



CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE

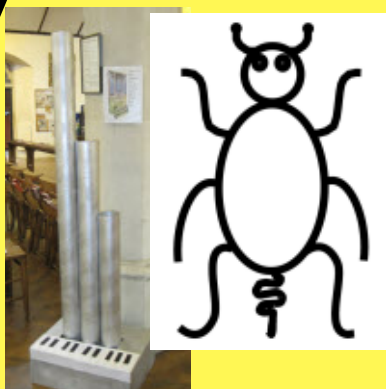
30p

or
donation

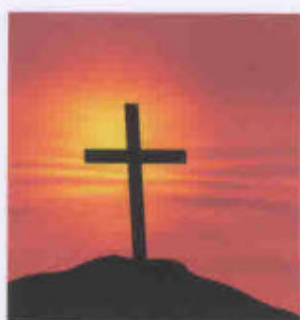
March
2011



John Hill 2007



CCOF
Organ Fund
Beetle Drive
19th March
8 pm



Experience Easter

*An Interactive Display at
Christ Church,
Old Road East, Gravesend.*

From 29th March by arrangement.

Groups most welcome by request:

For more details contact
Rev Sue Brewer 01474 352643 or
Suec@brewer.plus.com

Deadline for April magazine:

Sunday 20th March.

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

Inside this month's magazine

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

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

Page 2	Who's Who!
Page 3	Welcome to Evie and Louis
Page 4	Pre-school OFSTED success
Page 5	Jo Drew & Experience Easter
Page 6	CCOF Dates
Page 7	Beetle Drive poster
Page 8	Adverts
Page 9	Letter from Aly
Page 10	Thank you from Blythswood
Pull out	CCADS 75th Anniversary
Page 11	Experience Easter Poster
Page 12	God's Gang
Page 14	First Steps
Page 15	Gravesend Street Pastors
Page 16	Parish Magazine Production
Page 17	Adverts
Page 18	March - Patron Saints

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



Welcome to Louis and Evie

Who were baptised on Sunday 13th February at the All Age Service.

Louis said: "I was really excited and privileged to be baptised. It was such a great feeling and I thank everyone that made my day extra Special".

Evie "On the day of my Baptism I felt really excited and happy that my whole family came. I felt really special and grateful because I was being closer to Jesus and God".



LENT COURSE 2011

Our 2 Bishops and the Dean will be giving 3 talks during Lent on the theme "Celebrating God". The talks will take place in St. George's Church, Gravesend at both 12.30 pm and 7.30 pm on Wednesdays 16th, 23rd and 30th March.

16th March Bishop Brian

23rd March Dean Adrian Newman

30th March Bishop James

"Singing the Faith"

"Learning to Dance"

"Proclaiming the Faith"

Joan, Jenny and family wish to thank everyone for their cards and kindness especially over the last few weeks.

Many thanks to Revd. Jacqueline Littlewood and all who helped to make Jackie's thanksgiving service so special.

CONFIRMATION

Christ Church candidates will be confirmed at a service at St Aidan's Church on Sunday 8th May. Very soon we will begin to prepare candidates for confirmation. If you are interested in being confirmed, or know someone who might be interested, now is the time to contact us.

Last year, a number of people also took the opportunity to renew their baptismal vows in front of the Bishop. This is for people who have been confirmed in the past but, for whatever reason, feel that they would like to make a fresh commitment to Christ. Those renewing baptismal vows prepare alongside those preparing for confirmation, and everyone is involved at the Confirmation service with the Bishop. If you feel you would like to make a fresh commitment to Christ, whether you are already confirmed or not, please call Sue Brewer (01474 352643) or email suec@brewer86.plus.com

There will be an initial meeting to discuss the preparation at 2.30 pm on Sunday 6th March in the church hall.

Sue

Outstanding Pre-School

Ofsted knocked on the door on

Friday January 21st. We had no notice.

We are pleased to announce we got an

Outstanding rating from Ofsted.

To get Outstanding you need to be outstanding in all areas. The Inspector really raved about the garden, our curriculum planning and key work system. The trips we make to the forest and planning for the boys in our setting.

She was amazed that a pack away setting could achieve so much for the children in our care. I want to thank everyone for their support of the pre-school and my hard working staff.

If any one wants to read the report I have a copy.

Sue Reilly
Pre-school Manager



Pre-School in the Gravesend Reporter

Christchurch Pre School, based at Christ Church, Echo Square, Gravesend, has scooped an 'Outstanding' OFSTED Inspection result, with every single element of the Report being found Outstanding by Inspectors.

Amongst many highlights, the Report stresses the enthusiasm and happiness of the children, together with their excellent progress towards the Early Learning Goals. The Report is extremely complimentary about the leadership and management of the pre-school, praising the excellent attitude towards safety of the children, the high expectations of staff and children, and the extensive plans for further improvements.

On one of the many activities the Report praises, it notes: "The children worked exceptionally well together to achieve their aim and their attempts were photographed and made into a wonderful display. This activity not only tested their problem solving and reasoning skills but also helped them to communicate effectively with each other, tested their creative abilities and allowed them to engage in physical play. The children are interested learners and are developing a wide range of future skills. In directing their own play and initiating activities children are also making excellent contributions to the provision".

The pre-school is sponsored by Christ Church, and vicar Rev Sue Brewer comments: "At Christ Church we are very proud of our pre-school, which has offered a first-class early years experience to the children of our community for many years. We are delighted that this report recognises the skill and hard work of Sue Reilly and her staff, and the happy experience that the children going through the pre-school enjoy".

You will find the full Report at www.ofsted.gov.uk

If you need more information, please contact me on 01474 741442
or the vicar, Sue Brewer, on 01474 352643.

Peter Read

Jo Drew



I am currently an Ordinand training for ministry at Ripon College, Cuddesdon situated just outside Oxford. My sponsoring church is The Priory based on the site of a former Benedictine monastery next to Lancaster Castle within the Diocese of Blackburn. I have lived and worked in Lancaster during the last twenty years after studying at Lancaster University. Over the years I have undertaken a range of jobs including - student nursing; economic development information work; and horticulture. All of these have focused on community partnerships. I have been employed by a variety of faith organisations to set up, or develop, Church/community projects for socially isolated older people; the homeless; the disadvantaged and marginalised; and children in socially deprived urban areas of Lancaster. This included, for example, setting up inter-generational community gardens and environmental projects. I was also involved in developing an ecumenical and secular partnership organisation called F.I.S.H. - Faith groups In Support of Homeless - as Co-ordinator. My last post as Church Community Worker was based in an Anglican rural benefice on the edge of Cumbria (where I now live) comprising three parish churches, that were linked with Bloemfontein, South Africa. This involved work with all age groups which included a 'Footprints' community history group; a 'Breaking Bread' lunch for people (with help from local school children) and 'Messy Church' art events. Finally, I am so delighted that I have been offered the privilege of training as a Curate at Christ Church and look forward to meeting everyone later in the year.

EXPERIENCE EASTER

Can you help us? Schools, groups, churches and holiday clubs have booked a visit to Experience Easter (some have also booked for Pentecost too). We are still seeking to resource certain things for the displays; if you have any of the following and would be willing to lend them please contact Sue or Veronica(01474 534857) as soon as possible. To make the whole experience work we need our volunteers to man the church and displays- this is quite straight forward and if you would like to know more or volunteer your services please contact us and let us know when you are available.

The Experience runs from March 29th to April 25th.

Items we still need are;

a rectangular plain wooden coffee table,
lengths of plain(ish) blue, red, grey, purple, white and brown material,
cushions and/or cushion covers in neutral brown, white or beige,
a large water jug and bowl(enamel earthenware pottery),
large pot plants(suitable for the Garden of Gethsemane),
chicken wire,
bags of large pebbles,
offers to make biscuits.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks Veronica



Christ Church Organ Fund

CCOF (Christ Church Organ Fund) Events

19th March	Games evening
29th April	Royal Wedding Party
May	Quiz Night
9th - 10th July	Treasure / Scavenger Hunt
July	Open Gardens
14th August	Family Barbecue and Auction of Talents
8th October	Cookery Book - Tea Dance
19th Novemeber	Band Concert (profit shared with Help for Heroes)

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES

I am about to prepare and distribute the weekly offering envelopes for the next financial year. They will start from Sunday 3rd April 2011. Please let me know as soon as possible if -

- You no longer want to use the weekly envelopes
- You have never used the weekly envelopes but would like to do so from 3rd April
- You currently use the weekly envelopes but would like to change your giving to standing order direct from your bank account (I can give you the necessary form).

I can be contacted personally at church, by e mail (thrushanne@hotmail.com) or by phone (01474 320454).

Anne Thrush.



What's David doing with the Naughty Little Sheep?

Is he thinking of selling him to raise money for the Organ Fund?

Actually this was the happy scene when David returned the sheep rescued after he had been left behind after a service.

Well Done David!



There will be a
CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH
in St. George's Church Hall
on **WEDNESDAY 9th March**
from 12.15—1.45pm. Admission £2.
Bring and Buy stall.

THE GREAT BIG BEETLE DRIVE

Are you a shaker or a mover?



**Then come to the Beetle Drive
at Christ Church Hall
on Saturday 19th March at 7.30 p.m.**

Can you count to 13?

Tickets £5, children under 12 free: bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Can you roll a dice and draw a beetle?

This is one of the events to raise money for the Christ Church Organ Fund (CCOF)

**Are you aged between 8 and 88 (give or take)?
Then you will have a hilarious evening.**

Tickets available from: David 01474 331061
or at Church



1st Windmill Hill Scout Group



Meet on: Thursday Tuesday Friday

The 1st Windmill
Cub Pack is looking
for new leader.

Would you like to
work with young
people aged 8 to 11?

Would you like to be
part of a progressive
Scout Group?

Have you ever been
part of the Baden
Powell movement?

Contacts: Richard Painting
Group Scout Leader 01474 324776



Sandy Johnson
Group Chairman

chairmansandy@yahoo.co.uk

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Our next meetings are:

Wednesday 2nd March
Cup Cake
Demonstration

Starting at 8.00 pm
at 40 Cross Lane East



Wednesday 6th April
8 p.m.
Experience Easter
With Vicar Sue
In Church



**Soroptimist International of
Gravesend & District**

Antiques Valuation and Craft Day

Saturday 2nd April 2011

at
Christ Church Hall
Old Road East, Gravesend
10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

The Well-Known Appraiser: Alan White

Entry £1.00 Per Person (Accompanied Children free)
plus Valuation £1.00 per item
No furniture or large items

Demonstrations and Sale of Crafts

Glass Engraving; Costume Jewellery; Wire and Bead Work; Cards for all
Occasions; Quilling; Silk Items; Personalised Small Clay Items; Knitted
Scarves; Hand Crafted Silver Items; Bric-a-Brac Table

Proceeds to
President Surin's Charities

Light Refreshments will be available during the day
For More Details Contact 01474 564234

WOMEN'S WORLD OF PRAYER on FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

at St Botolph's
at 10 am
and
also at St Aidan's
at 10 am.

The theme is:-

"How Many Loaves Have You?"

All are welcome at these services.



Have you had a look on the Traidcraft table
recently?

We have some new items for sale. You might
see something that takes your fancy.

If there is something you would like to try but
is not on the table have a word with John Hill.

Child's First Name: ALY
 Full Reference No: 145469/ccs/043
 Sponsor's Name: CHRIST CHURCH MRS J. HILL



A letter from Aly.



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

أهلي الأخت
 ها قد عدنا من العطلة الصيفية وقد أمضينا مع
 الأهل في الجبل، فرحنا كثيرا.
 والآن عدنا لبدء سنة دراسية جديدة
 بكل نشاط وحيوية. شكرًا لك على أن تكون
 أختي.

Dear Auntie,

Hello, hoping you're well. I'm back to
 my center very energetic after a lovely
 vacation that I had fun at the mountain.
 Thank you for helping me.



God bless you
 on behalf of your
 child Aly
 Teacher

CHRIST CHURCH YOUTH CLUB

We urgently need 2 or 3 more
 volunteers to help with youth
 club—each volunteer only needs
 to help out once a month.

Youth club is
 between 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm
 on Sunday evenings.

POPPY APPEAL

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal

£84.55p

Was collected by you.

Without your help, we would be unable to
 Continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours Sincerely

COLIN GOULD

Local Honorary Organiser,

2010 TOTAL COLLECTED
 GRAVESHAM AREA £37,095.10

Electoral Roll

Now is the time of year when we revise the Electoral
 Roll. Everyone who is Baptised, over 16 years and
 worships regularly at Christ Church can have their
 name on the Electoral Roll. This makes them a full
 member of the church and gives them a chance to
 vote at the Annual Meeting.

There is a limited time for the revision, so, if your
 name is not on the Electoral Roll, please fill in a
 form—you will find a pile of forms in the west end
 of the church— and hand it to Sue or one of the
 churchwardens.

Please make a note in your diaries that the Annual
 Meeting is on Sunday 10th April after the 10 am
 service.

IFIELD LADIES next meeting is on Wed. 16th
 March starting at 8 pm. when Pat Mortlock from
 the National Trust will speak about

“Elizabeth I—Queen or Goddess”?
 Visitors are always welcome.



January 2011

Mrs Read
Christ Church (Echo Square)

GRAVESEND
Kent

Dear Mrs Read,

It's really fantastic the way everyone rallies around and supports our Shoebox Appeal each year. I cannot find adequate words to express our sincere and heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. We are so encouraged by your enthusiasm and commitment and you have been so generous with your time, your finances and your talents.

From our base here in Kent we sent out 16,660 shoeboxes and this year the final count revealed that as a whole, Blythswood Care was able to pass on a total of 118,256 gift boxes. This is a tremendous accomplishment which could not have been achieved without your contribution, whichever form that may have taken.

Early in November there was an earthquake in the Kraljevo area of Serbia, and the outreach work of several of our partners there has been badly affected. Hundreds of families are being housed in temporary accommodation and it will be spring-time before rebuilding and repairs can be made because of the low temperatures. This is but one example of many communities in which the Good News of Jesus Christ was shared and gift boxes given out over the Christmas period.

Please be encouraged in the knowledge that the contribution you made to last year's Shoebox Appeal has brought a great deal of happiness to thousands of people who struggle to make ends meet. May the Lord bless you richly as 2011 unfolds before you.



With our thanks

June

June Tottman
Regional Administrator

Blythswood Care is a charitable organisation constituted in Scotland by Trust Deed. Scottish Charity No. SC 021848

Christian care for body and soul



My goodness, thinking about my time with our own beloved Dramatic Society has taken me back over long years. It's been rather scary realizing just how many years but it has also brought back many very happy memories. I first joined the Society at the end of 1968 just after I had left Meopham with my parents, my two sisters and my brother and moved into Pine Avenue. I had belonged to the Meopham

Players for a short while and discovered a love of acting and I wanted to continue treading the boards. Sadly, after a few months it became clear that the hours I was working in the Gravesend Library made it difficult and so I left. The years rolled by and at the beginning of 1975, by which time I was married with a young family, with the co-operation of an understanding husband, I rejoined. And what a wonderful time I had. So much fun, choosing plays and learning lines alongside many people whose company I came to enjoy and whose friendship I came to value.



To aid my failing memory Allister Kay has very kindly given me access to some of the old play programmes, along with some of those long ago reviews. What a wonderful trip down memory lane! And good old CCADS has put on some excellent



plays over the years. Comedies or dramas, we could turn our hands to most things. And I was lucky enough to play a part in some of them. Oh what fun we had. And as I looked through those programmes many familiar names came flooding back "The Importance of Being Earnest" "Hobson's Choice", "When We Are Married", "The Brown-ing Version" and "An Inspector Calls" to name but a few.



Of course things didn't always go according to plan. On one occasion I was acting alongside a young chap called Chris Piper. (I wonder what happened to him.) There were just the two of us in two vignettes playing firstly a couple of newly weds and then a couple long married. All went well on the first night, a Friday if my memory serves me correctly. On Saturday Chris made the mistake of going off to play football, a dangerous game, and managed to break his arm, poor chap, though that wasn't exactly

what I said at the time. For our Saturday night performance John Bunyan took Chris's part, complete with playbook in hand. It sort of spoiled the effect, if you know what I mean!

In "Hobson's Choice" I played alongside my sister, Celia. We had been cast as Hobson's two younger daughters and we had a quick costume change between scenes. Sadly it wasn't quite quick enough, much to the amusement of the audience. It's silly things like that stick in the mind. The revue in the Reporter was memorable for all the wrong reasons, beginning "Christ Church Amateur Dramatic Society provided an evening of marvellous entertainment at the church hall last night, although many of the laughs came in the wrong places." Oops! It was a first night and I think that things improved considerably for the



next two nights. I hope that the entertainment was still marvellous!



For 11 years I was secretary to the Society, taking over from Mollie Goringe, working alongside John Bunyan who was Chairman during those years. I so enjoyed being part of it all but once again real life intervened and because of family commitments I had to take a back seat. I returned in 1994 to tread the boards one last time, playing the deputy governor in "The Enquiry" by Charlotte Hastings, set in a women's Open Prison. All gritty stuff! And so my acting days came to an end. Some of those whom I have acted alongside are still part of the Society; others are now acting on that great stage in the sky. It has been a delight and a privilege to be part of it all and I hope that others will continue to discover all the enjoyment that can be found as a member of the wonderful, the amazing Christ Church Amateur Dramatic Society!



The selection of photographs are from "Wolf's Clothing" by Kenneth Horne; "The Day of Atonement" by Margaret Wood; and "When We are Married" by J B Priestly.

Rosemary



EXPERIENCE EASTER at CHRIST CHURCH Echo Square Gravesend

- an interactive journey through the
events of Holy Week for children
and adults



Open Church
Monday 18th,
Tuesday 19th April
2.00- 5.00pm,
Wednesday 20th
10.45-1.00pm and
after normal services.

Schools, groups, clubs and churches
welcome by appointment

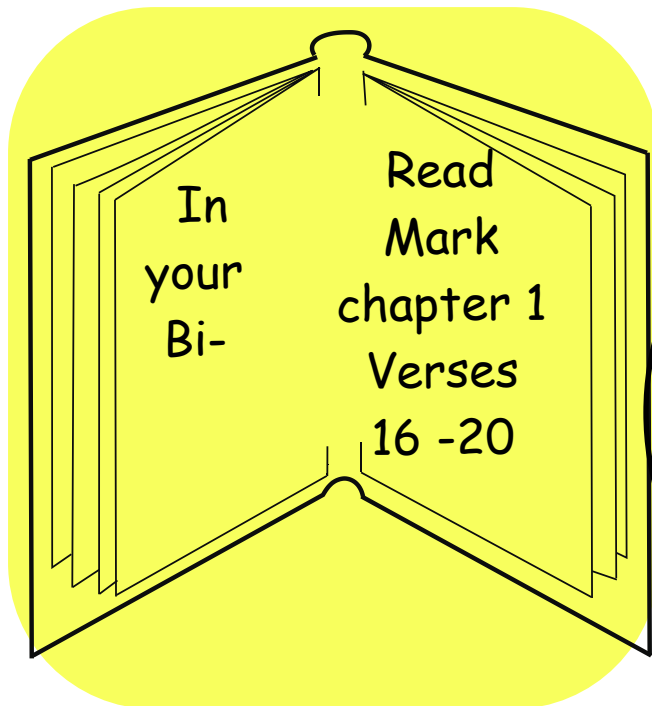
Rev. Sue Brewer 01474 352643-suec@brewer86.plus.com



God's Gang

CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

How many crosses can you find in Christ Church?



Why do Christians have crosses as their symbol?



We have a cross to show we follow Jesus.

Draw some of your favourite crosses.



First Steps

9th February 2011

Great news! Our naughty little sheep is back in the fold and life has returned to some sort of normality. He returned from his sojourn with David Williams looking slightly chunkier, I thought, though he insists that he was very good and tried hard not to hog too much of David's yummy food, tempting though it was! He had a great time, it seems, being looked after by David's car bears and going to places like Essex. Not quite as exciting as flying to Italy in an aeroplane but he enjoyed the change of scene. So thanks to David for being so kind to a slightly stray sheep! Or should that be lost sheep? Ho hum!

Up to a rather grey day on 9th February but there is the promise of a little brightness later, so we shall see. Fingers crossed! Our naughty little sheep and a small but select group of his friends are joining us for our First Steps service and we walk up to church together. Our naughty little sheep is really pleased to be back, and he and his friends are all quite frisky. I think that there must be a touch of spring in the air. As soon as we get into church, they all rush off to find hiding places. They're still trying to outsmart the children. We shall see who outsmarts whom!

I get everything sorted in church, ready for our service and when Linda arrives she goes into the kitchen to get everything ready there. Then we both set to, hauling chairs and toys about until everything is ready in the hall. What a mission! We're both exhausted by the time we've finished! Then into church with bated breath to see if anyone feels like joining us today. We wait, and wait and then Helen arrives with Billy. Hooray! How lovely to see them. Rachel quickly follows with Olivia and Bonna with Isaac and Elijah and before we know where we are we've got quite a crowd. Jingle bells are chosen and tested and with Anne installed at the piano, trying to keep half an eye on wriggly little Thomas, it's time for our service to begin.

Today we are thinking about taking care of our beautiful world because it is a gift from God and it is up to us to look after it in any way that we can. With candles lit and "Candle time" sung, we think about the people in our world and how caring for God's world means trying to help the people who don't have all the good things that we have. And so we sing, "Share it round" because God calls us to be generous and loving. And we say "Thank you" to God for our beautiful world and all the gifts that He gives to us every day.

Our world is full of so many kinds of creatures and we sing, "Here come the frogs", a favourite that gives us a chance to sing about squirming worms, pecking birds and noisy children, too. Great fun! And we say "Thank you" to God for them all. They each play a very important part in our world and we wouldn't be without any of them, would we? Then Olivia suddenly presents me with our naughty little sheep. How embarrassing! He wasn't very well hidden, was he? I'd forgotten all about those hiding animals because they've been so quiet! Oops! Time to go and find them all, I think. Off go the children and very soon all of the animals have been found. See, they weren't that sneaky and clever after all, were they? Well done, children!

"Jesus' love is very wonderful" is our next song and a good excuse for lots of very joyful jingling to remind us that we are always surrounded by God's love. And then it's back to our beautiful world again with "My God is so big, so strong and so mighty!" I must say that the children are doing the actions really well and if I'm not mistaken our naughty little sheep and his cronies are having a go too, though when they catch me looking at them, they're all covered in confusion. There's no need; they seem to have all the moves!

Of course we know that God has given us a wonderful world to look after, but we also know that He's here alongside us too, helping, supporting and guiding us and to remind us we sing, "He's got the whole world in His hands." another favourite. Now it is time to be very quiet while we say our prayers and then with candles blown out and our singing over it's time to make our way into the Hall for a drink and a biscuit, some chat and some play. Isaac is ready to do some serious playing now after being such a good boy for such a long time. In fact all of the children have been really good playing their instruments and singing our songs. So well done to all of them! Our naughty little sheep and his friends are sitting where they can see the children rushing about, letting off steam. Well they can't stay too still for too long, can they? We do hope that they're all having such a good time they'll want to come and join us again for our next First Steps service on 9th March. Spring should really be on the way then! I think that our naughty little sheep is going to try and persuade some more of his friends to join us then, too. Oh what fun we'll have! So we hope to see you all then.

God Bless

Rosemary Austin



NEWS FROM GRAVESEND STREET PASTORS FEBRUARY 2011

How do you get 132 into 24? Sounds like a trick question? Well, not quite! 132 people packed themselves into the rear of Bar 24 (the old Railway Tavern) in Stone St on 12th February for the Commissioning of a further 16 Street Pastors. It was quite awesome: in dimly-lit bar/night club surroundings, the disco plinth was transformed with Street Pastor banners and logos and despite importing nearly 100 chairs, there was standing room only! Proceedings were late starting due to the continuous queue at the door!

When the singing started, it could have been heaven! We raised the rafters in praise, with "Great is thy faithfulness" and later Stuart Townend's "The Lord's my shepherd" and "Guide me, O thou great Redeemer". Coincidentally it was a service dominated by 4 Michael's! Led by Revd Michael Fanstone, we welcomed a few words from Inspector Mike Coltham, Kent Police, who heads up the Community Safety unit in Gravesham, but is also a worship leader at St Luke's church, Maidstone and from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mick Wenban and Councillor Mike Snelling, leader of the Council, who both attend local churches. Their messages were ones of warmth and encouragement and that the presence of Street Pastors had led to a calming of behaviour on the streets, as well as giving practical and other support to members of the public.

Following The Message version of The Prodigal Son, we listened to Revd Ray Bell, Co-ordinator of Orpington Street Pastors and Ascension Trust representative talking about being salt and light in our community, which was tinged with humour at times too. He said that he believed that Street Pastor engagement with local people was the kind of way of working that Jesus envisioned in his ministry on earth. We learnt that there are now over 7,000 Street Pastors nationwide, all trained since 2003. In less than 8 years, this is truly a force to be reckoned with!

We were delighted to be able to present our volunteer Prayer Administrator, Helen Martin with vouchers in thanks for all her hard work, commitment and dedication to organising the prayer teams and sending out weekly and monthly prayer bulletins to all involved in this valuable ministry.

The finale came when 14 new Street Pastors, Michael Fanstone and I received our caps, to the cheering and whooping delight of those who had come to support us - a spine-tingling moment. God's presence was very tangible to us all throughout the service and this was a terrific witness to the love and support of the churches of Gravesham to a new and developing ministry.

Following the service, no less than 29 uniformed and capped Street Pastors hit the town centre's streets en masse, accompanied by Ray Bell, much to the bemusement of the punters and door-staff and hooted and waved at by passing motorists, again quite an amazingly powerful spectacle and witness.

We praise and give thanks to God for the wonderful things He is helping and encouraging us to do in our local community and pray that the churches will continue to engage with this and feel part of this project to help others. 11 churches now have at least one Street Pastor and 25 churches are actively involved in some form of support. If you feel challenged to be involved in some way, particularly the prayer ministry, please contact me - you will be assured of a warm response.

With our new charity status, we have just launched our small change collection boxes, which are numbered and tallied against people's address, telephone and church data. If you would like one, please let us know and we will arrange for its delivery. We are also now able to seek Gift Aid on any donations, if you are a tax-payer.

Thank you for your vital on-going support.
Yours, excitedly in Christ

Anne Jenkins

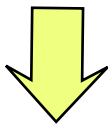
Gravesend Street Pastors Co-ordinator
Tel: **01474 568498** (Monday 12 -5pm
& Thursday 9am -5pm)
Or **07570 883896*** (leave a message)
Or e-mail
gravesend@streetpastors.org.uk



Parish Magazine Production

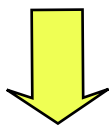
Gathering material

Material for the magazine comes from many different areas - individual contributors - reports from organisations within the church family - articles about events within the community - history articles - many adverts for events and activities within the community.



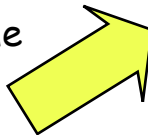
DTP - Desk Top Publishing

Currently Serif PagePlus4 is used to produce the magazine. The pages are produced as single A4 sheets - these are fed through the photocopier which is designed to produce a A5 booklet. The single pages are collated into a full magazine prior to being converted into a PDF publication for inclusion on the church website.



Printing

A fantastic photocopier housed in the choir vestry (a room where the choir prepare themselves for services), takes about 2 hours to produce the current print run of 300 copies. The A5 magazine is collated, stapled and folded by hand.



Artwork & Writing

Original work is invaluable as this reduces the difficulties associated with copyright.

Photographs

Always difficult to get a good reproduction on the photocopier

Advertising

Presently only non-commercial adverts are included.

Proof Reading

The process of reading the draft copy prior to printing.

Do you see yourself as part of the magazine production team? Speak to Ian Brown or Vicar Sue for more information.

Editor

Distribution

The magazine is collected by the congregation at church either for their own perusal or in a few cases for delivery to people in their locality. Some magazines are posted to individuals, magazines to the uniformed organisations, Pre-school, CCADS and the Echo Square shops are delivered by hand.



FREE!! Fairtrade Lunch Stop

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

Tea,
Fresh filter Coffee,
Hot Chocolate,
Fruit Juices

View our **NEW!**
Fairtrade Goods
stands.

With thanks to Sainsbury's, Morrisons,
John Street Beverage,
Co-op, Tesco metro, Cadbury's, Clipper teas,
CafeDumonde for their generous donations.

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

Friday 4th March &
Friday 11th March
12-2pm



PRE-SCHOOL



We are collecting
Active kids rewards from
Sainsbury's, these are
invaluable to us and

enables us to purchase equipment we
other wise would not have. We bought
last year new scooters, a cool bag on
wheels for our forest trips and
streamers probably amounting to
£300 worth.

So please if you have any vouchers or
can get neighbours to collect we
would very much appreciate them.

There is a box in
church for your
vouchers.

Sue Reilly
Pre-school supervisor



EllenorLions Hospices
'without them we would have been lost'

COFFEE MORNINGS

Whilst building improvements are in
progress regular
coffee mornings will be held at
St Mary' Church, Wrotham Road
11 am to 1 pm

2011

Friday 25th March



GOOD FRIDAY PAGEANT

Churches together in
Gravesham are organising a
Good Friday Pageant in the town centre.
They are looking for people
willing to take an acting role. If you are interested
there is a meeting on Monday 7th March at 7.30 pm
in City Praise Centre, Lower Higham Road.

They will also be looking for
volunteers to act as stewards and hand out leaflets.
More details later

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota



Week 4	6th Mar	Margaret Davies, Ian & Sheila Brown
Week 5	13th Mar	Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Mary Sargeant
Week 6	20th Mar	Sylvia Brown, Jasmine & Steve Humphries
Week 7	27th Mar	Joan & Bob Bennett, Marylene Ewin, David Williams
Week 8	3rd Apr	Colin & Linda Parsonson, Anne Thrush

Maureen Fittill

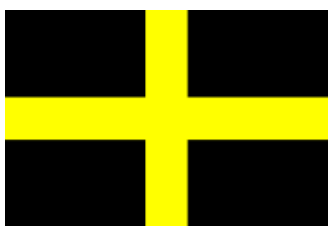
In March we celebrate the lives of two Patron Saints.

A **patron saint** is a saint who is regarded as the intercessor and advocate in heaven of a nation, place, craft, activity, class, clan, family, or person. Patron saints, because they have already transcended to the metaphysical, are believed to be able to intercede effectively for the needs of their special charges.

1st March

Saint David (c. 500-589) (Welsh: **Dewi Sant**) was a church official; he was later regarded as a saint and as the patron saint of Wales. David was a native of Wales, and a relatively large amount of information is known about his life. However, his birth date is still uncertain, as suggestions range from 462 to 512.

David's popularity in Wales is shown by the *Armes Prydein Vawr* c.930, a popular prophetic poem in which the poet prophesied that in the future, when all might seem lost, the Cymry (the Welsh people) would unite to follow David as their leader: *A lluman glân Dewi a ddyrchafant* (And they will raise the pure banner of Dewi) and defeat the English. David's life and teachings have inspired a choral work by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins, *Dewi Sant*. It is a seven-movement work that is best known for the classical crossover series *Adiemus*, which intersperses movements reflecting the themes of David's last sermon with those drawing from three Psalms. An oratorio by another Welsh composer Arwel Hughes, also entitled *Dewi Sant*, was composed in 1950.



The Flag of Saint David

17th March
Saint Patrick

Little is known of Patrick's early life, though it is known that he was born in Roman Britain in the 4th century, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father and grandfather were deacons in the Church. At the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken captive to Ireland as a slave. It is believed he was held somewhere on the west coast of Ireland, possibly Mayo, but the exact location is unknown. According to his Confession, he was told by God in a dream to flee from captivity to the coast, where he would board a ship and return to Britain. Upon returning, he quickly joined the Church in Auxerre in Gaul and studied to be a priest. In 432, he again said that he was called back to Ireland, though as a bishop, to Christianise the Irish from their native polytheism. Irish folklore tells that one of his teaching methods included using the shamrock to explain the Christian doctrine of the Trinity to the Irish people. After nearly thirty years of evangelism, he died on 17 March 461, and according to tradition, was buried at Downpatrick. Although there were other more successful missions to Ireland from Rome, Patrick endured as the principal champion of Irish Christianity and is held in esteem in the Irish Church.



Information from Wikipedia, where further detail can be obtained.



The choir are settling down with our new organist and director, Christian Thomas, and getting used to each other's ways! We are working hard to learn the sacred cantata 'Olivet to Calvary' by J H Maunder, which depicts in music the last few days of Jesus' life from Palm Sunday through to Calvary. Assisted by friends from other choirs, we will perform this on Passion Sunday, 10 April 2011, and we do hope that many of you will come along to support us - we need your voices to assist us with the well-known hymns that are interspersed throughout the work.

Anne Thrush

Having had a quiet couple of months the Music Group has started rehearsing for Easter. Once again we have been joined by some members of the choir and congregation, which has increased our numbers. However new members would also be welcome, so if you would like to join us, please speak to Helen .

Music Group



Gill Campbell

It is always good to see so many young people at the all age service on the second Sunday of the month and hear their musical talent as they join in the service.

Editor

Some Dates for your diary

March / April	Experience Easter
10th April	Annual meeting
10th April	"Olivet to Calvary"
4th May	Christian Aid Coffee Morning
8th May	Christian Aid breakfast
8th May	Confirmation at St. Aidan's Church
12th/14th May	CCADS Plays
May / June	Experience Pentecost
18th June	Summer Fete
23rd July	"Tea at the Ritz" for Christian Aid
10th August	Teddy Bear's Picnic
August	Over 80's Party
August	Mothers' Union Garden Parties
September / October	Experience Harvest
9th October	Harvest - Bishop James to Celebrate and Preach
23rd October	Christian Aid Breakfast
12th Novemebr	Christmas Bazaar
1st - 3rd December	CCADS Plays

Church Spring Clean

PLEASE NOTE that we will now be spring cleaning the church on

FRIDAY 18TH

AND

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH

from 9.30 am to 4 pm with a break for lunch and not as previously advertised.

We still need **YOUR** help as this is an enormous task. So please come along and give what time you can.

March









Admission

Highlights this month !

LENT starts

of 7 children to Holy Communion

10 am service 13th March

Sunday			6 8 am Service 10 am Service Youth Club 5:30 - 7:30 pm	13 8 am Service 10 am Service All Age Service 4pm Choral Evensong Youth Club 5:30 - 7:30 pm	20 8 am Service 10 am Service Youth Club 5:30 - 7:30 pm	27 8 am Service 10 am Service Youth Club 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Monday			7 Music Group Brownies Explorer Scouts	14 Brownies Explorer Scouts	21 Brownies Explorer Scouts	28 Brownies Explorer Scouts
Tuesday		1 St David's Day Cubs	8 Shrove Tuesday Cubs	15 Cubs	22 Cubs	29 Cubs
Wednesday		2 10am service 8 pm MU meeting Guides	9 ASH Wednesday 10am service First Steps 1.45pm Guides 7.30 pm Service	16 10am service Ifield Ladies Guides 12.30 & 7.30 Lent course	23 10am service Guides 12.30 & 7.30 Lent course	30 10am service Guides 12.30 & 7.30 Lent course
Thursday		3 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	10 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	17 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	24 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	31 Brownies Beavers Choir Practice
Friday		4 Fairtrade Lunch World Day of Prayer Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours	11 Fairtrade Lunch Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours	18 Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours Spring cleaning the church 18th & 19th	25 Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours	1st April Parent & Toddler CCADS Scouts Office Hours
Saturday		5 Soroptimist Health Awareness Morning	12 Working Party	19  CCOF Beetle Drive 8 pm	26 Sarah and Granddad sponsored run for The Waterhole	2

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 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

Registered Charity no. 1130741

Office hours

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

Clubs

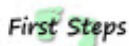
There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)

Monday Music Group; Brownies

Tuesday Cubs

Wednesday Guides; Mothers Union (1st Wednesday)

 First Steps (under 5's and carers) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm

Ifield Ladies (every third Wednesday)

Thursday Beavers; Brownies; Choir Practice

Friday Scouts; Amateur Dramatics ; Parent and Toddler

Saturday Working party (2nd Saturday)

Sunday Christ Church Youth Club

CHRIST CHURCH
YOUTH
CLUB

