



CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE



John Hill 2007

Confirmation
At
St Edmund's
Dartford
Sunday 4th July

30p
or
donation

July
2010

Deadline for August magazine:

Sunday 25th July.

Put on peg in the vestry,
or hand to a Churchwarden,
or email:

ianbbrown@phonecoop.coop

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

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

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Who's Who at Christ Church		www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk
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



Even though England are out of the world cup there is still lots to do in July. On Sunday July 4th a confirmation service at St. Edmund's Church in Dartford and on Sunday 11th the MU (Mothers' Union) service at 10 a.m as well as an ecumenical service at the Salvation Army Citadel in the Grove, when we can say farewell to Major Harry Stirling. Oh! The world cup final. If you have anything to sell check out the Table Top Sale advert on page 12 and for quiz buffs the Pre-school Quiz Night on Friday 23rd July (see page 13 for details). As you all go on your summer holidays remember to collect items for the parish magazine to help keep us amused and informed during the winter months.

Editor

Hall Kitchen



The best laid plans of mice and men The plan was to have the kitchen refurbished during the half term week to avoid inconveniencing hall users too much.

Problems with the delivery drivers meant that the work could not actually begin until the Thursday of that week. Apologies all round but this was a problem we could not overcome. However Ray Turton worked hard to make up for lost time and soon things were looking good. He is a meticulous worker and takes a pride in doing a good job and a big thank you must go to him for that service. The delay meant that he was working around the pre-school and other groups. Thank you to the pre-school staff who have been so understanding and to John Thrush who lost count on how many times he went to the tip to take away the debris. Maureen Fittill arranged for the fridge to come before she herself went away. Margot came with me to choose the tiles. I think, though, the biggest thank you must go to our unknown benefactor who put up the money so that we could go ahead with our long hoped for plans and make them a reality. The end result will be really enjoyed and appreciated. For me this has meant several sleepless nights and many trips to the hall to oversee the work in progress but it has also been very satisfying to see it all taking place. And now, after it has been accomplished please, everyone, treat it with respect, we are not going to get another chance like this. Our prayers have certainly been answered and we must be grateful.

Joan Bennett



CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY 4TH JULY - 6.00

at St Edmund's Dartford

Debra Barden, Becky Hopkins, Tola Mao, Liz Ripley, Harry Kingsbury,
and Danny Ludlow are being confirmed;

And Babs Acott and Andrew Mudamai are renewing their baptismal vows

Biographies of those being confirmed and renewal of baptismal vows:

Confirmation

Debra Barden

My name is Debra Barden I am a busy mum to Milly 6 and Liam 3. I have always been interested in the Christian church and since my teenage years have become involved with a number of different churches in Manchester where I am originally from. Since settling in Gravesend with my husband and starting a family Christ Church has become a big part of my life, taking the children to the First Steps pre-school services since being babies and being involved with all the family activities that go on there. I enjoy being in church and am enjoying learning more about the Christian faith through my confirmation classes and the bible. I am looking forward to being confirmed and being able to take part fully in the communion services as I begin my faith journey.

Harry Kingsbury

Harry was born in 1922 and had early experience of God through Boys Brigade. Although his brother and sisters were confirmed, somehow he missed out through his involvement with the Methodist church. His childhood was happy but with plenty of hardships and at 15 he became an indentured electrical apprentice. At the age of 17 he caught a fleeting glimpse of Joan and it was love at first sight! During the war Harry served in the RAF, and he and Joan were married in 1944. After demob he returned to his old company and progressed eventually to become MD and Chairman in the 1970's. In 2007 Harry and Joan moved to Gravesend to be near the family, which was quite difficult for them.. and shortly afterwards Joan fell ill and died in the Hospice last year. Harry describes this as the absolute worst time of his life. It was at this time that God came back into his life (though he had always been religious – he remembers an experience of God at the age of 7, and that he knew God was there when he was saved from electrocution at least 3 times). He has found comfort in the prayers and the fellowship of the church and after a short time, confirmation called.

Tola Mao

My name is Tola Mao, I come from a Buddhist family and have lived most of my life in Cambodia where I grew up. I moved to England about 6 years ago and recently joined Christ Church, Gravesend. I have learnt a lot since my experience with Christ Church and I know I still have a great deal to learn.

I had my baptism on the 27th of June and I hope with this new found life in Christ, I will grow strong in faith and love for God.

Liz Ripley

I am 31 and have been married for almost 7 years now. We now have a beautiful 7 month old son who is such a ray of sunshine and completes us. I have always believed in God and was brought up within the church and attending Sunday school. As I grew up I stopped attending church but never lost my faith.

When I was pregnant with my son we were told that he had something wrong with him and that he would need a complicated surgery soon after he was born. This was when I started coming back to church. Knowing that God was there really helped me through the dark times and now I am both looking forward to and proud to be making this step of faith.

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Babs Acott

My name is Babs Acott and I am 47 years old. I consider myself warm, friendly and a person who cares. I am a mother of 4 boys, who are growing fast. I am separated from my husband. I was made redundant but am on the way to changing my career from secretarial to nursing! For me, renewing my vows is encouraging me to accept, to change, to find peace and to get closer to God.

Andrew Mudamai

My name is Andrew Mudamai, I was born into and have been baptised in the Catholic Church. I started going to Christ Church, Gravesend after I had an experience that reminded me of the importance of God in one's life and took it upon myself to find my way back to Christ. What drew me to Christ Church was my love for singing, luckily when I visited the church the choir were rehearsing for the Christmas carol service and I was quickly integrated into the choir. This period I have spent in Christ Church reminded me of what I have been missing most in my life and I want to keep that spirit alive and light burning bright.

Please support and pray for them as they take a step forward in their Christian faith.





EllenorLions Hospices
'without them we would have been lost'

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 24th September
- Friday 29th October
- Friday 26th November
- Friday 10th December

BRING AND BUY
 Please

Join Us!
 Between



10am and 8pm Friday 9th July 10

You are invited to join us

Sandy and 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

CUPPA FOR OUR CAUSE 5-12 July



Summer with MU.

Wednesday 7th July 7.30 pm. (note earlier start time) Summer Social @ 68 Pine Ave. Bring a plate of food to share, drinks available. Raffle and fun, partners and interested parties welcome.

Tuesday 3rd August @ 3pm - TEA AT THREE in the PLEASANCE - open to all.

Thursday 26th August 2pm - 4pm - afternoon tea at Julie's (34 Whitehill Road).

- All welcome: members, partners and friends

The last two events are our major fundraising events for MU Overseas projects, please put them in your diaries now and tell you friends and neighbours.

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

4th July	Week 5	Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Mary Sargeant
11th July	Week 6	Sylvia Brown, Jasmine & Steve Humphries
18th July	Week 7	Joan & Bob Bennett, Ann Lennard, David Williams
25th July	Week 8	Colin & Linda Parsonson, Anne Thrush
1st Aug	Week 9	Jerry & Sally Higgins, Marylene Ewin



Maureen Fittill

Chalk Village Fete 2010

This delightful annual event aimed at families and all sections of the community will be held on Saturday 10th July 2010 - 11.30am to 3pm.
There is an entrance fee of 50p for adults, children are free.

The fete is held in St Mary's Woodland (next to Chalk Church in Church Lane, Chalk) with its rural location and wonderful views across the marshes, the Thames Estuary and Essex beyond. There is ample parking just off Church Lane and in addition to the various stalls, the ancient parish church of Chalk will be open with an opportunity to ascend the tower with splendid views.

This year there will be a display by Chalk Parish History Group in the church with local historian Christoph Bull available for information.

A 1912 Hallford double Decker bus (unique example of this model) will be available to view - made in Dartford by J & E Halls, it has been lovingly restored. There will also be classic cars on display.

Not only are there community stalls with, handicrafts, plants, and ice cream there are also loads of games for everyone to enjoy (including a Bouncy Castle).

Lunches, cakes and refreshments including a Barbecue will also be available- there is a live jazz band and a beer tent to add to the relaxed atmosphere.

Further details contact Heather Bull 01474 320156.

Music group

June has been quite a busy month and it seems that there will be no let up during the summer. We were thrilled to be part of Music Sunday, singing before the service, and joining in a beautiful Choral Evensong. Our thanks go out to Jackie and the choir for inviting us to take part and for the lovely buffet afterwards. We have been learning many new songs, some of which we will be singing for the confirmation service in July. We have welcomed Angela Kirby to our group, but there is always room for a few more, especially if you are a tenor or a bass!!

Singers needed



The Soroptimists are organising a concert in the church on 16th October in aid of various charities. Helen Osbourne is putting together a scratch choir for this one off event. If you can sing - please volunteer - it's all in a good cause. If you are a tenor or bass - so much the better

Let Helen know - or Rev. Sue Brewer.

YOU WILL BE KNOWN BY THE FRUIT YOU BEAR.

Matthew 7:18-20

The fruits of the Spirit are

Galatians 5:16-25

Draw a tree for them to grow on

Put your own name on the tree

NOW COLOUR IT ALL IN!

Jesus said,



Key to the code:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
🍌	🍃	🍃	🌙	🌙	🍌	🍇	🍃	🍃	🌿	🍃	🍌	🍌
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌	🍌

John 15:16



First Steps

10th June 2010

The day of our First Steps service has whizzed around again and it dawns cloudy but bright with a little warmth. This early summer's day has promise but I'm not taking anything for granted! Our naughty little sheep complains that I keep going on and on about the weather and I'm becoming a bit of a weather bore. I feel slightly hurt at that but on our way up to Church the clouds gather and it starts spitting and spotting with rain! I'm not saying a word!

Today in our service we are thanking God for our Hands and Feet and thinking about the good things that we can do with them. Some of our naughty little sheep's friends have joined us again and when we go into the Church they all sneak off to hide because they had such a great time hiding from the children at our last service. And they tell me that the children will need to use their feet to walk and find them and their hands to pick them up, so they've thought it all out, haven't they? In the meantime I go into the Hall to get things ready and discover a man busily working on the smart new kitchen; it will look lovely when it's finished. We must try not to get in his way when we're making the tea later.

Anne and Isabelle arrive and we finish setting up together. Isabelle has brought her baby doll Annabelle and her little sheep Chloe. Our naughty little sheep will be pleased! At about 1.40pm Rachel arrives with Mollie and Olivia and just for a bit we wonder if anyone else is coming. But there's no need to worry because soon we have a noisy, happy crowd including some new faces. Isn't that lovely! Alison has brought baby Eddie for his very first visit, though big brother Archie has been a few times before, and dear little Eddie sleeps the whole way through, in spite of our noise!

So our service begins and after our candles have been lit we sing "The Body Song". Well, we are thinking about Hands and Feet, aren't we? And we thank God for our wonderful bodies, and

all the things that we are able to do. And, using hands and feet (and eyes!) it's time to look for those hiding animals. They're keeping very, very quiet but the children soon find them and then everyone joins in as we sing, "Here come the frogs, hopping round the pond" using our hands to be hopping frogs, pecking birds or wriggling worms. And we say "Thank you" to God for frogs, for birds, for worms and for children! Our next song is "The ants went marching one by one", and a chance to use our feet again. The children show us how clever they are at marching and Laura is even bouncing happy, smiling baby Oscar on her lap, in time to the music. We are so lucky to have these happy times together! They are special and precious and they are one of God's gifts to us.

After all the lovely jingly noise it's time for a little bit of hush as we say our prayers; and then with candles blown out, into the Hall we go for a well-earned cuppa and the possibility of some fancy biscuits. Oh goody! Our naughty little sheep and his friends come out into the Hall too, making themselves comfortable on the hatchway. They always enjoy watching the children play and sometimes they even join in! And our naughty little sheep discovers that Mollie has brought her little sheep to meet him. Her name is Jessie and they hit it off straight away. He hopes that she'll come again though I'm not sure what Chloe will make of that! The children have had a lovely, happy time playing together and Mums have had a chance to catch up with each other and maybe even make new friends. Our naughty little sheep and his friends hope that everyone will come along for our next First Steps service on 14th July so that we can have a lovely, happy time together, again. Perhaps it really will be summer then!

God Bless

Rosemary Austin

LOST DOG



Missing since Monday the 21st of June from Central Avenue.

Sam is a white terrier boy with brown marking. If you see or have seen him please call us to help us find him. Please call 01474 560978 if you have any news whatsoever about him.

Thank you.

GRAVESEND
CRUSADE
CHOIR

IN CONCERT

St George's Church
Church Street, Gravesend

Saturday 10th July 2010
at 7.30pm

in aid of

THE TOWER APPEAL

Tickets £5 each, £4 concessions



JUST A MOM?

A woman, renewing her driver's license at the County Clerk's office, was asked by the woman recorder to state her occupation. She hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself. "What I mean is," explained the recorder, "do you have a job or are you just a?" "Of course I have a job," snapped the woman. "I'm a Mom." "We don't list 'Mom' as an occupation, 'housewife' covers it," said the recorder emphatically. I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own Town Hall. The Clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high sounding title like, "Official Interrogator" or "Town Registrar."

"What is your occupation?" she probed. What made me say it? I do not know. The words simply popped out. "I'm a Research Associate in the field of Child Development and Human Relations." The clerk paused, ball-point pen frozen in midair and looked up as though she had not heard right.

I repeated the title slowly emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pronouncement was written, in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire "Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?"

Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing program of research, (what mother doesn't) In the laboratory and in the field, (normally I would have said indoors and out). I'm working for my Masters, (first the Lord and then the whole family) and already have four credits (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities, (any mother care to disagree?) and I often work 14 hours a day, (24 is more like it). But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are more of a satisfaction rather than just money." There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door.

As I drove into our driveway, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants -- ages 13, 7, and 3.. Upstairs I could hear our new experimental model, (a 6 month old baby) in the child development program, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt I had scored a beat on bureaucracy! And I had gone on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another Mom." Motherhood! What a glorious career! Especially when there's a title on the door.. Does this make grandmothers "Senior Research associates in the field of Child Development and Human Relations"

And great grandmothers "Executive Senior Research Associates?"

I think so!!!

I think it also makes Aunts

"Associate Research Assistants."

May your troubles be less, Your blessing be more, And nothing but happiness come through your door!

Table Top Sale

Christ Church Hall, Echo Square

Saturday 24th July

10.00am - 12.00 noon

£10 per table

early booking advised



Sell your unwanted goods and
make some cash!

Advance booking only

Contact Teresa Carlow 07540471383

tescarlow@live.co.uk

Terms and conditions apply
Personal sales only -no traders



Family Barbecue

Christchurch family barbecue

Come and join us for food, fun, games
and chill out

When? After the 10 am Sunday service on the 8th August
2010 (come even if you haven't been to the service)

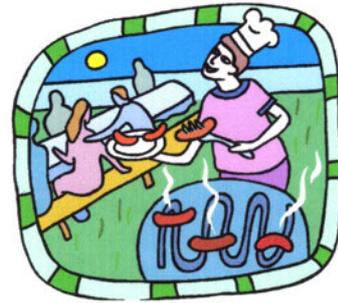


Where? Christchurch Pleasance
(garden behind the church)



How much? A nominal fee will be charged
to cover the price of the food

What do I do? Please sign list at the back of church, or tell
your youth leader if you are coming to indicate numbers



Volunteers, friends and family are invited to
EllenorLions Hospices Silver Jubilee
Thanksgiving Service
Rochester Cathedral
Sunday 12th September 2010 3.15 pm



Please contact fundraising team for your free ticket 01322 22 1315

Walks for July

Friday 2nd July:
Circular walk from
Vigilant Way to Shorne.
Meet 7pm at corner of
Vigilant Way/Thong Lane.
Guide: Peter Willis
01474 534889



Christoph Bull

Sunday 18th July:
Circular walk from Luddesdown,
Meet 2.30pm at Luddesdown
Village Hall (near church),
Guide: Bernard Keating
01474 814554

SEA

SUNDAY

July 11 2010

PARISH MAGAZINE ARTICLE

WHEN a serious fire broke out on a cargo vessel in the port of Antwerp The Mission to Seafarers was on hand to arrange emergency accommodation and support for the sixteen-strong Syrian crew.

The 1974-built City of Berytus was in port unloading its cargo when, in the middle of the night, a fire broke out. The men on board immediately had to evacuate the vessel whilst the port authorities attempted to contain the blaze. The fire was so severe that it was left to burn for three days in a controlled fire, meaning the ship was only suitable for scrap.

“Because of the seriousness of the fire the crew left the vessel with only the clothes they were wearing,” John says. “I took them to the Antwerp Seafarers’ Centre where a store of second-hand clothing is kept and each of the crew members got kitted out in clean clothes. We also provided them with a Mission to Seafarers’ telephone card so that each man could reassure his family at home that he was safe. Fortunately, none of the crew was injured in the fire.”

Whilst some of the crew went back to the ship to see if they could salvage some personal documents, Mr Attenborough took the rest of the crew to a local laundrette to wash their smoky clothes and then to a nearby supermarket where the Mission purchased items such as toiletries for the men.

“All of the crew were very grateful for the help the Mission in Antwerp was able to provide,” said John. “It was clearly a horrifying ordeal for the men to endure, but we have been able to support them emotionally and physically through it.

“Many of the crew were concerned that they would not receive their wages or compensation for the loss of personal items and asked me to speak with the local branch of the International Transport Workers’ Federation. This I did and I was pleased to report back that they would be paid what was due to them and be repatriated home.”

“I am full of admiration for the efforts that John Attenborough and his team have gone to in supporting the crew of the City of Berytus. The work of the society is often quietly performed, but when emergencies happen, our chaplains are ready to step up and meet the need as required. Seafarers do not carry many personal belongings with them and so those items that have been lost in this fire will cause anxiety and heartache.”



Caring for seafarers
around the world

Registered charity no. 212432 | SC039211

Christchurch Pre-school Fundraising

Quiz Night

FRIDAY 23rd JULY

FROM 7.30pm for 8pm START

.....
TEAMS OF UP TO EIGHT PEOPLE
.....

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Please call one of the following numbers to book a table:

Laura on 07896 991782

Bonna on 07917 765624



Christ Church hall at Christ Church, Echo Square

Highlights this month !

Confirmation Table Top Sale

July

Sunday 		4 8 am Service 10am Holy Com- munion 6pm Confirmation at St Edmunds Dartford	11 MU Sunday 8 am Service 10 am All-Age Service World Cup Final	18 8 am Service 10 am Service	25 8 am Service 10 am Service
Monday 		Cubs Brownies	Cubs Brownies	Cubs Brownies	Cubs Brownies
Tuesday 					
Wednesday 		7 Open Church after 10am service 7.30 pm MU Summer Social Guides	14 Open Church after 10am service First Steps Guides	21 Open Church after 10am service Guides	28 Open Church after 10am service Guides
Thursday 	1 9 A.M. MU Wave of Prayer	8 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	15 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	22 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice	29 Beavers Brownies Choir Practice
Friday 	2 Parent & Toddler Office Hours Scout Group AGM	9 Parent & Toddler Office Hours Scouts	16 Parent & Toddler Office Hours Scouts	23 Parent & Toddler Office Hours Scouts Pre-school Quiz	30 Parent & Toddler Office Hours Scouts
Saturday 	3	10 Working Party	17	24 Table Top Sale	

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

