

## 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. (followed by a light lunch of soup and bread)
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 Group – at the home of Pat Wilmshurst (East Farleigh). Leader, Eileen 204241

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

Churchwardens  
Mr Roger Bettle 743278  
Mr John McKenzie 741318  
Items for October News by  
14<sup>th</sup> September to Harold  
Pounds 745303  
h.p.pounds@btinternet.com

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September Friends of Kent Churches Annual Bike Ride  
A cycle ride, walk or even a drive for the less hardy around Kent churches.. Walkers, cyclists, sponsors can make this a successful event. Last year £135,000 - this year ? Paul and Kath, 741494.

East Farleigh farmers' market: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 9am to noon.

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



## St Nicholas Parish News Issue 116 September 2012

### Services in Linton Church in September

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am Family Service  
 Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September 8.00am Holy Communion (1662)  
 Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 9.30am Holy Communion  
*Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 10.30am Benefice Service East Farleigh, Holy Communion, Rev.d Peter Walker's final Service*

The Ordination of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Eileen Doyle to the Priesthood will take place on Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Parish Church of St. Andrew, Paddock Wood. The service will be conducted by Bishop Graham Cray. Eileen extends an invitation to all to join her at the service.

The Commissioning of Kay Mason as an Evangelist will take place at Rochester Cathedral at 6.30pm on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September. All are invited.

**5P Men** We still have 5 places left for the re-scheduled **Medway canoe trip on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**, from Allington to East Farleigh and back. If you are able to come to this event or know someone who would be interested then please let Mike Marsh know [5pmen@talktalk.net](mailto:5pmen@talktalk.net) or 745702 or 07595428639  
 Those re-booked so far are Michael Cooper, Barry Doyle, Lewis Doyle, Guy Hewson, Kevin Jenner, Mike Marsh and David Simpson.  
**5P Men Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm Petanque at The White House, Hunton.** An evening of fun competition with light refreshments in the bar after the game, Please contact David Simpson 743977 or Mike Cooper 744047 for more details.

**End of Summer Party in Linton Village Hall - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September** 7.30 to 11.30pm. Dance to '50s/'60s Disco. Tickets £10 to include a ploughman's supper. Bring your own drinks.. Tickets from Margaret Waller 01622 741236 and Kath Cooper 01622 741494

**Centre Pages:** Peter's Letter; Roadside Hedges; University of the Third Age.

**Back Page:** Regular Events; Who's Who; Annual Bike Ride; E Farleigh Mkt.

Dear Friends,

"A look back on thirty-two years"

It was the last flight into Adelaide Airport that evening of the 29<sup>th</sup> September. It was Michaelmas Day. I stepped out into the now seemingly deserted concourse to see Brother Gilbert there to greet me. As we drove up the winding hill the lights of the City became ever distant as we arrived at St. Michael's House, the home of the Society of the Sacred Mission whose mission there was to train young men for Ordination. I was there to see if I was being called to ordination in that unusual environment, and they to see if I truly was! The rest was history for I returned to England and resigned from my job with a High Street Bank and spent the next four years with the brothers and nine other students studying and, I might add, cleaning and cooking! It was a thorough training. I was later ordained to serve in the Diocese of Tasmania where for eight years I progressed from an Assistant Curate to be in charge of a number of small rural communities. I also found a wife! Diana.

Over the ensuing years I served back in England in the Dioceses of Lincoln, Bath and Wells, Europe and this the Diocese of Rochester. My 'final' move is to the Diocese of Exeter.

Europe was a challenge in that I was a chaplain to ex-pats on the Western end of the Costa del Sol. It was no holiday, I might add, but a busy and exciting three years of my ministry.

Now it is time to say farewell to another group of parishioners who have all been our friends over seven years in Kent. There have been many events, challenges and activities that I can look back on over these years and cherish them all (well, most!)

I thank all who have contributed to the life and worship of the five churches; my fellow Clergy and Readers and all who have served as Churchwardens, PCC members and in the many other tasks which people give of their time and talents lovingly towards the ministry the church offers.

The Bible reminds us through the words of Jesus that we are fellow workers in His vineyard. That means that we are working in some area or corner of this Estate and the Estate owner is the Lord Jesus Himself. I wish you well in this part of the Vineyard, and we both assure you of our prayers in the days to come, that the next Incumbent will be a man or woman of God's choosing.

The following prayer may be helpful as you pray and contemplate the future:  
*'Great Shepherd, you have committed your flock to those who serve you as pastors and teachers; we now ask and pray that you will send to us the person of your choosing that he or she may serve you faithfully in these parishes of Linton, Coxheath, East Farleigh, Hunton and West Farleigh. We ask it in the Name of Jesus the Good Shepherd. Amen'*

You are very welcome to visit us if you are on holiday in the South West. Our address will be circulated later.

May God Bless us all in His service!

With our Love and Prayers, Peter & Diana

Obstruction of Roads and Footways by Vegetation

Many of us will have observed that the good growing weather has resulted in a lot of hedges and other vegetation encroaching on the roads and paths and reducing visibility. The immediate need is for landowners to cut back their hedges and other vegetation where it encroaches on the carriageway or footway..

Particular care should be taken to cut away vegetation to enable road warning and direction signs to be clearly visible. It has been pointed out that the landowner/occupier is responsible for maintaining their hedges and that the Kent County Council does not have the funds to cover this work.

University of the Third Age.

Are you interested in becoming involved in the formation of a second University of the Third Age (U3A) in Maidstone? The first one, which has been in existence for twenty-one years, is full and has a waiting list.

U3A is not a university in the usual sense, It is an association in which members (primarily the retired, semi-retired or those who do not work full time) pool their own abilities and skills for mutual benefit. There is no minimum or maximum age, no qualifications are needed to join and none are awarded. All U3A groups are affiliated to the Third Age Trust, which offers advice, resources and other help. Each local U3A is a charity in its own right, run entirely by volunteers.

There will be an open meeting at Maidstone Community Support Centre, 39-48 Marsham Street, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm to 4pm, when they hope to encourage volunteers to form a Steering Committee for this exciting new venture. If you would like to be involved, or be kept informed of progress and future meetings, please contact John New at [janta.new@talktalk.net](mailto:janta.new@talktalk.net) or on 01622 734298

*Note: A copy of a paper giving comprehensive details of the activities of U3A is available on request to Harold Pounds 745303 or [h.p.pounds@btinternet.com](mailto:h.p.pounds@btinternet.com)*