



CHRIST CHURCH  
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

# PARISH MAGAZINE



**All-Age Service**  
2nd Sunday  
each month

John Hill 2007

**30p**  
or  
donation

**February  
2010**



**Lent Starts on  
17<sup>th</sup> February**

|                    |                       |                                  |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Vicar              | Sue Brewer            | 352643<br>suec@brewer86.plus.com |
| Hon. Ass. Priest   | Jacqueline Littlewood | 560106                           |
| Pastoral Assistant | Pam Kilby             | 332693                           |
| Church Warden      | Christine Sewell      | 745443                           |
| Church Warden      | Peter Shearan         | 566215                           |
| PCC Secretary      | Julie Hill            | 568265                           |
| PCC Treasurer      | Steve Humphries       | 323515                           |
| Reader             | Rosemary Austin       | 358702                           |
| Reader             | Sheila Brown          | 356339                           |
| Reader             | John Hougham          | 352138                           |
| Reader             | Betty Martin          | 352696                           |
| Reader             | Martin Sewell         | 745443                           |

Deadline for February magazine: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February .  
Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden,  
or email: [ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop](mailto:ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop)

Inside this month's magazine

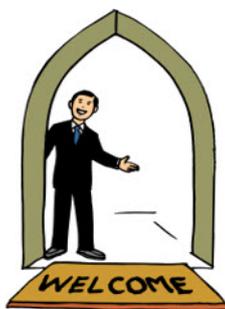
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Christ Church Hall  
is available for hire.  
Contact: Mrs Joan Bennett  
01474 568585

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

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We are what we repeatedly do, ex-  
cellence then is not an act, but a  
habit." Aristotle



In this month's Parish Magazine there is an amusing account by Ivy Woolcock of her Christmas shopping, information about Lent, 2010 dates for Coffee Mornings at The Hospice, requests for help and on page 7 there is a letter from Aly (the Palestinian boy Christ Church sponsor) Whether young or older it is worth reading God's Gang page this month, with its information about Lent (further information can be found on [www.projectbritain.com](http://www.projectbritain.com)). It is also worth looking at the Lent calendar that God's Gang will be using as a guide throughout Lent. A six week Lent course starts on Wednesday 24th February at St. Mary's Church in Wrotham Road.

Received too late to go into this month's magazine was a poster from Urban Gravesham about the proposed development in Gravesend, check out their web site [www.urbangravesham.org](http://www.urbangravesham.org) for more details, responses need to be with Gravesham Borough Council by the 14th February.

Haiti will need support for many years to come, so will other countries around the world. Get a ticket to SOUPA LUNCH PLUS! Meet other members of Christ Church and find out about projects around the world being undertaken by Christian Aid, see page 12 for more details.

What would you like to see in your Parish Magazine? Write to the editor via email or leave your letter in the church..

Editor

## CHRIST CHURCH YOUTH CLUB

### AngelSpace dates hot off the press!!

14th February; 11th July; 26th September and 21st November. On these Sundays we leave from the church at 5.30pm returning by 8.30pm. Remember to bring some money to get your hot chocolate.

Dear people of Christ church,

Thank you very much for the wonderful gifts you gave me on my retirement. In case you were not there, I had a Sussex Trug filled with flowers, garden tools and gloves and a very generous cheque. This will go towards hard landscaping we want to do in the garden to make it a little more user friendly for creaking joints!

I have had a wonderful time working with a very good choir and of course will miss it.

I was fortunate to inherit a fine tradition of church music and hope it will continue for many years to come.

Best wishes to you all,  
Gwyneth.

Many thanks for your continued support of the Ellenor Lions Hospices.  
Registered Charity No. 1121561

# COFFEE MORNINGS

Cold Harbour Road  
10 am to 12 pm

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December



## Sponsor Matt Aspinall!

Matt Aspinall (son of Julie and Lawrence) is participating in the London to Paris Bike Ride in May 2010. Matt is raising money in aid of the EllenorLions Hospices. You can sponsor him on the form at the back of the church, or online at <http://www.justgiving.com/mattaspinall-londonparis/>



## Sunday Morning Coffee Rota



|          |         |   |
|----------|---------|---|
| 31st Jan | Week 7  | Joan and Bob Bennett, Ann Lennard, David Williams |
| 7th Feb  | Week 8  | Colin and Linda Parsonson, Anne Thrush            |
| 14th Feb | Week 9  | Jerry and Sally Higgins, Marylene Ewin            |
| 21st Feb | Week 10 | Pauline Marks, Margot Edwards, Angela Kirby       |
| 28th Feb | Week 11 | Rita Smith, Jean Stoddart, Sheila Knight          |
| 7th Mar  | Week 12 | Sylvia Brown, Margaret Davies, Maria Watson       |

Maureen Fittell

# Take a Fresh Look at Mission this LENT

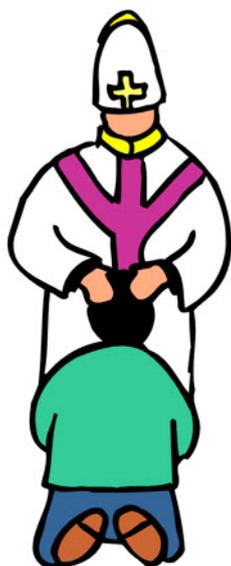
Churches in Gravesend are joining together in Lent for a 5-week course at St Mary's in Wrotham Road. 'Mission-shaped intro' offers 5 weeks to rediscover mission and re-imagine church. Our world and our lives have changed radically in the last 20 years - this course considers how the church might adapt to these changes. It will be hands-on experience combining presentations, film and music clips, group activities, worship and prayer, led by Ross Garner, the Diocesan Mission Enabler. Let's take a good crowd from Christ Church - sign on the list at the back of the church if you would like to come.

Dates: Wed 24th Feb to Wed 24th March, inclusive.

Refreshments at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start - finish by 9.30pm.

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## Confirmation and Renewal of Baptismal Vows



Christ Church candidates will be confirmed at a service at St Aidan's Church after Easter. Candidates will soon begin preparation for confirmation. If you are interested in being confirmed, or know someone who might be interested, please have a word with the Vicar, or one of the people on duty. Last year, a number of people also took the opportunity to renew their baptismal vows in front of the Bishop. If you feel you would like to make a fresh commitment to Christ, whether you are confirmed or not, please let us know.



The minimum age for confirmation is usually about 13 or 14 - but here at Christ Church we are also beginning the process of preparation to admit children to Holy Communion from the age of 7 or 8 ... These children will still progress to confirmation later. Please have a word if you know of young people who might like to think about confirmation or admission to Holy Communion.

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## Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

Needed !!!! Strong people to help put out the tables and clear up at the end.

See Maureen Fittell to be added to the coffee rota.

## Could you be our next Hall Manager?

Joan Bennett would like to pass on the responsibility for the Hall lettings in the near future. Joan is very willing to work alongside her successor to ensure a smooth handover - why not have a word with her to see what is involved?

# MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Being practically blind and certainly very deaf, I am a gift for any stall holder at the Bazaar as I trudge around, shopping bag and purse at the ready, intoning my mantra “stocking fillers, please”. You’d be surprised what finishes up in my shopping bag.

This year I acquired two charming little figures with firm bases and squidgy middles, draped in white net and a fetching bunch of feathers on their heads. I duly wrapped them in Christmas paper and forgot them.

On Christmas morning my daughter, son-in-law and I were opening our stockings when Colin said “excuse me, M, (he’s very polite) can you tell me what this is?” “Yes”, I say, “It’s a soap on a rope without the rope”, and I believed it.

Some days after my return home Colin decided to try out his new toy in the shower. The firm end was very rough when he scrubbed his chest with it and to his horror he saw a red streak running down the shower wall. Relieved that he could find no wound, he discovered that the feathers were bleeding. He discarded the feathers and started again. Still no luck with lather, so off had to come the little white net dress. Feeling a little frustrated he opened up the petticoat and peered inside to find himself face to face with a wick! Realising that this wasn’t soap on a rope without the rope he gave up.

The wick now carefully dried with it’s surrounding wax has taken it’s place with other emergency supplies for power cuts. He has made no further comment!

Ivy Woolcock

## CHARITABLE DONATIONS

At the end of last year we were able to make the following donations

£1,100 each to Practical Action, NSPCC, Church Army and Kenward Trust.  
We also gave £100 to the local Salvation Army and North Kent Women’s Aid.

During the year we gave £300 to emergency appeals.

In the next few weeks we will be making small donations to Whitehill School, Holy Trinity School, Larchwood Grove and Walk Tall.

All these donations were made possible by your generous giving in the Lent Envelopes and through the good causes box.



## A letter from Aly.

Aly is a Palestinian boy Christ Church sponsor, through the Biblelands.

Child's First Name: *Aly*  
Full Reference No: *145469/CCS/043*  
Sponsor's Name: *Christ Church, Mrs J Hill*



إلى أختي الأخت:  
لقد عدت إلى المدرسة بعد إلتقاء  
العطلة الصيفية التي قضيتها مع أهلي في  
ربوع ضيقتنا الجميلة وأنا سرور برؤية رفاقي  
وعلاقتي شكرًا لاهتمامكم إنكم على  
أين العطلة

Dear Auntie,

I hope you had a happy holiday. I'm very happy to come back to school. I had fun though the vacation between my parents. Thank you for your donation.

God bless you  
on behalf of your  
Child Aly  
Teacher.

### What is Lent?

Lent is a Christian Festival. In the past it was a long, strict religious fast when people gave up all rich food. The day before Lent starts is known as Shrove Tuesday.

Lent is the time when Christians prepare for the greatest of the Christian festivals known as Easter by thinking of things they have done wrong.

It was a time for spring-cleaning lives, as well as homes.

### Bible Study

Many churches hold special Lent services. In some towns the churches of different denominations join together in groups to discuss and share their Christian faith.

### When does Lent end?

### When is Lent over?

Lent ends at Easter when Christians remember the execution of Jesus and then celebrate his rising from death.

The last week of Lent begins with Palm Sunday which celebrates the day Jesus entered Jerusalem and the people lay down palms at his feet. The last day of Lent is Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday (Easter Day)

In the Roman Catholic Church, Lent officially ends at sundown on Holy Thursday (Maundy

During Lent God's Gang will have a Lent Calendar produced by [www.rootsontheweb.com](http://www.rootsontheweb.com) to help them follow the example of Jesus.

For further information go to [www.projectbritain.com](http://www.projectbritain.com)

Lent Calendar

Some examples:

17 February

ASH WEDNESDAY  
Begin Lent by listing all the people you love.

24 March

Give any change you have to an aid agency that works overseas.

Sheila Brown



# First Steps

13<sup>th</sup> January 2010

We've stepped into a new year and it's time for our First Steps service once again. And can you believe it; it's snowing? Oh no!! My naughty little sheep and I may be all on our own! We shall see! We've decided that we'll have our service in the Hall today because it's sooo cold in the Church. Our naughty little sheep and three of his friends are sitting comfortably on the kitchen hatchway, watching me while I begin to set things up. We wonder if anyone else will venture out to join us but luckily we don't have to wait too long because Anne and Isabelle appear to give me a welcome hand.

Today we're going to hear about Noah and his Ark and Isabelle has brought her toy ark from home. She makes herself useful by setting it up at the side of our altar. Then to our relief some of our much-loved regulars come in to join us including Grace and Mollie who tell me that they've each built a snowman at the front of the church. How lovely! I'll have a look later. The children sit themselves on the mats in front of the altar and they all look so beautiful with their lovely smiley faces that I wish I'd brought my camera, just to record that moment!

As our service begins Olivia and her cousin Daniel are fast asleep, watched over by Granddad Ted but they don't miss out because the noise of our singing and the jingling of our bells soon wakes them up. When we've sung "Candletime" and lit our special candles, the children help me to tell the story of Noah's Ark. They each have an animal to

look after and to put safely into the Ark before the rains come. And we sing about frogs and worms and caterpillars and butterflies and good old Mother Hen because they must all have been on the Ark, mustn't they? And later our naughty little sheep reminds me that there must have been sheep on the ark, too. I think he's a bit cross because I forgot to mention that. Oops! And we thank God for being with us in good times and in bad. And we thank Him for sending Jesus to be our Saviour. And Joseph remembers that, when Noah and his family and all the animals are safe on dry land, God puts a beautiful rainbow into the sky. Clever boy! As we come to the end of our service Grace really wants us to sing, "My God is so Big so Strong and so Mighty." So of course we do, twice, with lots of arm waving actions. Oh what fun!

And then it's time to put the kettle on and bring out the toys. Our naughty little sheep and his friends have a great time watching the children play and he gets a sneaky cuddle with Isabelle when it's time to go home. We've really enjoyed our time together and our naughty little sheep and I are please that so many took the trouble to come out in the snow to join us. Lets hope that the snow has disappeared when we meet again on 10<sup>th</sup> February and everyone will come along again, bringing their friends. P.S. The snowmen are great!! Well done Grace and Mollie!

God Bless.

*Rosemary Austin*

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## Shipwrecked!

A Man is shipwrecked. When he wakes up he is on a beach. He looks around and sees that the sand is dark red, he cannot believe it, the sky is dark red as well. He walks around a bit and sees that there is dark red grass, dark red birds and dark red fruit on dark red trees. He is more shocked to see his skin turning dark red as well.

"Oh No" He says. "I Think I Have Been Marooned".

# Choir



We have said our fond farewells to Gwyneth as Organist and Choir Director.

We all enjoyed singing the Christmas Music and members of the congregation said that they enjoyed it as well.

A new era has begun and we welcome Jackie as our new Choir Director and Organist. We were pleased to welcome Andrew to our group of Tenors in the Choir before Christmas.

The junior members of the Choir are doing well. There will be opportunities for choir members to be involved in RSCM courses during the months to come.

Jackie has got us working hard already !! Work has already begun on new Music. Anthems are being learned and looking ahead there will be Easter Music to concentrate on before too long.

*Pam Kilby*

## GARDENING TIPS FOR FEBRUARY

The weather has been really dreadful, the earth is all far too wet and too cold to do much in the way of gardening at all.

Enjoy your flowering indoor pot plants, make yourself a nice cup of tea or coffee, look through your plant and seed catalogues and maybe watch "Gardener's World" on TV.

In a few weeks time, the weather will be better, you will be able get outside and tidy everything up ready for action.

ADAM

# Music at Christ Church

# Music Group

With Christmas and the snow (hopefully) long gone we are looking forward to Spring and have begun looking at new songs with Lent and Easter in mind. If you would like to join us we would be pleased to see you at our rehearsals on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays of each month at 8pm.



*Gill Campbell*



Henry is making a real effort for Lent - He's giving up the remote control and walking to the TV.

## CCADS



CCADS have started rehearsals for their Spring production, which will be on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. The play is a two act comedy by Hugh Janes, entitled Two of a Kind. Although we have cast the play, if you are interested in helping backstage we would love to see you! We meet every Friday in the Church Hall at 8pm.

*Gill Campbell*



**Girlguiding**

*girls in the lead*



3rd Milton (St.Faith's) Brownies and Guides and 11th Milton (Christ Church) Brownies are putting up a display about the Guiding Centenary, at the back of the church. Ready for the

second Sunday in March.

If anyone has any photos, uniform, camp blankets, badges or anything about Brownies and Guides they would lend to us we would be very grateful. We will need them for the first Sunday in March at the latest, please.

Please give them to Kathryn Lynch or Julie Hill

Thank you

Kathryn Lynch Guide Leader



## 1st Windmill Scout Group



Welcome to Sue Livett who has taken over as Beaver Scout leader. Sue is being supported by Richard Painting (Scout Leader) and an excellent team of enthusiastic young people. As part of their programme the Beavers are visiting Christ Church during February to complete their Faith Badge.

In the November 2009 Parish Magazine I asked the following question:-

The new Chief Scout is a well known television explorer. If you know who it is - send your answer to the editor.  
Email to: [ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop](mailto:ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop)  
Or leave in the pigeon hole in church.

On a recent visit to the Beaver Colony I asked the question I posed in the magazine and am please to report that at least 5 Beavers knew the answer:  
Bear Grylls



The Youth Club which meets on a Sunday evening during term time is looking for new adult help. If you feel you could spare one Sunday evening a month or would be willing to run a special activity occasionally please let us know.

Contact Ian Brown, John Thrush, Sue Brewer or speak to someone at church.



# SOUPA LUNCH PLUS!

After the 10 am service on 28th February, there will be a delicious lunch of homemade soups, pate, cheese and cakes.



This is a great opportunity for the whole church family, young and old, to get to know one another over a meal.

During the interval between church and lunch, we welcome **Jo Marshall** from Christian Aid, who will tell us something about Christian Aid's current projects.

Tickets available - £5 for adults, £3 for children under 10 .....  
Proceeds to Christian Aid.

Please note there are a limited number of tickets available, so get yours NOW!



An old story tells how, after Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden of Eden, it began to snow.

As Eve wept, an angel assured her that spring was on its way.

To prove it, the angel touched some of the falling flakes, turning them into white flowers - the very first snowdrops.

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families  
Meetings - all welcome

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the DEC Haiti appeal. £382 was raised from personal donations, and we have sent an additional £263 in the name of the PCC, making a total of £645.

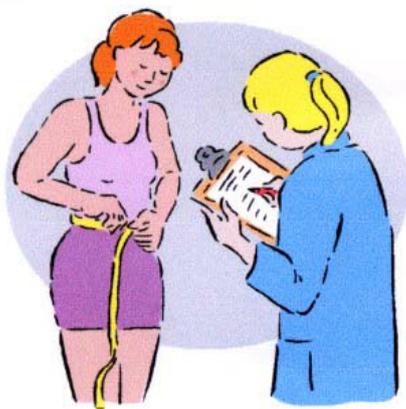
- 3rd February - AGM
- 3rd March 7.30pm Lent course at St Mary's Church
- 14th March 10am Mothering Sunday Service
- 25th March - Lady Day



# Seroptimist International of Gravesend & District

Invite you to mark

## International Women's Day and Explore Women's Health Issues



Speakers on  
Osteoporosis  
Mental Health  
Screening Programmes

Saturday 6th March 2010

Riverside Resource Trust,  
Dickens Road, Gravesend

10.00 a.m. To 2.00 p.m.

Registration 9.45

Entrance: £2 includes coffee / tea  
and biscuits  
Bring a packed lunch

Contact: Sheila Knight  
By 22nd February  
To book your place.  
01474 564234

# HOLY BAPTISM



|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> November  | Kacie Louise Janet Parker<br>Sophie Rose Anne Parker<br>Rowan Paul Russell Roswell<br>Harvey Michael Omasombu Olenga |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> November | Olivia Alice Knott   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> November | Evie Martha Williams   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December  | Roanne Jenny Louise Ludlow   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> December | Tom William Knowles<br>Riley Steven Tyler  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> January  | Robert Ian Batcheldor<br>Lewis Harvey Nicholls   |

# REST IN PEACE



|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10 <sup>th</sup> October  | Joan Kingsbury             |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> November  | Wilfred George Pounce      |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> November | Edna Blanche Wood          |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> November | Lynne Cross                |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> November | Kathleen Payne             |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> November | Alan Henry Cooper          |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> November | Olive Joyce Blackman       |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> November | Gwendoline Joyce Cheeseman |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> December  | Claire Beatrice Appleton   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> December  | Daisy Ethel Breen          |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> December | Edmund Henley Wright       |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December | Peter John Stone           |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | John David Rudman          |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> December | Thomas Henry Church        |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> December | Joan Marion Bunstone       |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> January   | Clifford Dennis Field      |

*Julie Hill*

Highlights this month !

# All-Age Service Ash Wednesday

# February

|   | 7  | 14  | 21   | 28  |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Sunday</b><br>      | 8 am Service<br>10 am Holy Com-<br>munion with prayer<br>for healing<br><br>Youth Club   | 8 am Service<br>10 am All-Age<br>Service<br>4 pm Evensong<br>Youth Club -<br>Angelspace<br><br><small>Chinese New Year of the Tiger</small> | 8 am Service<br>10 am Service<br><br>Youth Club                        | 8 am Service<br>10 am Service<br><b>SOUPA LUNCH<br/>           PLUS!</b><br><br>Youth Club  |
| <b>Monday</b><br>      | 1<br><br>Cubs<br>Brownies  | 8<br><br>Cubs<br>Brownies<br>Music Group  | 15<br><br>Cubs<br>Brownies   | 22<br><br>Cubs<br>Brownies  |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>    | 2<br><br>Candle Mass   | 9   | 16<br>SHROVE TUESDAY   | 23  |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br> | 3<br>Open Church<br>after 10am service<br><br>Guides<br><b>MU AGM</b><br><br><small>Christian care for families</small> | 10<br>Open Church<br>after 10am service<br>First Steps<br>1:45pm<br><br>Guides  | 17<br>ASH WEDNESDAY<br>Open Church<br>after 10am service<br><br>Guides | 24<br>Open Church<br>after 10am service<br><br>Lent course starts at<br>St Mary's<br>Guides |
| <b>Thursday</b><br>  | 4<br><br>Beavers<br>Brownies<br>Choir Practice   | 11<br><br>Beavers<br>Brownies<br>Choir Practice   | 18<br><br>Beavers<br>Brownies<br>Choir Practice                        | 25<br><br>Beavers<br>Brownies<br>Choir Practice   |
| <b>Friday</b><br>    | 5<br><br>Parent<br>& Toddler<br><br>Office Hours<br>Scouts   | 12<br>Maha Shri va<br>Parent<br>& Toddler<br><br>Office Hours<br>Scouts   | 19<br><br>Parent<br>& Toddler<br><br>Office Hours<br>Scouts            | 26<br><br>Parent<br>& Toddler<br><br>Office Hours<br>Scouts                                 |
| <b>Saturday</b><br>  | 6  | 13  | 20   | 27  |

# What happens at Christ Church?

## Sunday Services

8.00 am Holy Communion (said)

10.00 am Communion with crèche & God's Gang

On the 2nd Sunday "New Look" All-Age service

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

Wednesday

After the 10 am  
service

## 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)

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

