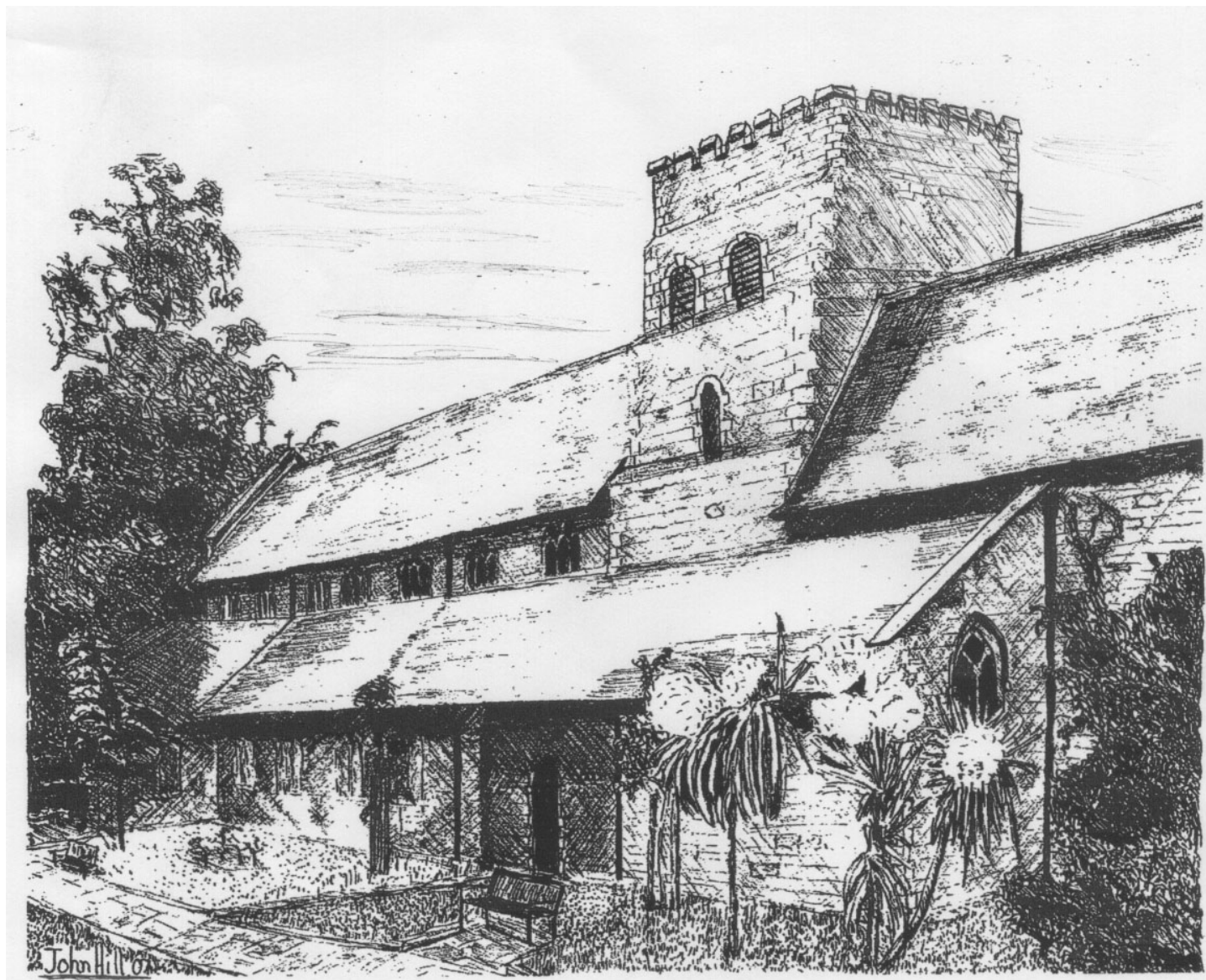


CHRIST CHURCH

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE



John Hill 2007

April
2008

| Who's Who at Christ Church | | www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Vicar | Sue Brewer | 352643 suec@brewer86.plus.com |
| Hon. Ass. Priest | Jacqueline Littlewood | 560106 |
| Hon. Ass. Priest | Peter Wibroe | |
| Church Warden | Christine Sewell | 745443 |
| Church Warden | Peter Shearan | 566215 |
| PCC Secretary | Julie Hill | 568265 |
| PCC Treasurer | Lawrence Aspinall | 361718 |
| Reader | Rosemary Austin | 358702 |
| Reader | Sheila Brown | 356339 |
| Reader | John Hougham | 352138 |
| Reader | Betty Martin | 352696 |
| Reader | Martin Sewell | 745443 |

Deadline for March magazine: Sunday 20th April.

Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden,
or email: 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.



Welcome



Welcome to the April magazine. Firstly a big thank you to Carly Brown who Guest Edited the March magazine (also the first to go online – check out our web site). Carly has also helped in preparing this month's magazine. St George is the Patron Saint of England and this month Gravesham will be celebrating his day on the 23rd with a parade through the town of many school children who have designed and made costumes with the help of a professional artist. On Sunday 27th April Scouts from Graveham will lead the annual St George's Day Parade starting 2:30 pm from the St George's Shopping Centre, the Mayor of Gravesham will take the salute in King St. before an open air service at Fort Gardens, when all Scouts will renew their promise.

On Saturday 12th April the Sikh community celebrate the beginning of the Sikh New Year with The Vaisaki Festival. A parade through the town starts at the Temple in Clarence Place at 11:30 am and makes its way through the town before returning to Clarence Place at 2:45 pm. In this issue we have a fairly lengthy piece about The Global Village, please take time to read it. We live in a world where everyone matters and what we can do locally will help globally.

Locally we start our regular feature about local people and businesses, starting this month with Janet Waite and The Sewing Shop.

Ian Brown Apr 08

A message from Aly, the young person Christ Church sponsors in Palestine.

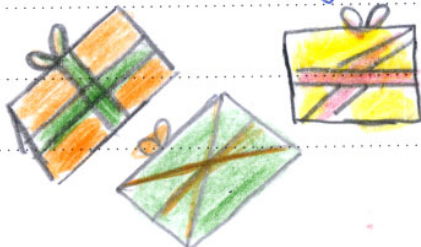
Child's First Name: Aly
Full Reference No: 145.469/cas/043
Sponsor's Name: Mrs J. A Hill



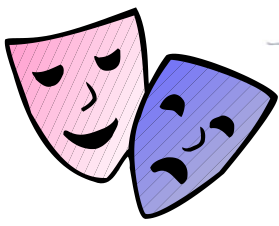
أحب الأعمام
لقد احتفلنا بعيد الميلاد ونرسله بابا خويلد ووزع
الهدايا فحنا به كثيرا "غينا وروصنا"
نورا راجح
على - على

Dear Auntie,

Aly hopes you're well, he informs you how much he was happy during the xmas party, santa claus surprised the students and offered them the gifts. Best wishes for you Aly thanks you for your love & help.



God bless you on behalf of your child Aly Teacher.

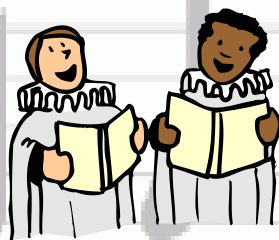


CCADS Spring Production

Yes folks CCADS are at it again and before you know it their Spring Production will be here. This time with a farce (deliberate they say) entitled "The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery". Yes, that is the title of the play not the entire script. A mystery calculated to challenge the cerebral capabilities of both audience and cast. If you would like to share in the dastardly terrors and twists that our police force has to cope with today, book now. The production dates are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 24th 25th and 26th April. Tickets for this fun filled family entertainment are available from Gill Campbell on 01474 534517

Choir Music at Christ Church Music Group

Gwyneth and the Choir would like to thank you for your support for Passion Sunday and Easter-Day. The Choir put in many hours of practice to achieve a high standard of singing and it is rewarding to see that so many people appreciate it.



The last four weeks have been busy, but enjoyable, learning six new songs for Mothering Sunday and Easter. We will be including them on the 2nd Sunday over the next couple of months so they will become familiar to us all.

We are now practising the Music for the Confirmation and then start preparing for Pentecost. Next on the list will be Choir Sunday. Choir Sunday occurs during the summer, usually July. Members of the Choir choose the music, the Anthems, hymns and the settings for the 10 am Communion Service.

With Easter over we shall be returning to our usual pattern of two rehearsals a month, and although we will be learning more new songs they will be learnt at a more leisurely pace.



The Wedding season is now upon us so Saturday become busy days for us.

Our web page is still developing and we still would be happy to hear of any ideas or suggestions you would like us to consider including.

We would like more singers to join us - especially if you are a tenor or a bass! If you are interested speak to Gill Campbell, either in Church or telephone her on 01474 534517

Visit the Christ Church Website :
www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

Pam Kilby Mar 08

CHRISTCHURCH CHOIR
 IS AFFILIATED TO THE
 "ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC"

Christchurch sits firmly in Echo Square and we are going to investigate this over the next few months by interviewing people whose lives make up this community; starting with

Janet Waite at The Sewing Shop.

How long have you been at Echo Square?

I moved here from Singlewell Road in 1998.

Why did you choose Echo Square?

For size and economic reasons. We had outgrown our premises in Singlewell Road; this gave us more space and living accommodation over the shop. Also my mother lived in St. Mary's Close before the new bungalows were built, and my children went to The Convent, so it felt like 'home'.

What can you tell me about the building?

Well, it's very old. I have photographs of it in 1908 and 1926 as a sweet shop and the frontage is exactly the same. In 1908 there was a post office opposite and one shop beyond this one (away from the square) then it was fields and the only traffic in the photo is a cyclist and a pedestrian. It was empty for 5 years before we bought it and we have extended into the next building now.

How many staff do you have?

Myself and 1 fulltime and 5 part time staff. I am very lucky that they are all great and we work happily together as a team.

What do you offer to customers?

School wear: we have gone from just supplying St. George's School in 1998 to supplying 20 schools now. We stock all uniforms, sports boots, school bags, name labels... we aim to be a one stop shop for the schools. We do go into the schools regularly to hold open days. We also stock haberdashery, do alterations, repairs, tailoring, embroidery and make curtains and soft furnishings and can supply sewing machines.

We open from 8.30 in the morning as parents often come in to buy trousers or a sweat shirt for their child to wear for school that day!



What is it like running a business in Echo Square?

It is very much a community. We supply things to the wedding shop, the florists and they supply things for us. 'The girls' buy their lunch at the cafe over the road and we all use the supermarket.

I noticed that you had a crib in your window at Christmas time.

Yes, I think it is very important that we continue our Christian traditions and tell the children the bible stories, as well as allowing other faiths theirs. We hear the children talking about the crib and the Christmas story as they stand at the window.

Do you feel Christchurch is a part of the community?

Well I do go when I can and it is a beautiful building with some wonderful paintings in it. It is amazing how it was moved from the old site. As most of the wholesalers are Jewish, I often have to visit them on Sundays. Christchurch isn't signed anywhere is it? There should be a sign post to Christchurch in the middle of the roundabout. Other places of worship have signs up.



www.kent-esites.co.uk/thesewingshop

Footnote:

Janet made me very welcome with a cup of tea, showed me around and as someone with an interest in sewing, I came away determined to make more use of what is obviously a very valuable local resource.

Sheila Brown Mar 08

Another funny from John Thrush.

A Mini-Cab Joke

A passenger in the back of a mini-cab wanted to ask the driver a question, so he leaned forward and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb, and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window. For a few moments everything was silent in the cab, and then the still shaking driver said "I'm sorry, but you scared the day-lights out of me."

The frightened passenger apologised to the driver and said he didn't realise a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten him so much.

The driver replied, "No, no, I'm sorry, it's entirely my fault. Today is my first day driving a cab. I used to drive a hearse."

Green Matter - The Global Village

Just because it is global does not mean we can forget our responsibility.

If we could shrink the current Earth's population of 6.6 billion to a village of 100 people, while maintaining the existing ratios, it would approximate to this:

- There would be 61 Asians, 13 Africans, 12 Europeans, 8 North Americans, 5 from South America and the Caribbean, and 1 from Oceania
- 6 people own 60% of the entire wealth of the village
- 18 struggle to live on US \$1 a day or less
- 55 struggle to live on US \$2 a day or less
- 43 live without basic sanitation
- 18 do not have an improved water source
- 13 suffer from hunger or malnutrition
- 14 cannot read
- Only 7 are educated to secondary school level

Source: http://www.miniature-earth.com/me_english.htm

from where a short presentation with more information can be viewed and downloaded.

Some of the major global environmental and natural resource challenges are:

Over-fishing

- One quarter of marine fish stocks are over-harvested, with 70% of marine fish species in danger of collapse by 2048.
- Fish consumption has double since 1973



Deforestation

- 20% of global CO₂ emissions come from tropical deforestation. The total tropical forest area continues to shrink at 5% per decade.

Agriculture

- Ecosystem loss has been driven by the need to increase food production. More land was converted to cropland in the 30 years after 1950 than in the 150 years between 1700 and 1850.

Fresh water

- Water withdrawal for irrigation, household and industrial use has doubled in the last 40 years.
- In the Middle East and North Africa, usage runs at 120% of renewable supplies.

Mangroves and coral reefs

- 35% of mangroves and 20% of coral reefs have been lost since 1980.

Biodiversity

- 12% of birds, 25% of mammals and 32% of amphibians are threatened with extinction over the next century.

Climate change

- If no action is taken to reduce emissions, the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere could reach double its pre-industrial level as early as 2035; virtually committing us to a global average temperature rise of over 2°C (the latest scientific work indicates that this is an underestimate). In the longer term, there would be more than 50% chance that the temperature rise would exceed 5°C. This rise would be very dangerous indeed; it is equivalent to the change in average temperatures from

- the last ice age to today. All countries will be affected. The most vulnerable - the poorest countries and populations - will suffer earliest and most, even though they have contributed least to the causes of climate change. The cost of extreme weather, including floods, droughts and storms, are already rising, including for rich countries.

The world's rural poor are especially vulnerable to degradation of their environments:

- Two billion people live in dry regions where food, water and livelihoods are threatened by desertification.
- 800 million people live in or around tropical forests.
- 70% of the one billion people living on less than \$1 a day are in rural areas where they are highly dependent on agriculture, grazing and hunting for subsistence.
- One billion people depend on fish as their primary source of protein, with over 60% living in developing countries in Africa and Asia.
- 200 million people live in coastal floodplains around the world, with those living in Africa, Asia and on small islands particularly vulnerable to flooding.

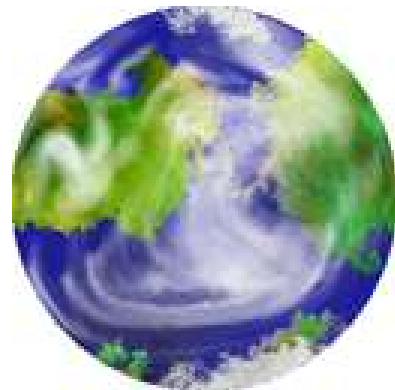
Sources: Climate change is from the UK government Stern Review (http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/stern_review_report.cfm.) The rest is taken from the recent report Green philanthropy by Bernard Mercer (www.philanthropycapital.org)

It is clear that the impact of environmental problems is often closely linked to issues of poverty, health, access to basic amenities and education. We cannot think 'global' does not affect us or is too big for us to understand. Much global change will only come about through the attitude and lifestyle changes of those of us who have both the privilege and responsibility of having more than enough and the power to care for or destroy the environment. Our change is another's life opportunity.

These key articles hopefully highlight many of the actions we can take. For example, we can take actions in our own lifestyles, e.g., reduce our carbon footprints, buy Fairtrade products, buy fish products certified by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC, www.msc.org/) and wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC, www.fsc.org/en/). We can also support charities like Tearfund (www.tearfund.org/), Christian Aid (www.christianaid.org.uk/) and Oxfam (www.oxfam.org.uk/) working to alleviate poverty and bring education and basic amenities to the poor of the world. Green Philanthropy lists many other charities that support relevant areas. There are, of course, many other pertinent local, national and global charities.

With thanks to Jane Winter of Church in Society, Maidstone and Ian Smith of Hildenborough for their help with this article, and to New Philanthropy Capital for permission to use information from Green Philanthropy.

Jan Drozd - Environmental Adviser
Society Matters December 2007



A Christian Spirituality Feast in Rochester Cathedral

Sunday 19th April 2008 12:30 - 19:00

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 12:30 | register & 'bring you own' picnic lunch (drinks provided) |
| 13:30 | Welcome |
| 14:00 | Workshops |
| 15:15 | Evensong or Personal space |
| 16:30 | Workshop |
| 18:00 | Taize style worship |

Feeding - Flowering - Fruiting - Feasting

More details in The
Rochester LINK

The Spirituality Network
Ministry and Training Department
Rochester Diocese

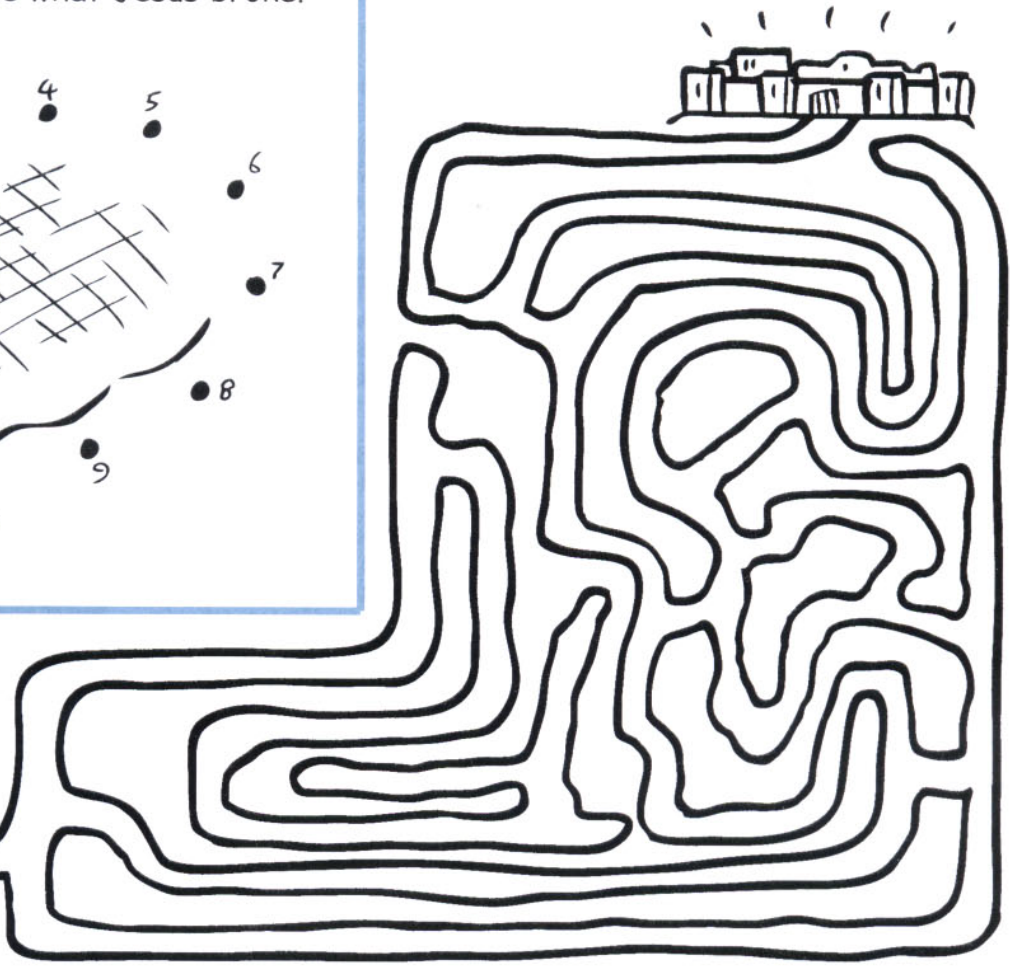
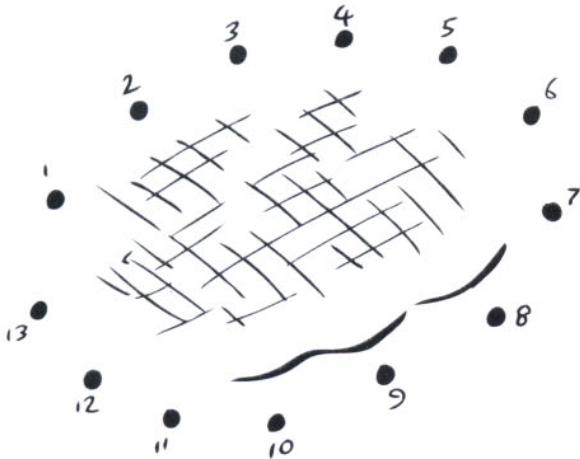
God's Gang

'Their eyes were opened and they recognized him.'

Luke 24.31



Join the dots to see what Jesus broke.



They started their journey in Jerusalem and finished having supper in Emmaus.

Can you colour the path to show which way they went?

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| d | u | s | d | r | b | h | w | a | e |
| n | e | q | e | r | n | d | e | g | s |
| o | k | n | e | y | a | o | n | g | i |
| s | p | a | i | o | e | i | k | o | n |
| u | d | e | r | a | k | s | x | s | g |
| p | g | u | n | l | l | t | j | a | o |
| p | t | y | a | e | p | p | d | d | c |
| e | s | t | a | y | d | t | x | s | e |
| r | e | k | o | r | b | n | w | e | r |
| v | i | l | l | a | g | e | t | o | j |

All the words below are hidden in this square.

Can you find them?

- bread
- eyes
- recognise
- stay
- two
- broke
- knew
- road
- supper
- village
- explained
- opened
- sad

Summer Fair 2008

Saturday 7th June at 2:30 pm.

To help make our Bumper Fair we need contributions to the stalls. A box will be placed at the back of the church on:-

Sunday 20th April – Bottles, Books and anything
YELLOW

Sunday 27th April – Videos, Tapes, DVDs and anything
YELLOW

Sunday 4th May – Toys, Puzzles, Games and anything
YELLOW

Sunday 11th May – White Elephant and anything
YELLOW

Sunday 18th May – White Elephant and anything
YELLOW

Sunday 25th May – Gifts, unwanted presents and anything
YELLOW

Sunday 1st June – Any of the above and anything
YELLOW

Cakes and Plants would be most welcome on the day.

Sheila Brown / Social Committee
April 08

Zen for Those who take Life too Seriously

How many of you believe in psycho-kinesis? Raise my hand.

OK, so what's the speed of dark?

How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?

If everything seems to be going well, you obviously overlooked something.

When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film.

If Barbie is so popular, why do we have to buy her friends?

Many Thanks to John Thrush for these thoughts.

Holy Baptism*Suffer little children to come unto me*

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 3 rd February | Connie Louise Tester |
| 17 th February | Danielle Louise Savage Chloe Ashley Vilday |
| 2 nd March | Harry Colin Brown |
| 16 th March | Oliver Stuart Atkinson |
| 23 rd March | Scott Lynch |

Rest In Peace*We commend to our Lord*

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 18 th January | Muriel Frances Stapley |
| 19 th February | Ivy Hilda Whitelock |
| 1 st March | Mary Gibbons |
| 29 th February | Anthony Stickells |
| 7 th March | Florence Obee |

**mothers union**

christian care for families worldwide

is holding a QUIZ NIGHT on
Saturday 17th May in
Christ Church Hall at 7:30 pm.

Come and test your brain for £3 per person.
Come by yourself or make up a team (8 people).
Bring your own refreshments, pay on the night.

Veronica Read

Host needed for Chernobyl children.

Volunteer host families in the Gravesend / Dartford areas are needed for children from Belarus who have been affected by the disaster at Chernobyl.

The children stay in the UK for a month and this builds up their immune system for up to 2 years. The dates this year are 25 July to 22 August. The ages are 8 - 12 years.

If you think you can offer a child a home for a month contact Malcolm Gourlay on 01474 332375 or Frances Outram on 01322 665727.

What's on this month?

April

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|---|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Highlights this month! St George's Day | | | | Choir Brownies Beavers | CCADS Scouts Office hours | Working Party |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Youth Club | Music Group 8 pm Cubs Brownies | Staff meeting 6pm | Guides | Choir Brownies Beavers | CCADS Scouts Office hours | Vaisakhi Festival |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Youth club | Music Group 8 pm- Cubs Brownies | | First Steps Guides | Choir Brownies Beavers | CCADS Scouts Office hours | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Youth Club | Cubs Brownies | Staff meeting 6pm | St George's Day Guides | Choir Brownies Beavers | CCADS Scouts Office hours | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| St George's Day Parade Youth club | Cubs Brownies | | Guides | | | |

What happens at Christ Church?

Sunday Services

For further information contact
the Church Wardens

8.00 am Holy Communion (said)

10.00am Communion with crèche & God's Gang

On the 2nd Sunday Uniformed Organisations parade

Evening Service - summer 6.30pm Winter 4.00pm

Weekday Services

Holy Communion (said)

Monday and Saturday 8am.

Tuesday & Thursday 7.00am.

Wednesday 10.00am

Office hours

Please note that Office hours are changing as of March. The new time is 6:30pm until 7:30pm but is still on a Friday.

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; Mother's Union (1st Wednesday)

First Steps for Pre-School 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