we need to treat our bodies with respect. And finally, Remembrance Sunday reminds us of the horror and damage done to individuals when communities cannot live in peace with each other.

The Church's role in all this is not to dictate ways of behaviour but to point out clearly that it is in our relationships that we find peace and happiness. It must also point out with clarity that what, at times, attracts us can destroy relationships that are good and wholesome. Relationship is the basis of all our life. Marriage and divorce either build up relationship or can damage or destroy the individuals or family. How many children today are damaged by the relationships they experienced in growing up? How much poverty is brought about by treating the earth badly or by the greed of those who want everything for themselves? So when relationships are damaged we must say that that way of life is 'wrong' because it brings so much unhappiness and distress in individuals and community.

Paul wrote to the church in Philippi, a church under persecution, a church where relationship had broken down, 'Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 2 v 3 - 5). I believe that most of us do that most of the time but we should recognise the consequences when we fail. Paul's greatest ambition was to have a full relationship with Jesus Christ and also to do nothing that prevented others having that same relationship.

David

The 5P Men's group is organised as part of the five parish churches in Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh aiming, through a programme of social events, to build friendships and have fun together and provide an opportunity, without pressure, to hear more of what the Christian faith is about.

November's meeting is still being arranged but will either be a quiz evening or a meeting with a guest speaker in the Bull Pub. E. Farleigh. For details of the events or to be added to the 5P mailing list please call Mike Marsh Group Organiser 745702 or email 5pmen@talktalk.net

Choosing a New Bishop of Rochester. "Be Part of the Process!"

There will be public consultation at 8pm on Thursday 12th November at St. Justus Church, The Tideway, Rochester, ME1 2LT.

Those responsible for the appointment of the next Bishop of Rochester value your views. Help us to understand what kind of person would be best for the role and the Diocese. We look forward to welcoming you.

This is an open invitation to everyone to take part in the process. David

Churches together in Maidstone - Advent Service - Sunday 29th November at 6pm - Salvation Army, Union Street

Diocesan Council for Health and Healing - A date for all Christians who work as NHS Healthcare Professionals in Rochester Diocese. Sunday 8th November at 3.00pm at St John's, Meopham. The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Geoff Walters, Senior Chaplain of Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent and lecturer on "Spiritual Care" at University of Kent. He will be speaking on "Safe at Work: Is it possible in the modern NHS?" Tea and refreshments available. The afternoon will conclude with a Service of Affirmation.

Scam Mail Be aware that scam mail about winning lottery prizes and so on is being sent to elderly persons and many have been defrauded out of thousands of pounds. If you need advice about scam mail or wish to report a scam please phone Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06

The Yuletiders' Christmas Lunch for the Over 60's will be on Monday 7th December in Linton Village Hall. If you know of anyone in Linton (among old friends or new neighbours) who has now reached the magic age of 60 and would like an invitation, please contact Jane Sawyer 746659 or Mary Price 741597.

St Faith's Church, Brenchley Gardens Wednesday 4th November 1.00 -

1.30pm Talk by Rev John Corbyn of Holy Cross, Bearsted - "Hope - Our Anchor". Hot drinks available from 12.30pm. Bring your own lunch if you