

CHRIST CHURCH MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE

september 2009

30p or donation



John Hill 2007



comeasyouare

27th September

Christ Church	www.christchurch	www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk		
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		suec@brewer86.plus.com		
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Pastoral Assistant	Pam Kilby	332693		
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Reader	Sheila Brown	356339		
Reader	John Hougham	352138		
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Deadline for October magazine: Sunday 20th September. Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden, email: ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop or

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Christ Church Hall is available for hire. Contact: Mrs Joan Bennett 01474 568585

Well equipped. Very suitable for meetings and children's parties.







🖴 🖃 🚩 BacktoChurchSunday



September is always a busy time of year, back to work after the summer holidays, new schools to attend, new friends to be made, with many young people leaving home to attend university or to take a gap year. This month sees the Girl Guides celebrate 100 years of GirlGuiding with a big party over the weekend of 5th/6th September. Here at Christ Church all the organisations will be starting up after the summer break, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, Scouts, CCADS, to name a few. For more information check out the back page.

Farewell service for Peter and Sue Lock

Peter Lock is retiring as Archdeacon of Rochester Cathedral in October. Peter was ordained in this diocese and served in parishes at Meopham, South Gillingham, Fawkham and Hartley, Dartford and Bromley before being appointed Archdeacon.

There will be a special service in the Cathedral on Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral on Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Cathedral or Synday 11th October at 3:15pm to appoint the Archdeau 11th October 11th Octo

There will be a special service in the Cathedral on Sunday 11th October at 3:15pm to say farewell - all are invited.

Church Hall Cleaning "Thank You"

God's Gang is a very familiar name to us now, but on Thursday and Friday 13th and 14th August a very different gang appeared in the hall armed with mops, brushes, cloths, feather dusters and cleaning materials of all kinds. This gang worked to remove dust and dirt which had settled over months and in some places over years. Every cupboard, every nook and cranny and every area of the hall, corridor, toilets, kitchen, tables and chairs - all were cleaned and scrubbed diligently. Windows were cleaned inside and out and at the end of those two days all was spick and span and a very tired but satisfied gang breathed a sigh of relief. We left with a sense of pride and achievement - a job well done. I join with Rev. Sue to say a big thank you to those who gave up their time and energy to do this work. Rev. Sue expressed her thanks in the church notices but what she did not say, and perhaps could not, was the part she herself played in it too. Tables, cupboard doors, notice boards, radiators were all attacked by less gentler hands than those when she serves the bread and wine or holds a baby in her arms at a christening. So thank you in equal measure to Vicar, Church Wardens and the special group of people who formed this gang and who did such a good job.

Joan Bennett.

comeasyouare



The Back to Church Sunday Story

Back to Church Sunday has grown beyond all expectations since the first one, in Greater Manchester in 2004. 160 churches united around one 'missing you' message on one single Sunday in September. On that Sunday, BBC Radio 4 news bulletins carried the story of one day when more than 1000 people came back to church again.

The last Sunday in September was chosen because it tied in well with the idea of a new year, a new start and chimed with 'back to school'. It also lent itself to Harvest festivals and the beginning of Christian enquiry events.

Those first 160 churches were spurred on by the Bishop of Manchester, Nigel McCulloch, who launched Back to Church Sunday at St Ann's Church in the city centre. Children from Christ Church CofE Primary School in Ainsworth, joined the Bishop and sang 'when the saints come marching in' for the TV cameras.

The Church of England in Manchester got behind the idea so enthusiastically, partly because many churches were already involved in a similar event, Real Christmas. The Real Christmas team produced invitations and hymn sheets for churchgoers to welcome a friend to a carol service. Because of Real Christmas, people were asking what other events in the year lent themselves to the same approach.

That's when Robert Hicks, an entrepreneur, emerged with a new idea: one Sunday when people could try church again. With church numbers in decline, he wanted to encourage churches to invite people to come to church on one Sunday when a specially warm welcome was guaranteed. Robert supported Back to Church Sunday through its first two years and remains an enthusiastic encourager. Back to Church Sunday is very grateful to Robert for all he did to get the venture off the ground, and acknowledges his crucial founding role.

Since then, Back to Church Sunday has learned alot more about what makes church an inviting and welcoming place to be. And it has gone from strength to strength. Adopted by one neighbouring Church of England diocese, Wakefield in 2005, it spread to nine in 2006, and 20 in 2007. In 2008, 37,000 people came back to church through the prayerful invitation of a friend in 38 Church of England dioceses, Churches Together in Scotland; the Church in Wales; United Reformed Church; Methodist Church; the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Elim Pentecostal Churches.



CHRIST CHURCH 200 CLUB

WHAT IS IT?

The 200 Club is a means of raising money for the Christ Church General Fund, which supports the Ministry and Mission of the church and Good Causes as agreed by the PCC, whilst at the same time giving you the opportunity of a small 'flutter' and the chance to win yourself some money

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Membership costs £30 a year. 50% of all monthly donations are donated to the Christ Church General Fund with the other 50% being returned to the membership in prize money. The draw is made on the fourth Sunday of every month in the hall after the morning service.

HOW CAN ONE PAY?

Payment can be made by an Annual sum of £30, a Quarterly payment of £7.50 or a Monthly payment of £2.50, the latter two by bankers order. (Any cheques should be made payable to Christ Church PCC No 3 Account)

HOW CAN ONE JOIN?

By contacting me in church and completing an application form. If you are not sure who I am please contact one of the Sides people and they will point you in the right direction.

HOW MANY NUMBERS CAN I HAVE?

You may have as many as you want. The more you have the better your chance of winning.

Since its inception the 200 Club has donated over £40,000 to Christ Church to support its Ministry and Good Causes.

Are you a member?

If not, think seriously about joining us and helping your church.

John Thrush – 200 Club Secretary







■ ■ BacktoChurchSunday





12th August 2009



TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC 12/8/09



Wednesday 12th August dawns bright and clear but it doesn't last. Soon the clouds gather and the sun disappears. That doesn't bode well for our Teddy Bears' Picnic does it! With fingers firmly crossed, our preparations go ahead; food is prepared, craft tables set up and the Church made ready. Our naughty little sheep is really excited. He's looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces as well as making some new friends.

At first it looks as if there is only going to be a small but select group of us but at last the numbers begin to swell, and before we know where we are the Church is full of happy excited children and their carers with lots of lovely teddies, big and small. I couldn't help but notice that a few other animals were sneaking in too which made our naughty little sheep feel better. He'd been a bit worried that I'd make him leave, because he isn't a teddy bear! As if I would!

Our candles are lit as our service begins and we have a lovely time singing some of our favourite songs and saying lots of "thank you" prayers to God for the wonderful gifts He gives to us everyday, and for the chance to have such a lovely time with the people we love.

Before we know where we are it's time for the candles to go out and our service is over. Everyone swarms into the Hall for some yummy treats to eat and there are things to make and toys, big and small to play with. Though there are spits and spots of rain from time to time it doesn't spoil the fun in the garden. Our naughty little sheep is well looked after by Tilly who tries very hard not to get his wool dirty, much to my relief! She carefully shows him a real live ladybird that crawls down his back. He tells me later that it really tickled. He must have sensitive wool!

All too soon it's time to go home. The children leave with pictures that they've coloured and sunflowers, windmills and beautifully decorated masks that they've made. What a wonderful time we have had. I think the teddy bears enjoyed it too, as well as those other sneaky animals! Perhaps some of them will come back for our First Steps service on the 9th September. Our naughty little sheep and I hope to see you all again then. God Bless.

PS. We would like to say a big "Thank you" to all those who worked so hard to make our afternoon such a success. We couldn't have done it without you!

Rosemary Austin.







■ BacktoChurchSunday

St Mark's Church Rosherville

Sheila and Ian Brown were made to feel very welcome when we joined the members of St Mark's Rosherville for a an afternoon of Poetry and Prayer followed by a cream tea on Sunday 23rd August. Members of the congregation lead by Janice Burchfield read poetry chosen by themselves. One of the members wrote his own poem to reflect the welcome he got when he ventured into the service one day. Steve has allowed us to reproduce his poem here - with Back to Church Sunday on the 27th September the poem reminds us what all churches should be doing!

When I first came to St Marks By Steve Kench Cannon

When I first came into St Marks,
I really did feel fairly nervous
You don't, quite frankly, know what to expect
From a church that you've never been into.

I walked in through the doors, got my book, and I sat at the back, where I thought I could sneak out.

I sat, I listened, and then tried to sing, as I fought to keep up with the service.

I still remember thinking, an Indian Priest? well you don't see that every day
I thought this is different, its not just about rules. I thought well I might just fit in here

I didn't do communion, I wasn't sure what it meant,
You see I didn't really do church.
I believed in god, and I had tried on some churches for size
but none of them quite seemed to fit.

At St Marks while I sat, the word nervous, it left, my head as it didn't belong there. in fact the word I felt wasn't nervous at all, the word I most felt, was welcome. The smiles, they were real, the place had a feel, the kind you really feel welcome.

Two years later, and one or more months, I have to say I like it

The people, the place, the service, the face, of the people I see while I'm in here.

I will happily stay, if they'll have me, I pray, at this wonderful, friendly, welcoming St Marks.



COFFEE MORNINGS

Friday September 25th Friday October 30th Friday November 27th Friday December 11th

Many thanks for your continued support of the Ellenor Lions Hospices.

Registered Charity No. 1121561

200 Club Winners August

1st Prize - No 76 David Croydon 2nd Prize - No 120 Derek Buss 3rd Prize - No 38 Joan Bennett



Mothers' Union Quiz Night

7:30 pm on ay 12th Septemb

Saturday 12th September in the Church Hall.

Entrance £3 on the door there will be a raffle Please bring your own drink, glasses and nibbles.

Tables of 6 or come on your own and make up a table when you get there.

All welcome!

Have you a loved one interred in the Garden of Remembrance?

Work will shortly begin on the extension to the Garden of Remembrance. There is a letter and copy of the plans available for all those who are affected .. but we no longer have contact details for quite a number of relatives. If you haven't received a letter and would like one, please talk to Rev. Sue Brewer or to Julie Hill.

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

6th	Sept	Week 10	Pauline Marks, Margot Edwards, Angela Kirby
13th	Sept	Week 11	Rita Smith, Jean Stoddart, Sheila Knight
20th	Sept	Week 12	Betty Martin, Margaret Davies, Maria Watson
27th	Sept	Week 1	Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Jill Sampson, Charmaine Bultman
4th	Oct	Week 2	Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Joan Bennett
11th	Oct	Week 3	Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Joan Bennett David and Shirley Whitehead Maureen Fittell
			Mas.

comeasyouare



A historic time is about to take place as Girlguiding is about to start it's centenary celebrations. Over 550,000 girls and women in the UK will be celebrating within their own Divisions with the UKs biggest birthday bash spread over the weekend of 5th and 6th September. Locally we have a massive fun afternoon planned with girls from all units locally being invited together with special quests. Bouncy castles, crafts and cooking from around the world and face painting are just some of the things that will be available for the girls to enjoy. During the year there are numerous special events taking place for every body within the movement including special camps for the Guides, steam train trips for the Brownies and visits to zoos for the Rainbows.

It all started in the early years of the 20th century, Robert Baden-Powell, a famous army general, developed a scheme for training boys. He tried out his ideas at a camp on Brownsea Island in 1907 and the following year published them in a book, "Scouting for Boys". The book was an instant success and boys throughout the UK enthusiastically took up Scouting. As a result, Baden-Powell soon found himself organising the Boy Scout Movement.

At the Scouts first rally, at the Crystal Palace in 1909, a small group of girls turned up. They represented hundreds of other girls and insisted that they wanted to be Scouts too.

In an age when skirts were ankle length and young ladies never ran, the idea of girls being involved in camping, hiking and similar activities received a mixed response. Angry critics denounced girl scouting as a mischievous new development, a foolish and pernicious movement and an idiotic sport.

Celebrating 100 years

However, Baden-Powell's letters from this time show that he had a scheme for girls in mind. In 1910 he formed the Girl Guides, asking his sister Agnes to look after the new organisation. A few years later he married Olave and she also became involved and in 1918 was appointed Chief Guide. She held this title until her death in 1977. Such was the enthusiasm for guiding that it soon spread worldwide with the Brownies, Rangers, Trefoil and Rainbows following. Since those early days countless millions have made the Guide Promise. Today there are ten million girls and women involved in Guiding worldwide.

Over the years many things have changed. As we went into this new Millennium everything changed. The uniform became more mix and match, the badges were replaced with modern themed ones and the programme was changed. The only thing that remained was the fact that Guiding is exciting and fun with the chance to make new friends.

It is such a shame that there are now over 50,000 girls in the UK alone who are on a waiting list to join us but with the lack of leaders they are being deprived of becoming members of this unique organisation. Please, if you were a Guide, Brownie or Rainbow, consider giving something back and contact me so that we can have a chat about where you could fit in and help out. You may have seen in the press that certain tabloid newspapers are selling a book called Something for Girls Official Guide to the First 100 years of Guiding for £20. This is way above the price that is being offered by Guiding depots throughout the country. If you would like one of these books it can be obtained by ringing Sheilah on 07788575158 for the bargain price of £12.99.

Josie Girlguiding Thames Division Marketing, Recruitment and PR Advisor. Telephone (01474) 568811

Guides meet on a Wednesday evening at The Waterhole. For more information contact: Katherine Lynch

Brownies meet on a Monday and Thursday in the church hall.

Letters and emails to the editor

Dear Ian, don't know if the attached is of any interest to you for Christ Church mag.

My youngest, Katharine has just gone off to India to live, and amongst her stuff that I have to keep in store are some of her old exercise books. I couldn't resist reading some of them. She was at the Gordon school when she wrote this, in year 8, with Felicity Holland as her teacher. Don't know what the task was, but this is how she responded anyway.

Given that you are doing your series on Echo Square shops, I thought you could use some of this to stir up old memories.

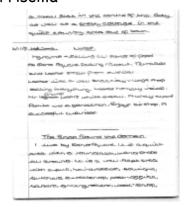
I am sure others have been able to put you right about the florists. I am sure it was never an electrical shop or a hair dressers. When we first came to Echo Square, late 70s, it was a fancy goods shop, selling kitchen stuff, ornaments, gifts etc. I still have a crockery chicken for storing eggs that my mother-in -law bought me from the shop as she whiled away the long days when we were all at school during her visits.

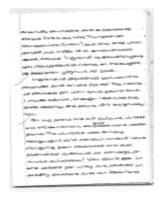
At the time, The area could also support another fancy goods shop across the road-probably where bathroom/kitchen shop now is. Think they sold newspapers too. And of course, the post office was a place of delight for children to spend their pocket money.

In fact, the MR Cramp she talks of was the same "that young Mr Cramp" that my mother used to refer to. At the time I was growing up, she ordered her groceries (and got them delivered) from Edwards the Grocers, some where near Peppercroft Street-now Parrock St Car Park. The bacon was always fine when Mr Edwards sliced it, but whenever Mr Cramp did it, it was always too salty, too fattyyy.... Still, he did always give me broken biscuits from the big tin to keep me quiet, whilst my mother was placing her order.

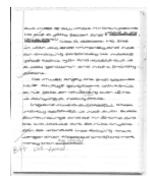
Regards

Priscilla









Images from Katharine's exercise book - transcribed on the following page.

Echo Square - Katharine's view as a 13 year old in 1981

The Shop Around the Corner

I live by Echo Square. It is a quiet area with a roundabout and shops all around. It is a well kept area with a pub, hairdressers, boutique, butchers, sweet shop, post-office, bakers, greengrocers, wool-shop, chemist, plumbers and a couple of others (It's a bit like Trumpton or Camberwick Green!) but the shop which strikes me most is a small private store called 'Ingrams'. It sells anything you would care to name on the subject of food from yoghurt to pate.

Ingrams is squashed between the chemist and an old 'co-op'. The name is painted on with blue paint but I must admit, though I do like the shop dearly, the paint is a bit grubby now.

On the front are two picture windows and two narrow, tall glass doors with a wooden frame. The windows look simply delightful and contain various items ranging from carcases and a old fashioned biscuits to porridge or tinned pineapple! You can't see in the doors for they are covered in pretty stickers and an 'open' and 'closed' sign

Inside the cosy, warm atmosphere welcomes you straight away as you look at the tiny room crammed with shelves and counters. On your left, on top of the counter is the meat cutting machine which I enjoy watching, slicing the big masculine joints into thin feminine slices. Just below is glass which means you can see the butter, margarine and other cold items. The herb and spices are also kept on the left likewise the packet soups. On the right the counter is crammed full with cake-mixes and biscuits and, well, so many things I can't name but has only a small opening for a lady helper to look through.

Straight ahead as you enter the shop is an opening where the counters both end and where you notice the shelves running all round the walls, but most of all, where Mr. Cramp stands. He is a jolly fellow and wears a long white overall like a doctors. He fits in with the shop immensely and has an amazing personality. He makes jokes about you and teases but is a real gentleman and has a friendly accent.

He must enjoy the shop because he is always going about with a smile on his face or whistling even if he is carrying a heavy crate.

Ingrams runs a successful trade merely because it has such great surroundings and as Mr Cramp and the two ladies are so nice anyone can be tranced into staying there longer than expected and spend more money than they intended.

Notes.

Ingrams - selling all sorts of food. At Echo Square facing r/about. Terraced and looks small from outside. Looks like a well kept tidy village shop selling everything. Looks homely inside. Mr Cramp wears white overall. Friendly accent. Polite and a gentleman. Enjoys his shop. A successful business.

Tea and church history at Shorne Church.

Teas will be served at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Shorne on 12th September (there will be a charge unless you are taking part in the Friends of Kent Churches bike ride!).

If you are interested in the history of Shorne Church, parts of which date back to the Anglo-Saxon period, you can join a Church History tour on Sunday 6th September at 2, 3 or 4 pm. Tours are free, there will be refreshments, but the tour must be booked on 01474 824177.

St George's Church Tower Restoration Fund.

5th September (subject to weather may be postponed to 12th if wet) John and Valerie Heard are holding a mini garden fete between 11 am and 2 pm at Briars Court, 90 Windmill St. Gravesend. Plus at 5pm (doors open 4:30) 'Fiddlers on the Deck' will be playing features folk music from around the world - cost £5.

Friday 25th September - 8 mile sponsored walk starting at 8:30 pm from Meopham Green.

Details: Neil on 01474 560525 or Pocahontas1733@aol.com



Cost: £10 To book contact:

Tammy Heren on 01634 560000 or email
tammy.heren@rochester.anglican.org

Bring your Digital Camera

Evening Services in September 6th Sept 6:30pm at St Aidan's Church, St Aidan's Way, Gravesend - an ecumenical Songs of Paraise celebrating St Aidan's Patronal Festival. Preacher will be the new curate at St Aidan's. 13th 6:30 at St Peter and St Paul Church, Shorne - Deanery Choirs Festival, Choral

Church Proctors

The Cathedral are re-launching their Proctors scheme - one person from each parish to be a link between Parish and Cathedral. There is an invitation for all potential Proctors to drinks and nibbles at 7:30pm in the Cathedral on Wednesday 30th September .. Also an invitation to try out the new audio tours which are part of the Cathedral Interpretation Project. Have a word with Sue Brewer if you think you might be interested in being a Proctor.

Mission Action Plan

After church (a slightly shorter service) on 20th September, the PCC will be presenting our plans for the next couple of years Come along to hear all about it.

Evensong.

Music at Christ Church

KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

And for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:





The Choir meets on a Thursday evening in church to practise and can be heard every Sunday in church. On Sunday 13th September they will be taking part in the Deanery Choirs Festival in Shorne Church.





The Music Group meets on the first 2 Mondays each month in the church for practice and plays in the service on the second Sunday each month.

God's Gang



This month we are thinking about clearing away any things that stop us from following Jesus.

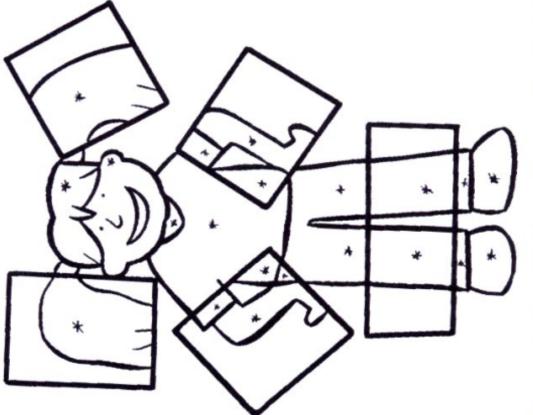
2 Think of one thing you could do to help someone

STUMBLING this week. Draw a picture of yourself doing it. CLEAR AWAY 뿚

you complete 3 How fast can BLOCKS

the word search?

Roots for Churches Limited 2003



1 Can you find the girl hidden in all the stumbling blocks? Colour in only the shapes marked with a star to find her.

September

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Sunday		6 8 am Service	13 8 am Service	20 8 am Service	27 8 am Service
-Su		10 am Service 6.30 Ecumenical service St Aidan's	10 am Service 6.30 pm Dean- ery Choirs Fes- tival at Shorne	10 am Service PCC Presenting Mission Action Plan	10 am Service Back to Church Sunday AngelSpace XI
Monday		7 Open Church Schools start	14 Open Church Cubs	21 Open Church Cubs	28 Open Church Cubs
		Music Group	Brownies Music Group	Brownies	Brownies
Tuesday	1 Soroptomists Church Hall	8	15 Coffee Morning in church 10am	22	29
Wednesday	2 MU Talk about Hospice by	9 First Steps 1:45pm	16	23	30
	Linda Wood	Guides	Guides	Guides	Guides
Thursday	3 Choir Practice	10 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	17 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	24 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	
Friday	4 Open Church Parent & Toddler	11 Open Church Parent & Toddler	18 Open Church Parent & Toddler	25 Open Church Parent & Toddler	
F	Office Hours	Office Hours Scouts	Office Hours Scouts	Office Hours Scouts	
Saturday Sa	5 Work Party	Shorne Church open for tea Mothers Non Christian care for families Quiz Night	19	Work Party to get ready for Back to Church Sunday	

What happens at Christ Church?

Sunday Services

8.00 am Holy Communion (said)10.00 am Communion with crèche & God's GangOn the 2nd Sunday Uniformed Organisations parade

Evening Service - see inside magazine for details.

Weekday Services

Holy Communion (said)
Monday and Saturday 8am.
Tuesday & Thursday 7.00am.
Wednesday 10.00am

For further information contact the Church Wardens

Office hours

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

Open Church

Monday and Friday
10 am until 11.30 am

Clubs

There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)

Monday Cubs; Music Group; Brownies

Tuesday

Wednesday Guides; Mothers Union (1st Wednesday) Mothers Union

First Steps (under 5's and carers) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm

Thursday Beavers; Brownies; Choir Practice

Friday Scouts; Amateur Dramatics 🐎; Parent and Toddler

Saturday Working party (1st Saturday)

Sunday Christ Church Youth Club

September 2009