



CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

PARISH MAGAZINE



John Hill 2007

April 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: April 15 for May 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

CHRISTINE SEWELL



Christine has been a Church Warden at Christ Church since 2005 and will be retiring from the role in April this year.

Originally from the West Country, she has been a member of the congregation since moving to Gravesend in 1977. For many years Christine was editor of the Parish Magazine, a role she relinquished on becoming Church Warden and is on the committee of the Christ Church branch of the Mothers' Union.

She trained as a teacher in Kingston on Thames (where she met husband, Martin) and worked in several local schools, starting by teaching eight year olds and finishing by running a primary school nursery.

Christine has two sons and is the very proud Grandma of Freya and Benjamin (those teaching skills still come in very useful!). Her elder son, Edward, married Alison at Christ Church in 2005 and she is happily anticipating the wedding of younger son, Jonathan, to Emma hopefully next year and also at Christ Church.

In her spare time Christine enjoys reading and travelling and is looking forward to spending more time in France after April.

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 11 April

**‘Holy Week and Easter
are at the heart of the faith of every Christian’**

The services on **Maundy Thursday** evening (19.30), **Good Friday** afternoon (come on the hour or half hour, between 12.00 and 15.00) and on **Easter Day** together tell the story of our faith – salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We don't really know the full joy of Easter day unless we have first walked the way of the cross with Jesus. If you don't usually come to all these services, put them on your calendar for this year and walk the walk with us.'

‘Why not come to the

Dawn service on Easter day

05.45 in the car park

as we light the Easter fire and disperse the darkness by the light of the risen Lord

No need to worry about breakfast, there will be bacon and bucks fizz after.'

A date for your diary

Friday 27 April

Sponsored

Night Walk

in aid of Street Pastors

It will start and finish at Meopham Green Start approx 10pm and finish at 2am.

The walk is approx 8 miles with very little road walking.

For anyone who has participated in the Guides Kay's Garden Walk note it is the same route

Even if you are not able to participate in the walk you may wish to sponsor someone who will

Due to the fact that there are horses on the route, you should not bring dogs with you

This is an excellent walk and quite a unique experience at night

Special services for the period leading up to Easter

Sunday 25 March at 18.30

The Cross of Christ

The combined choirs of Christ Church and St Aidan's Church with choral music and readings reflecting on God's plan for the world

Maundy Thursday 5 April 19.30

An informed service of Holy Communion

Good Friday 6 April 10.00

Hot Cross Bun Service

A special service and craft activities to explore the meaning of the cross
– for children of all ages and their carers
Followed by Hot Cross Buns

Good Friday 6 April 12.00 – 15.00

'The Nail'

Key witnesses describe Christ's crucifixion from their own points of view
This service is in half hour sections so that you can arrive and leave as
you please

Easter Day Sunday 8 April

05.45 Lighting of the Easter Fire and Service of Light

Followed by breakfast

08.00 Holy Communion

10.00 Celebration Communion

for the whole church family
Followed by refreshments and Easter Eggs!

18.30 Festival Evensong

Easter is a time for family worship
We look forward to welcoming you to any of our special services this year

Through the kitchen door

Easter is upon us and, following Lent, now is the time to treat yourself with a tasty desert.

Banoffee Pie with a hint of chocolate

Ingredients

- 300 g chocolate digestives
- 100 g butter melted
- 3 large bananas
- 397 g tin of Nestle Carnation caramel condensed milk
- 350 ml double cream (alternatively a mix of thick 'Total' Greek yoghurt and crème fraiche)
- 1 tablespoon icing sugar
- 100 g dark chocolate

Method

1. Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. If cooking the base.
2. Crush the biscuits in a food processor then add the melted butter and pulse to combine. This can also be done by placing the biscuits in a strong food bag and bashing with a rolling pin until in crumbs. Then blend with the melted butter in a mixing bowl.
3. Press the mixture into a 24 cm tart tin, with a removable base, in an even layer. Transfer the tin to a baking sheet and cook for 10-12 minutes, until lightly toasted and set. Leave to cool then gently release from the tin and put on a serving plate. This can be made without cooking but will need to chill in the refrigerator.
4. Spread the caramel over the biscuit base and chill for 1 hour.
5. Arrange the banana slices over the caramel. Whip the cream and sugar together to form soft peaks and spread over the bananas. If using the Greek yoghurt and crème fraiche, slightly less indulgent, mix in equal parts and spread over the bananas.
6. Melt the chocolate in a microwave or in a bowl set over, not in, a pan of simmering water. Allow to cool slightly, before drizzling over the top.

Cost? Who cares we are treating ourselves, but it certainly won't break the bank.

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

Important announcement

Electoral Roll

The electoral roll is the list of members of Christ Church. If you are on the electoral roll you can vote at the

Annual Meeting on 22nd April.

If you are a regular attendee and you are not on the electoral roll, please ask Sue Brewer or Julie Hill for a form

A series of Post and Greeting Cards produced to mark the bicentenary of Charles Dickens are now available from the Gravesend Tourist Office, Towncentric.

These have all been printed locally and are based on original artwork from members of Gravesend Art Group - www.gravesendartgroup.co.uk

The are reproduced on the following page

Sunday Morning Coffee Rota



Week 2	1 Apr	Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Joan Bennett
Week 3	8 Apr	Angela Kirby, David Williams, Martin Robinson
Week 4	15 Apr	Margaret Davies, Julieann Bodle, Pam Lovelace
Week 5	22 Apr	Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Mary Sergeant
Week 6	29 Apr	Sylvia Brown, Jasmine Humphries, Steve Humphries

Maureen Fittill

CHARLES DICKENS

1812-2012



GRAVESEND ART GROUP

POSTCARDS AND GREETING CARDS AVAILABLE NOW

www.gravesendartgroup.co.uk



First Steps

First Steps

FIRST STEPS

14/3/12

It's 14 March and time for our First Steps service once again. Doesn't time fly? It is a grey, chilly day but our naughty little sheep says that he can feel spring in the air and the excitement of it is making his wool stand on end! He's really looking forward to seeing all the Mums and children today and so are his friends. None of them want to get left behind this time!

The sun comes out for our walk to church and the spring flowers look so beautiful that it makes us glad to be alive. As soon as we're through the door those sneaky animals rush off to hide. They all know how clever the children are at finding them so they're going to try to be extra clever and sneaky. We shall see!

When everything is ready, we open the doors and Mums (& one Granny) and lots of children come in to join us. The sun must have brought everyone out. Before our service begins we have a walk round the front of the church to look at the daffodils, forget-me-nots, pansies and hyacinths and we see the flower buds bursting into life on the magnolia. The colours are lovely and we thank God for the beauty of the spring bursting into life all around us.

As our service begins we light our candles including some special birthday candles and a new baby candle too. We sing some of our favourite songs like "Here come the frogs", "Spring time comes" and "Here we go round the park again." We thank God for our beautiful world, for the gift of fun, laughter and for the precious gift of life itself. It does us good to remember how very blessed we all are!

Then we remember those animals, who are being quiet as quiet can be and the children all rush off to find them. It seems that however clever and sneaky the animals are, they can't fool those children! Soon we are back together for our prayers and our service comes to an end.

Then off we go into the hall for play and chat and some very welcome refreshments. As usual we've had a great time together and our naughty little sheep and his friends do so hope that everyone will be back to see us again at our next First Steps service on 11 April.

God Bless

Rosemary Austin

Bag a Bargain

Come to Christ Church Table Sale

**Saturday 24 March
10.30 -14.00**

Refreshments available

Entrance 50p (children free)

Limited number of tables still available

Contact Teresa on 07540471383

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.

BIBLE NOTES

Some people find it useful to have a set portion of the Bible to read each day. The Bible Reading Fellowship have a booklet called "New Daylight" which sets out a short Bible reading and explanatory notes. These booklets are priced at £3.90 (they do go up each year) for a four month period. If you would like to try one of these booklets please let Julie Hill know.

A Lenten sacrifice

What I have given up for Lent?

Well Easter is not too many days away, perhaps the most important time in the Christian calendar.

Not perhaps, but definitely the most important period for Christianity. In Western Christianity Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days of lent because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter", a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure there is a life for us to come after death.

The question for me was what was I to give up this year for Lent?

This is not like a New Year's resolution ready to be broken at any time during the following few weeks, but forty days plus six Sundays of going without something that I love and would miss.

This year I set myself a choice of three that I enjoy most, wine, cake and chocolate. In the end I decided on two of the three, wine and chocolate.

I chose the two that I would miss the most, and if I wasn't drinking or breaking into a bar of 80% chocolate then those around me may need to join in as the cork stayed firmly in the bottle and the wrapper on the bar.

Although I don't take either in excess, the occasional two or three squares of chocolate can give a lift and the extra energy to get a job finished.

On the other side, a glass of good red wine with a meal or when it is time to relax in the evening after a busy day can bring a comfort no other beverage can.

Some may say that Lent is over on Maundy Thursday, but to see it through it is Holy Saturday that is the last day.

When Easter day arrives and we celebrate the risen Christ and the start of a new beginning, the children will have their chocolate eggs to enjoy, but my first enjoyment will be at dinner when I celebrate with a glass of good red wine from the Barossa Valley, Australia.

Anon

(Many thanks for your contribution, Ed)

If you have a story to tell e-mail it to: ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

Walks for Everybody Programme 2012.

All are welcome to join us as we explore our landscape, local history and folklore in the company of interesting people. Please note that these walks are steep in places, have stiles and uneven surfaces, please dress and act appropriately.

All walks are free unless stated.

Sunday 6 May: Circular walk from Ifield to Istead Rise

Meet: 2.30pm at St Margaret's Church, Ifield

(Part of Gravesham Heritage Festival)

Leader: Derek Gray 01474 363024

Sunday 20 May: Circular historical guided walk of Chalk Marshes and Shorne

(Landscapes that inspired Dickens)

Meet: 2.30pm at junction of Lower Higham Road and Castle Lane , Chalk (Part of Gravesham Heritage Festival)

Guide: Christoph Bull 01474 320156

Free: Donations welcome.

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**uavers**

New youth choir in Gravesend

We meet weekly for Rehearsals

at Christ Church

Tuesday evenings

6.30 pm to 7.30 pm



Whatever age you are, God has a purpose for you. Are you open to Him calling you to train as a Street Pastor this year, or to join a prayer team? Can you support someone else to make this step? Where we see insurmountable problems, God sees an opportunity and He will be with you in whatever steps you take. Please consider this prayerfully and if you feel called to train as a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor, please contact me immediately to arrange an observer night. Yes - there is even the chance of a trial run before commitment! We hope training will commence in March/April, but need to recruit now!

Thank you for your vital on-going support.

Anne Jenkins

Anne Jenkins - Gravesend Street Pastors Co-ordinator

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

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

GRAVESHAM FOODBANK

**A Churches Together and
RCCG Life Start Connections Initiative**

Please, if you can, help local people in crises by buying items from the list below and leaving them on the table at the back of the church

UHT or powdered Milk, 500g sugar, catons of fruit juice, pasta sauces, tinned sponge pudding, tinned tomatoes, cereals, tinned rice pudding, instant mash potato, tinned meat, tinned fish, jam, biscuits, snack bars, rice, tea, coffee (small Jars), chocolate, toiletries, toilet rolls (two or four packs)

Your support is much appreciated



FAIRTRADE LUNCHSTOP

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

View our FAIRTRADE Goods stands

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

Come and enjoy a Fairtrade Lunch at

**EMMANUEL BAPTIST
CHURCH**

WINDMILL ST. GRAVESEND

April 20 - June 21 - July 20

12 noon to 2.00 p.m.

All donations will be shared between Tearfund and Tradecraft

Fairtrade Lunchstop is very grateful to the many Supermarkets and
local & national organisations for their generous donations

Confirmation

At

Christ Church

We will soon be beginning preparation classes for a Confirmation Service in May.

If you have never been confirmed and would like to make a commitment to Christ, or if you have been confirmed in the past and would like to make a fresh commitment – have a word with any of the clergy, or John Hougham, for more details.

Children who worship regularly may also like to be admitted so that they can receive Holy Communion, this is appropriate for children over the age of about 7.

There is a course of preparation and a service at which the children receive communion for the first time. Parents who would like to know more can ask any of the parish clergy, or Sheila Brown.

WORKING PARTY

'In order to save on expensive cleaning and maintenance, we hold a monthly working party on a Saturday morning starting at 09.30.

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 11.30.

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 14 April 2012.

See you there, Sue



For babies, toddlers & pre-schoolers

Come and enjoy this fun and friendly Parent and Toddler group. We have a wide range of toys including ride-ons, trikes, push-chairs and slides

Baby area, crafts and play dough

Large garden area in good weather

Tea, coffee, squash and biscuits

Friday 1.15 - 2.30 pm term time

£1.50 per family

In the hall at Christ Church, Echo Square, Gravesend

www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

Sponsor a

LILY for EASTER

Following the successful initiative last year, you are offered the opportunity to sponsor a lily in memory of a love one, or someone that means something special to you, this Easter

A list of those being remembered or that special someone will be placed near the Book of Remembrance and published in the magazine

As a guide, lilies cost about £3 each

Any donations towards Easter flowers are also welcome

See Janice Stevens to give the names to be remembered and also your donations

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?

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.

April








Highlights this month !

Palm Sunday April 1

Good Friday 10.00 Hot Cross Bun Service

Good Friday 12.00 The Nail 3 hour Service

Easter Day 05.45 Dawn Service of Light

Sunday 	1 PALM SUNDAY 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 18.30 Service at St Aidan's	8 EASTER DAY 05.45 Service 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 16.30 Choral Evensong	15 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	22 08.00 Service 10.00 Service Annual Meeting	29 08.00 Service 10.00 Service
Monday 	2 08.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies	9 Bank Holiday 09.00 Service	16 08.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies	23 08.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies	30 08.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies
Tuesday 	3 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	10 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	17 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	24 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Cubs 18.30 Semiquavers	
Wednesday 	4 10.00 service 16.45 Service Guides	11 10.00 service 16.45 Service Guides	18 10.00 service 16.45 Service Guides	25 10.00 service 16.45 Service Guides	
Thursday 	5 Maundy Thursday 07.00 Service 16.45 Service 19.30 Service	12 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	19 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	26 07.00 Service 16.45 Service Brownies Beavers Choir Practice	
Friday 	6 GOOD FRIDAY 10.00 Hot Cross Bun Service 12.00 The Nail 3 hours Service	13 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	20 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	27 13.45 Parent & Toddler 16.45 Service 18.30 Office Hours	
Saturday 	7 08.00 Service 11.30 Clean the Church	14 08.00 Service 9.30 Working Party	21 08.00 Service	28 08.00 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 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)	 



invite you to their fortnightly services for

**older people,
people with disabilities,
those with Alzheimer's & dementia,
and their carers.**

Forgetmenot Singing



will be at Christ Church Hall,

Old Road East, Gravesend

2nd & 4th Thursdays in the month

2 - 3.30pm

22nd March

12th & 26th April

Sessions will last 1½ hours

and will begin with free refreshments and a social time then

Forgetmenot Singing

£2.50 per person attending

Phone 07582451470

Forgetmenot Support Services C.I.C. registered number 7703968
e-mail info@forgetmenot-services.co.uk www.forgetmenot-services.co.uk

