

#### CHRIST CHURCH MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

#### PARISH MAGAZINE



Donation or 40p

George Washington: "Father, I cannot tell a lie, 'twas I that chopped down the Cherry Tree see page 10

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Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next month Sunday, 20 September for October Copy: email to:- ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt	Inside this MonthPage 2Who's WhoPage 3Karen Seggie OrdinatioPage 5First StepsPage 6Teddy bears picnicPage 0Cafe name	
Christ Church Hall is available for hire Contact Rachel Pace 01474 249508 or 07960 024917 Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and childrens parties	Page 9 Page 10 Page 12 Page 14 Page 15 Page 17 Page 23 Page 24	CofE news The Pleasance cherry tree Annual BBQ CofE News MU garden party CofE News Calendar for August Christian Aid Quiz

#### Who's Who at Christ Church

www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

Vicar	Sue Brewer	352643 suec@brewer86.plus.com	
Associate Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106	
Assistant Curate	Karen Seggie	362654	
Pastoral Assistant	Pam Kilby	332693	
Pastoral Assistant	Jasmine Humphries	249106	
Pastoral Assistant	Colin Parsonson	359713	
Church Warden	Jan Osborne	740763	
Church Warden	Andy Nailor	564581	
PCC Secretary	Linda Riordan	746988	
PCC Treasurer	Steve Humphries	249106	
Reader Rosemary Austin		358702	
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339	
Reader	John Hougham	352138	
Reader	Betty Martin	352696	
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443	
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### **ORDINATION AT ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL**



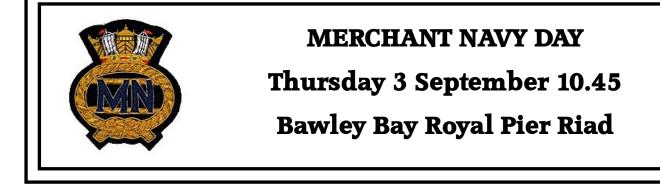
Karen Seggie above

Many of you will have met or seen Karen Seggie who joined us in July as Curate to the East Gravesend Cluster of churches, and is being ordained Deacon on 26 September, at Rochester Cathedral at 15.00.

Since joining us, Karen has been working with the East Gravesend Group as a Pastoral Worker. Over the summer she has had lots of opportunity to get involved with all that has been happening at St Aidan's, Holy Family, St Margaret's and Christ Church.

Once ordained in September, she will be predominantly based at Christ Church with her training incumbent Rev Sue Brewer. Karen will spend more time with the rest of the East Gravesend Group once she is Ordained Priest the following year.

On Sunday 27 September their will be an opportunity to congratulate and welcome Karen at the 10.00 a.m. Service at Christ Church.



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 David Williams

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Fighting poverty through trade

# SHORNE CHURCH OPEN DAY

Monuments, brasses, old furnishings and medieval architecture are what most visitors are looking for in country churches. St Peter and St Paul at Shorne has all of these. The building has examples of all periods of architecture Anglo-Saxon from to Perpendicular in the 15th century. Unfortunately, like many churches in this area, it is locked when it is not in use.

On Saturday 12th September it will be open from 10 am to 6 pm for anyone to visit and see what it has to offer. In the morning you can guide yourself round using a free leaflet. In the afternoon there will be guided tours at 2, 3 and 4 pm. These are free and there is no need to book. Afternoon teas will be served from 2.30 to 5 pm.

This coincides with the national Heritage Open Days and the Friends of Kent Churches 'Ride & Stride' .You can get further information from Andrew Moffat 01474 822280 or aimoffat@btinternet.com or from our web site www.shorneparishchurch.co.uk.



WELL DONE

David Croydon has completed his walk successfully. He was well supported by friends. If you sponsored David he would be pleased to receive your money for Ellonor and Alzheimer's Support



#### **COFFEE MORNING**

Friday 4 September at 10.00 a.m.

The Hospice

Coldharbour Road, Northfleet

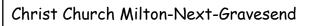
Please support your local Hospice

COFFEE ROTA 2015

6 Sept Rita Smith, Sheila Knight, Jean Stoddart
13 Sept Kay Page, Susan Wilkins, Dorothy Oliver
20 Sept Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Jill Sampson
28 Sept Sandy Barden, Jenny Shoesmith, David Williams
04 Oct Vena Croydon, Julie Hill, Angela Kirby



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



#### FUEET ETEPE TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC 12 AUGUST 2015 THE LOST SHEEP

Our naughty little sheep and his friends have been looking forward to our First Steps Teddy Bears' Picnic for ages and hoping for a sunny afternoon. Overnight rain is a bit disappointing and skies are grey for our walk up to church. There is lots to do to get ready so everybody is just too busy to worry about the weather though, on the quiet, fingers, toes, feet and anything else that can be crossed, are being crossed! Church chairs are moved, mountains of food prepared and when everything is ready, the doors are opened and Mums, Grandmas, a Dad, babies and children begin to arrive. There are lots of familiar faces and new faces, too. Grandma Barbara and Mum Angela have brought cake for us to share. How kind! TT Teddy is joining us today but apart from him Teddy Bears seem to be in rather short supply. They haven't all gone down to the woods today, have they? Luckily lots of other creatures have turned up instead!

When everyone is settled and jingle bells are ready, it's time for our service to begin. We sing "Candle time" as we light our candles, absolutely sure that God really is with us. We light a special candle for Emmie because it's going to be her 3rd Birthday on Friday and we all sing "Happy Birthday" to her. Our naughty little sheep and the glittery dragon are sitting very carefully on our little altar and their friends are sitting facing everyone so that they can watch the children. Today we are thinking about Jesus' story of the Lost Sheep, our naughty little sheep's choice, again! We hear how a shepherd, realising that one of his sheep has gone missing, hunts high and low trying to find him. He doesn't care that the other ninetynine in his flock are safe and sound: he doesn't think that the one that is missing doesn't matter, he feels that it's very, very important and he must find his lost sheep, at any cost! And when the shepherd finally does find it, he throws a party for all his neighbours! And that is how God feels about us. We are each very important to him and if we stray from His path He searches high and low for us, calling us back to Him again.

We sing "Baa, Baa Black Sheep" twice, always a favourite; we sing about Jesus' love; about the people we love and about being generous and loving in all that we do. We thank God for loving us, for calling us by name, for searching for us when we stray. We are all part of His flock, each known and precious to Him. Our jingle bells are quiet as we say our prayers and then our candles are blown out and it's time to go into the hall and Pleasance for our Teddy Bears' Picnic. Hooray!

It's quite breezy outside but still dry and when the sun comes out it's lovely and warm. There are toys to play with in the Pleasance and the sandpit and sand toys are a great success. There are lots of yummy things to eat, fruit for healthy eating; crisps, biscuits and cakes, for not so healthy eating but hey ho, it's a party! There are things to make and games to play. Our naughty little sheep and his friends, including TT Teddy are having a great time in the sandpit but fur, wool and sand are not a great mix. I feel a bath coming on! Ssh, Don't say anything, I'll tell them later!

We have all had a lovely time, old friends and new friends together. Our naughty little sheep and all his friends hope that everyone will join us again for our next First Steps service on 9<sup>th</sup> September. How the months are flying by!

God Bless, Rosemary Austin

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# A TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

**On pages 5/6/7** 









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<b>GRAVESHAM FOOD BANK</b>			
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/tabletsThis 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

## **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 £4.30 (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.

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.

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## from recent edition of "IN REVIEW"

## New leadership training already showing "first fruits" in Church of England

"We are making real progress in the journey to equip our senior leaders for the role and responsibilities to which they are called and to prepare those who might take on wider responsibility in the future." said the Bishop of Ely.

Bishop of Ely, Stephen Conway, chairs the Development and Appointments Group (DAG) of the House of Bishops, serving the continuing training and development of senior clergy and the future senior leaders.

Read the full blog from Bishop Stephen at bit.ly/LeadershipFruits on the CofE Comms Blog

## Advent Sleepout Challenge 2015

This Advent the Church Urban Fund (CUF) is asking churches to give up a night of comfort and organise their own sponsored sleepouts with friends, families, churches and community groups.

The Advent Sleepout Challenge is a new annual fundraising event organised by CUF and the money raised will help the charity with its work, empowering some of the poorest and most marginalised people in England to transform their lives.

Paul Hackwood Executive Chair of CUF said: More than 2000 years ago, Mary and Joseph were forced to sleep in a stable and we want as many people as possible

to take this as inspiration to create their own Advent 'stable'. This could be in churches, community halls, scout huts, local schools or even garden sheds. How they transform the space is up to them, but most importantly, we want them to come together, have fun sharing the experience and of course, raise as much sponsorship money as possible."

A dedicated website with resources and online sponsorship details will go live during September.

www.sleepoutchallenge.org

## Financial Exclusion Conference

The chair of the Archbishop of Canterbury's task group on responsible credit and savings is to give a key note speech at a Church Urban Fund (CUF) conference on financial exclusion later this year.

Sir Hector Sants, former Chief Executive of the Financial Services Authority, will address the CUF Money Matters conference to be held in Manchester on November 5.

He will be joined by Birmingham University social policy professor Karen Rowlingson and Canon Dr Angus Ritchie, Executive Director of the Centre for Theology and Community in London, who will also speak at the conference.

Conference goers will be able to choose seminars from a range of different subjects including debt advice, supporting credit unions, campaigning and creating a range of integrated services.

Through the conference, CUF hopes to share good practice and build on work already under way to tackle financial exclusion in areas such as promoting access to affordable credit and debt advice.

A joint CUF and Church of England survey released earlier this year revealed that 22% of churches are involved in offering debt or money advice services and 17% support credit unions.

For more information and to register, visit www.cuf.org.uk/moneymatters



# The end of a cherry tree

The story goes that a young George was about six years old and had been given a hatchet, which he enthusiastically used to chop at just about anything in sight. One morning, he even chopped at a cherry tree, eventually cutting it down. When confronted about it by his father, George hesitated but told his father, "I cannot tell a lie." He admitted to the crime. Rather than punishing George for chopping at the tree, his father said that his son's honesty was worth more than a thousand trees. It's meant to be a story that's a lesson in integrity, and shows one of Washington's many supposed virtues.

Our pictures, left, show one of our church wardens, Andy Nailor, with axe in hand while he and Richard Aucott took down the dead cherry tree

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Anne Russell and Sheila Brown, a couple of ladies that share a birthday, although several decades apart



# 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!

TheMustard Seed is in its second year now, and the next gathering will be on **Thursday 17 September.** You are so welcome.

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

Church B-B-Q on August 9, some enjoyed the sunshine , while others sought the shade. We publish two pages of pictures taken during the afternoon



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Let there be food! More pictures of a sharing congregation at the annual family BBQ held in the pleasance and the church hall in August



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## from recent edition of "IN REVIEW"

# Two new female bishops consecrated

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, consecrated two new female Church of England bishops today in a service at Canterbury Cathedral.

Bishop-designate Rachel Treweek, who was Archdeacon of Hackney and previously a speech and language therapist, was consecrated as the new Bishop of Gloucester.

Bishop Rachel is the first female diocesan

bishop in the Church of England and its most senior female bishop. She will also be the first female bishop to take a seat in the House of Lords. The Revd Canon Sarah Mullally, who before Dame ordination had a distinguished service as a nurse in the NHS, becoming its voungest Chief Nursing Officer for England in 1999, was consecrated as the new suffragan Bishop of Crediton.

Bishop Rachel and Bishop Sarah are the third and fourth female bishops to be appointed in the Church of England respectively.

Archbishop Justin led the service, whose music was led by Canterbury Cathedral Girls' Choir.



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# **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 12 September at 9.30.



## 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.

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## from recent edition of "IN REVIEW"

#### Psalms on the go – CofE launches new mobile

#### app

The latest publication from the Church of England brings an ancient tradition of following the Psalms to mobile devices and e-readers.

Adding to the popular 'Reflections' series, Reflections on the Psalms is a standalone book, ebook and mobile app written for anyone wishing to follow the ancient practice of the Psalter, reading the Psalms of the Bible each morning and evening. The mobile app is available to buy on the iOS App Store, with an Android version coming soon. Users are asked to tweet their favourite #mypsalm @chpublishingUK.

Produced by Church House Publishing, publication provides new short the meditations on each of the Psalms written well-known bv Bishops. writers. experienced ministers, biblical scholars and theologians. The book also contains introduction an the **Psalms** to by theologian Paula Gooder, and a guide to

the Psalms in the life of the church by the Bishop of Sheffield, Steven Croft. With the mobile app, users can save their favourite Psalms and share them via social media. The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu who contributed to the book said: "Reading and listening to the Psalms is a great way to start a conversation with God. I love reading and reflecting on them daily. In Reflections on the Psalms, we learn from others about what has spoken to them from particular Psalms. This not only enriches our own understanding but also creates a treasure house of encouragement, support and direction. One of my favourite Psalms is 'Bless the Lord My Soul, and bless God's Holy Name' (103) for in this we join in with the unending and unlimited praise of Heaven and also recognise that all of us are individually loved by God, who knows us better than we know ourselves."

The book (available as a physical or electronic version) is available now to buy at:

www.chpublishing.co.uk

The iOS app is available to purchase at bit.ly/PsalmsApp

Fi	FIRST STEPS	First Steps		
	Is a service especially designed for families with pre-schoo all children in the family are welcome to come.	l children, although		
	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 9 September.				
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# What will motivate you to become a volunteer?



# Volunteers are essential to the support that we give to victims of crime.

As a Victim Support volunteer, we will train you to support victims from the first time you meet them until they feel strong enough to move forward on their own. You will listen to their concerns and make sure that their needs are met.

For more information contact the Service Delivery Team on 01233 896423/01233 896422 or register your interest by sending an email to: kentvolunteering@victimsupport.org.uk

#### www.victimsupport.org.uk

Registered charity number 298028 Registered address: Victim Support, Hallam House, 56–60 Hallam Street, London W1W 6JL

#### Do you or members of your family have any interesting stories from World War 1

As part of the national commemorations of WW1 we are looking to reproduce stories that congregation members might like to submit of their relatives, or local men, who engaged in the conflict!

If you have a family story, perhaps with a photograph of the person you are writing about that you would like to be considered for inclusion in an edition of Christ Church magazine over the next four years please let Sue Brewer or Mike Cubitt know. We are hoping to get enough copy to enable a different story to be produced in the magazine during the four year anniversary period.

All photographs will be returned, but please mark on the back your name and address.



Members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACs) tending the graves of fallen British soldiers in a cemetery at Abbeville in 1918.

<b>Exciting Youth Choir in</b> <b>Gravesend</b> If you are aged between 7 and 17 and enjoy singing then come along!	Join the semiquavers
<ul> <li>Join a friendly group of singers</li> <li>Learn great music of different styles and</li> </ul>	Youth choir in Gravesend We meet weekly for
<ul> <li>Perform at concerts and services</li> </ul>	Rehearsals at Christ Church
For further information visit www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk • Or call 01474 534517	Tuesday evenings 6.15 pm to 7.30 pm

#### **Guided historical walk on Swanscombe Marshes**

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On: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Meet: outside George & Dragon public house, Galley Hill, Swanscombe

At: 2.30pm

Guide: Christoph Bull 07702287147

**Cost: Free – donations welcome** 

Gravesend Historical Society event.

Come and see the open spaces of Swanscombe marshes before the possible Paramount development covers it.

#### Some Gravesham Characters – famous and forgotten people who made Gravesham's past (Illustrated talk)

Speaker: Christoph Bull

On: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015

At: Reliance Fish Restaurant, Queen Street, Gravesend

Begins: 6pm for meal followed by the talk

Price: £14 includes meal and talk

Booking essential – Reliance Restaurant 01474 533593

#### Guided tour of the Heart of Gravesend and County Court building.

Guide: Christoph Bull

On: Saturday 12th September 2015

Meet: Outside Gravesend Library, Windmill Street, Gravesend

Begins: 1pm

FREE event – part of Heritage Open Days – no need to book. Information: Liz Read 01474 320123

#### Dirty Dartford – Dartford's story in all its glory (Illustrated talk)

On: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Start: 7.30pm Speaker: Christoph Bull At: The Coach & Horses public house, The Hill, Northfleet Cost: £10 includes the talk and a meal.

Bookings via Sharon Duffy c/o The Coach & Horse, The Hill, Northfleet on 07800 777955

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# **Gravesend Art Group** Annual Exhibition 2015



St Andrew's Art's Centre, Royal Pier Road, Gravesend, Kent

Saturday 29 August to Sunday 6 September

Open 10am to 6pm 29 August - 5 September - 10am to 4pm 6 September

#### wwwgravesendargroupcouk

#### **Admission Free**

Christ Church Milton-Next-Gravesend

# 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

**Girlguiding UK** 

Registered Charity no. 1130741

Friday 6:30 p

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)	5
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- Monday Music Group; Brownies Tuesday Cubs and Semiguavers
- Wednesday Guides; Mothers Union (1st Wednesday)

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

- Thursday Beavers/Brownies; Choir Practice:
- 3.00 p.m. Mustard Seed (every third)
- Friday Scouts; Parent and Toddler
- Saturday Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)



Mothers

# **CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2015**

Sunday		6 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	13 08.00 Service 10.00 Service 12.30 Family B-B-Q	20 08.00 Service 10.00 Service	27 08.00 Service 10.00 Service And welcome of Revd Karen Seggie
Monday		7 08.00 Service BROWNIES	14 08.00 Service BROWNIES	21 08.00 Service BROWNIES	28 08.00 Service BROWNIES
Tuesday	1 07.00 Service 18.15 Semiquavers	8 07.00 Service CUBS 18.15 Semiquavers	15 07.00 Service CUBS 18.30 Semiquavers	22 07.00 Service <b>CUBS</b> 18.15 Semiquaverss	29 07.00 Service <b>CUBS</b> 18.30 Semiquavers
Wednesday	2 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	9 10.00 Service 13.45 First Steps 17.15 Evening Prayer 19.30 Mothers Union	16 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	23 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer	30 10.00 Service 17.15 Evening Prayer
Thursday	3 07.00 Service Choir practice	6 07.00 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	17 07.00 Service 15.00 Mustard Seed BROWNIES Choir practice	24 07.00 Service BROWNIES Choir practice	
Friday	<b>4</b> 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours	11 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	18 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	25 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours SCOUTS	
Saturday	5 08.00 Service	12 08.00 Service Working Party 09.30	19 08.00 Service 19.30 Christian Aid Quiz Evening	26 08.00 Service Ordination of Karen Seggie at Rochester Cathedral	

