

#### CHRIST CHURCH MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND PARISH MAGAZINE



Who's Who at Christ Church	www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk		
Vicar	Sue Brewer	352643 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 April magazine: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March . Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden, or email: ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop

Inside this month's magazine Page 3 Welcome, Page 4 Hospice Coffee Morning dates Page 5/6 Stan Kemp Page 7 Letter from Blythswood Page 8 God's Gang Page 9 First Steps Page 10 Music and CCADS	Christ Church Hall is available for hire. Contact: Mrs Joan Bennett 01474 568585 Well equipped. Very suitable for meetings and children's parties.
Page 11 Guides, Scouts, Youth Club Page 12 Me by Tess Carlow Page 13 Walks Page 14 Candlemas by Betty Martin Page 15 Calendar Page 16 Back Page	<ul> <li><u>One-liners</u></li> <li>Everyone has a photographic memory, some just don't have film!</li> <li>Best friends are the people that know all about and still put up with you!</li> </ul>

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend

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Welcome to the March edition of the Parish Magazine. Those of you who were connected with the Scout Group in the early seventies will be sad to hear of the death of Stan Kemp - read Bob Duebel's thoughts of him on pages 5 and 6.

The Baden Powell organisations are going from strength to strength, to keep this going the Guides urgently need extra adult help (see page 11). Last month we said the Beavers had a new leader, this was not the whole story, see page 11 for more good news. On page 14 read Betty Martin's poem "Candlemas".

Fditor



Mothering Sunday

14<sup>th</sup> March

New look All Age Service with fresh flowers for Mums!



Working Party

The timing of the working party has been changed. Working parties will now take place on the second Saturday of the month.

On Saturday 13th March as well as cleaning and DIY, we also need as many volunteers as possible to make bunches of flowers to give to mums at the Mothering Sunday Service.

Do you send a magazine to an address in Aberdeenshire? Then please have a word with the editor.

### **Come and Pray!**

Make Christ Church a place of prayer this Lent. Pray alone, or in company; in church or at home; in silence or aloud – but pray!

The Warrior Chapel will be a special prayer space for us all to use during Lent – please make use of it, whenever you are in the building. In particular, please use it for praver before or after the Sunday morning service. (Please be mindful of those who might be praying there, and keep silence around that area). Every weekday during Lent, Evening Prayer will be said in the Warrior Chapel at 5.30pm. All are welcome – please come and join us. Sue Brewer





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

Cold Harbour Road 10 am to 12 pm

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 28th May

Friday 25th 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

### Open Day



Demelza House

28th Feb

Date: 11 March 2010 Hospice Care for Children Time: 10.30am - 3.00pm Venue: Demelza House, Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DZ

Come and have a tour of the hospice and meet the staff and volunteers. Please contact Tricia or Karen on 01795 845288 to register your place.

#### Wanted Car Drivers



We need some more drivers to bring those without transport to church on Sundays .. Once a week, once a month, or as a 'stand in'.

See Sue Brewer or Sandy Barden if you can help.

#### Sunday Morning Coffee Rota



7th Mar	Week 12	Sylvia Brown, Margaret Davies, Maria Watson <sub>C</sub>
14th Mar	Week 1	Mothering Sunday - "Men"
21st Mar	Week 2	Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Joan Bennett
28th Mar	Week 3	David and Shirley Whitehead
4th Apr	Week 4	Margaret Davies, Ian and Sheila Brown

Week 11

Maureen Fittell

Rita Smith, Jean Stoddart, Sheila Knight

#### Stan Kemp 1938 - 2010

Scouts from Gravesham and Ashford along with his friends from the Kent and East Sussex Railway gathered at Charing Crematorium on Thursday 18th February to celebrate the life of Stan Kemp. Stan was Cub Leader from 1967 and Group Scout Leader of Christ Church Scout Group from 1970 until 1979 and will be remembered for his work with dedicated parents to acquire the land in Sandy Bank Road from Medway Water Board and the building of the Group HQ 'The Waterhole'.

At his funeral Stan was remembered by Bob Duebel, who gave the following address:

#### Stan Kemp

It is a privilege to be invited today to say a few words about Stan's life in Scouting. I have known Stan through Scouting since the early ninety's, but really came to know him about 4 years ago through joining the Hopehill Campsite Service Crew. We quickly found we had common interests, Scouting of course, railways and electrical engineering the latter coming from Stan's work at Henley's and my own at Seeboard. I recall a really enjoyable lunch hour discussing the manufacture and merits of Henley Compound, whilst our colleagues I'm sure, wished they had taken their afternoon nap a little earlier.

Tea breaks and lunch breaks are one of the enjoyable aspects of being a member the Hopehill Service Crew and during these times some of Stan's past Scouting was revealed.

During the war Stan and his family were evacuated from their south London home at Hither Green and went to live in Bradford near where his father was serving in the RAF. Towards the end of the war Stan was old enough to join a local Wolf Cub Pack and so began his life-time of Scouting.

In due course Stan and his family returned to London where Stan continued his Cub Scouting by joining the 1<sup>st</sup> Hither Green Scout Group. Stan was not alone in his Scouting, his fa-

ther and two brothers were also involved in the movement. The 1<sup>st</sup> Hither Green Scout Group had originally met at the local Methodist Church, but this had been bombed out during the war and they were meeting in a church hall with large holes in the ceiling. Here a familiar theme starts to emerge, the Group was able to raise funds to build a new HQ near Hither Green Station. Stan continued with his Scouting at Hither Green becoming a Scout and then in the late fifty's he become a Cub Leader there.

Around this time, Stan started his career in the electrical industry working for Siemens at Woolwich where he met Jackie. In the early 1960's he took up the offer of a post at Henley's in Gravesend. Jackie & Stan moved to Gravesend and once they were settled there he naturally wanted to continue his Scouting. So he went along to his local Scout Group and made

himself known to Syd Prike, Group Scout Master at the 21<sup>st</sup> Gravesend, and in due course was appointed Cub Leader. Meanwhile, whilst supporting Stan with his Scouting, Jackie had offered her services to Guiding and was running a Brownie Pack of her own.

After a particularly boisterous Cub meeting Stan thought perhaps the time was ripe to try something new in Scouting and a short while later he was appointed Group Scout Master at the 21<sup>st</sup>.

The 21<sup>st</sup> met at St Faith's Hall in Central Avenue and the Group learnt that the site was going to be re-developed and that they would need a new HQ. Stan was able to get the local water company to agree to let the 21<sup>st</sup> build a new HQ on their land at Windmill Hill. After much fund raising the new HQ was built and the Group changed its name to Christchurch.

At the beginning of the eighties it was time for Stan to move on to greater things, he was appointed Assist District Commissioner for Cubs and during this time he met up with his good friend Gordon Carter. He then went on to be charge of District publicity.

In 1989 Stan was appointed Director of Hopehill on the retirement of Norman Hibben. It is in this capacity that most Scouters from Gravesham remember him best. There was a brand new building just 2 years old full of features left by the builders just waiting for Stan to come along and sort out. With such a large site and an equally large number of youngsters using it, there were so many things to break or wear out. An endearing memory to me, is of Stan in his white Foreman's boiler suit up a ladder at Hopehill sorting out something that just 'broke'.

When Stan was off duty, there was always a steady stream of phone calls asking for his help and guidance. Stan was always helpful to everyone who called and never gave the impression he rather you hadn't, even if the information was in the manual at Hopehill.

Around 2000 Stan & Jackie moved to Ashford to be near their family there and it wasn't practical for him to continue as Hopehill Director. But he and Jackie continued to help out as members of the Service Crew coming to Hopehill every Wednesday up until the time of his death.

Over the years Stan received many awards in recognition of his services to Scouting culminating in being made an Honorary Scouter in 2000.

Once Stan had settled down in Ashford he was knocking on the local District Commissioner's door offering his services. Such occurrences do not happen very often in Scouting and in no time at all Stan was appointed Ashford District Secretary and later the role of Training Administrator was added to his duties.

Stan once said to me that one of your top priorities in Scouting is to start training your successor as soon as possible, I have sneaking suspicion that in part this is how I have come to stand before you today.

Stan, there is one thing you should know before you move on. Do you recall that rather recalcitrant generator that you took home to impress upon it the merits of starting when required? Well, we had a word with it and it now sees your point of view, you will be pleased to know it now starts first time.

If you should find yourself camping at Hopehill in the future, please find time to raise a glass of your favourite milk shake in tribute to Stan, because all around you and probably beneath your feet will be some of Stan's handiwork still keeping the place going for you to enjoy.

At the end of Stan's committal we were invited to join in with singing "On The Crest of a Wave".

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32A Riverside 1, Sir Thomas Longley Road Medway City Estate, ROCHESTER Kent, ME2 4DP Tel: 01634 291411 Fax: 01634 296956 www.blythswood.org



January 2010

Mrs Read Christ Church (Echo Square)

GRAVESEND Kent

Dear Mrs Read,

As always, our request for help to fill shoeboxes for Blythswood Care's annual Christmas appeal was met with enormous generosity and enthusiasm. An incredible 122,000 gift boxes flooded into our depots and shops during October and November and were distributed in ten countries in Eastern Europe and Asia, these being Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, India, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania, Serbia, Sri Lanka and Ukraine.

Orphanages, special schools, hospital wards, care homes, gypsy villages and urban slums were all visited and gifts given out. In December it was a joy for Phil, Pete and I to take a group of thirteen to Serbia to visit some of the projects in which we are involved and to give out shoeboxes. We visited old folks' homes in Mataruska Banja and Kučevo (Koo-chevoh), gypsy villages on the outskirts of towns, a school and a childrens' club in Kraljevo, Centres where Internally Displaced Persons still dwell in 'temporary accommodation' eleven years after the conflict in Kosovo. Some of these folk have been re-housed recently but a great number are still living in dilapidated dwellings. When the opportunity arose we gave out Christian books and calendars with the gift boxes or left them with our friends and colleagues to hand out later. The older folk received a calendar, the teenagers a book entitled 'Reach Out for Him', which covered many different topics for which they could explore the Christian values and viewpoints and the younger children received a colourful bible story book. Each individual received these things in their own language of course.

We are so grateful for the many folk who took an active part in the shoebox appeal and for the very generous donations of time, talents, goods, money and prayer that we received. There are so many different ways in which people contributed and whatever the rôle – whether high profile or quietly in the background - it was instrumental in making the 2009 Shoebox Appeal the success that it was.

We send you our heart felt thanks

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June Tottman Regional Administrator Southern Area

Blythswood Care is a charitable organisation constituted in Scotland by Trust Deed. Scottish Charity No. SC 021848

Christian care for body and soul

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God's Gang



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#### 10th February 2010





service and, after our snowy service in January, our naughty little sheep and I were hoping for something a little warmer but no such luck I'm afraid. After a cold and sunny start to the day there are occasional snow flurries. Oh yuck! I do hope that all the lovely people who braved the snow last time will brave it again. Julie is coming out of retirement to help me set up today and Marian is going to be playing the piano for us because poor Anne has been really ill and so she's recuperating. Our naughty little sheep and I have been saying a special prayer that she will soon be feeling much better! We're very pleased to welcome Julie and Marian back for today; just like old times!

Julie and I have just got everything ready when Alison arrives with 10 week-old Abbie Elizabeth. It's their first visit to First Steps and it seems that Alison got the details from our website. Oh the wonders of modern technology! Very soon others come along to join us and before we know where we are, we've got a lovely, noisy, lively crowd in spite of the cold. Our naughty little sheep is really excited to see so many people, newcomers as well as much-loved regulars. We are going to have such a good time together! Mollie, very kindly, offers to look after our naughty little sheep while we sing, and tell our story. Let's hope that he behaves himself!

We begin by singing "Candletime" as we light our candles, including 5 special candles for 5 special people. And we sing "Happy Birthday" to Grace because she's going to be a big girl of 4 very soon. Our story today is about "The Good Samaritan" and we sing, "Share it round." because loving

Once again it is time for our First Steps e and, after our snowy service in ry, our naughty little sheep and I were g for something a little warmer but no uck I'm afraid. After a cold and sunny o the day there are occasional snow s. Oh yuck! I do hope that all the our neighbour means being generous with all that we have, and that includes our love. Next comes "Thank you God for the people we love." Because we are so lucky to have people whom we love and who love us. And we say "Thank you" to God for His generous, unending love for us.

In the story of "The Good Samaritan." Jesus teaches us who is our neighbour and some of our naughty little sheep's friends help us to act out the story, aided and abetted by some of the children. It's a sad story to begin with when a man is badly beaten and robbed but it has a happy ending when the Good Samaritan comes to the rescue. And we ask God to help us to be kind and loving like the Good Samaritan, even when we don't feel like it! And then we sing, "My God is so Big." Because He is!! And it's Grace's birthday soon and it's her FAVOURITE song! So we sing it twice with much jingling of bells and waving of arms! Oh what delightful children!!

And soon it's time to blow out the candles and make our way into the hall for refreshments and play. Our naughty little sheep and his friends are exhausted with all the excitement so they decide to stay in the church for a bit of peace and quiet! It's just as well because the children really enjoy their noisy play in the hall. As always we've all had a lovely time together and our naughty little sheep and I hope that everyone will be able to join us again for our next service on

the 10<sup>th</sup> March when we hope that spring will really be on the way and the snow will be gone at last. God Bless.

Rosemary Austin

# Music at Christ Church Music Group

At this time of year choirs are getting quite busy. Now we are in Lent we have the music for Passiontide to learn and practice. As a choir we are very aware that the music chosen for us to sing as a choir can really assist the devotions of the congregation during this special time in the Church' year. We try not to repeat the same settings year after year as it

is good to have a freshness in our music.

choir

We have settled down to having two new organists as well as Jackie and everything is working smoothly. We would welcome new members to the choir especially in the Junior section. Anyone who is interested need only to speak to Jackie our Choir Director after the 10 am service.

pam Kilby

#### GARDENING TIPS FOR MARCH

Daylight hours are getting longer, the temperature is rising with even the rain getting warmer. Spring bulbs are well through, Crocus are flowering this first week of March, and shrubs and perennials are showing life.

Even for the less enthusiastic gardener this month sees the beginning of the gardening year.

With the soil becoming drier as the month progresses and the weeds beginning to take over the beds and containers, it is essential that weeding commences. If the surface of grass areas is dry enough towards the end of the month, mowing should start, just taking the top off for the first two cuts then progressively reducing the height of cut to the required length in readiness for ADAM the Spring flush in April

With Spring just around the corner we are rehearsing for Easter. We are also learning some new songs to sing on the

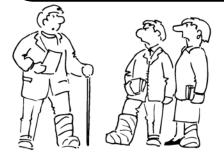


2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. If you can sing or play an instrument then why not come along to one of our

rehearsals on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday Gill Campbell of each month?

### Kent Male Voice Choir in concert

7.30pm Saturday 13th March at All Saints, Perry Street. Tickets £5 in aid of the Church Organ Repair. Contact 01474 329552 or 07903 2169111



OK - New strategy, this time we won't put our foot in the door

CCADS



CCADS rehearsals are in full swing for their Spring production, which will be on

April 29th and 30th and May 1st.

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

#### 3rd Milton Guides seek adults helpers!

Katheryn Lynch urgently needs assistants to help with the 3rd Milton Guides at

The Waterhole on Wednesdays between 6pm and 8pm. The Guides are going from strength to strength .. But to keep going they need adult helpers.

Do you know anyone who might be able to help? Then please contact

Girlguiding girls in the lead Or Sue Brewer



#### 1st Windmill Scout Group



More Good News

In the February magazine it was reported that Sue Livett (Keo) has taken over as Beaver Leader, but this was only part of the good news. Sarah Rawlinson aka 'Rusty' will work alongside her as joint Beaver Leaders.

#### All Age Service

It was good to see the Uniformed Organisations parade their flags at the February All Age Service.



Don't forget to look at the display at the back of the church to celebrate 100 years of Girl Guiding.



Artists in the Youth Club have been painting a special picture, which is being kept under wraps until Mothering Sunday. If you would like to see this masterpiece then come along to the **All Age Service** on Mothering Sunday 14th March.

The Youth Club attended AngelSpace at Rochester Cathedral on Sunday 14th February when the theme for the evening was

LOVE. This theme will be carried throughout the year . The Next AngelSpace is Sunday 11th July.

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

#### Me by Teresa Carlow

I began attending church regularly when my eldest son, now nearly 12, was baptised at Christchurch in Dartford. I have always had spiritual support around me since young, attending Sunday School at All Saint's Church in Perry Street (and being the Angel Gabriel in their nativity play, clearly forgetting my lines!), visiting various church venues with a school friend and finding my own church family while at Dartford. I was confirmed in my faith while at Dartford in 2003 by Bishop Michael Gear.

I ran the parent and toddler group there for three years, until I decided to return to full-time education and obtain my degree. This I did successfully.

I was married at Christchurch by my father-in-law, a Baptist minister and David Kitley, the vicar of Christchurch at the time. Unfortunately my marriage ended and I am now going through the pains of divorce. My children Oliver 11 and Harry 4, and the church, including best friends have been a pillar of support through my laughter and tears.

I moved backed to Gravesend last summer after my son gained a place at St George's secondary school, fairer on him to walk a few minutes than to take an hour's journey twice a day on a bus. My family and friends are close by and when I moved here I needed to find a church. It was only when I attended the Christmas fete at Christ Church that I realised I could feel at home here. I came along and the first person to speak to me was Jeremy, asking if I was alone and sitting with me during the service: a warm welcome indeed that inspired me to come again.

I now know some of the people here and Sue has already shown her support of my emotions as I approach the inevitable decree absolute. Sue has also invited me to take on a certain project for the church to which I agreed.

Life is never easy, being a single mum is hard enough, trying to juggle finances, time and love, trying to be encouraging yet firm, trying to be fun yet able to draw boundaries and finding time for 'me' is cherished in the moments I can.

A while ago I was taught to hand over my pain, fears, troubles to Jesus, He will take them on, just like the poem in *Footprints in the Sand*, Jesus gives us support when we need it most and we may not actually know He is with us, just because we feel so desperately alone and that nobody cares. I do hand over my woes, give them willingly. A hymn I discovered while at Dartford still makes me cry today, not through sadness, but of hope, of the love that really can be found if you stop looking so hard, and that there really is somebody that cares. *Let you living water flow over my soul* sums it completely and wholly for me.

Teresa Carlow is a Freelance Proof Reader and Feature writer, who writes the Gravesend Community Column in the Gravesend Messenger (contact her at tescarlow@live.co.uk).

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend

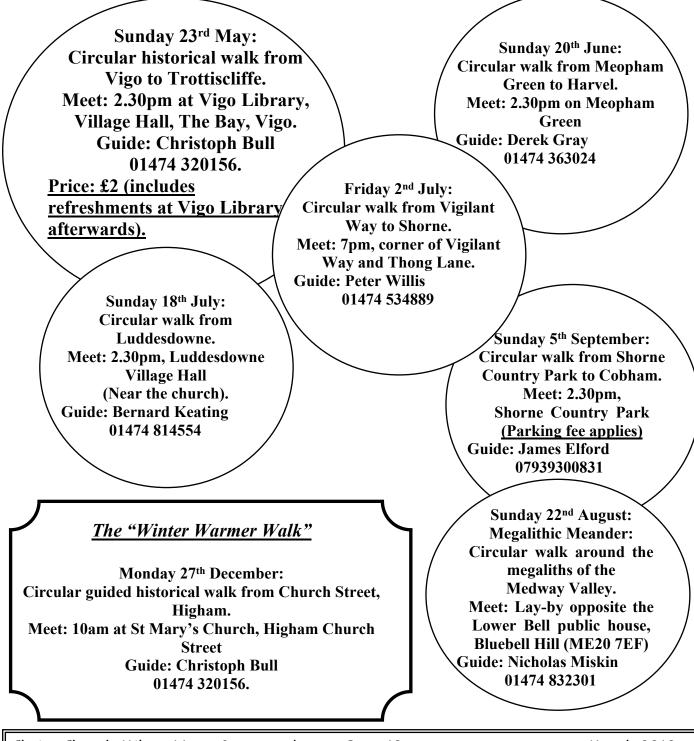


**Footpaths Committee** 

# Walks for Everybody Programme 2010.

All are welcome to join us as we explore our landscape, local history and folklore in the company of interesting people. Please note that these walks are steep in places, have stiles and uneven surfaces, please dress and act appropriately.

All walks are free unless stated.

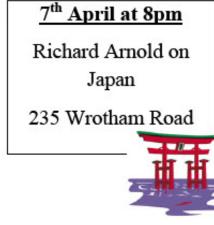


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The March meeting is on the 3rd March, when we will be joining the Lent course at St Mary's Church, which starts at 7.30pm. All whether MU members or not, are welcome to attend. There will be a Commissioning Service at Rochester Cathedral at 11am on March 27th, and some of our members will be attending. Lady Day is on March 25th.

#### April meeting is

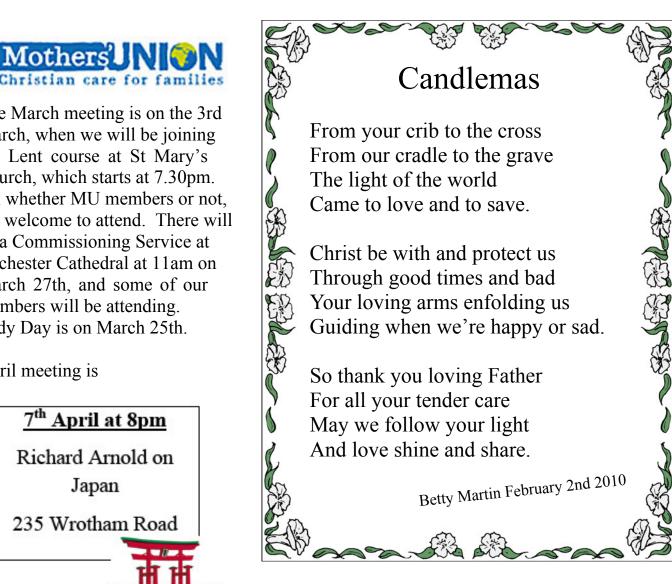


## Parking

A controlled parking zone has been established in Park

Avenue, in order to prevent commuters parking all day to use the new fast trains to St Pancras. Unfortunately, we have not

been successful in preventing this, or in changing the time. There is no parking in Park Avenue between 1pm and 2pm, Monday – Friday. I have had a reassurance from Paul Gibbons of Gravesham Borough Council, that it is not their intention to prevent legitimate users of the church or hall from parking there; and that tickets will not be issued if there are clearly people using the church hall, or a wedding or funeral in the church. If you do need to park in Park Avenue between these times, you may find it helpful to put a note in your car stating that you are in the church or church hall. If you receive a parking ticket, or if there are any other issues arising as a result of this restriction, please would you let Sue Brewer know. The scheme is due for review later this year, and as a church we can make Sue Brewer representations if we are aware of particular issues or problems.





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Highlights this month !

# March

#### Mothering Sunday Lent Course at St Mary's

Sunday	Evening Prayer	7	14 Mothering	21	28 Dalm Sunday
	Week days At 5.30pm	8 am Service 10 am Holy Com- munion Youth Club	Sunday 8 am Service 10 am All-Age Service	8 am Service 10 am Service 6.30pm Passiontide Music	Palm Sunday 8 am Service 10 am Service
				Youth Club	Youth Club
Monday	1	8	15	22	29
	Cubs Brownies Music Group	Cubs Brownies Music Group	Cubs Brownies	Cubs Brownies	Cubs Brownies
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30
Wednesday	3 Open Church after 10am service	10 Open Church after 10am service First Steps	17 Open Church after 10am service	24 Open Church after 10am service	31 Open Church after 10am service
	Lent course at St Mary's Guides MU	1:45pm Lent course at St Mary's Guides	Lent course at St Mary's Guides	Lent course at St Mary's Guides	Guides
Thursday	4	11	18	25 Lady Day	
	Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	
	5	12 Durant	19 Decent	26	
Friday	Parent & Toddler Women's World Day	Parent & Toddler	Parent & Toddler	Parent & Toddler	
$-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \sum_{i=$	of Prayer Office Hours Scouts	Office Hours Scouts	Office Hours Scouts	Office Hours Scouts	
Saturday	6	13 Working Party	20	27 MU at Rochester	
		Make flowers for Mothering Sunday		Cathedral	
Christ Churcl	Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend Page 15 March 2010				

### 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

#### Office hours

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

For further information contact the Church Wardens

> **Open Church** Wednesday After the 10 am service

Clubs	scouts		
There are a	There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-		
Daily	Christ Church Pre-school (2늘 upwards)		
Monday Tuesday	Cubs; Music Group; Brownies		
Wednesday	Guides; Mothers Union (1st Wednesday) More Union First Steps (under 5's and carers) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm		
Thursday	Beavers; Brownies; Choir Practice		
Friday	Scouts; Amateur Dramatics 🔅; Parent and Toddler		
Saturday	Working party (1st Saturday)		
Sunday	Christ Church Youth Club		
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