



St Nicholas Linton May 2024

Sunday 28th April

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh with APCM

11am All-age worship at Coxheath

Sunday 5th May

9.30am Morning Worship at East Farleigh

9.30am Holy Communion in Hunton

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath with APCM

Thursday 9th May - Ascension Day

7pm Ascension Day Service at Holy Trinity Coxheath

Sunday 12th May

9.30am Morning Worship at Linton

9.30am Holy Communion at West Farleigh

11am Morning Worship at Coxheath

Sunday 19th May - Pentecost

9.30am Family Service at Hunton

9am APCM at East Farleigh followed at

9.30am Holy Communion at East Farleigh

11am Holy Communion at Coxheath

Sunday 26th May

9.30am Holy Communion at Linton

9.30am Morning Worship at West Farleigh

11am All age worship at Coxheath

Every Thursday

10am Midweek Holy Communion, Coxheath Church

Tuesday 30th April 2024

10am -12 noon Community coffee
morning at St Nicholas Linton



Linton Parish News

A spring edition of Linton Parish News is being delivered to every home in Linton. There are some copies in church for you if you are interested and do not live in Linton.

Pastoral Letter from the Rector

May is here at last!



*'See! The winter is past; the rains are over
and gone. Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come...'*

Song of Songs 2:11-12

I always find May to be a hopeful month. It's when Spring begins to turn to Summer. Those of us sick and tired of trekking our dogs through cold, thick, sticky, mud rejoice in the return of firmer ground and cleaner floors; we can turn the heating off until October; the green-fingered among us will see our gardens flourish once more; the evenings are lighter; we have two Bank Holidays in the same month!

What's not to love? No wonder our ancestors welcomed this month with feasting and dancing. It must have marked some relief for them - the frosts were gone, food was more plentiful, less darkness, less sleeping, more time to enjoy the company of others.

I did a bit of internet research (always guaranteed to be an eye-opener!) and there are so many things to celebrate in May! Here's a selection of my favourites...

May 1: World Laughter Day

May 4: Intergalactic Star Wars Day

May 10: Clean Up Your Room Day

May 15: International Day of Families

May 16: International Pickle Day

May 25: World Otter Day

May 30: Water a Flower Day

In the church, on May 19th, we'll be celebrating too as we mark the festival of Pentecost. We'll hear again the account recorded in the book of Acts that describes how the Spirit of God was poured out on the first believers with tongues of Holy fire... You are welcome, as always, to come along and join us as we discover what these events can mean for us today.

Have a look for yourself - see if there's something you can celebrate this month. And if there isn't? Make something up - and invite your neighbours!

Warm May blessings to you all, Lorna

Children's Society Boxes

It's during the month of May when the boxes are collected, monies counted and sent off to the society. If you're a box holder, please could you bring your box to church and pass to Jean Avery. Thank you

Wednesday 27th May

12 noon Midweek Holy Communion in Linton, followed by a light lunch of soup and a roll.



Tuesday 28th May 2024



10am -12 noon Community coffee
morning at St Nicholas Linton

Linton APCM report

St Nicholas Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on Thursday 25th April. The Annual Report and Financial Statement were presented and approved. If you would like a copy of the reports please speak to Kath. Jean Avery has kindly agreed to stand on the PCC to join Roger Bettle, Kath and Paul Cooper, Claire Merrifield and Jim Walder. Roger and Kath agreed to stand as Churchwardens for a further year.

It is that time of the year! – **The Friends of Linton Church**

also had their AGM in April. The Friends have helped us greatly this past year with all the building work we have done but their funds are now depleting. If you would like to know more about our very own Friends group please contact Bernie Cresswell, the Chairman. Or pick up a letter with the Parish News. bernardjcresswell@gmail.com

Teddy Zip Wire

What a great fun afternoon! Saturday 6th April. We sent 47 teddies down our zip-wire here at Linton church (bit windy but they all survived!) and the church was full of people - young and young at heart - enjoying the free activities and lovely cakes.



Sunday 30th June at 6pm

A Summer Concert

with cheese and wine

in St Nicholas Church.



The Hartlip Singers who received a standing ovation at Holy Trinity, Coxheath in December will be coming to Linton for a summer evening concert on **Sunday 30th June at 6pm**. These talented singers come from all walks of musical life, ranging from Rochester Cathedral, the BBC Chorus, and Amateur Operatics, including our own Nancy Litton (Clinton's wife). Nancy tells us "The Hartlip Singers was formed over 12 years ago with the aim of raising money for the Friends of Hartlip Church, near Sittingbourne, Kent (hence the name!). In addition to the annual Hartlip fund-raising concert, they are now regularly asked to perform at charity concerts throughout the South-East. They sing an eclectic mix of music ranging from classical to show songs, folk and pop. Each concert contains full choir items and solos, most of which are accompanied on piano or organ."

So book the date **Sunday 30th June at 6pm**. Tickets (suggested donation £15) from Claire - 01622 744971

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Brew and a Bite at Holy Trinity, Coxheath We are open (during school term times) every Tuesday 2.30pm – 5pm and Thursdays 11am – 1pm. There is no charge but you are invited to give a donation if you so wish. Please spread the word as these sessions are open for anybody in Coxheath or the surrounding areas.

Pastoral Support

"Sometimes we just need someone to listen"

The Benefice Pastoral Support Team will happily pray for you, or with you, if that is what you would like us to do. Call: 07437 544229 in confidence to speak to one of the team. If there is no answer please leave your name and number. You can also contact us online. <https://unitedbenefice.church/benefice-groups/pastoral-support-team/>

Prayer Chain and Thinking of you cards

The Benefice has a prayer chain which prays confidentially for anyone who asks for prayer. If you know of anyone in our congregation who has been ill, is moving away, has suffered a bereavement, or is no longer able to get to church, a card can be sent from our church family. The contact person for the prayer chain and thinking of you cards is Marian 01622 743977 or david.marian@btinternet.com

Benefice Men's Prayer Group

We meet each Tuesday at 9am for an hour, an informal time of topical discussion, looking at a short bible passage and finishing with prayer. There is no obligation or pressure to pray, just listening is fine. If you would like prayer for yourself or someone please contact us. All requests are in total confidence and all are welcome to join us. For more information please contact Mike on 07595 428639 or email: beaconmen.coxheath@gmail.com

Benefice Ladies' Prayer Group

We are a group of Christian women who believe in the power of prayer. We meet to pray together, sharing our own prayer requests over a cup of coffee, reading a short passage from the Bible and listening to a song. Our prayers are often inspired and shaped by this time of sharing. We pray for world situations in the news, for the church throughout the world and locally, and we pray for those who are in any kind of need. The meetings are for one hour starting at 10am every Saturday, at the home of one of the ladies.



St Nicholas Linton is registered with

easyfundraising. Just a few people have raised over £70 for St Nicholas Church, by shopping online and remembering to use easyfundraising. So why not join us, sign up and help St Nicholas Church for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use **easyfundraising** to shop online with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-nicholas-linton>



BENEFICE CONTACTS

Rev. Lorna Faulkner, Rector 01622 747570
Rev. David Jones, Hon. Associate Rector 741474

For up to date details about benefice group meetings please contact the following people:

Children's Work	Becky Parnham 07949 646865 https://www.facebook.com/Coxheath-Benefice-Kids-112089254485427/
Men's Prayer Group	Mike Marsh 07595 428639
Ladies Prayer Group	Dawn Burnell
Beacon Men	Steve Poole 01622 297144
Mothers' Union	Margaret Poole 01622 297144 Lesley Marsh 07814 817204
Safeguarding	Margaret Poole 01622 297144

Our Benefice and five Benefice Churches website is www.unitedbenefice.church



The United Benefice of Coxheath, East Farleigh,
Hunton, Linton and West Farleigh