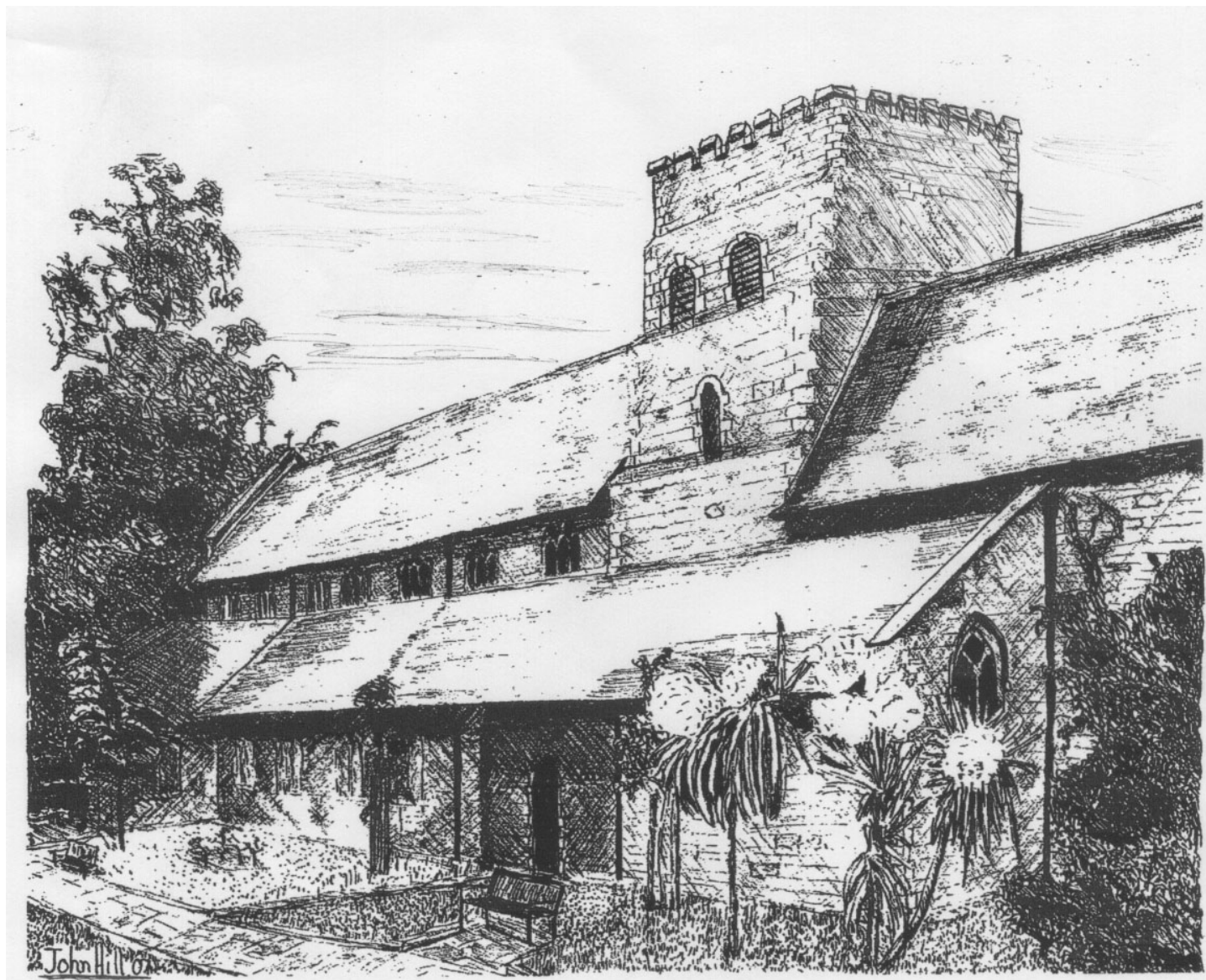


CHRIST CHURCH

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE



John Hill 2007

Spud and Sausage
Evening

18th July



July
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	Stanley Bond	
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339
Reader	John Hougham	352138
Reader	Betty Martin	352696
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443

Deadline for August magazine: Sunday 20th July .

Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden,
email: ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop

Inside this month's magazine

Page 3 4 Normandy D'Day Anniversary

Page 5 Hands of Compassion

Page 6 7 Remembering Mike Sampson

Page 8 Gardening Tips for July

Page 9 Music at Christ Church

Page 10 God's Gang

Page 11 Letters

Page 12 13 Dawn Claire Hairdressers

Page 14 Cuppa for our cause



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 July Parish magazine. With summer in full swing gardening tips from our own gardening expert 'Adam' should help to keep your hanging baskets looking good! Sheila continues her trip around Echo Square with an in-depth interview with Dawn Hockliffe of Dawn Claire Hairdressers.

The magazine starts with an account of a war veterans visit to the D'Day Celebrations in France. Finally, if you have any surplus produce from your garden, why not share it! – leave it at the back of the church for others to use. Enjoy the sunshine but remember to cover up!

NORMANDY D'DAY ANNIVERSARY

On Thursday 5th June I set off with Peter Read, Martin Sewell and Frank Gibson for a visit to Normandy, France. We left Gravesend at 6.30 am via Folkstone & Calais and arrived at Douvres le Delivrande at about 4.30 pm. We then found the military cemetery where we met up with 48 Commando and Revd Joe King for a memorial service in remembrance of fellow commandos and others who were buried in the cemetery. Also at the service were the local Mayor and other dignitaries along with many of the local residents.

After this we moved onto an old German Radar and Gun emplacement for a small reception. This was interesting as I discovered that it was under some of the hedgerow that I spent my first night (64 years ago) and my thoughts at that time were that I would not be seeing the dawn.

Later we found our hotel at Crepon, for dinner and then out to Pegasus Bridge, which was one of the first places to be taken by the British. The celebrations included a firework display at midnight.

Friday 6th was to be our busy day. At 10 am we attended a beach service, where 48 Commando landed, followed by another service nearby at the memorial to those commandos and civilians who lost their lives. At both of these events the 'locals' attended in great numbers.

After this we found the spot where I landed (Lion-sur-Mer) and met a Frenchman who was 10 years old at the time and was thankful for being liberated.

Further along the beach at Arromanches (which was the main centre for celebrations), we visited the museum and watched various activities taking place. Then at 6pm was the Veteran's Parade (about 150 of us) through the main street onto the square on the seafront – there were thousands of spectators along the route all shouting and cheering – this brought tears to my eyes, with thanks that we are still fondly remembered after 64 years.

When we assembled in the square a memorial service took place which was followed by everyone – veterans and all the crowd holding hands and singing 'Auld Lang Syne', not once but many times. This was a day which I will remember.

On Saturday 7th was a day visiting the first town (St Mere Eglis) captured by the Americans. The church in the square still has a replica of an American Paratrooper suspended by his parachute from the church tower. We also visited both beaches 'UTAH & OMAHA' and the American Cemetery near Bayeaux, which again will remain in my memory.

After dinner that night we sat in the hotel gardens, in the moonlight, not only discussing our visits, but also our church and the sound system.

Sunday 8th saw us departing with a stop at Ranville Cemetery (very moving) and then the drive back to Calais, Folkstone and Gravesend.

Many thanks to Peter & Martin who shared the driving and I think they and Frank learnt a lot from this visit. My main feeling from this visit is that the people of Normandy – old and young – are still remembering and so grateful to all us veterans.

Stan Bond



On 18th June some of us went to a service of praise and thanksgiving marking the work of Hands of Compassion. This service included the commissioning of the Director and Trustees of the new Hands of Compassion Charitable Foundation.



It was a lovely happy service and we were privileged to hear the Rt. Revd. Dr. Brian Castle, Bishop of Tonbridge, speak and to meet the Very Revd. Samuel Zulu, Dean of Ndola Cathedral in Zambia.

The work has been going on for a few years in Zambia and started with 25 children meeting in a run-down building and learning basic education. They have now set up a community school for orphaned and vulnerable children in Chipulukusu providing basic education to nearly 300 children.

This is a very poor area of Zambia and many people are dying of HIV AIDS. Many are unemployed and they live in very poor conditions.

We saw a video of the children and they were well-looked after at the school and were happy and singing. This made us feel very humble when we think of how much we have and how often we are not satisfied.

The Missionary Committee was able to donate £100 to the charity and hopes to make other donations in the future. Julie Hill

Three old chaps are out walking.
 The first one says, "Windy, isn't it?"
 The second one says, "No, it's Thursday!"
 The third one says, "So am I. Let's go to the pub."

Michael Frederick Sampson

7th August 1932 - 1st June 2008

Mike always loved reading. Even as a child, he would sit in an armchair and read, often ignoring all around him. His brother Ted used to climb over him in an attempt to get his attention, but invariably failed. Mike read whilst watching tele, whilst teaching and even eating, as unlike most men, he proved he really could multi task. On one occasion as a child, Mike held out a hand for a sandwich, whilst still glued to his book, to make a point, a bar of soap was put in his hand instead! He went hungry, but the book didn't go unread.

Mike's brothers; Ted and Jeff both like motorbikes and Mike once decided he would try one and rode it around the garden. When he fell off unceremoniously, he decided never to get on a bike again. History repeated itself during National Service, when (as well as saving the East Coast from imminent flooding) he had to drive a truck, he had some slight accident and never drove again.

Mike stuck to books and went to college in London to train as a teacher. Whilst a student he went to visit his friend, Windsor's family in Wales. On a Sunday, they went to chapel and were warmly welcomed back after their time in the 'evil city'.

At college, Mike learned that the answer to the meaning of life, the universe and everything was cricket. Cricket was a life-time passion, he played whenever possible (and sometimes when it was impossible too), and when not playing could be found watching IT on tele (with, of course, a book in his hand, and shouting orders at the players). Out of the cricket season, Mike played rugby, which he also enjoyed, although he once told his daughters he only played to keep fit for the cricket season.

Mike was lucky enough to find in Jill, a wife who was willing to indulge his passion for cricket, and for many years his young family would spend every weekend and most holidays picnicking on the boundary of a variety of cricket pitches.

He was though a devoted husband and father and was very involved in Anne, Mary and Jane's lives, making masks, costumes and scenery for Brownie and school plays, making them breakfast before school, sharing his love of words and history with them, and of course teaching them (usefully) the rules of cricket. All three girls were pupils at Wrotham Road School, where he taught for 36 years,

and Jane was lucky enough to be taught by him two years running. Something those who knew Mike (especially Jill) had to accept, was that he was omniscient – he knew everything (or thought he did). This was evident in playing games like Balderdash, (a sort of Call My Bluff, where the game was often ruined because Mike already knew the meaning of the words! He helped both his daughters and grandchildren to extend their vocabularies, with such useful phrases as, “my postilion has been struck by lightning”. When the grandchildren were stuck with their homework, he proved himself to be the infallible ‘phone a friend’ option, giving them both the answer and the confidence to believe that they, like him were geniuses. He delighted in embarrassing his daughters, from when he would affect lunatic behaviour whilst holding onto the arm of a teenage daughter in public, to writing and reading embarrassing poems at each of their weddings. When he ran out of daughters, he prepared speeches for his nieces’ weddings and often delighted and appalled his colleagues at Wrotham Road with poems in the same vein. Mike was a talented man: a historian, a poet, an artist, a word-smith, a teacher remembered affectionately by those he taught, and of course a cricketer.

Surprisingly though he could also be a pessimist although this did not apply to his children particularly not to his grandchildren, of whom he predicted great things. The pessimist was reserved for himself, England’s cricket team, England’s rugby team, England’s Olympic team and any event which England dared to enter, and of course the television set for daring to portray all this failure or (in the case of England winning), potential failure!

Mike had a keen sense of humour, and loved satire, particularly in the form of Gilbert and Sullivan, which was one of the few things he could be heard singing (apart from his favourite hymn: Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer). He was intelligent, talented, and a family man, who delighted in his grandchildren.

Mike was a gentleman, whom we shall remember with love.

Diocesan Sponsored Walk - 19th July

Would you like to join Colin Parsonson and David and Shirley Whitehead on this walk? Sue has details.

Sponsorship forms available at church.

Christ Church Missionary Committee



Present
a
Spud & Sausage Evening
On
Friday 18th July
With a Sing-a-long
led by



Gwyneth and Peter Shearan

7.30 pm
Bring your own drink

Admission by ticket only:
£5 adults, £3 children
under 10.

Tickets available from
15th June in church or
from Gill Campbell
534517

In support of



GARDENING TIPS FOR JULY

by Adam

The small amount of compost in Hanging Baskets and Containers has to sustain the plants for another three months. Plants can only take in nutrients with water therefore never let their containers dry out.

The amount of nutrient in most composts will only last the plants some four to six weeks. It is now time to feed with a good general fertilizer preferably in liquid form. Most Hanging Basket and Container plants grow very quickly and are constantly hungry, continue feeding at fortnightly intervals until the first week in September.

If you have any liquid left, your annuals in the borders would be most grateful and show their appreciation with improved performance.

Choir Music at Christ Church

CHOIR SUNDAY 6th JULY

This was instituted by Rev J King in 1989. It was, initially, one evening in Trinity where the choir could perform Choral Evensong choosing the settings for Canticles, Verses and Responses, Psalm and Anthem as well as choosing the hymns and readers. Later it was to include a different setting for the Eucharist as well as Evensong.

Alas with the poor attendance at Evensong we now perform a setting for the Eucharist with the choir choosing the hymns, elements procession, and readers.

This year we are again using the St Osmund Mass written by David Hall, Organist at Salisbury Cathedral, who kindly gave us permission to use it.



As we have sung it before we hope the congregation will be able to join us in singing it.

We are also singing Elgar's Ave Verum Corpus and Alan Vincent's Go Forth into the World in Peace, an anthem dedicated to Mollie and Fred Gorringe past members of this church.

This service and the Carols by Candlelight are when the choir perform rather than leads.

We are fortunate to have such a strong four part choir and although some of us are not in the first flush of

youth, we nevertheless enjoy our music making and look forward to a very enjoyable service

Gwyneth Charles

St Edmund's Church Living Well

Temple Hill, Dartford

10 am - 4 pm - 12th July.

All Welcome.

Bring your own lunch.

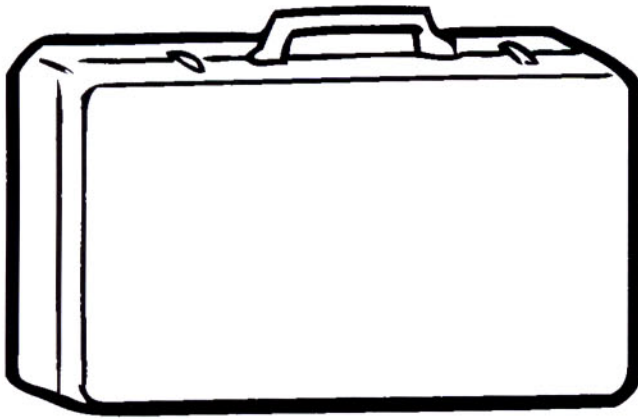
A Diocesan Symposium organised by Affirming Catholicism, Rochester.

Exploring what liberal-minded Diocesan and National Groups have to offer to the life and work of the Church of England.

God's Gang

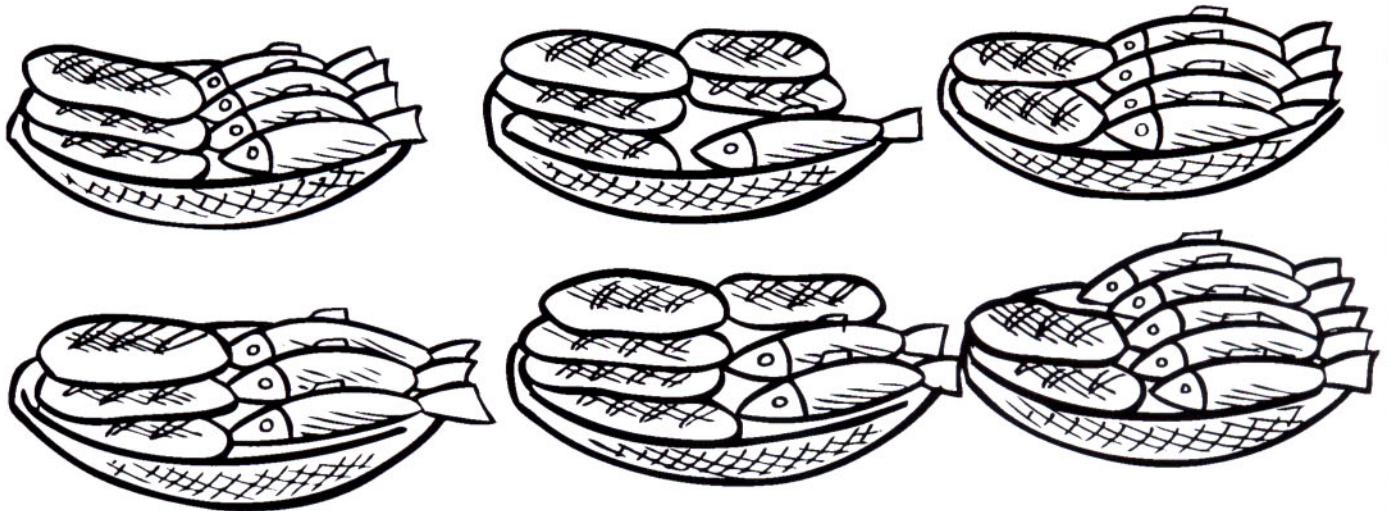
... all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.'

Matthew 14.20



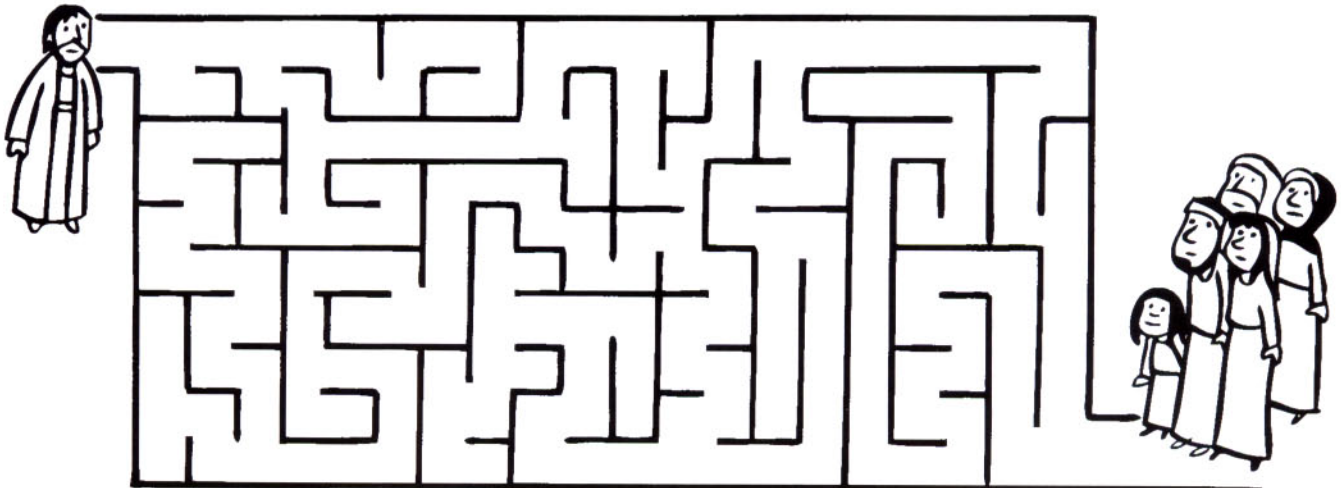
What would you pack if you were travelling with Jesus?

Draw these things in the case.



Circle the basket that shows how much food was available before Jesus blessed it.

Help the crowd find the right way to reach Jesus.



Letters

Mr I Brown
Editor
Christ Church Parish Magazine

10 June 2008

Dear Ian

I was delighted to receive a copy of the Christ Church magazine for June and to read the very positive review written by L Harries, one of our garden guests.

I am pleased that this guest enjoyed the gardens and was able to come back on the second day which was so much better weather.

Those of us who opened our gardens enjoyed the experience very much. I am able to report that we made £2375.92 for Church funds.

This is a very good outcome, none of which would have been possible without the support of people such as yourself who helped to publicise the event.

Thank you once again,

With very best wishes

Jean Craig.

Dear Editor,

Would you please put the text below into your parish magazine so as to promote a family Christian based event within the Parish of Chalk, Thanks.

Chalk Village Fete

on Saturday 12th July 2008 – 11.30 am to 3 pm.

A great day out is in store for visitors to the Chalk Village Fete, which will be held on St Mary's Woodland, next to Chalk Church in Church Lane, Chalk. Entrance is free and there is plenty of car parking. There will be about 40 stalls and games as well as lunches and refreshments and a chance to go up the church tower to see fantastic views of Chalk Parish, its marshes and the surrounding area towards the Dartford Bridge and the Thames Estuary. Entrance is free and the fete opens at 11.30 am. It promises to be a great family and community day out for the people of Chalk and all the surrounding parishes - please come and join us.

Any questions, please contact Heather Bull on 01474 320156

Christoph Bull

Christ Church sits firmly in Echo Square and we are investigating this over the next few months by interviewing people whose lives make up this community. This month I visited Dawn Hockliffe at Dawn Claire Hairdressers.



How long have you been at Echo Square?

It will be 16 years in September 2008 since I came to Echo Square.

Why did you choose Echo Square?

There was a hairdresser's here before. The previous owner ran the salon for 15 years and I believe it was a hairdresser's before that and possibly a supermarket before that. I have worked in London and other towns, and for 2 spells abroad but have always known of this salon because my parents live nearby in Hillside Drive, and they alerted me when the premises came up for sale.

The building is owned by the Billings family. There has been ongoing refurbishment but 4 years ago we closed for 10 days and completely changed the layout and décor.

How many staff do you have?

I have just taken on more staff so we have 18 in total including stylists, receptionists and beauty therapists. Some are full time, some part time and we are now able to open for appointments on Mondays. Until recently we have only been open on Mondays for reception and retail sales.

What do you offer to customers?

We offer a very wide range of hair and beauty products and services. We do cutting, colouring, restyling, extensions and special occasion hair. We offer Nanomax which is a specialist service rather than just a retail product. It is used to re-vitalise hair and take it back to the condition it was before colouring or other treatments. We sell an exclusive range of retail products for all needs. There is also a specialist treatment for the scalp which helps with hair loss: something which is more common in women than you might think. It also helps to encourage re-growth after chemotherapy.

In the beauty room, we offer Dermalogica skin care. There are treatments for hands, feet, face and body including massages and an Indian Head massage.

Also manicures, pedicures and waxing. We are always looking at improvements and new treatments and our latest is Microdermabrasion which involves blasting the skin with crystals...all additive free so suitable for all skin types, to correct among other things : active acne and acne scarring, aging, sunspots, sun damage and smokers lips. Dawn recommends a minimum of 3 treatments and preferably 6 or sometimes 10 to see a dramatic difference. She showed me some before and after pictures which certainly showed improvement! We also offer a complete bridal package with trial sessions, massages and manicures as well as the all important hairdo! And we have regular promotional offers such as the 4 times a year colour weeks.

What is it like running a business in Echo Square?

Having had experience of hairdressing in many places, I like working in Echo Square. There is some walk-in trade but the free car park opposite is a great help and our biggest advertisement is the big window facing the roundabout. We display large banners for special promotions and I recently advertised in the window a vacant staff position and filled it very quickly. Whatever we put in the window usually gets a response. We do know and use the other businesses in Echo Square. When the wedding shop opened I went round to welcome them. We should really advertise ourselves as a one stop wedding place with the florists, caterers, dress shop, church and hairdresser's! I think we had a website to advertise our services long before it was the norm. You can find us on www.dawnclairesalon.com

I know you always advertise in the church Summer and Winter Fair programmes...Do you feel Christ Church is a part of the community?

Yes, and we have lots of links with Christ Church. We have many of the congregation as customers (used to have Pat, the vicar's wife!) Of course we do the hair for many of the brides who are married at Christ Church. They come in in their jeans to have their hair dressed and we try to pop down to see them at the church so we can see what their hair looks like with their wedding dress and the complete outfit. My mother used to help Joyce Newton with the church flowers from time to time and both my sister and I were married at Christ Church. Our children were also christened there and my sons and daughter went to Christ Church nursery.

Footnote:

I noticed they have an Investors in People plaque on the wall and I was certainly made very welcome, as I am when I have my hair done there. Everyone there is signed up to the ethos and it is obvious why they are always busy!

Sheila Brown.

CUPPA FOR OUR CAUSE 5 - 12 July

BRING AND BUY
Please Join Us!



Between

10 am & 8 p.m. Friday 11th July 08

You are invited to join us

Sandy & Ted

At

63 Portland Avenue
Gravesend

As we support local charity

Alzheimer's & Dementia

SUPPORT SERVICES

Cuppa For Our Cause

ADSS (Registered Charity No 1024385)

Provides a unique range of services to people with dementia
and their families in Gravesham, Dartford & Swanley



Mothers' Union Annual Birthday Service

Sunday 13th July 10 am.

A special service with families in mind -
followed by party food in the hall.

All welcome.




mothers union

christian care for families worldwide

What's on this month?

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Highlights this month ! Cuppa for our Cause Spud & Sausage evening			1 Guides Mother's Union Summer Social	2 MU Wave of Prayer Brownies Beavers	3 American Independence Day Scouts Office hours	4 Working Party Gravesham Big Day Out - Plus
6 Gravesham Big Day Out - Plus Ecumenical Service Fort Gardens	7 Music group 8 pm Cubs Brownies	8 Staff meeting 6pm	9 First Steps 2pm Guides	10 Choir Brownies Beavers	11 Cuppa for our Cause Sandy & Ted Scouts Office hours	12 Diocesan Symposium Temple Hill
13  MU birthday service	14 Cubs Brownies	15	16 Guides	17 Choir Brownies Beavers	18 Scouts Office hours Spud & Sausage Evening	19 Children of Zimbabwe sponsored walk
20 Deadline for magazine entry	21 Cubs Brownies	22 RMA cheese and wine	23 Guides PCC Meeting	24 Choir Brownies Beavers Over 80's Tea party	25 Scouts Office hours	26
27 Youth club	28 Cubs Brownies	29 Staff meeting 6pm	30 Guides Hope o8 Gravesend 2 - 5	31		

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 changed in 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; Mothers 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