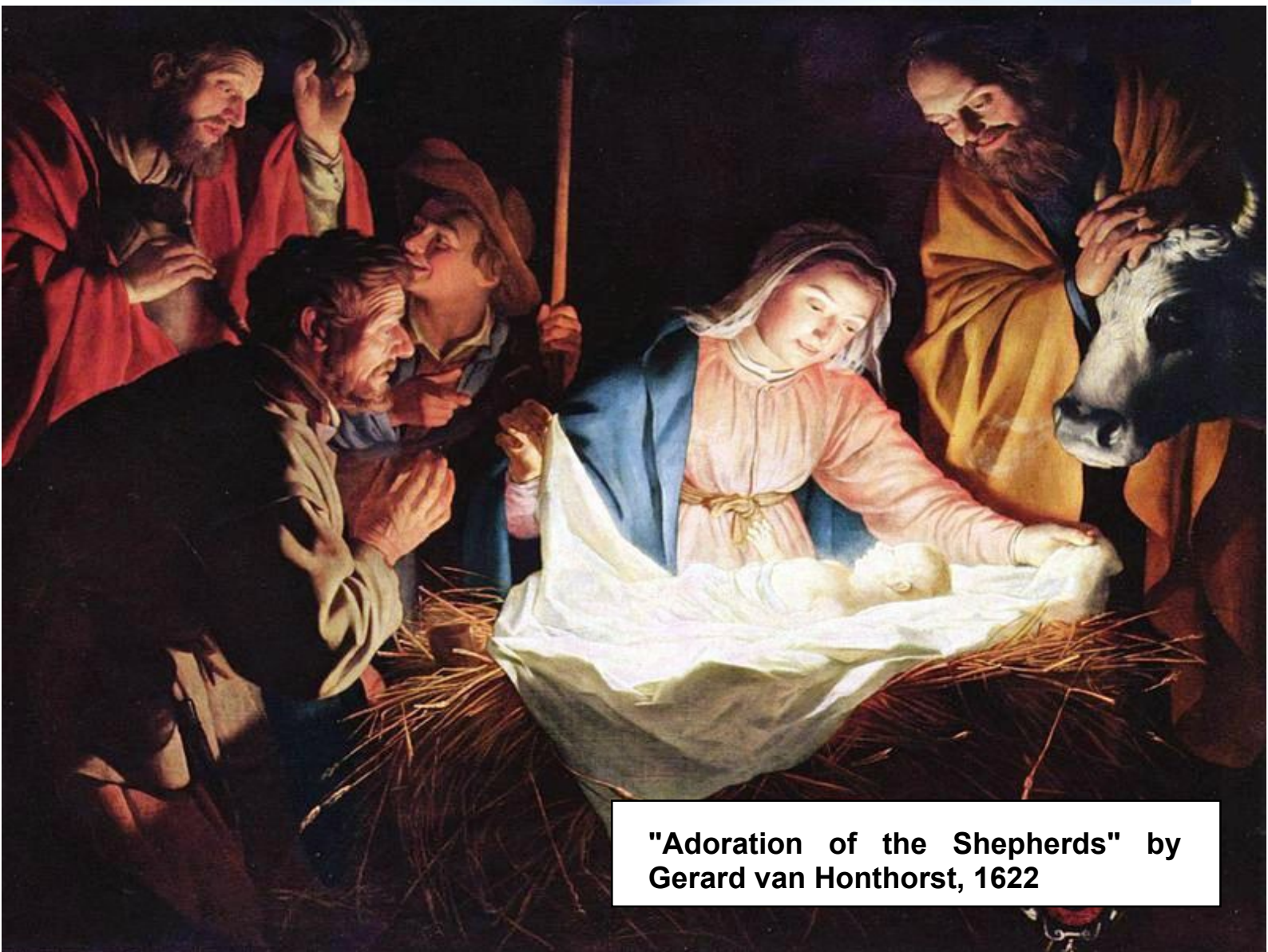




CHRIST CHURCH

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND



"Adoration of the Shepherds" by Gerard van Honthorst, 1622

DECEMBER 2014

Donation or **40p**

For details of Christmas services see page 21 and for services after Christmas see page 12 and the calendar on page 31

We wish all our readers and the congregation of Christ Church a Happy and peaceful New Year

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 **28 December**, for January Copy: email to:- ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt

Christ Church Hall is available for hire
Contact Rachel Pace
01474 249508 or 07960 024917
Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and childrens 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
Pastoral Assistant	Pam Kilby	332693
Pastoral Assistant	Jasmine Humphries	392713
Pastoral Assistant	Colin Parsonson	359713
Church Warden	Jan Osborne	740763
Church Warden		
PCC Secretary	Linda Riordan	746988
PCC Treasurer	Steve Humphries	392713
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339
Reader	John Hougham	352138
Reader	Betty Martin	352696
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443

World War 1 Christmas 1914

In the lead up to Christmas 1914, there were several peace initiatives. The Open Christmas Letter was a public message for peace addressed "To the Women of Germany and Austria", signed by a group of 101 British women suffragettes at the end of 1914 as the first Christmas of World War I approached. Pope Benedict XV, on 7 December 1914, had begged for an official truce between the warring governments. He asked "that the guns may fall silent at least upon the night

the angels sang." This attempt was officially rebuffed.

On Christmas Eve, 1914, both sides declared an unofficial truce and sung Christmas carols to each other. A football match was played in no-man's land, the area between the German and British trenches, when German and British soldiers exchanged food and souvenirs.

British and German troops meeting in No-Mans's Land during the unofficial truce. (British troops from the Northumberland Hussars, 7th Division, Bridoux-Rouge Banc Sector).



LEST WE FORGET

MEDWAY'S FIRST WORLD WAR

Exhibition and Installation

Continues - 9 DECEMBER 10.00 - 16.00 Daily

Lady Chapel, Rochester Cathedral

The Precinct, Rochester

Rochester
CATHEDRAL



Lest We Forget: Medway's First World War is an installation and exhibition where visitors may explore the stories of local soldiers from WWI look at the objects which have been loaned by members of the Cathedral Community and reflect on their own family story.



FAIRTRADE LUNCHSTOP

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

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

EMMANUAL BAPTIST CHURCH

WINDMILL ST. GRAVESEND

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER

12 noon to 2.00 p.m.



**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

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 10 December.

FIRST STEPS

12TH NOVEMBER 2014
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

It's cloudy and spitty and spotty with rain when our naughty little sheep looks out of the window this morning. He's a bit depressed at the prospect but it is November after all! I tell him to count his blessings! It's our theme at First Steps today and I'm trying it out for size! Of course he knows that he is a very lucky little sheep and thinking about all the good things in his life cheers him up immediately! When his friends come to join us they too soon realise how lucky they are, so we are all bathed in a rosy glow as we walk up to church in the afternoon. What's more there seems to be the odd patch of blue sky, so maybe the sun will come out after all.

Our naughty little sheep's friends are in hugging mode again so find themselves seats, ready for when the children come in. Linda, Jan and I rush around like mad people, getting everything set up while those lazy creatures look on, taking their ease. They've certainly got it all worked out! With the church doors open, the first in today is Claire with baby Lauren, looking very beautiful in another lovely hand knitted outfit of hat, mittens and a jacket with monkey buttons. What a smart little girl. Soon more Mums, Grandmas, babies and children come in to join us. What a lovely, lively, noisy lot they are! Jingle bells are tried out several times just to make sure that they're still working. They are! Our naughty little sheep and his friend the glittery dragon are standing quietly on our little altar and it's time for the candles to be lit and for our service to begin. The sunshine is peeping through the windows now and the children are happy, healthy and lively. It isn't hard to see some of the many, many blessings that God gives to us every day.

We sing about some of His good gifts, food to make us healthy, times of peace and quietness, times of rest. We thank God for the people we love, for the good times that we share and for the times when we need each other's support. We thank God for coming alongside us in Jesus Christ and for His wonderful love for each one of us. We remember the beauty of our world, rolling rivers, mountain peaks, sunlit beaches, and thick green forests, and animals even more diverse than our naughty little sheep's friends! We have so very many blessings to thank God for each day; just being here to enjoy them! It is so easy to take them for granted. God has given us eyes to see them and hearts to appreciate them. Yet more gifts! Aren't we lucky?

When our quiet prayer time is over and our candles blown out, it is time to go into the hall for a cuppa, a chat and some playtime. Our naughty little sheep, the glittery dragon and all of their friends come out into the hall too. Once again they're at the front of the queue for a biscuit and a drink. Then they settle down to watch the children play. It is their favourite thing! They've had lots of cuddles and their tummies are full, so they've got lots of reasons to count their blessings. And so have we! We do hope that everyone will join us again on the 10th December when we'll be telling that very special Christmas story. And there may even be mince pies! We wish you all a very merry, Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.

God Bless
Rosemary Austin



New Prior for St Anselm Community appointed

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has appointed the Revd Anders Litzell as Prior of the Community of St Anselm, the radical new Christian community at Lambeth Palace.

Mr Litzell, 34, is an Anglican priest from Sweden, who has experience of the Pentecostal and Lutheran traditions as well as three provinces of the Anglican Communion. He will pioneer the Community, which launches in September 2015, and direct its worship and work. He will work as Prior under the auspices of the Archbishop, who will be Abbot of the Community. Mr Litzell will take up the role on 5th January 2015.

The Community will initially consist of 16 people living at Lambeth Palace full-time, and up to 40 people, who live and work in London, joining as non-residential members. The Archbishop hopes that the Community will be definitive in shaping

future leaders to serve the common good in a variety of fields, as they immerse themselves in a challenging year of rigorous formation through prayer, study, practical service and community life.

Mr Litzell was ordained in the Church of England in 2012. He is currently serving at St George's, Holborn, in the Diocese of London – where his ministry focuses on students and adults in their 20s and 30s. At the same time he is pursuing a doctorate which focuses on the relevance of St Benedict for contemporary leadership. He trained for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, UK, including a sojourn at St Agnes, Diocese of Natal in South Africa.

Archbishop Justin Welby said: “My vision for the Community of St Anselm is that it be both ancient and postmodern: that young adults be steeped in the rich monastic traditions of the likes of Benedict, Francis and Ignatius, while discovering their striking relevance for the transformation of self and society today. I am delighted at the appointment of Anders Litzell who will help to work this out at Lambeth Palace.”

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.



In this Ebola nightmare, who do we turn to?

By Patience Zayzay, Policy & Campaigns Assistant, WaterAid Liberia

In the dark times that now engulf Liberia, many people will have asked themselves “who do we turn to?”

Many of us find no answer. My only answer is God. When answers are lacking, I turn to my creator for hope, rescue and solace.

I have always enjoyed my work with WaterAid across the borders of Liberia and Sierra Leone, to offer poor and excluded people a chance of a better life through access to the basics: clean water, a safe toilet and hygiene.

After Liberia’s civil war ended in 2003, the country faced an uphill battle to rebuild. Even today many parts of the capital, Monrovia, are without



electricity or proper roads. More than 80% of our country’s people are without access to a basic toilet, and 25% do not have clean water.

WaterAid has been working in the country to bring safe water and toilets to homes and schools. We’ve also worked closely with government to establish a committee on safe water and sanitation, and to work on strategy, planning, technical support and financing for water, sanitation and hygiene programmes.

We are proud that the National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion Committee has now become part of their WASH Ebola Away response.

But today, working and living here in Monrovia, all I feel is fear: fear that a relative may contract Ebola; fear that a close friend may die of it; fear

that our vital work will be held up and fear that I may not even finish writing this piece.

So far, no one on our WaterAid team has contracted the virus but the rate at which the disease is claiming lives, and the lack so far of a vaccine or cure or an effective approach to eradicating the virus terrifies me.

None of us expected this crisis to go on so long. We thought the end of the rains in October would mean an end to the virus. But now we are all aware that it is likely that things will get worse, maybe much much worse, before they get better. Sometimes I feel like God has sent his wrath upon us.

As it is, living and working in this crisis is like I am already in a sort of hell. All my hope, except that which I have in God, has been lost. Everything now seems a worthless vanity as the peace we once had has been replaced by fear and hopelessness.

Everybody including family members, colleagues and church congregations treat each other suspiciously because of Ebola. Homes, work places, social centres are all practicing good hygiene, so as to try and keep the virus at bay. But the risk and death toll of Ebola continues to rise relentlessly.

The sirens of ambulances picking up the sick and dying are constant. The cries of the victims have become a formulaic song in the ears of everyone here. The hands of friends and loved ones have been put away, dodging our traditional West African handshakes.

Every time we leave home, we are afraid. Upon our return, even our own family members are reluctant to touch us until we’ve bathed and changed clothes.

This cannot be a problem for Liberia alone to handle. The international community must continue to step in.

But when even the doctors and nurses here to help us - our earthly life givers - are dying, where else do we run to but to God? I believe that God is in our land. He is not asleep. He will restore the hope we once had in each other.

CHRISTINGLE

at Christ Church

Sunday 7 December at 16.00

**Arrive at 15.30 for craft work in the hall
a magical start to Advent for all the family,
with oranges, sweets and candles**

The meaning of Christingle: the orange represents the world God created, and the sweets all the good things in God's creation. The candle represents Jesus, the light of the world, and the red ribbon the love of Christ for his world

This year we are collecting funds for

The
Children's
Society

New Year's Eve Party

Join us at a party here at church specifically for family members to celebrate the new year together

This is for everyone, young and old. There will be food, music and a children's entertainer

Tickets are priced at £10 for adults and £1 for children

19.30 start and a 0100 finish

**For more details or to put in a music request early,
contact debbie-101@hotmail.co.uk with REQUEST in
the subject header**

A CRUISE TO REMEMBER

Mary and I booked on a short cruise (four nights) on the Cunarder Queen Mary 2. This was from Southampton, and the ship spent a day at each of Zeebrugge (Belgium) and Cherbourg (France).

We were surprised and rather humbled to learn that, in this hundredth year since the beginning of World War I, QM2 had been

selected to bring back to England a last sandbag of sacred soil from the war cemeteries in Belgium, to be used in the creation of a new memorial garden at the Guards' Museum, off

St James's Park. Information was contained on the front page of three of the Daily Programmes, and it was also mentioned in the Captain's broadcasts to the ship.

During the day (5 October) spent berthed at Zeebrugge, the Captain and

senior officers went to collect the sandbag. On their return, it was given pride of place on a table in the Grand Lobby – effectively, the heart of the ship - where I was able to photograph it.

Dinner on the evening of 6 October was called, "We will remember them", and each guest was presented with a specially-printed memorial menu, which included information about the sacred

soil, and the quotation from "For the fallen" – "They shall grow not old, as we who are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them".

On arrival at Southampton, the sandbag was presented to the Mayor of the port. It spent the night in Southampton, and was then taken by train to London Waterloo, whence it was conveyed to its final resting place.

Michael Donovan



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.



EllenorLions Hospices
'without them we would have been lost'



Sunday 14 December 4.00pm ELLENORLIONS LIGHTS OF LOVE SERVICE

Christmas time can be a very difficult period for those who have lost loved ones. The EllenorLions Hospices organise services throughout December which give people an opportunity to remember someone who has died.

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...

NOTE the next one will be on 13 December at 9.30.

See you there, Sue

Arthur's War

Well worth a visit is the World War 1 exhibition at Scotney Castle, which includes some of the National Trust's best preserved resources from the period.

In what appeared to be no more than an ordinary metal box, abandoned in one of the attics of the house, volunteers discovered a treasure trove of memorabilia from the personal collection of Brigadier-General, Arthur Hussey, who from 1914 - 1919 was the Commander, Royal Artillery, of the 5th Division.

As you move from room to room, on the ground floor, the exhibition takes you through the collection that includes letters, diaries, photographs and battle plans.

The exhibition gives an insight of the life of not only an officer but also some of the men of Lamberhurst village who lived on the estate and enlisted to fight on the front line.

Complimentary to the exhibition, artist Vivian Pedley has created portraits of

these local men, which are on display in the restaurant.

The exhibition is open daily from 11.00 - 16.00 until 22 March next year, normal property entry charges apply, but National Trust members are free.



Brigadier-General Arthur Hussey

Photo credit: National Trust / Glynn Roche

Important notice

'SERVICES AFTER CHRISTMAS'

Boxing day and Saturday 27th – no services
Sunday 28th 8am and 10am Holy Communion
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 29 - 30 - 31 – no services
Thursday 1st – 10am Holy Communion
Fri and Sat 2nd and 3rd – no services
January 4th – back to normal.

Safeguarding and Protection at Christ Church.... What it means to you.

We are truly blessed here at Christ Church to be part of a growing community of regular worshippers, clubs and groups associated with Christ Church and volunteers who help to keep the church running smoothly.

We must ensure that for this community to continue to grow in strength, we understand and are aware of the need for Christ Church to be a place where all people feel welcomed, respected and safe. In particular we are called by God to support those at the margins, those less powerful and those without a voice in our society.

We can easily make sure this happens by following the diocesan policy and guidance on the Protection and Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults. You can view this policy on the Diocese of Rochester website at www.rochester.anglican.org, otherwise feel free to speak to Reverend Sue, Veronica Read (Childrens Safeguarding Officer) or Angela Kirby (Vulnerable Adults Representative). This is especially important if you become aware of any situations which may cause a child or vulnerable adult to feel unsafe or threatened.

The policy also gives guidance on safe recruitment of volunteers and paid workers in groups working with children

and vulnerable adults and so if you are a group leader planning to take on new employees or volunteers, please speak to Reverend Sue, Veronica or Angela first.



Reverend Sue Brewer



Veronica Read



Angela Kirby



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



COFFEE ROTA 2014



30 November Rita Smith, Sheila Knight, Jean Stoddart
07 December Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, Bianca Mcarther
14 December Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Jill Sampson
21 December Jill Godwin, Annie Southwick, Dorothy Oliver
28 December Pauline Marks, David Williams, Angela Kirby



**Come in and enjoy a cup of tea or
coffee after the 10.00 o'clock
Sunday service**



CHRISTMAS EVE 4.00 p.m. CRIB SERVICE

**– A Service especially for families.
Bring unwrapped presents for the
children at the women's refuge**



**Sunday 21st December
6.30 p.m.**

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

**(During this service, there will be an opportunity
to remember loved ones who will be missed this
Christmas)**

Followed by mince pies and mulled wine







Shoebox appeal success

"Robins, snowflakes, Father Christmas, flowers and plain wrapping paper in every colour and design; trolleys full of shoeboxes; cardboard boxes packed and ready for the lorry- the first one left for Serbia on Tuesday 18th November. This was the sight that greeted Peter and I as

we arrive at Kent Space storage, the home of Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal for 2014. Regional managers June Totham and Phil Andrews greeted us, helped us unload and were delighted with our delivery of 50 shoeboxes. Thanks to Christ Church we were also able to donate a large bag of extra items- jumpers, hats, toys games and pencils to be added to extra shoeboxes.

It's not often you can say you have done something to change a



Soroptimist International of Gravesend & District

Quiz Evening

A Fun Evening on Saturday 10th January 2015

7.00 for 7.30 p.m. Prompt Start.

At Christ Church Hall, Old Road East, Gravesend. DA12 1NR

Teams -
Maximum
6 in each

**Proceeds
to support our Link Club**

Freetown, Sierra Leone

£5.00 entry per person

Raffle

Bring your
own Snacks
and Drinks

Admission by Ticket only

✂
Soroptimist International Gravesend & District – Annual Quiz – Saturday 10th January 2015

Please let Sheila Knight know how many Tickets are required (Admission by Ticket only)

Contact Name..... Tel No.....

Total Number attending.....

Return to Sheila Knight, by 3rd January to 2 The Downage, GRAVESEND Kent, DA11 7NB

Tel/fax 01474 564234 E-mail sknight01@hotmail.co.uk

**PLEASE INCLUDE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE AS TICKETS MUST BE BOOKED
IN ADVANCE — SEATING IS LIMITED**



persons' life but Christ Church has certainly done its best with its wonderful contribution to Blythswood this year.

THANK YOU from all concerned with Blythswood Care and please keep the shoeboxes from your new winter shoes for next year's appeal. (I will store them if necessary). Very many thanks for your help and best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2015 to all shoeboxers.

Veronica"

GRAVESEND ENTERTAINMENT & MUSIC SOCIETY

SING CHRISTMAS WITH G.E.M.S.

Friday 5th December 2014

at

CHRISTCHURCH

Old Road East, Gravesend, DA12 1NR

7:30pm

and

Friday 19th December 2014

at

ST ANDREW'S ARTS CENTRE

Royal Pier Rd Gravesend DA12 2BD

7:30pm

TICKETS £5

For tickets please call

THE BOX OFFICE on 0758 096 9778

In association with NODA & Gravsham Arts Council

www.gemsmusicshows.co.uk

CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH



Sunday 7th December from 3.30 p.m.

CHRISTINGLE

a magical start to Advent for all the family, with craft activities, oranges, sweets and candles

Sunday 14th December 4.00pm

ELLENOR LIONS LIGHTS OF LOVE SERVICE

Friday 19th December

Meet 7pm in Church

COME AND SING!

Carol singing around residential homes and hostelryes
in the parish

Sunday 21st December 6.30 p.m.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Followed by mince pies and mulled wine

CHRISTMAS EVE 4.00 p.m.

CRIB SERVICE

A Service especially for children.

Bring presents for the children at the women's refuge
Come dressed as animals, angels, shepherds or wise men

CHRISTMAS EVE 11.30 p.m.

MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY

HOLY COMMUNION at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.







**Well attended
Remembrance
services were held at
the War Memorial
Windmill Hill and
Bawley Bay Royal
Pier Road on Sunday
9 November and the
Community
Square
Gravesend
Tuesday 11
November**





WALKING BACKWARDS TO CHRISTMAS

A COURSE FOR ADVENT

Based on the book by Stephen Cottrell

Join us on a journey as we discover Christmas from a different aspect.

Starting with Anna and Rachel and leading up to the birth of Christ we

enter into the Christmas story through the eyes of nine characters who

all play a part in the greatest narrative of our time.

*Painting – Nativity with Burning Bush by Albert Herbert

Dates and Times

The course runs for four weeks as follows;

Wed 26th November
11am @ St George's
Church Street DA11 0DJ
followed by a soup lunch
7.30 @ St Mary's
Wrotham Rd DA11 7LL

Wed 3rd December
11am @ St George's
followed by a soup lunch
7.30 @ Holy Family
Palmer Avenue DA12
5DQ

Wed 10th December
11am @ St Georges
followed by a soup lunch
7.30 @ St Aidan's
St Aidan's Way DA12 4JL

Wed 17th December
11am @ St Georges
followed by a soup lunch
7.30 @ Christ Church
Old Road East DA12 1NR

**A very warm welcome
awaits you all. For more
information or to book a
place please contact
info@stgeorgesgravesend.org.uk**

New website, ToYourCredit, launched to showcase Church's work on fairer finance

A new website, ToYourCredit, has been launched to showcase the Church's work on responsible credit and savings, including supporting credit unions.

The website has been created by the Archbishop of Canterbury's Task Group on Responsible Credit and Savings and contains personal testimonies, videos, and blogs from initiatives across the country. Their vision is "to create a fairer financial system focused on serving the whole community, where everyone has access to responsible credit and savings and other essential financial services." The Task Group has also proposed a network of savings clubs in Primary schools to give pupils practical experience of money management. The programme would build on a number of successful small-scale initiatives already in place in parts of

the country and evidence of what makes for an effective financial education programme.

Sir Hector Sants, chair of the Task Group, said: "Savings clubs can transform lives through helping establish a responsible approach to money from an early age.

"This programme would also strengthen communities through building links between schools, churches and credit unions, and is part of the Church of England's broader initiative to support the development of a larger, vibrant and more sustainable community finance sector in this country."

Once evaluated, the proposed scheme would be extended to primary schools across the country starting with Church of England primary schools. The task group is seeking funding from Government and other sources for a pilot scheme in three areas of England working with the Credit Union Foundation and the Personal Finance Education Group (PFEg).



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 4th 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.





MacMillan coffee morning well attended at Christ Church



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**

13 December 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

Sue 01474 352643

suec@brewer86.plus.com

Richard 01474 249792

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 18 December**. You are so welcome.

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

CHRISTMAS FAIR

FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 10.00 - 15.00

COLDHARBOUR ROAD, NORTHFLEET

Admission £1

Alzheimers & Dementia SUPPORT SERVICES

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services, based in Northfleet is a local charity for local people and here to offer help, advice and support to those living with Dementia. We can offer help in a numbers of ways:-

- v Day care,**
- v Befriending**
- v Support at Home/Support at Home plus/One to One Support**
- v Carers Support Groups**
- v 24 Helpline (0800 500 3014)**
- v Singing for Brain**
- v Dementia Cafes..... and so much more.**

If you or someone you knows need help please contact us via our website, www.alz-dem.org or by telephoning us on 01474 533990 or by writing to **Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Services, The Basement, Dene Holm House, Dene Holm Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8JY. Email: alz-dem.org.uk**

As with most charities nowadays we also need volunteers to help us. We have volunteer vacancies in all the above areas and of course in our fundraising efforts. If you would like to support us by becoming a member or raising funds for us, in sponsorship, holding an event, coffee morning or whatever you feel is appropriate, please do let us know and contact us.

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

The Winter Warmer Walk

Historical Guided walk around St Mary Hoo (Circular walk) – please note this is NOT Hoo St Werbergh

Saturday 27th December 2014

10am outside St Mary's Church ME3 7JQ at Hall Road, St Mary Hoo

Guide: Christoph Bull 0770 2287147 – Donations welcome – no need to book

This is a footpath walk with uneven surfaces and stiles – sensible footwear will be needed (Gravesend Historical Society event).

Enjoy lovely scenery in this wonderful parish.

Gravesend in Christmas past – a guided walk around the town

On: Saturday 13th December 2014

Meet: 11.30am outside Gravesend Library, Windmill Street

Guide: Christoph Bull (working with The Grand Healthy Living Centre)

Cost: £3 per person – no need to book just turn up

Optional refreshments at The Grand, King Street afterwards

A walk which includes information on Christmas a hundred years ago.

Information: 07702287147.

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

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 DECEMBER 2014

Sunday 		7 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 16.00 Christingle Service	14 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 16.00 EllenorLions Lights of Love Service	21 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 18.30 Service with Lessons and Carols	28 08.00 Service 10.00 Service
Monday 	1 08.00 Service BROWNIES	8 08.00 Service BROWNIES	15 08.00 Service BROWNIES	22 08.00 Service	29 No Service
Tuesday 	2 07.00 Service CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	9 07.00 Service CUBS 18.130 Semiquavers CONCERT	16 07.00 Service CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	23 07.00 Service 18.15 Semiquavers	30 No Service
Wednesday 	3 10.00 Service 20.00 Mother's Union	10 10.00 Service 13.45 First Steps	17 10.00 Service	24 10.00 Service 16.00 Crib Service 23.30 Midnight Mass	31 No Service 19.30 - 01.00 NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY Church hall
Thursday 	4 07.00 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	11 07.00 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	18 07.00 Service 15.00 Mustard Seed Choir practice	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 08.00 Service 10.00 Service With carols	1 10.00 Service Holy Communion for New Year's day
Friday 	5 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS 19.30 GEMS concert	12 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	19 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours	26 No Service	
Saturday 	6 08.00 Service 10.30 Table Top Sale	13 08.00 Service	20 08.00 Service	27 No Service	

Christmas Concert

Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 6.30pm

Christ Church Adults £3 Children Free

Call Gill for tickets 01474534517

semiquavers

