



CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE



February 2012

30p

Or donation



**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.**

Deadline for magazine:

Second Sunday of the month prior to publication, ie: February 12 for March etc.

E-mail to

ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

hand to a Churchwarden, or Mike Cubitt

**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
Associate Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106
Deacon	Jo Drew	364367
Pastoral Assistant	Pam Kilby	332693
Pastoral Assistant	Jasmine Humphries	323515
Pastoral Assistant	Colin Parsonson	359713
Church Warden	Christine Sewell	745443
Church Warden	Ian Brown	356339
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

People at Christ Church - A PERSONAL PROFILE

Pam Kilby

I used to be a member of All Saints Church New Eltham in the Diocese of Southwark. I worshipped there after moving to the area after my marriage when I was 21. My three daughters all came to church with me every Sunday. When my youngest was about 18 months old, I discovered that I had a vocation to work for the church but I had no idea how I could fulfil it. One Sunday a Sister from the Society of the Reparation was visiting our Parish, I managed to have a long conversation with her about my feelings of having a vocation and her helpful words were instrumental in my trying to find out how I could move forward.

I was accepted for training as a Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary. The training was in it's infancy and quite different from today's. We each had a Personal Tutor whom we visited each week and took study material home. We also each had a Spiritual Director and I was fortunate to have the Head Deaconess Rev Cecelia Goodenough as mine. I used to visit her at her home from time to time (and have lunch!)

I enjoyed my work once qualified and used to do most of the Baptism Visiting, supervise the Sunday School, assist with Confirmation preparation and run Junior and Senior Youth Clubs after Evensong each Sunday. I had a particular responsibility to visit young mothers who had lost young babies.

I worked for a time at St Giles Camberwell. The staff team were Chaplains to St Giles Hospital where the Vicar, Canon Douglas Rhymes and I were responsible for the Psychiatric Wards.

Changes took place in my family life and I moved away from New Eltham.

I then trained and qualified as a Psychiatric Nurse and worked in the Health Service before moving to Social Services in Bexley providing Residential Rehabilitation for people leaving hospital with mental health problems. I later became a Disability Manager managing a Computer Training Project for people with Physical Disabilities partly funded by the European Social Fund.

I had been member of Christ Church for 10 years or more, and was delighted when having a conversation with Sue one Sunday, she suggested that I return to Pastoral work as a Pastoral Assistant at Christ Church. All the necessary preparations took place and I was thrilled to be Authorised at St Albans Dartford in November 2008.

New look 2nd Sundays!

The 2nd Sunday of each month is an all-age service of Holy Communion. Each month the service will reflect a particular theme and the words and music will be chosen to provide something for all, from the oldest to the youngest. We are always delighted to welcome our uniformed organisations, who join us for these services.

Dickens in Kent

– an illustrated talk

Saturday 11th February 2012 Starts: 7pm.

Chalk Parish Hall, Lower Higham Road, Chalk

Speaker: Christoph Bull (Local Historian and Librarian)

Tickets: £3 at the door (arrive early to avoid disappointment)

Details: Christoph Bull 01474 320156.

Director of Music: ALAN VINCENT

GRAVESHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

Presents

INSTANT CONCERT

SATURDAY 28 JANUARY

PUCCINI Messa di Gloria

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Toward the unknown region

CONDUCTOR: ALAN VINCENT ACCOMPANIST: GEOFFREY LISTER

VENUE: METHODIST CHURCH, MILTON ROAD, GRAVESEND

REGISTRATION 2.30 pm - FIRST REHEARSAL 3.00 pm -

TEA BREAK 4.30 pm SECOND REHEARSAL 5.00 pm - SUPPER 6.30 pm

PERFORMANCE 7.30 pm

TICKETS (non-refundable): GCS Singers £10; Visiting Singers £12; Audience £5

Tickets for singers include all refreshments and hire of scores

**Mrs Pam Kilby Tel 01474 332693 or
Mrs Liz Hutchinson Tel 01474 352606**

Blythswood Care

Thank you to all Christ Church 'shoe boxers'. At the end of November, Peter and I were able to deliver to the Blythswood Care depot at Rochester 60 shoe boxes (up on last year). Boxes packed with all manner of everyday items and some imaginative additions. Collecting shoe boxes in advance helped 'shoe boxers' greatly this

year – so I am appealing for you to keep collecting average size shoe boxes for next year. I will store them if necessary and may even be able to cover some ready for filling. There are regular 'shoe boxers' who buy items through the year, taking advantage of special offers. Using this method, one group is able to make up a large number of boxers – would this help you?



Blythswood were delighted to receive our contribution and if you wish to know more about

their work, there is a magazine at the back of the church.

Thank you again – until Christmas 2012.

Veronica

**‘Facing the unthinkable’
Safeguarding Children in Church & the Community
Saturday 10th March 2012
St Justus Church, the Fairway, Rochester
9.00a.m. – 1.30p.m.**

A free course available to all who work with children in church. Christ Church Child Protection Policy states that “adult volunteers will be given appropriate opportunities for training”. If you are a new volunteer or have not attended one of these courses you really need to.

The courses organised by the Churches’ Child Protection Advisory Service are well run and very informative.

Further information and booking forms are available from Veronica Read

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota



Week 5	29th Jan	Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Mary Sergeant
Week 6	5 Feb	Sylvia Brown, Jasmine Humphries, Steve Humphries
Week 7	12 Feb	Joan Bennett, Bob Bennett, David Williams
Week 8	19 Feb	Colin Parsonson, Linda Parsonson, Anne Thrush
Week 9	26 Feb	Jerry Higgins, Sally Higgins, Ann Lennard

Maureen Fittill

Don't miss our special ALTERNATIVE VALENTINE DINNER

SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY 7 for 7.30
Christ Church, Old Road East, Gravesend

3 course meal with Entertainment and Raffle

Only £15 per head bring your own drinks

Dress to impress single bookings welcome

Booking essential

Raising funds for Ifield School PE Enrichment Programme and Church Funds

Details from David Williams 01474 331061



THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER
The Right Revd James Langstaff

E-mail: bishop.rochester@rochester.anglican.org
Telephone: 01634 842721 | Fax: 01634 831136
Mobile: 07551 007560



Bishop's Quiet Days – Lent 2012

I am writing in order to give further information about the Quiet Days that I will be leading during Lent. These are intended for anybody, lay or ordained, who wishes to spend some hours with me in reflection and prayer during Lent. I will be offering broadly the same material and programme at six different venues as indicated below, and hope that these days will offer some spiritual nourishment and encouragement as we seek to be faithful to Christ in our daily lives.

Each Quiet Day will begin at 10.30am (with arrivals from 10.00am) and will end around 3.30pm. The Quiet Day will include times of shared worship, some addresses by me and space for personal prayer and reflection. The overall theme for my addresses will be **'Home Thoughts from Abroad'**; my intention is to offer some reflections around scriptural themes of home and belonging, and especially how we nourish ourselves spiritually for life 'at home' in a world which we may often experience as being 'abroad', that is strange and unfamiliar. Using different language, this might be about the tension of living in the here and now, while also nurturing the life of the Spirit within us.

The dates and venues for the Quiet Days are as follows:

- **Saturday 25th February at St Barnabas, Joydens Wood**
- **Thursday 1st March at St Peter's, Pembury (Upper Church)**
- **Monday 5th March at St Martin's, Chelsfield**
- **Monday 12th March at St John's, Meopham**
- **Saturday 17th March at Bromley College (Rochester Spirituality Network Lent Quiet Day)**
- **Friday 23rd March at St John's, Hildenborough**

There is no charge for attendance, though people are asked to bring their own packed lunch – tea/coffee will be provided. Numbers will be limited to 50 at each venue in the first instance, and booking will be on a first-come basis. Booking is by e-mail or telephone to Jenny Churcher at Bishops court –

bishops.secretary@rochester.anglican.org or 01634 842721.

Across the diocese there will be many other opportunities for deepening spiritual life during Lent, often in ecumenical groupings as well as through our own parish worship and groups. Thank you for the part you will play in these: arguably, there is nothing more important than the work we do in helping people to pray and to nurture the life of God's Spirit within them.

With my prayers and good wishes,

James, Bishop of Rochester



First Steps

First Steps

FIRST STEPS

11/1/12

Our First Steps service is going to be a bit different today because all kinds of things are going on in the Church, so we are re-locating to the Hall. This has thrown our naughty little sheep and his friends into a state of confusion because they do like their routine. But hey ho we are very lucky to have a beautiful sunny day so that, at least, is a plus. Anne, Linda, Jan and I all set to, getting everything ready in the Hall while our naughty little sheep and friends find themselves comfy places to sit. There's no hiding today, just watching and being good!

Mums and children begin to arrive and jingle-bells are handed out. We're hoping for lots of lovely jingly noise! Helen comes in with a BIG box of miniature cupcakes. How kind! Naughty but nice, a bit like our little sheep! When everyone is sitting comfortably it's time for our service to begin. We sing, "Candle time" as our candles are lit, including 6 Happy Birthday candles.

At the beginning of this New Year we are thinking about the very many blessings that God gives to us that we so often take for granted. We sing about the people we love, the yummy food that we eat, the fun that we have together. And we thank God for all these gifts and for His great love for us. We think of our beautiful world and we sing about frogs and worms and noisy children and we give thanks to God for those, too. We've certainly got some noisy children with us in the Hall. Our naughty little sheep would really like to get down and play with them, but he's trying very hard to be good like his friends.

When we've said our prayers, it's time to blow out the candles, put the jingle bells away and get on with the important business of chatting, playing and tucking into cupcakes! We've had a lovely time together and our naughty little sheep and his friends hope that everyone will join us again on 8th February for our next First Steps service. And so do I.

God Bless

Rosemary Austin

Through the kitchen door

With spring not due to be with us until March, a hearty vegetarian meal that cooks while you can get on with other jobs or simply put your feet up.

Farmers casserole with of course a dumpling topping

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp **olive oil**
- 350g **shallots**, peeled
- 2 **leeks**, washed and thickly sliced
- ½ **swede**, chopped into chunks
- 2 parsnips, quartered
- 350g thickly chopped carrots
- 150g pearl barley (or 410g can butter beans)
- 225ml white wine
- 1ltr vegetable stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 3 sprigs **thyme**
- small bunch **parsley**, finely chopped
- salt and pepper to season

For the dumplings

- 100g self-raising flour
- 50g unsalted butter
- 50g mature cheddar cheese, grated
- 2 tsp finely chopped fresh **rosemary**
- 1 tsp fresh **thyme leaves**

Or use a mix from the supermarket and follow instructions you can add the cheese for a little extra flavour

1. Heat oil in a large frying pan. Add shallots and cook for 5-6 minutes until starting to soften and brown. Add leeks for 2 minutes, then stir in swede, parsnips and carrots, cook for a further 5 minutes. Heat oven to 200C/180Cfan/gas mark 6.

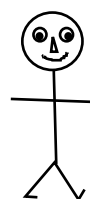
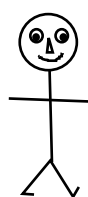
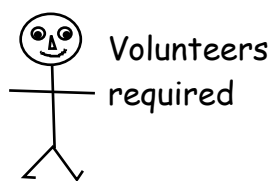
2. Pour in the pearl barley if using, and wine, cook until wine has reduced by half. Add stock, bayleaf, thyme, chopped parsley and seasoning bring to the boil. Put into covered casserole, then place in the oven for 45 minutes until barley and vegetables are tender. Stir occasionally to stop it catching. Add the butter beans just before putting on the duplings

Meanwhile, make the dumplings. Rub flour and butter together to form breadcrumbs. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Sprinkle over 2 tbsp water, mix to form a soft dough. Divide into six and roll into balls. Dot on top of casserole and return to oven. Cook, uncovered, for a further 20-25 minutes until dumplings are golden.

Cost? Using vegetables that are all in season makes this an economical tasty meal.

If you have a recipe that you wish to share, please send to ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

Support from
Gillingham



House in
Christianfi



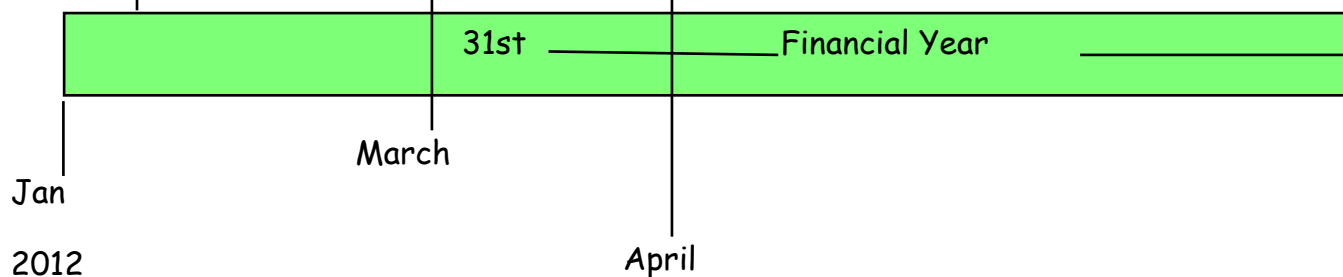
Part time youth
worker based in
Gravesend

The house will give a po
for the young people bu
be used by other age g

Churches advisory
group meet for 1st
meeting

Thursday
4-6pm

LAUNCH



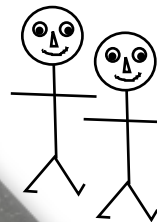
Churches and organisations represented at information
evening held in St Paul's URC Church on Monday 12 Dec 2011.

St Paul's URC; Christ Church; Holy Family; St Aidan's
Emmanuel Baptist Church; St Mary's; Street Pastors; Moat
Housing

£190,000 given to Gravesend
premium for building, by Moat
directed to the project.

Bill, from Gillingham, and some of his support team have been walking through Christianfields on a Thursday night to speak with the young people of the area.

e in
nfields



Need paid youth
workers

Youth said they would like an
X-Box

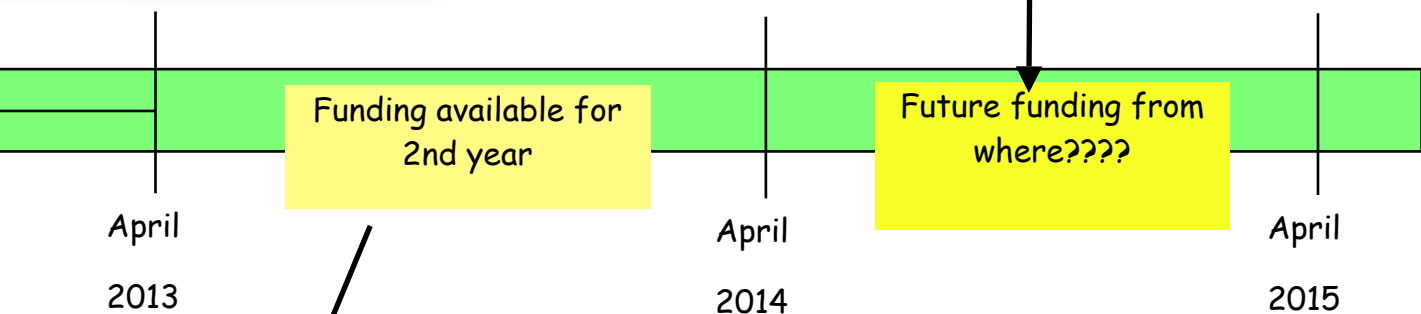
Provided by Moat Housing, the
developer building the new homes.

a point of focus
but could also
e groups.

House:-

Computers; kitchen; chill
out room; games

Cost for running project is
approx: £100,000 per annum



Gillingham Borough Council as a
Moat Housing, is being

Word on the Street 2011 12
22 : I Brown





Gravesend Street Pastors have been helping people who get into difficulty during a night on the town for some time. Providing a 'spikey', a pair of flip flops or a friendly smile, the Street Pastors are a welcome sight. Can you spare a night to help? People are needed to join the Street Pastors out and about among late night revelers or in the control room, where a prayer may be needed immediately or a call for a taxi. If you think you can offer help do contact Anne Jenkins or speak to a churchwarden for more details.

Anne Jenkins - Gravesend Street Pastors Co-ordinator

Tel: **01474 568498** (Monday & Thursday)

Or **07570 883896*** (leave a message)

Or e-mail gravesend@streetpastors.org.uk

Brand New Youth Choir in Gravesend

If you are aged between 7 and 17 and enjoy singing then come along!

- Join a friendly group of singers
- Learn great music of different styles and
- Perform at concerts and services

For further information visit

www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

- **Or call 01474 534517**

Join the **semi****quavers**

New youth choir in Gravesend
We meet weekly for Rehearsals
at Christ Church
Tuesday evenings
6.30 pm to 7.30 pm

Christ Church 200 Club

The 200 Club is a means of raising money for the Christ Church General Fund, which supports the Ministry and Mission of the church and Good Causes as agreed by the PCC, whilst at the same time giving members the opportunity of a small 'flutter' and the chance to win some money.

Membership costs £30 per year. Fifty percent of all monthly donations are given over to the Christ Church General Fund with the remainder being returned to the membership in prize money. The draw is made on the fourth Sunday of every month in the hall after the morning service.

Payment can be made by an annual sum of £30, a quarterly payment of £7.50 or a monthly payment of £2.50, the latter two by bankers order. Cheques should be made payable to Christ Church PCC No 3 account.

Join by contacting John Thrush, in church, and completing an application form. If you are not sure who John is, ask one of the sides people and they will point you in the right direction.

Winning chances are only limited by the amount of numbers you purchase, the more you have the better your chance of winning.

Worthwhile it certainly is, since its inception the 200 Club has donated over £40,000 to Christ Church to support its Ministry and Good Causes.

Are you a member?

Why not think seriously about joining and helping your church

Contact

JOHN THRUSH

200 Club Secretary

Christ Church



FAIRTRADE LUNCHSTOP

**Sandwiches, Toasted sandwiches, Homemade cakes,
Fresh fruit, Snack bars, Fruit juices, Hot chocolate,
Tea, Fresh filter coffee**

View our FAIRTRADE Goods stands

Come and enjoy a Fairtrade Lunch at

EMMANUAL BAPTIST CHURCH WINDMILL ST. GRAVESEND

February 24 - March 2 - April 20 - June 21 - July 20

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



Christ Church Organ Fund

Martin Cross, organ builder, has started work on our organ. The first pipes have been taken to his workshop in Essex for cleaning and new leather 'valves' (I will find out their proper description for the next magazine) fitted. We will be without the organ for about six weeks, but those of you at today's service (15th Jan) will have appreciated the rich sound of the electronic organ.

CHRIST CHURCH YOUTH CLUB

Sadly, as numbers are quite low, we are discontinuing the Sunday evening Youth Club in its current form, for the time being. Instead there will be occasional events and outings for our young people during the year.... Watch this space.

Please let Steve Humphries know what kind of events you would like.

Examples: Film evening; bowling; an outing?

First Steps

FIRST STEPS

First Steps

Is a service especially designed for families with pre-school children, although all children in the family are welcome to come.

We meet in the church at 1.45 pm on the second Wednesday in each month for a short service and then to enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

We are finished in plenty of time for parents to meet their other children from school.

Why not come along with your children, you will be very welcome.

Next date is Wednesday 8 February

WORKING PARTY

'In order to save on expensive cleaning and maintenance, we hold a monthly working party on a Saturday morning starting at 9.30am.

Together we clean and tidy the church, do a bit of necessary DIY or gardening, have a coffee and often some home-made goodies – and finish by about 11.30am.

We are enormously grateful to the few loyal helpers who turn up month after month – but we desperately need a few more.

Please consider putting the dates into your diary and coming along. All are welcome – if you can do basic DIY please let us know in advance so that the churchwardens can plan jobs in advance.

Working party is almost always on the 2nd Saturday of each month... the next one will be on 11 February 2012. See you there, Sue

Monthly Magazine

If you enjoy reading the Parish Magazine, and would like to help with the cost of producing it each month you could consider making a one off annual donation.

This can be handed to one of our church wardens or the editor, Mike Cubitt to ensure your copy is saved for you.

This page for library announcement

Books to your door

There are still many of us who enjoy the pleasure of being able to sit quietly and read a book.

Unfortunately there are some people who are unable to get to a library and browse. This is where the "House Library" service can be a great help.

There is a extensive choice of small or large print books available, or should you prefer it there are Cds and cassettes which provide the spoken word.

Phyllis Crouch and myself deliver books and spoken word, regularly to our clients, every two weeks and we soon get to know their likes and dislikes.

Linda, at King's Farm Library, goes to an enormous amount of trouble to find the type of books required. They are delivered to us from all over the country, at one time a book was delivered from Scotland.

If you, or you know someone who would benefit from this service, please feel free to chat with Phyllis at the Sunday 08.00 am service or me at the 10.00 am service.

If it is easier, you can telephone me at home, on 365417.

Barbara Bunyan

Volunteers needed.....

'We always need volunteers... the church runs because of the generous service of volunteers.

If you have time and enthusiasm to spare but you are not sure where your talents can be used,








Sue would be glad to meet you for a cup of coffee and to talk through possibilities.

Highlights this month !

Saturday 11 February
Alternative Valentines Dinner

Friday 24 Fairtrade Lunch Emmanuel Baptist

February

Sunday 		5 8 am Service 10am Service	12 8 am Service 10am Service 16.00 Choral Evensong	19 8 am Service 10am Service	26 8 am Service 10am Service
Monday 		6 8 am Service 16.45 Service Brownies	13 8 am Service 16.45 Service Brownies	20 8 am Service 16.45 Service Brownies	27 8 am Service 16.45 Service Brownies
Tuesday 		7 7 am Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	14 7 am Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	21 7 am Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	28 7 am Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers
Wednesday 	1 10am Service 16.45 Service Guides	8 10am service 13.15 First Steps 16.45 Service Guides	15 10am service 16.45 Service Guides	22 10am service 16.45 Service Guides	29 10am service 16.45 Service Guides
Thursday 	2 7am Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	9 7am Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	16 7am Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	23 7am Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	
Friday 	3 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	10 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	17 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	24 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	
Saturday 	4 8 am Service	11 8 am Service 9.30 Working Party	18 8 am Service	25 8.00 Service	

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 and Semiquavers	
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	
2 - 3.30	Forgetmenot Singing 2nd & 4th Thurs afternoon	
Friday	Scouts; Amateur Dramatics  ; Parent and Toddler	
Saturday	Working party (2nd Saturday)	 

THE BOAT PROJECT



The Boat Project is a living archive of people's stories and lives, a 30ft seafaring vessel made from donated wooden items. From February 2011, Lone Twin invited the public to donate their wooden belongings to the project. Mundane or extraordinary, your donation can be small or large, but it must have a story you can share with us - what part has it played in your life?

As I am preparing this article it is just 194 days until the Olympic Games start. As part of the celebration of the Olympic idea, cultural events will be taking place. SE Arts have given funding to The Boat Project.

Sheila and I visited the London Boat Show last week and saw the part completed boat on display and talked to some of those involved in making the project happen. We were hoping to see the piece of the church flooring donated, but as it will form part of the superstructure it hadn't been installed yet, but we did see the pieces of wood donated by Bob Brereton (see the photo) and Gravesham's mayor.

Ian Brown

Vote for your favourite name!

We asked our volunteers, donators, boat builders, crew and even a celebrity or two to suggest a name for the boat. Now we need your help - from the list below pick your favourite name - the name that gets the most votes will win, with the winning name revealed at the boat's launch.

Vote for your choice before 7 April 2012. Go to <http://www.theboatproject.com/>

The Shortlist:

'REMINISCENCE'
'STORYBOARD'
'DOVETAIL'
'SEMPER FIDELIS'
'UNITY'
'EDITH ADAMS'
'COLLECTIVE SPIRIT'
'PROSPERITY'
'ORACLE'
'INGRAINED'



Bob's
piece of
wood