

## 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 Nov. Parish News  
By 14<sup>th</sup> October to Harold  
Pounds 745303  
[h.p.pounds@btinternet.com](mailto:h.p.pounds@btinternet.com)

**Confirmation:** Those of you who would like to be Confirmed this year please contact Revd. Peter Walker at Coxheath Rectory - tel.747570.

### Advance notice of Annual Bereavement Service

Please note that this will be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 3.00pm at the new venue of **All Saints, West Farleigh**.

**Maidstone Symphony Orchestra** - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009 7.30pm  
Maidstone Leisure Centre, Mote Park. Maurizio Baglini - piano. Enescu - Romanian Rhapsody No 1; Chopin - Piano Concerto No 1; Prokofiev - Symphony No 5. Tickets £12, £16, £21, FT Students £5 01622 736392 or Leisure Centre 0845 1552277 or [www.mso.org.uk](http://www.mso.org.uk)



## St Nicholas Parish News

Issue 81 October 2009

### St. Nicholas Church Harvest Thanksgiving

A warm welcome is extended to everyone to come and celebrate a traditional Harvest Thanksgiving Service at 9.30am on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October at Linton Church followed by a cooked lunch at the newly-decorated Village Hall at 12.30 for 1.00pm. Whether or not you are able to get to the Service do please come along and join us for lunch.

For your harvest lunch tickets, priced at £6 each, please contact Jean Avery 747571, Kath Cooper 741494 or Mary Price 741597

**Calling All Yuletiders** This year the Yuletiders' Christmas Lunch for the Over 60's will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December in Linton Village Hall. If you know of anyone in Linton (among your 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.

**Reminder** - British Summer Time ends on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October when clocks should be put back one hour.

Centre Pages: Peter's Letter; Praise and Worship Music; 5P Men's Group; Tearfund - John Archer; Lunchtime Talk, St Faith's.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Confirmation; Annual Bereavement Service; Maidstone Symphony Orchestra .

### Services in Linton Church in October

Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am	Harvest
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup> October	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		11.00am	Family Service
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30am	Holy Communion

Dear Friends,

Nat King Cole had many hits in his singing career. I was thinking about one of them recently whilst sitting on a bench in the remembrance garden of our local crematorium waiting to take a service. 'The autumn leaves drift by your window'. As I sat there the leaves were fluttering down and the vibrant green of our trees was showing signs of reds and browns. I love autumn with its array of colours and the promise of perhaps an Indian summer.

I have never really understood why we call a period of sunny, warm, weather as autumn emerges an 'Indian Summer'. Further investigation reveals a number of different explanations. Why Indian? When European settlers first came across the phenomenon in America it became known as the 'Indian's summer' is one explanation. Another, it is said, has its origin from the raids on European settlements by Indian war parties, which usually ended in autumn.

The incidence of Indian summers has increased significantly over recent years and could be attributed to what we now call global warming.

The English already had names for the occurrence: St.Luke's summer (coinciding with St.Luke's Day on October 18<sup>th</sup>) or St.Martin's summer (his day being November 11<sup>th</sup>). Whatever we call a season of warm, dry and calm weather at this time of year, one thing is certain, the leaves are beginning to fall and winter is just around the corner.

The hearty singing of such hymns as 'We plough the fields and scatter' and the decorating of our churches with Harvest goods and flowers heralds that time of the church year when we especially give thanks to God for 'all good gifts around us'. The practice of such festivals began in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century when the eccentric Vicar of Morewenstow in Cornwall, the Revd. R. S. Hawker set aside the first Sunday in October as an opportunity for thanking God for a good harvest.

It is also an opportunity today to focus our attention and prayers on those less fortunate than ourselves. These prayers are part of the ongoing cycle of prayer throughout the year for those in under-developed countries and countries torn apart by war and unrest. For the homeless and the refugees near and far. We also remember the words of the book of Genesis: '*while earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease*'. In this God promises never again to destroy everything on earth until the judgement day when Christ returns. Every change of season is a reminder of that promise.

Enjoy the 'Indian Summer' (if we have one!)

All good wishes,

Peter.

**Praise and Worship Event** Come and enjoy an evening of music, praise and worship led by singer and songwriter John Wilson of aLive Ministry. This will be held at Maidstone Baptist Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm.  
[www.aliveministry.co.uk](http://www.aliveministry.co.uk) Phone 24828001463 email [aliveministry@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:aliveministry@hotmail.co.uk)

### **5P Men's group**

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.

#### Next Meetings

Saturday and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October – Weekend sailing trip - 3 places, please contact Mike Marsh for more details.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 8.00am to 10.00am Men's breakfast at the Ridge Golf Club in East Sutton near Maidstone with guest speaker Rick Woodward. Cost – approximately £6. This is a chance to meet people in great surroundings and hear a challenging speaker (Contact Mike Marsh to book a place)

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. East Farleigh.

For details of the events or to be added to the 5P mailing list please call Mike Marsh or email [5pmen@talktalk.net](mailto:5pmen@talktalk.net)

Mike Marsh, Group Organiser 01622 745702

**Tearfund – Maidstone Support Group: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 7.45pm** Loose Baptist Church, (**meeting at the school site in Boughton Lane, Loose**). Ample parking. John Archer, Tearfund's new London and the South East of England manager will talk about Tearfund's harvest project- 'Water and Sanitation needs'. For more information see September 'News' or ring Karen Mackley – 01732 870625 or visit website [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org)

St Faith's Church, Brenchley Gardens Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 1.00 - 1.30pm Talk by Rev Robin Williamson of St Luke's Maidstone - 'Faith - Our Shield'. Hot drinks available from 12.30pm Bring your own lunch if you wish. Further details from Jackie Cray 01622 673068.