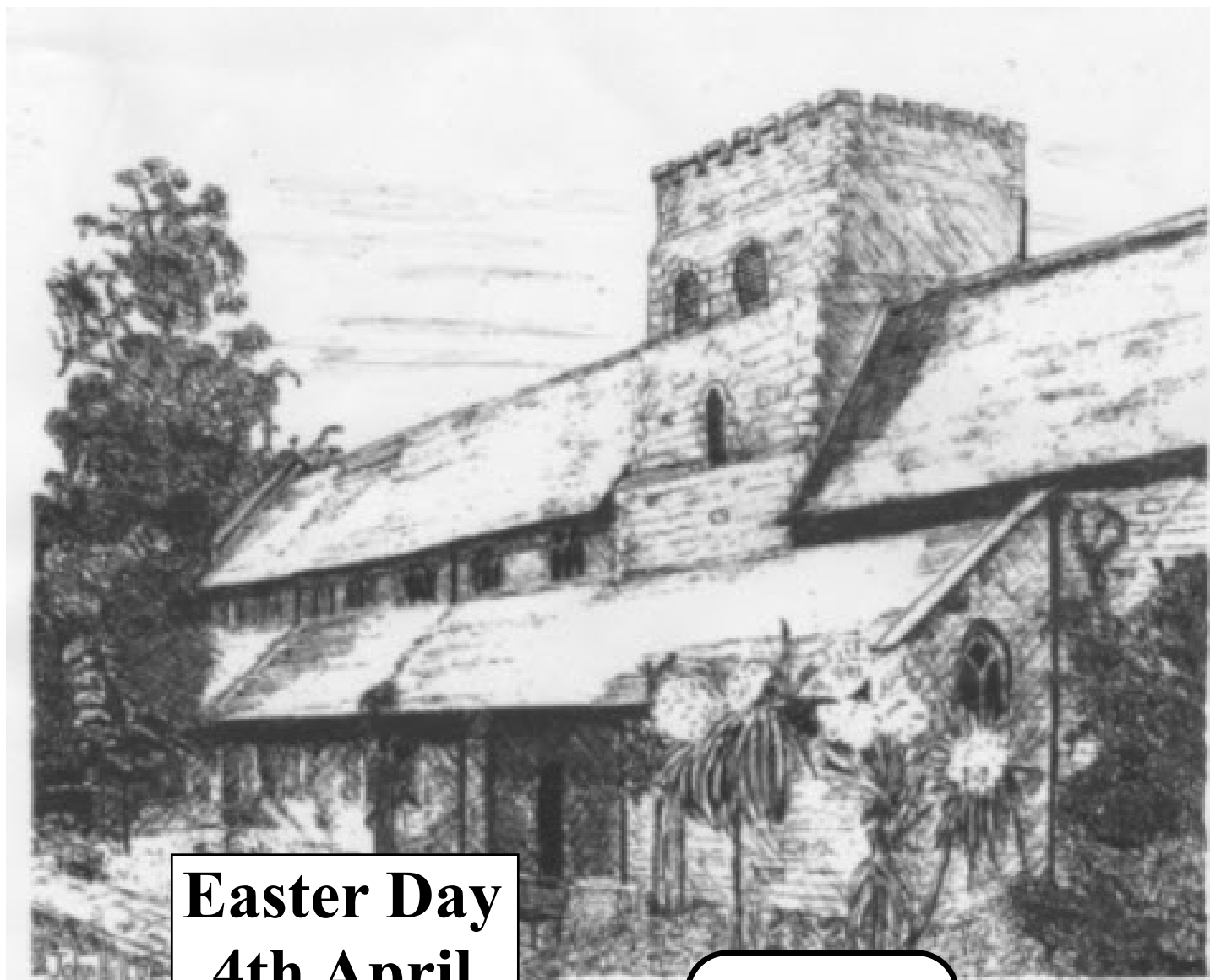


CHRIST CHURCH  
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

# PARISH MAGAZINE



**Easter Day  
4th April**

**30p**  
or  
donation

John Hill 2007



**April  
2010**

Vicar	Sue Brewer	352643 suec@brewer86.plus.com
Hon. Ass. Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106
Pastoral Assistant	Pam Kilby	332693
Church Warden	Christine Sewell	745443
Church Warden	Peter Shearan	566215
PCC Secretary	Julie Hill	568265
PCC Treasurer	Steve Humphries	323515
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339
Reader	John Hougham	352138
Reader	Betty Martin	352696
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443

Deadline for April magazine: Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April .  
Put on peg in the vestry, or hand to a Churchwarden,  
or email: [ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop](mailto:ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop)

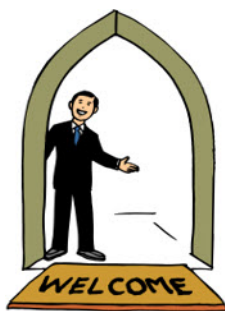
## Inside this month's magazine

Page 3 Welcome,  
Page 4 Hospice Coffee Morning dates  
Page 5 Fresh Expressions  
Page 6 Jean Kerr  
Page 7 God's Gang  
Page 9 First Steps  
Page 10 Music and CCADS  
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Page 14 Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths.  
Page 15 Calendar  
Page 16 Back Page

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

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

From the mouth of babes.....  
Dear God,  
I bet it's very hard for you to love  
all of everybody in the whole world.  
There are only four people in my  
family and I can never do it.  
Sarah



Welcome to the April Parish Magazine. April is the time of renewal and with Easter falling at the beginning of the month we have a good opportunity for personal renewal too. On page 13 you will be able to read Adam's advice as the gardens surge into new life; we shall take stock and plan for the future at the Annual Parish meeting (page 4 ) and look forward to some Fresh Expressions (page 5 ) as the year unfolds.

A very happy Easter from all at Christ Church!

Editor

## Easter Services

Maundy Thursday

Thursday 1st April

7.30pm Informal celebration of Holy Communion  
as we remember Jesus' last supper.

Good Friday

Friday 2nd April

10.00am Hot cross bun service  
(For children and young people and their families)

12noon - 3.00pm

A meditation at the Cross in words and music.

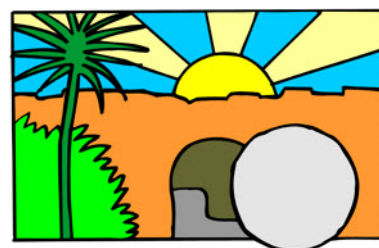
This service is in half hour sections so you can  
arrive and leave as you please.



**ALIVE!**

**Services for Easter Day**

**Sunday 4th April**



5.45am Dawn vigil and service of light.

We light the Easter fire and welcome the risen  
Christ as dawn rises - followed by breakfast.

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Celebration Holy Communion

Followed by refreshments - and Easter eggs!

6.30pm Festal Evensong

Wednesday 7th April 10.00am Meditation 'The Way of the Resurrection'.

7.30pm Meditation 'The Way of the Resurrection'.

Sue Brewer

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

# COFFEE MORNINGS

Cold Harbour Road  
10 am to 12 pm

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December

## Advance Notice

Dates for your diary:-

May

Saturday 8th Working Party

Sunday 9th Christian Aid Breakfast

Thursday 13th Ascension Day

Sunday 16th RMA Service

Sunday 23rd Pentecost

Election Day?

## APCM

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Sunday 18th April following the morning service.

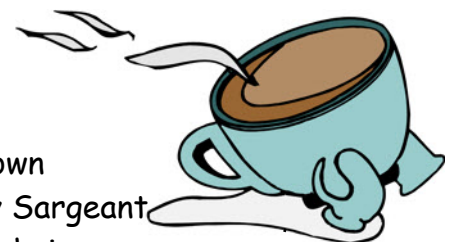
All welcome.

## News sheet

We are looking for someone to take over the news sheet permanently, as Celia can, unfortunately, no longer do it. If you are interested tell Sue.

## Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

4th Apr	Week 4	Margaret Davies, Ian and Sheila Brown
11th Apr	Week 5	Barbara Bunyan, Audrey price, Mary Sargeant
18th Apr	Week 6	Sylvia Brown, Jasmine & Steve Humphries
25th Apr	Week 7	Joan and Bob Bennett, Ann Lennard, David Williams
2nd May	Week 8	Colin & Linda Parsonson, Anne Thrush



Maureen Fittell



I have just completed the 5 week Lent Course which was held at St Mary's Church (actually I missed one week as I was doing my bit as a Grandpa).

The course introduced us to 'Fresh Expression' a way for the church to reach out to those in the community who do not come to church.

In 2004 the Church of England published a booklet – 'Mission Shaped Church' – to help Christians share their faith with others.

Historically the Church of England has been based on a Parish system, where each church within an area serves a particular community. As patterns of living have evolved, people travel further to work, play and socialise. Once the Parish Church was the hub of many people's lives it is now only a part, if any at all. Modern living means we have networks of living and more than one hub, or as we say now 'nodes'. Nodes can include sport, socialising, family (often spread over large distances) and interest groups.

Fresh Expression is a way that some Christians can communicate with their fellow beings by belonging to similar network groups and introducing Jesus to them.

Within Gravesham we heard of some ways that Fresh Expression is taking place – Street Pastors can be found on the streets of Gravesend on a Friday night from 11pm until 3am, offering a friendly face, an ear for listening and an arm if needed. Chalk Church have taken their evening service once a month into the Chalk Community Centre where people who do not go to Chalk Church are able to learn about Jesus.

The course was run on a 'café' style, where we sat in groups around a table, listened to the course leaders, watched video clips and moved around to meet people from other churches (St Mary's; Christ Church; Chalk Church; St Aidan's Church; Gravesend Baptists; Methodist; United Reform – to name the ones I remember).

Fresh Expression is not about giving up what we do already in our churches but looking for other ways we can meet with our fellow citizens and share our faith.

I along with many others found some of the ideas a bit puzzling at first, but as the course continued and by reading the Mission Shaped Church (it can be downloaded from [www.cofe.anglican.org.uk](http://www.cofe.anglican.org.uk)) I am beginning to understand more. The more extreme Fresh Expressions will not be for everyone, but if we believe that Jesus wants everyone to have an equal chance then we do need to think about how we can be missionaries within our communities. Setting up a small prayer group within your work place is an example of Fresh Expression, helping the Street Pastors is another example.

Let the editor know what you think about **Fresh Expressions** and if you have any experience of it?

Check out the Fresh Expressions web site:  
[www.freshexpressions.org.uk](http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk)

Ian Brown



# Canon Jean Kerr

In recent months we have been seeing a growth in our congregation and outreach to the community. In no small measure this has been as a result of our deciding to focus our efforts and develop a Mission Plan. In this, the PCC has owed no small debt to the advice and support of Canon Jean Kerr the Bishops Officer for Mission. She it was, who led our planning day and continues to offer informal guidance. She has recently been asked to help the Deanery develop closer ties and greater co-operation throughout the Churches of Gravesend and we hope to see this develop in the months ahead.

We have found her to be enthusiastic and challenging, and the quality of her advice is being seen in the renewal around us. It therefore comes as no great surprise to hear that she has been voted by her fellows as "Missioner of the Year".

She is a great treasure to the Church in our area, but there is a downside to this. We must use her and learn from her considerable experience in the mission field because this seems to be as good advice as we shall get!

Friendly, passionate, utterly down to earth and funny, Jean is an example to us all in her enthusiasm to get the good news of the Gospel to ordinary people in the language they understand

Martin Sewell



## Fairtrade Lunch Stop

Sandwiches, toasted sandwiches,  
homemade cakes, fresh fruit,  
snack bars.

Tea,  
Fresh filter Coffee,  
Hot Chocolate,  
Fruit Juices

**View our  
Fairtrade Goods  
stands.**

Come and enjoy a Fairtrade Lunch  
at Emmanuel Baptist Church,  
Windmill Street, Gravesend.

The cost of your lunch will be  
what you consider to  
be a '**Fair**' price for what you eat.

Friday 23rd April 2010  
12-2pm



**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

**7<sup>th</sup> April at 8p.m..**

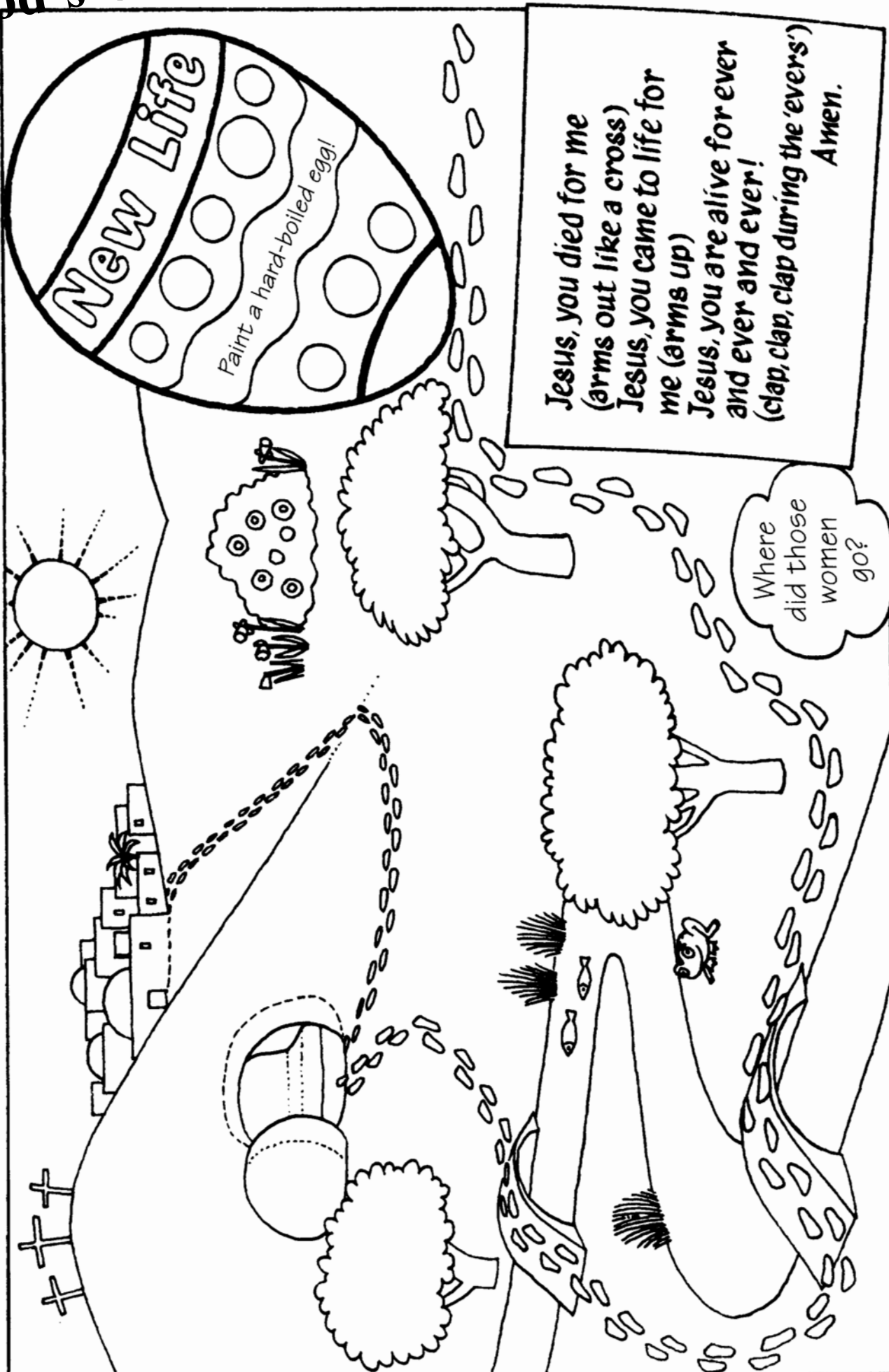
Richard Arnold on Japan  
at 235, Wrotham Road.

ALL WELCOME

## LENT APPEAL ENVELOPE

Please hand in your Lent Appeal monies as soon as possible.  
Look out for more information about the causes helped by our Lent Appeal next months magazine.

# God's Gang



For parents to pray with your child



# Easter

## EGGSTRAVANGANZA

SATURDAY 10TH APRIL 2-4PM



EASTER  
EGG HUNT  
3PM

CAKE STALL  
ARTS & CRAFTS  
TOY TOMBOLA  
GAMES  
REFRESHMENTS  
STALLS  
FACE PAINTING  
& MUCH MORE

IN THE HALL AND GARDENS AT CHRIST CHURCH, ECHO SQUARE





# First Steps

10th March 2010

At last the snow has gone, though the weather is still very cold and gloomy. Where is the sun hiding? Our naughty little sheep says that he has to keep fluffing up his wool to keep warm. Roll on the spring, we say! It is the second Wednesday in March and time for our First Steps service. We're having it in the Hall today because David Williams is working hard in the Church, polishing the floor and we need to keep out of his way. Once again our naughty little sheep has brought along some friends, and they are all sitting on the kitchen hatchway, watching intently as I begin to get things ready. They don't seem inclined to help but are full of handy hints! Ho hum! Luckily Anne and Isabelle soon arrive to help and very soon everything is ready. Our naughty little sheep and I are really pleased to have Anne back with us, though she is still looking a bit fragile! Isabelle has brought her little leopard with her today and he happily joins our naughty little sheep and his friends.

Very soon some of our much loved regulars find their way round to the Hall to join us, and Evie and her Mum Holly who are new to us, have come along too. How nice to see them all! Once again Mollie is looking after our naughty little sheep and his friends decide that they don't want to be left out, so some of the children volunteer to look after them, too. They're a bit of a rowdy lot so they'll need someone to keep them under control! And at last our service is ready to begin. Today we are talking about Jesus and the BIG PICNIC when he feeds five

thousand people with just five loaves and two fishes. Isn't that amazing? And we're going to share some fish and bread, too.

First we light our candles and then we begin by singing, "We like eating" which we do! And we thank God for food, and fun and love. The children are all happy and lively, making lots of noise with jingling bells and maracas! Thank you God for fun! We pass the bread around and have a taste of the fish, to help us to remember Jesus' miracle. And we sing, "Share it round" because that's what we're doing. Our naughty little sheep has a little taste of the bread but he doesn't fancy the fish. What a fusspot!

I bet that the five thousand weren't that fussy! With our songs sung and our prayers said, our noisy, lively service is over. Thank you, God for our lovely time together.

Now it's time for the kettle to go on and for the toys to come out. Our naughty little sheep and his friends are returned to the hatchway and I hear that they've been very well behaved! Now they watch happily as the children enjoy their playtime and Mums and Grandmas enjoy a welcome cuppa. Our time together has whizzed by as usual and soon it is time to leave. Our naughty little sheep and I hope that when we meet again on the 14<sup>th</sup> April, the spring will be well and truly with us. And we both wish you all a joyful and blessed Easter. God Bless.

*Rosemary Austin*

## Electoral Roll

Now is the time for revision of the Electoral Roll. Each year we have to revise the Electoral Roll removing any names of those who have moved away and adding names of those who are now worshipping with us. Being on the Electoral Roll allows you to vote at the Annual General Meeting, to be nominated for the Parochial Church Council or the Deanery Synod. The Roll is at the back of the church, please check to see if your name is on it and if not please take a form and complete it before Sunday 18th April.

*Church Wardens*

# Choir



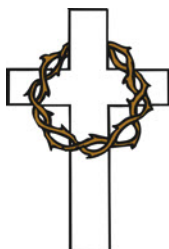
Being a member of a choir is quite a responsibility. We need to attend as many Sunday services as we can, we practice every Thursday during term time, we need to be available for Funerals when a choir is requested and for the many Weddings during the Wedding Season. There are also Choir Festivals where we represent our Church.

Another of our responsibilities is to support the devotions of our congregation by adding a musical dimension, which can assist contemplation and thoughtful prayer. This is particularly important at this time of year when we travel from Passion Sunday then to Palm Sunday, through Holy Week towards the joy of celebrating Eastertide.

We are always pleased to see those of you who regularly support our Passion Sunday Evening service. It would be good if more members of the congregation could share this special time of preparation.

Jackie and the Choir wish you all  
a very Happy Easter! *pam Kilby*

## Easter Images



Crucifixion images by Maggi Hambling and Craigie Aitchison are on display at the Kentish Barn, International Study Centre, Canterbury Cathedral.  
27th March - 6th April  
Monday - Saturday 11-4, Sunday 2-4.

# Music & Drama

## Music Group

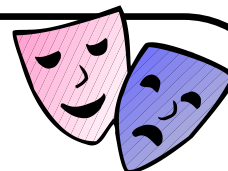
We have all been rehearsing hard learning new songs for Easter. We are leading the service on Maundy Thursday, and as well as singing an anthem on Easter Day, we will be leading several of the hymns.



The music group really needs a few more singers to swell our ranks, so please think about joining us. We rehearse twice a month on a Monday evening from 8pm.

*Gill Campbell*

## CCADS



CCADS Production

29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> April 1<sup>st</sup> May

Two of a Kind by Hugh Janes is a gentle comedy, and rehearsals are progressing well. "Wally" Wallis, played by David Horton, an old sea dog, rebellious, independent and chaotic, is by no means the perfect retirement home resident. When his room mate, Potts, dies and is replaced with the staid, dull, upright and polite George Fairbrother, played by Allister Kay, war is instantly declared! Lynne Chesterton, playing May, and Christine Kearsey, playing Matron, complete the cast, and the result is a funny and poignant play.

Tickets are available from Gill Campbell on 534517, from the beginning of April. We look forward to seeing you.

*Gill Campbell*

# You want to know what we get up to at youth club?



Martin Sewell leading the Youth Club ensemble in a version of 'Old MacDonald's Farm'.



The Youth Club re-starts again after the Easter break on Sunday 18th April.

All young people from year 6 upwards are welcome.

Well here's some information.

We have recently been painting and decorating Marg Simpson for Mothering Sunday and we put it at the front of the church. This week we acted out the death and resurrection of Jesus. We also play lots of games, like: table tennis, snooker, table football, darts and more. We have lots of people at youth club. At one end of the hall is a tuck shop and most of the sweets are 5 to 10p.

Meet at Christ Church from 6 till 8.  
£1 Entry.

By Alexandria, Maisie and Gabby.



Angelspace is youth worship held in Rochester Cathedral. The youth club have been to the first of the year in January.

Three more are planned for 2010. You do not need to be a member of the youth club to go.

For more information speak to:  
Ian Brown or Sue Brewer.



# Kent County Council News Release

**Ref xxx/10**

**xx March 2010**

## **Library renovation is given green light**

Planning permission has now been granted for the restoration and renovation of the Carnegie library building in **Gravesend**.

The £2.5million project to rebuild one of Kent County Council's most used libraries will see the original features of the Carnegie building restored to their former glory, as well as the redevelopment of the former toyshop annexe. It will create a new library facility for the community offering:

- New computers and IT facilities
- Better access to all areas of the building
- A dedicated local studies area
- Community space
- New books
- A brighter, more modern interior

Work will start in April 2010 and will last for approximately 14 months. During the development, library services will relocate to a temporary site in the St Georges shopping centre, Gravesend. The library will close on Saturday 27 March 2010 and will reopen in the St Georges centre on Monday 19 April 2010.

Customers will be kept informed throughout the project by information in the library, on the Kent County Council website ([www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk)) and in local media.

Kent County Council Cabinet Member for Community Services Mike Hill said:

"Libraries are much more than just a book lending service - they are the heart of the community providing access to advice, computers, and a place for people to get together.

"Gravesend Library is a priority for us because it is one of our most visited libraries and the condition of the building urgently needs to be improved. I am delighted that the development is on track and look forward to the start of the work."

**For further information contact Kate Nowowiecki at Kent County Council Media Centre on 01622 694932 or e-mail [kate.nowowiecki@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kate.nowowiecki@kent.gov.uk)**

More news releases are available online at [www.kent.gov.uk/news](http://www.kent.gov.uk/news)

Part of the Guide display at the back of the church.



## GARDENING TIPS FOR APRIL

The clocks have gone forward, there is daylight for over 12 hours a day. The soil is warming up, trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants are breaking bud and shooting. There are it seems 101 jobs to do be done in the garden. It's the time of year enthusiastic gardeners look forward to, but the less enthusiastic can be overwhelmed. In either case pick out the priority jobs first. Tie in climbing and rambling shrubs including the Roses. Prune for shape if necessary, it's much easier to do before new shoots become too long. Feed shrubs and Roses with a good brand of fertiliser in pellet or powdered form, read the instructions on the containers. Don't overfeed. Weed the areas that are to be treated with fertiliser.

Lime hating plants such as Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Camelias etc grown in containers would all benefit from an application of chelated iron (Sequestrene).

If bare patches on grass areas are a problem now is the time to sow grass seed. Wait for the area to be sown to dry out to allow it to be gently pricked over. Using a hand fork or similar tool, introduce some seed to the top 2-3 mm, firm and protect from birds. Small areas can be covered with polythene sheeting. This protects the seed from birds and can make the seed germinate in 2 weeks.

ADAM





## HOLY BAPTISM

7 <sup>th</sup> February	Jamie Stephen Brewer
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Brian Sonannseila Mao Sun Van
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Lucas William Finch
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Oscar Michael Eric Newman
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Harry Clive Vilday



## HOLY MATRIMONY

6 <sup>th</sup> February	Jay Ryan Brisley/Rachael Louise Willson
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## RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS

27 <sup>th</sup> February	David John and Maureen Pamela Swallow
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## REST IN PEACE



31 <sup>st</sup> December	Brian Peter Foster
3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Josephine Lambton
11 <sup>th</sup> January	Frank Gray
14 <sup>th</sup> January	John Percival Allen
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Sheila Astrid Daisley
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Ronald Joseph Wood
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	George Butler
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Jessie May Lewington
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Christine Lesley Stella Hinde
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Mary Elizabeth Winder
27 <sup>th</sup> February	Gladys Ivy Alice Bowyer

*Julie Hill*

# April



Highlights this month !

## EASTER DAY

### APCM

Sunday



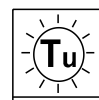
4 EASTER DAY 5.45 Dawn vigil 8 am Service 10 am Holy Communion 6.30pm Festal Evensong	11 8 am Service 10 am All-Age Service	18 8 am Service 10 am Service APCM  Youth Club	25 8 am Service 10 am Service  Youth Club
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Monday



5 Bank Holiday Ebbsfleet v Eastbourne	12	19  Cubs Brownies	26  Cubs Brownies
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Tuesday



6	13	20	27
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Wednesday



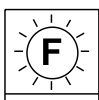
7 Open Church after 10am service	14 Open Church after 10am service	21 Open Church after 10am service  Guides	28 Open Church after 10am service  Guides
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Thursday



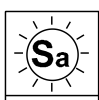
1 2pm Set up church  Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Communion	8 MU Meeting 8pm 235, Wrotham Rd	15	22 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	29 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice
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Friday



2 Good Friday 10 am Hot Cross Bun service 12 - 3pm Meditation	9	16 Parent & Toddler  Office Hours	23 St George's Day- Parent & Toddler  Office Hours Scouts	30 Parent & Toddler  Office Hours Scouts
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Saturday



3 Easter Saturday Flower arrangers followed by 12 noon Working party	10 Working Party	17 Last home game for Ebbsfleet United v Gateshead	24 Bluebell Day at Ifield School woodland	
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# What happens at Christ Church?

## Sunday Services

8.00 am Holy Communion (said)

10.00 am Communion with crèche & God's Gang

On the 2nd Sunday "New Look" All-Age service

Evening Service - see inside magazine for details.

## Weekday Services

Holy Communion (said)

Monday and Saturday 8am.

Tuesday & Thursday 7.00am.

Wednesday 10.00am

For further information  
contact  
the Church Wardens

## Office hours

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

## Open Church

Wednesday  
After the 10 am  
service

## 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

