



# CHRIST CHURCH

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND



**PARISH MAGAZINE**

**August 2015**

Are you featured in one of our photo pages of parish events from July

**See pages 9 through to 15**

Donation or

**40p**

Scan the smart code below to go to our web site



Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next month Sunday, 19 August for September  
 Copy: email to:-  
 ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk  
 Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt

## Inside this Month

Page 2	Who's Who
Page 3	New group for C of E
Page 5	First Steps
Page 6	Bar - B - Q
Page 7	Coffee Rota
Page 9	Walking - David Croydon
Page 10	Over 80s party
Page 12	1960s Dinner
Page 14	Semiquavers in concert
Page 18	Mothers' Union
Page 21	Calendar for August
Page 24	Teddy Bears Picnic

**Christ Church Hall is available for hire**  
**Contact Rachel Pace**  
**01474 249508 or 07960 024917**  
**Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and childrens parties**

## Who's Who at Christ Church

[www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Sue Brewer</b>	<b>352643</b> suec@brewer86.plus.com
<b>Associate Priest</b>	<b>Jacqueline Littlewood</b>	<b>560106</b>
<b>Assistant Curate</b>	<b>Karen Seggie</b>	<b>362654</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Pam Kilby</b>	<b>332693</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Jasmine Humphries</b>	<b>249106</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Colin Parsonson</b>	<b>359713</b>
<b>Church Warden</b>	<b>Jan Osborne</b>	<b>740763</b>
<b>Church Warden</b>	<b>Andy Nailor</b>	<b>564581</b>
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Linda Riordan</b>	<b>746988</b>
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Steve Humphries</b>	<b>249106</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Rosemary Austin</b>	<b>358702</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Sheila Brown</b>	<b>356339</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>John Hougham</b>	<b>352138</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Betty Martin</b>	<b>352696</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Martin Sewell</b>	<b>745443</b>

# **New group to develop sustained increase in vocations**

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have appointed the Bishop of Guildford, Andrew Watson, as chair of the new Vocations Working Group - set up as an outcome from the Resourcing Ministerial Education, RME, report. It will provide stimulus and encouragement for the

Church of England and its dioceses in seeking to widen and deepen the development of vocations to ministry and leadership.

The Vocations Working Group will take forward the output from the consultation process and debate in synod, to develop a medium term strategy to achieve a sustained increase in vocations as a whole. The membership will be drawn from expertise in the Dioceses and regional representatives will also be appointed to help the flow of ideas and create real momentum across the Church.

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# **God's Gang teachers needed**

Is God calling you to join our team of God's Gang teachers? No experience needed – if you think this might be you, then have a word with Revd Sue Brewer or with Sheila Brown, and you will be

welcome to observe some sessions, or assist the present leaders.

There is a rota of helpers – the commitment is for no more than one session a month.

We have a growing number of children in church and want to offer the very best to nurture their spirituality and help them to know that they are a valued part of God's church. We value our children and their teachers and leaders as an important part of God's mission in this place.



**Have you had a look on the Traidcraft table recently?**

**We have some new items for sale. You might see something that takes your fancy.**

**If there is something you would like to try but is not on the table have a word with David Williams**



# SHORNE CHURCH OPEN DAY

Monuments, brasses, old furnishings and medieval architecture are what most visitors are looking for in country churches. St Peter and St Paul at Shorne has all of these. The building has examples of all periods of architecture from Anglo-Saxon to Perpendicular in the 15th century. Unfortunately, like many churches in this area, it is locked when it is not in use.

On Saturday 12th September it will be open from 10 am to 6 pm for anyone to visit and see what it has to offer. In the morning you can guide yourself round using a free leaflet. In the afternoon there will be guided tours at 2, 3 and 4 pm. These are free and there is no need to book. Afternoon teas will be served from 2.30 to 5 pm.

This coincides with the national Heritage Open Days and the Friends of Kent Churches 'Ride & Stride'. You can get further information from Andrew Moffat 01474 822280 or [aimoffat@btinternet.com](mailto:aimoffat@btinternet.com) or from our web site [www.shorneparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.shorneparishchurch.co.uk).

Sandy and Ted wish to thank everyone for supporting their "Cuppa for a Cause", they are delighted to announce that a grand total of £1425 was raised for their supported charity



Twenty years service award

## Margaret Davies

### Reflects on "The Hospice"

I have been privileged to work for the hospice two mornings a week for twenty years.

Just one of the committed men and women volunteers.

We have seen many changes. Having started with one doctor and six beds, now having a team of doctors and fifteen beds.

Despite all the changes we have carried on enjoying the challenges.

One thing has never changed, that is the loving care and commitment of the whole nursing team! That is constant.

To me it will always be known as "The Hospice"

# FIRST STEPS

8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2015

## THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Our naughty little sheep is a bit disappointed to see grey skies when he gets up this morning. It is our First Steps service today and he does love to see the sunshine. The weather still seems changeable as our naughty little sheep, his friends and I walk up to church. There is the odd glimpse of blue sky but those clouds look rather threatening. In we go and the animals make themselves comfortable at the front of the church again. They do so love watching the children, it's their favourite thing, they tell me. Our naughty little sheep and the glittery dragon climb carefully onto our little altar. That is their favourite place, it seems! When everyone is sitting comfortably and we're all ready, I open the doors and we wait to see who will come and join us. Today Chloe is in first, closely followed by Mum Sarah and little brother Jack. It's lovely to see them. Others begin to arrive and soon we have a lovely, lively noisy crowd. Our naughty little sheep and his friends are really pleased to see everyone.

When everybody is settled and the jingle bells are ready, we light our candles and our service begins. We are lighting a very special candle for a very special lady, Katie, who went to be with Jesus two years ago tomorrow. She is very much loved and very much missed and our candle is a reminder of what a bright and beautiful light she was and still remains for all of those who love her.

Today we are thinking about the Good Shepherd. It's a special request from our naughty little sheep. It's one of his favourite Bible stories. He wants us to sing "Baa, Baa Black Sheep" too, and so we do, twice! We hear that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who loves his sheep very much, indeed; so much that he is prepared to lay down his life to protect them. Isn't that amazing? And he knows them each

by name. If we listen very carefully, we can hear him calling our name, because we are his sheep, too and he is always looking after us. He protects us from anything that would hurt or harm us, helping us to face the difficult times of life.

Our pianist, Anne has taken the day off so we're singing unaccompanied, which is a bit of a challenge! We sing, "My God is so big" and "The Father himself loves you" both of which require lots of arm waving. It's great fun! Our naughty little sheep and his friends are having a lovely time waving their arms about, too. (or is it legs?) It's quite a sight! We thank God for our beautiful world and for His great love for us. We thank Him for coming alongside us in Jesus to be our Good Shepherd. And we sing "Baa, baa black sheep" again for good measure!

As usual everyone is very good and quiet for our prayers, as we thank God for bringing us together and for the fun that we are having. Then we say the special prayer that Jesus taught us. Finally we have another special candle to light, this time for new baby Samuel. His Mum Julie has brought him along for the very first time. It is a special "Welcome to the world, little boy" candle! Then with our service at an end, we all go into the hall for time to play, to chat and to have a well earned drink and a biscuit. As usual our naughty little sheep and his friends are at the front of the queue. Then they make themselves comfortable so that they can watch the children play. As always we have had a lovely time together, in spite of the rather changeable weather. Our naughty little sheep whispers that he hopes lots of people will join us on 12<sup>th</sup> August when we will be having our Teddy Bears' Picnic. We hope that the sun will join us, too!

**God Bless, Rosemary Austin**



# CHURCH FAMILY BBQ

WELCOME TO ALL

OF THE CHURCH



ALL WELCOME  
PLEASE COME

# God's Gang in August

During the five Sundays of August there will be no formal 'God's Gang' teaching for the children. Instead we will keep the services fairly short and include music and other items to engage the children in the congregation. On 9th August the sermon will be an 'all-age' talk and the service particularly 'child friendly', and the Church family BBQ will take place after the service.

If children become restless and parents need to give them a bit of space, some activity sheets and colouring materials will be laid out in the hall – please feel free to use these at any time. No supervision will be provided – parents need to supervise their own children at all times when they are in the hall.

## Praying Together

As the East Gravesend cluster of churches begin to co-operate more in mission

and ministry, it is important that we also take regular opportunities to pray together. On every weekday except Monday (when all the cluster clergy take their day off), either Morning Prayer or Evening Prayer will be said somewhere in the three churches of the cluster. Everyone is welcome to these prayer services, which last about 20 minutes.

### Tuesdays

Morning Prayer 8am at St Aidan's Church

### Wednesdays

Evening Prayer 5.15pm at Christ Church

### Thursdays

Morning Prayer 8.30am at Holy Family Church

### Fridays

Evening Prayer 5.15pm at Holy Family Church

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## Thank you

To everyone who came to support the 1960's Dinner and Entertainment you all helped to make this a great event and raised £875 which will be shared between Ifield School and Christ Church

## COFFEE ROYA 2015

- 2 Aug Jill Godwin, Annie Southwick, Tim Mcarther
- 9 Aug Kay Page, Susan Wilkins, Rosemary Austin
- 16 Aug Colin Parsonson, Linda Parsonson, Sarah Bush
- 23 Aug Sally Higgins, Jerry Higgins, Annie Southwick
- 30 Aug Pauline Marks, Margot Edwards, Angela Kirby



**Come in and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee after the 10.00 o'clock Sunday service**



# **GRAVESHAM FOOD BANK**

**Many thanks to those who support the food bank.**

Below is a list of items required at the moment

**Milk (UHT) - Custard**  
**Toothpaste - Hot chocolate**  
**Shampoo - Sweets/treats**  
**Breakfast cereal (not porridge) - Marmite**  
**Fruit juice/squash - Toilet roll**  
**Sponge pudding - Deodorant**  
**Tinned potatoes - Laundry liquid/tablets**

This list is only a few of the items that can help those less fortunate than ourselves, any tinned or non-perishable items are most welcome

## **BIBLE NOTES**

Some people find it useful to have a set portion of the Bible to read each day.

The Bible Reading Fellowship have a booklet called "New Daylight" which sets out a short Bible reading and explanatory notes. These booklets are priced at £4.30 (they do go up each year) for a four month period.

If you would like to try one of these booklets please let Julie Hill know.

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## *Volunteers needed.....*

'We always need volunteers... the church runs because of the generous service of volunteers.

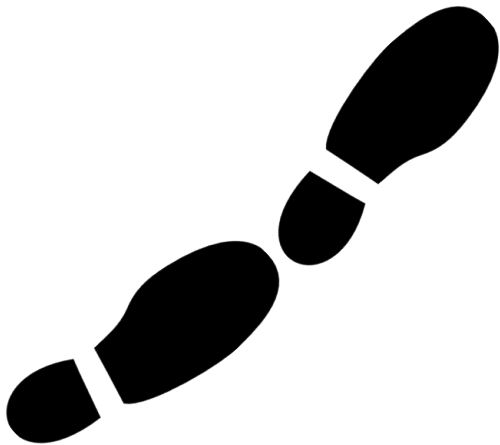
If you have time and enthusiasm to spare but you are not sure where your talents can be used,

Sue would be glad to meet you for a cup of coffee and to talk through possibilities.



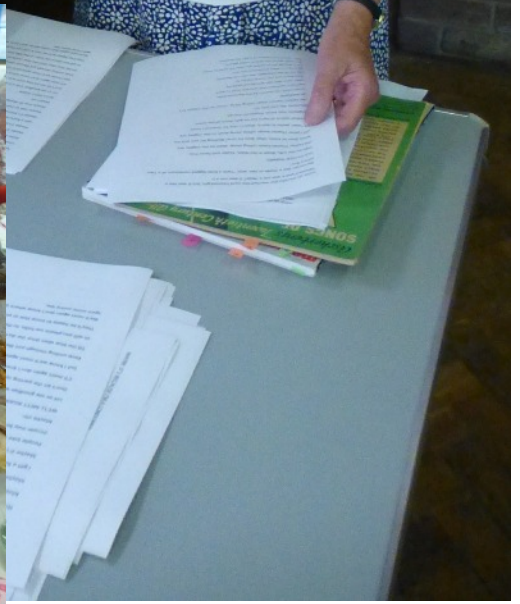


David Croydon pictured with supporters on his walk around historic Kent



**MERCHANT NAVY DAY**  
**Thursday 3 September 10.45**  
**Bawley Bay Royal Pier Riad**





First Steps

## FIRST STEPS

First Steps

Is a service especially designed for families with pre-school children, although all children in the family are welcome to come.

We meet in the church at 1.45 pm on the second Wednesday in each month for a short service and then to enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

We are finished in plenty of time for parents to meet their other children from school.

Why not come along with your children, you will be very welcome.

**Next date is Wednesday 12 August.**





**Pages 10 and 11**  
**A few pictures taken at the joint "Over 80s" and Mustard Seed annual tea party**









**Two pages of pics from the 1960s Dinner Evening**

**This page, top, Jeremy and Sue Brewer, Ann and Ray Green, David and Martin, Sue with Jacqueline. Page 12, Ifield Guests, Ian Brown, Steve Humphries, Glynne and Peter Chittenden with guests**



Semiquavers choir pictured at the recent concert with the Mayor of Gravesham Cllr Mike Wenban and his escort.

Below young choirist entertain a packed church





# Young members of the parish being welcomed to The Lord's Table



## THE MUSTARD SEED

THE Mustard Seed aims to provide an informal and friendly tea at 3.00 pm on the third Thursday of every month in Christ Church hall.

It is a venture that offers the opportunity to meet new friends and reminisce about old times.

The Mustard Seed, as the parable says (Mark4; 3-32) is very small - like dust - but has the potential to develop into one of the largest plants.

Please join us as we plant the Mustard Seed and assist to make it flourish. Who knows what may happen!

The Mustard Seed is in its second year now, and the next gathering will be on **Thursday 20 August**. You are so welcome.

**For further details please contact any member of the pastoral care team. Pastoral assistants Pam Kilby, Colin Parsonson, Jasmine Humphries.**

# What will motivate you to become a volunteer?



**Volunteers are essential to the support that we give to victims of crime.**

As a Victim Support volunteer, we will train you to support victims from the first time you meet them until they feel strong enough to move forward on their own. You will listen to their concerns and make sure that their needs are met.

**For more information contact the Service Delivery Team on 01233 896423/01233 896422 or register your interest by sending an email to:**  
**[kentvolunteering@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:kentvolunteering@victimsupport.org.uk)**

**[www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)**

Registered charity number 298028

Registered address: Victim Support, Hallam House, 56–60 Hallam Street, London W1W 6JL



# WORKING PARTY

'In order to save on expensive cleaning and maintenance, we hold a monthly working party on a Saturday morning starting at 09.30.

Together we clean and tidy the church, do a bit of necessary DIY or gardening, have a coffee and often some home-made goodies – and finish by about 11.30.

We are enormously grateful to the few loyal helpers who turn up month after month – but we desperately need a few more.

Please consider putting the dates into your diary and coming along. All are welcome – if you can do basic DIY please let us know in advance so that the churchwardens can plan jobs in advance.

**Working party is almost always on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month...**

**NOTE the next one will be on 9 AUGUST at 9.30.**

See you there, **Sue**

## PEACE CANDLE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE THAT WENT BEFORE

You may well have seen the 'Peace Candle' that was used at the WW1 commemoration service on 4<sup>th</sup> August, now in the sanctuary. The candle will remain in place throughout the 4 years of commemoration and will be lit at each Sunday and Wednesday service, as a reminder to us all to pray for

peace in the many areas of conflict throughout the world. When you see the candle, please remember to pray for those caught up in conflict.

The sign near to the candle records the areas of conflict most in our prayers at any given time (though there are other 'hidden' conflicts that rarely appear on our televisions). If you would like an area of the world added to the list, please speak to Revs Sue or Jacqueline.





# **Do you or members of your family have any interesting stories from World War 1**

As part of the national commemorations of WW1 we are looking to reproduce stories that congregation members might like to submit of their relatives, or local men, who engaged in the conflict!

If you have a family story, perhaps with a photograph of the person you are writing about that you would like to be considered for inclusion in an edition of Christ Church magazine over the next four years please let Sue Brewer or Mike Cubitt know.

We are hoping to get enough copy to enable a different story to be produced in the magazine during the four year anniversary period.

All photographs will be returned, but please mark on the back your name and address.



**Members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACs) tending the graves of fallen British soldiers in a cemetery at Abbeville in 1918.**

## **Exciting Youth Choir in Gravesend**

If you are aged between 7 and 17 and enjoy singing then come along!

- Join a friendly group of singers
- Learn great music of different styles and
- Perform at concerts and services

**For further information visit**

**[www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)**

- **Or call 01474 534517**

## **Join the**

semiquavers

**Youth choir in  
Gravesend**

**We meet weekly for  
Rehearsals**

**at Christ Church**

**Tuesday evenings**

**6.15 pm to 7.30 pm**

**Chalk Village and Parish – its story in pictures  
(Illustrated talk)**

Speaker: Christoph Bull

**On: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015**

**At: TJ's public house, 15 Milton Road, Gravesend DA12 2RF**

**Starts: 7pm**

Cost: £7.50 – includes buffet and first drink as well as the talk

Booking via TJ's on 01474 533891

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**Some Gravesham Characters – famous and forgotten  
people who made Gravesham's past (Illustrated talk)**

Speaker: Christoph Bull

**On: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**At: Reliance Fish Restaurant, Queen Street, Gravesend**

**Begins: 6pm for meal followed by the talk**

Price: £14 includes meal and talk

Booking essential – Reliance Restaurant 01474 533593

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**Guided tour of the Heart of Gravesend and County  
Court building.**

Guide: Christoph Bull

**On: Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**Meet: Outside Gravesend Library, Windmill Street,  
Gravesend**

**Begins: 1pm**

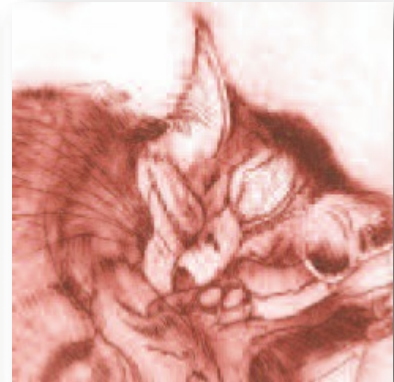
FREE event – part of Heritage Open Days – no need to book.

Information: Liz Read 01474 320123



# Gravesend Art Group

Annual Exhibition 2015



St Andrew's Art's Centre,  
Royal Pier Road, Gravesend,  
Kent

**Saturday 29 August to Sunday 6 September**

*Open 10am to 6pm 29 August - 5 September - 10am to 4pm 6 September*

[www.gravesendartgroup.co.uk](http://www.gravesendartgroup.co.uk)

**Admission Free**

# 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 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




Registered Charity no. 1130741

## Regular activities and youth organisations

There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily	Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)	
Monday	Music Group; Brownies	
Tuesday	Cubs and Semiquavers	
Wednesday	Guides; Mothers Union (1st Wednesday)	
	First Steps (under 5's and carers) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm	
	Ifield Ladies (every third Wednesday)	
Thursday	Beavers/Brownies; Choir Practice:	
3.00 p.m.	Mustard Seed (every third)	
Friday	Scouts; Parent and Toddler	
Saturday	Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)	

# CALENDAR AUGUST 2015

<b>Sunday</b> 	30 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	2 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	9 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 12.30 Family B-B-Q	16 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	23 08.00 Service 10.00 Service
<b>Monday</b> 	31 08.00 Service	3 08.00 Service	10 08.00 Service	17 08.00 Service	24 08.00 Service
<b>Tuesday</b> 		4 07.00 Service  <b>18.15 Semiquavers</b>	11 07.00 Service  <b>18.30 Semiquavers</b>	18 07.00 Service  18.15 Semiquaverss	25 07.00 Service  <b>CUBS Semiquavers</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 		5 10.00 Service <b>13.45 First Steps</b> <b>17.15 Evening Prayer</b> 19.30 Mothers Union	12 10.00 Service <b>17.15 Evening Prayer</b>	19 10.00 Service <b>17.15 Evening Prayer</b>	26 10.00 Service <b>17.15 Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 		6 07.00 Service  Choir practice	13 07.00 Service  Choir practice	20 07.00 Service 15.00 Mustard Seed  Choir practice	27 07.00 Service  Choir practice
<b>Friday</b> 		7 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours	14 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours	21 HALL CLEANING 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours	28 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours
<b>Saturday</b> 	1 08.00 Service	8 08.00 Service <b>Working Party</b> <b>09.30</b>	15 08.00 Service	22 08.00 Service	29 08.00 Service



Come and join us

# THE TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

in the Church  
on Wednesday 12th  
August at 2.00



Don't forget to bring your Teddy with