

CHRIST CHURCH MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND PARISH MAGAZINE







John Hill 2007



Sunday 26th September 2010

BackToChurchSunday



Deadline for October magazine:

Sunday 19th September.

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.

Inside this month's magazine

Page 2	Who's Who!
Page 3	Welcome
Page 4	Coffee rota + adverts
Page 5	Come & Sing
Page 6	Adverts
Page 7	What does it cost?
Page 8	Choir, MU + World premiere
Pull out	CCADS 75th Anniversary
Page 9	First Steps
Page 10	A letter from Aly
Page 11	God's Gang
Page 12	Milly Barden's book
Page 13	about church
Page 14	Race for Life - Blackheath
Page 15	
Page 16	
-	

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	
Christ Church Parish Magazir	ne Page 2	September 2010	



September is going to be another busy month for those of us connected with Christ Church. For the young people Youth Club starts again on Sunday 5th, there is a Music workshop day (not forgetting the drums) on Saturday 25th.



Back to Church Sunday is the 26th - who will you encourage to come?

CCADS are beginning to celebrate 75 years of drama - see the special 4 page pull out, with more to come during the next few months, not least CCADS Autumn production.

Editor



<u>Mothers' Union</u> <u>Summer Fund Raising.</u>

A big thank you to everyone who supported the MU garden Parties this Summer. The weather was kind to us on both occasions and it was good to see lots of friends and visitors as well as members.

T at 3 was a new venture for us held in The Pleasance and it was good to see children enjoying the games and toys as well as adults doing quizzes, taking part in the raffles and bring and buy and of course enjoying a cup of tea and cakes. We raised £163 for MU overseas charities .

Later in August we had another very pleasant afternoon at Julie's where some of us sat in their beautiful garden and again had a raffle, bring and buy and tea and cakes. Again a little group of children enjoyed playing in the garden. Another £159 was raised making a grand total of \pounds 322 :

Well done everyone!

Sheila

Hall - Spring Clean.

Another Summer/Spring clean in the hall has been completed. How did that happen? - only because of the good will and services of such a splendid gang who turned up over the planned two days. How they all worked! Once again everything was cleaned from top to bottom and inside out and now all has been left clean and sparkly once more. My truly grateful thanks to all who came and did such a good job with so much enthusiasm. Even though we were all working our socks off (and in Richard's case that is what he did!) there was a lovely camaraderie and sense of purpose. At the end we all sat back and gave a sigh of relief tinged with a sense of pride. We were joined once again by Vicar Sue and Church Warden Peter and glad of their support. This year we gained from last year's experience and all went according to plan again and dare I say even more efficiently. God bless and thank you all so much.

(P.S. Think what that would have cost us to have had to employ and pay others).

Joan



Fairtrade Lunch Stop

Sandwiches, toasted sandwiches, Fresh filter Chocolate, homemade cakes, fresh fruit,

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.

> EllenorLions Hospices without them we would have been lost'

Many thanks for your continued support of the Ellenor Lions Hospices.

Registered Charity No. 1121561

Cold Harbour Road

10 am to 12 pm

Friday 17th September 2010 12-2pm





Soroptimist International of **Gravesend & District**

A Musical Evening Featuring

Music Group Mezzo-Soprano Soloist **Organ Recital Clarinet & Flute Quartet**

Saturday 16th October 2010

Christ Church, **Old Road East, Gravesend**

7.00 p.m. (doors open at 6.30 p.m.)

Ticket £5.00 at the door (£4.00 in advance) including Refreshments in the Interval

Raffle for President's Charities

For More Information and Tickets ring Sheila on 01474 564234





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

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota

Week 2
Week 3
Week 4
Week 5
Week 6
Week 7

Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Joan Bennett
David and Shirley Whitehead
Margaret Davies, Ian & Sheila Brown -
Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Mary Sargeant
Sylvia Brown, Jasmine & Steve Humphries 🛛 🕺 🕅
Joan & Bob Bennett, Marylene Ewin, David Williams

Maureen Fittill y Sargeant

Christ Church Parish Magazine

September 2010

For further information see the Christchurch Website www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

Saturday 25th September 2010 Come & Sing

> The first musical event specifically for the youth of Christchurch and beyond. If you are aged between 7 and 18 and love to sing, then come along and join us in the performance of the year.

Together we will learn some new songs, and look at some old favourites and prepare to WOW Gravesend with our talent! We will also experience a drum workshop, share a picnic and most importantly HAVE FUN! We are expecting a good audience for the concert, and you will also have the opportunity to perform some songs in church on Sunday 26th September "Back to Church Sunday"

Please register in advance to guarantee a place Cost per singer is £3 Family rates £6 Concert ticket price FREE! Bring a packed lunch, drinks and biscuits will be supplied Start time 9.30 am Concert time 5pm Contacts Deborah Carter & Helen Osborne

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend

Page 5

September 2010



Stuff to sell?

Children's Nearly New Sale

Great quality used baby and kids stuff at bargain prices

Saturday 25th September 2010 2.30pm – 4.00pm

Only **£1 entry** (free for under 16's) Parking available Holy Trinity Primary School Trinity Road, Gravesend, DA12 1LU

Parking available Do you have toys, baby or kids clothes, maternity clothes or

kids equipment that you would like to sell?

No commission, just a £15 table fee Table provided Fun indoor family event Pass your items on to a good home

To book a table or for more information on future sales call

07956 461905 / 07833 146137 or email **littlepiggysales@hotmail.com** You can also find us on **Facebook** just search for **Little Piggy Sales** Tables are taken on a first come first served basis!

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Shorne

CHURCH OPEN DAY

Tours and Afternoon Teas

Saturday 11 September

History Tours of the church by Edmund Redfern

Discover more about of our church& its history

at 2, 3 and 4 pm

Free but donations to church funds welcomed

No need to book

Afternoon teas from 2.30 to 5 pm

Information from Andrew Moffat 01474 822280 or aimoffat@btinternet.com

www.shorneparishchurch.co.uk



The North Kent Group of United Reformed Churches

We are pleased to invite you to the Commissioning Service of Angela Henderson as an Assembly Accredited Lay Preacher in a special service on **Saturday 18th September at 3pm** at St. Paul's United Reformed Church, Singlewell Road, Gravesend, DA11 7RE

Ecumenical Friends from the locality are warmly invited to join the worship and to stay for refreshments afterwards.

Please reply by 9th September please to: Ministernorthkent@btinternet.com or to: Rev'd Peter Clark 253 Singlewell Road Gravesend DA11 7RN



Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend

September 2010

What does it cost to run this church?

On 29th June, after the morning service, there was a short presentation in church. The aim of the presentation was to outline the current financial situation and to ask church members to review their giving if possible. There was a leaflet to take



away and a response slip to be returned. If anyone missed the presentation and would like to see the details, there are still leaflets available at the back of the church, and a box for your responses.

The PCC have been very encouraged by the generous response from the congregation. There have been offers of increased giving, requests for Weekly Giving Envelopes, and Standing Order forms, offers of practical help, and a very generous donation. Thank you to everyone who has responded.

Thanks!!

We are not quite out of the woods yet – our ultimate aim is to cover all our 'running expenses' each week by weekly giving, so that the extra amounts that we earn from fund-raising, fees, hall rent and so on can be used to build up our reserves to cover any sudden unexpected emergency payments that might arise. If you would like to help and you missed the appeal, here is a summary of some of the things you can do...

Review your giving. How much do you give now as a percentage of our income? Can you increase it by 1% or 2%?

Join the Planned Giving Scheme by making out a regular standing order or by taking a set of envelopes - and so contribute on the same basis whether you are in church or not. Let Christ Church recover the tax paid on your Planned Giving. If you pay income tax, the Inland Revenue will refund to the church the tax you have already paid.

Consider making a **bequest** to Christ Church in your will.

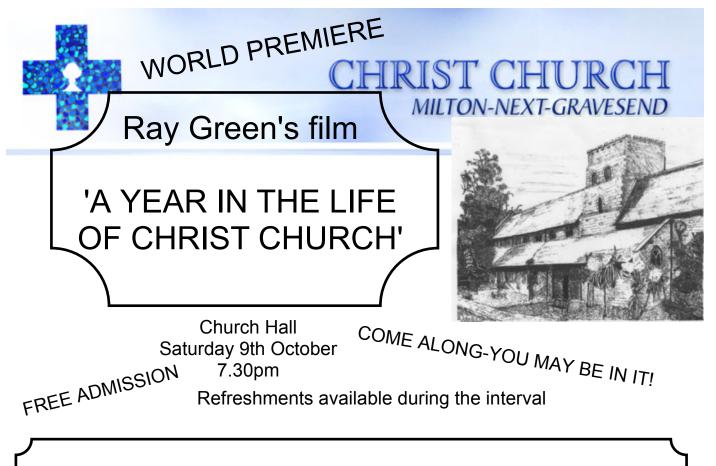
Offer practical help if you are able – some people have practical skills that can help a great deal in cutting down our day-to-day expenses.

Steve Humphries treasurer

Sunday Evenings at Christ Church 2010

	-	-
5th Sept	6.30 p.m.	Ecumenical service at St Aidan's Gravesend
12th Sept	6.30 p.m.	Choral Evensong
3rd Oct	6 p.m.	Ecumenical Songs of Praise - Salvation Army
10th Oct	6.30 p.m.	Harvest Evensong
24th Oct	6.30 p.m.	Deanery Choirs Festival at St Aidan's Church
14th Nov	4 p.m.	Service for the Bereaved
5th Dec	4 p.m.	Christingle
19th Dec	6.30 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend



A boxed 2 x DVD set will be available in November at a suggested donation of £10.00

Please see list at back of church and sign up for your copy





The Choir has had a busy summer singing at weddings.

Now as the autumn is fast approaching we turn our minds to various singing events ahead. We will be taking part in the Deanery Choirs Festival Evensong which this year will be at St Aidan's on October 24th at 6.30 p.m. This is always a happy event with choirs from around the Deanery joining together to sing and worship. It would be nice to see some of our congregation joining us this year.



6th October at 8 p.m. Kulbir, Area Diversity Officer for North Kent Police. At 9 St Mary's Close





Youth Club starts again on Sunday 5th September for young people from Year 6 upwards. We meet in the

church hall from 6 to 8 p.m. Check out the web site for the Autumn Programme or pick one up from the back of the church.

Pam Kilby



CCADS (Christ Church Amateur Dramatics Society) are celebrating their 75th year.

In this the first of a two part potted history by Allister Kay we learn how the dramatic society started and about their debut in the Christ Church Hall in 1976.

Part 2 next month brings the story right up to date.

Four page booklet to pull out and keep!

CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75

CCADS at 75

In 1935 King George V and Queen Mary celebrated their Silver Jubilee, Clement Attlee was elected leader of the Labour Party and petrol cost $1/6d (7\frac{1}{2} p)$ a gallon.

In the same year a group of young people from St Faith's Church in Gravesend formed a concert party to present public entertainments and laid the foundation for what was to become Christ Church Amateur Dramatic Society.

The St Faith's group rejoiced in the name of the "Bubbles Concert Party" but renamed themselves the Christ Church Amateur Dramatic Society after the amalgamation of St Faith's and Christ Church in that year.

Recognising the talent available in the group, Mr A.E.E. Edwards, an experienced producer well known in amateur theatrical circles, took on the role of the Society's producer, a role he continued to fill until 1953.

Having established themselves under Mr Edwards' guidance the Society moved to larger premises in 1938 but activities were curtailed almost immediately by the outbreak of the Second World War.

By the 1950s however membership of the Society was growing and in order to provide additional acting opportunities it was decided to augment the one annual production with an evening of one act plays each December.

In December 1954 the first one act play "Dumb Jewels" was presented and from then on it became the Society's policy to stage a full length play in April/May and three one act plays in late November/early December.

In 1976 the Society presented its first play in the new hall in Old Road East, the venue which has been its home ever since.

The first production in the new hall was a three act comedy "Busybody" and the one member of the cast of that play still associated with CCADS is John Houghham, the present Joint Chairman.

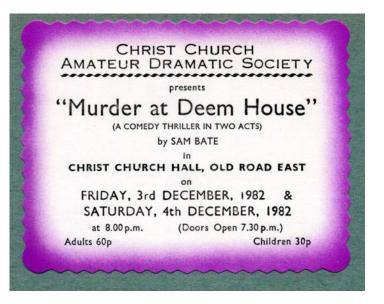


HALL DEBUT FOR DRAMA GROUP

When the decision was taken in 1954 to add an evening of one act plays to the Society's programme it was also decided that these productions would be for two nights only as compared to the three night run for the Spring productions.

This arrangement continued right up to 1985 when for the first time a three night run was conferred on the full length Oscar Wilde play "The Importance of Being Earnest".

Strangely enough the Society returned to a two night run the following December despite the staging of another full-length play, Alan Ayckbourn's "Joking Apart".



After this however the consensus of

opinion was that the effort put into producing a full length play deserved a three night run, regardless of the time of year and since 1987 the Society has presented its audiences with a three night run in December and indeed has presented several successful full length plays at that time including "An Inspector Calls" and "Blithe Spirit".

For many years the Society has been affiliated to the Gravesend and District Theatre Guild and this has helped the Society to recognise its place as part of a wider community of amateur theatrical enthusiasts. In a spirit of mutual support and encouragement it was a common practice for members of all societies to visit each other's productions, although with the decline in the number of affiliated societies this has become a much less frequent activity.

Back in 1988 however under the Chairmanship of Michael Charles the Society entered for the first time the Gravesend One Act Play Festival. The emphasis of this event was as a festival of plays rather than a competition, notwithstanding the fact that awards were made for meritorious performances etc.

The Festival was an enjoyable experience for the Society, and being adjudicated sixth out of nine entries reassured members that they were capable of putting on a production that would stand comparison with other local societies. The following year the Society improved its Festival "rating" to fifth out of nine and saw Karen Martin (now Karen Fowle) picking up the Best Character Actress Award.

In 1990 the Society entered its third Gravesend One Act Festival, all three plays having been presented at the Woodville Halls. After a three year absence the Society once again entered the Festival which by now had transferred to the Theatre Guild headquarters in Northfleet.

This was to be the last participation in the Gravesend Festival, as the Society transferred its attention to Rochester's Duncan Rand One Act Play Festival, staged each July at the Medway Little Theatre.



The cast of Pygmalion 1991

CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75 CCADS 75



11th August 2010

FIRST STEPS- TEDDY BEARS PICNIC 11/8/10

Our naughty little sheep is very excited because not only is it our First Steps service today but there's going to be a Teddy Bears' Picnic afterwards. Isn't that great! Last year he was slightly anxious because be wasn't sure whether sheep were invited but lots of different animals came along so this time he's invited some of his friends to join us, too. He's sure that we're all going to have such a good time that he doesn't want anyone to miss the fun! It's quite warm and sunny as we walk up to Church so it looks promising. Fingers crossed! When we get to Church there is such a lot to get ready that our naughty little sheep and his friends sneak off out of the way. I think that they're afraid that they might be asked to help, ho hum! Luckily Anne soon comes along with Isabelle, followed by a small army of volunteers and everyone pitches in, busily setting up craft tables, taking toys and games out into the Pleasance, plating up food in the kitchen, moving chairs around in Church and getting the piano into place. Our naughty little sheep and his friends have found a quiet spot where they can keep a close eye on everyone, making sure everything is going according to plan. And at last we're ready. Hooray!

With the Church open and our naughty little sheep and friends sitting comfortably, people begin to arrive, just a few at first and then more and more until there's a lovely big, noisy, happy crowd with lots of teddies, big and small and other animals as well. So with jingle-bells at the ready, we sing, "Candle-time" and I light the candles as our service begins. And we have a great time together singing some of our favourite songs like, "I like eating" "Thank you, God, for the people we love." "Jesus love is very wonderful." And "The Father himself loves you!" And we thank God for bringing us together today, for the love that surrounds us, and all the fun that we are having. Aren't we so lucky! And we sing, "My God is so big, so strong and so mighty!" with lots of jingling bells, excellent actions and beautiful smiley faces. Our naughty little sheep

and his friends are joining in with great excitement. They are all so pleased to be part of it. And so am I! Now it's time to say the special prayer that Jesus taught us and everyone tries hard to be very quiet, with hands together and eyes shut tight. We finish with a special blessing and as the candles are blown out, our service comes to an end.

Everyone makes their way into the Hall where tables are laid out with different crafts to enjoy and soon they are buzzing with activity. The doors are open into the Pleasance where the toys and games are investigated and enjoyed. With the sun still peeping through the clouds from time to time blankets are laid out and people make themselves comfortable. Our naughty little sheep has left his friends resting in the Church, and made his way to his favourite spot on the hatchway. He doesn't want to get too near to the craft tables in case he gets glue and sparkles on his wool, though Harry soon gets him involved. I hope it doesn't mean that he'll need another bath! Very soon it's time to eat and there's lots of yummy food to share. We are all having such a good time together, time to chat, time to meet new people and to make new friends.

And then, before we know where we are, it's time to go home. There are a few tears from some of the children who don't want to leave yet. Perhaps we'll see them at our next First Steps service on 8th September because we do so enjoy our time together and our naughty little sheep and his friends are really looking forward to catching up with them again. And so am I!

God Bless.

PS. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO THE SMALL ARMY OF VOLUNTEERS WHO CAME ALONG AND HELPED TO MAKE OUR AFTERNOON SUCH A SUCCESS. WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

Rosemary Austin



A letter from Aly.

Aly is a Palestinian boy Christ Church sponsor, through the Biblelands.

Child's First Name: Aly Full Reference No: 145469 fec. s. 1. 43. Sponsor's Name: Christ Church : Mrs T Helings 5 she y del حاقد على فعلى العسف وانتريث السنة التأجيلية eer l'égit gelà que l'alis relies res left, teril to religion light as capi Dear Auntie , I hope you are well. I'm writing to inform you that the rehabilitation year is one with a party, we had fun. I'm going to spend my summer vacation at the sea. see you soon. Thank you for everything you do for us, God blees you on behalf of your child Al Teachy

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend Page 10

Bible Study 0 Health Good Fair Poor because P O Box 50 High wycombe Bucks HP15 7QU. Registered Chu Bible Study P O Box 50 High wycombe Bucks HP15 7QU. Registered Chu Bible Study P O Box 50 High wycombe Bucks HP15 7QU. Registered Chu Bible Study P O Box 50 High wycombe Bucks HP15 7QU. Registered Chu Bible Study Faglish Heritage Tours at St. I West Malling. You can also visit the Pilsdon Places MUST be pre-booked by West Malling and Tonbridge 01732 770929 Have you read Mi Why don't you wr	Middle/prep	Presents an afternoon of		
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Why don't you wr	Iary's Abbey, Community. v telephoning	Spend an afternoon in the gardens, listening to selected readings from popular authors, and reflect in prayer. Cream tea included. Tickets £3:00 Apologies - Last month The new Scout Group Chairperson is Sandy Johnso		
God's Gang. Have you read Milly's book about church in this magazine? Why don't you write and tell us what you like best about church. Have you any ideas for things you think we should do in church? We want to know what you think is good, what should be changed. Give your ideas to us next time you are in church.				

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend

Milly Barden has written a book about church.





RACE FOR LIFE - BLACKHEATH 4TH JULY 2010

One night in February I saw an advert for taking part in the Race for Life. For some reason I was feeling brave and decided to sign up for it. Well, it is in a good cause and I had lost my Nan to cancer a few years ago - so I thought that if I could raise a little bit of money, then it's worth it. You could choose on the day whether you wanted to run, jog or walk 5k (approximately just over 3 miles).

I must admit, I awoke the next day and the realisation set in - I am not particularly fit, yes I walk



to school fairly regularly, but oh my goodness, I would rather find excuses not to exercise than being a fitness freak. Plus, in this moment of madness of signing up for the race - I had not asked anyone to go with me. Panic set in! Time to train!

My first race had to be postponed due to ill health, so I signed up for the Blackheath race on 4th July 2010. Luckily, Angela and Jenna Kirby had also signed up, and very kindly Angela invited me to join her and her family in the race. I am very grateful to Angela and her family, they welcomed me in and made the day a real experience.

The day arrived. Training? Not much. Best option? Walk!

We got to Gravesend station at 8.30am and all that you could see was a sea of pink. It was amazing, men were definitely outnumbered on the train. More and more "pinks" got on the train as we made our way to Blackheath.

When we got to Blackheath the atmosphere was amazing, thousands of people were milling around, there was music and dancing. People were dressed in serious running gear to the completely bizarre, head dresses, tutu's, you name it, you probably saw it. It was all for the same reason though, people had notices on their backs, they were running for loved ones who had sadly died, running for lucky ones who had survived and running for ones who are fighting the battle now.

It made me realise how lucky and fortunate I am. I have my health, a loving family and great friends - I love my life, so I will be definitely signing up next year to help those less fortunate.

Angela and I walked (fairly briskly) and we did the race in 1 hour, 3 minutes and 23 seconds. Thank you to everyone who sponsored Angela, Jenna and myself. We are truly grateful.

Paula Cuffley

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend	Page 14	September 2010
CHINST CHURCH WITTON-INEXT-BRUVESENU	ruge 14	September 2010
	5	

September Highlights this month ! September Back to C

Youth Music Day Back to Church Sunday

Sunday		5 8 am Service 10 am Service God's Gang 6.30 p.m. Ecumeni- cal service 6 - 8 pm Hall Youth Club	12 8 am Service 10 am Service All Age Service 6.30p.m. Choral Evensong 6 - 8 pm Hall Youth Club	19 8 am Service 10 am Service God's Gang 6 - 8 pm Youth Club	26 8 am Service 10 am Service Back to Church Sunday
Monday		6 Music Group Brownies Explorer Scouts	13 Brownies Explorer Scouts	20 Brownies Explorer Scouts	27 Brownies Explorer Scouts
Tuesday		7 Cubs	14 Cubs	21 Cubs	28 Cubs
Wednesday	1 10am service 8 p.m. MU meeting	⁸ 10am service First Steps Guides	15 10am service Guides	22 10am service Guides	29 10am service Guides
Thursday	2	9 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	16 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	23 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	30 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice
Friday	3 Parent & Toddler Office Hours	10 Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours	17 Fairtrade Lunch Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours	24 Ellenor Coffee Morning Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours	
Saturday	4	11 9.30 Working Party Church Open Day @ Shorne Tours @ St Mary's Abbey	18 3 p.m. Commis- sioning service @ St Paul's URC	25 Youth Music Day Come & Sing	
Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend Page 15 September 2010					

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

Office hours

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

For further information contact the Church Wardens

Clubs		scouts
There are a	wide variety of clubs for yo	be prepared
Daily	Christ Church Pre-school (2	2½ upwards)
Monday	Music Group; Brownies	Girlauiding UK
Tuesday	Cubs	Girlguiding UK girls in the lead
Wednesday	Guides; Mothers Union (1st First Steps (under 5's and carers)	
Thursday	Beavers; Brownies; Choir Pi	ractice First Steps
Friday	Scouts; Amateur Dramatics	; Parent and Toddler
Saturday	Working party (2nd Saturo	lay) 🚺
Sunday	Christ Church Youth Club	<pre></pre>
Christ Church Pa	rish Magazine Page 16	September 2010