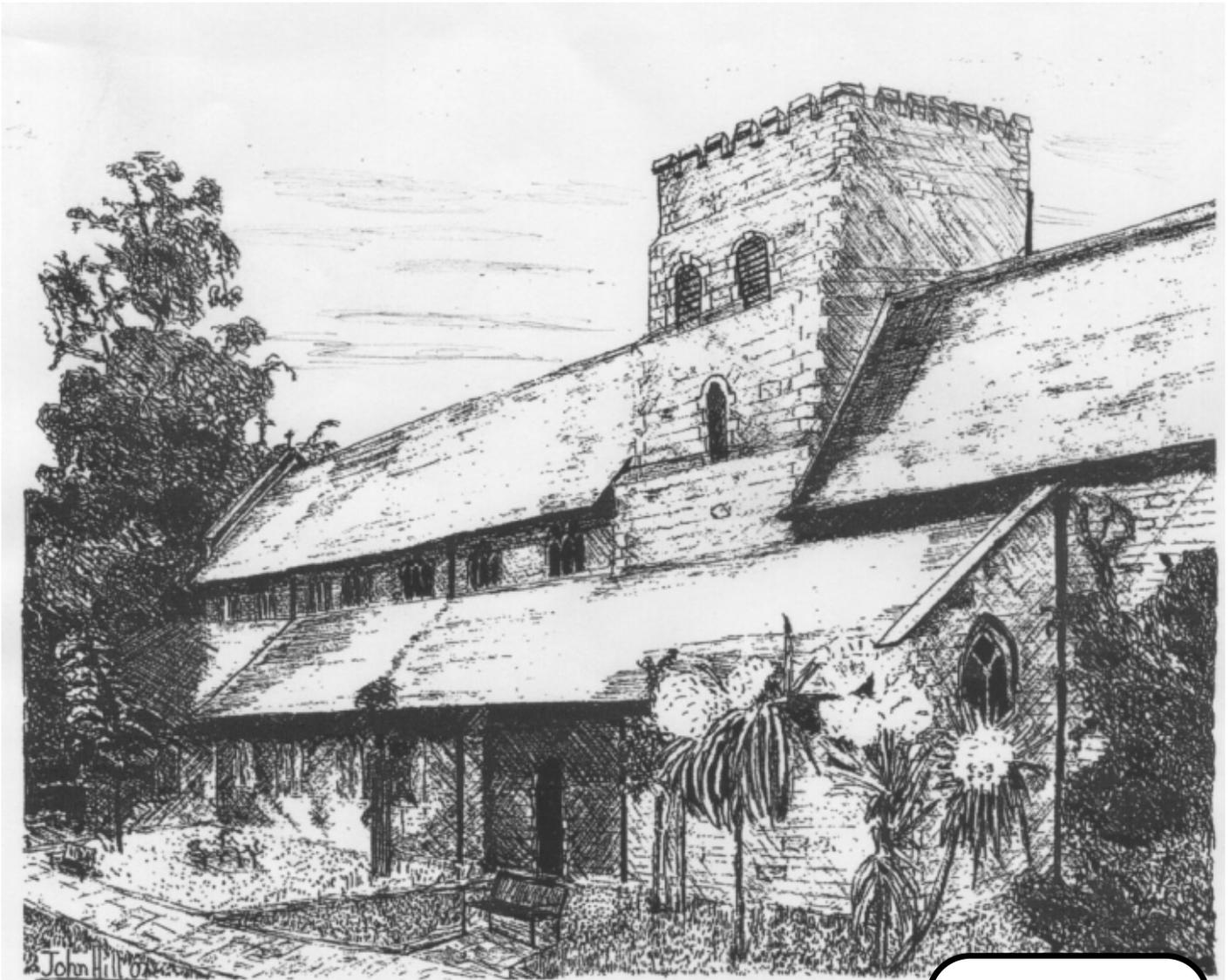




CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE



John Hill 2007

Teddy Bears

Picnic

12th August

2pm



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Garden Parties

**6th August and
22nd August**

30p

or
donation

**August
2009**

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 September magazine: Sunday 23rd August .
Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden,
or email: ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop

Inside this month's magazine

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Christ Church Hall
is available for hire.
Contact: Mrs Joan Bennett
01474 568585

Well equipped. Very
suitable for meetings
and children's parties.



Roadworks, Swine Flu, summer holidays, Teddy Bears Picnic and MU Garden Parties, just when you thought you could sit in the sun with your feet up.

A new series starts this month 'Meet the People of Christ Church' with an interview with Celia our web mistress (the person responsible for looking after the church web site) and there is an interesting article about 'Street Pastors' who will be taking to the streets of Gravesend in August.

Have a good August and let us have your holiday stories to amuse us in the latter part of the year.

Editor

Swine Flu

In common with other local churches, we will be observing the Bishop's guidelines on Swine Flu, which have been formulated in accordance with the best available medical advice:

1/ Until circumstances change and we are advised otherwise, the advice is to offer Holy Communion in one kind (ie, wafers only). The celebrant will take both wafer and wine in a symbolic act on behalf of the whole community, and then wafers only will be distributed.

2/ Those administering Holy Communion will adopt the highest standards of hygiene before touching the elements.

3/ For most people, swine flu symptoms are relatively mild. Those who are particularly vulnerable to infection may prefer to abstain from Holy Communion; some may also wish to abstain from 'passing the peace' and should not be unduly pressed.

4/ If you have flu symptoms, you are advised to stay at home until the infection is over (about 7 to 10 days).

5/ Those who are affected by flu may need a 'flu friend' to collect medication and shopping—we can help one another by offering this kind of practical help. Call Sue on 352643 if you need assistance, or if you would be willing to help.

Meet the people of Christ Church

An interview with Celia
our web mistress.



Q. How long have you been worshipping at Christ Church?

A. I have been coming here for about 5 years.

Q. What attracted you to come to Christ Church?

A. When my Grandma passed away she was interred in the Garden of Remembrance, and to continue to feel close to her, and to try and find some inner peace, I started coming here.

Q. Why are you in a wheelchair?

A. I can't walk - rather stating the obvious there! My disability's full name is Ataxia with Ocular-Motor Apraxia Syndrome Type II, or AOA2 if you want to abbreviate it - and make it easier to say! It's a neurological disorder, and it's progressive. It's also something called an autosomal recessive disorder, which means I got a faulty gene from both parents - unbeknownst to them, I hasten to add. It is pure chance I am the one afflicted because my brother is absolutely fine. Extensive neurological tests were carried out on him and he doesn't appear to be even carrying a faulty gene, which is fantastic. Ataxia basically means lack of balance and coordination, the ocular bit pertains to the eyes (I have trouble with focus, I can't judge distances, and I have very jerky eye movements, not the nice smooth movement 'normal' people have), and the type II bit indicates late onset, and is much rarer than the early onset type I. Just to give you an idea of how rare, at the time of diagnosis 3 years ago I was the only person in the UK to have this, and the fifth case in the world.

I was 12 when I started to notice things going wrong and 17 when I had to admit defeat and start using a wheelchair, so I have known what it's like to walk and run, and the pain is still horrendous. Not coping isn't an option, but I will freely admit I have my days when I want to shout and scream, but it's a case of getting on with it and doing what I can while I can. I have fantastic family support, and without them I'd go to pieces. I get asked 'when will you be better?' a lot. The answer is one word - never. I will never be free of this disease and these wheels. And that makes me want to cry.

Q. How do you find Christ Church as a wheelchair user?

A. Access wise it's OK, although I don't quite understand why the entrance at the back of the church was all ramped and smoothed over, and is now not used. I like the fact there has now been a portable ramp bought so wheelchairs can get to the altar rail - I used to feel quite self conscious when the vicar had to come to me! Parking can be a nightmare though. It really annoys me that people who can walk perfectly fine feel the need to park as close as possible.

Q. How did you become involved in the web site?

A. Because I volunteered, basically! In this technological age websites are the way to go. I heard Sue wanted a website but didn't really have that much time to do one, so I stepped in.

Q. What is your IT background?

A. Self taught. I got my first computer at about 16, and I just decided one day I was going to learn how to use it properly, so I did what I do best and fiddled around with it, and it fascinated me and I wanted to learn more. I bought books and all kinds of gadgets and gizmos. I went on a few courses in my late 20's to get certain qualifications, and ended up doing my European Computer Driving Licence in about 6 months, when it's an 18 month course! I'm still always learning.

Q. How much time do you spend keeping the web site up to date?

A. I try to log in at least once a week to take off any out of date stuff. Other than that it depends what comes in and how much comes in as to how long it takes. I believe in doing a job well rather than rushing it and it not looking as good as it could; it's my baby.

Q. What is involved in producing the weekly newsletter?

A. The newsletter looks simple enough, but can be a challenge if there's loads to go in, trying to fit it all can be a nightmare, and I have to turn my hand to editorial stuff and rewrite things. Equally so with the weeks where there's only 3 or 4 items and needing to pad things out. Good job I like writing too! Sue provides me with the basics each week, and people email me if they have things they wish to be included, then I just have to fit it all in and make it look pretty - I hope! It's funny because I get more out of doing this and the website than actually being in church.

Q. Is there anything you think Christ Church should know about their web mistress?

A. My favourite colour is purple, and I love Oriental food and chocolate - though not on the same plate!

Thank you for letting us know something about you.

Ian Brown



Come and join us for...

Teddy Bears Picnic
2 p.m.
Wed 12th August



All Welcome!

We begin the afternoon with a 'taster' for our monthly service for young children and their carers

'First Steps'

Gathering in church for about 20 mins of songs (with musical instruments for the children), story and simple prayer—and a chance to meet our naughty little sheep— before the rest of the party in the hall and gardens.

Please let us know if you are able to come...
Ring Rev Sue Brewer 01474 352643
Or email suec@brewer86.plus.com

Or drop a note in the Vicarage door
48 Old Road East.

Please come to our Teddy Bears' Picnic.
We've got toys, food and drink,
music and fun —
Just bring your mum, dad or carer;
your teddy bear
and maybe a blanket to sit on.

Older brothers and sisters
are welcome too...



EllenorLions Hospices
'without them we would have been lost'

COFFEE MORNINGS

Friday September 25th
Friday October 30th
Friday November 27th
Friday December 11th

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



Soroptimist International of
Gravesend & District

Women in a Man's World

Speakers:

Rev. Sue Brewer (Vicar Christ Church)
Cllr Balvinder Saund JP (Councillor for Ilford and Chair Sikh Women's Alliance)
Anita Baines (Counsellor in the Prison Service)

Tuesday 1st September 2009

at



Christ Church Hall,
Old Road East, Gravesend
7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

Entrance £2.00

(Includes Tea or Coffee and Cakes and Biscuits)

Raffle for President's Charities
(Ellenor Lions Hospices and Homestart)

Summer Holidays

It has been suggested that it would be nice to read about peoples summer holidays.

So as you sit on those windswept beaches, why not write a few lines to go in future editions of the parish magazine to help brighten up peoples days as we drift into autumn and winter.

Editor

Choir



Choir Sunday this year was very well supported by the congregation.

Gwyneth and the choir were overwhelmed by the numerous comments about the music that we sang at both services. Mozart's "Alleluia" in particular attracted many compliments.

The comments that we received indicated that people felt that the music enhanced their worship.

The choir are always pleased to sing the various Anthems and hymns that are chosen for us, especially the many well loved and well composed arrangements in our repertoire.

After the Summer holidays we shall be preparing for the Deanery Choirs Evensong

on September 13th at Shorne after which we will concentrate on the Harvest music.

We are sad that Les has decided to retire from singing in the choir. He has given very many years of faithful service to Christ Church as a fine singer. We will miss him very much.

Pam Kilby

Music at Christ Church

Music Group

We do not sing as a group in August as there is no Church Parade, but that does not mean that we have sit at home with our feet up! We have been learning an anthem for Harvest and will continue with rehearsals throughout August. It will also give us an opportunity to learn some new songs, some with familiar tunes, and others with new lyrics and music.



Most of us have now mastered singing the new Gloria and clapping at the same time!

We enjoyed learning the harmonies for the song that the children sang at the last Church Parade. It brought back happy memories for Helen as this was one of the first songs she learnt (in Shona) when she spent a year teaching music in Zimbabwe. However she did make the observation that the African children picked up the rhythm and harmonies much quicker than us! We will be singing again in September, so if you would like to join us, speak to Helen or Gill.

Gill Campbell



The Christ Church branch of the Mothers' Union are holding 2 events to raise money for MU projects.

Two Summer Garden Parties

The first is at Julie Hill's - 34 Whitehill Road
Thursday 6th August from 2.30 pm.

And the second at Jasmine Humphries' -
27 Pine Avenue
Saturday 22nd August from 2.30 pm.

£1 entry for tea and cakes, plus raffle and bring and buy.

Everyone is welcome ... We hope to see you there.

CCADS



Just to let everyone know that CCADS are back on track and will start rehearsing in September, ready to tread the boards in November.

More information will follow in next month's magazine, but if you are interested in joining us either come along to the hall on Friday

September 4th at 8pm, or give Gill a ring on 01474 534517 and she will give you all the information you need.

NEWS FROM GRAVESEND STREET PASTORS

JULY/AUGUST 09

Many of you will be aware of the new initiative by local churches, supported by Churches Together in Gravesham, to train and equip Street Pastors to go out on Friday nights to offer pastoral support, care and a listening ear to night-time clients between the hours of 11pm -3am. There are now over 130 towns and cities nation-wide, with Christians undertaking this support in their communities. The Street Pastors have the support of both the local Council and Kent Police. We hope in time that this project can be extended to further nights.

A team of 21 volunteers from our local churches have just completed approximately 40 hours of training on Saturdays over the past 5 months and will shortly be commissioned to go out on to Gravesend's streets in teams of four or five. The training has been very comprehensive, including mentoring, drugs, alcohol, the role of the Police, probation service etc. During July each team has gone out in plain clothes on a Friday night 's surveillance of the town to find out what to expect. Fortunately Gravesend is very well patrolled by the Police and by excellent CCTV coverage by the local Council and teams have been much encouraged by their experiences.

Over the past two weeks there have also been visits to the new North Kent Police Station, to be shown around by the town centre's Police Constable. The light, modern building has state of the art equipment. The visit included seeing the custody suite and a realisation of how much quicker modern technology has made the process of analysing fingerprints, DNA and even footprints using a national database of information to aid in the apprehension of criminals. Arrests made today can normally be processed in about three and a half hours. The arrival of a violent prisoner during the visit gave a strong reminder that whilst the custody block was quiet on our arrival, the Police are regularly dealing with incidents of a more disturbing nature.

The teams have also been fortunate enough to visit the CCTV control room at the Civic Centre and see how incidents can swiftly be managed to protect the public at large and keep Gravesend streets safe.

Shortly the Street Pastor's uniforms of jackets, caps and fleeces will be arriving and during August each team will be making their first uniformed patrols. **YOU ARE INVITED TO THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH on Wednesday 16th September at 7.30pm in the Pembroke public house**, in King Street and a welcome is extended to all of you to join in the worship, celebrations and commissioning, in the presence of Les Isaac, Director of Ascension Trust, the head of the Street Pastors' movement.

Above all your *prayer support* for this project is urgently needed. We are seeking a **Prayer Co-ordinator** to organise teams of people at base each Friday night to pray for the

safety of the Street Pastors and the people they encounter of the streets, together with the issues they carry. If you are inspired by what you read, please consider prayerfully if this is a call for you and contact us. We also need people to pray regularly for the project within their homes and a prayer leaflet will be introduced to encourage you to support in this way.

Lastly we need financial support. It costs about £140 to fully equip a Street Pastor with uniform, which is a lot to ask each Street Pastor to find in addition to donating their time, plus the £300 training fee. There are also the costs of supporting the administration and running of the course and the project itself. Please, if you can pledge a donation send your cheques made payable to Gravesend Street Pastors, 55 Windmill St, Gravesend. DA121BB and if possible please could you Gift Aid your donations to make them worth about 25% more? In addition, could your church plan and hold a fundraising event in the future to support this worthy cause? Please let us know if you plan to do this, so that we can support with advertising and supporting this.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Anne Jenkins - Gravesend Street Pastors Co-ordinator

For more information phone 01474 568498 or visit www.streetpastors.org.uk

Just Children Foundation

You may remember that last summer Colin Parsonson completed a sponsored walk to Rochester in aid of the Just Children Foundation supporting the children of Zimbabwe. We have just heard that the walk raised a total of £50,000! There will be another walk for the same cause on 10th July 2010 ... if you are interested, put it in your diary now.

WANTED

Crèche rota - At least one more helper needed - please speak to Sue or Chris Williams for more details.

Coffee rota - 2 or 3 more helpers needed. On average 4 or 5 times a year. Speak to Maureen Fittell.

Car - Needed some more drivers to bring older members to church - could you take a turn once a month? Have a word with Sandy Barden or Sue.

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

2nd	Aug	Week 5	Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Mary Sargeant
9th	Aug	Week 6	Sylvia Brown, Jasmine and Steve Humphries
16th	Aug	Week 7	Joan and Bob Bennett, Ann Lennard
23rd	Aug	Week 8	Colin and Linda Parsonson, Anne Thrush
30th	Aug	Week 9	Jerry and Sally Higgins, Sylvia Brown
6th	Sept	Week 10	Pauline Marks, Margot Edwards, Angela Kirby

Maureen Fittell

Christchurch 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 Karen at

Junie's Florists.

How long have you been at Echo Square?

Since 1984. My Mum (Junie) ran the shop until she and my Dad were killed in a car accident. Since then I have run it with my husband, Mark for the past 25 years.

Why did you choose Echo Square?

My Mum found it as an ideal spot for my younger brother to go to school from when he was 5 years old. She was able to work in the shop during the day.

What can you tell me about the building?

It was possibly an electrical shop before we had it and possibly a hairdresser's before that.

How many staff do you have?

There are 4 staff and we can draft in extra staff for busy occasions.

What do you offer to customers?

We have fresh flowers in at all times: from a Dutch suppliers twice a week and we also go up to Covent Garden.

We offer fresh flowers, bouquets, basket arrangements, hand tied, wedding & funeral flowers between 9 & 6 Mondays to Saturdays and 10-3 on Sundays.

We also run a local delivery service. We can be contacted on 01474 359080.

What is it like running a business in Echo Square?

We are well established now and trade on word of mouth. We are known for being reliable and always having freshly made up arrangements.

Our busiest times are Valentines Day, Mothers' Day, Easter and Christmas.

Convenient parking is also useful here.

Do you feel ChristChurch is part of the community?

Yes. We used to have more to do with ChristChurch when Father Joe King was there and used to see him quite often. We have supplied flowers and Christmas trees to the church in the past.

Sheila Brown

Footnote:

Karen and Mark would like to take this opportunity to thank their customers for business over the last 25 years.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Please can I draw your attention to a book I have published, it was submitted to Dublin Metropolitan University as a thesis for a Ph D.

This is a constructive view of the teachings of Jesus and the Prophet Muhammad to find where the faiths coming down from Abraham can find some common cause and respect for each others Faith.

Both teachers point to God our Father, it is my prayer that peace may be among us and central to our search for what brings us toward each other. The question has the purpose of seeking ways in which these people of faith can work together.

A friend told me recently that a transfer from a pastoral priest to a writer can be seen in the text of the book.

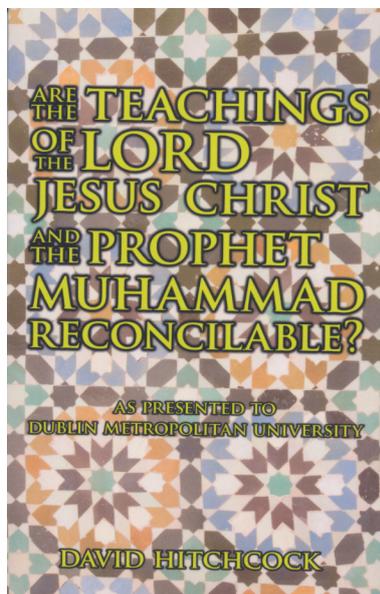
Because I am disabled this will be my ministry in the future.

The book can be ordered through Authorhouse at www.authorhouse.co.uk or from any bookshop ISBN978-4389-5198-1

Title: Are the Teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Prophet Muhammad Reconcilable?

I have a few copies that I can supply at cost £6.28 I will have to find a cheaper printer!

David Hitchcock



Dear Editor,

I would like to say how enjoyable The Christian Aid Supper was, thanks to all who helped with the preparation of the food and got everything ready.

The sing-song was a great success, due to Gwyneths playing.

Thank you

Audrey Price.



The Summer Supper raised £250.

Dear Editor,

On reading Sheila Brown's interview with the Supermarket at Echo Square it brought back memories of long ago. This shop used to be the Co-op bakery and a grocers. It used to have the over wires that went across to the cashier in little boxes with the money in, this was discontinued. Our son Stephen on leaving St. Georges School went into the grocery trade and was manager there until it closed. It then became a Car Spares shop and is now the Supermarket that is there now.

Mavis Casely.

Hall Spring Clean

The Hall committee are organising a 2-Day Spring Clean of the hall on

August 13th and 14th.

There will be 2 sessions on each day - morning sessions from 10 - 12 o'clock afternoon sessions from 2 - 4 o'clock.



First Steps

8th July 2009

It's time for our July First Steps already and our naughty little sheep is looking forward to catching up with some of his friends once again. Last time he had a wonderful time playing with Erin and Libby but somehow he managed to get his wool all dirty. Of course he had to have a bath and now he's all sparkly and clean and nice to know! Anne and her granddaughter Isabelle have come along to help me set up today and when the doors open, first in is Vicki with her two little girls Grace and Elsie, closely followed by Rachel with daughters Molly and Olivia. Then lots of other happy, excited girls and boys soon join us with their Mums and Grannies and we are ready to begin our service.

When we've sung "Candletime" and lit our altar candles we've got some other special candles to light. Yesterday Holly was 2, it will be Molly's 3rd birthday tomorrow and Erin is now a big girl of 4, so the three little girls all come up to our little altar and watch wide eyed as their special candles are lit. Then we all join in singing "Happy Birthday" to them, with much jingling of bells.

Today we are thinking about "Holidays" and the lovely time we have doing special things with our family and friends. We begin by singing "Here we go round the park again." because all of the children love going to the park. We thank God

for parks and for the lovely times that we have with those whom we love. Next we sing about "Fish and bread" and "Mother Hen", because it's lovely to have a picnic in the Park with yummy sandwiches. And what better fillings than salmon with cucumber or egg and tomato! And God calls us to be generous and share what we have when we have plenty, so we sing. "Share it round."

And suddenly a cry goes up. Libby has seen our naughty little sheep and he's standing up on the pulpit! I thought that he was unusually quiet, especially as we were talking about food! Libby and Erin very carefully walk up the pulpit steps and gently bring him down and take it in turns to look after him. And before we know where we are our little service is at an end. The candles are carefully blown out and we all go out into the Hall for a cuppa, a chat and time to play. Our naughty little sheep isn't playing today he's just watching the children from the hatchway because he doesn't want to get his wool dirty again!

Our next service, on 12th August, is going to be extra special because we are having a "Teddy Bears' Picnic" so our naughty little sheep and I hope that lots of you will join us then for another lovely time together.

God Bless
Rosemary Austin

GARDENING TIPS FOR AUGUST

It was not a very good July weatherwise and most of us did not have to reduce Kent's water reserves to any great extent. However this month can be a very busy time in the garden. Containers must be watered and fed, weeding should be undertaken and dead heading of all flowering plants should continue throughout to obtain good results. Unless you have been watering lawns, reduce mowing and do not lower the cutting height of your mower.

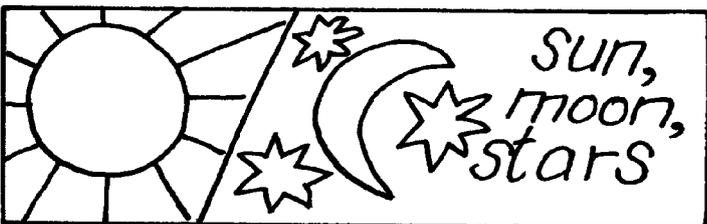
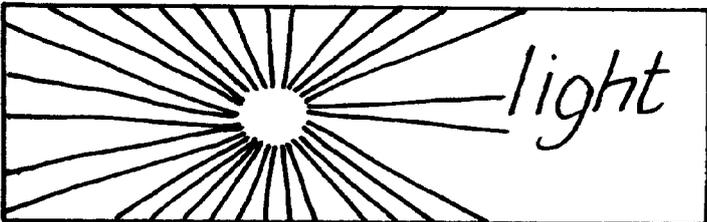
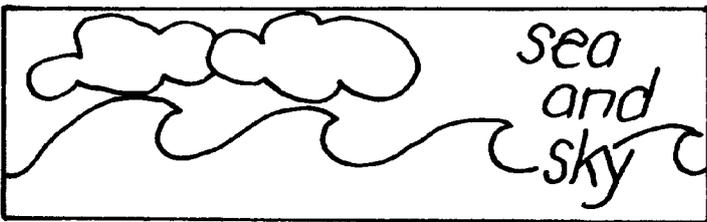
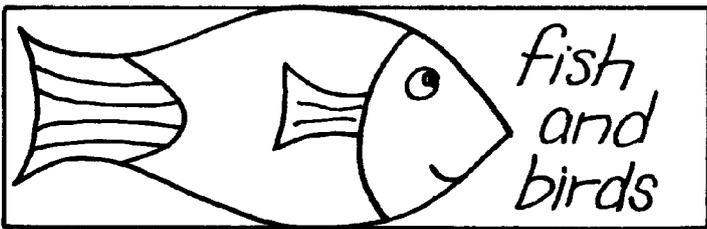
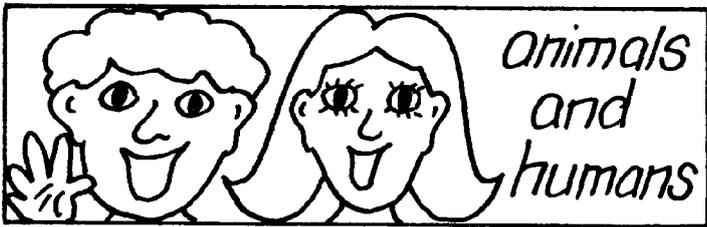
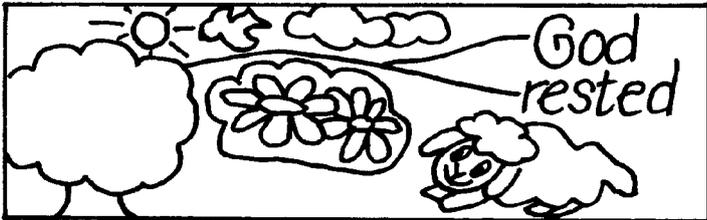
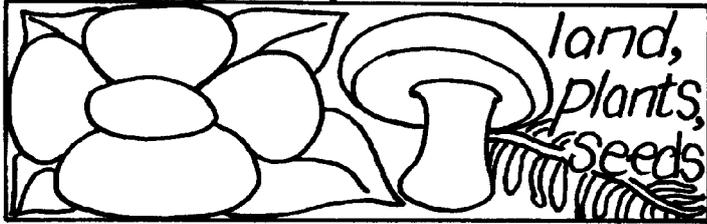
If you have not already done so now is the time to attend to your Wisteria. Those several foot long shoots should be cut back to two buds from the main stem and if the plant is becoming a wild mass it can be severely pruned to fit in with the size of your garden.

If you have been growing strawberries and their runners have rooted, these can be potted up and will provide good young plants for next year.

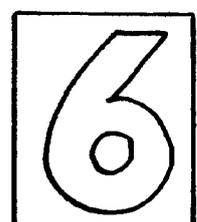
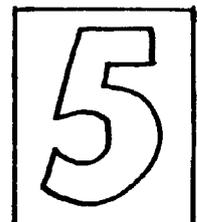
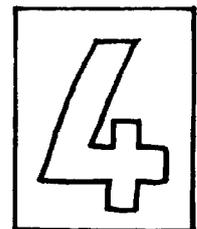
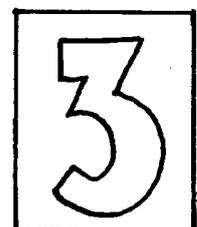
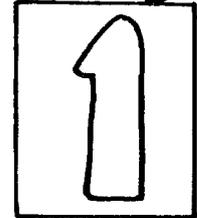
ADAM

God's Gang

God made (← Draw lines to join the boxes to the right day →)



On day



Colour the pictures

HOLY BAPTISM

7th June Skye O'Connor Boast
Tilly Mae Butler
Ellis Davis Simpson
Courtney Jennifer O'Doherty



21st June Ciara Alex Jean Daisy Young
Rebecca Claire Sales
Keira Bai Oakley
Macey Grace Hodgson

4th July Temitayo Jessica Anddrula Caroline Owolabi
Titilayo Jadesola Alexis Carole Owolabi

5th July Millie May Jane Coomber-Aldous
Millie Jane Rayfield
Amber Jaye Rayfield
Christian Robert Barrow
Lakken Jerry Barrow
Macie Jane Baker Whittington



HOLY MATRIMONY

24th May Robert Bramham Lister and Judith Louise Brett

6th June Steven Paul Moody and Emma Elizabeth Boyd

18th July Jonathan Mannings and Marie Susan Cooper
Lee David Peter Rhodes and Natalie Pearce

25th July Damon Neal Cook and Vicki Margaret Noe
Kevin Robbins and Charlotte-Ann Lacey



REST IN PEACE

6th June Ellen Breffney Corris

7th June May Alma Hylands

14th June Frederick Henry Boddy

2nd July William Walter John Vine

2nd July Joan Bennett

Julie Hill

August



Teddy Bears Picnic

Sunday 	2 8 am Service 10 am Service	9 8 am Service 10 am Service	16 8 am Service 10 am Service	23 8 am Service 10 am Service	30 8 am Service 10 am Service
Monday 	3 Open Church	10 Open Church	17 Open Church	24 Open Church	31 Bank Holiday
Tuesday 	4	11	18	25	1st September Soroptimists Meeting
Wednesday 	5	12 Teddy Bears Picnic 2pm 	19	26	
Thursday 	6  Garden Party 34 Whitehill Rd 2.30pm	13 Hall Spring	20	27	
Friday 	7 Open Church Parent & Toddler Office Hours	14 Open Church Parent & Toddler Office Hours Clean	21 Open Church Parent & Toddler Office Hours	28 Open Church Parent & Toddler Office Hours	
Saturday 	8 Football Season Starts	15 S	22  Garden Party 27 Pine Ave 2.30pm	29	1st August Work Party

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 Uniformed Organisations parade

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

Open Church

Monday and Friday
10 am until 11.30 am

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 (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

