

PARISH MAGAZINE JUNE 2018

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50p

Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next month Sunday 17 JUNE

Copy: email to:-

ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt

Christ Church Hall is available for hire Contact Maxine Springett, contact numbers are 01474 746428 or 07511962277.

Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and children's parties

Front cover picture: Peonies make a colourful display copyright acknowledged

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Who's Who at Christ Church	www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk			
Vicar				
Associate Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106		
Assistant Curate	Karen Seggie	362654		
Pastoral Assistant	Jasmine Humphries	249106		
Pastoral Assistant	Colin Parsonson	359713		
Church Warden	Jan Osborne	740763		
Church Warden	Lucy Hornby			
PCC Secretary	Peter Read	746988		
PCC Treasurer	Steve Humphries	249106		
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702		
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339		
Reader	John Hougham	352138		
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443		
Webmaster	Tim McArthur			

IN BRIEF

News from the Pre-School

This term we have been enjoying the signs of Spring. Learning about the life cycle of a frog, which is shown on our wall board in the hall. We've looked for buds on trees and loved standing underneath the big tree in the garden and pretending it's snowing as the blossom falls over the children

The children have acted out the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and planted beans - hoping they'll grow up to the sky.

We've planted carrot seeds in our allotment, soon to add pea and pumpkin shoots. We've grown sunflower seeds, cress and grass seeds, which grow very quickly — an amazing time.

This week is our obstacle course. The children do 30 laps practising lots of skills, running, jumping, hopping and balancing, we finish with a prize and an ice lolly – yum, yum!!

We end the term with a visit to Forest School to climb trees, make mud pies and drink hot chocolate.

Hopefully the sun will shine over our week off.

Fitness League

Movement for Life In Christ Church Hall

Every Tuesday From 2-3.15 pm

Light remedial exercises

Fully qualified teacher

Ladies why not join us!

For more information please **Phone 01634 255759**

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 second Saturday of each month... NOTE the next one will be on 9 JUNE at 9.30.

See you there, JAN

COFFEE ROTA 2018

3 June Annie - Jill - Rosemary 10 June Maxine - Lucy - Sarah 17 June Annie - Jill - Angela 24 June Annie - Jill - Gerry 1 July Annie - Jill - Anne

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



COPY FOR JUNE 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 Sunday 17 JUNE at the very latest, or speak to

Mike Cubitt - 07840343831

PEACE CANDLE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE THAT WENT BEFORE

You may well have seen the 'Peace Candle' that was used at the WW1 commemoration service on 4th•August, 2014 now in the sanctuary.• The candle will remain in place throughout the 4 years of commemoration and will be lit at each Sunday and Wednesday service, as a reminder to us



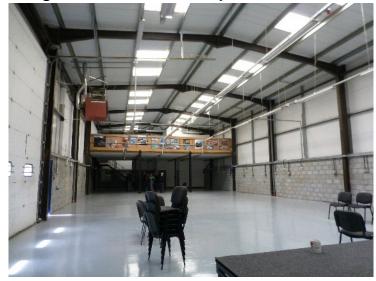
all to pray for peace in the many areas of conflict throughout the world.• When you see the candle, please remember to pray for those caught up in conflict. The sign near to the candle records the areas of conflict most in our prayers at any given time (though there are other 'hidden' conflicts that rarely appear on our televisions). If you would like an area of the world added to the list, please speak to Rev Jacqueline.

The Maltings



The building, pictured last June prior to work being carried out on worship area

On Pentecost/Whit Sunday 20th May a City Praise Church Housewarming Bash was held at the Maltings Campus, Gravesend. The premises next to City Praise Base Camp were obtained a year ago and lots of work inside and out has been done to ensure that everything was ready for the opening and blessing on Sunday. Over 500 hundred people including members of Churches Together in Gravesham were there and they enjoyed refreshments and talking to one another after the service.









FIRST STEPS 9TH MAY 2018 JESUS AND THE CHILDREN

It is light quite early in the morning now and our naughty little sheep is up pretty early, gazing out of the window. It is another lovely sunny day and he is so pleased! We have had a little spell of hot weather and he has so enjoyed being outside in the sunshine. It looks as if things could be set fair for our First Steps service this afternoon. When our naughty little sheep, his friends and I walk up to church it is still lovely and sunny with a little bit of a breeze. The "candles" on the horse chestnut tree look beautiful and the blossom on the lilac tree smells divine. Into church we go and as usual they get themselves sorted out while I get the church sorted out and ready for our service. Linda and Jan follow in close behind. When everything is ready and everybody is sitting comfortably, we open up our big church doors. First in today is Suzanne with big boy Luke. Then Lisa arrives with her sister Emma, who has brought along Abigail and new baby Rupert, just 12 days old. Oh what a poppet! Anne comes in to play our piano and when the children have sorted out their jingle bells, I light the candles and we are ready for our service to begin.

Today we are thinking about Jesus and the children. We all know that Jesus loves children, don't we? But it seems that his disciples have forgotten! Our naughty little sheep and his friends are surprised at this. Shocked, in fact! We hear how some Mums come to Jesus for him to bless their children. They think that it is very important and of course it is. But the disciples think that Jesus has much more important things to do and he won't want to be bothered by them. So they tell those ladies to leave Jesus alone and take the children away. You'll never guess what happens next! Jesus finds out and is really cross with his disciples. He tells them that they must never turn children away from him. They must

become like little children themselves, with eyes to see the beauty and wonder in the world and hearts to accept God or they will never become part of His Kingdom. And so Jesus takes the children into his arms and blesses them. Our naughty little sheep is sure that the disciples won't do that again and I'm sure that he's right. It helps us to remember, too, how important children are and how we should try and see the world as they do, through innocent and wondering eyes. It is so lovely that dear little Rupert is with us, just at the beginning of his life's journey with all that it will hold for him. I'm sure that Jesus will bless him, too.

We've sung some of our favourite songs, about God's love for us, about Jesus, our friend and about all the people that we love, and who love us. There has been some lovely bell jingling and music making. Now it is time for some quietness as we say our prayers. And we say a special prayer for baby Rupert and his family, too. Luke helps me to blow out the candles and then out we all go into the hall for our usual refreshments, play and chat. It is such a

nice day we can even go out into the garden. Our naughty little sheep and his friends have their drinks and their biscuits and then they all settle down to watch the children play, as usual. We have had lovely time together and we hope that everyone will join us again for our next First Steps service on 13th June. It will be lucky for

God Bless Rosemary Austin

us, we hope!



11th Milton (Christ Church) Brownies Arálic Rekert Pougy Chic e Continue Pougy Pougy Chic e Continue Pougy Pougy Chic e Continue Pougy Po



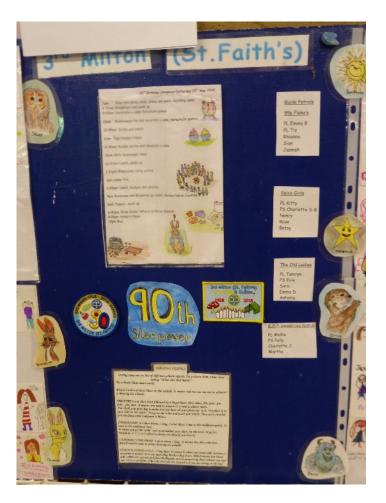
3rd Milton (St. Faith's) Brownies and Guides celebrations

Guides are 90 this year, we had a wonderful time at our sleep-over at Hopehill Scout camp 18th to 20th May. 29 Brownies from 3rd Milton (St. Faith's) Brownies and our sister unit, 11th Milton (Christ Church) Brownies, stayed Friday night. 12 of the 3rd Milton (Christ Church) Rainbows came for the day on Saturday. 19 of the 3rd Milton (St. Faith's) Guides came Saturday at 11:30am and stayed Saturday night, Brownies and Rainbows went home at 4pm.

The Leaders and girls had a great time. Everyone enjoyed spending time together to celebrate 90 yrs of 3rd Milton (St. Faith's) Brownies and Guides. Guiding is just as popular now as it always has been.



Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend





The 3rd Milton (St Faith's) Brownies and their Guides are celebrating 90th anniversary this year. During the weekend of 18th-20th May there was a 90th sleep-over at Hopehill Campsite. some people stayed all weekend or for one night, and others went for a day. When priest Jacqueline visited on Saturday afternoon the children and adults told her that they were having a great time. 72 lunches had been served that day!

Do you or a member 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 two years please let Mike Cubitt know.

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

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





A small group of Mother's Union members met for their May meeting in the hall. Veronica opened with prayers and we started with a craft project which was painting and decorating flowerpots. This caused a lot of laughter and comments as we tried various paints and attempted to stick on decorations. A collection of decorated pots was eventually assembled and will be sold at the summer fair.

We stopped for refreshments and notices and then the second part of the evening where some members brought items which had a special meaning to them. We also had a general discussion arising from this while others finished their pots.

Next meeting in June will be a bowling taster at Woodlands Park arranged by Chris Nailor, as you will remember we had one last year which was much enjoyed so fingers crossed for good weather!

July's meeting will be an outing and August will be our annual T@3, both daytime events, further details coming soon

My family and I would like to thank you for cards and prayers at the sad loss of David and your support for attending his funeral. He would have been proud. Bless you all. Mavis

Cuppa For Our Cause

Northfleet and Ebbsfleet Lions Please join us!

You are invited to join us

Sandy & Ted

at 63 Portland Avenue Gravesend DA12 5HJ

Friday 8th June

10am - 6pm

As we support local charity

Alzheimer's & Dementia SUPPORTSERVICES

ADSS (Registered Charity NO 1024385)

provides a unique range of services

to people with dementia and

their families in

Gravesham, Dartford

& Swanley

Bring and Buy

Christ Church 200 Club

The 200 Club is a means of raising money for the Christ Church General Fund, which supports the Ministry and Mission of the church and Good Causes as agreed by the PCC, whilst at the same time giving members the opportunity of a small 'flutter' and the chance to win some money.

Membership costs £30 per year. Fifty percent of all monthly donations are given over to the Christ Church General Fund with the remainder being returned to the membership in prize money. The draw is made on the fourth Sunday of every month in the hall after the morning service.

Payment can be made by an annual sum of £30, a quarterly payment of £7.50 or a monthly payment of £2.50, the latter two by bankers order. Cheques should be made payable to Christ Church PCC No 3 account.

Join by contacting John Thrush, in church, and completing an application form. If you are not sure who John is, ask one of the sides people and they will point you in the right direction.

Winning chances are only limited by the amount of numbers you purchase, the more you have the better your chance of winning. **Worthwhile** it certainly is, since its inception the 200 Club has donated over £40,000 to Christ Church to support its Ministry and Good Causes.

Contact JOHN THRUSH 200 Club Secretary

In collaboration with the Friends of St. Mary's Church and with kind permission of the Churches Conservation Trust

Higham Choral Group presents a varied programme of music for a summer evening including

CARMINA BURANA

Cantiones Profanae
by Carl Orff
and highlights from The Sound of Music

St. Mary's Church, Lower Higham

Saturday 7th July

7.30_{pm}

£10.00 includes light buffet

pay at the door

for further information contact o1634 718818/01634 718285 - email: kateiw@tiscali.co.uk Musical Director Richard Shackleton www.highamchoral.org.uk



New CRE events for your diary

We are delighted to update you about two Christian Resources Exhibitions in the coming months:

SOUTH

After a successful return to Sandown Park, Surrey in 2017, CRE 2018 will take place, once again at this much-loved venue from Oct 16-18 2018.

Around 200 exhibitors will be waiting to meet you, offering resources for every aspect of church life. Vestment makers, furniture suppliers and audio-visual units will be on show alongside organisations to assist you in worship, leadership, youth work, mission and building maintenance.

We are developing a fresh and highly-focused programme of features and seminars to complement our wide-ranging exhibition. Look out for more information over the coming weeks and months.

Tickets are already available online. Book today and your entry price of £4 represents a substantial saving of 50% on day-of-entry admission. Come in a group of three or more and save even more.

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

semiquavers

Youth

Choir in Gravesend
We meet weekly for
Rehearsals
at Christ Church
Tuesday evenings
6.15 pm to 7.30 pm







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 1.45pm 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 13 June 2018.

Alzheimer's & 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 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 Princess and a Baby

COANER

"You have a lovely baby boy," said the nurse. The baby waved his little hands and kicked his feet.



His mother held her baby tight and cuddled him close. She should have been so happy – but she was dreadfully afraid.

The people of Israel – Joseph's family – had lived in Egypt for a long, long time. Now they were in danger. "Kill every baby boy," the cruel king ordered. "There are too many of these people in Egypt."

How could the baby's mother keep him safe? She must keep him secret. The nurse kept the secret. Big brother Aaron kept the secret. Big sister Miriam kept the secret. The baby slept a lot, and when he cried his mother quickly hushed him.

But as he grew, the baby made more noise. He didn't sleep as much. He chuckled and laughed. He cried for his dinner. His mother was so afraid. Soon someone would find out her secret.

"Go down to the river and get me some reeds," she said to big sister Miriam one day. "Bring me some sticky tar," she said to big brother Aaron. Whatever was she doing? She was making a little basket out of reeds and tar to keep the water out.

When it was finished, she put the baby inside. Then she hid the basket among the tall reeds at the river's edge. "You stay here and make sure he's safe," she said to big sister Miriam. Then she went home.

Someone was coming! It was the king's own daughter. "Whatever is that?" she said when she saw the basket. She opened the lid – and there was the baby, with tears trickling down his cheeks. "Poor thing!" the princess said. "He must be hungry." "Shall I go and get help?" big sister Miriam offered. "Yes please," said the princess. So Miriam ran home to get her mother.



"Look after this baby till he's old enough to come and live with me," the princess said. She was talking to the baby's own mother, though she did not know it. "We shall call him Moses."

Your Parish Magazine for 2018



If you usually pay for your Christ Church Parish Magazine on an annual basis, then there can be no better time to make your contribution than when you collect your February copy. At just 50p per issue this represents very good value for you to keep up to date with what is coming forward, or what has happened in the few weeks that have just gone by. With the running of your church it is another way in which you can help

Christ Church Annual Meetings Sunday 22nd April

he session began with the two prescribed annual meetings for any church. First came the Annual Meeting of Parishioners which had one agenda item, the election of Church Wardens. With Jan Osborne continuing in office for the seventh year, a vacancy had occurred with Andy Nailor retiring. He was replaced by Lucy Hornby who was elected unanimously by those present. Andy, who was thanked and presented with a gift on his retirement, is continuing with his role overseeing the fabric of the building.

The second meeting, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, was considerably more substantial as it reviewed the previous church year. What follows is a very brief summary.

There are 186 members of the Electoral Church Roll, which will be renewed next year.

There were six vacancies on the PCC, as members stood down by rotation, five of whom Shelia Brown, Quame Bultman, Steve Humphries, Colin Parsonson and Chris Sewell stood again and were re-elected. Margot Edwards retired after many years of service including as previous Church Warden. Andy Nailor was elected to the vacancy. Peter Read was elected PCC Secretary, as the role is currently fragmented, his offer being for the duration of the interregnum.

The list of sidesmen was approved, it being noted there was no need for assistant wardens at this time as Lucy Hornby was a regular at the 10 o'clock service.

Steve Humphries presented the annual accounts, noting that expenditure had risen to £189,000 this year, although income had fallen below this, partly because money from the Pre-school had fallen due to changes in government rules, and there had been fewer weddings and funerals. Andy Nailor reported on much work carried out on the church fabric by volunteers, including the monthly working party. The outside decking in the Pleasance is a considerable asset; the new cherry trees have blossomed; replacement of the hall lights with LEDs continues; we now have a new portable font, votive candle stand and icon thanks to gifts and a legacy; and – we have flushing urinals.

Problems include: internal damaged plasterwork; boilers at the end of their lives; and a leaking hall roof which has also outlasted its expected life.

Assistant Curate Rev Karen Seggie, who chaired all three meetings, also reported back on her year at Christ Church (and three other churches in the cluster!). She paid tribute to Revs Sue Brewer and Jacqueline Littlewood who had supported her.

A brief meeting of the PCC followed for various procedural matters and we all left feeling a job well done!.



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



What happens at Christ Church?

Sunday Services

08.00 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)

Saturday 8 am.

Tuesday & Thursday 7 am. Wednesday 10 am

For further information
Contact
The Church Wardens

Registered Charity no. 1130741

Office hours

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

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 Mothers Union (2nd Tuesday In church hall) Cubs

Mothers union and Semiquavers

Wednesday Guides

Girlguiding

First Steps (under 5's and carers) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm

Ifield Ladies (every third Wednesday)

Thursday Beavers/Brownies; Choir Practice:

2.30 p.m. Mustard Seed (every third)

Friday Rainbow Unit; Scouts; Parent and Toddler

Saturday Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)



Dates for Church Fair stall donations

Can you help with the church fair, take a look in your cupboards and see if you have any good conditioned unwanted items that may be something that others could use.

The church fairs are a major source of income that keeps the fabric of the church repaired.

3rd June Bottles

10th June Adult and children books

16th June Plants, cakes and preserves

Update your details

Are your organisations details correct on Christ Church website? Can organisers and leaders let Tim McCarthur know if anything needs altering on the Church website, contact:-

tmcarthur@tjmcomp.co.uk

BIBLE NOTES

As well as the "New Daylight" booklet of Bible notes prepared by the Bible Reading Fellowship, there is also a booklet entitled "Bible reflections for older people". This also comes out every four months and is priced at £4.99. This booklet is written by older people for older people, the reflections are designed to bring hope, assurance and sustenance, reminding the reader of the presence and love of God. Each issue contains 40 Bible reflections and prayer suggestions to use and revisit as often as needed.

If you would be interested in seeing a copy of this booklet please have a word with Julie Hill.



MUSTARD SEED

Third Thursday of the month In

Christ Church hall 2.30 - 4.00

We invite you to come and join us for tea, biscuits, cake and conversation with occasional speakers and

quizzes.

Come and find out who we are and meet new people. All ages welcome

Contact: Colin Parsonson: 01474 359713

Pam Kilby: 01474 332693

CALENDAR JUNE 2018

	<u> </u>		140	147	104
Sunday		3	10	17	24
Su		08.00 Service 10.00 Service	08.00 Service 10.00 All Age Service 16.00 Choral Evensong	08.00 Service 10.00 Service	08.00 Service 10.00 Service
Monday		4	11	18	25
- M -		08.00 Service BROWNIES	BROWNIES	08.00 Service BROWNIES	BROWNIES
Tuesday		5	12	19	26
		CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers
Wednesday		6 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	13 10.00 Service 13.45 First Steps 17.15 Evening Prayer	20 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer
		7	14	24	00
Thursday		08.00 Service BROWNIES Choir Practice	14.30 Mustard Seed BROWNIES Choir Practice	BROWNIES Choir Practice	08.00 Service BROWNIES Choir Practice
Friday	1	8	15	22	29
F	13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours	13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30
Sa	08.00 Service	08.00 Service 09.30 Work party	08.00 Service	08.00 Service	08.00 Service



Fair trade biscuits and organic cakes

Within our collection of fair trade biscuits and cakes, you will be able to treat yourself to a range of delectable sweet and savoury snacks. For those who have a sweet tooth, you may be interested in our selection of cookies, including double chocolate cookies and stem ginger cookies. If savoury is more to your taste, our cheddar cheese oaty biscuits or our pepper and poppy seed biscuits may offer temptation.

All of our fair trade biscuits and fair trade cakes are made from the finest, ethically sourced ingredients available and are perfect for a small dessert or snack. All products are suitable for vegetarians and contain FairPalm oil.

Fair trade and organic breakfast cereal

At Traidcraft we sell only the finest quality fair trade cereal, made using only fair trade ingredients from around the world.

Both healthy and ethical, our fair trade breakfast cereal is the perfect way to start the day. If you're a fan of muesli, then you will love our GeoMuesli selection, such as Exotic Fruit and Fruit and Nut.

For those who are on the go and or require a more convenient breakfast, Geobars offer the perfect solution; compact fair trade cereal bars made from wholesome ingredients.

Organic and fair trade chocolate

Chocolate may be easy on the tastebuds, but its production is no easy task. Almost ninety percent of cocoa that goes into this delicious treat is grown on small farms in developing countries, providing a livelihood to over six million farmers. Despite offering employment to many, there are few benefits for cocoa farmers and many still live in poverty.

Buying fair trade chocolate ensures that the industry is sustainable.



Please speak with
David Williams if there
is anything you would
like to purchase or for
more information
about what is
available