



CHRIST CHURCH  
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

## PARISH MAGAZINE



## MARCH 2014

Donation or **40p**

Highlights for the month

- Friday/Saturday 7/8 Church Spring Cleaning**
- Ash Wednesday 5 Service at 10.00 and 19.30**
- Thursday 20 Mustard Seed 15.00 all welcome**
- Tuesday 25 SemiQuavers Concert 18.30**
- Sunday 30 Mothering Sunday service 10.00**

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code below to go  
to our web site



IN REVIEW available at <http://www.churchofengland.org>

Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next month Sunday **16 March** for April.  
 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](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>Curate</b>	<b>Jo Drew</b>	<b>364367</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Pam Kilby</b>	<b>332693</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Jasmine Humphries</b>	<b>392713</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>Ian Brown</b>	<b>356339</b>
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Linda Riordan</b>	<b>746988</b>
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Steve Humphries</b>	<b>392713</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>

# **‘Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you’** (1 Peter 5: 7)

We believe in the power of prayer to bring healing, comfort and the reassurance of God’s love into the day to day problems which we all face. Many people at Christ Church have found it helpful when going through sickness or difficulties of various kinds, to bring these to God in prayer. Sometimes it can also be helpful to know that others are praying alongside you.

There are a number of ways in which you can offer your own prayers or ask for the prayers of others, within the ministry at Christ Church. Some of them are listed here... please feel free to use any or all of these resources whenever you feel the need of God’s loving support and care. Rest assured that no problem is too difficult, and no problem is too

trivial... He cares for each of us and invites us to come to Him just as we are.

Daily prayers for the sick - those who are sick are prayed for at the Eucharist's that take place nearly every day. If you tell one of the clergy, they will be pleased to add a name to the list – please also remember to say when the person concerned has recovered!

Prayer requests – there are now slips of paper in red boxes, close to the candle stand and also at the back of the church. If you write your prayer request on the ‘tear off slip’ and put it in the box provided, then prayers will be offered at the Wednesday morning Eucharist.

Candle stand – you are welcome to light a candle and offer a prayer for a loved one at any time – the candle stand is in St Faith’s chapel.

Prayer tree – there is a prayer tree in the Warrior Chapel... this is another way to offer your prayers. Just write it on a label provided and hang it on the tree.

Whatever method you choose, we hope you will find the help and support you are looking for through God’s loving presence.

Sue Brewer



## **This year’s LENT COURSES**

Are to be held on Wednesday’s throughout Lent everyone is welcome

**Wednesday 12 March 14.00 HOLY FAMILY CHURCH**

**Wednesday 12 March 19.30 HOLY FAMILY CHURCH**

Wednesday 19 March 14.00 ST MARY’S CHURCH

Wednesday 19 March 19.30 ST MARY’S CHURCH

**Wednesday 26 March 14.00 ST PAUL’S CHURCH**

**Wednesday 26 March 19.30 ST PAUL’S CHURCH**

Wednesday 2 April 14.00 CHRIST CHURCH

Wednesday 2 April 19.30 CHRIST CHURCH

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 March.**



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

**There are a number of Christmas related items on the Traidcraft stall, if you wish to order any of these please use the forms provided or speak to John Hill**

**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 John Hill**

## COFFEE ROYA 2014

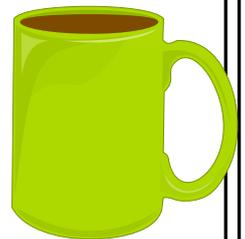
2<sup>nd</sup> March Colin Parsonson, Linda Parsonson, Ann Lennard

9<sup>th</sup> Mar Jerry Higgins, Sally Higgins, Dorothy Oliver

16<sup>th</sup> Mar Pauline Marks, Margot Edwards, Angela Kirby

23<sup>rd</sup> Mar Rita Smith, Jean Stoddart, Sheila Knight

30<sup>th</sup> Mar Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Jill Sampson



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



# FIRST STEPS

12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014

## LOVE

Our naughty little sheep missed seeing the Pre-school children in church this morning because he was fast asleep and I hadn't got the heart to wake him. He was very cross with me, I might tell you! He's been watching the weather very closely, as usual, and has been very upset to hear about so many people and animals being affected by flooding. He's been saying special prayers for them all. He's worried that with all the wind and the rain no one will come to our First Steps service, today. I fear that he might be right! It's certainly blowing a gale as he, I and his friends walk up to church. It's not raining yet but we don't think that it will be dry for long.

Our naughty little sheep's friends decide that they're not going to hide this week as they were very nearly forgotten last time. As today is near to St Valentine's day, our theme is Love and they're planning to look suitably pathetic, hoping that the children will take pity on them and give them a cuddle. Will there be any children to cuddle, we wonder? Now we can hear the wind howling and the rain lashing down. We certainly won't blame anyone for staying snug and warm indoors.

Everything is ready and we open the doors with our fingers crossed (not the easiest of things to do!). And soon we're not alone. First to arrive, is Angela with baby son Bowen. It's their first time with us so it's lovely to welcome them on such a yucky day! Soon others join us, blown in through the church doors and dripping wet; and that's just from coming in from the car park! We have a nice little gathering when it is time for our service to begin. Hooray! There are two extra special candles to light today. Ollie comes up with his cousin Riley to light candles

for his Mum Kate, who is now safe in Heaven with Jesus. It is Kate's Birthday today and a day of special memories for Ollie and his family. We all sing "Happy Birthday" as we remember her and celebrate her life.

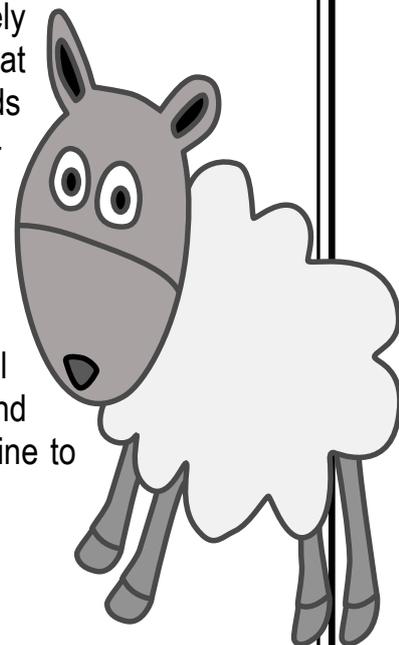
We remember God's love for us, both here and in the life to come, shown most fully in Jesus' life and teachings. We sing about the wonders of our world; the sunshine and the rain; the wind and the stars; the birds that fly high in the sky and we thank God that we are here, able to be part of it all. We also thank God for the love of family and friends, all those for whom we care and who care for us. Love is such a precious gift and one that we must always appreciate and never take for granted.

The children are very good, singing along with our songs and jingling their bells. They all sit very quietly for our prayers and Ollie and Riley come up to blow out their special candles. Our naughty little sheep has been standing very quietly on our little altar watching them, but he's missing his best friend the sparkly dragon because Jacob is looking after him for now.

With our service over, it is time to go into the hall for a cuppa, a chat and some time for play. Our naughty little sheep and his friends make themselves comfortable in the hall so that they can watch the children play.

As usual we've had a lovely time together. Isn't it great that some of our friends have come out in this horrible weather specially to join us? We hope that when we meet for our next First Steps service on 12<sup>th</sup> March, spring will well and truly be on the way and we will have some sunshine to cheer us.

**God Bless**  
**Rosemary Austin**



## **CHURCH WARDEN**

Ian Brown will be standing down as Churchwarden at the Annual Meeting on 6 April. Would you be able to stand as our next Churchwarden to work alongside Jan Osborne?

Thanks to a very good team, recently established, who are willing to take some responsibility for the upkeep of the buildings, another team of ex wardens who are willing to assist on Sunday mornings when needed, this role is not as demanding as you might think.

If you would like to know more, have a chat with Sue Brewer or Jan Osborne.

This role involves close liaison with children and vulnerable adults, and full DBS (child protection) clearance will be required.

## **Open Gardens**

Do you have a garden that you would be willing to open to the Church members sometime this summer?

We are looking for much loved gardens any size or shape, they do not need to be perfect, just interesting.

All monies raised will be for general church funds.

Let Julie Hill know if you are interested.

## **Gravesham Foodbank News**

A very big thank you to everyone who supports the Foodbank, your generous donations week by week are very much appreciated.

Currently we are over stocked with cereals, tea, soup, beans, tinned tomatoes,

pasta and rice and short of many other items.

The following items are always in short supply - cartons of long life milk, sugar, cartons of fruit juice, squash, jars of pasta sauce, small jars of coffee, drinking chocolate, sponge puddings, rice pudding, tinned custard, instant mash, tinned meat and fish, spreads like peanut butter, marmite or jam, tinned fruit, toiletries and baby products (nappies and wipes but NOT baby food)

## **Christ and the Chocolaterie**

Is an innovative and lively Lent Course inspired by the novel by Joanne Harris and the subsequent film "Chocolat".

We will use the film as a starting point for exploring issues about God, the world, and what it means to be human.

There will be six sessions located at each of the churches within the East Gravesend Group.

The first will be two showings of the film "Chocolat" on Wednesday 26 February in Christ Church at 14.00 and 19.30, we hope to see you there.

## **A date for your diary!**

On Saturday 3 May, we are holding a Spring Fair in aid of the Oliver Fisher Special Baby Care Trust based at Medway Hospital, where my baby granddaughter, Jessica, received such wonderful care.

If you are able to help in any way, eg: help on the day, make a cake or donate a raffle prize, please contact me on 01474 325298 or speak to me in church.

**Many thanks, Sally**

# Reminder! Sue will be away for a bit

As many of you are aware, I will be away for 3 months this Spring. This is a time of refreshment, learning and renewal known as 'EMDL' – Extended Ministry Development Leave – which is available to clergy who have been in full-time ministry more than 10 years, and who are not close to retirement. My EMDL will begin after the services on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, and I will be back in post on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June.

During my EMDL I will be looking at 2 areas of my ministry... spirituality and leadership; as well as taking an opportunity to experience other churches and bring that experience back to share at Christ Church. Jeremy and I will be living (mostly) at a house we own in Rochester,

although you may sometimes see us in or around the Vicarage. For about a third of the time I will be away on various courses, and on retreat. The EMDL period will end with a study tour in the Holy Land. I will be keeping a journal of my reflections and look forward to sharing it with you all when I am back.

While I am away, the parish will be in the safe hands of Revs Jo Drew and Jacqueline Littlewood, the Churchwardens and the Ministry Team. There is an excellent team here at Christ Church and I know that everyone will rise to the challenge as they always do. If you need to talk to anyone about anything concerning the ministry at Christ Church while I am away, then please contact Jo or Jacqueline. Emails sent to me will be forwarded to Jo, and it will not be possible to leave messages on the Vicarage phone. I am very grateful to the PCC for agreeing so willingly to this opportunity, and to everyone who will be taking on additional roles during this time. I very much look forward to seeing you all again in the Summer.

## **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

## Do you help with Children's activities in Christ Church?



Rochester Diocese Safeguarding Policy expects ALL volunteers working with children to attend some training.

The next course:- Facing the Unthinkable Child Abuse and the Church is to be held on Saturday 15 March 2014 at St. Peter's Church, College Road, Hextable, Kent commencing at 9.00am through to 13.30 pm.

If you have not been on one of the training days please make a special effort to do so.

**For further information go on-line at [www.rochester.anglican.org](http://www.rochester.anglican.org) or contact Veronica Read on 01474 534857**

## 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 £4.00 (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.

## HOLY BAPTISM

19<sup>th</sup> January Keaton Edward Gates  
Ellissia Courtney Gates  
Tobias Christopher Willson Brisley  
Tyler Robin Peter Bracey

2<sup>nd</sup> February Louisa Grace Walton  
Ruby Parker  
Louis James Foxwell  
Mason Neil Foxwell

16<sup>th</sup> February Ellie Hannah Burdett  
Tommy-Lee Manwaring

## HOLY MATRIMONY

14<sup>th</sup> February Adam William Stapley and Louise Elizabeth Casely

## REST IN PEACE

28<sup>th</sup> November Freda Hilda Turton  
11<sup>th</sup> December Daniel Maurice Ludlow  
24<sup>th</sup> December Gwendoline Fifield  
24<sup>th</sup> December Ida Georgina Lingham  
31<sup>st</sup> December Paul Leslie Prescott



Gravesham Town Twinning Association will be holding  
their popular

# ANNUAL QUIZ

**with Quizmaster Adrian Warburton**

**Saturday 29 March**

**St George's Church Hall 7.15 for 7.30 pm.**

You are invited to join them.

The cost will be £5 which includes nibbles and tea or  
coffee in the interval

Please bring your own drinks and glasses.

**To book a table (up to 8) or to come as an individual,  
please contact Jill on 01474 873536**

Proceeds will be for the work of the Town Twinning  
Association which now has links with towns in France,  
Germany, America and the Punjab

**Spring Council  
and Market Place**

**What's New in Mother's Union**

**26 APRIL 09.30 - 14.30**

**St Columbus School, Bexleyheath**

**FAIRTRADE LUNCHSTOP**

We are back!

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Windmill Street

**FRIDAYS 28 FEBRUARY AND 7 MARCH**

**12 noon until 2 p.m.**

Come and enjoy a lunch of freshly made sandwiches,  
toasties, home-made cakes and fruit

We have fresh ground coffee, tea and fruit juice

**Find out how workers in the developing countries to  
be traded with fairly**

# **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.**

**Guided tours of Gravesend Old Town Hall by Christoph Bull**  
**(Special topic – The Victorian Gravesend of George Matthews**  
**Arnold 1826-1908)**

**On: Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

**Morning tour at 11am – afternoon tour at 2pm.** Optional lunch or refreshments at the Bridewell Restaurant (which is situated in the Old Town Hall's former Police Station and cells)

**On: Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

**Morning tour only at 11am,** with optional Sunday lunch at the Bridewell Restaurant (which is situated in the Old Town Hall's former Police Station and cells)

Tours are free – but booking needed on **01474 550 023**

**Meet: outside the Old Town Hall by the pillars on the High Street,**  
**Gravesend**



## Candlemas at Christ Church

# Monthly 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 8 March at 9.30.**

See you there, **Sue**



# CHARITABLE GIVING 2013

In 2013, due to your generosity and the hard work of many, we have been able to make many charitable donations.

## INCOME

Lent Envelopes	£2,570
Good causes box, table sales and other donations	£1,690
Food Bank	£570
Christian Aid—2 breakfasts, coffee morning and Quiz evening	£676.30
Christingle for the Children's Society	£337

## EXPENDITURE

£850 each of our four main charities—Crisis, WaterAid, Mission Aviation Fellowship and Word on the Street.

£55 each to Whitehill Primary School, Holy Trinity CE Primary School, House of Mercy, Gravesend Street Pastors, Larchwood Grove and Sherringham House.

We also sent a donation of £70 to Zulem Trust for Palm Crosses.

We paid £250 towards the education of Aly, our little boy in the Holy Land.

We sent £200 to help the people in Syria and £700 (£260 from good causes and £440 from the congregation) following the disaster in the Philippines.

We had a very successful Summer Dinner and £589 was given to Ifield School, this was 50% of the money raised.

50% of collections taken at weddings has also been sent to charities nominated by the brides. These amounted to £660



Local history and chips evening:” **Discover Gravesend**” slide show with fish and chip supper

**On: Monday 3rd March 2014**

At: Reliance Fish Restaurant, Queen Street, Gravesend

**Time: 6pm to eat, talk follows at 7pm.**

**Speaker: Christoph Bull 077022 87147**

Tickets are £10 ( which includes the talk and the supper), and are available at the Reliance Restaurant, 01474 533593

**Tuesday 1st April 2014: Kaffee und Kuchen afternoon** – come and enjoy a German themed afternoon of socialising with coffee, cake and a short talk on German connections with North West Kent by Christoph Bull (Chairman). Organised by Gravesend Town Twinning Association – open to everyone.

If you are interested in town twinning and German culture, then this is the event for you (celebrating Bismarck's birthday).

### **TJs public house**

15 Milton Road, Gravesend DA12 2RF **Start: 2.30pm**

Tickets: £5 – inc coffee and cake - by booking with TJs only on 01474 533891

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**Thursday 3rd April 2014: Gravesend town-Gateway to the Thames** (illustrated talk)

Speaker: Christoph Bull 0770 2287147

### **TJs public house**

15 Milton Road, Gravesend DA12 2RF **Start: 7pm**

Tickets only - £7.50 inc cheese and glass of wine – by booking with TJs only on 01474 533891

## **Exciting new 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  


**New youth choir in Gravesend**

**We meet weekly for Rehearsals**

**at Christ Church**

**Tuesday evenings**

**6.15 pm to 7.30 pm**

# 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.

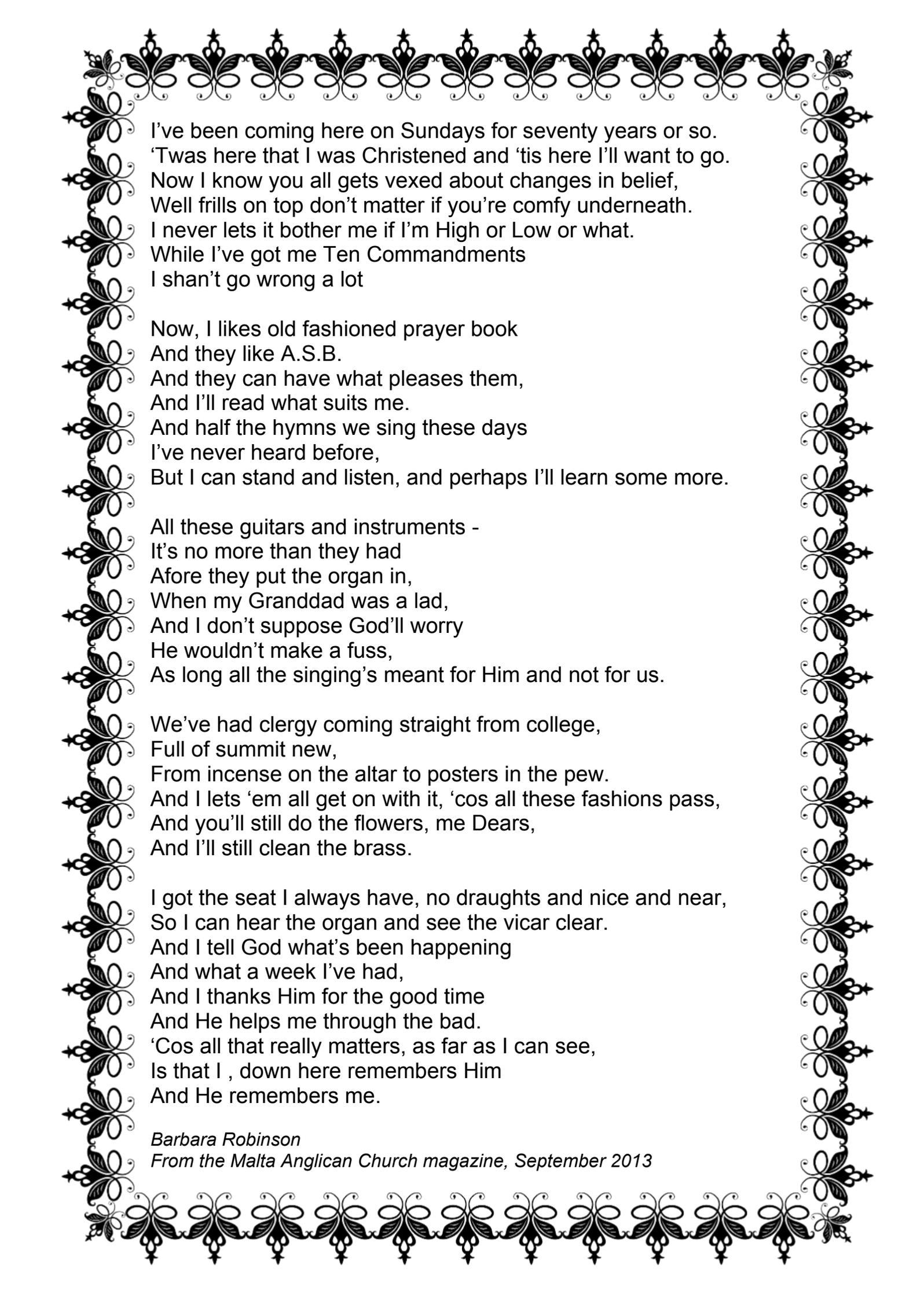
## Alzheimers & Dementia SUPPORT SERVICES

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services, based in Northfleet is a local charity for local people and here to offer help, advice and support to those living with Dementia. We can offer help in a numbers of ways:-

- v **Day care,**
- v **Befriending**
- v **Support at Home/Support at Home plus/One to One Support**
- v **Carers Support Groups**
- v **24 Helpline (0800 500 3014)**
- v **Singing for Brain**
- v **Dementia Cafes..... and so much more.**

If you or someone you knows need help please contact us via our website, [www.alz-dem.org](http://www.alz-dem.org) or by telephoning us on 01474 533990 or by writing to **Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Services, The Basement, Dene Holm House, Dene Holm Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8JY. Email: alz-dem.org.uk**

As with most charities nowadays we also need volunteers to help us. We have volunteer vacancies in all the above areas and of course in our fundraising efforts. If you would like to support us by becoming a member or raising funds for us, in sponsorship, holding an event, coffee morning or whatever you feel is appropriate, please do let us know and contact us.

A decorative border with a repeating floral motif of stylized leaves and flowers, framing the text on all sides.

I've been coming here on Sundays for seventy years or so.  
'Twas here that I was Christened and 'tis here I'll want to go.  
Now I know you all gets vexed about changes in belief,  
Well frills on top don't matter if you're comfy underneath.  
I never lets it bother me if I'm High or Low or what.  
While I've got me Ten Commandments  
I shan't go wrong a lot

Now, I likes old fashioned prayer book  
And they like A.S.B.  
And they can have what pleases them,  
And I'll read what suits me.  
And half the hymns we sing these days  
I've never heard before,  
But I can stand and listen, and perhaps I'll learn some more.

All these guitars and instruments -  
It's no more than they had  
Afore they put the organ in,  
When my Granddad was a lad,  
And I don't suppose God'll worry  
He wouldn't make a fuss,  
As long all the singing's meant for Him and not for us.

We've had clergy coming straight from college,  
Full of summit new,  
From incense on the altar to posters in the pew.  
And I lets 'em all get on with it, 'cos all these fashions pass,  
And you'll still do the flowers, me Dears,  
And I'll still clean the brass.

I got the seat I always have, no draughts and nice and near,  
So I can hear the organ and see the vicar clear.  
And I tell God what's been happening  
And what a week I've had,  
And I thanks Him for the good time  
And He helps me through the bad.  
'Cos all that really matters, as far as I can see,  
Is that I , down here remembers Him  
And He remembers me.

*Barbara Robinson*

*From the Malta Anglican Church magazine, September 2013*

# CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

Youth activities for all young people—School Yrs 7—11.

**Regular meetings will be between 4.00-5.30pm  
at the 'Word on the Street' house, 7 Warrior Avenue,  
Gravesend DA12 5NA**

**8 March from 16.00 - 7 Warrior Avenue**

**22 March from 16.00 7 Warrior Avenue**

**5 April from 16.00 7 Warrior Avenue**

**WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND ALONG TO ENJOY THE EVENING**

For more information contact:

**Lusa 01474 352500**

[lusansenga@googlemail.com](mailto:lusansenga@googlemail.com)

**Sue 01474 352643**

[suec@brewer86.plus.com](mailto:suec@brewer86.plus.com)

**Richard 01474 249792**

[ramartin@talktalk.net](mailto:ramartin@talktalk.net)

**Jo 01474 364367**

[revjodrew@btinternet.com](mailto:revjodrew@btinternet.com)



## 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 March**. You are so welcome.

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



# COFFEE MORNING

**FRIDAY 7 MARCH, 10.30 - 12.30**

**COLDHARBOUR ROAD, NORTHFLEET**

Admission 80p including tea or coffee

## **Friends of St. Mary's Stansted Local Bank Holiday bike ride now in its sixth year**

On the first Bank Holiday Monday in May, Kent cyclists will be pumping up their tyres to enjoy the sixth Cloisters Charity Bike Ride, starting and finishing as usual at Stansted Village Hall, Kent, TN15 7PH on Monday 5th May

Last year 335 riders took part, raising funds for the Friends of St Mary's Stansted and had a wonderful day riding through the quiet leafy lanes and charming villages of the North Downs of West Kent. The three rides provide something for everyone, from families to the serious cyclist, with interesting routes, excellent back-up, a ploughman's lunch, the promise of tea with scrumptious homemade cakes.

- **44 miles – “The Challenge”**: A lovely ride on many unknown lanes. A very good workout for the most hardened cyclist, a real challenge for the less experienced.
- **23 miles – “The Classic”**: A great ride that includes a very short 1 in 4 hill, with badges awarded to those who ride it! Suitable for all, but requires some training if you don't normally ride a bike
- **13 miles – “The Cruise”**: Quiet lanes especially suitable for the occasional cyclist and for families with younger children.

Entry is open to all ages and costs from £15 for adults, and £10 for children. Check out the website

[www.cloistersbikeride.org](http://www.cloistersbikeride.org) or call 01732 822222 (answerphone) for an entry form





# TRADING STANDARDS

## FOR YOUR ATTENTION

### Trading Standards update for your local community

KCC Trading Standards are aware that charity collection bags bearing the name 'Cobalt' are being distributed across Kent.

The charity **Cobalt** no longer use bags to collect donations and any proceeds from goods donated using the bags **will not** be received by the charity.

Anyone wishing to donate to Cobalt's diagnostic imaging work (helping people affected by cancer and other life-limiting conditions) should do so via their [website](http://www.cobalthealth.co.uk) at [www.cobalthealth.co.uk](http://www.cobalthealth.co.uk)

Genuine charities and businesses do distribute bags and collect unwanted items from householders. To ensure your unwanted items go to legitimate good causes, the following advice will help:-

- **Read** any information given on the leaflet or collection bag carefully.
- If a company name or number is given, the status of that company can be checked on [Companies House](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk) website at [www.companieshouse.gov.uk](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk)
- If a charity is named contact them and ask if the collection is legitimate.
- If a charity number is given, check this with the [Charity Commission](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk) on **0845 300 0218** or on their website at [www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk)

If you receive one of these bags please report the details to Trading Standards, via Citizens Advice consumer service or you can fill in our scams report form online.



**Citizens Advice**  
the charity for your community

For advice on your civil rights contact  
**Citizens Advice consumer service**  
on **08454 04 05 06**  
(Monday - Friday 9am-5pm)

Or fill in their online enquiry form at  
[www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

#### REPORT ONLINE

Help us protect consumers and stop the scammers.

- Counterfeit products
- Doorstep Criminals
- Loan Sharks
- Sale of age restricted products
- Scams
- Out of date food
- Unsafe products
- Puppy imports

Report online: [www.kent.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.kent.gov.uk/tradingstandards)

# 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)	
2 - 3.30	Forgetmenot Singing 2nd & 4th Thurs afternoon	
Friday	Scouts; Parent and Toddler	
Saturday	Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)	

# CALENDAR MARCH 2014

<b>Sunday</b>  30 <b>Mothering Sunday</b> 08.00 Service 10.00 Service All age service	2 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	9 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 16.00 Choral Even-song	16 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	23 08.00 Service 10.00 Service
<b>Monday</b> 	3 08.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES	10 08.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES	17 08.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES	24 08.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES
<b>Tuesday</b> 	4 07.00 Service 16.45 Service CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	11 07.00 Service 16.45 Service CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	18 07.00 Service 16.45 Service CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	25 07.00 Service 16.45 Service CUBS <b>18.15 Semiquavers Concert</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> 	5 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 10.00 Service 16.45 Service 19.30 Communion Service	12 10.00 Service <b>13.45 First Steps</b> 16.45 Service <b>Lent course</b> <b>See page 3</b>	19 10.00 Service 16.45 Service <b>Lent course</b> <b>See page 3</b>	26 10.00 Service 16.45 Service <b>Lent course</b> <b>See page 3</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 	6 07.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	13 07.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	20 07.00 Service 15.00 Mustard Seed 16.45 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	27 07.00 Service 16.45 Service BROWNIES Choir practice
<b>Friday</b> 	7 <b>Spring Cleaning</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 16.45 Service 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	14 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 16.45 Service 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	21 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 16.45 Service 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	28 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 16.45 Service 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS
<b>Saturday</b> 	8 08.00 Service  <b>09.00 Church Spring Cleaning</b>	15 08.00 Service	22 08.00 Service	29 08.00 Service

# **Gravesend & District Osteoporosis Support Group**

**The next meeting of the Group is on**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

**at**

**Christ Church Hall  
Old Road East, Gravesend DA12 1NR**

**Time: 7.00 p.m.**

**Entry £2.00**

## **An Illustrated Talk**

**by Kent, Surrey & Sussex  
Air Ambulance**

**There will be a raffle  
Tea/coffee and biscuits  
Everyone Welcome!**

**Contact the Chair for  
Further Information  
01474 564234**



**National  
Osteoporosis  
Society**