

**Oh
come
let us
adore
Him**



**PARISH MAGAZINE
December 2015**

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Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next month Sunday, 26 December for January

Copy: email to:-
ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk
Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt

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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

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

Christ Church brings JOY to families at Christmas

Once again thanks to the generosity of Christ Church community a record 64 shoeboxes have been delivered to the Blythwood depot for SE England. The shoeboxes will now be checked, a bible story book or Christian calendar added and the lorry packed for delivery. This year for the first time we know exactly where our shoeboxes will have gone. By the time you read this, the lorry carrying our boxes (and many more) will be on its way to Serbia, where Blythwood have had a presence since 2002. Some of our boxes will be given to the families of refugees from the Balkan Wars as they have for many years, but although most of these have now become integrated into Serbian life, many are still living in extreme poverty.

The second group of boxes will go to Syrian refugee camps.



As you open your presents on Christmas Day, spare a thought for the children and adults fortunate enough to receive a Blythwood Shoebox and the JOY that will bring.

Happy Christmas and Thank you.

Veronica.

COFFEE ROVA 2015

- 29 Nov Rita Smith, Sheila Knight, Jean Stoddart
- 06 Dec Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Bianca Mcarth
- 13 Dec Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Jill Sampson
- 20 Dec Jill Godwin, Annie Southwick, Dorothy Oliver
- 27 Dec Pauline Marks, David Williams, Angela Kirby



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



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

**Just a few of the attendee snapped at the
coffee morning held at the end of
October in the church hall**



FIRST STEPS

**11TH NOVEMBER 2015
JESUS AND HIS FRIENDS.**

My goodness the early mornings are getting dark aren't they? It's barely light and our naughty little sheep is already gazing out of the window, trying to see what the weather is like! It's an obsession with him! It seems to be cloudy and dry at the moment which is probably about the best that we can hope for in November! Our naughty little sheep and his friends did enjoy the fireworks at the weekend. All those bright coloured lights shooting up into the sky, twinkling like bright jewels. They all thought that they were magical! They didn't even mind the loud bangs; they're very brave!

Back to today and it is still cloudy, but dry and breezy for our walk up to church, and there are lots of leaves on the ground. The trees will soon be completely bare; very wintry! Into church we go and everyone makes themselves comfortable for our First Steps service. When everything is ready we open the church doors and wait patiently for our friends to arrive. First in is Grandma Barbara with Cecily, who is wearing a very pretty dress. Others soon join them and we have our usual lively noisy crowd. How lovely! With jingle bells at the ready our service begins. Today we are lighting a happy candle because Brennan has got a new baby cousin, named Abigail Elizabeth, born on Bonfire Night. We say, "Welcome to the world, baby girl!"

Today we're thinking about Jesus' special friends, the disciples. We remember them all by name, Simon (Peter), Andrew, James, John, Nathaniel, Matthew, Philip, Thomas, James the son of Alpheus, Simon the Zealot, Judas the son of James and Judas Iscariot. Aren't there some excellent names there? Our naughty little sheep knows how important it is to have friends and how special they are to him. Jesus' friends are very special to him, too. They may just be ordinary people like us but he knows that they have each got their own special

talents. He has chosen them carefully and he loves them very much. We sing about the people that we love and we thank God for them, knowing how special they are to us. We remember that Jesus is our friend, too. He has chosen us and that is why we are in church today. He has called us here, to sing and pray together and share this special time. We sing about our wonderful world, with its mountains and rivers and starry skies. We sing about Jesus' love for each one of us. Our naughty little sheep and the glittery dragon are jiggling about on our little altar, careful to keep away from the candles and their friends are having a great time too. There is some excellent jingling going on; Chloe and Jack are jingling up a storm!

Everyone is very good and quiet for our prayers; you could hear a pin drop, if you happen to drop one! We thank God for the many blessings that He gives to us each day, and for our happy time together. Then we say the special prayer that Jesus taught us. Brennan comes up to blow out the special candle for his baby cousin, and our service is over. It's time to go into the Hall for our refreshments. Our naughty little sheep and the glittery dragon race into the hall but for some reason their friends decide to stay in the church. I think that they're worn out with all that jiggling and arm waving.

In the Hall we have our tea and special cookies, yum! Our naughty little sheep and the glittery dragon sit and watch the children play. It's lovely too, to see the Mums, Grannies, Granddad and Dad happily chatting. We always have such a good time together and we hope that everyone will come along for our next First Steps service on 9th December when we will be telling the Christmas Story once again. It's a story we never get tired of hearing! Wishing you all a very happy Christmas from all at First Steps.

**God Bless,
Rosemary Austin**





HOLY BAPTISM

- 20th September Sophie Jane Sylvia Couzens
Matthew Christopher Chester
Charlotte Faye Chapman
Phoebe Elizabeth Chapman
- 4th October Roman Charles Buss
Lydia Florence Downton
Esmé Marissa Newlyn
- 18th October Junior Dean George Whiffin
Princess Mia Natalie Whiffin
Isla Grace Farrell
Alfie Paul Michael Vernon Terrence Fifield
Michael Trevor Addison-Doughty
- 1st November Albert Lennon Robson

HOLY MATRIMONY

- 26th September Lewis John Cooper and Witney Jade Knowles
Grant Graham Curties and Amy Lorraine Kelly
- 16th October Christopher David Wood and Alice Sarah Jones

REST IN PEACE

- 3rd September Horace Victor Spencer
- 10th September Peter Grenville Hainsworth
- 12th September Peter Gretton
- 14th September Patricia Rouse
- 19th September Derek Beighton
- 26th September Robert William Charles MacArthur

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.

CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday 6th December
from 3.30 p.m.

CHRISTINGLE

a magical start to Advent for all the family, with craft activities, oranges, sweets and candles

Saturday 12th December 4.00p.m.

ELLENOR HOSPICES LIGHTS OF LOVE SERVICE

Friday 18th December
Meet 7pm in Church

COME AND SING!

Carol singing around residential homes in the parish,
finishing at The Windmill Pub

Sunday 20th December 6.30 p.m.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Followed by mince pies and mulled wine

CHRISTMAS EVE 4.00 p.m.

CRIB SERVICE

– A Service especially for children.

Bring presents for the children at the women's refuge

Come dressed as animals, angels, shepherds or wise men

CHRISTMAS EVE 11.30 p.m.

MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY

HOLY COMMUNION

8.00 a.m. & 10.00 a.m.



MRS FINCH - Church Caretaker



Peter Shearan has published a book with the above title about a real-life lady who acted as church caretaker in Christ Church one hundred years ago. Her life began in 1835, when King William IV was on the British throne, and when stage coaches were a common sight passing through Gravesend; through the Great War; and only ended when she died at the age of 85, by which time she had witnessed many of the marvels of today's life (aeroplanes, motor cars and buses, and electric light to name only a few). Peter has woven the tale of what he has found to have been a remarkable woman around all the known facts: through doing so he has come to know her well (although he wishes he had known her personally!). His book will be on sale from the end of November, price £10. All proceeds from the sale will be going towards a planned commemoration of WWI in Autumn 2016.



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

COPY FOR THE MAGAZINE

This is your magazine, and every effort is made to include items supplied by you, our readers.

The one thing that would be most helpful, when submitting copy, is that you e-mail this rather than put a typed sheet on the hook in church.

As I am not a touch typist, it takes considerable time to re-type any copy and is open to me making errors. **Send copy to the address on page 2 by 20th of the month, or speak to Mike Cubitt - 07840343831**

The only German to escape from Britain

Gunther Plüschow (February 8, 1886 – January 28, 1931) was a German aviator, aerial explorer and author from Munich, Bavaria. His feats include the only escape by a German prisoner of war in World War One from Britain back to Germany;

Escape from London

On May 1, 1915, Plüschow was sent to a prisoner of war camp in Donington Hall in Leicestershire. On July 4, 1915, he escaped during a storm and headed for London. Scotland Yard issued an alert, asking the public to be on the lookout for a man with a "dragon tattoo" on his arm. Disguised as a worker, Plüschow felt safe enough to take souvenir photographs of himself at the London docks. He occupied his time by reading books about Patagonia, and at night he hid inside the British Museum.

For security reasons, no notices were published announcing the departure of ships, but a lucky encounter with another of his lady friends allowed him to obtain the information to board the ferry Princess Juliana, sailing for the neutral Netherlands. He arrived safely and finally reached Germany, where he was at first arrested as a spy since no one believed he could have accomplished such a feat. To this date Plüschow is the only German combatant during the two World Wars to escape a prison camp in the British Isles.

Return to Germany

Once he was identified, Plüschow was acclaimed as "the hero from Tsingtau". He was decorated, promoted, and



assigned command of the naval base at Libau in occupied Latvian Courland. In June 1916, in an airplane hangar at Libau, Plüschow married. He also wrote his first book, *The Adventures of the Aviator from Tsingtau*, which sold more than 700,000 copies. In 1918, his son, Guntolf Plüschow, was born.

1918 was a year of profound crisis in Germany. In November, Wilhelm II, German Emperor, was forced to flee to the Netherlands as his nation dissolved into chaos. In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was imposed on Germany by her victorious enemies, and several military and civil revolts took place. Kapitänleutnant [lieutenant commander] Plüschow refused to participate. Instead, at age 33, he reluctantly resigned from the Reichsmarine.

Christingle

at Christ Church

Sunday 6 December at 16.00

Arrive at 15.30 for craft work in the hall a magical start to Advent for all the family, with oranges, sweets and candles

The meaning of Christingle: the orange represents the world God created, and the sweets all the good things in God's creation. The candle represents Jesus, the light of the world, and the red ribbon the love of Christ for his world

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 2nd Saturday of each month...

NOTE the next one will be on 19 December at 9.30.

See you there, **Sue**

Relax with three good films!

Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas ... a good time to think about the things that really matter in life. Why not take a break to ponder by watching a film in good company?

Members of the East Gravesend Churches will be gathering on three Wednesday evenings in Advent at St Aidan's Church to watch three thought-

provoking films, with an opportunity to chat about them afterwards. All the films are less than two hours long.

Gather 7 – 7.30pm for hot drinks or mulled wine, film showing from 7.30pm. Bring your own snacks or alternative refreshment.

The films are:

Wed 2nd December 'Baghdad Café'

Wed 9th December 'Whale Rider'

Wed 16th December 'My Sister's Keeper'

East Gravesend Group Advent Course



Come, watch, reflect and share!

St Aidan's Church

Wednesday 2nd, 9th and 16th December 2015 @ 7:30p.m.

FROM RECENT EDITION OF “IN REVIEW”

Resourcing Ministerial Education: Future Funding Model for training ordinands

The original 12 proposals presented at Synod in February 2015 have been revised significantly in the light of the consultation earlier this year with dioceses and Theological Education Institutions (TEIs). Further consultation with dioceses and TEIs on the revised proposals is now taking place, with a view to

recommendations reaching the House of Bishops and Archbishops' Council in December.

A report is expected to be presented at Synod in February 2016, with a view to implementation from September 2017.

Growing Vocations

Following a review of Diocesan vocations resources, a new working group chaired by the Bishop of Guildford, Andrew Watson, has concluded that greater support would increase candidate numbers. A plan is now being developed across dioceses to encourage vocations opportunities with a particular focus on the Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme (CEMES).

Facilitating Lay Leadership

In September the Archbishops' Council established a working group on lay leadership reflecting the desire nationally to increase participation by lay members of the Church. The group is chaired by Matthew Frost, a lay member of Archbishops' Council and will report back in September 2016.

Nurturing and Discerning Future Leaders

The main themes of this work are developing confident leaders and evangelists and collaborative teams, both lay and ordained; refining management skills to oversee resources, structures and people; and developing a diverse pool of those who may be called to posts of wider responsibility in the future.

A GRAVESHAM ARTS PRODUCTION

Saturday 19th December 2015

"Hello Sailor!"

SPARKLE PARTY

Adam Hoffman

Rosy Apples

ooer why not make a night of it...

featuring Adam Hoffman & Rosy Apples with Rat Pack style swing singing, amazing magic & tantalising burlesque!

St. Andrew's Arts Centre, Royal Pier Road, Gravesend

7.30 for 8pm yachts/carriages at 11pm

• Indian Fusion Vegetarian supper • Bring your own drinks • Nautical dress optional!

Tickets £25 from Claire Brown 07805 477973

Or via 'contact us' at graveshamarts.co.uk



Gravesham Arts





A moments silence as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor along with council staff and members of the public at Town Square Gravesend on Monday 16 November, remembering the people killed in Paris at the weekend



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Thank you

**Next year
October 26**

We hope you enjoyed catching up over coffee and cake as much as we did. Who knew that raising money for a great cause could be so delicious?

Thank you all at Christ Church this year's Coffee morning has been the scrummiest yet.

The £311.46 raised will make a real difference to the lives of people facing cancer, offering them vital support, at one of the toughest times in their lives.

Together we're making sure that no one has to face cancer alone, so thanks again for making such a difference.

Kath Blaize-Smith



Leslie Bance

Long time member of Christ Church congregation, Leslie Bance sadly passed away early on Sunday morning 15 November.

For many years Leslie was Church Treasurer and a long serving member of the PCC.

Away from church, he was a vice-president of Gravesend Rugby Club and member of The Rugby Union Supporters Society (TRUSS)

The funeral, conducted by Joe King, will take on Wednesday 2 December at 11.45 at Christ Church followed by a service at Medway Crematorium at 13.15, Stephen P Gay Funeral Service.



Gravesend Borough band present a

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Gravesend Old Town Hall, High Street, Gravesend

Thursday 17 December 19.30 (doors open 18.45)

Admission £5 all proceeds in aid of the Mayor's Charities

FREE MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE



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Gravesend, Kent
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01474 569070

CHILDREN IN NEED



The BBC One Show Rickshaw Challenge pictured on the last leg of their route across England. This year's team covered a 470-mile journey from Land's End to the East End to help fundraise for BBC Children in Need.

Here pictured by Anne Thrush as they went past the clock tower in Milton Road on 13 November

*ellenor.**

Saturday 12 December 16.00

LIGHTS OF LOVE SERVICE

at CHRIST CHURCH

Christmas time can be a very difficult period for those who have lost loved ones. The Ellenor organise services throughout December which give people an opportunity to remember someone who has died.

Bazaar success despite the attempts of our great British weather to put people off from turning out to support this important fundraising annual event at Christ Church





A church warden caught on camera with a quick cup of tea before the bazaar opened its doors



Not forgotten the men of the Merchant Navy remembered during a service held at Bawley Bay on Sunday 8 November



TWO DAY
Festive Market
& CONCERT

FRIDAY 4 DEC 12 - 8PM | **SATURDAY 5 DEC 10 - 6PM** | **COMMUNITY SQUARE GRAVESEND**

JOIN US FOR
FAMILY ACTIVITIES
OVER 60 STALLS
TOP MUSIC ACTS
FOOD & DRINK

Gravesham Borough Council | HRC NORTH EAST COLLEGE | #FOTS

Another year on and once again the townsfolk of Gravesham turned out in their hundreds to mark Remembrance Sunday at the war memorial in Windmill Gardens on 8 November. The service was led by Rev Jacqueline Littlewood



THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION





REMEMBRANCE DAY

Wednesday 11 November
 at Gravesend Town
 Square, Councillors, the
 Mayor of Gravesham,
 veterans from WW2 and
 other more recent
 conflicts, along with
 members of the different
 services join with
 members of the public to
 remember the fallen
 during two minutes
 silence



* Left at Denton Memorial



Guides on parade

3rd Milton (St. Faith's) Guides have been working on a Poppy Challenge Badge. They have made poppies out of felt, decorated cakes with poppy icing on the top. Acted out the story of the poppy and acted out "What Girl Guides, did during the War,"

Which was a surprise to us and probably you, Guides in the Wars, helped by knitting, digging out for shelters, to carrying messages for M15. Polish Guides help take food to Concentration Camps and helped children escape!

We took part in The Remembrance Parade and visited the Cenotaph to read the names of people from Gravesend. We also had Mr Harry Green and Priest Jacqueline come to visit to see what we had been doing for the badge, and enjoyed hearing from them about the Poppy story and Guides shared stories from their family's and showed War Medals.





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 third year now, and the next gathering will be on **Thursday 17 December**. You are so welcome.

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



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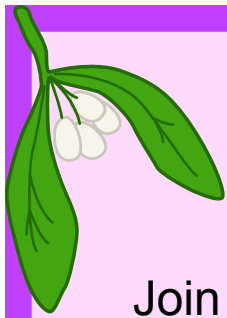


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Janette Parker
07904608013

Ref: SO776

Thomas Sanderson
An expression of individuality



New Year's Eve Party



Join us at a party here at church specifically for family members to celebrate the new year together

This is for everyone, young and old. There will be food, music and a children's entertainer

Tickets are priced at £10 for adults and £1 for children
Last call on tickets will be 29 November

19.45 start and a 00.30 finish



For more details or to put in a music request early, contact debbie-101@hotmail.co.uk with REQUEST in the subject header



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Email: swans@xln.co.uk



**80 Parrock Road, Gravesend
Kent DA12 1QF**

01474 569070

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.

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 9 December.

OASIS BOOKSHOP

Emmanuel Baptist Church Windmill St Gravesend

01474 568498

oasisebc@hotmail.com

Come and browse Mon-Fri 10.00 - 14.00

Saturday

12 and 19 December 10.00 - 13.00

BOOKS AND CARDS * MUSIC * DVDs * JEWELLERY * ORNAMENTS

Closes 23 December and re-opens 4 January 2016

Grim Gravesend-A guided walk around the seamy side of old Gravesend

On: Tuesday 8th December 2015

Guide: Christoph Bull

Meet: 6.30pm on Community Square, outside Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend

This event is free and has light refreshments provided afterwards at True Hairdressing, High Street

No need to book, just turn up – information: Christoph Bull
07702287147

This is a Gravesham Borough Council sponsored event to celebrate Christmas in Gravesend.

Gravesend in Christmases Past – historical guided tour of the Heritage Quarter with a Christmas flavour

On: Saturday 19th December 2015

Guide: Christoph Bull

Meet: 6.30pm outside Gravesend Library, Windmill Street, Gravesend

This event is free and has light refreshments provided afterwards at Marie's Tea Room, High Street

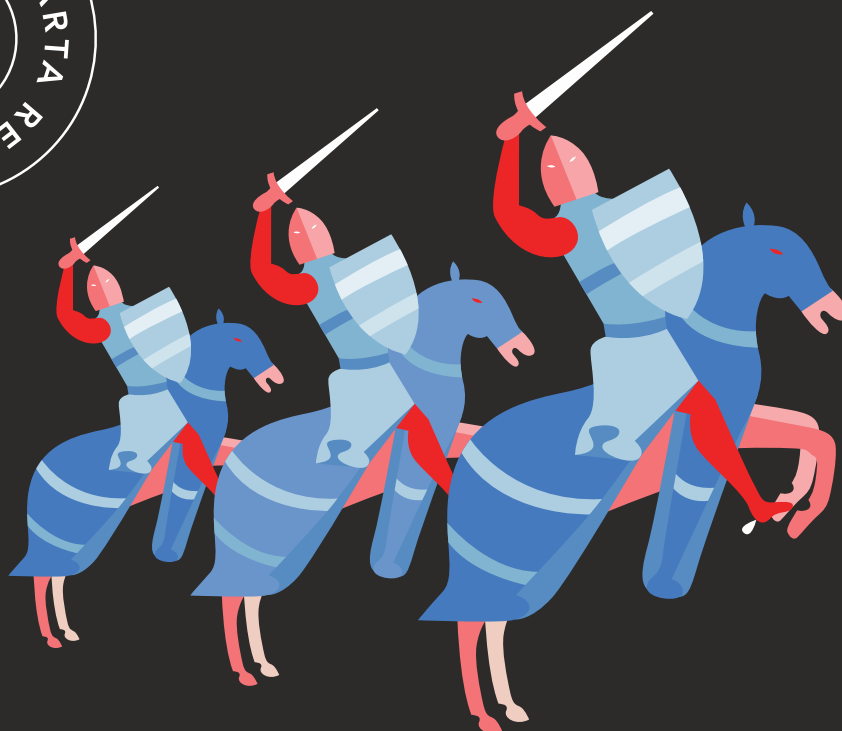
No need to book, just turn up – information: Christoph Bull
07702287147

This is a Gravesham Borough Council sponsored event to celebrate Christmas in Gravesend.

| FAVERSHAM'S MAGNA CARTA GRAND TOUR ACROSS KENT |

1215 – Magna Carta – 2015 Rediscovered

| KENT UNVEILS ITS HIDDEN TREASURE |



| MAGNACARTAREDISCOVERED.CO.UK |

| 10 OCTOBER — 6 DECEMBER 2015 |

Lady Chapel, Rochester Cathedral

| FREE ENTRY TO CATHEDRAL AND EXHIBITION |

Rochester Cathedral, The Precinct, Rochester, Kent ME1 2PY

10 am - 4 pm Monday to Saturday, 12 noon - 4 pm on Sunday

Times may change due to Cathedral Services & Events - www.rochestercathedral.org

Groups must book in advance: e-mail bookings@rochestercathedral.org - tel. +44 (0)1634 843366





The annual service to commemorate

St Andrew

will be held on

Monday, 30th November at 11.00 a.m.

in St Andrew's Mission Church/Arts Centre,

Bawley Bay, Royal Pier Road Gravesend

ellenor.⁺

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 28th November

10am- 3pm Coldharbour Rd

Come along and have some festive fun at the fair! ellenor are holding their annual Christmas Fair with many different stalls for you to come and browse through.



Bring the little ones to meet Santa and his elves, sing along to some Christmas classics and have an all round jolly time!

Tickets cost £1 for adults and entry is free for Children.

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

- **Or call 01474 534517**

Join the

semiouavers

Youth choir in Gravesend

We meet weekly for

Rehearsals

at Christ Church

Tuesday evenings

6.15 pm to 7.30 pm

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)	



Soroptimist International of Gravesend & District

Quiz Evening

A Fun Evening on Saturday 9th January 2016
7.00 for 7.30 p.m. Prompt Start.

At Christ Church Hall, Old Road East, Gravesend. DA12 1NR

Proceeds
to support our Link Club
Freetown, Sierra Leone
£5.00 entry per person

Raffle

Teams -
Maximum
6 in each

Bring your
own Snacks
and Drinks

Admission by Ticket only

✂
Soroptimist International Gravesend & District – Annual Quiz – Saturday 9th January 2016

Please let Pamela Debnam know how many Tickets are required (Admission by Ticket only)

Contact Name Tel No.....

Total Number attending

Return to Pamela Debnam, by 2nd January to Rosemount, 22b Old Road East, GRAVESEND Kent, DA12 1NQ

Tel 01474 329342 Fax 01474 354203 Mob 07913 680231 E-mail debnam77@sky.com

PLEASE INCLUDE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE AS TICKETS MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE — SEATING IS LIMITED

Launch of Character Education report

There is no such thing as a neutral education, states a discussion paper published by the Church of England, which explores what character education should look like in schools.

The paper, from the national education office, also suggests that development of character must be far more than the traditional virtues of grit and resilience – essential though these maybe – and should see the development of intellectual, spiritual, moral and physical attributes as equally essential. It adds that education is not just about producing increasingly efficient economic units: it is about developing people who can flourish in all areas of their lives.

Speaking at the conference on character education, the Bishop of Ely, Stephen Conway, Chair of the Board of Education said: “We need an expanded and expansive vision which does not restrict our hard-won freedoms but which invites us to be committed fellow citizens of developed character and loving purpose.”

Important notice

‘Services after Christmas’

Boxing day – no services

Sunday 27th 8am and 10am Holy Communion

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 28 - 29 - 30 - 31 no services

Friday 1st – 10am Holy Communion

Saturday 2nd – no services

January 3rd – back to normal.

Sanctuary

Sanctuary is the name given to a project to provide a shelter for the homeless in Gravesend town during the worst of the winter months. It is being run by City Praise Centre and Gravesend Methodist Church in association with Gravesham Churches Together. For more information please visit our website at:

www.graveshamchurchestogether.org/sanctuary

The response has been a real indication that this project is God inspired and He has placed a desire within the heart of His people to fulfil the commission to 'find the lost and feed the hungry'.

If you want to help out but haven't yet completed an application form, then you can do this on-line by going to the website below

http://www.graveshamchurchestogether.org/.../Sanctuary_Enquiry

Sunday 20 December 18.30

A Service of Lessons and Carols

(During this service, there will be an opportunity to remember loved ones who will be missed this Christmas)

Followed by mince pies and mulled wine



CHRISTMAS EVE 16.00

CRIB SERVICE

– A Service especially for families.

Bring unwrapped presents for the children
at the women's refuge

CALENDAR DECEMBER 2015

Sunday 		6 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 15.30 for 16.00 CHRISTINGLE	13 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	20 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 18.30 service of lessons and carols	27 08.00 Service 10.00 Service
Monday 		7 08.00 Service BROWNIES	14 08.00 Service BROWNIES	21 08.00 Service	28 NO SERVICES
Tuesday 	1 07.00 Service 18.15 Semiquaverss	8 07.00 Service CUBS 18.30 Semiquavers CONCERT	15 07.00 Service CUBS 18.30 Semiquavers	22 07.00 Service	29 NO SERVICES
Wednesday 	2 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer 19.30 Mothers Union	9 10.00 Service 13.45 First Steps 17.15 Evening Prayer	16 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	23 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	30 NO SERVICES
Thursday 	3 07.00 Service Choir practice	10 07.00 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	17 07.00 Service 15.00 Mustard Seed BROWNIES Choir practice	24 07.00 Service 16.00 Crib service 23.30 Midnight Mass	31 NO SERVICES
Friday 	4 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours	11 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	18 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	25 08.00 Service 10.00 service with carols	1 January 10.00 NEW YEARS DAY HOLY COMMUNION
Saturday 	5 08.00 Service	12 08.00 Service 09.30 Work party 16.00 Ellenor Lights of Love	19 08.00 Service	26 NO SERVICES	2 January NO SERVICES

Christmas Concert

Tuesday 8th December 2015 @ 6.30 pm

Christ Church

Adults £3 Children Free

Call Gill for tickets 01474534517

