

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 1.30 to 3pm	Holy Communion (1662) Holy Trinity, Coxheath "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 October Parish News
By 14th September to Harold
Pounds 745303
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.

Linton Walks revert to 6pm start time (finish 8pm) on **Tuesday 1st September**. Venue – Linton Church Car Park Linton Hill.

Harvest Lunch on Sunday 11th October 2009. Tickets available at £6 each from Mary Price 741597 or Kath Cooper 741494

Just a thought: *If you try to fail and succeed, what have you done?*
Whose cruel idea was it for the word lip to have an 'S' in it?



St Nicholas Parish News Issue 80 September 2009

Saturday 12th September 10am-5pm - St Nicholas Church will be one of hundreds of Churches in Kent which will be open to receive visitors taking part in **The Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Walk**. This is a country-wide event involving 30 counties. Last year the Ride raised a total of £146,889 in Kent, half of which was paid out to churches by way of grants, and half given to the Churches supported by those taking part. St Nicholas, Linton received £125 from the sponsorship raised by Peter Ross on his cycle ride. Help in several ways would be appreciated: sponsor those taking part, help to 'man' the Church on the day, or even get sponsored and visit as many churches as possible on the day by bike (or walking). For more information contact: Kath Cooper, 01622 741494, email: cooperkathryn@btopenworld.com.
www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk/bike_ride.php

MEMORIES OF THE GARDEN GALA

A souvenir DVD-video of Linton Garden Gala, held on 7th June this year, is available. It contains about 200 of the official photographs taken at the Garden Gala, some from each garden. Proceeds will be in aid of St Nicholas Church. Please contact Kath Cooper for a copy, priced at £5 plus postage. Tel. 01622 741494, or email: cooperkathryn@btopenworld.com.

Rockaholics Retromania. An evening of 50's and 60's live music in **Linton Village Hall on Saturday 19th September from 7.30 to 11pm**. Supper included. 'Hop Pickers Scene'. Information and tickets from Mike Brooker 746067 or David Sendles 745612.

Centre Pages: David's Letter; Churches Together; Alpha; Tearfund.

Back Page: Regular Events; Who's Who; Confirmation; Linton Walks; Harvest Lunch.

Services in Linton Church in September

Sunday	6 th September	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	13 th September	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday	20 th September	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)
		11.00am	Family Service
Sunday	27 th September	9.30am	Holy Communion

Dear All,

Last month I had what is now a very rare occurrence, a real handwritten letter on note paper and sent via the post. Now I do receive loads of letters but nearly all official and seldom handwritten. I also receive a great number of phone calls and these also vary in content. Similarly my email inbox is generally full of messages and, whilst I have learnt how to divert the scam mail from the real mail, I still receive a great many messages that, in all honesty, do not apply to me but, because I am in their address book, I get showered with the same message as many others. Email has become for me the main method of communication; it is fairly quick, it leaves a record, the recipient can 'pick it up' at a time convenient to them and, for many, anywhere in the country or even abroad. But is it really progress?

Only the other month I sent several emails to a person and I sent them to the wrong address, which just so happened to be a real address, so they didn't come winging back to me telling me they hadn't been delivered. They were important and my mistake led to problems both for me but also the recipient. . Similarly, emails replace not only letters but also the telephone and so are not always written in full and tend to be brief. They are seldom addressed to the reader but simply start with the text. They can appear abrupt as words are often missed out to speed up the process and the tone can be harsh as a result. I wonder if I had been courting my wife today rather than in the 1960's how my letters (emails now) to her would have read today. No 'dear Anne' growing to 'Darling Anne' and to 'Dearest Anne' and so on. No doubt a simple '*great evening yesterday, meet you outside the Nurses Home at 9.30 tonight*'

When we read Paul's letters we get something of this tension. They would have been hand written, maybe by a scribe, and sent to the leaders of the Church. There they would have been read out aloud and perhaps the tone of the reader gave an interpretation to what Paul was trying to say. Then of course we don't really know the circumstances that led to the letters being written and we can only conclude from what Paul says as to why he is writing. This can give a very interesting slant on the letter as we don't always know if he is admonishing the leaders or encouraging them.

James, writing in one of the shorter letters in the Bible, wrote 'We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.' (James 3 v 2). James knew the value of words and I am sure if he had been writing to us today would have pointed out the dangers of the more modern forms of that word. In a recent edition of the Reader's Digest the following story is told. "*Laura, my granddaughter, rang me on a Saturday night sounding rather concerned. I wasn't sure why. My last contact with her was a text saying that I was going into town to buy a quilt cover. She told me to re-read the message. It said. 'OFF 2 FIND NEW LOVER 2 KEEP ME WARM'*". You know one letter can make all the difference! Keep smiling.

David

Churches Together in Maidstone Forum Meetings 2009

Thursday 17th September at 7.30 for 7.45pm start at Maidstone Baptist Church, Knightrider Street. Family Trust and CAST – Work in our local schools –Speaker – Annabelle Blackaby.

Refreshments served from 7.30pm onwards. The Family Trust and CAST do great work in the schools in the area and also support many churches through Kings squad. It would be good to give them support as they start a new school year.

For further details, please contact Revd. David Jones 741474 or david_w_jones@talk21.com



Kay and Tony Mason are running the next **Alpha Course starting on Wednesday 23rd September.** They are looking for folk to make a voluntary contribution by providing a simple supper (a main course and dessert - an Alpha Cook Book with a lot of ideas is available) for 12 people and to clear and wash up after. If you can help, please contact Kay (see below)

ALPHA - taster event – 'Christianity: Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant?'

You are invited to join this informal evening at 7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd September for supper and to listen to a talk with the above title at 23, Bensted Close, Hunton, ME15 0SD R.S.V.P. – Kay and Tony Mason 01622 820488 / 07921122802 email kaysey61@yahoo.com

Tearfund – Maidstone Support Group: Wednesday 7th October 7.45pm Loose Baptist Church, (meeting at the school site in Boughton Lane, Loose). Ample parking.

John Archer, Tearfund's new London and South East England Manager will talk about Tearfund's harvest project – 'Water and Sanitation Needs', followed by prayers for Tearfund projects and the needs of the world. Refreshments and sale of Tearcraft and Fairtrade goods at close of meeting.

For more information please ring Karen Mackley – 01732 870625 or visit website www.tearfund.org