

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



**St Nicholas Parish News**  
Issue 141 October 2014

Wed	Last Wednesday of the month	12 noon	Said Holy Communion (Light lunch soup/roll)	Linton
Thurs	Every week	10am	Holy Communion	Coxheath
Sat	Quarterly (See notice sheets for details)	10am	Alternative Service	Coxheath
Last Tuesday in the month	10 – 11.30am	Coffee and chat at Holy Trinity, Coxheath (Contact Becky Parnham 07949 646865)		
First and third Wednesdays in the month	7.30 – 9pm	'The Next Step' – A group that meets for study and prayer. (Contact Anne Whybrow 749704)		
Every Thursday	1.30 – 3pm	'Up and Running' Toddler Group, Holy Trinity Coxheath (Contact Kate Till 746482 for details)		
	3.30pm	'Seekers' (6-11yrs) Holy Trinity, Coxheath. (Further information from Becky 07949 646865)		
Every Saturday	10 - 11am	Ladies Prayer Group – at the home of Pat Wilmshurst (East Farleigh). Leader, Eileen 204241		

**Rector**  
Rev'd Peter Callway 747570 (Not available Fridays)  
**Curate**  
Rev'd Eileen Doyle – 204241  
**Honorary Associate Rector**  
Rev'd David Jones – 741474 (Not available Fridays)

**Churchwarden**  
Mr Roger Bettle 743278  
**Items for November News**  
By 15<sup>th</sup> October to Harold Pounds  
745303 [h.p.pounds@btinternet.com](mailto:h.p.pounds@btinternet.com)

East Farleigh Farmer's Market in October will be on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am 'til noon with a full complement of regular stalls and fresh local produce of all kinds. The Old Rose Garden now stocks honey from bees in East Farleigh, possibly beneficial to those with allergies. There will be cakes and savoury pastries for Sunday tea from Grandma Bakes and bread for sandwiches from Hunton Bakery. Artist Grenville hopes to be back with his delightful prints of domestic, farm and wild animals. Profit amounting to £160 from the June and July Markets has been given to local charities. Sue Morris 726164

Website: [www.achurchnearyou.com/linton-st-nicholas](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/linton-st-nicholas)  
and: <http://lintonkent.org/church>

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**Services in Linton Church in October**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am Harvest Service  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am Family Service  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 8.00am Holy Communion 1662  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am Holy Communion

Children in Need. Margaret Waller and Kath Cooper are organising a dance in Linton Village Hall in aid of Children in Need. It will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November and local band "Under Construction" will be playing, as well as other fun events in the usual 'Children in Need' style to raise money for this great charity. Watch for posters in the village for more details. Call Margaret (741236) or Kath (741494) for more information. Tickets will be available shortly. Please put the date in your diary.

The Yuletiders' Christmas Lunch this year will be on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Invitations will be sent out in October. If you know of anyone new who has moved into Linton recently who is over 65 and would like an invitation, please contact Jane Sawyer on 01622 746659 or [rossawyer@freeuk.com](mailto:rossawyer@freeuk.com).

*Neighbourhood Watch.*  
*My name is Cllr Darren Carpenter and I am the present Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Linton. It is my role to help fellow residents and to keep both residents and police advised of any local activities of a criminal nature. This will be via the notice board in Wheeler's Lane or by word of mouth or email. If you are happy to do so, please let me have your email address so that I can keep you informed about happenings in the area. Let us work together to keep Linton a lovely place to live and be watchful locally during the coming months. Darren Carpenter 07973 931263 [darrencarpenter71@googlemail.com](mailto:darrencarpenter71@googlemail.com)*

John McKenzie is already being missed by the Speed Watchers. His expertise in identifying vehicle makes and models was unrivalled; he was an enthusiastic team member and good company. We are always looking for volunteers for Speed Watch. Each team spends one hour a month monitoring speeding traffic on Linton Hill. You don't need John's encyclopaedic knowledge of vehicles to join us – just his enthusiasm! If you would like to find out more and help contribute to road safety in Linton, please contact Jane Sawyer on 01622 746659

Centre Pages: Sue Elliot's letter; Letter from John and Cilla; Item from 1914 Linton Parish Magazine; MSO Concert; BST ends..

Back Page: Midweek Services and Regular Events; Who's Who; ; E. Farleigh Farmer's Market; Contact details.

Dear Friends,

During the summer I sang a few services in Lichfield Cathedral with a choir that I belong to. The regular choir was on holiday. What a lovely cathedral it is and the people there made us very welcome! With the start of the First World War Centenary there was a display of memorabilia, modern art and poetry. Next to one lithograph there was a poem by Wilfred Owen, a poet who was killed in the trenches. As I read the poem, which was about Abraham and Isaac, I looked at the picture. Yes, there was Abraham with his son bound up and laid upon the makeshift altar. Yes, I thought, then the angel of the Lord tells Abraham not to slay his son and God provided a ram caught in a thicket. I looked at the picture. Yes, there was the ram and the angel. At that point, however, the poem departed from the Bible story and ended with the words 'But the old man would not do so, but slew his son, And half the seed of Europe, one by one.' There in the picture were rows and rows of soldiers queuing up to be slain. That really shocked me.

Of course, Wilfred Owen was using a familiar Bible story as a framework to present a very tragic truth - the huge loss of young men. World War I was meant to be the war to end all wars. Sadly we know only too well that there has been almost continual war somewhere in the world since then. Today, Syria, Iraq, Ukraine and Afghanistan spring immediately to mind.

I am writing this as the Invictus Games are taking place. Each one of the competitors has had an injury caused, for the most part, by war, a life-changing moment but one that has not destroyed their spirit to strive with courage and fortitude to succeed in sport as part of their rehabilitation.

This summer I had what could have been a life-changing moment. In fact, in some ways it was. I had an accident as I walked with my family beside a river in Devon falling down the riverbank, colliding with tree roots and ending up in the water. I was taken to hospital with a crushed vertebra ... but three days later I walked out of the hospital! This story could have ended so differently.

Whilst in hospital I was visited by a Pastoral Visitor, a lovely lady who spoke with me and then knelt down and prayed with me. I can't tell you how comforting this was and, somehow, it made me want to draw nearer to God myself. A favourite verse sprang to mind. 'Come near to God and he will come near to you' (James 4:8)

Do you take the time to be still, to be near to God, listening to him? It is so easy to get caught up in the busyness of life with so many things competing for our attention that being still with God can often get pushed out. I know it does for me. How can we know God's voice and his will for us if we don't spend time with him? Fortunately, Abraham knew God's voice and did not slay his son. Can we be this certain with the choices we make?

Yours, in Jesus' name,

Sue

Here in the Benefice we have a Pastoral Care Team. Just like my visitor in hospital they are happy to visit, talk, and, if you would like, pray with you or for you. Do get in touch if you or someone you know would like a visit. Contact Judith Barnes on 747934.

To read more of Wilfred Owen's poetry and his biography, see:

<http://www.wilfredowen.org.uk/home/>

Letter received from John and 'Cilla.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in our Lord, We were both surprised and overwhelmed by the fond farewell at the Linton United Benefice Service and by your most generous gift. Please be assured that it will be put to very good use. As we start this phase of life together at our home in Tenterden, we shall remember with love and affection all our friends in the United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh. It seems a long time since we first arrived in Coxheath from Scotland, before moving to Linton. We have so many, many poignant memories of sharing in love and fellowship with you all and shall continue to hold you in our hearts and in our prayers.

With our love and every blessing.

New address is: Little Brook, Highlands, 79 Ashford Road, Tenterden, TN30 6LR

**In October 1914 the Vicar, the Rev J A Forrest published the following in the Linton Parish Magazine.**

'Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup>

Of all bodily foes HUNGER is the worst. By that we mean not being able to feed our bodies. If our enemy in this War can starve us he will, i.e. he will prevent us feeding our bodies. In other words while God supplies plenty the enemy will destroy it rather than let us have it. May God prosper our cause and may we still enjoy the food He has provided, both in the Colonies, the British Possessions, and at home.

It has been a wonderful year of plenty all over this country. Kent has had a wonderful return of fruit and corn. Her crops have been successfully gathered in, and the workers have been able in most cases to earn good money. So far we have food. Therefore we need to make a special point of our Harvest Thanksgiving. Notice what that means, i.e. GIVING OF THANKS. GIVING is the key-word. It isn't the preachers or sermons that matter. It is the GIVING.'

The Rector then refers to the giving of ourselves in thanks and the giving of money to the Agricultural Benevolent and Maidstone Hospital. He ends saying - 'You cannot give a complete Thanks-GIVING without both of these GIFTS. Many in this Parish might well begin afresh giving themselves. In Christian warfare as in this terrible War a man's gift of himself comes before the gift of his money.'

**Maidstone Symphony Orchestra**, Conductor, Brian Wright, will perform on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October commencing at 7.30pm at Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. The programme consists of three works - Wagner - Overture, Tannhauser - Beethoven - Piano Concerto No 5 'Emperor' Soloist Tae-Hyung Kim - Tchaikovsky - Symphony No 1 'Winter Daydreams'. Tickets £10, £20, £25, full time students with a student card £5 01622 735830. These can be collected on the concert evening at Mote Hall. Bookings can also be taken on [www.mso.org.uk](http://www.mso.org.uk) using the booking form. Tickets for all children up to and including 18 years of age are free. MSO Registered Charity No. 287986

**Reminder: British Summer Time ends on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October** when clocks should be put back one hour