



# CHRIST CHURCH

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND



## OCTOBER 2014

Donation or **40p**

Tank at Flesquieres part of the reminder of the terrible war that was endured on French soil.

The Battle of Cambrai opened on 20 November 1917. It was the first battle to involve significant use of tanks.

Scan the smart code below to go to our web site



IN REVIEW available at <http://www.churchofengland.org>

Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next month Sunday **19** October. For November  
Copy: email to  
ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk  
Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt

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**Christ Church Hall is available for hire**  
**Contact Rachel Pace**  
**01474 249508 or 07960 024917**  
**Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and childrens parties**

## Who's Who at Christ Church

[www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Sue Brewer</b>	<b>352643</b> suec@brewer86.plus.com
<b>Associate Priest</b>	<b>Jacqueline Littlewood</b>	<b>560106</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Pam Kilby</b>	<b>332693</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Jasmine Humphries</b>	<b>392713</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	<b>Colin Parsonson</b>	<b>359713</b>
<b>Church Warden</b>	<b>Jan Osborne</b>	<b>740763</b>
<b>Church Warden</b>		
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Linda Riordan</b>	<b>746988</b>
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Steve Humphries</b>	<b>392713</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Rosemary Austin</b>	<b>358702</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Sheila Brown</b>	<b>356339</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>John Hougham</b>	<b>352138</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Betty Martin</b>	<b>352696</b>
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Martin Sewell</b>	<b>745443</b>

# When will the world find peace and harmony for its peoples to live?

We continue to find small articles to publish from the 1914-1918 conflict, but we are also conscious of the fact that life goes on around the world in much the same way today.

Some parts of the world and its citizens have developed into what would appear to be a more civilised society, but then behind these appearances all is not as it seems as murder, genocide and practices that are more akin to the “dark ages” than the 21<sup>st</sup> century are carried out by brainwashed barbarians to whom life or death means very little.

It is difficult to criticise the world leaders who announce that they are about to launch programmes to help those oppressed people but even then this tends to lead to even more deaths and destruction of the places that people have lived for thousands of years.

Tens of thousands of families with nowhere to live inside the borders of the country they were born in, their home destroyed.

Last month we said farewell to Jo Drew who has moved on to new pastures, and there was also a celebration for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of women priests.

It is also a time to look for a permanent replacement for our organist Christian, who has work commitments that need his time.

This month sees the launch of the SHOE BOX appeal there is something within the magazine about all these items.

## Exciting 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](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)**

- Or call 01474 534517

## Join the



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

# COFFEE ROTA 2014



28 September Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, David Williams  
5 October Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Angela Kirby  
12 October Jill Godwin, Pan Lovelace, Sarah Bush  
19 October Barbara Bunyan, Audrey Price, Rosemary  
26 October Jill Godwin, Jasmine Humphries, Steve Humphries



**Come in and enjoy a cup of tea  
or coffee after the 10.00**



**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**



## 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 October.**



# FIRST STEPS

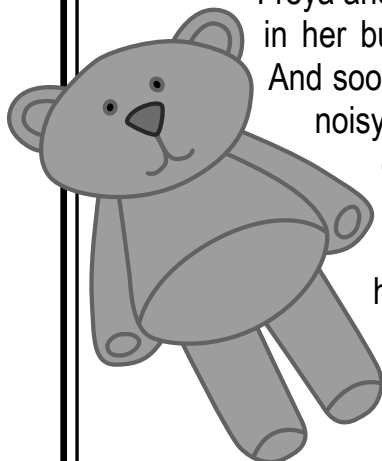
10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014

## TAKING CARE OF GOD'S WORLD

Our naughty little sheep is up bright and early again, checking on the weather, an obsession of his as I'm sure you all know by now. He is so pleased to see that the sun is shining and he's hopeful that we're going to have a lovely day for our First Steps service. Clouds begin to gather later in the morning and he worries that he's been too optimistic but the sun is out again when he and I and his friends walk up to church. Hooray! Our naughty little sheep's friends have had a chat among themselves and they've decided that they want to sit with the children today. So off they go to find themselves seats while I get everything ready for our service. As usual our naughty little sheep and his friend the glittery dragon are going to sit on our little altar. They tell me that it is their very favourite place in the whole world! With everything ready we wait patiently for our friends to arrive, with our fingers crossed! First in today is Claire with baby Lauren. We've seen them lots of times in church but today is their first visit to First Steps. We do hope that they have a good time. Then Kelly comes in with

Freya and Megan who is fast asleep in her buggy, though not for long!

And soon we have our usual lively, noisy crowd. It is so lovely to see everyone and those sneaky animals are having lots of cuddles, so they're happy. Freya, Ollie and Karla have already been to big school this morning and have come in their



school uniforms. They do look smart. They won't be able to come to our next First Steps service because then they'll be in school full time. Oh we will miss them!

With everybody sitting comfortably I light the candles and our service begins. We're thinking about the beautiful world that God has given to us. What a wonderful and amazing gift it is and we must play our part in taking care of it. We sing about picnics in the park and tidying up after ourselves; about being generous and loving and sharing all the good things that we have been given. Our naughty little sheep asks if we can sing about the frogs, hopping round the pond and about noisy children. It's one of his favourites, specially when the children shout out really loudly! The children love it, too though they're all really quiet when we sing about Jesus living in our hearts. His voice is like a gentle whisper, always there deep inside us, if we will only listen. And that makes us think about Jesus' love and how wonderful it is and we thank God for sending him to be with us. Aren't we so very blessed?

Everybody is very quiet again as we say our prayers and then it's time to blow out our candles because we've come to the end of another service. Off we all go into the hall for playtime, a drink and a chat. The sun is still out so some of the children go out into the garden to play. They have a go at building a house with twigs. Haven't they heard about the three little pigs? One of them built a house of twigs and he very nearly came to a sticky end! Our naughty little sheep and his friends have a good look outside, just to check but luckily there is no sign of the big bad wolf! As always we have had a lovely time together. We'll miss Freya, Ollie and Karla but do hope that everyone else will join us again on 8<sup>th</sup> October for our next First Steps service. Autumn will be well and truly with us then; the year is flying by!

**God Bless**

**Rosemary Austin**

Another reflection from Sue's  
Sabbatical...

## Practice Hospitality

*Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.*

It is Mothering Sunday and Katie has joined us for lunch. At lunch the conversation turns to the décor in the house, and the need for a new picture or two on the walls. We decide to take the dog with us and stroll down into Rochester to look in the windows of Francis Iles Galleries.

Rochester, it turns out, is buzzing on Sunday afternoons; and many of the shops are open. One of those that is open is Francis Iles. It is the first day of their Spring Exhibition. Leaving me outside with the dog, Katie and Jeremy

go in to look at paintings.

After a few minutes they re-appear. They have been chatting to Nettie, the proprietor, and she has said that a dog will be welcome. So we go back in with the dog.



As we enter a glass of bucks fizz is put into my hand... and a top-up offered as soon as the glass gets empty. Around the gallery are bowls of crisps and nibbles and sweeties.

We see a number of pictures that we like and discuss their merits between the three of us. Whenever we express an interest in a particular picture, Nettie removes another one and hangs 'ours' in  
**Continued on opposite page**

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month...**  
**NOTE the next one will be on 11 October at 9.30.**

See you there, **Sue**

## from Sue's Sabbatical...

### **Continued from previous page**

its place so that we can see it better. The conversation moves on to what may or may not 'go' in the living room. Will it complement the other pictures? Is the space behind the sofa too big? Or too small? And if this picture goes in the living room where will we put the other new picture? – the one we bought in Lanzarote? At some point Nettie suggests that we can take the picture home – no obligation to buy – to try it out in the space. We look suitably amazed. She assures us this is her usual way of doing business.

Before we leave with 'our picture' we ask if she has others by the same artist. She has, and fishes a couple out which we spurn. We leave with a promise to return the picture, or a cheque, tomorrow.

As soon as we walk in the door of the house, the phone rings. It is Nettie. She has found three other pictures by the same artist which we might like. She will drop them off at our house in a minute. There is no obligation, but we might as well take a look at them. She will collect the ones we don't want tomorrow.

We now have a considerable number of valuable pictures in the house. We can make a decision at our leisure and we do – to buy the picture that we saw first. We are also amazed by the hospitality we have received.

I know that the gallery wants to make a sale, and this is very good salesmanship. But it is also risky. These are valuable paintings. They are fragile. We have a bouncy dog. She doesn't know us from Adam. Her warm and friendly hospitality has given us more than just the opportunity to spend money on our home... we feel drawn in. That gallery is now a place where we will always feel at

home. We were not Nettie's 'friends' or her 'regulars' – we were strangers, and she was willing to trust us.

How often do we all resist trusting people? Before we can trust them we need to know them; we need evidence that they are trustworthy; we are only too ready to take into account any small indication that they might not be trustworthy. We hedge ourselves with self-protection, and we make it clear to the people in front of us that we are cautious, so that they know not to take advantage.

Non-judgemental, trusting and sacrificial hospitality to strangers – even to strangers who might look untrustworthy – is at the heart of the monastic Benedictine life. Welcome and forgiveness are at the heart of the Christian gospel. For the sake of love we are called to be open, non-judgemental – and that means taking a risk, just as Nettie was willing to take a risk with her valuable paintings. Sometimes we have much to learn from the secular world around us.

## **OASIS BOOKSHOP**

**Emmanuel Baptist Church**

**Windmill St Gravesend**

**01474 568498**

**[oasisebc@hotmail.com](mailto:oasisebc@hotmail.com)**

**Come and browse**

**Mon-Fri 10.00 - 14.00**

**Saturday 10.00 - 13.00**

**BOOKS AND CARDS \* MUSIC \*  
DVDs**

**JEWELLERY \* ORNAMENTS**

# Start Black History Month A Spiritual Experience

*A musical journey through the  
history of Negro Spirituals.*

Featuring Dr. Kimberly Hawkins

## LIVE MUSIC & LECTURE

Featured songs include:

- \* Ride on King Jesus
- \* Wade in the Water
- \* He's Got the Whole  
World in His Hands
- \* and more...

**Thurs 2nd October 7.30pm**

**Tickets £5**

**Book early to avoid  
disappointment.**



**Christ Church**

**Old Road East, Gravesend DA12 1NR**

Ticket from N Gibbons Tel: 07764 756951 [Natalieehgibbons@gmail.com](mailto:Natalieehgibbons@gmail.com)



**For those of you that missed the Commemoration Service held on August 4, we print here the reading given by Peter Shearan.**

## **THE BOOK OF THE HOUR**

The Bible has always a message for the needs of the day. Whatever the paramount need of the hour may be, whether guidance, or comfort, or inspiration, God's Holy Word is always accessible with its effectual help.

I shall never forget with what singular appropriateness Holy Scripture met our need one August Sunday in Bavaria. I was British Chaplain at Bad Kissingen when war was declared between England and Germany.

The English Church, a handsome building of red sandstone, has been enriched with many gifts from our Royal Family. I was advised to discontinue the services because it was feared they might provoke some turbulent spirits to disorder.

A German lady said to me, 'Do you know you are in danger, you ought to leave at once'. After consulting some of the leading men in the town, I decided to continue the services. Prudence suggested that the services should be quiet – without singing or organ accompaniment. I also decided that it was not advisable to hoist the Union Jack at the entrance to the Church.

So the congregation of exiles and worse than exile, prisoners of war, met for worship. They were without letters, without English news, in many cases without money, for a Bank of England £5 note was un-negotiable. We were prisoners in an enemy's land, for we were not allowed to leave. We were realising some of the discomforts of "War, the world's worst curse".

We had come to Church for comfort, away from the infected air of the streets where people in groups were discussing the war.

The Psalms for the day, the ninth of August spoke to our despairing hearts. Ps. 44, verses 1, 8, 26. Ps. 46, #verses, 1, 9, 11. "We have heard with our ears, O God. Our fathers have told us: what Thou hast done in their time of old", "But it is Thou that saved us from our enemies: and puttest them to confusion that hate us", "Arise and help us: and deliver us for Thy mercy's sake". "God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble. He maketh wars to cease in all the world: He breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire", The Lord of Hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge".

In the midst of our reading, I paused and pointed out how the Church has always a word in season for her children. How there is always a message for the peculiar needs of the hour. The hope and comfort were there, it was for us to appropriate and apply to our condition.

When we came out into the August sunshine, it was with hearts relieved by the ministry of the Word of God.

## **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 £4.25 (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.

## **Can you help with things for the pre-school activities**

We are short of buttons, corks and shells. The children love playing with these and they are great for craft activities and for sorting and counting, so if people can collect these again that would be great. We are also collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's.

The number we collected last year helped to buy gardening equipment and a camera.

**So thanking you all for your help. Sue x**

## **GRAVESHAM FOOD BANK**

**Many thanks to those who support the food bank.**

Below is a list of items required at the moment

**Milk (UHT) - Custard**  
**Toothpaste - Hot chocolate**  
**Shampoo - Sweets/treats**  
**Breakfast cereal (not porridge) - Marmite**  
**Fruit juice/squash - Toilet roll**  
**Sponge pudding - Deodorant**  
**Tinned potatoes - Laundry liquid/tablets**

This list is only a few of the items that can help those less fortunate than ourselves, any tinned or non-perishable items are most welcome

# The Salonika campaign

My grandfather's brother, Wilfred Green, was a bank clerk when he enlisted with the 1<sup>st</sup> Derbyshire Yeomanry in 1914.

In 1915 they were deployed in Salonika in Greece in an attempt to protect Serbia from Bulgarian attack. They arrived too late, and dug in, in case Bulgaria were to attack Greece. They saw relatively little action until 1918, but many died of disease. Wilfred Green died of dysentery in Salonika on 12<sup>th</sup> November 1916.

## A contemporary account from the Salonika campaign:

'But malaria is by no means the whole tale of the plagues of Macedonia. There are dysentery and diarrhoea, both very weakening, and almost

unavoidable, at any rate to a mild degree. For these the flies are chiefly responsible. In fact, the fly is probably as deadly as the mosquito. The only way to keep down flies is to see that they get nothing to feed on. All food must be in boxes with wooden lids, which are kept shut. Nor will flies go where it is dark, so that latrine trenches are made eight feet deep.'

The Salonika campaign was controversial both during and after the war, particularly in Britain. Many people at the time – and some historians subsequently – asked why so many troops remained tied down in the British Salonika Force, apparently inactive, when they could have been better employed elsewhere. The harsh climate and conditions and widespread malaria and dysentery took a toll on those who served there. Nevertheless, eventually the defeat of Bulgaria turned out to be the first link in a chain of events leading to the end of the war on 11 November 1918.

Sue Brewer

## PEACE CANDLE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE THAT WENT BEFORE

You may well have seen the 'Peace Candle' that was used at the WW1 commemoration service on 4<sup>th</sup> August, now in the sanctuary. The candle will remain in place throughout the 4 years of commemoration and will be lit at each Sunday and Wednesday service, as a reminder to us all to pray for



peace in the many areas of conflict throughout the world. When you see the candle, please remember to pray for those caught up in conflict.

The sign near to the candle records the areas of conflict most in our prayers at any given time (though there are other 'hidden' conflicts that rarely appear on our televisions). If you would like an area of the world added to the list, please speak to Revs Sue or Jacqueline.





These photos are of the gravestone of

Captain Bernard Atkinson

The inscription at the base of the stone reads:

**“MINE HONOUR IS MY LIFE ... IN THAT I LIVE AND FOR THAT WILL I DIE”**

*Shakespeare*



# 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.



# Stories of WW1 and memories passed down the years

Bernard Atkinson was my great-uncle – my grandmother described him as her favourite brother. His own father had died in a cycling accident in 1907 and Bernard qualified as a solicitor in November 1914 at the age of 21, preparing to support his mother and 3 younger brothers and sisters. He enlisted in the South Staffordshire Regiment.

In 1917, as a Captain, he found himself in Flesquieres, just outside the French town of Cambrai. Part of the Hindenburg Line, the village of Flesquières was fortified by the Germany Army to defend the city of Cambrai situated ten kilometres to its rear. Its position on the ridge gave the occupiers an unbridled view of the surrounding area and one of the German observation posts still stands today near the castle wall.

The Battle of Cambrai opened on 20 November 1917. It was the first battle to involve significant use of tanks. The British 3rd Army lined up 476 tanks along the eight kilometre front for the task of clearing a path through the enemy lines to allow the infantry to pour through. The hard limestone terrain was ideal for the machines of the Tank Corps. On the first day of the offensive the British troops succeeded in penetrating far into the Hindenburg Line; however the German positions on the heights of Flesquières and Bourslon brought them to a halt.

For 10 days there was a 'stand off' then, on 30 November the Germans received reinforcements and started their counter-



**Capt. Bernard Stewart Atkinson**

attack. Captain Atkinson, who had had a few days of leave, was killed by a stray shell on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1917 on his way back to re-join his men. By 3<sup>rd</sup> December the British were pushed back to their starting point. No progress had been made and in 2 weeks 45000 lives had been lost on both sides.

Bernard Atkinson's grave is in Orival Wood cemetery, near to Flesquieres. His gravestone reads 'Mine honour is my life. In that I live and for that will I die' - a quote from Shakespeare's Richard II, which Bernard had written into his mother's commonplace book before he left for France. As well as a number of British graves, the cemetery contains the graves of several German soldiers and a Chinese worker.

Sue Brewer

# *Thank you all!*

Dear Editor,

On the 16 August, I was privileged to attend and take part in a Celebration Service for the 20th Anniversary of the Ordination of the first women priests. I would like to thank the Vicar and the congregation for the welcome and hospitality shown to me, my family and my friends from other churches.

Above all, I would like to thank my good friend The Reverend Jacqueline Littlewood for inviting me to share in her service. It provided an opportunity for me and so many others to recognise her many years of faithful, self-sacrificing ministry as deaconess, deacon and priest, remembering that she has continued for more than twenty years as a non-stipendiary. So many people present, some of whom had travelled quite a long way, spoke of her value as a priest and generous friend.

The arrangements for the beautiful service showed Jacqui's love of, and commitment to, our liturgy, which was enhanced on this occasion by wonderful music from the two choirs and music group.

A very appreciative thank you to everyone who supplied cakes for the splendid buffet. There was such joy in the whole celebration.

I am grateful to have shared in so meaningful celebration.

May god bless all that you continue to do in his name.

Wendy Cranidge

## **To all my dear friends at Christ Church,**

Thank you so much for all your best wishes, the Anthem, gifts, flowers and cards, not to mention the wonderful cake and send off that you gave me. I have been over whelmed, but not totally surprised at your generosity because, as ever, you all offer such kindness and of course you do like a party!!

The picture of St Botolph's was wonderful. And now a constant reminder of my Priesting. And so beautifully framed too. And may I also say thank to John Hill who painted me a picture of Christ Church, St Faiths Chapel and the 'Devils Door' that will always serve to take me back to you all in memory of so many times and event shared together.

So with much gratitude and prayers, please take good care and God bless you all.

With love,

Jo x



## **CHRIST CHURCH AND HALL SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER**

SELLERS 9.00 am

Open to public 10.30 am - 1.00 pm

TABLES FOR PRIVATE SELLERS  
£10 EACH

**Contact Julie Hill on 01474 568265  
or email: [juliehill34@aol.com](mailto:juliehill34@aol.com)  
to book a table**





**Pictured on her last day at Christ Church, shows Jo laden with farwell gifts after the Eucharist at the 10.00 service, left is the cake and below Jo about to cut the cake to share with parishioners**





# WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHANGE A LIFE WITH A TOOTH BRUSH?



Do you have a toothbrush, soap, socks, a hairbrush and comb and underwear? Some of the simple items we take for granted BUT make up a shoebox of basic items we take for granted and you can change the life of a child, a teenager, and adult.

The gift of a shoebox can change the life of someone living in desperate poverty in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania or Serbia. Blythwood Care add Christian storybooks, leaflets and calendars to the boxes to be delivered in time for Christmas.

Last year 118,000 gift boxes were delivered! **YOU CAN CHANGE A LIFE THIS YEAR** - make up a shoebox. Leaflets explaining exactly what to do will be in church soon - make sure You pick one up and act on it.

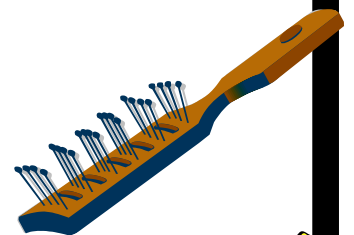
Filled shoe boxes must be back in church by **WEDNESDAY 12 DECEMBER FOR Christmas delivery.**

CAN YOU CHANGE A LIFE? YES YOU CAN!

**PLEASE HELP - if you need to know more look at the display in church**

**or speak to Veronica**

**(01474 534857)**





# Organist and Choir news from the vestry

Christian Thomas, our organist and choir director, is leaving his employment at Christ Church because of the demands of his new teaching career. We are very grateful for all that Christian has done over these last 4 years and wish him every blessing in his new endeavours. Christian may well return to sing with the choir from time to time, and we look forward to welcoming him back

During this period when we are without a permanent Organist and Choir Director, a number of local organists will be helping us out with the services... many thanks to old friends and some new ones – David Rosenthal, David Sisterson, Doug McIlwraith, Martin Carling, Gwyneth Charles and the Rev'd David Scott.

For the time being, the Direction of the Choir will be in the hands of Helen Osborne. Helen has been a member of Christ Church congregation all her life, and has a great deal of musical experience and training to offer.

She started learning music aged 3 playing the violin and going on to learn the piano and clarinet, eventually playing clarinet at county level. At secondary school, she developed her love of music theory, composing/arranging music and especially directing and conducting ensembles. Whilst studying for A Level music, she formed and directed a sixth form chamber choir.

In 1997 she went to teach music in Mutare, Zimbabwe. She taught piano, violin, flute, clarinet, voice and theory at the Mutare school of music and taught general music at a state primary school and a private secondary school. She also lectured in theory of music at the local University. As well as her teaching responsibilities, she was assistant director of the city choral society and directed a

number of school choirs and orchestras. She entered a secondary school choir in a national eisteddfod - The choir gained a first in their category and she was invited to be one of the judges for the following competition!

In Zimbabwe she began her study for the Diploma of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in Musical Direction, which she passed with distinction and then went on to study for the Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music in Musical Direction. She continued her studying whilst at the University of Wales in Lampeter, taking and passing the exam at the end of 1998.

Since then she has directed Christ Church Music Group and more recently formed the children's choir Semiquavers with Deborah Carter. Since Easter this year, she has been regularly singing with Christ Church choir and rehearsing the junior choristers.

Helen continues to enjoy arranging and composing music: not everyone at Christ Church will be aware that a number of her choral pieces and arrangements have been performed in recent years by the Semiquavers, Music Group and Christ Church choir.

Helen says 'I am very interested in maintaining Christ Church's choral tradition by drawing on the experience of current choristers and encouraging the juniors (and any adults who are interested) to follow the Royal Schools of Church Music 'Voice for Life' ribbon scheme which teaches good choral practice and theory of music'

Please give Helen, the visiting organists and the choirs of Christ Church all the encouragement you can during this busy Autumn and Christmas period.

Sue



Top: RAF Sopwith Camel. In April 1917, the average life expectancy of a British pilot on the Western Front was 93 flying hours.

Bottom: British hospital at the Western front. Interior of a ward of a hospital during World War I British hospital at the Western front



# CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

Youth activities for all young people—School Yrs 7—11.

**Regular meetings will be between 4.00-5.30pm  
at the 'Word on the Street' house, 7 Warrior Avenue,  
Gravesend DA12 5NA**

**4 October from 16.00 - 7 Warrior Avenue  
18 October from 16.00 - 7 Warrior Avenue**

## **WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND ALONG TO ENJOY THE EVENING**

For more information contact:

**Lusa 01474 352500**

[lusansenga@googlemail.com](mailto:lusansenga@googlemail.com)

**Sue 01474 352643**

[suec@brewer86.plus.com](mailto:suec@brewer86.plus.com)

**Richard 01474 249792**

[ramartin@talktalk.net](mailto:ramartin@talktalk.net)



## **THE MUSTARD SEED**

THE Mustard Seed aims to provide an informal and friendly tea at 3.00 pm on the third Thursday of every month in Christ Church hall.

It is a venture that offers the opportunity to meet new friends and reminisce about old times.

The Mustard Seed, as the parable says (Mark4; 3-32) is very small - like dust - but has the potential to develop into one of the largest plants.

Please join us as we plant the Mustard Seed and assist to make it flourish. Who knows what may happen!

The Mustard Seed is in its second year now, and the next gathering will be on **Thursday 16 October**. You are so welcome.

**For further details please contact any member of the pastoral care team. Pastoral assistants Pam Kilby, Colin Parsonson, Jasmine Humphries.**

**Illustrated talk: Armchair Guide to Northfleet and  
cheese and wine buffet**

**Friday 17th October 2014 at 7.30pm**

At: Coach & Horses public house, 25 The Hill, Northfleet

Speaker: Christoph Bull

Cost: £12 includes talk and buffet with first drink free

Booking essential by contacting the Coach & Horses on 01474 395088 –  
Sharon Duffy is the Landlady

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**Heritage Quarter tour of Gravesend**

**Sunday 12th October –**

meet 2.30pm outside Gravesend Library.

Cost: £3 – option to visit TJ's public house, Milton Road afterwards.

No need to book, just turn up.

Information Christoph Bull 0770 2287147

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**Guided historical tour of Greenhithe and Ingress Park**

**Sunday 2nd November 2014:**

Meet: 2.30pm on corner of Station Road and High Street, Greenhithe

£3 a head - no need to book just turn up.

Guide: Christoph Bull 0770 2287147.

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**Local History and chips - Ghosts over North West  
Kent – a lively talk**

**Monday 1st December 2014**

Reliance Fish Restaurant, Queen Street, Gravesend – by ticket only –  
booking required – phone Reliance Restaurant 01474 533593

Time: meal begins at 6pm sharp, talk to follow

Speaker: Christoph Bull

Cost: £12 includes fish and chip supper and the talk

Some local ghost stories and folklore from our area of Kent





## **Gravesham Citizens Advice Bureau**

### **New Citizens Advice Bureau Drop-in**

**Venue: Northfleet Veteran's Club, The Hill,  
Northfleet, DA11 9EU**

**Every Friday morning  
10.30-12.30**

**No appointment needed!**

**Help with Employment, Housing, Consumer,  
Relationships, Benefits, Debt problems... and much more**

***Free, independent, confidential and impartial advice.***

**[www.graveshamcab.org.uk](http://www.graveshamcab.org.uk)**



# 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**




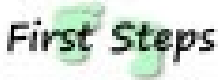

## Office hours

Registered Charity no. 1130741

Friday 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm

## Regular activities and youth organisations

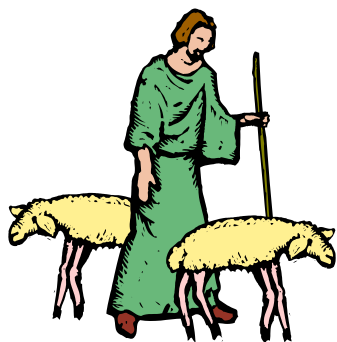
There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily	Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)	
Monday	Music Group; Brownies	
Tuesday	Cubs and Semiquavers	<i>girls in the lead</i>
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:	
3.00 p.m.	Mustard Seed (every third)	
2 - 3.30	Forgetmenot Singing 2nd & 4th Thurs afternoon	
Friday	Scouts; Parent and Toddler	
Saturday	Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)	

# CALENDAR OCTOBER 2014

<b>Sunday</b> 		<b>5</b> 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	<b>12</b> 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 18.30 EVENSONG	<b>19</b> 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 19.00 Harvest Supper	<b>26</b> 08.00 Service 08.30 Christian Aid Breakfast 10.00 Service
<b>Monday</b> 		<b>6</b> 08.00 Service <b>BROWNIES</b>	<b>13</b> 08.00 Service <b>BROWNIES</b>	<b>20</b> 08.00 Service <b>BROWNIES</b>	<b>27</b> 08.00 Service <b>BROWNIES</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 		<b>7</b> 07.00 Service  CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	<b>14</b> 07.00 Service  CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	<b>21</b> 07.00 Service  CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	<b>28</b> 07.00 Service  CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers
<b>Wednesday</b> 	<b>1</b> 10.00 Service	<b>8</b> 10.00 Service <b>13.45 First Steps</b>	<b>15</b> 10.00 Service	<b>22</b> 10.00 Service	<b>29</b> 10.00 Service
<b>Thursday</b> 	<b>2</b> 07.00 Service  BROWNIES Choir practice	<b>9</b> 07.00 Service  BROWNIES Choir practice	<b>16</b> 07.00 Service 15.00 Mustard Seed  BROWNIES Choir practice	<b>23</b> 07.00 Service  BROWNIES Choir practice	<b>30</b> 07.00 Service  BROWNIES Choir practice
<b>Friday</b> 	<b>3</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	<b>10</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	<b>17</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	<b>24</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	<b>31</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers  18.30 Office hours SCOUTS
<b>Saturday</b> 	<b>4</b> 08.00 Service	<b>11</b> 08.00 Service <b>09.30 working party</b>  <b>14.00 Harvest Famoly Fun</b>	<b>18</b> 08.00 Service <b>14.30 Service</b>	<b>25</b> 08.00 Service	

# Sharing God's Abundant Gifts!



## ***Harvest Family Fun Afternoon***

Saturday 11th October

2pm—4pm Christ Church Hall



A day of fun for the  
whole family... Parents, grandparents , carers  
and children of all ages.